

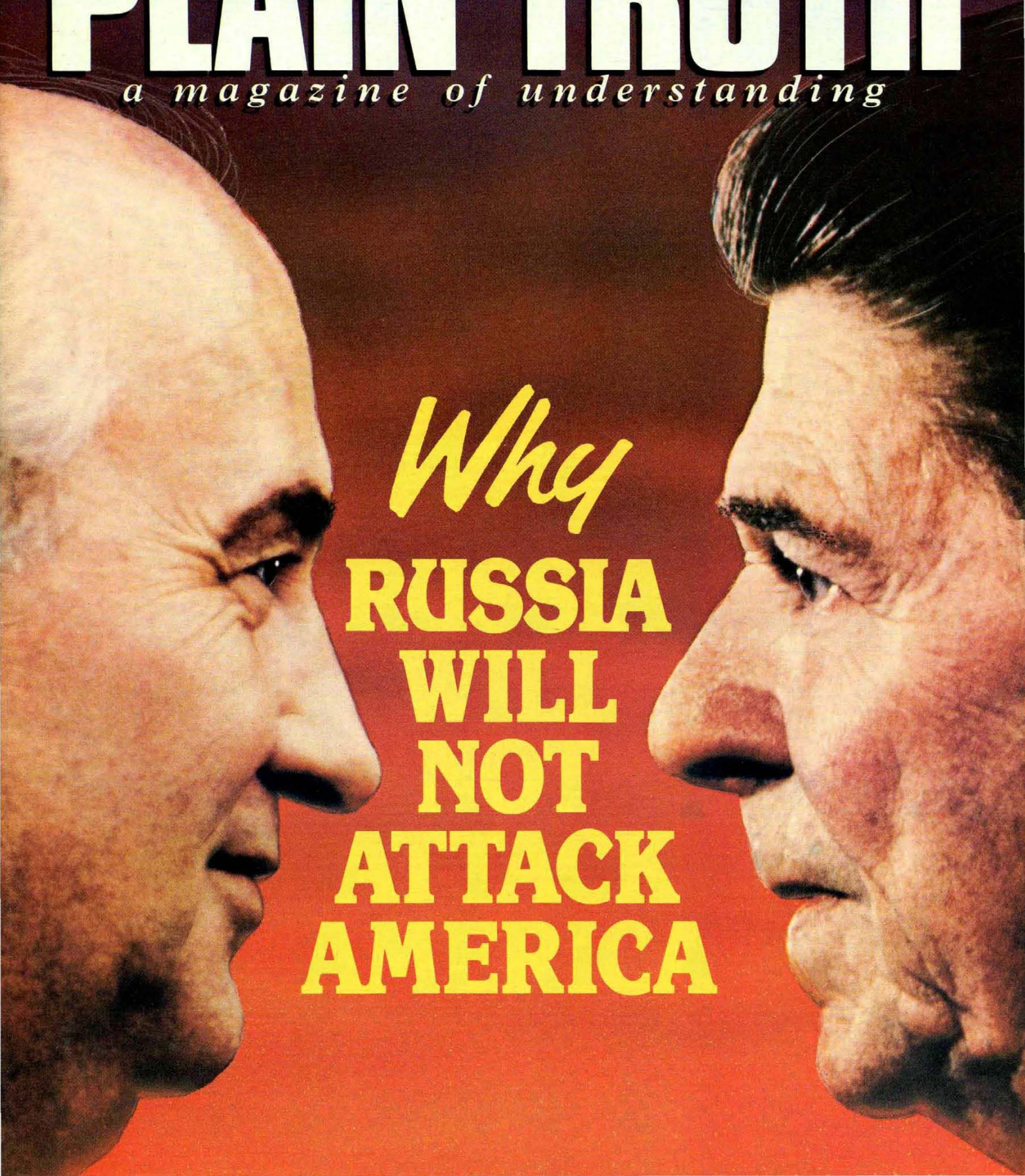
CIRC. 8,270,000

*the*

MAY 1986

# PLAIN TRUTH

*a magazine of understanding*



*Why*  
**RUSSIA  
WILL  
NOT  
ATTACK  
AMERICA**



*The Plain Truth* has no subscription or newsstand price. This magazine is provided free of charge. It is made possible by the tithes and offerings of the membership of the Worldwide Church of God and others. Contributions, however, are welcomed and are tax-deductible in the United States, Canada and New Zealand. Those who wish to voluntarily aid and support this worldwide work of God are gladly welcomed as co-workers in this major effort to publish the true original gospel to all nations. Contributions may be sent to our office nearest you (see addresses below).

**FOUNDER: HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG**  
1892-1986

**PUBLISHER:**

JOSEPH W. TKACH

**EDITOR:**

HERMAN L. HOEH

**EXECUTIVE EDITOR:**

DEXTER H. FAULKNER

**WORLD NEWS EDITOR:**

GENE H. HOGBERG

**ART DIRECTOR:**

MONTE WOLVERTON

**SENIOR WRITERS:**

JOHN HALFORD, RONALD D. KELLY,  
RAYMOND F. MCNAIR, RODERICK C. MEREDITH,  
DONALD D. SCHROEDER, JOHN R. SCHROEDER,  
MICHAEL A. SNYDER, CLAYTON D. STEEP,  
KEITH W. STUMP

**ASSOCIATE EDITORS:**

SHEILA GRAHAM, NORMAN L. SHOAF

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:**

DAVID ALBERT, RICHARD AMES, DIBAR APARTIAN,  
ROBERT BORAKER, KENNETH C. HERRMANN,  
DAVID HULME, PATRICK A. PARNELL,  
RICHARD H. SEDLIACIK, WILLIAM STENGER,  
DAN C. TAYLOR, JEFF E. ZHORNE

**TECHNICAL COPY EDITOR:**

PETER MOORE

**EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS:**

CHERYL EBELING, WERNER JEBENS,  
DAWNA BORAX, MARIA STAHL, WENDY STYER,  
RON TOTH, EILEEN WENDLING

**GRAPHICS:**

*Graphics Editor:* RANDALL COLE  
*Staff:* MATTHEW FAULKNER, L. GREG SMITH

**PHOTOGRAPHY:**

*Photo Services Manager:* GREG S. SMITH  
*Senior Photographer:* WARREN WATSON  
*Staff:* G.A. BELLUCHE JR.,  
CHARLES BUSCHMANN, NATHAN FAULKNER,  
HAL FINCH, ALFRED HENNIG,  
ALDRIN MANDIMIKA, ELIZABETH RUCKER  
*Photo Librarian:* KEVIN BLACKBURN

**PUBLISHING:**

*Director of Publishing Services:* RAY WRIGHT  
*Production Director:* ROGER G. LIPPROSS  
*Production Manager:* RON TAYLOR  
*International Coordinators:*  
GERALD CHAPMAN, BOB MILLER, KATHE MYERS  
*Circulation Manager:* BOYD LEESON  
*Circulation Assistant:* CAROL RIEMEN  
*Newsstand Distribution:* JOHN LABISSONIERE

**BUSINESS MANAGER:**

L. LEROY NEFF

**INTERNATIONAL EDITORS:**

BRITISH: JOHN ROSS SCHROEDER  
DUTCH: JOHAN WILMS  
FRENCH: DIBAR APARTIAN  
GERMAN: JOHN B. KARLSON  
ITALIAN: CARN CATHERWOOD  
NORWEGIAN: ROY ØSTENSEN  
SPANISH: DON WALLS

**OFFICE DIRECTORS:**

AUSTRALIA: ROBERT MORTON  
CANADA: COLIN ADAIR  
ENGLAND: FRANK BROWN  
FRANCE: SAM KNELLER  
LATIN AMERICA: LEON WALKER  
NEW ZEALAND: PETER NATHAN  
PHILIPPINES: GUY AMES  
PUERTO RICO: STAN BASS  
SOUTH AFRICA: ROY MCCARTHY  
SWITZERLAND: BERNARD ANDRIST  
THE NETHERLANDS: BRAM DE BREE  
WEST GERMANY: FRANK SCHNEE

*the*  
**PLAIN TRUTH**  
*a magazine of understanding*

VOL. 51, No. 5

Circ. 8,270,000

MAY 1986

**ARTICLES**

2 — Why Russia Will Not Attack America!

7 — Life's Biggest Question!

9 — Mystery of the Ages  
Mystery of the Church

14 — So You're Unemployed?

21 — Why a Magazine of Understanding?

25 — Is Jesus God?

**FEATURES**

1 — Personal from the Publisher

22 — "The World Tomorrow" TV and Radio Logs

27 — News Overview

29 — Letters to the Editor

**OUR COVER**

For almost 50 years *The Plain Truth* has announced that there is no major war prophesied in the pages of the Bible between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. The determination by the leaders of each superpower to avoid such a confrontation—despite major political differences—does not mean a nuclear threat cannot arise from other powers, small or great.

COVER PHOTOS BY: LEFT, A. NOGUES; RIGHT, J.L. ATLAN—SYGMA

*The Plain Truth* (ISSN 0032-0420) is published in seven languages monthly (except bimonthly July/August and November/December issues) by the Worldwide Church of God, 300 W. Green St., Pasadena, California 91123. Copyright © 1986 Worldwide Church of God. All rights reserved. Second-Class Postage Paid at Pasadena, California, and at additional mailing offices.

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

U.S. Postmaster: Send address changes to *The Plain Truth*, Box 111, Pasadena, CA 91123.

Address correspondence to nearest office.

United States: 300 W. Green, Pasadena, California 91123  
Canada: P.O. Box 44, Station A, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2M2. Call toll free 1-800-663-2345.  
Caribbean: G.P.O. Box 6063, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936  
P.O. Box N3934, Nassau NP, Bahamas  
P.O. Box 1021, Bridgetown, Barbados  
P.O. Box 908, Hamilton 5-24, Bermuda  
P.O. Box 10907, Georgetown, Guyana  
P.O. Box 544, Kingston 5, Jamaica  
P.O. Bag 114, Port of Spain, Trinidad  
United Kingdom: P.O. Box 111, Borehamwood, Herts., WD6 1LU  
Denmark: Box 211, DK-8100 Aarhus C  
Norway: Box 2513 Solli, N-0203 Oslo 2  
Sweden: Box 5380, S-102 46 Stockholm

Nigeria: P.M.B. 21006, Ikeja, Lagos State  
Ghana: P.O. Box 9617, Kotoka Int. Airport, Accra  
Kenya: P.O. Box 47135, Nairobi  
Zambia: P.O. Box 50117, Lusaka  
Zimbabwe: P.O. Box U.A. 30, Union Ave., Harare  
South Africa: P.O. Box 5644, Cape Town 8000  
Mauritius: P.O. Box 888, Port Louis  
India: P.O. Box 6727, Bombay 400 052  
Sri Lanka: P.O. Box 1824, Colombo  
Singapore: P.O. Box 111, Farrer Road Post Office, 9128  
Malaysia: P.O. Box 430, Jalan Sultan, Petaling Jaya, Selangor  
The Philippines: P.O. Box 1111, Makati, Metro Manila 3117  
New Zealand and Pacific Isles: P.O. Box 2709, Auckland 1  
Australia: P.O. Box 202, Burleigh Heads, Queensland 4220  
Fiji: P.O. Box 3938, Samabula, Suva  
Tonga: P.O. Box 127, Nuku'alofa  
Solomon Islands: P.O. Box 508, Honiara

Be sure to notify us immediately of any change in your address. Please include your old mailing label and your new address.

Important: The publishers assume no responsibility for return of unsolicited art work, photographs or manuscripts.

For your free subscription in the U.S.A. call toll free 1-800-423-4444 in the Continental U.S. and Hawaii, or from Alaska call collect 818-304-6111.



# PERSONAL FROM THE PUBLISHER



## In Remembrance

**H**erbert W. Armstrong's illness ended in the manner least expected by all of us. Mr. Armstrong died peacefully in his sleep on January 16 while resting in the favorite chair of his late wife Loma Armstrong.

In the next second of his consciousness he will awake in the first resurrection, completely healed, not in the corruptible body of this mortal flesh, but as an immortal spirit-composed body, in *glory* in God's eternal kingdom!

Through the years, we have learned that God's promises are absolutely sure—but not always in the way we expect, because his ways are not our ways. God says to us, "‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,’ says the Lord. ‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts’" (Isa. 55:8-9, *Revised Authorized Version* throughout).

God has *promised* to heal the sick, upon real repentance and faith. But God has *not* promised *how*, or *when*. That we must leave to him in faith.

God, in his infinite mercy and wisdom, faithfully answered our prayers in the way *he* chose, rather than the way *we* would have chosen. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints" (Ps. 116:15).

God is faithful. He is merciful, compassionate, and loving. Herbert W. Armstrong is merely

awaiting the day of his *change*, along with the other thousands and thousands of God's saints, into immortal, glorious spirit-life, born into the very family of God at the soon-coming return of Jesus Christ.

God granted Mr. Armstrong 93½ dynamic years, the last 53 of which were fully immersed in doing the work of God, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom of God to a world blinded by the deception of the god of this world, Satan the devil (Rev. 12:9).

Even in the last year of his life, with declining strength, he completed, with God's help, his most powerful and effective book *Mystery of the Ages*. This after half a century of articles, letters, booklets, books, sermons and broadcasts, preaching and teaching the truth of God's Word, of his plan for mankind, of the glorious and radiant future that is the ultimate destiny of humanity.

We don't know what trials lie yet ahead of us in completing God's work of proclaiming the gospel to the world. Perhaps God saw fit, as he describes in Isaiah 57:1, to spare Mr. Armstrong, at his advanced age, from the persecutions and trials prophesied to come as we finish the work of God for this age. Indeed, as Mr. Armstrong wrote in his final letter, "The greatest work lies yet ahead. . . . Never before in the history of the Church has it been possible to reap so great a harvest."

The greatest tribute we can give Mr. Armstrong is to *do the work* we've been called to.

He often pointed us to his mother's favorite verse in the Bible, Psalm 133:1, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." We do need that unity now as never before. Jesus Christ, the Head of his Church, has PROMISED us that he will *never* leave us nor forsake us (Heb. 13:5)! We must make *sure* we remain steadfast in his calling, working together in unity and harmony led by his Spirit!

*Joseph W. Teach*



**F**OR decades now, the prospect of war between Russia and the United States has continually heightened and lessened.

Many who claim to be authorities on prophecy assure people a war involving Russia and the United States, Canada and England is prophesied in Ezekiel 38.

The United States, Britain and other democracies of northwestern Europe, they recognize, are the nations descended from the so-called lost Ten Tribes. Therefore, they conclude, the prophecy of Ezekiel 38 foretells a military invasion of the North American continent from the

# Why Russia Will Not Attack America!

by Herbert W. Armstrong  
1892-1986

Soviet Union. But this is *not* what the prophecy says.

What Ezekiel 38 does foretell is truly astounding. Let's understand it. But first, let's remember that the peoples of both the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. are cautious. The Soviet people are patient, and the English-speaking nations in a crisis "fly into a calm" rather than act hastily.

And now . . .

## The Time Sequence of the Prophecy

Ezekiel's message is for our day—a prophetic warning for America and Britain, now!

To understand the time, the place and all the facts of the prophecy of Ezekiel 38, we need to begin at the first chapter of Ezekiel's prophecy and read the book clear through.

When we do this, we find a time sequence flowing through the book.

Let us skim through it very briefly.

Notice, in the very first verse, Ezekiel was among the Jewish captives who had been taken from Judah to the river Chebar. It was in the fifth year of the captivity of King Jehoiachin that this prophecy began coming to Ezekiel through visions.

It is a prophecy. Ezekiel was being shown things far into the future.

Notice, the prophecy was inspired and written *after* Judah's captivity began—about 130 years after the House of Israel had been taken captive to Assyria. The ad-

vance guard of the House of Israel already had begun to arrive in the British Isles before Ezekiel's vision and writing.

Yet, Ezekiel is a prophet to the House of Israel. (Not to be confused with the modern Jewish nation of Israel. These Jewish people are actually descendants of ancient Judah.) His prophecy applies to the far future—*not* to the captivity of ancient Israel, which had occurred more than 130 years before he wrote.

Notice Ezekiel's message, a prophecy for the future, is primarily for the House of Israel (Ezek. 2:3; 3:1, 4-7).

In chapter 3, verse 17, Ezekiel is set a watchman to warn the House of Israel.



### Message to Israel, Not Judah

Notice! Beginning chapter 3: After the prophet "eats the roll"—that is, receives the prophetic warning message—he is to "go speak unto the house of Israel"—not to the Jews among whom he dwelt.

Remember he is already among the captives of Judah. But the Eternal says to him, "Go, get thee unto the house of Israel" (verse 4).

Surely we do not need to pause here to explain to readers that the 12 tribes of Israel had long before this divided into *two nations*—the 10 tribes being the House of Israel, while Judah, Benjamin and Levi composed the House of Judah, who, only, were "Jews." For the benefit of those readers who do not understand this vital distinction—a veritable "key" without which the prophecies cannot be opened to understanding—the special book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* is available and upon request, a copy will be sent free.

The Jewish people of today are descended from the House of Judah. But the white, English-speaking people of the United States and Britain are the leading "birthright" tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh, heads of the 10-tribed House of Israel.

Ezekiel's message is for *our* day—and it is, therefore, a message for America and Britain, NOW!

Notice chapter 4. The prophet is to place before him a tile, and trace upon it the city of Jerusalem, and "lay siege" against it. The war pictured was against Jerusalem, capital of Judah. But "this" (verse 3) "shall be a sign to the house of Israel." Then follows the well-known key to the "day for a year" method of reckoning prophecy.

Continue chapter 5: "... For," comes the warning message from the Eternal, "thereof shall a fire come forth into all the house of Israel" (verse 4). Notice, this is to portray vividly a warning of some

FUTURE destruction upon the House of Israel! Not upon Judah, already largely conquered by Nebuchadnezzar. But upon Israel—the 10-tribed nation who had gone into its first and original captivity 130 long years before! The warning is not of the captivity already so far back in history. It says "thereof shall a fire *come*" upon Israel! It is a prophecy relating to a *future* destruction and captivity.

