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Storms blast the Philippines: many killed, members spared

By Jeff E. Zhorne

MANILA, Philippines—Deadly tropical storm Thelma and typhoon Ruth caused an avalanche of destruction this autumn.

Overall, Church members fared well but more than 2,300 people were reported killed and tens of thousands left homeless after Thelma struck Nov. 5. President Corazon Aquino declared several regions disaster areas.

This article was compiled from reports by Paul Kieffer, Philippine regional director, and media accounts.

"I never saw anything like it before," said Emilio Osmena, a provincial governor who visited the west coast of Leyte island by helicopter. "Bodies were everywhere. Children, old women. It was really very sad."

Wall of water

Ormoc, a port city of 150,000 about 340 miles southeast of Manila, will long remember Nov. 5, when tropical storm Thelma dumped more than six inches of rain in two hours.

Rainwater ran off the nearby hills (which had been denuded by unlawful logging) without obstruction. Also, illegally built irrigation catch-basins, high in the mountains and used by sugarcane barons, collapsed under the pressure of excess rainfall and added to the flood descending on Ormoc, Mr. Kieffer told *The Worldwide News*.

"A 10-foot-high wall of water filled with logs, mud and debris came crashing through the center of the city, sweeping hundreds of residents downstream," said Mr. Kieffer. "Officials counted 6,000 human casualties and another 2,000 missing or presumed drowned."

Reports from Ormoc said hundreds of bodies were seen floating in the flooded streets after fast-rising waters surged eight to 12 feet deep in a single hour.

George Bragas, a single member in Tacloban (hometown of former First Lady Imelda Marcos), stood waiting at a jeepney station about 100 meters (60 yards) from his home when the wall of water came rushing down the street.

He grabbed an anchored concrete pillar of a shed, swam across the street and waited on the roof of a neighbor's house until the water subsided.

When Ted Sernal, Tacloban pastor, his wife, Luz, and Mr.

Kieffer visited Ormoc a week after the disaster, the evidence of destruction was everywhere: dozens of destroyed dwellings, downed power and telephone lines, knee-deep mud on side streets and hundreds of homeless people milling around makeshift refugee centers.

"A sickening stench greeted us everywhere," said Mr. Kieffer. "On the morning of our visit another body was recovered from the mud."

Mr. Bragas' house still bore witness of the flood, with neighbors and family members carrying buckets of mud out of the house. Across the street, two to four feet of mud covered the athletic field.

Despite losing everything on the first floor of the house, Mrs. Bragas said: "Thank God we are all alive. That is what really counts anyway."

Mr. Bragas and his family

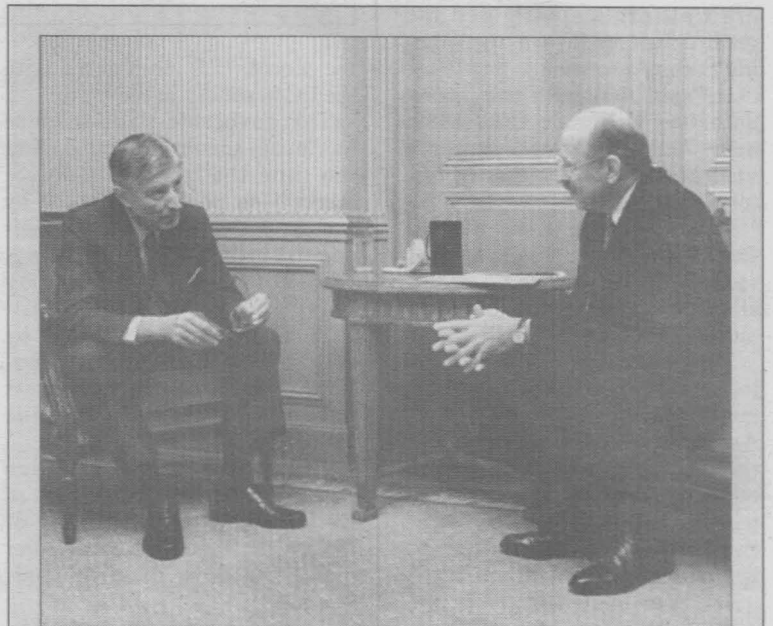
would appreciate the prayers of the brethren, however. By last report, electricity and water service to Ormoc were cut off and will not be fully restored for at least two months.

140-mile-an-hour winds

Typhoon Ruth hit northern Luzon island Oct. 26 and 27, bringing winds of 225 kilometers (140 miles) an hour. Ruth is considered one of the strongest typhoons ever to hit northern Luzon, according to Mr. Kieffer.

High winds and heavy rains accompanying the storm lasted for three days, blasting three church pastorates: the Santiago and Roxas churches, and an outlying Bible study in Tuguegarao; Baguio and Mankayan; and the San Fernando, La Union, and Laoag churches.

Pastor Honesto Rustia reported (See STORMS, page 3)



History is accelerating, says EC ambassador to PT news editor

We are living in a time that Andreas Van Agt (left), EC ambassador to the United States, calls the "acceleration of history." Mr. Van Agt speaks with Gene Hogberg about U.S. relations with the European Community, before his address to the World Affairs Council in Los Angeles, Nov. 7. [Photo by G.A. Belluche Jr.]

PERSONAL FROM

Joseph W. Tkach

Dear Brethren,

We continue to hold back expenses wherever possible as we pray for a turnaround in the recession.