No such destruction and captivity has ever *yet* come to the House of Israel since this was written. Therefore it is still in the future—*in our time*. It is a warning to Britain and America—now!

### A Captivity Yet Future

Notice more of this warning:

"A third part of thee [America-Britain] shall die with the pestilence, and with famine shall they be consumed in the midst of thee: and a third part shall fall by the sword round about thee; and I will scatter a third part into all the winds [in captivity being removed from our own lands and scattered over the world] ..." (verse 12).

Coming to chapter 6, the local scene of the vision shifts to the mountainous land of ancient Israel, in the Middle East—but the message is for America and Britain, today.

Will we heed it? God help us to wake up!

Listen: "... Behold, I, even I," says the Eternal God (verses 3, 5-7), "will bring a sword [invasion] upon you, and I will destroy your high places. ... And I will lay the dead carcasses of the children of Israel before their idols; and I will scatter your bones round about your altars. In all your dwelling-places the cities *shall be laid waste* [nuclear bombing]. ... and ye shall know that I am the Lord."

Just a small remnant shall escape and be spared (verse 8). These are described in Luke 21:36.

Continue: "Thus saith the Lord

God ... Alas for all the evil abominations of [not Judah, but] the house of Israel! for they shall [not *did*, in the captivity 130 years before Ezekiel wrote, but *shall*] fall by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence" (verse 11).

### The Time Is Yet Future

This is not a popular message. You probably have never heard it before. The preachers and teachers of prophecy almost unanimously will rise up to deny this warning message—to apply it to a different time or people. But the warning is from the Eternal God, and it is sure! The reader will do well to heed.

Notice the time. It's important.

"All hands shall be feeble, and all knees shall be weak as water" (chapter 7, verse 17). "Howl ye; for the day of the Lord is at hand. ... Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt: and they shall be afraid ..." (Isa. 13:6-8). Plainly, the time is the "Day of the Lord"—yet in the immediate future!

Continue in Ezekiel: "They shall cast their silver in the streets, and their gold shall be removed: their silver and their gold shall not be able to deliver them in the day of the wrath of the Lord ..." (Ezek. 7:19). Now compare that with Zephaniah 1:14-15, 17-18: "The great day of the Lord is near. ... That day is a day of wrath. ... And I [the Eternal] will bring distress upon men. ... Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the Lord's wrath. ..." Both are speaking of the same time—a time shortly ahead of us now, in this present generation!

"Wherefore," continues verse 24 (Ezek. 7), "I will bring the worst of the heathen, and they shall possess their houses: I will also make the pomp of the strong to cease. ... Destruction cometh; and they shall seek peace, and there shall be none. ... Then shall they seek a vision of the prophet; but the law



shall perish from the priest” (verses 25-26).

Yes, when this comes, our people finally will cry out for a true prophet or minister of the Eternal God—but it will be too late! For then shall have come the time spoken of by the prophet Amos, when there shall be a famine of hearing the words of the Eternal—(Amos 8:11)—an end of true gospel preaching. Already the people and their paid ministers have turned their eyes and ears from God’s law.

Notice chapter 11 of Ezekiel’s prophecy. It is a message addressed to the House of Israel (verse 5). “. . . I will bring a sword upon you, saith the Lord God. And I will bring you out of the midst thereof, and deliver you into the hands of strangers, and will execute judgments among you. Ye shall fall by the sword . . .” (verses 8-10). When? It is future from the time Ezekiel wrote, and it has not yet happened since then. God says it will happen!

Chapter 12, verse 11: “. . . they shall remove and go into captivity.” It is yet future—and it is the House of Israel. Not Judah.

When? “And they shall know that I am the Lord, when I shall scatter them among the nations, and disperse them in the countries” (verse 15). The expression “They shall know that I am the Lord” is used repeatedly through the book of Ezekiel—always referring to the time of the Second Coming of Christ, and Israel’s final restoration back to her original land. Many prophecies show that the modern nations descended from ancient Israel are to be scattered in this latter-day captivity when Christ comes to restore them back to that land.

### People Won’t Believe It

Always the true prophets and ministers of God have stood almost alone and opposed by the overwhelming majority in Israel. That is Israel’s history of old. It is true today.

The 13th chapter shows the declaration of the popular ministry of this day in Israel—in America and Britain.

“Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel . . . Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their

own spirit, and have seen nothing! O Israel, thy prophets are like the foxes in the deserts. Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the Lord” (verses 2-5). It is speaking of the soon-coming “Day of the Lord”—not some ancient event! “. . . they have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and there was no peace . . .” (verse 10).

Our nations were not chosen for special favors. We were chosen for a service and righteous life we have failed to perform. Every time Israel of old disobeyed God, departed from his laws and ways and went into the pagan customs (as we have done today, actually deceiving ourselves by calling those customs “Christian”), they were invaded and conquered. Has God changed?

Ezekiel catalogs our sins—our customs and ways that seem right in *our* eyes but that are contrary to God’s laws and an abomination in his sight. Some of them he mentions in the 8th chapter.

And chapter 22: “Thou hast despised mine holy things, and hast profaned my sabbaths,” says the Eternal (verse 8). “. . . thou hast taken usury and increase, and thou hast greedily gained of thy neighbours by extortion, and hast forgotten me, saith the Lord. . . . And I will [not *did*, but *will*] scatter thee among the heathen, and disperse thee in the countries, and will consume thy filthiness out of thee” (verses 12, 15).

“Her priests [prophetically speaking of modern Israel] have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shewed difference between the unclean and the clean [Lev. 11], and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them” (verse 26). Our people today can’t see where these things make any difference. But Ezekiel says the preachers have deceived the people, and led them astray. They have condoned all these things, until the people have lost God’s pure TRUTH!

Chapters 25 through 32, Ezekiel digresses to prophesy against a number of foreign gentile nations who have come in direct contact with Is-

rael. In Ezekiel 33:11, the prophet returns to pleading with the House of Israel. “. . . Turn ye, turn ye,” God pleads, “from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?” Here, too, Ezekiel is again set a watchman to warn Israel—AMERICA AND BRITAIN TODAY—at the time when this prophesied foreign sword is coming. Ezekiel wrote the message—but it remains for us to whom God has revealed it today to actually shout and proclaim it to the people. God help us to be faithful in this solemn and grave commission!

In the 34th chapter, God tells him to prophesy against the ministers of our land. They have fed themselves and not the flocks. They have preached what people wanted to hear (II Tim. 4:3-4) in order to get their salaries.

### The Coming of Christ!

And now the Eternal inspires the prophet to come to the solution.

“Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock. . . . Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. . . . And will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day [the Day of the Lord—yet future]. And I will . . . gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them [spiritual food] upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country” (Ezek. 34:10-13).

Christ himself—for he is the Eternal—shall come and rescue our people, not only from the coming captivity and dispersion, but from the false Baby-





lonish teachings that have been palmed off to our people cloaked as “Christianity.” He will then set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people Israel (Isa. 11:11). The spiritual blindness shall then be removed, and all Israel shall be saved! (See Romans 11:25-26.) The kingdom of God shall be established. Men shall be tired of their own ways, and seek God’s ways—and his law shall go forth of Zion (Mic. 4:2-3). And

(verses 1, 4, 8, 10-11).

Yes, the House of Israel is pictured returning to its original land, *not* from a condition of wealth and prosperity from Britain and America—not in the position of a people victorious in a great world war—but as a slave and captive people, scattered through the nations of the world. All prophecies picturing this rescue and regathering of Israel at Christ’s coming give us the same prophetic picture. Why be blinded to the truth?

two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all: neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions. . . . And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt . . . they, and their children, and their children’s children *for ever*. . . . Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an *everlasting covenant* . . .”—the New Covenant (verses 21-23, 25-26).

#### At Peace in the Holy Land

Notice, now the story flow—the time sequence: The prophet has carried us through the sins of his people, the coming invasion and captivity and dispersion, and the coming of Christ as Deliverer to restore the fortunes of Israel. We have come to the time when both the Houses of Israel and Judah shall be reunited into one nation, rescued from captivity and dispersion and regathered again in their land, once again made prosperous, having learned their lesson, now living God’s way, under his laws, enjoying his richest blessings, both material and spiritual!

And now we come to chapter 38. This chapter finds Israel restored in her land—“the land that is brought back from the sword” (verse 8). We find Israel now at rest, dwelling safely, totally unprepared for war—having “neither bars nor gates” (verse 11), in the desolate places of the land of Israel, now inhabited (verse 12)—yes, inhabited (same verse) by the people who are once again restored to great material prosperity—“which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land.”

Notice it!

This prophecy does not picture the British Isles and America. It pictures the Holy Land. It pictures all 12 tribes having been taken there from a dispersion and captivity and slavery, gathered out of the nations where we had been scattered, now once again beginning to prosper.

Notice it: The time of this prophecy is after—not before, but after—the Second Coming of Christ—after the great Deliverer has come and rescued our people

#### Both Houses of Israel United

In chapter 37, the first part pictures the “valley of dry bones.” This represents (verse 11) the whole House of Israel—including Judah. It has a dual significance. It pictures the rebirth and resurrection of Israel *as a nation*, from captivity, dispersion and slavery.

It pictures, too, the literal bodily resurrection of the individual who has long since died, after which the knowledge of the truth—spiritual knowledge—shall be revealed, and he shall be converted, and God’s Spirit shall enter within, and he shall be saved.

Beginning with the 15th verse, the illustration of the two sticks shows the two houses, or nations, Israel and Judah, being once more united, under Christ at his Second Coming, in the land of Israel.

“ . . . Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will take the children of Israel [from the British Isles and America—from a position of wealth and affluence as recent victors in the world war? No, but] from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land: and I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more



NOGUES—SYGMA

#### The Geneva handshake that broke the ice between the superpowers.

the nations shall find PEACE!

In the 36th chapter of Ezekiel, the Eternal addresses the House of Israel: “Prophesy unto the mountains of Israel . . . Thus saith the Lord God to the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, to the desolate wastes, and to the cities that are forsaken. . . . But ye, O mountains of Israel, ye shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to my people of Israel; for they are at hand to come. . . . And I will multiply men upon you, all the house of Israel, even all of it: and the cities shall be inhabited, and the wastes shall be builded: and I will multiply upon you man and beast . . .”



and restored us to the land of Israel—after Israel and Judah are reunited. Certainly the “latter years” (verse 8).

The place of this battle is not Britain or America—it is the Holy Land. “. . . thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste [or “once a perpetual waste”—Moffatt translation]” (verse 8). The “mountains of Israel” is an expression used all through the book of Ezekiel, and refers to the literal mountainous land of ancient Israel.

Our people shall have regained so much wealth that Gog and allies shall come to “take a spoil” (verse 13), “to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil.”

### Christ's Reign Contested

But this very fact—that this inva-

sion will not come until *after* the Second Coming of Christ—will seem preposterous to many, at first thought.

That is because we have been accustomed merely to assume things that are not true. We have blindly assumed that when Christ comes, there will be no opposition. Every person and power on earth, we have thought, will simply submit meekly and instantly to him and his power. But that is not true!

Some gentile nations understandably shall not submit until forced to. The final restoration of the Roman Empire shall be subdued and conquered at a battle commonly called “Armageddon.” But the populous nations of Eurasia that the Almighty God up to this point has not dealt with shall still have to be brought to submission.

### “Gog” Identified

“Gog” in the land of “Magog” is the vast regions of the U.S.S.R. in northern Eurasia extending from the Baltic to the Pacific. “Meshech” is Moscow, “Tubal” is Tobol’sk.

Notice the allies who come with them in this future battle. You will find “Gomer,” “Togarmah,” “Magog,” “Meshech,” “Tubal” identified in Genesis 10 as the sons of Japheth, father of the Eurasians. Ethiopia and Phut (mistranslated Libya) are descended from Ham.

Therefore, this prophecy of Ezekiel 38 shows who shall finally succeed in marshaling peoples of each major race into a gigantic invasion upon our people.

When God begins to rule the world, through Christ—with his chosen people restored to prosperity in the land of Israel, the very center of the land surface of the earth (verse 12, Moffatt translation)—this great Eurasian union of nations shall finally be tempted to use their mighty air force. “Thou shalt ascend,” the Eternal says, “and come like a storm [in the air], thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land . . .” (verse 9). There shall be so many planes then that they will hide the sun from the ground below, like a huge dark shadow!

### The End of World Conquest

The House of Israel—our peo-

ples—shall not be armed or prepared. “. . . In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it?” asks the Eternal. “And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts [due north of the land of ancient Israel], thou, and many people [allies] with thee . . . a mighty army; and thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me [note the purpose], when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes” (verses 14-16).

But our people shall not have to fight in that battle. We shall have learned by then that God fights our battles for us!

“And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord God, that my fury shall come up in my face” (verse 18). “So that . . . all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence . . .” (verse 20). It is after Christ’s coming!

“I will summon an utter panic against him [Gog], says the Lord the Eternal, till every man in his host shall draw the sword against his fellow; I will punish him with pestilence and bloodshed, I will rain on him and his hordes and all the nations in his train an overpowering flood, with hail-stones, fire, and brimstone. I will let all the nations see my might and dread divinity—to teach them that I am the Eternal” (verses 21-23, Moffatt).

Notice, these nations do not see and recognize the dread divinity, the might and power of the Eternal Christ, even after he has returned. He has to teach them that HE IS THE ETERNAL!

The 39th chapter shows in more detail the result of this great battle, in which Christ, with supernatural power, causes five sixths of these armies to be slain.

Notice, again, the time: “. . . Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel [Israel and Judah], and will be jealous for my holy name. . . . When I have

(Continued on page 26)

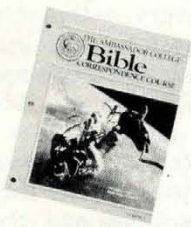
# WHY Study the Bible?

Because it provides the answers to life's most vital questions: Why were you born? What does the future hold? Are there solutions to world problems?

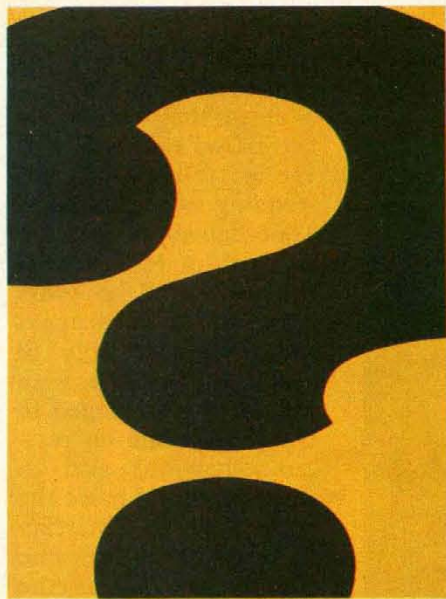
The unique and exciting Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course can help you begin to comprehend the Bible as never before!

- Easy-to-read, monthly lessons
- Step-by-step detail
- Periodic quizzes help you evaluate your progress

These lessons are FREE. Why not enroll now? Send your request to our address nearest you (see inside front cover for a list).







# LIFE'S BIGGEST QUESTION!

## Few know what it is

by Dibar K. Apartian

**I**T WAS the spring of 1955. Until that time I had never heard of Herbert W. Armstrong. Nor had I heard of Ambassador College.

Just one day before our first meeting, Herbert Armstrong's son Richard David had asked the California Teachers Association, in Los Angeles, to look for a French teacher for an eventual opening at Ambassador College in Pasadena. The requirements were rather simple: The applicant should be an experienced teacher with a European background.

Mr. Armstrong received me in his office with a friendly smile and a warm handshake. After a brief interview, he suddenly asked me with a deep, powerful voice, "Do you know why you were born?"

No, I didn't. However, at that moment, the purpose of life was the last thing on my mind. I hadn't come here to learn this, but to apply for a teaching position. I waited, hoping he would forget his question and pursue with the interview. Instead, he spent more than an hour expounding the question!

I didn't know then Mr. Armstrong's great commission, nor did I ever dream that his question would eventually change my life and start a close relationship with him that lasted until the time of his death 30 years later.

When I went home that evening, I wondered why he had taken so much pain to explain to me—a stranger—why God created man, what was his purpose, and the ultimate goal for all mankind. Despite Mr. Armstrong's clear explanations, I was unable to grasp much of what he had said. Nevertheless I was totally impressed by his convictions and his knowledge. He spoke as one having authority.

A few months later, in the fall of 1955, I was hired as the French instructor at Ambassador College. The college was very small, and all of us—faculty members and students alike—had the opportunity to spend many hours talking with Mr. Armstrong.

One evening, as his older son Dick—he liked to be called that for short—and I were

visiting him and Mrs. Loma Armstrong at their home, he told us: "The Bible is the inspired written Word of God. Jesus Christ is the spoken Word of God. Why don't people know it? Why don't they believe it? Well, I will tell you why: Because the whole world has been deceived by Satan!"

His statement left me all the more perplexed. I had never heard such things before. Satan deceiving the whole world? I had always laughed at the mere idea of Satan's existence!

His elder son and I became very good friends. In those days we were both bachelors and Dick would often invite me to his parents' home, especially on Saturday evenings. On one occasion Mr. Armstrong told us, "You two will someday have to work together to take the gospel to the French-speaking countries. The French are also descendants of the Israelites. They, too, must hear the true gospel of Jesus Christ!"

The French people—Israelites? What was he talking about?

**Mr. Armstrong taught us to excel in whatever we did—without the spirit of competition. He encouraged us to strive for perfection.**



**I didn't know then Mr. Armstrong's great commission, nor did I ever dream that his question would eventually change my life and start a close relationship with him that lasted until the time of his death—30 years later!**



WARREN WATSON—PT

my baptism, in April 1957, laying hands on me with a few other ministers so that I might receive God's Holy Spirit. He officiated at my wedding two years later. He ordained me into the ministry of Jesus Christ in 1962. And as years went by, God granted me the opportunity to spend much time with him. I was privileged to travel with him on various occasions and to learn more and more the true way of Christian living, and to become the mainspring of the French-language work of the living God.

Mr. Armstrong taught us to excel in whatever we did—without the spirit of competition. He encouraged us to strive for perfection. "God is the Author of beauty and perfection," he often told us. "When our ways are pleasing to God, he will always bless us!"

The very last private meeting I had with Mr. Armstrong was in September 1985. He had wanted to see me alone—"to discuss some important matters." He

Many of my friends in France were not Jews! And what did he mean by the *true* gospel of Jesus Christ? It all seemed so mysterious!

As time went on I became more and more aware of how illiterate I was—biblically speaking. Christianity, to me, meant going occasionally to church and believing what my parents and grandparents had believed. But here was a man who showed me—in the Bible—that I was totally wrong, and that the whole world was deceived. What could anyone do? How could anyone argue with God's written Word?

My life began to change. Some of my old friends deserted me but I made new ones at Ambassador College—true friends, who believed that it was more blessed to give than to receive—the "give"

way as opposed to the "get" way, as Mr. Armstrong himself taught to the day of his death.

"People see Ambassador College and all these buildings—and they tell me that I have done great things," he would often say. "They don't realize it's all God's doing. But I had to work as hard as though I had done them!"

Today, when I examine my life, I can say that everything worthwhile I have learned, everything I own, all the joy I have experienced since becoming a part of the team—God's little flock—I owe, in a sense, to Herbert W. Armstrong. Yet it all came, of course, from God, but it came through Mr. Armstrong.

I am deeply grateful to him, deeply appreciative of his patience, concern and love. He assisted at

looked tired but was very much alert. Leisurely he reminisced how God had called him to proclaim to the whole world—at this end time—the good news of the soon-coming of Jesus Christ and of the establishment of God's kingdom on earth.

"I won't be much longer with you all," he said meditatively. "You men will have to carry on without me. God is on his throne. Jesus Christ is the living Head of the Church!"

Back in 1955, I didn't know why Mr. Armstrong had asked me if I knew why I was born. But I am thankful he did! It changed my whole life. Today, I know and understand it—and with God's help, I want to do my part so that all men, everywhere, may one day also learn why they were born! □



# Mystery of the Church

We continue, with this ninth installment, the serial publication of Herbert W. Armstrong's last book, *Mystery of the Ages*.

**P**ERHAPS the greatest mystery of all will not seem, at first glance, to be a mystery to most readers of this volume.

The reason that is true is the fact that the true purpose and meaning of the Church is as little understood as the Bible itself. The revelation of that mystery must come as a shocking truth. The real truth about the Church—the reason for its origin, and its purpose—has remained hidden from even the professing Christian world.

### Church Exclusive to Christian World

This is inextricably intertwined with the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is a fact to stagger the mind of the reader that the gospel of Jesus Christ was not proclaimed to the world from about A.D. 50 until the year 1953. The apostle Paul foretold this when he said, "But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them" (II Cor. 4:3-4).

Millions have read over this pas-

sage without grasping its meaning.

The term *church* is applicable only to the Christian religion. (The Christian religion, as is generally understood, is the largest religion in the world in number of professing adherents.) Other religions may have mosques, synagogues and temples. But is the Church a building? Many assume it is, which assumption reflects their ignorance of the purpose and meaning of the Church. But in this volume we are concerned only with the Church. For when stripped of its mystery, the Church is of paramount concern to all peoples of the earth.

The Church, founded by Jesus Christ, has an all-important meaning to every human life that ever lived. Yet almost no one has ever known that meaning.

Even within the Christian world, apostasy, division and changing times have blotted out the true original meaning and purpose that now is indeed a mystery.

The word *church* is an English-language word translated from the original Greek *ekklesia*. *Ekklesia* means an assembly of called-out-ones. Old Testament Israel was usually called by the term "congregation." In some respects the word *congregation* is synonymous with the word *church*. Yet there is a distinct difference between the terms *church* and *congregation*.

The congregation of Israel was separate, as a separate nation. But they were not called-out-ones spiritually in the same sense that characterizes the New Testament Church.

What has been hidden from even the professing Christian world is the real purpose of the Church—the real reason why Jesus Christ, the second Adam, founded the Church.

### Real Purpose of Church

To the shocking surprise to nearly every reader of this volume, I will state first what the Church was not and is not. It is not the instrumentality by which God is trying to "save the world." Few may realize it, but Jesus made no attempt to gain converts or to invite people to "give their hearts to him" or to "accept him as their personal Savior."

On the contrary, he "called out"—drafted—twelve disciples. The word *disciple* means student. These twelve were students being taught by Jesus the true gospel of the kingdom of God. This involved the entire purpose of God in creating the human race on this earth. That meaning had been rejected, then lost, by the first created man, Adam.

At this point let us recapitulate. God is the Creator and Supreme Ruler over his entire creation. He



had placed the archangel Lucifer on earth's throne to administer the government of God. God's government is based on God's law. God's law is a way of life—the way of outgoing love.

God's government was repudiated by Lucifer, who became Satan, and Satan ruled with the opposite way of life—rebellion, self-centeredness and conflict.

Adam, the first created human being, was given opportunity to receive eternal God-life with obedience to God and total submission to the law of God and God's government. He could have replaced Satan on earth's throne. He rejected the government and way of God. Thus Satan was left on the throne where he still rules as of this day. Adam and the human family were kidnapped, deceived into living the self-centered hostile way of Satan. Thereupon God closed off the tree of life and the Holy Spirit of God, until Jesus Christ, the second Adam, should conquer and replace Satan on earth's throne. At his First Coming, appearing on earth as the human Jesus, Christ came, not to seize the throne, but to conquer Satan, qualify to replace him on the throne, and to ransom

Seven annual festivals were given to Old Testament Israel and were ordained forever. Their true meaning had long remained a hidden mystery. They picture God's plan of redemption—the divine plan by which God is reproducing himself. The Passover pictures the death of Christ in payment for the penalty of human sin repented of. The seven days of the Festival of Unleavened Bread picture the Church coming out of sin, even as Israel came out of Egypt. The Day of Pentecost, originally called Feast of Firstfruits, pictures the Church as the first to be begotten and born as children of God during the Church age. The Feast of Trumpets pictures the Second Coming of Christ to take over earth's throne and to rule all nations. The Day of Atonement pictures the putting away of Satan. The Feast of Tabernacles pictures the thousand-year reign under the rule of Christ and the born children of God. The Final Great Day pictures the final judgment, which will be covered in chapter seven. Let's return now to the subject of this chapter, the Church.

### The Institution of the Church

What is the Church? Why is the Church? The institution of the Church, at first mention, may not seem to be a mystery. The modern Western world takes the fact of the existence of churches for granted, as a part of the world's civilized life.

WHY the institution of the Church in the world?—WHY was it started, and for what pur-

the kidnapped world with his shed blood.

Now, why the Church? Christ came also to call out selected and chosen ones from Satan's world to turn from Satan's way into the way of God's law and to qualify to reign with Christ when he comes to replace Satan on the throne of the earth. Those called into the Church were called not merely for salvation and eternal life, but to learn the way of God's government and develop the divine character during this mortal life in the Church age.

pose?

If you ask people in the non-Christian world where other religions are accepted, they would probably have no answer. They know little about the Church. Those in the more modernist and liberal areas of traditional Christianity would probably say the Church exists merely as an emotional lift, having a psychological influence on those who have not embraced the evolutionary theory as accepted in modern higher education.

If you ask those who follow one of the evangelical Christian denominations, they would probably say that the Church is God's instrument in his effort to save the world from an eternal hell fire. It has been assumed by those people that the Church is a sort of soul-saving station to get people "saved." If the Church came into existence as an instrumentality for "getting people saved," then, I ask, by what means did God try to save people prior to Christ's founding of the Church? Jesus did not appear until 4,000 years after Adam and the original sin. If God is and has been trying to convert the world, what means did he use during that 4,000 years between Adam and Christ? As we have seen in chapter three, God closed the tree of life at the foundation of the world. The Holy Spirit and salvation were shut off from the world during all these years.

But in view of the facts revealed by God Almighty in his Word, covered in the preceding chapters, all these suppositions are wrong. They only give vociferous testimony to the fact expressed in Revelation 12:9 that the whole world has been deceived by Satan the devil. Their minds have been blinded to the truth about God's purpose for humanity as stated in II Corinthians 4:3-4.

The existence of the Church, then, does indeed become a mystery to nearly everyone on the face of this earth.

News concerning some church appears frequently in newspapers and on newscasts. People think of a church on some near corner, or perhaps of some denomination in the news, but the fact of its existence would not occur to the mind to be a mystery. But when we ask, why do churches exist, how did the Church as an institution come into being?—what is its reason or purpose for its existence?—does it make any difference whether, or to which church you belong?—then, indeed, it becomes a mystery. The average person has no answer.

The facts of the Church's origin and its purpose are revealed in that book of mystery—the Holy Bible. To make clear that mystery may well require more pages in this book than any other subject.



## My Personal Experience

I am reminded of my own personal experience, probably typical of many others. My parents were members of the Friends Church, commonly known as the Quakers. The family had been Quakers for many generations. I was taken to church from babyhood, taking it for granted as a normal part of life. I was in church every Sunday because my parents took me. As a routine habit I continued until age 18. It never occurred to me to question why we should attend church or how the church came into existence, or what was its real meaning and purpose.

I never went through the experience in those years of being "converted." As I grew into the teens, I was told that I had a birthright membership in the church. I was led to take it for granted that I was an immortal soul and that when I died I would not really die, but rather pass away into heaven where I would have no responsibilities but only a life of idleness and ease in sublime glory forever and ever. But I was not religiously or doctrinally interested. I simply took churchgoing and a religious phase of life for granted. But I had no special or deep religious or spiritual interest, and by age 18 I started in the advertising business, lost all interest in religion or the things of God and gave up regular church attendance. I still believed in God—that is to say, I took the existence of God for granted since I had been taught of God's existence from earliest memory.

Then at age 25 I had met and married that one and only particular young woman. She was more seriously interested in the things of God. We began to feel that we should join a church. My wife's ancestry had been part Quaker and part Methodist. There was no Quaker church in the neighborhood where we lived in a Chicago suburb. We joined a Methodist church because it was located within walking distance, we liked the personality of the minister, and we liked the membership socially. I think our experience was typical of millions of others. But it never occurred to me to ask or even won-

der why we ought to go to church, or why the institution of the Church had ever come into being. Like millions of others I assumed that the "good people" went to church and so ought we.

## The Church in Relation to Past History

And so now I ask, Does anyone question the reason or purpose for the Church as an institution? I ask, Does anyone know why there are churches? Is there a REASON for it? The very existence of the Church known as "Christianity" is one of the great mysteries of our time. This very subject brings to mind again the fact that, not having lived through and seen events of the past 6,000 years that led up to the present, we do not grasp the real meaning or purpose of the Church. In this chapter we shall view the Church in its TRUE relationship to all the events described in the first five chapters of this book. Again, what is the Church?

Most think of the Church as a building with a sharply sloping roof, a steeple atop pointing heavenward and a cross on its face. Indeed Webster defines the word *church* as a building. It was something altogether different when originally founded.

People suppose a church is a building to which people—some of them—flock on Sunday morning for "worship." They think *people* go to the *church*. As founded in the New Testament, the *Church* went to a *building*, at first a private home. And the Church assembled on a Saturday, not Sunday.

The churches of today have changed drastically from Christ's pattern! This fact, also, is cloaked in mystery, understood by virtually no one. But for WHAT PURPOSE did Christ found the Church? What has happened to it since?

Some may know Christ started the Church. But who and what is Christ? And if he was the founder of the Church, for what purpose did he start it? Jesus founded only one Church. Yet in the Western world today there are many differ-

ent churches—Catholic, Protestant, independents. And within them many denominations, sects and divisions or congregations, each with its differing beliefs, teachings, rituals and programs.

The Church started out as one Church. As it is recorded in I

# Why the institution of the Church in the world? Why was it started, and for what purpose?

Corinthians 12 the Church consisted of many members, but only the one body—the one Church—of which Jesus Christ was the Head.

At the outset of this chapter we are primarily concerned with four basic questions that constitute a mystery that needs to be revealed with understanding.

- 1) Who and what is Christ? Why did he appear on earth?
- 2) What is and why was the Church brought into existence?
- 3) What is the gospel the Church is commissioned to proclaim?
- 4) What is the history of the Church? Why is Christianity so different today than at its inception in the first century?

Institutionally the CHURCH is thought of today as a religious organization, association or society. One—if "good"—is supposed to join the "church of his choice." Of course there are the "good guys" and the "bad guys" and the "good" go to church. But does it make any difference which church—which denomination?

## A Minister without a Pastorate

I am reminded of an incident of more than 50 years ago. I was still in Eugene, Oregon. An ex-minister came to me who had just recently been married. His wife had money, but he was too proud to let her support him. He had not been employed in the ministry for some time but now needed a job.

"Do you know of any pulpit



vacancies in Lane County?" he asked. "I want to support my wife, and she wants to remain here in Lane County."

"Well, yes," I replied. "I do know of one vacancy, but that wouldn't help you because that is a Christian church, and you are a Methodist with different beliefs and practices."

"Oh, that won't make any difference," he assured me. "I'll preach whatever doctrines they want me to preach."

But does it really make any difference what we believe? Let the Word of God answer that question.

The Church seems to be something concerned with worshiping with others. Supposedly it refers to the worship of God.

But if God is related to the Church, what is his relationship? How did the Church start? All this is a mystery to today's world.

Back in the early part of 1927 when my intense Bible study was bringing me toward conversion, I asked myself such questions. I supposed questions of that sort never enter the average mind.

In the New Testament Greek, the Church is called the *ekklesia*, a Greek word meaning called-out-ones—an assembly, a congregation, a gathering, a group. There is no sanctity to the word *ekklesia*. The name of the Church, however, used 12 times in the New Testament, is "Church of God," which denotes that it is *God's* Church—which name attaches sanctity. The Old Testament Church was the "Congregation of Israel," the congregation descended from the biblical patriarch, Israel.

### Why Jesus Founded the Church

The first place in the New Testament where the word *church* appears is Matthew 16:18, where, speaking to Simon Peter, Jesus said, "I will build my church." As noted above, the inspired Greek word for church was *ekklesia*, meaning called-out-ones. Stated in more clear English language, Jesus said "I will call out of Satan's world disciples, to grow into the altogether new and different world, which will be God's kingdom." And in Ephesians 5:23

it is stated that Christ is the Head of the Church.

So this we know. Whatever the Church is, it belongs to God and its name is the Church of God. Jesus Christ is its founder, and he its living Head.

But if it is God's Church—if Jesus Christ founded it and today heads it—it is something important to God, and therefore vital that we come to understand! We must bear in mind what went before—what led up to it—to understand *why* the living Christ created the Church—*what* it is, and where it fits into the divine purpose being worked out here below.

### Church of the Old Testament

Old Testament Israel had a function preparatory to ultimate establishment of the kingdom of God. The first mention in the Bible of the Church, in time of existence, is Acts 7:38 where it speaks of "the church in the wilderness" at Mount Sinai, under Moses. So Old Testament Israel was the "Church."

Most generally in the Old Testament, Israel, as a Church, is referred to as the "Congregation of Israel."

However, as we shall see, the Church of the New Testament is entirely different and has an entirely different purpose than the Old Testament "Congregation of Israel." Almost no one has understood that the gospel could not be proclaimed to the world, nor could God's called congregation of people have the Holy Spirit *until* Jesus a) had qualified by overcoming Satan, and b) had been glorified after ascension to heaven (John 7:37-39).

*And that is something not even the theologians and church leaders of our day understand.* It is, indeed, a mystery, which needs to be revealed and understood. Now let us understand clearly who and what is Christ.

We have already seen in chapter one that Christ, in the eternity before the world came into being, was the "Logos" who also was God, and as Jesus, was born as the Son of

God. Now as the Son of God just what was Jesus? He was called the second Adam (I Cor. 15:45). Why should he be called the second Adam? The first Adam had the opportunity of taking of the tree of life, which meant God-life—obeying God and thereby replacing Satan on the throne of the earth. Jesus came to do just that, to qualify to replace Satan on that throne and to start the government of God on the earth through those called out from Satan's world. He came also with a message from God called the gospel. The word *gospel* means good news. And actually, his gospel—the message sent by him from God—was the good news of

**The modern Western world takes the fact of the existence of churches for granted, as a part of the world's civilized life.**

the kingdom of God. And the kingdom of God, as we shall see, is to be the restoration of the government of God over the earth and the ousting of Satan from that throne.

Jesus came also to build the Church. And he came to pay the ransom price for a kidnapped world and by that price—his death—to pay the penalty incurred by all humans for their sins.

### Jesus—Earth Ruler and King

Next, what nearly all "Christians," including theologians, do not realize: Jesus was born to become a KING!

On trial for his life before Pilate, Jesus was asked, "Art thou a king then?" And Jesus answered: "Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world . . ." (John 18:37). Jesus also said (verse 36), "My kingdom is not of this world . . . [else] would my servants fight"—showing that this is Satan's world. Jesus came to call people out of this world to be prepared to teach and rule under him when he



becomes King and takes over the throne of the earth.

Prior to the begetting and birth of Jesus, God had said to his mother-to-be, Mary, by his angel: "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end" (Luke 1:31-33). His gospel was the good news of that kingdom—the kingdom of God.

It is vital that we understand, at this point, that Jesus, during his human life, was both God and man. In Isaiah 7:14, Mary, the mother of Jesus, was prophesied as the virgin who was going to bear a son. That Son's name, in this prophecy, was to be called Immanuel, which means "God with us." In other words, Jesus was God as well as human man. He had no human father. God Almighty was his father who begat him by means of the Holy Spirit. But though Jesus was actually "God with us," he was also human like all other humans. He was subject to being tempted just as all other humans are tempted. Although he was actually God in the human flesh, yet in his ministry he functioned as a human. Remember, he was the second Adam. It was necessary for him that he, as a human, reject the "forbidden tree" and accept the tree of life. It was necessary that he, as the first Adam might have done, choose to rely completely on God the Father. In fact, God was actually in Christ and Jesus obeyed the Father completely. He qualified to wrest the throne of the earth from Satan.