Year-to-date income remains at about 5 percent under last year. Let's all be praying for an upturn in income, as well as for God's wisdom in how and where to trim expenses.

I certainly pray that all ministers and members are faithful in tithing, and not holding back on that which belongs to God. I know there always seems to be a percentage in the Church who, for whatever reason, do not tithe and find ways to excuse their unfaithfulness. God is patient and merciful to all, and forgives when we repent. As James wrote, "To him who knows to

do good and does not do it, to him it is sin" (James 4:17, New King James).

I pray that any who have been keeping God's tithe will repent and begin to tithe in faithfulness.

The question sometimes arises, would God necessarily require that tithes be made up that had not been previously paid?

No. God expects that a person repent and begin tithing faithfully from that point forward. However, each one should pray for God's understanding and decide what to do about unpaid tithes as his or her conscience before God demands.

Proclaim the gospel

We all realize that God has given us a job to do—to proclaim the gospel of the kingdom. But just what is the gospel of the kingdom of God?

Sometimes, it is all too easy to think of the gospel of the kingdom as having to do primarily with a future event. Indeed,

the gospel—the *good news*—does entail the great future hope for all God's people—the second coming of Jesus Christ, and the establishment of his rule over all nations.

Yet, there are also equally important past and present aspects of the gospel. As God's people, we need to understand and focus on *all* the gospel, not just any one part of it. (This is one of the many lessons to be gained by keeping the three annual festival seasons.)

If we focus most of our attention on just one part of the gospel, it is likely that we will (See PERSONAL, page 3)

Answering vital questions

Biblical cover stories support *Plain Truth* focus

By Bernard W. Schnippert
PASADENA—Since the *Plain Truth* staff plans covers and cover stories before publication, writers are already working on articles scheduled to appear in the maga-

zine a year from now. Here are summaries of *Plain Truth* cover stories scheduled to appear between January and June 1992. (Please keep in mind, however, that some of these articles are still developing, and the focus could change.)

Bernard W. Schnippert is Media Operations director.

We will begin 1992 with "Have You Read the Book?" This article asks readers if they've read the Bible, a yearly best-seller translated into 1,500 languages.

The article says readers may be surprised by what the Bible says and how it can change lives, bring happiness, help solve problems and give life meaning.

"Whatever Happened to New Testament Christianity?" is the title of the February lead article. It points out fundamental precepts of the Christian religion as portrayed in the New Testament and shows that many individuals calling themselves Christians are poor examples of the faith.

Readers should finish the article

with a clearer understanding of what it means to follow Jesus Christ.

The March issue of *The Plain Truth* features a cover article titled "Missing the Mark—the Average Sinner's Guide to Sin."

Today's religious education often tells people they are "sinners," that they need to "repent" and that they need to be "saved." These expressions have tended to become, however, religious clichés. Cutting through such clichés, the article helps readers understand exactly what sin is, what's so bad about it, what happens if we don't repent and what should happen when we do.

"In the Steps of Paul," the cover article for the April issue, discusses the apostle Paul's message as he first entered Europe in the middle of the first century.

The article goes on to show that this message of salvation the Greeks received nearly 2,000 years ago is one that offers us new hope for the future.

The lead article for the May-June *Plain Truth*, tentatively titled (See COVERS, page 3)

INSIDE

Ever been snubbed? . . . 2

Coup in Haiti: How Canadians made it home . 5

Zaire: Courage in face of scarcity

Although food is still scarce and outrageously expensive, "brethren are hanging on with remarkable courage," said Bernard Andrist, who serves brethren in Zaire. Mr. Andrist gave an update on brethren facing difficulties in this central African country.

In Kinshasa, 217 members and families attended services Nov. 9. Brethren seem to be getting small quantities of beans, and they also eat *fufu*, a starch-filled root paste made with manioc (cassava). *Fufu* is tasteless but it fills your stomach.

Many citizens were killed in early November, when the army threw grenades in bars where people opposed the regime of President Mobutu Sese Seko. After Mr. Mobutu's government announced its intent to arrest all foreign media reporters, the reporters fled to neighboring Brazzaville.

Of the three governments existing side by side, Mr. Mobutu's seems the most powerful and influential. Much of the army appears faithful to him.

A few days ago the U.S. dollar was worth 24,000 zaires. It is now worth 36,000. Brethren in Zaire would still appreciate prayers on their behalf.

Great debate about Europe's future

LOS ANGELES—"The world is in the throes of a completely new order," said Andreas Van Agt, European Community ambassador to the United States, in a luncheon address to the World Affairs Council here Nov. 7.

Mr. Van Agt's visit to Southern California spotlighted the great debate under way concerning Europe's future.

He said that with the drama unfolding in Europe since 1989, many believe we are living in a time of the "acceleration of history."

In his speech at the Regent Beverly Wilshire hotel, ambassador Van Agt outlined a generally optimistic view of developments within the Community.

He stressed the often overlooked importance of the Community to the well-being of all Americans. "Your country and the EC have grown into each other's largest trade partners," he remarked, adding that "last year, two-way trade amounted to approximately \$190 billion."

Mr. Van Agt, former prime minister of the Netherlands, added that, unlike its trade with Japan and practically the rest of



the world, U.S. commerce with the EC is solidly in the black.

This favorable trade balance has been accomplished during the time that the EC's single market—to be fully in place by Jan. 1, 1993—has been "under construction, like a building, piece by piece and floor by floor."

This disproves assertions by EC critics, the ambassador continued, that a so-called Fortress Europe is restricting outside trade.

The EC summit conference scheduled for the second week of December in the Dutch city of Maastricht, should give us clearer indications as to the Community's future.

A start may even be made, Mr. Van Agt said, toward implementing "a common foreign policy ...

and perhaps ... a European defense identity."

The Persian Gulf War "clearly revealed the strengths and weak-



MARGARET THATCHER

nesses of the European Community." Contributions were made to the anti-Iraq coalition by individual European nations, but not the Community as a whole.

It is in the area of economics,

He gave the same instruction to the Corinthian church: "Beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak" (I Corinthians 8:9).

Paul emphasized that we should not offend anyone: "Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the Church of God" (I Corinthians 10:32).

Go to your brother alone

Assuming that you have considered your own situation and done what you can to remove obstacles between you and the offender, the next step is to follow Christ's instructions in Matthew 18. Christ said: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother" (verse 15).

This is not easy. You will have to approach your friend in an attitude of humility, forgiveness and genuine concern, not superiority.

Pray, even fast if the situation is sensitive, before you approach your friend. You don't want to cause offense by your approach.

This method should help regain your friend. If not, you must follow the rest of Christ's instructions. If the person continues to

If you have been offended try to get things in perspective. Sometimes we make a mountain out of a molehill. And usually little things pass with time.

out of your eye"; and look, a plank is in your own eye?" (Matthew 7:3-4).

Before acting any further with regard to how someone has offended us, we should see if there is a larger obstacle that we must first remove ourselves.

While on the subject of considering ourselves, let's also look at what we should do when we offend others.

Paul admonished the brethren to avoid giving offense even by actions that were not in themselves wrong.

To the Roman brethren, Paul wrote: "It is good neither to eat meat nor drink wine nor do anything by which your brother stumbles or is offended or is made weak" (Romans 14:21).

however, where the most far-reaching decisions are likely to be made at Maastricht, specifically in the drive to create a single European currency, and a European Central Bank to manage that currency.

"We are heading for one currency," ambassador Van Agt told me in a private interview shortly before his speech. It should be in place in 1997 or 1998, with the participation of Britain.

But the British Parliament, he



ANDREAS VAN AGT

added, must make this decision itself, not by having it imposed from Brussels or other EC states.

It is believed the British government will not participate in any single currency project at this time—but will not stand in the way of other Community

states that wish to proceed.

British viewpoint

Nine days after Mr. Van Agt's speech before the World Affairs Council, former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher appeared before the same body, at an overflow dinner at the Biltmore hotel the evening of Nov. 16.

In her speech and subsequent replies to questions, Mrs. Thatcher made it clear that she strenuously opposes all measures to create a centralized, federal structure in the Community under which "each state gives up significant aspects of national sovereignty."

A single European currency would be a prime example of encroaching federalism.

The debate over federalism is a divisive one within the ranks of the ruling Conservative Party in Britain and could threaten the party's chances in national elections, which must be conducted by next July.

Whereas Prime Minister John Major appears to have a more conciliatory attitude toward tighter EC integration, other Tories support Mrs. Thatcher's views.

Some feel that the integrationist bandwagon is rolling far too fast, and in dangerous directions, especially in the field of harmonizing social standards.

For example, former British (See DEBATE, page 5)



Just one more thing

By Dexter H. Faulkner

If a friend offends you

Have you ever been snubbed, been criticized, gossiped about or had your family insulted by someone you counted as a friend? Have you had your property damaged or not returned by a friend?

Is there anyone who hasn't been offended? Then again, is there anyone who hasn't offended others? So what should you do if a friend offends you?

First, don't be caught up in the emotional heat of the moment. Don't strike back—physically or verbally. Remember: "A harsh word stirs up anger" (Proverbs 15:1, New King James throughout).

The consequences that flow from lack of self-control can be catastrophic. The Bible says: "Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls" (Proverbs 25:28).

A similar proverb shows how difficult self-control is: "He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city" (16:32).

No matter the difficulty, we must not lose self-control. Being slow to anger is an aspect of godly character we should acquire.

Someone once told me that he simply counted to 7 to avoid losing control in difficult circumstances. If you are extremely angry, try counting to 70 times 7.

Of mountains and molehills

If you have been offended try to get things in perspective. Sometimes we make a mountain out of a molehill. And usually little things pass with time.

The second thing to do is don't immediately judge intent. We would all do well to heed Christ's statement: "Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the same measure you use, it will be measured back to you" (Matthew 7:1-2).

European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder



Europe seized by change

BOREHAMWOOD, England—In the past two years Europe has been marked by continual upheavals and divisions, especially in the Soviet Union and in Eastern bloc countries. On the other hand, East and West Germany have been reunited.

So many things are now happening it is hard to keep abreast of the changes. Here are a few of the trends occurring in Europe.

● **Political unity.** European political unification is an idea moving toward reality. However, the transformation of the European Community (EC) from an economic community into a political superstate is not welcomed by all.

Some members at the geographical periphery of the EC are apprehensive, while those at the center seem determined to achieve some sort of monetary and political union at the EC conference in Maastricht, Holland, in December.

Both sides see this concern over economic and political stepping-stones as significant. Strong economic blocs tend to yield in political power sooner or later.

Britain in particular fears losing its sovereignty to EC institutions (such as the European Parliament) in several key areas. The United Kingdom is notorious in European circles for its misgivings and complaints. How long London can delay the progress of the other member nations, however, is in severe doubt.