### **Jesus Was God**

Why was it necessary that Jesus be actually God in the human flesh? Why was it necessary that he be God? Why was it necessary that he be human? As God, he was the Maker of all mankind. In Ephesians 3:9 it is revealed that God created all things by Jesus Christ. When Jesus was born as a human, his life as our Maker was greater than the sum total of all human

lives. Since it is humans who have sinned and come under the death penalty, God's law required human death as the penalty for human sin. But, as our Maker, Jesus was the only human whose death could pay the penalty for the sins of all humans.

In no other way could the Creator God have redeemed a vast humanity condemned to the penalty of death.

### **Jesus Beaten for Our Healing**

We need to bear in mind that though Jesus was God in the human flesh, he was also human even as you and I. He could suffer the same physical pains. He had been condemned to death by the Roman governor Pilate on clamorous demand of shouting Jews.

He was a strong, vigorous, young man of about 33 years of age, in the peak of health. Because he had never broken even one law of health, he suffered the process of dying as no other human ever did. He had been up all night without sleep during the trial before Pilate. Pilate, later that morning, delivered him to be scourged before being put to death.

Scourging consisted of being stripped to the waist, bound over in a bent position, tied to a post. He was beaten by whips made of leather thongs weighted down by pieces of lead, broken shards of bone and sharp jagged pieces of metal, attached at intervals of four to five inches along the leather thongs. They were designed to imbed themselves deeply into the flesh as the thongs wrapped themselves around the body. He was whipped until his flesh was torn open and even his ribs appeared. Scourging was intended to weaken the victims so they would die quickly on the stake of crucifixion. As foretold in Isaiah 52:14: "His visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men."

This indescribable scourging was endured that believers might be healed from physical transgression, sicknesses or disease (Isa. 53:5; I Pet. 2:24). What a terrible price our own very Maker paid that we might, by believing, be healed. Yet nearly all professing believers totally ignore what their Savior provided for them, and instead of rely-

ing on him, put their faith in human doctors, drugs, medicines and knives.

Jesus was so weakened by this terrible chastisement that he was unable to carry his cross, as he was required to do, but for a short distance. Another was appointed to carry it for him.

### **The Most Painful and Despicable Death**

Outside the city walls, at the Place of the Skull (Golgotha), Jesus was nailed to the cross. He was humiliated, spat upon, ridiculed, and jeered at.

More than that, because at that moment he had taken on himself our sins, in order to pay the penalty in our stead, he was forsaken by even his Father, God. As he hung on the cross, helpless, a soldier stabbed him with a spear; he screamed in pain (Matt. 27:50, Moffatt) and then died. He did this because you and I have transgressed the law of God. He paid the supreme possible sacrifice for you and for me.

One more supremely vital truth. The resurrection of Jesus from the dead was that of a human being and the only one that could make possible the resurrection of humans, once dead, to immortal life.

Now another vital prophecy. In Isaiah 9:6-7: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." Notice the government would be on his shoulder. Jesus is going to be King over all the earth. And one of the purposes of his coming was to announce that kingdom. Jesus' gospel was not only good news—it was an announcement or good news proclamation of the coming kingdom of God. What a tragedy that a "traditional Christianity" has forsaken and lost that vital and glorious gospel message

*(Continued on page 16)*



**L**ET'S suppose you're an unemployed teacher—in Canada, perhaps.

Did you know that Canadian teachers are migrating south to teach in California and Texas?

#### Recruiters' Blitz

After 2,500 unemployed teachers attended one hiring blitz in Vancouver, B.C.—conducted by 26 recruiters because of a teacher shortage in the United States—several hundred were hired.

Some of these teachers had not used their training since graduating. Some had not been able to work at all. Others had survived by working in restaurants, doing odd jobs and part-time tutoring, realizing that any job was better than none.

Across the Atlantic, Britain has an army of unemployed—3.2 million. West Germany's 2.1 million unemployed are called the number one social problem.

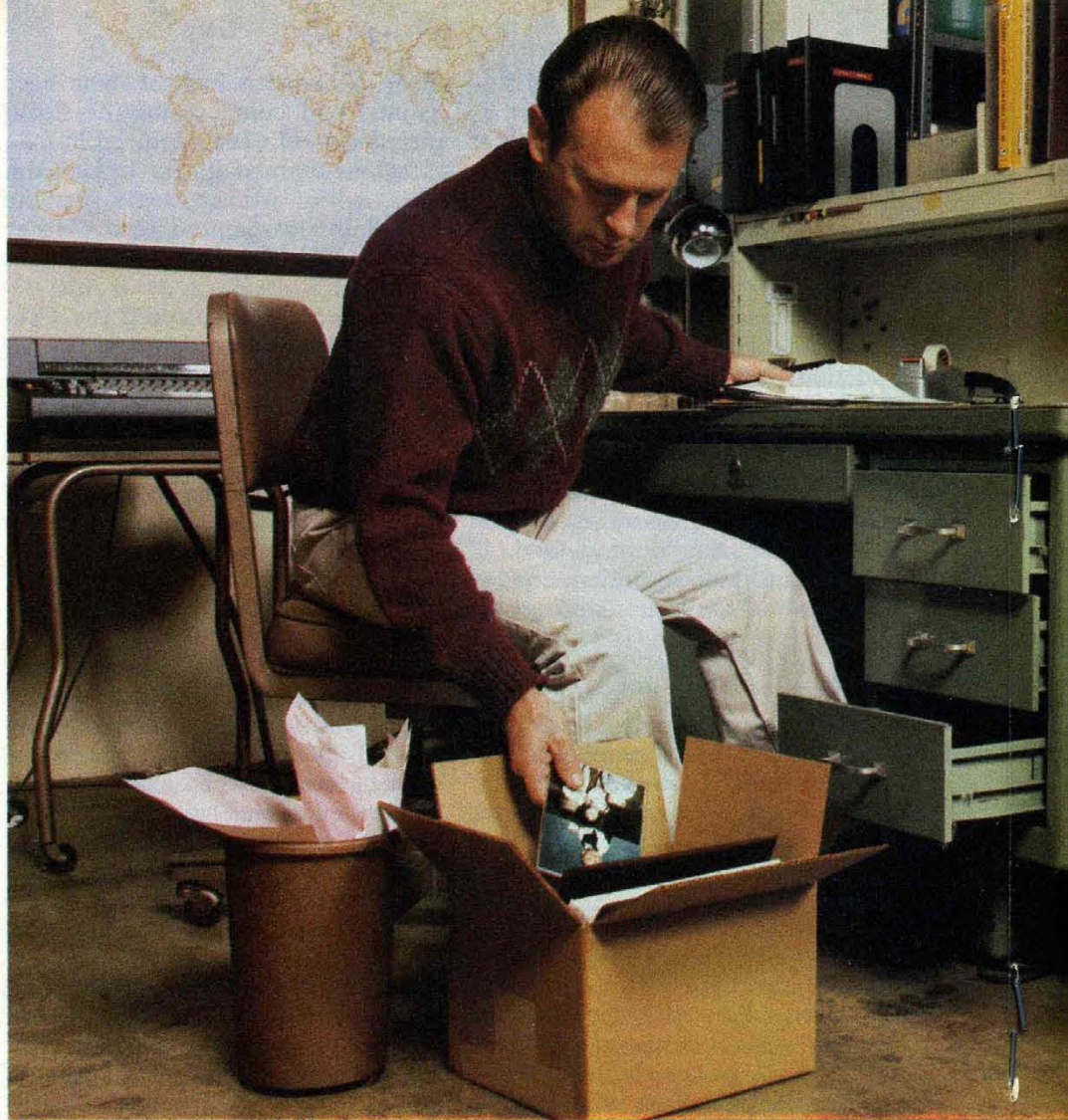
Recent times have seen many, worldwide, leave home and country, legally and illegally, in search of work. But what if you, that vast majority, do not wish to leave, or *cannot* leave, home or country?

#### Job Search Tips

Some employment experts say that 85 percent of jobs available on any given date are not advertised. They comprise the *hidden* job market. These are often filled by friends and relatives before the time of advertising. If you can make contact before a job is advertised you have the job field virtually to yourself. To discover these jobs you have to talk to friends, neighbors, former employers and workmates.

Turndowns are not a personal rejection. They are simply part of the process. The job search is often a series of "nos" before a "yes." It's the same for everyone, whether construction worker, geologist, secretary or executive. So don't get stopped or feel rejected by "nos."

Employers will consider hiring you if they are convinced you will bring them more value than you cost. You have to be keen and interested enough to show them this.



# So You're Un

And they often get tired of only hearing what the applicant wants from the job. Be able to explain what you can do for an employer.

Employers are often submerged in résumés with little time to thoroughly read them. So make them brief, clear, and be positive about your accomplishments and *always* call on the employer personally after submitting a résumé. (Books are available on how to write an effective résumé; consult your local library.)

Some job experts say that interviewers are very likely to "judge a

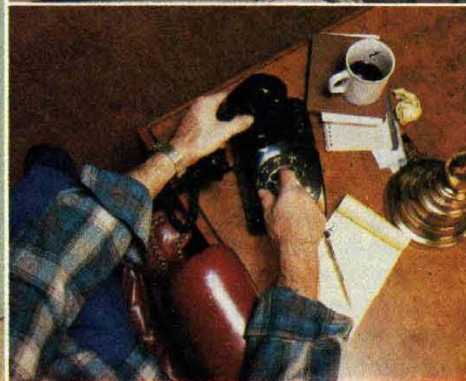
book by its cover." The first 10-seconds impression of you may determine whether you're hired. Make the cover as attractive and appealing as possible.

#### Ways to Use Time Positively

Unemployment does have a silver lining to its dark cloud. It offers something not available when fully employed—TIME. Used constructively, it can help you achieve greater job potential or start you in an entirely new direction.

When working full time there is little chance to do the things you





PHOTOS BY HAL FINCH—PT

# Unemployed?

really wish you could. And many people take jobs they dislike simply because of the need at the time. Now, with spare time, you may pursue the work you really long to do. But it may mean study. So take courses, improve your skills, upgrade your talents, increase your ability. This could give you a new direction in life.

Develop a hobby or some interest. Not only will this occupy your time and keep you positive, it can also lead to self-employment. Some who start hobbies develop them into profitable businesses.

One might do volunteer work whenever it is safe to do so in big city neighborhoods.

Use initiative to help your neighborhood. You now have the time and it can help you understand the plight of others less fortunate. Such insight should make you grateful for what you have despite being unemployed. It can also expose you to a new range of skills and interests and spark fresh goals in your life.

There is a benefit in fostering community spirit within yourself. It involves an attitude of give—not

get. Of wanting to help others. And with this approach it may even open doors for you.

Get fit. Too many unemployed let down physically. Full-time jobs do not allow much time for fitness. You may have been desk- or car-bound for years and may have lost youthful vigor, figure and vitality. Now you have the time to change that. Concentrate on physical fitness. Walking, running, jogging and swimming are good ways to blow the cobwebs of frustration from your mind. You will feel better and be mentally sharper.

Next, read your Bible and come to see the meaning and purpose of life. This leads to a vital key for surviving unemployment—knowing your unseen Partner.

## Your Unseen Partner in Life

You are not alone in tackling the plight of unemployment. You can come to know a source of power greater than employers or the job market—a higher power who is prepared to intervene supernaturally in your life—the Creator God. Use your time to become acquainted with him. He can and will act on your behalf, if you are willing to obey his ways.

One of the traits of God's nature is to be a provider to those who trust him. The patriarch Abraham had that lesson to learn. God tested Abraham to see whether he would implicitly trust God to provide a solution in the face of losing something dear to him. Abraham obeyed. God provided the solution. "And Abraham called the name of the place, The-Lord-Will-Provide" (see Genesis 22:1-14, *Revised Authorized Version*). And so he will for all who equally obey him.

The invisible God can be your help in unemployment trials. Use your time to come to know your unseen Provider in life.

Unemployment can be a serious blow to the stability of a family. Yet, approached positively, a constructive use of the time it affords can see you come out of it fitter, more skilled and armed with the help of your unseen Partner. And why not write for our booklet *The Seven Laws of Success*? It's informative and, of course, free!

—Graemme Marshall



# the Church

(Continued from page 13)

and substituted its own gospel about the person of Christ.

Jesus was born as a human, to become a King, ultimately to establish the kingdom of God, ruling the whole earth with the government of God! But that rule required more than the individual Jesus. The king, president, prime minister or ruler over every nation governs with and through a more or less vast organization of others who rule various phases and departments under him. Likewise, Christ must have an organized government with numerous others trained and qualified to rule under him. Jesus said, "I will build my church" (Matt. 16:18). The Church was to consist of many to be called out of Satan's world to be taught and trained for numerous governmental positions under Christ when he comes to rule over all the nations.

## Jesus—Spiritual Savior

Jesus came also as spiritual Savior, to save God's people in their due time from their sins, that they might be born into the very divine family of God (Matt. 1:21).

Remember, the tree of life, symbolizing the Holy Spirit, had been cut off from mankind at the foundation of the world after the sin of Adam. What the world does not understand is that the Spirit of God was cut off from humanity as a whole until the second Adam actually removes Satan and restores the government of God on the earth.

As for humanity as a whole, it was appointed at the time of Adam's sin for humans once to die and after death, by resurrection, shall come the judgment (Heb. 9:27).

The Holy Spirit was not given to the people of ancient Israel. Since God called and raised up prophets for a specific purpose preparatory to the salvation of humanity, it was necessary, in order for them to perform their called function, that an exception be made and they be empowered by the Holy Spirit.

In the same manner since God through Jesus was now calling out his Church for a specific function preparatory to the establishment of his kingdom and government over

all nations, it was now necessary that the same exception be made for the Church and that they be empowered by the Holy Spirit.

God emphatically did not empower the prophets with his Spirit merely for the purpose of giving them salvation. Likewise, God did not call saints out of this world merely for their salvation and entrance into his kingdom. Otherwise God would be a respecter of persons to have called the few of his Church at this time, while refusing to call others to salvation.

If God is opening salvation to the few in his Church only to give them salvation, while he excluded the preponderance of the world as a whole until later, then God certainly would be a respecter of persons, discriminating against the world as a whole. Jesus said plainly no man can come unto him except God the Father draws him (John 6:44). A professed Christianity believes precisely the opposite. This false Christianity teaches that God is calling and trying to save everybody in this present time. If that were so, then Satan is certainly winning a great victory over God. For the overwhelming majority of mankind know little or nothing about Christ or salvation through him.

## A Time-Order for Salvation

God's master plan calls for offering salvation and eternal life to every person ever born, but his plan calls for doing that in a time-order.

Those called out of the world and into the Church at this time are called for a specific purpose and a specific work. This specific work is to make possible the spiritual training to aid in the conversion of humanity as a whole. They are called at a time when they are persecuted and fought against by Satan and by various organizations in the world. The rest of the world will be called at a time when Satan is removed and they are aided and helped by Christ and the saints then made immortal in the kingdom of God.

Satan has blinded the minds of the unbelieving world and the pro-

fessing traditional "Christianity" to this fact (II Cor. 4:4). Satan has deceived the entire world, including a professing traditional "Christianity" (Rev. 12:9).

Neither professing Christians nor their scholarly theologian leaders today comprehend the major PURPOSES for which Jesus Christ came!

## Why Jesus Came

Jesus did not come to save Satan's world while Satan sits on the throne deceiving them. Jesus will save the world at his Second Coming, when Satan shall be put away. Why, then, did Jesus come more than 1,900 years ago? Not to rule, not to reign over all nations, not to save the world while Satan still rules over them.

His human birth was the arrival of the "second Adam." He had come 1) to qualify, where the first Adam failed, to replace the former archangel Lucifer on the throne of the earth, ruling with the government of God. He had come 2) to announce the future establishment of the kingdom of God and teach that prophetic good news (gospel) to his chosen future apostles. He

**T**he Church of the New Testament is entirely different and has an entirely different purpose than the "Congregation of Israel."

had come 3) to take on himself, as our direct Creator, the penalty for our sins by his death on the cross—that we might share in that world. And he had come 4) to be resurrected from the dead by God, making possible eternal God-life for the people of God and, after his Second Coming, for all who are willing, of all humanity who have ever lived on this earth. And he had come 5) to establish God's Church, to be trained to rule under him.

## Meanwhile, Satan's Rule

Meanwhile, for 4,000 years since the first Adam, the wily and evil



Satan had been invisibly swaying and ruling a mankind CUT OFF from all contact with and knowledge of God! He still sits at that throne of power—though not administering God's government, but subtly swaying all humanity to live under the precise opposite to the law of God's government—that is, the ways of vanity, coveting, competition, strife and violence, instead of God's way of outflowing love, cooperation, peace, happiness and joy.

Immediately after the birth of the Christ-child, Satan sought, through the Roman-appointed King Herod, to physically slay the future King (Matt. 2:13-15). But God warned Joseph and Mary to flee with the Christ-child into Egypt until King Herod was dead.

When Jesus was about age 30, he was ready to begin choosing his apostles, and proclaiming and teaching them his message from God to man—his gospel. But first, it was imperative that he qualify to replace Satan and set up the kingdom of God, by overcoming the devil.

This perhaps was the most important, momentous, decisive confrontation and battle ever fought in all time in the universe. It is described in detail in Matthew, chapter 4.

### The Titanic Battle of the Ages

Jesus fasted 40 days and 40 nights—with neither food nor water. But in his physical weakness he was made spiritually strong.

Satan now used his most cunning, subtle, masterful powers of deception. He must have thought he really could outwit and spiritually strike down the Christ. Satan knew well he was now fighting to prevent his dethroning over all the earth.

Satan struck his first blow at what he regarded as the most vulnerable points both physically and spiritually. Surely a man without food or water for 40 full days would be weakened to yield to almost any temptation for food. And the most vulnerable spiritual weakness is VANITY!