Although Britain realizes it has little option in economic terms (since the loss of trade with the Commonwealth, Europe is its major trading partner), the British are not that keen on the European Currency Unit—the medium of exchange and potential common currency for all of the EC. Britain wants to delay monetary union and a common currency as long as possible.

● **The Balkans crisis.** After years without conflict, severe unrest has surfaced once again. One cease-fire after another fails in what used to be Yugoslavia.

The diplomatic failure of the EC to enforce peace in the Balkans has led some observers to believe this tragedy will act as a catalyst for European political unity.

Real political power, these observers say, is mandatory to intervene in and halt regional crises in Europe.

Hence the need for a special European army apart from NATO, say some EC members.

● **European defense.** A European corps has been proposed by France and Germany. This corps would be part of an EC defense identity, an unwelcome idea in Britain, which has strong ties with NATO.

London observers ask: When we already have NATO, why is a European force necessary? And, would that force ever become, in itself, a potential threat?

● **Ban on Sunday work.** The European Commission wants to designate Sunday as the official, mandatory European rest day.

The London Times reported: "The Germans favor the Sunday ban [on work] because traditionally there has been little Sunday working in Germany."

Many are stunned by the thought that Germany would even expect such a ban to be taken up.

Britons feel differently, including Prime Minister John Major.

Besides the economic considerations flowing from a ban on Sunday work, Mr. Major pointed out that Britain is now multicultural (as are some other EC member nations) with various religions that observe different days.

(To be continued)

Natural disasters in the Philippines in the past two years:

Feb. 9, 1990: Magnitude 7.0 earthquake strikes island of Bohol in central Philippines, killing at least eight. Some members evacuate.

July 16, 1990: Magnitude 7.7 earthquake hits central and northern Luzon; nearly 1,700 people killed, including a prospective member; after food is rationed and homes collapse, members and families sleep outside in tents.

Nov. 14, 1990: Typhoon Mike hits central Philippines, killing at least 335 people; substantial destruction to members' crops and homes.

June 9, 1991: Mt. Pinatubo erupts causing more than 800 deaths; five members' homes collapse, 65 percent of Church families evacuate from provinces of Zambales, Pampanga and Tarlac.

Oct. 28, 1991: Typhoon Ruth batters northern Luzon, killing 65 people; heavy damage to members' homes in Santiago, Roxas, Baguio, Mankayan, San Fernando, La Union, and Laoag churches.

Nov. 6, 1991: Tropical storm Thelma triggers landslides in central Philippines; officials report more than 2,300 people

Storms

(Continued from page 1)

only minor damage to members' homes in the Santiago and Roxas churches.

Ireneo Marquez, pastor of the Dagupan and Urdaneta churches, reported that only one member

had sustained damage to his roof in Dagupan. All the other members were fine.

One member's home in the Baguio area was heavily damaged by high winds, but Medardo Maninang, Baguio and Mankayan pastor, reported that to his knowledge other members sustained only minor damage.

Two longtime ministers die

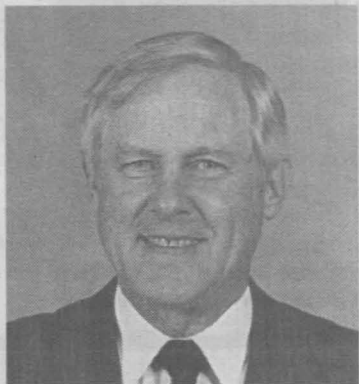
BELLEVUE, Wash.—Walter M. Dickinson, 70, pastor of the Seattle and Bremerton, Wash., churches, died Sept. 11 of cancer. Because of declining health, he was relieved of his duties in August 1990.

Mr. Dickinson was ordained a local elder in 1965, a preaching elder in 1976 and a pastor in 1978. He had worked for the Church

since 1969 as an employee of the Television Department, a supervisor in the International Division and as a field minister.

From 1973 to 1980 he was director of the Spanish Department.

He was born in Portland, Ore.,

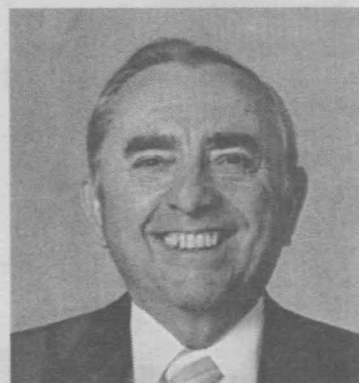


WALTER M. DICKINSON

June 16, 1921. He graduated from the University of Oregon in 1947 with a bachelor's degree in business administration. Before coming to Ambassador College in 1969, he was president of the Dickinson Family of Jellies and Preserves, a company started by his grandmother in 1897.

He is survived by his wife, Joanne; two sons, Walter and David; three daughters, Susan, Nancy and Karen; six grandchildren; and one brother, Rodney.

NORTH CANTON, Ohio—T. Vincent Panella, 63, pastor of the Canton, Ohio, church, died Sept. 9



T. VINCENT PANELLA

of pancreatic cancer.

Mr. Panella was ordained a deacon in 1963, a local church elder in 1965 and a preaching

None were injured.

Mr. Maninang and others were without electricity for more than a week. Since the city water system depends on electricity to run the pumps, most of the city was also without water. But Mr. Maninang reported that sufficient rainwater was available to meet temporary needs.

"Baguio was cut off from the rest of the country for six days because roads were blocked by landslides," said Mr. Kieffer. Gasoline stations were beginning to run out of fuel, and Mr. Maninang had no gas for his car for some time.