"If," sneered Satan tantalizing—he used that effective little word *if*—"IF thou be the Son of God"—a normal human would have been insulted, indignant. He would have

defiantly hurled back: "What do you mean, *if* I be the Son of God? I'll show you that I am the Son of God!"

But Satan in this first attack, said, "If thou be the Son-of God, command that these stones be made bread." In other words, "The Son of God can produce miracles. Prove to me you are the Son of God! You are desperately hungry. Perform a miracle. Feed yourself by a miracle!"

But Jesus only answered by quoting and obeying the Word of God: "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Satan's first and most effective strike was parried. But Satan never gives up. He took Jesus into Jerusalem and sat him on a high pinnacle of the Temple. He continued to question that Jesus was the Son of God.

"If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone." Now Satan quoted Scripture. But *he misapplied* it, twisted its contextual meaning, just as Satan so frequently influences scholars to do.

Jesus came back to him, "It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God." This is quoted from Deuteronomy 6:16 and refers to tempting YHWH (Hebrew), who became Christ.

But still Satan did not give up.

Next he took Jesus atop a high mountain, showing him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. "All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me."

Jesus did not deny that Satan was now over the nations of this world. This was a temptation for gaining immediate power. Satan well knew Jesus would inherit all these kingdoms more than 1,900 years later. But he tempted Jesus to take Satan's word that he would turn them over and give Christ

world power immediately. But Jesus decided it was time to end this titanic battle for the rulership over the earth.

**The popular teaching in churches today is that the Church is the kingdom of God. But "flesh and blood [mortal humans] cannot inherit the kingdom of God."**

Jesus now snapped out an order—a command showing that he was master over Satan!

"Get thee hence, Satan!" he commanded with supreme authority! Satan slunk away defeated. But Satan did not give up. Nor has he given up yet. He battles against God's Church still today!

### Jesus Had Qualified

Jesus Christ, the second Adam, had qualified! Never until that minute could the good news of the coming kingdom of God be announced to the world. Now the Son of God resisted and conquered Satan—had qualified to reestablish God's government and set up the kingdom of God on the earth! But now the Church must also qualify to rule with him!

Jesus came, among other purposes, to call out of the world his Church. Those called out had been in—and of—this world. Each had brought on himself by sin the supreme death penalty. But God had created all things by the Word who became Jesus Christ. Therefore, Jesus' life was greater in value than that of all humanity collectively!

Picture a son of the wealthiest, most powerful man on earth. The tycoon's son is his heir—to inherit his immense wealth. The son has been allocated a sizable portion of it already while an heir. This young man feels deep affection for another young man. His friend has committed a crime, plunged into debt for millions of dollars, which he cannot pay. He is deeply repentant



but unable to save himself from imprisonment for the theft. In compassion for his friend, the son pays the multimillion-dollar debt out of his own money. His guilty friend's debt is paid in full. His guilt—his tremendous obligation—no longer hangs over him—he is freed from that obligation and its heavy penalties!

All humanity had followed father Adam—had brought over it the supreme death penalty. Before Jesus (the "Word"), now the Son of God, could found his Church, those called out of the world *into* that Church must be freed from the supreme death penalty, so that they might inherit eternal life!

One of the purposes for which Jesus came as a human to earth was to pay that penalty—that supreme death penalty—for those called into his Church not only, but ultimately to free ALL HUMANITY each in his due time!

But since that death penalty he would pay for sinning humanity would end his human life, paying it was reserved as his final human act after all other purposes of his human life had been finished.

Nevertheless this gives the reader a grasp of *how great* is the Jesus who came to found the Church of God!

Continually bear in mind that, although his earthly ministry began when he was barely 30 years old (in his human life) yet he was the ever-living—the Eternal—who had always existed. HOW GREAT was that 30-year-old human life!

And this Jesus, who had grown up in the town of Nazareth, had since human birth resisted and overcome Satan—had rejected Satan's self-centered way of "get," and in the final titanic confrontation had qualified to restore the government of God and to establish on earth the kingdom of God, to rule that government! Where the first Adam had failed to do this, Jesus the second Adam succeeded.

#### **"Peter," a Title Designating Leadership**

Immediately after the decisive battle to overcome Satan, two of the disciples of John the Baptist saw, with John, Jesus. Jesus asked them to follow him to his home. One of

these was Andrew, son of Jona. He called his brother, Simon bar-Jona.

Jesus looked on Simon, and said to him, "Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas [in Greek, *Peter*]," meaning a stone (John 1:42).

In Mark 3:14, 16, we read: "And he [Jesus] ordained twelve, and that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach . . . And Simon he surnamed Peter." A surname is, according to Webster, "an added name derived from occupation."

The surname Peter had for centuries been a surname or title, designating a religious leader, head or headquarters. Peter was the first and chief apostle. An apostle is "one sent forth to proclaim or preach."

So, at the very beginning of his earthly ministry, preparing the foundation for the Church, Jesus Christ chose his chief human apostle and the other original 11. They, with the prophets whose writings were preserved from the days of God's first chosen Congregation (and nation), Israel, were to form the very foundation of God's Church. Jesus himself was to be not only Founder but Head, and chief "corner stone" of the Church (Eph. 2:19-21; 5:23).

#### **Importance of a Firm Foundation**

Prior to age 30, Jesus had been a carpenter—also building with stone as well as with wood. He well knew the foundation should be laid first, before the structure itself.

But Jesus had himself chosen his apostles. He said to them later, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you . . ." (John 15:16; see also verse 19).

Now Jesus began proclaiming the gospel message God the Father had sent into the world by him as God's Messenger (Mal. 3:1).

We read of it in Mark, chapter 1: "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God . . . Jesus came into Galilee, preaching [proclaiming, teaching] the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel" (Mark 1:1, 14-15).

And, from Matthew, "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom . . ." (Matt. 4:23).

This prophetic message (gospel) of the kingdom of God will be explained in detail in chapter seven. It was the good news of the future establishment on earth of the government of God, restored and administered by the divine God family—the kingdom of God, to replace the present evil world of Satan.

Jesus' proclaiming of this amazing future news—combined with his miracles of healing, turning water into wine, and others—caused great excitement. Immense crowds followed him and his disciples. He was teaching his disciples to become the future apostles, while he preached this message to the public.

#### **Why Pharisees Opposed Jesus**

The news proclamation had spread to Jerusalem. There the Pharisees, scribes and Sadducees became alarmed by it. The Pharisees were a Jewish religious sect some of whom occupied minor—yet to them important—government offices. The Roman Empire then ruled over Palestine. The Romans sent a district king and a limited occupation army to supervise rule in Judea. But the Romans set some of the Jewish Pharisees in offices of lower civil rule, under the Roman king. These were well-paying political jobs, and these Pharisees did not want to lose their jobs or their power over the people. These Jewish rulers and their chief priests completely misunderstood Jesus' gospel message. They knew he proclaimed a government that would take over and rule all nations of the earth. What they MISUNDERSTOOD was the TIME and NATURE of that kingdom of God. And a professing "Christianity" still misunderstands it today. The religious leaders of that day assumed Jesus was a subversive, intending himself, immediately in his human lifetime, to overthrow the Roman Empire and set up his own kingdom.

Immediately they feared being accused of sedition and disloyalty,



losing their jobs and probably being executed as subversives. So they opposed and denounced Jesus.

Traditional Christianity has really never understood this basic reason for Pharisaical opposition and persecution of Jesus. The Pharisees included unscrupulous politicians.

At the time of the first Passover to occur during Jesus' ministry, the spring of A.D. 28 (almost exactly 100 time cycles—1,900 years—before I kept my first Passover), Jesus went up to Jerusalem for the Passover.

While there, a notable Pharisee named Nicodemus came to see Jesus secretly by night. He feared having fellow Pharisees know he had talked personally with Jesus.

Nicodemus said, "Rabbi, we

cannot see the kingdom of God" (verse 3).

But Nicodemus did not understand this. He knew that being born was an actual birth—parturition from the womb of the mother. Today's theologians do not know even that! They deny a real second birth as a spirit being. They spiritualize away the real truth by assuming that merely saying that one accepts Christ as his Savior constitutes being born again. In this, Satan has deceived them and in turn they have deceived millions of others.

Nicodemus said, "How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?" (verse 4).

Jesus now made the meaning plain—but Nicodemus did not receive his plainness of speech, nor do theologians or religious leaders today.

"Verily, verily," replied Jesus, "... Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh *is flesh*; and that which is born of the Spirit *is spirit*" (John 3:5-6, emphasis mine).

The Pharisees knew about water baptism.

They had used it for years in converting gentile proselytes to Judaism. They knew of John the Baptist's baptism—a baptism of repentance "for the remission of sins" (Mark 1:4). Jesus' meaning should have been plain to Nicodemus—that water baptism was an initiatory rite preparatory to the start of being born of the Spirit.

Jesus made it doubly plain when he said, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh." That which is born of humans is mortal HUMAN—composed of flesh and blood—composed of MATTER from the ground. "That which is born of the Spirit is SPIRIT"—no longer human but composed of SPIRIT, immortal! No longer composed of matter or flesh.

Jesus explained even further.

"Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again" (verse 7). Then he compared one

born again to invisible wind—invisible to human eyes. "The wind blows where it wills, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know whence it comes or whither it goes; so it is with every one who is born of the Spirit" (John 3:8, *Revised Standard Version*).

But Nicodemus did not understand such plainness of speech, nor do religious leaders today!

Our free booklet *What Do You Mean—Born Again?* should be read by every reader of this book.

To this representative of the Pharisees, Jesus referred to the "salvation" or "spiritual" phase of the kingdom of God. *That kingdom will NOT be composed of mortal humans!* It is not composed of mortal flesh-and-blood persons who have "accepted Christ" and joined a church of their choice! Yet millions of church members are deceived about that today.

These millions of church members do not understand what the Church is, nor why—its purpose—the reason for it!

Compare Jesus' explanation to Nicodemus with the "resurrection chapter" of the Bible, I Corinthians 15: "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living [mortal] soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God..." (I Cor. 15:45-50).

I repeat again and again, GOD IS REPRODUCING HIMSELF!

The popular teaching in churches today is that the Church is the kingdom of God. But "flesh and blood [mortal humans] cannot inherit the kingdom of God" (I Cor. 15:50).

#### Once Again: Why the Church?

But what, then, is the Church? And why is the Church? Why

## The purpose of the Church is not merely to give salvation to those called, but to... train those called... as instruments God shall use in bringing the world to salvation.

know [we Pharisees know] that thou art a teacher come from God..." (John 3:2).

The Pharisees KNEW JESUS WAS THE MESSIAH! They were familiar with Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 9:6-7, Isaiah 53. The Pharisees knew Jesus was the prophesied Messiah. But they understood only one Messianic appearance. So they supposed he was planning to overthrow the Roman Empire *then!*

Of course Jesus knew what they were thinking. So he launched immediately into the fact that the kingdom of God, ruling all nations, could not be set up *until* the time of the new spirit birth—the time of the resurrection!

#### The "Born Again" Question

Jesus answered immediately, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he



should there be the Church of God?

To many—and probably most—the Church plays no part in their lives. Indeed God plays no part in their lives. God is not consciously in their world. Just people, material things and interests. Of course, far back in the subconscious recesses of many minds may lie the dormant supposition that God exists. But he does not seem real to them.

That means also that the average person has no conception of what he, himself, is, why he is, or of any purpose for his being alive.

Yet the Church, too, does exist. But, again, why? What is it, really? What purpose does it serve?

We have seen that there is indeed a *purpose* being worked out here below. Winston Churchill stated that before the United States Congress. There is a reason for the presence of humanity on the earth. And for the working out of that purpose there is a master plan. The Church is an important part of that plan.

Never lose sight of the setting that led up to the raising up of the Church. Keep in mind WHO and WHAT God is—the divine creating *family*, now reproducing themselves in man.

## **A**nyone who “joins the church of his choice” has not come into God’s true Church. One cannot just “join” the true Church.

Bear in mind further: In order for Christ to restore God’s government over the earth, he would need with and under him a qualified and organized personnel of God Beings—all having rejected Satan’s false way and having proved their loyalty to the government and righteous ways of God!

God’s Church was designed in his supreme master plan to prepare that dedicated and organized personnel of God Beings. The Church, then, became God’s instrumentality

for aiding him in bringing about salvation to humanity.

Remember God has set out a 7,000-year master plan for accomplishing his purpose. We have stated that his purpose is to reproduce himself. But actually reproducing himself means converting the world from sin into God’s righteousness. It means instilling within God’s potential children the perfect spiritual character of God. They would become finally born sons in the God family.

And just as God has not created all at once, but in successive stages, so he is bringing salvation to the world in successive stages. The Church is a necessary instrumentality preparatory to, and in order to, bring salvation to humanity. Therefore, once again, let it be emphasized that the purpose of the Church is not merely to give salvation to those called into the Church, but to teach and train those predestined and called into the Church as instruments God shall use in bringing the world to salvation.

### **Church a “Teachers’ College”**

Let us illustrate by an analogy. Many states in America have state teachers’ colleges. The states could not start or conduct schools until they had first trained teachers for those schools. The Church may be called God’s teachers’ college to prepare rulers and teachers for the kingdom of God when God does offer redemption and eternal life to the world as a whole.

The Church was planned to be God’s instrumentality for calling predestinated human beings out of this world to be trained for positions of leadership in the world tomorrow, when they shall teach and train others. That is why in the New Testament the Church is called the firstfruits of God’s salvation.

All this necessitated certain vital steps—one at a time—in the procedure of God’s supreme master plan!

Now we remind the reader that the Holy Spirit was closed to

humanity at the time of Adam’s sin at the very foundation of the world. It was closed to humanity as a whole UNTIL Christ the second Adam should restore the government of God and unseat Satan from the throne of the earth. That fact is made clear by Jesus’ statement in John 6:44, applying to this Church age, that none could come to him except the Father that sent him draws them. That is why repeatedly in the New Testament those in the Church are referred to as having been called or chosen. That is why the Church is called a chosen generation. That is why predestination is mentioned twice in the New Testament—that the called were predestinated to be called. Indeed, they have been drafted. They are not volunteers.

### **True Christians: Draftees—Not Volunteers**

It is only through Christ that sinning humanity may be reconciled to God the Father. They must first come to Christ. But none can come to Christ except God the Father selects and, through his Holy Spirit, draws them.

That may come as an astonishing new truth, but the more you study the New Testament, and how this truth is constantly borne out throughout the New Testament, the more clear this will become to you.

No wonder the Church and its purpose has been a mystery. Satan has blinded the minds of a deceived and counterfeit Christianity.

Anyone who “joins the church of his choice” has not come into God’s true Church. One cannot just “join” the TRUE Church of God. One is first selected and drawn by God the Father through his Spirit, brought to a complete heartrending repentance, and changed in his total life-style, and has also not only believed in and accepted Jesus Christ as personal Savior, but also has believed Christ. Remember Christ is the Word of God. Jesus was the Word of God in Person. The Bible is the same Word of God in writing. To believe Christ is to believe what he says—in other words, to believe God’s Word the Holy Bible. □



# WHY a Magazine of Understanding?

by John Ross Schroeder

**P**RINTED on the cover of every *Plain Truth* are the words—a magazine of understanding.

Why? Why do we need understanding in this age of unprecedented information?

Nearly 1,000 new books are published every week in the U.S.A. alone. Yet more new titles are published every year in French than in any other language. More books are translated every year into German than in any other language.

The pressure to be informed is awesome. No professional can even begin to keep up with the onrush of new knowledge in his particular field. Israeli writer A.B. Yehoshua aptly describes the emotion: "The feeling of being swept along and of uncertainty as regards the future prevents you from seeing things in any perspective whatsoever . . ." (*Unease in Zion*, edited by Ehud ben Ezer).

## Understanding and Information Not Synonymous

World happenings will not let us alone. Unpalatable events shout at us from every corner of the world. Sanity demands that we get a handle on world events. We must impose a clear perspective on this onrush of information.

American writer Saul Bellow has won the Pulitzer prize for literature (1976). In one of his books, he wrote somewhat facetiously: "Information is to be found in the daily papers. We are

ing the Falklands War. Subsequently he wrote a book called *The Politics of Consent*. It betrays a clear insight into the information/understanding conundrum. Mr.

"The images we see on our televisions reflect only the symptoms and consequences of a problem. . . . When we see world events . . . described by commentators, that does not lead to understanding, but only to casual knowledge."



Francis Pym—Former British Foreign Secretary and author *The Politics of Consent*.

informed about everything. We know nothing." There is wisdom in these words. Hyperbole makes a point.

Saul Bellow's telling point others have also perceived. Francis Pym was British Foreign Secretary dur-

Pym writes: "The instant availability of news also conceals the subtle difference between factual knowledge and understanding, which we confuse at our peril. . . . The physical facts are never enough."

(Continued on page 24)



# "THE WORLD TOMORROW"

Our staff of telecasters analyze today's news with the prophecies of the world tomorrow on TELEVISION and RADIO.

## TELEVISION LOG

Listed by state or province are the station's call letters, location, channel number and time when the *World Tomorrow* program is aired.