Rudy Salisipan, San Fernando, La Union, pastor, reported that one member lost his home during the typhoon. Other members are safe, suffering only minor damage to their homes. Mr. Salisipan was without electricity for six days.

Parts of the western Luzon coast in Mr. Salisipan's area have been damaged, with the storm destroying the seawall in places and giving back reclaimed land to the sea.

Despite fierce winds, other members experienced only light damage. "We are thankful for this," said Mr. Kieffer, "and will be providing assistance from our local funds for those who lost their homes."

elder in 1968. He had been a full-time minister in God's Church since September 1966, and had pastored churches in Ohio, New Jersey, New Mexico, Maryland and Texas.

He was born in Rochester, N.Y., Oct. 8, 1927. Before entering the ministry, he was an electrical and mechanical draftsman.

He is survived by his wife, Anne; one son, John; three daughters, Patricia Clauson, Diana Huggins and Linda Stonesifer; two stepsons, Mark and Michael McCullough; four stepdaughters, Tina Kincaid, Holly Peacock, Sheila McCullough and Beverly Farnsworth; one brother, John; and two sisters, Civita Vastola and Linda Violante.

"Into all the world..."

Your involvement in the Work produces fruit. This column shows how the Church's publications and the telecast are changing the lives of subscribers, co-workers and prospective members.

Comments on Christmas

I have recently read your editorial in the November-December *Plain Truth* magazine regarding "Is Christmas Christian?"

My response to your belief that it's time for Christians to reconsider the yearly practice that taints the worship of Christ with the pagan "birthday of the invincible sun" is totally ludicrous.

As long as we keep in our hearts the true meaning of Christmas, God will be glorified because we honor and remember the birth of his Son.

S.W.
Edison, N.J.

I am confused about Christmas. My parents always celebrated Christmas, and I thought that Christmas was just giving presents and Christmas trees and all that good stuff. I know for a fact that no one knows when Jesus was born. I have looked all over the Bible and it doesn't say when. Please rush me some information on the subject. I want to do the right thing even though people will think I am weird.

R.M.
Tujunga, Calif.

'No Other Name'

Please cancel my subscription. I was so saddened by the article "No Other

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

become unbalanced, not placing that one part in its total context. At times, in fact, we have let ourselves become distracted from the goal of proclaiming the gospel by focusing most of our attention on possible fulfillment of prophecy, particularly the unification of Europe.

Let's take a moment to understand how the unification of Europe and other world trends should figure into the gospel message, and, perhaps more importantly, how they should not.

First, what does the Bible show us to be the *whole* gospel of the kingdom of God? The first aspect of the gospel is the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Paul describes the power and transcendent impor-

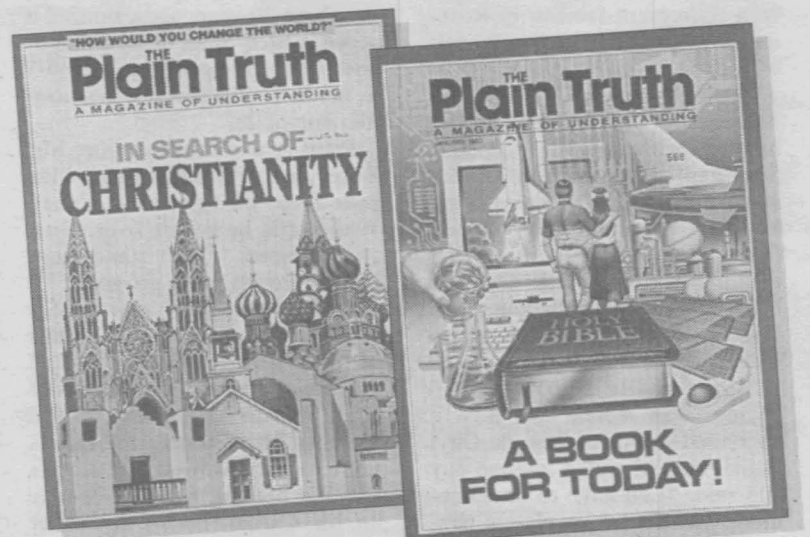
tance of the death and resurrection of Christ in Romans 5:8-11:

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

"For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation" (New International Version throughout unless noted).

Second, the gospel also focuses on Christ's promise to send the Holy Spirit, which would lead the Church into all truth,

(See PERSONAL, page 6)



Covers

(Continued from page 1)

"What Is Man?," asks what it means to be human.

Touching on the origin of human life and the differences between animals and humans, the article discusses whether the mind and the brain are the same. After looking at the origin of human life and the nature of consciousness, it goes on to explain life's purpose

and turns to scriptures revealing man's destiny.

I'm excited about these lead articles, which ask and answer some important questions. These articles are fitting examples of what we are doing to give the magazine a wider biblical focus. I hope I've also whetted your appetite.

Please continue to pray for the staff of *The Plain Truth*, as well as all Media Operations employees, as we strive to carry on the work God has given us to do.

tremendous effort you are making to help us to see the world in the light of God's word.

G.E.
Olean, N.Y.

☆☆☆

Widely read

My husband recently found one of your magazines on a city bus he drives. I haven't seen him read anything in years. He has taken your magazine around with him for the past two weeks, reading it. I want him to keep reading it. Please send more.

Detroit, Mich.