### U.S.

#### Nationwide Cable

Lifetime Cable Network (LIF) New York — 10:30 pm ET, Sat  
Satellite Program Network (SPN) Tulsa — 12:00 pm CT, Wed  
WOR, New York — 11:30 am ET and 11:00 pm ET, Sun  
WGN, Chicago — 10:00 am CT, Sat  
WTBS, Atlanta — 6:30 am ET, Sun; 1:05 am, Mon

#### ALABAMA

WBRC, Birmingham — 6, 11:30 am, Sun  
WTVY, Dothan — 4, 7:00 am, Sun  
WOWL, Florence — 15, 10:30 am, Sun  
WHNT, Huntsville — 19, 7:30 am, Sun  
WCOV, Montgomery — 20, 9:30 am, Sun

#### ALASKA

KIMO, Anchorage — 13, 10:00 am, Sun  
KTVF, Fairbanks — 11, 6:30 am, and 11:30 pm, Sun

#### ARIZONA

KNAZ, Flagstaff — 2, 9:00 am, Sun  
KNXV, Phoenix — 15, 8:30 am, Sun  
KTVK, Phoenix — 3, 7:00 am, Sun  
KUSK, Prescott — 7, 10:30 am, Sun  
KVOA, Tucson — 4, 9:00 am, Sun  
KYEL, Yuma — 13, 9:00 am, Sun

#### ARKANSAS

KTVE, El Dorado — 10, 7:00 am, Sun  
KPOM, Ft. Smith — 24, 9:00 am, Sun  
KAIT, Jonesboro — 8, 10:00 am, Sun  
KATV, Little Rock — 7, 9:30 am, Sun

#### CALIFORNIA

KBAK, Bakersfield — 29, 9:00 am, Sun  
KIEM, Eureka — 3, 9:00 am, Sun  
KMPH, Fresno — 26, 9:30 pm, Sun  
KHJ, Los Angeles — 9, 12:30 pm, Sun  
KTTV, Los Angeles — 11, 9:30 am, Sun  
KTVU, Oakland — 2, 8:00 am, Sat; 6:30 am, Sun  
KESQ, Palm Springs — 42, 10:30 am, Sun  
KRCR, Redding — 7, 7:30 am, Sun  
KQVR, Sacramento — 13, 8:30 am, Sun  
KRBK, Sacramento — 31, 8:30 am, Sat  
KSBW, Salinas — 8, 7:30 am, Sun  
KFMB, San Diego — 8, 7:00 am, Sun  
XETV, San Diego — 6, 10:30 am, Sun  
KBHK, San Francisco — 44, 11:30 pm, Sun  
KSBY, San Luis Obispo — 6, 8:30 am, Sun

#### COLORADO

KRDO, Colorado Springs — 13, 10:30 am, Sun  
KUSA, Denver — 9, 9:30 am, Sun  
KWGN, Denver — 2, 7:00 am, Sat  
KTVS, Sterling — 3, 9:30 am, Sun

#### CONNECTICUT

WVIT, Hartford — 30, 11:30 am, Sun  
WTNH, New Haven — 8, 8:30 am, Sun

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WDVM, Washington — 9, 7:00 am, Sun  
WJLA, Washington — 7, 11:00 am, Sun

#### FLORIDA

WBBH, Ft. Myers — 20, 9:30 am, Sun  
WTVX, Ft. Pierce — 34, 7:00 am, Sun  
WCJB, Gainesville — 20, 9:00 am, Sun  
WTLV, Jacksonville, — 12, 9:30 am, Sun  
WCIX, Miami — 6, 9:30 am, Sat  
WTVJ, Miami — 4, 8:00 am, Sun  
WCPX, Orlando — 6, 8:00 am, Sun  
WESH, Orlando — 2, 9:00 am, Sun  
WEAR, Pensacola — 3, 11:30 am, Sun  
WXLT, Sarasota — 40, 7:00 am, Sun  
WCTV, Tallahassee — 6, 12:00 noon, Sun  
WXFL, Tampa — 8, 11:30 am, Sun  
WPEC, W. Palm Beach — 12, 9:30 am, Sun

#### GEORGIA

WTSG, Albany — 31, 8:00 am, Sun  
WAGA, Atlanta — 5, 11:30 am, Sun  
WTBS, Atlanta — 17, 6:30 am, Sun; 1:05 am, Mon  
WRDW, Augusta — 12, 10:30 am, Sun  
WRBL, Columbus — 3, 8:30 am, Sun  
WGXA, Macon — 24, 11:30 am, Sun  
WTOG, Savannah — 11, 10:30 am, Sun  
WVGA, Valdosta — 44, 10:30 am, Sun

#### HAWAII

KHVO, Hilo — 13, 11:00 am, Sun  
KITV, Honolulu — 4, 11:00 am, Sun  
KMAU, Wailuku — 12, 11:00 am, Sun

#### IDAHO

KBCI, Boise — 2, 9:00 am, Sun  
KPVI, Pocatello — 6, 7:30 am, Sun

#### ILLINOIS

WCIU, Chicago — 26, 10:00 pm, Sat; 12:30 pm, Sun  
WGN, Chicago — 9, 10:00 am, Sat  
WAND, Decatur — 17, 7:00 am, Sun  
WQAD, Moline — 8, 8:30 am, Sun  
WMBD, Peoria — 31, 10:30 am, Sun  
KHQA, Quincy — 7, 8:30 am, Sun  
WTVO, Rockford — 17, 9:00 am, Sun

#### INDIANA

WTVW, Evansville — 7, 7:30 am, Sun  
WKJG, Ft. Wayne — 33, 9:30 am, Sun  
WTHR, Indianapolis — 13, 8:30 am, Sun  
WLFI, Lafayette — 18, 8:30 am, Sun  
WSBT, South Bend — 22, 8:00 am, Sun  
WTWO, Terre Haute — 2, 10:30 am, Sun

#### IOWA

KRCG, Cedar Rapids — 9, 9:30 am, Sun  
WOI, Des Moines — 5, 10:00 am, Sun  
KIMT, Mason City — 3, 10:00 am, Sun  
KTVO, Ottumwa — 3, 10:00 am, Sun  
KCAU, Sioux City — 9, 8:00 am, Sun

#### KANSAS

KUPK, Garden City — 13, 10:00 am, Sun  
KLJB, Davenport — 18, 9:30 am, Sat; 6:00 pm, Sun  
KLOE, Goodland — 10, 10:00 am, Sun  
KAYS, Hays — 7, 10:00 am, Sun  
KCTV, Kansas City — 5, 10:30 am, Sun  
KSNT, Topeka — 27, 10:30 am, Sun  
KAKE, Wichita — 10, 10:00 am, Sun

#### KENTUCKY

WBKO, Bowling Green — 13, 10:30 am, Sun  
WLEX, Lexington — 18, 9:30 am, Sun

WAVE, Louisville — 3, 9:30 am, Sun  
WPSD, Paducah — 6, 10:00 am, Sun

#### LOUISIANA

KLAX, Alexandria — 31, 9:00 am, Sun  
WAFB, Baton Rouge — 9, 11:30 pm, Sat  
KLFY, Lafayette — 10, 9:30 am, Sun  
WDSU, New Orleans — 6, 9:30 am, Sun  
WGNO, New Orleans — 26, 7:30 am, Sat  
KTBS, Shreveport — 3, 8:30 am, Sun

#### MAINE

WVH, Bangor — 7, 9:00 am, Sun  
WMTW, Poland Spring — 8, 9:00 am, Sun

#### MARYLAND

WBFF, Baltimore — 45, 10:30 pm, Sun  
WHAG, Hagerstown — 25, 7:30 am, Sat  
WMDT, Salisbury — 47, 11:00 am, Sun

#### MASSACHUSETTS

WNEV, Boston — 7, 11:00 am, Sun  
WSBK, Boston — 38, 8:00 am, Sun  
WGGB, Springfield — 40, 9:00 am, Sun

#### MICHIGAN

WUHQ, Battle Creek — 41, 11:30 am, Sun  
WTOM, Cheboygan — 4, 10:00 am, Sun  
WXON, Detroit — 20, 8:00 am, Sat  
WJMN, Escanaba — 8, 10:00 am, Sun  
WJRT, Flint — 12, 8:00 am, Sun  
WZZM, Grand Rapids — 13, 12:00 noon, Sun  
WILX, Lansing — 10, 10:30 am, Sun  
WJBK, Southfield — 2, 6:30 am, Sun  
WPBN, Traverse City — 7, 10:00 am, Sun

#### MINNESOTA

KCMT, Alexandria — 7, 9:30 am, Sun  
KDLH, Duluth — 3, 10:00 am, Sun  
KMSP, Minneapolis — 9, 7:00 am, Sat  
WUSA, Minneapolis — 11, 8:30 am, Sun  
KNMT, Walker — 12, 9:30 am, Sun

#### MISSISSIPPI

WLOX, Biloxi — 13, 8:30 am, Sun  
WCBI, Columbus — 4, 10:30 am, Sun  
WABG, Greenwood — 6, 8:00 am, Sun  
WLBT, Jackson — 3, 9:30 am, Sun  
WTOK, Meridian — 11, 10:30 am, Sun

#### MISSOURI

KRCG, Jefferson City — 13, 10:30 am, Sun  
KODE, Joplin — 12, 9:30 am, Sun  
KSHB, Kansas City — 41, 7:30 am, Sun  
KOLR, Springfield — 10, 10:00 am, Sun  
KPLR, St. Louis — 11, 10:30 pm, Sun  
KSDK, St. Louis — 5, 9:00 am, Sun

#### MONTANA

KULR, Billings — 8, 11:00 am, Sun  
KTVM, Butte — 6, 4:00 pm, Sat  
KCFW, Kalispell — 9, 4:00 pm, Sat  
KECI, Missoula — 15, 4:00 pm, Sat

#### NEBRASKA

KWNB, Hayes Center — 6, 9:30 am, Sun  
KHGI, Kearney — 13, 9:30 am, Sun  
KMTV, Omaha — 3, 9:30 am, Sun  
KSTF, Scottsbluff — 10, 9:30 am, Sun  
KSNB, Superior — 4, 9:30 am, Sun

#### NEVADA

KVBC, Las Vegas — 3, 7:30 am, Sun  
KOLO, Reno — 8, 10:30 am, Sun

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE

WMUR, Manchester — 9, 9:30 am, Sun



**NEW MEXICO**

KGSW, Albuquerque — 14, 11:00 am, Sun

**NEW YORK**

WNYT, Albany — 13, 7:00 am, Sun  
 WBNG, Binghamton — 12, 11:00 am, Sun  
 WGRZ, Buffalo — 2, 8:30 am, Sun  
 WENY, Elmira — 36, 11:00 am, Sun  
 Lifetime Cable Network (LIF) New York  
 (on cable stations throughout the U.S.) — 10:30  
 pm ET, Sat  
 WNEW, New York — 5, 6:30 am, Sat  
 WOR, New York — 9, 11:30 am, Sun; 11:00 pm,  
 Sun  
 WROC, Rochester — 8, 11:30 am, Sun  
 WIXT, Syracuse — 9, 7:00 am, Sun  
 WWNY, Watertown — 7, 11:30 am, Sun

**NORTH CAROLINA**

WHNS, Asheville — 21, 10:00 am, Sun  
 WPQC, Charlotte — 36, 8:00 am, Sun  
 WGHP, High Point — 8, 11:00 am, Sun  
 WPTE, Raleigh — 28, 11:00 am, Sun  
 WRAL, Raleigh — 5, 6:00 am, Sun  
 WITN, Washington — 7, 11:30 am, Sun  
 WECT, Wilmington — 6, 9:30 am, Sun  
 WXII, Winston-Salem — 12, 10:30 am, Sun

**NORTH DAKOTA**

KXMB, Bismarck — 12, 11:00 am, Sun  
 KXMA, Dickinson — 2, 11:00 am, Sun  
 KTHI, Fargo — 11, 10:30 am, Sun  
 KXMC, Minot — 13, 11:00 am, Sun  
 KXMD, Williston — 11, 11:00 am, Sun

**OHIO**

WAKR, Akron — 23, 11:30 pm, Sun  
 WKRC, Cincinnati — 12, 9:30 am, Sun  
 WLWT, Cincinnati — 5, 11:00 am, Sun  
 WJKW, Cleveland — 8, 7:30 am, Sun  
 WUAB, Cleveland — 43, 10:30 am, Sun  
 WTVN, Columbus — 6, 9:00 am, Sun  
 WKEF, Dayton — 22, 11:00 am, Sun  
 WLIO, Lima — 35, 8:30 am, Sun  
 WTOV, Steubenville — 9, 9:00 am, Sun  
 WDHO, Toledo — 24, 9:00 am, Sun  
 WYTV, Youngstown — 33, 11:00 am, Sun  
 WHIZ, Zanesville — 18, 9:30 am, Sun

**OKLAHOMA**

KTEN, Ada — 10, 10:00 am, Sun  
 KAUT, Oklahoma City — 43, 9:30 pm, Sun  
 KOCO, Oklahoma City — 5, 7:30 am, Sun  
 KTUL, Tulsa — 8, 10:30 am, Sun  
 Satellite Program Network (SPN) Tulsa (on  
 cable stations throughout the U.S.) — 12:00 noon  
 CT, Wed

**OREGON**

KCBY, Coos Bay — 11, 6:30 am, Sun  
 KVAL, Eugene — 13, 6:30 am, Sun  
 KOB1, Medford — 5, 7:30 am, Sun  
 KOIN, Portland — 6, 6:30 am, Sun; 1:00 am, Mon  
 KPVT, Portland — 12, 9:00 am, Sun  
 KPIC, Roseburg — 4, 6:30 am, Sun

**PENNSYLVANIA**

WTAJ, Altoona — 10, 11:30 am, Sun  
 WSEE, Erie — 35, 11:00 am, Sun  
 WLYH, Harrisburg — 15, 8:00 am, Sun  
 WPHL, Philadelphia — 17, 7:30 am, Sun  
 WTAF, Philadelphia — 29, 7:30 am, Sat  
 WPGH, Pittsburgh — 53, 9:30 am, Sat  
 WPXI, Pittsburgh — 11, 7:30 am, Sun  
 WNEP, Wilkes Barre — 16, 8:30 am, Sun

**RHODE ISLAND**

WPRI, Providence — 12, 10:30 am, Sun

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

WCBD, Charleston — 2, 9:00 am, Sun  
 WOLO, Columbia — 25, 10:00 am, Sun  
 WPDE, Florence — 15, 9:30 am, Sun  
 WYFF, Greenville — 4, 9:30 am, Sun

**SOUTH DAKOTA**

KABY, Aberdeen — 9, 9:00 am, Sun  
 KPRY, Pierre — 4, 9:00 am, Sun  
 KSFY, Sioux Falls — 13, 9:00 am, Sun

**TENNESSEE**

WDEF, Chattanooga — 12, 10:30 am, Sun  
 WBBJ, Jackson — 7, 12:00 noon, Sun  
 WKPT, Kingsport — 19, 11:30 am, Sun  
 WATE, Knoxville — 6, 11:00 am, Sun

WPTY, Memphis — 24, 8:00 am, Sun  
 WSMV, Nashville — 4, 11:00 am, Sun

**TEXAS**

KRBC, Abilene — 9, 10:00 am, Sun  
 KAMR, Amarillo — 4, 9:00 am, Sun  
 KVUE, Austin — 24, 7:30 am, Sun  
 KZTV, Corpus Christi — 10, 9:00 am, Sun  
 WFAA, Dallas — 8, 12:00 noon, Sun  
 KTSM, El Paso — 9, 7:30 am, Sun  
 KGBT, Harlingen — 4, 7:30 am, Sun  
 KPRC, Houston — 2, 7:00 am, Sun  
 KHTV, Houston — 39, 7:30 am, Sat  
 KCBD, Lubbock — 11, 9:30 am, Sun  
 KTRE, Lufkin — 9, 6:30 am, Sun  
 KMID, Midland — 2, 8:30 am, Sun  
 KJAC, Port Arthur — 4, 10:00 am, Sun  
 KACB, San Angelo — 3, 10:00 am, Sun  
 KLST, San Angelo — 8, 10:00 am, Sun  
 KSAT, San Antonio — 12, 8:30 am, Sun  
 KCEN, Temple — 6, 11:30 am, Sun  
 KLTV, Tyler — 7, 6:30 am, Sun  
 KFDX, Wichita Falls — 3, 9:30 am, Sun

**UTAH**

KSL, Salt Lake — 5, 7:30 am, Sun  
 KUTV, Salt Lake — 2, 8:30 am, Sun

**VIRGINIA**

WVIR, Charlottesville — 29, 10:00 am, Sun  
 WSET, Lynchburg — 13, 7:30 am, Sun  
 WVEC, Norfolk — 13, 10:00 am, Sun  
 WXEX, Richmond — 8, 10:30 am, Sun

**WASHINGTON**

KVOS, Bellingham — 12, 10:30 am, Sun  
 KVEW, Kennewick — 42, 11:00 am, Sun  
 KIRO, Seattle — 7, 7:00 am, Sun  
 KXLY, Spokane — 4, 9:30 am, Sun  
 KSTW, Tacoma — 11, 10:00 am, Sun  
 KAPP, Yakima — 35, 11:00 am, Sun

**WEST VIRGINIA**

WOWK, Huntington — 13, 9:00 am, Sun  
 WOAY, Oak Hill — 4, 10:00 am, Sun  
 WTAP, Parkersburg — 15, 11:00 am, Sun

**WISCONSIN**

WQOW, Eau Claire — 18, 9:30 am, Sun  
 WFRV, Green Bay — 5, 9:00 am, Sun  
 WXOW, LaCrosse — 19, 9:30 am, Sun  
 WMTV, Madison — 15, 6:30 am, Sun  
 WITI, Milwaukee — 6, 10:00 am, Sun  
 WAEO, Rhinelander — 12, 10:30 am, Sun

**WYOMING**

KCWY, Casper — 14, 10:00 am, Sun  
 KYCU, Cheyenne — 5, 9:30 am, Sun  
 KOWY, Lander — 5, 10:00 am, Sun  
 KWWY, Rock Springs — 13, 10:00 am, Sun

**CANADA****BRITISH COLUMBIA**

CJDC, Dawson Creek — 5, 11:30 am, Sun  
 CFJC, Kamloops — 4, 8:30 am, Sat  
 CHBC, Kelowna — 2, 8:30 am, Sat  
 CKPG, Prince George — 2, 9:30 am, Sat  
 CFTK, Terrace-Kitimat — 3, 8:30 am, Sun  
 CHAN, Vancouver — 8, 8:00 am, Sun  
 KVOS, Vancouver — 12, 10:30 am, Sun  
 CHEK, Victoria — 6, 7:30 am, Sat

**ALBERTA**

CFCN, Calgary — 4, 11:00 am, Sun  
 CFRN, Edmonton — 3, 5:30 am, Mon  
 CHAT, Medicine Hat — 6, 11:00 am, Sun  
 CKRD, Red Deer — 6, 10:00 am, Sun  
 KXLY, Spokane — 4, 9:30 am, Sun

**SASKATCHEWAN**

CKSA, Lloydminster — 2, 9:30 am, Sun  
 CKBI, Prince Albert — 5, 7:00 am, Sun  
 CFQC, Saskatoon — 8, 10:00 am, Sun  
 CJFB, Swift Current — 5, 11:00 am, Sun  
 CICC, Yorkton — 10, 6:30 pm, Sun  
 CKOS, Yorkton — 5, 11:30 am, Sun

**MANITOBA**

CKX, Brandon — 5, 10:00 am, Sun  
 CKND, Winnipeg — 9, 7:00 am, Sun

**ONTARIO**

CKVR, Barrie — 3, 11:30 am, Sun  
 WGRZ, Buffalo — 2, 8:30 am, Sun  
 CJBN, Kenora — 13, 8:00 am, Sat; 5:30 pm, Sun  
 CKWS, Kingston — 11, 12:30 pm, Sun  
 CHNB, North Bay — 4, 8:00 am, Sun

CKNY, North Bay (Fr) — 9, 10:30 am, Sun  
 CJOH, Ottawa — 13, 10:30 am, Sun  
 CHRO, Ottawa — 9, 8:00 am, Sun  
 CHEX, Peterborough — 12, 12:30 pm, Sun  
 CHBX, Sault Ste. Marie — 2, 10:30 am, Sat  
 Global, CIII, Southern Ontario — 8:30 am, Sat;  
 9:30 am, Sun  
 CICI, Sudbury (Fr) — 3, 10:30 am, Sun  
 CKNC, Sudbury — 9, 8:00 am, Sun  
 CKPR, Thunder Bay — 2, 10:30 am, Sun  
 CFCL, Timmins — 6, 8:00 am, Sun  
 CITO, Timmins (Fr) — 6, 10:30 am, Sun  
 CFMT, Toronto (Ital) — 47, 5:00 pm, Fri  
 CFTO, Toronto — 9, 9:00 am, Sun

**QUEBEC**

CFCF, Montreal — 12, 7:00 am and 9:30 am, Sun  
 CKMI, Quebec City (Fr) — 5, 12:00 noon, Sun

**ATLANTIC CANADA**

WVII, Bangor, Maine — 7, 9:00 am, Sun  
 CJCH, Halifax, N.S. — 5, 11:00 am, Sun  
 CKCW, Moncton, N.B. — 2, 11:00 am, Sun  
 CHSJ, St. John, N.B. — 4, 12:00 noon, Sun  
 CKLT, St. John, N.B. — 9, 11:00 am, Sun  
 NTV, CJON, St. John's, Nfld. — 6, 10:30 am,  
 Sun  
 CJCB, Sydney, N.S. — 4, 11:00 am, Sun

**AUSTRALIA****A.C.T.**

CTC7, Canberra — 7:30 am, every second Sun

**NEW SOUTH WALES**

WIN11, Bateman's Bay — 8:30 am, Sun  
 CBN11, Bathurst — 8:30 am, Sun  
 WIN6, Bega — 8:30 am, Sun  
 CWN10, Cobar — 8:30 am, Sun  
 CTC10, Cooma — 7:30 am, every second Sun  
 CWN6, Dubbo — 8:30 am, Sun  
 CTC10, Goulburn — 7:30 am, every second Sun  
 MTN9, Griffith — 8:30 am, Sun  
 NBN10, Merriwa — 8:30 am, Sun  
 CWN9, Mudgee — 8:30 am, Sun  
 NBN1, Murrumbidgee — 8:30 am, Sun  
 NBN3, Newcastle — 8:30 am, Sun  
 CBN8, Orange — 8:30 am, Sun  
 TEN10, Sydney — 6:30 am, Sun  
 WIN4, Wollongong — 8:30 am, Sun

**QUEENSLAND**

QTQ9, Brisbane — 1:00 am, Mon and 5:30 am, Wed  
 UHF42, Gold Coast — 1:00 am, Mon and 5:30 am,  
 Wed  
 DDQ10, Kingaroy — 11:00 am, Sun  
 DDQ5A, Toowoomba — 11:00 am, Sun  
 SDQ4, Warwick — 11:00 am, Sun

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

SAS10, Adelaide — 6:30 am, Sun

**VICTORIA**

ATV10, Melbourne — 6:00 am, Sun

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

STW9, Perth — 7:00 am, Sun

**PHILIPPINES****LUZON**

Legaspi — GMA Chan. 7, 10:00 am, Sat; 9:30  
 am, Sun  
 Metro Manila — GMA Chan. 7, 9:00 am, Sat; 9:30  
 am, Sun

**VISAYAS**

Cebu — GMA Chan. 7, 8:30 am, Sat and 9:30 am, Sun

**MINDANAO**

Cagayan de Oro — GMA Chan. 12, 7:00 am, Sat;  
 8:30 am, Sun  
 Davao — GMA Chan. 7, 7:30 am, Sat; 8:00 am,  
 Sun  
 Iligan — GMA Chan. 12, 8:00 am, Sat; 9:30 am,  
 Sun  
 Zamboanga — GMA Chan. 3, 8:30 am, Sat; 9:30  
 am, Sun

**CARIBBEAN**

Aruba, Telearuba, Oranjestad — 13, 7:00 pm, Sun  
 Bahamas, ZNS, Nassau — 52, 11:00 am, Sun  
 Bermuda, ZBM, Hamilton — 10, 3:00 pm, Sun  
 Dominican, Marpin TV, Roseau — 8:30 am, Sun  
 Puerto Rico, WSJU, Carolina — 18 and Cable 12,  
 8:00 am, Sun



**Puerto Rico — San Juan Cable TV:**

WTBS, Atlanta — 13, 6:30 am Sun and 1:05 am Mon, ET  
WGN, Chicago — 5, 10:00 am Sat, CT  
LIF (Lifetime Cable Network), New York — 10:30 pm Sat, ET  
WOR, New York — 9, 11:30 am and 11:00 pm Sun, ET  
SPN (Satellite Program Network), Tulsa — 12:00 pm Wed, CT  
St. Lucia, HTS, Castries — 4, 6:30 pm, Wed  
Trinidad and Tobago TV — 2 and 13, 9:00 am, Sun  
Virgin Is. (U.S.A.), WSVI, Christiansted, St. Croix — 8, 7:00 am, Sun

**EUROPE**

Italy, Retequattro (Ital) — 8:00 am, Sun  
Italy, Tele-Monte-Carlo (Ital) — 4:30 pm, Sun  
Luxembourg, RTL-TV (Fr) — 10:45 pm, Thurs  
Monaco, Tele-Monte-Carlo (Fr) — 11:30 pm, Mon  
Norway, Oslo, Janco-TV — 10:00 pm, Wed

**OTHER AREAS**

Belize, Central America, TVTV — 7, 9:00 am, Sun  
Guam, KUAM, Agana — 8, 9:30 am, Sun  
Japan, JCTV, Tokyo — 5:00 pm, Sun  
Sri Lanka, ITN11, Colombo — 7:30 pm, every second Sun  
Tonga, ASTL, Nuku'alofa — 7:30 pm, Sun

**RADIO LOG**

Listed by state or province are the station's call letters, location, frequency and time when the *World Tomorrow* program is aired.

**UNITED STATES**

KSL, Salt Lake City, Utah — 1160, 5:30 am, Sun

**CANADA**

**QUEBEC**

CJMS, Montreal (Fr) — 1280, 6:15 am, Sun  
CKVL, Montreal (Fr) — 850, 6:00 am, Sun  
CJRP, Quebec City (Fr) — 1060, 6:45 am, Sun

**CARIBBEAN**

ZNS-3, Freeport (Eng), Bahamas — 810, 9:00 am, Sun  
FAME-FM, Christiana, Jamaica — 101.3, 6:00 am, Tues, Thurs; 6:30 am, Sun  
SUPREME SOUND, Kingston, Jamaica — 720, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat  
FAME-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 92.7, 6:00 am, Tues, Thurs; 6:30 am, Sun  
FAME-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 94.7, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat  
FAME-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 95.7, 6:00 am, Tues, Thurs; 6:30 am, Sun  
FAME-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 104.5, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat  
SUPREME SOUND, Mandeville, Jamaica — 770, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat  
FAME-FM, Montego Bay, Jamaica — 92.9, 6:00 am, Tues, Thurs; 6:30 am, Sun  
SUPREME SOUND, Port Maria, Jamaica — 580, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat  
FAME-FM, Spur Tree, Jamaica — 90.5, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat  
MBC Radio (Fr), Port au Prince, Haiti — 1430, 10:30 am, Sun  
VOB, Bridgetown, Barbados — 790, 7:30 pm, Sun

**NEW ZEALAND**

IXP, Radio Pacific, Auckland — 1593, 6:00 pm, Sun

**OTHER AREAS**

Fiji, Radio FM96, Suva — 6:30 am, Sun  
Honduras, San Pedro Sula, Radio Norte (Sp) — 780, 8:45 am, Sun  
Hong Kong Radio, Kowloon — 1044, 6:30 am, 12:00 am, Sat  
Radio Luxembourg (Fr) — 5:15 am, Mon; 5:00 am, Tues, Thurs  
C2AM, Radio Nauru — 1323, 9:00 am, Sun  
A3Z, Tonga Radio (Eng), Nuku'alofa — 1020, 6:30 pm, Sun  
Radio SUD (Fr), Toulouse — 1161, 5:45 am, Tues, Fri

**Understanding?**

*(Continued from page 21)*

We always need to ask why. Continues Mr. Pym: "There is always a danger that understanding will diminish as factual knowledge increases. The images we see on our televisions reflect only the symptoms and consequences of a problem... When we see world events portrayed on the screen and described by commentators, *that does not lead to understanding*, but only to an emotional reaction and the acquisition of casual knowledge."

This former cabinet minister prizes understanding—without denigrating knowledge. "Information and knowledge are priceless gifts which enrich us in many ways. Understanding is still more priceless, but maybe that will emerge in time" (pages 25-26, 1984, emphasis ours). Mr. Pym is optimistic.

But what is understanding? And why is this faculty of mind so important?

**What Is Understanding?**

To understand is far more than just to know. Understanding implies insight into cause and effect. One who understands knows there is a cause for every effect. He *thinks* about what he reads and sees. *Christian Science Monitor* editorial writer Rushworth M. Kidder wrote: "The answer is that what matters in a troubled world is not more knowledge but deeper thought" (December 24, 1983).

The understanding person is always thinking—always seeking to put events into perspective.

Understanding implies many things. One who understands has a sense of the world at large. He has a sense of scope. He knows geography. He has some knowledge of history. He understands human nature. He is a biblical student. All this is a tall order. It takes time and experience. Understanding does not come easy. You have to work at it.

*Plain Truth* founder Herbert W.

Armstrong always sought to understand. Hence this magazine you now hold in your hands. Once he wrote of his desire to publish *The Plain Truth*. "In 1927 the urge pressed heavily on my mind to produce and publish a new kind of magazine. My dream was to produce a 'magazine of understanding.' My father said I, as a child, even under five, would be a 'Philadelphia lawyer' when I grew up, because I was always asking so many questions. I wanted to know 'why' and 'how.' I wanted to understand. As a teenager I was entranced with Benjamin Franklin's *Autobiography*. I was enthralled with his faculty of understanding. I had always wanted to understand life—and why its problems—and how to solve them" (*Personal from the Editor*, October 1968).

The purpose of *The Plain Truth* is to transmit understanding. Not only of world events, but even more importantly of the mystery of life—why are humans here on earth?

Of course, you cannot understand everything all at once. It

"Information is to be found in the daily papers. We are informed about everything. We know nothing."

**Saul Bellow—American writer who has won the Pulitzer prize for Literature (1976).**

takes time and you have to choose.

What is the most important thing you need to understand? What are your priorities? A good place to begin is to understand *why you were born*. The publishers of *The Plain Truth* also publish an attractively printed booklet by that very title. You can't afford not to know—and *not to understand*—the answer to that question. So why not write, or if in the United States telephone our toll-free number, and request the booklet *Why Were You Born?* □



**I**N LAST month's "Personal" we said that we would finish the answer to the question: Is Jesus God?

There is great confusion today among religious leaders concerning the true nature and office of Jesus Christ. Almost no one, it seems, understands that the Lord of the Old Testament—*Yahweh* in Hebrew—is the "Word" of the New Testament, who was made flesh. Here is the promised proof that the Word or Jesus Christ, not God the Father, was *Yahweh*, or Lord of the Old Testament.

As a fragment of the evidence, compare Isaiah 8:13-14 with I Peter 2:7-8, *Authorized Version*.

Isaiah said, "The Lord of hosts" (YHWH) shall be "a stone of stumbling and . . . a rock of offence. . . ."

Peter said, in quoting this text in reference to Christ, he is "a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence." Jesus is therefore the Lord—the Eternal of the Old Testament.

Now compare Isaiah 40:3 with Matthew 3:3 and Mark 1:3. John prepared the way before *Yahweh* (Isa. 40:3), who was Christ (Mark 1:14-15).

In Revelation 1:17 (*Revised Standard Version* throughout, except where noted) we read, "When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand upon me, saying, 'Fear not, I am the first and the last.'" Again Revelation 22:13, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Study also Revelation 22:16 for proof it was *Jesus* speaking. Jesus Christ calls himself the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last. Now compare these texts with Isaiah 44:6: "Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: 'I am the first

and I am the last; besides me there is no god.'"

Now turn to Isaiah 48:11-12. "'For my own sake, I do it, for how should my name be profaned? My glory I will not give to another. Hearken to me, O Jacob, and Israel, whom I called! I am He, I am the first, and I am the last.'" Verses 17-18 show it was *Yahweh* speaking. And also in Isaiah 41:4, "Who has performed and done this, calling the generations from the beginning? I, the Lord, the first, and with the last; I am He."

# IS JESUS GOD ?

All of these scriptures show that *Yahweh* is the First and Last. Christ is the *Yahweh* of the Old Testament.

In I Corinthians 10:4, the "Rock" of the Old Testament is called Christ. "For they drank from the supernatural Rock which followed them, and the Rock was *Christ*" (verse 4). II Samuel 22:2-3: "He said, 'The Lord [*Yahweh*] is my *rock*, and my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my *rock*, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge, my

savior; thou savest me from violence.'" See also verse 32.

In Psalm 18:1-2, this same "Rock" is *Yahweh*. When Moses was talking to *Yahweh*, and asked him his name (Ex. 3:4-5, 13), he answered that his name was "I AM" (verse 14) and *Yahweh*—the Eternal One (verse 15). See also Exodus 6:2-3. In John 18:5-8, as soon as Jesus identified himself as "I am" to the mob led by Judas (the "he" in italics is added without inspiration, and was not in the original), they went backward and fell to the ground. Again in John 8:56-58, Jesus called himself: "I am." For we read, "Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, *I am*'" (verse 58).

The person of the Godhead who is our Redeemer is Jesus Christ. John 4:42 says this: "They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world.'" "But our commonwealth is in heaven, and from it we await a *Savior*, the Lord Jesus Christ" (Phil. 3:20). Read also Titus 2:10-14, Luke 1:68-69.

That Jesus, the Savior, is *Yahweh*; see Isaiah 49:7 and 60:16, where he—*Yahweh*—is also "the Mighty One of Jacob" (to be OF Jacob means a son, or descendant of Jacob)—the Mighty One of all Jacob's children. Also in Isaiah 48:17, *Yahweh* is called the Redeemer, and the Holy One of Israel—the One of Israel who is Holy! The same is expressed in Isaiah

43:14, "Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel. . . ." Also note the next verse (15), *Yahweh* is Israel's Holy One, Creator of Israel, Israel's King. Now notice in Acts 3:14-15 that the Christ who was denied was the same "Holy One"—*Yahweh*! "But you denied the Holy and Righteous One . . . the Author of life. . . ." See also Acts 2:27 and Mark 1:24.

Now, who was David's *shepherd*? (Ps. 23:1).

In John 10:11, Jesus said *he* was the shepherd. Open your Bibles



also to Hebrews 13:20: "Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great *shepherd* of the sheep. . . ." Compare this text with I Peter 2:25, which says, "For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the *Shepherd* and Guardian of your souls." We also read: "Tend the flock of God that is your charge, not by constraint but willingly, not for shameful gain but eagerly, not as domineering over those in your charge but being examples to the flock. And when the chief *Shepherd* is manifested you will obtain the unfading crown of glory" (I Pet. 5:2-4).

It is Jesus Christ who is coming again in person as King of kings to rule, and to restore. In Revelation 19:13 John writes, "He is clad in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God." "From his mouth issues a sharp sword with which to smite the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron; he will tread the wine press of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty" (verse 15). And again in Revelation, 17:14, John writes, "They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb [Christ] will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful."

The Great Shepherd who is coming to rule as King over all kings is *Yahweh*. "And ye my flock, the flock of my pasture, are men, and I am your God, saith the Lord God"—*Yahweh* or Christ, the Shepherd whose flock is Israel! (See Ezekiel 34:11, 30-31, *Authorized Version*.)

Now notice Isaiah 2:2-4 and Micah 4:1-4, AV. "It shall come to pass . . . that the mountain [kingdom] of the Lord's [*Yahweh's*] house shall be established in the top of the mountains [kingdoms]"—ruling the world. "And he [*Yahweh*—Christ] shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people," and then they shall have PEACE.

In almost every Old Testament passage (Psalm 110:1 is an exception), the Lord (*Yahweh*)—the Eternal—is Jesus Christ. Clearly, Jesus is the God of the Old Testament. □

## Russia

(Continued from page 6)

brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations; then shall they KNOW that I am the Lord their God . . ." (Ezek. 39:25, 27-28)!