☆☆☆

Magazine contributes to sanity

It is wonderful to read your magazine for its common sense and positive attitudes which we are constantly being told are outdated. The pressure to move with the times is to everyone's detriment, is disastrous to discipline, family life and education. I thank you for your great contribution to my sanity.

New South Wales

☆☆☆

Turned life over to God

I received your latest issue of *News of the Work*. I do appreciate this sort of information and know that you and your staff are doing God's Work.

God helped me overcome addiction to alcohol some 13 years ago as I could not do it myself. I tried any and every which way to quit but could not until I turned my life over to God himself.

He has been very good to me, and I feel that by my repenting of my sins and asking forgiveness, which I believe he granted, I have a new life. He has granted me an income now that I am retired that is sufficient for me to live a life in comfort and peace.

Sacramento, Calif.

J.L.
Decherd, Tenn.

☆☆☆

Up-to-date magazine

Thank you so much for my *Plain Truth* magazine. A friend loaned me several copies and I have found them very educational and interesting. I thank him and you again for this very up-to-date magazine.

E.B.
Saratoga, Calif.

I thought your editorial "All Nations Answer to God" [October *Plain Truth*] was a masterpiece. I enjoyed reading it and felt as if you were by my side lecturing to me on the fundamental principles you were writing about. Here is wishing real prosperity and continued success in your work.

B.C.
Salem, Ore.

☆☆☆

Making sense of history

Recently, I read *Europe and the Church*. Now the names of all the emperors like Napoleon and the Habsburgs make sense. I always knew that something was missing from the history I had in school and my grades were low.

God's hand seen in history makes all the difference! I thank God for the

Member serves more than food

Spend a day with Meals on Wheels operator

By Christina R. Kuo

ROSEMEAD, Calif.—Most people never think of coming out of retirement at the age of 80 and starting their own business, but Ted Baker isn't just anybody. A Church member here for 15 years, he's a man of mission and vision.

Christina R. Kuo is a Plain Truth contributing writer.

Known as Mr. Meals on Wheels, Mr. Baker took over a business last May that provides hot and cold meals for the shut-ins in the communities of Rosemead, San Marino, San Gabriel, Temple City and South Pasadena, Calif. I spent one day with him on his rounds.

Up at 7 a.m., Ted swallows a glass of freshly squeezed juice and heads over to the California Christian Home, a large senior citizen retirement facility in Rosemead, where the Meals on Wheels office is located.

"I took Meals on Wheels over because the previous owner was having serious health problems. She wanted to retire and there was no one to fill her shoes. Having worked for Meals on Wheels for a couple of years, I just couldn't see my friends like Mr. Vlesak, Mr. Menno Schmutz and 104-year-old Mr. Manning go without food.

"What really spurred me to action was when the newly appointed mayor of Temple City, Cathie Wilson, called me one day and said: 'You have to do something, Mr. Baker! People are begging me not to stop the program. Any help I can give you, just call me up.' So I took the challenge."

Balancing the books, planning routes and preparing meals takes a few hours, but by 10:30 a.m. loading begins. Sometimes, one of the volunteer drivers doesn't show up.

"That's my biggest difficulty," says Mr. Baker. "Right now we don't have enough volunteer drivers for the five communities we serve. It's not a time of volunteerism I guess. If we had more, we'd be able to accommodate more shut-ins. There are times when we have to double up or take two routes. Today is one of them, but no worries."

With the stamina of a man half his age, Mr. Baker lifts a large aluminum food warmer filled with 22 trays of steaming meatballs, carrots and mashed potatoes into the back of his antiquated but faithful van. Next he heaves in a 30-pound ice chest stuffed with cold drinks, salads and sandwiches.

Once in a while you see Mr. Baker's forehead furrow and eyes shut tightly. There is silence behind the pain. A fall from a ladder about 20 years ago damaged a nerve, which often creates numbness from his upper thighs down to his toes. But that doesn't keep him immobile.

Pausing at an intersection, Mr. Baker sits with his piercing blue eyes fixed on the traffic signal. With a grin he'll look over to me and whisper, "Can't stand stoplights. I've got to go, go, go!!!"

And go he does, efficiently working his way through the veins of the cities. He's memorized all the routes and knows the habits of each person he serves. "Good morning, Mrs. Christenson! How's your broken arm doing? Looks like it's healing well." "Already up, Mr. Carillo? Feelin' any better today?" It's amazing to see how just a few loving words can revive a frail and withered soul.

But sometimes Mr. Baker runs into emergencies.

"One day I walked into a home filled with smoke. Luckily the front door was unlocked. The

owner had fallen asleep and an oily pan was left burning on the hot kitchen stove.

Another time, I couldn't find my oldest customer. He's usually in bed. Looked around and found him face down on the bathroom floor. Took too many pills by accident I think. Somehow I managed to get him back to bed and call for help. He ended up being fine, but you never know what to expect.

"These people have a very bad need for the service we give them. They're practically all senior citizens, although some have just returned from the hospital and are under doctors' care. They can't cook regular meals or buy groceries for themselves. Many of them are alone most of the time. Too often, you're the only one they see all day. What I love is giving them a pat on the back and a big smile. It really makes the difference. They cheer up. That's why I kind of fell in love with the job."

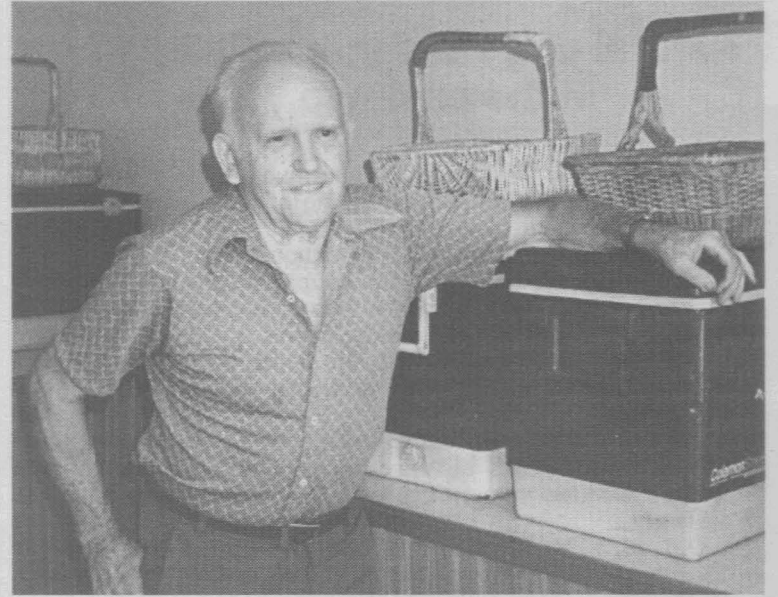
You sense this love by the joy that pervades Mr. Baker's life. He doesn't just get into his van, he hops right in. He doesn't just speak to you, his whole mind, heart and spirit convey a strong message. He doesn't just reminisce and wallow in his past or anticipate the fear of loneliness in the future but pulls his history and destiny into the present so others may experience what he can teach and give them right now.

At an age in life when many people need to be helped or served, Mr. Baker shows the opposite can hold true.

"I'm not in this for profit. There's no profit to be made. I feel for those who are in need. It feels good to give," he said.

Managing Meals on Wheels is a 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. job, Monday through Friday. "It gets me walking and talking, doing something productive.

"It will be nice when the world won't need this kind of service, when everyone has family that can take time to care for them," he said. "But as long as I'm around, there will be a Meals on Wheels. At the age of 80, I feel like I'm starting a new life all over again."



FEELS GOOD TO GIVE—Ted Baker, 80, who provides meals for shut-ins in Southern California communities, says: "People have a very bad need for the service we give them." [Photo by Christina R. Kuo]

World Tomorrow Program

TELEVISION STATION

UPDATES

New Stations

Station/Location	Air Time	Channel
KSEE Fresno, Calif.	Sunday, 6:30 a.m.	21
KRDO Colorado Springs, Colo.	Sunday, 7:30 a.m.	13
WAND Decatur, Ill.	Sunday, 7 a.m.	17
WWAY Wilmington, N.C.	Sunday, 10:30 a.m.	3
KSFY Sioux Falls, S.D.	Sunday, 7 a.m.	13
KSTW Seattle, Wash.	Sunday, 11 a.m.	11
WVVA Bluefield, W.Va.	Sunday, 9 a.m.	6

Renewals

KMOV St. Louis, Mo.	Sunday, 8:30 a.m.	4
WTEN Albany, N.Y.	Sunday, 9:30 a.m.	10
WNCT Greenville, S.C.	Sunday, 10:30 a.m.	9
WRIC Richmond, Va.	Sunday, 8:30 a.m.	8
KXLY Spokane, Wash.	Sunday, 9:30 a.m.	4
WDTV Clarksburg, W.Va.	Sunday, 10:30 a.m.	5
WKBT La Crosse, Wis.	Sunday, 9:30 a.m.	8

Time Changes

WEHT Evansville, Ind.	Sunday, 10 a.m.	25
WATE Knoxville, Tenn.	Sunday, 10:30 a.m.	6

Last Telecast

KTXA Dallas, Tex.	Nov. 23
WOAY Oak Hill, W.Va.	Nov. 17



CAMARADERIE IN CAMEROON—Some of the 211 brethren who kept the Feast of Tabernacles at Knolbisson, Cameroon. Activities included football, volleyball, crocheting, drawing and children's games. The group also celebrated a wedding during the Feast, adding to the family atmosphere.

How to Use Wills and Trusts to Give to the Church

Many members and co-workers have requested information on how best to make a gift to the Worldwide Church of God, either during their lifetime or upon death, through wills, trusts or other means.

If you desire to receive information regarding such gifts, the Legal Office of the Church is available to aid you in this regard without cost or obligation. Please write to Ralph K. Helge, Worldwide Church of God, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif., 91129.

The Legal Office regrets that, because of the variance in laws of other countries, such legal information is only applicable to residents of the United States and Canada. However, in regard to other countries it will furnish whatever limited information it may have available.

Limited Quantity Available

The 1991 Envoy

Ambassador College invites you to take a look at its first year since consolidation through the 1991 edition of the *Envoy*. This special edition contains full-color sections devoted to the new buildings at Ambassador (with a companion campus map), the first season of intercollegiate sports, and coverage of the service projects around the world.

For your copy of the 1991 *Envoy*, send \$28 (plus \$4 shipping and handling) to:

The 1991 *Envoy*
Ambassador College
Big Sandy, Texas 75755

Please make checks payable to Ambassador College.

Order your 1991 *Envoy* today!

Outreach succeeds because volunteers 'make a difference'

By Roger Smith

BIG SANDY—Twenty-seven Outreach members answered phones for the Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon, Sept. 2, an annual muscular dystrophy fund-raiser.