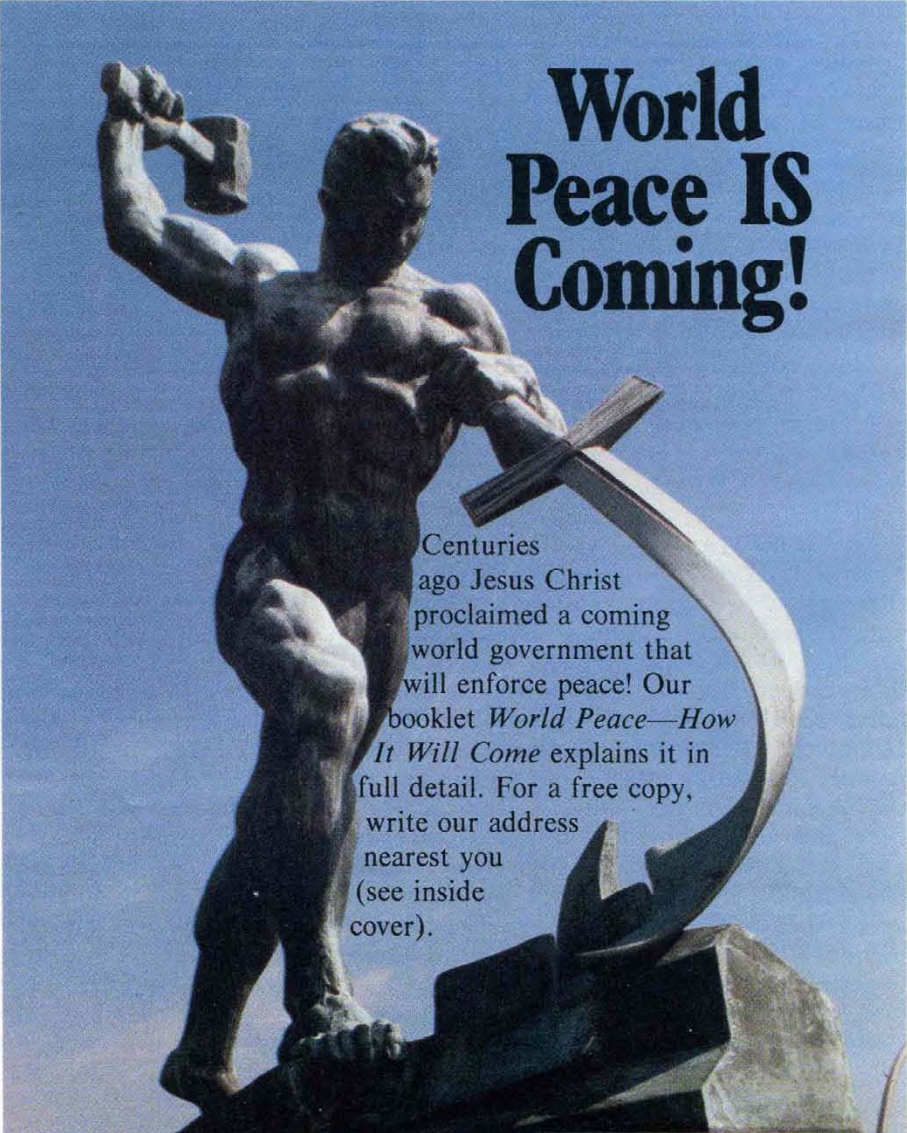
Notice again! At Christ's Second Coming, he shall gather the 10-tribed House of Israel—our British and American people—out of our enemies' lands, not out of our own land of wealth and power, North America and the British Isles.

But by then, we shall be thoroughly chastened. We shall have learned our lesson. We shall live by God's rules, and obey his law. ". . . for I have poured out my spirit

upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord God" (verse 29).

And then, beginning chapter 40, the remainder of the book of Ezekiel reveals the ideal theocracy—God's new order of divine government upon earth—the permanent forms and institutions that shall express the ideal relation between God and man.

In the meantime, our job is to WARN America and Britain and many other nations of what lies ahead. To shout the warning to come out of Babylon (Rev. 18:4), that those who heed may find God *now*—may come under his divine protection (Ps. 91), and by a true Spirit-filled life obedient to God's ways and laws, be prepared to become a ruler or a teacher in Christ's soon-coming glorious kingdom! □



# World Peace IS Coming!

Centuries ago Jesus Christ proclaimed a coming world government that will enforce peace! Our booklet *World Peace—How It Will Come* explains it in full detail. For a free copy, write our address nearest you (see inside cover).





## Understanding World Events and Trends



JORDAN-LANSON

### Zulu Chief Urges Moderation

Everyone, it seems, knows what South Africa should do about its complex racial issues. But few seem to really understand exactly what those issues are and what the results would be if their ideas were carried out.

In a *World Opinion Update*, 52 percent of Canadians, for example, admitted that they had not "heard or read anything about the racial policies" of the South African government. Yet only 5 percent answered "don't know" when asked what Canada should do about the situation in South Africa.

One man whose views are seldom heard outside his native South Africa is Mangosuthu Gatsha

Buthelezi, who opposes the government's apartheid policy but who also is against demands for economic sanctions and disinvestment. He seeks solutions by nonviolent means that will encourage cooperation among all ethnic groups.

"If we destroy the productive capacity of the [South African] economy, millions of people will starve," Dr. Buthelezi has said. Sanctions would actually hurt blacks the most. In a speech before legislators in California, he told blacks and liberals in the United States not to get involved in the affairs of South Africa. Rather they should inform themselves and come to the conclusion "that it would be counterproductive for them to willfully destroy the South African economy."

The Zulu chief refuses to order his people into a violent confrontation with the white government. Dr. Buthelezi is a foe of the communist-backed African National Congress (ANC), whose aim is the violent overthrow of the South African government. He accuses the ANC of exhorting blacks to kill blacks who refuse to take part in violence.

Dr. Buthelezi hopes that South Africa can learn from other countries that were formerly ruled by white minorities. He said in a

speech quoted by *South African Digest*: "When I see how many countries in Africa have not got enough food for their populations, I often wonder whether those who advocate the destruction of the economy . . . [want to reduce] South Africa to a state of economic ruin so that we also can look forward to a dependence on crumbs of charity from the West after liberation." ■

### Plan Promotes Forest Preservation

Each year agriculture, rural development and logging claim some 27 million acres of forest in 56 countries. Some 500 to 1,000 plant and animal species are wiped out annually, and more than one thousand million people are affected.

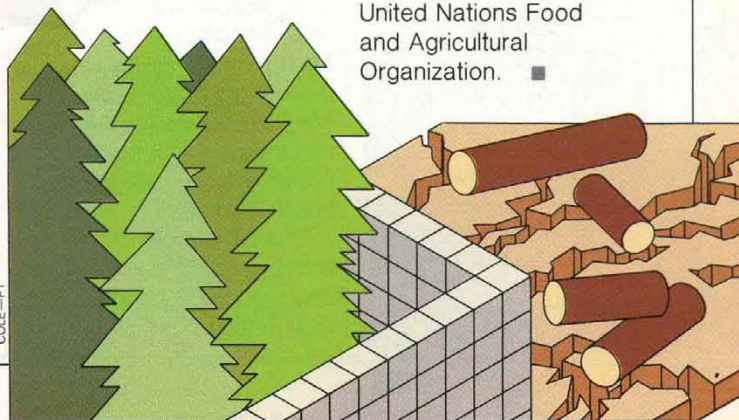
In addition, in Europe and North America acid rain and other pollutants damage large wooded sections. In

**Nearly half of all U.S. deaths are caused by cardiovascular disease. Other leading causes of death, according to the U.S. Public Health Service, are, in order, cancer, accidents and lung disease.**

the Mediterranean region, fires are the main threat. In arid areas deforestation has speeded up the spread of deserts.

The World Bank, United Nations Development Program and World Resources Institute have combined to formulate a plan to halt the problem, emphasizing the principles of reforestation and intelligent forest management. The plan will cost US\$8,000 million and is intended to increase the nations' commitment to protecting forests.

"Forests are vital for the environmental stability of our planet and the quality of life on it," said Edouard Saouma, director of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization. ■



COLE-PT



## Exercise May Affect Fertility

Experts have determined that strenuous exercise may have an adverse effect on women's menstrual cycles. Most often affected are ballet dancers, swimmers, joggers and women on rigorous calisthenics programs.

Sometimes women who have exercised heavily since before their teens have never menstruated, a condition known as primary amenorrhea. In other cases, women have ceased menstruating or do so irregularly, which is called secondary amenorrhea. Studies show various causes for these menstrual abnormalities.

One cause may be a deficiency in the hormone estrogen, which triggers the start of the menstrual cycle. About one third of the body's supply of estrogen is made in fat tissue. Since women who exercise heavily

tend to be slim and store less fat, they may have an insufficient supply of this hormone.

Another cause could be the stress resulting from trying to maintain a rigorous exercise schedule along with a hectic work schedule, or the anxiety caused by any major life change.

Many times, simply reducing the intensity of the exercise regimen, regaining some weight or reducing stress levels, will help the body begin to recover.

But doctors warn that women should not automatically assume menstrual irregularity is due to exercise. Menstrual difficulties may also be caused by glandular problems and premature menopause. ■

## STD: The Alarm Spreads

One in four Americans between the ages of 15 and 55 will acquire a

cigarette a year at a cost of \$300 to \$600. But that's not where the buck stops.

More than \$16,000 million are spent each year for related health-care costs. Productivity lost to smoking-related illness and premature death amounts to \$37,000 million yearly. Combined, these figures indicate an average cost of more than \$200 each year for every man, woman and child.

The economic burden on each nonsmoker for providing medical care for smoking-induced illness is more than \$100, paid primarily through taxes and health insurance premiums.

The largest cost is in human lives: Smoking kills about 500,000 people each year in the United States. ■

## Alcoholics Should Abstain

Recent research has emphasized just how long and hard the road to recovery is for the alcoholic. Less than 2 percent of 1,065 alcoholics studied were controlled, "social" drinkers five to seven years after receiving treatment, say scientists at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo.

While some previous research seemed to indicate that alcoholics could be taught to become moderate drinkers, the Washington University study "suggests that there is little cause for optimism about the likelihood of an evolution of

sexually transmissible disease (STD) sometime in his or her lifetime. One specialist predicts that by the year 2000, one in three American women will become infertile because of damage to her reproductive organs from STD. The American statistics point up a problem reaching rampant proportions worldwide.

More than 25 diseases are known to be spread through sexual contact. Many of these are growing increasingly resistant to antibiotics.

One study concluded that 80 percent of prostitutes in the African nation of Zaire now have the dreaded HTLV-3 virus, which is widely believed to cause AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

New evidence strongly indicates that AIDS originated from animals. Striking similarities between the HTLV-3 virus and lentiviruses in animals were discovered last year by researchers at the U.S. National Cancer Institute and



long-term, stable, moderate drinking among treated alcoholics."

Of alcoholics treated at four separate facilities between 1973 and 1975, the researchers found that 79 percent were still drinking heavily, 15 percent never drank alcohol, 4.6 percent alternated between moderate drinking and abstinence and only 1.6 percent were moderate or controlled drinkers.

In the long run, alcoholics trying to quit without professional treatment may do better than those who seek treatment at some point, say the researchers. The results of the study clearly suggest, in addition, that the "vast majority" of alcoholics receiving treatment should aim for total abstinence. ■

the Johns Hopkins University Medical School.

In Fiji the World Health Organization found that half the cases of infertility were related to blocked tubes in sexual organs, most of which are the result of STD, especially syphilis.

"People are becoming disillusioned with free sex and terrified of getting [a disease] and having it forever," says one psychologist.

Our free report *Sexually Transmissible Diseases—Even You Could Become Infected!* offers a wealth of information on STDs and how they could affect you. Request a copy today. ■

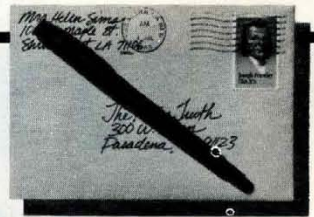
## The Unseen Costs of Smoking

The average smoker in the United States (there are about 54 million in all) smokes more than 11,000





# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



## “What We Need Most Is Peace”

In his speech, reprinted in *The Plain Truth* [January 1986], Jordanian Minister Abu Odeh states that an historical relationship of Arab-Jewish amity was disrupted by the establishment of a Jewish state in a territory “92-93 percent” owned by Arabs. Thus, Arab efforts to destroy Israel are presented as reasonable attempts to recover what rightfully belongs to the Arabs.

Actually, the Jews and Arabs have not had an historical relationship based on equality. After the advent of Islam in the seventh century the Jews’ refusal to follow the new religion resulted in their relegation to Dhimmi, or unbeliever status, a position of social inferiority relative to Moslems. When Israel was founded, 800,000 Jews came from Islamic lands to settle there, often fleeing in fear, their property confiscated by the new Arab regimes. Today, they and their descendants form the majority of Israel’s population.

For centuries, Palestine was a small provincial backwater in the empire of various conquerors, having been under Turkish rule for 400 years until the League of Nations gave it to Britain in 1922 to hold in trust as a homeland for the Jews. Her peoples were an ethnic mix: Arabs, Jews, Kurds, Circassians and others. On the eve of the modern Zionist effort, Palestine was largely depopulated. When visiting in 1867, Mark Twain described it as “a desolate country . . . given to weeds. . . . We never saw a human being on the whole route.”

The Zionists revitalized the

area, benefiting all inhabitants. Arab infant mortality dropped. Many Arabs immigrated from neighboring areas, attracted by high wages stemming from Zionist capital investment.

Despite these benefits, there were Arab attacks on the unarmed Jewish community, many instigated by powerful Arab landlords whose feudal grip over the peasantry was threatened by Jewish wage competition . . . many Arab leaders pressured the British to curtail European Jewish immigration to Palestine, trapping millions in the Holocaust.

The Zionists built their settlements away from Arabs and respected their private property rights. British government statistics show that on the eve of partition, Arabs owned 19.8% of the land in Palestine, not the 92-93% claimed by Minister Odeh. The 1947 U.N. partition plan gave the Zionists only about 10% of the area reserved for a Jewish state by the League of Nations, 78% of the original mandate having become the Arab Palestinian state of Jordan in 1946. The Zionists were disappointed, but accepted the compromise. The Arabs rejected it, demanded 100% of Palestine, and attacked. The Arabs lost the war and some territory and were burdened with many refugees as they had encouraged their people to flee pending a Zionist defeat.

This pattern of Arab aggression followed by defeat and territorial loss has characterized Arab-Israeli relations. Despite these assaults, Arabs today in Israel enjoy an equal vote with Jews in the only full democracy in the Middle East.

The obvious path to peace

is for the Arabs to stop thinking of Jews as inferior Dhimmi, unentitled to a state. Just as the Arabs attained their independence through the creation this century of 21 countries, they should understand that the Islamic minority of a million Jews deserved one country to achieve their self-determination. Perhaps less obvious, the violent turmoil among the Arabs in the Middle East points up a fundamental inability on their part to resolve disputes through peaceful compromise, a reflection of the undemocratic nature of their societies. Until these problems are worked out, Arab predations must be checked out by a strong Israel with secure borders.

**David Katcoff**  
Chairman

**Upstate New York Chapter  
Americans for a Safe Israel  
Washington, D.C.**

• *The Plain Truth policy is to provide an understanding of world events from Bible prophecy and to inform our readers of the various points of view of national figures, including Arab and Israeli leaders. In a forthcoming issue we will have an Israeli view from Consul General Ilan Elgar.*

## New Subscriber

I want to thank you for welcoming me warmly as a new subscriber of your great magazine. In fact I have already received the introductory copy earlier this week; very educational and enjoyable to read indeed.

I’m looking forward with excitement to receive your next issue. I am a Filipino working in Finland as a musician and I often travel around the country as much as twice a month. I intend to

make your magazine my constant companion.

**Gorman de los Santos**  
Helsinki, Finland

Could you please send me a one year subscription of your magazine? It’s hard to drive all around to get your magazine each month. Sometimes there are none left.

**Larry Hank**  
Edmonton, Alberta

## Young Pole Speaks Out

I enclose with this letter my request for another twelve months’ set of *The Plain Truth*. Having received the past twelve issues of your magazine I must comment on the very high standard of it. I have learned much from your informative and unbiased articles, particularly “political.”

I study pedagogics and for me the most interesting was the serial publication “The Plain Truth about Child Rearing.” Also “The Way of Peace They Know Not” by Dan C. Taylor made me think. Your International Desk and News Overview are very interesting, too.

**Jomasz Pacholski**  
Poland

## Correspondence Course

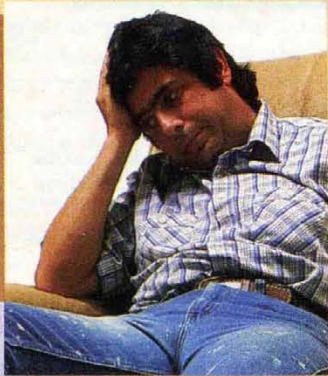
Thank you very much for this enlightening Bible Correspondence Course. It has made me realize that I was looking at the Bible from a biased point of view, i.e. from the view of today’s “Christianity.” Is it any wonder that I never really began to understand it before?

The opposition that I have met has not put me off at all, in fact is further proof that the words of the Bible are proved.

**Diana MacFadden**  
Merseyside, England



# IN THIS ISSUE:



## **SO YOU'RE UNEMPLOYED?**

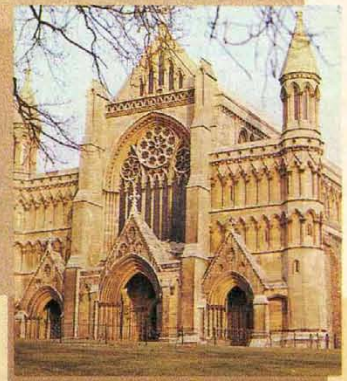
This dark cloud has a silver lining—one that can help you to greater potential, or to restart your life in an entirely new direction.

HAL FINCH—PT

## **MYSTERY OF THE CHURCH**

Why the true purpose of the Church is as little understood as the Bible itself!

PT PHOTO



## **EXERCISE MAY AFFECT FERTILITY**

Read in our “News Overview” what some experts are saying about this problem.

G.A. BELLUCHE JR.—PT

## **LIFE'S BIGGEST QUESTION**

Few know what it is! Read how one man discovered the question and obtained the answer.