The telethon is one of several projects conducted by Outreach, a volunteer organization founded at Ambassador College in 1979 that "organizes activities for Ambassador College students to practice their Christianity," said Gary Antion, dean of students.

Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach commented at length on Outreach during the 1991 Festival film.

The Outreach volunteers also assist at an equestrian center, helping handicapped children

learn to ride horses. "It has been shown that the handicapped respond well to the opportunity to work with animals," said Outreach President Jade Witte.

Students also participate in community service projects such as tutoring adults, high school and elementary students in reading, writing, mathematics and speech.

Some assist mentally and physically disabled children at the Truman Smith Center in Gladewater, Tex.

Outreach supports an elderly visiting program sponsored by area Church members and an entertainment evening at convalescent homes.

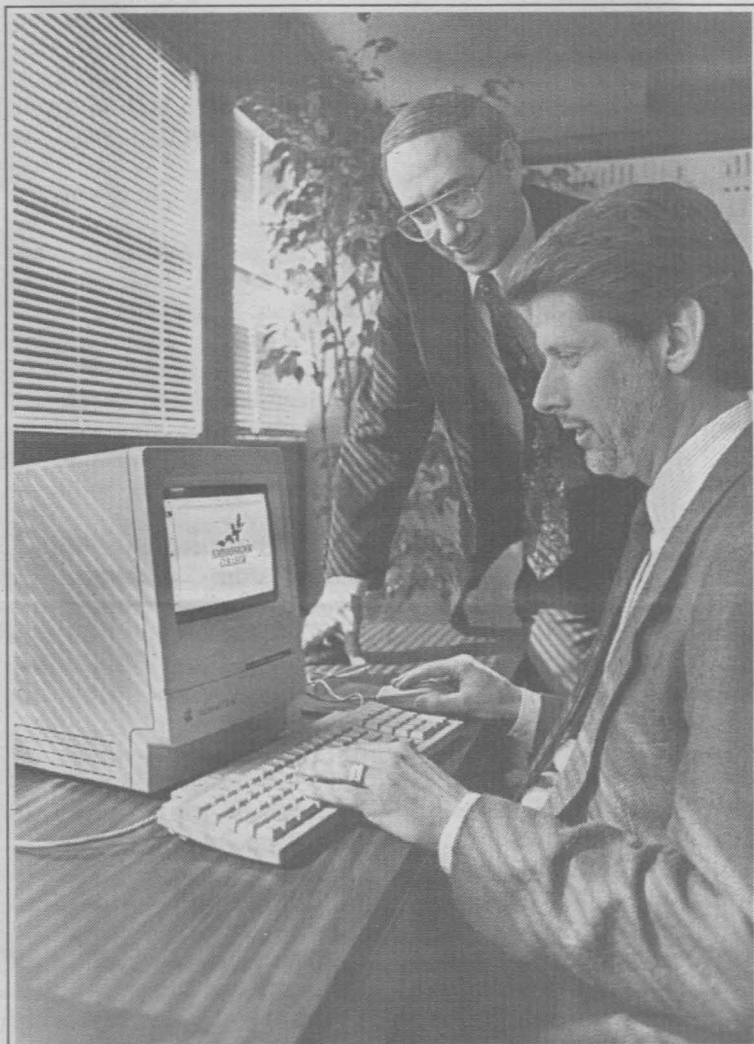
Because Outreach is composed

of Ambassador student volunteers, the programs are designed to fit around student classes and College activities. Referring to this year's Outreach program, Mr. Witte said, "We're going to go out and make a difference."

A television interview recognized Ambassador College for its volunteer effort. Mr. Witte talked on camera about the program.

In a keynote address launching the 1991-92 Outreach program, evangelist Carn Catherwood spoke about the importance of service and the role Outreach plays to achieve it.

Said Mr. Catherwood, regional director for Italian-speaking areas: "True success is proportional to your desire to serve."



Core Equipment

Thomas Delamater (left), director of Development & College Relations in Big Sandy, and Greg S. Smith, associate director of Academic Publications, increase efficiency by using an Apple Macintosh 2/40 Classic. The computer was received in a cash-register receipt collection program. Members and families from Texas and New Mexico mailed about \$100,000 worth of receipts from Skaggs-Alpha Beta grocery stores to Ambassador College for use in the program. [Photo by Mike Bedford]

Debate

(Continued from page 2)

Cabinet minister, Nicholas Ridley, expressed these outspoken views in the Nov. 1-3 issue of *The European*:

"The British public have been galvanised by recent silly [proposed] actions by the Commission. I list but a few: its idea of stopping us working on Sundays, the recent attempt to try and stop us shooting crows and magpies.... To me these trivialities are straws in the wind warning of what would happen if the Commission became involved in matters of great importance such as foreign, defence or economic policy...."

"Were we to accept a single currency, it would lead inevitably towards a federal Europe. 'Whoever controls the currency controls the government,' Lord Keynes once wrote."

Mrs. Thatcher urges caution

In her Los Angeles address, Mrs. Thatcher also cast doubts about optimistic talk concerning a New World Order. Urging caution, she said: "Human nature itself does not change. This is not the first time that New Orders of a visionary kind have been conceived."

Instead of joining the rush to create a separate defense force in Europe, run by the EC, Mrs. Thatcher instead called for maintaining strong national defenses, linked together by NATO.

"We do not know where the next threat will come from.... But history has not lacked new tyrants. Our defense must stay strong enough to deter their ambitions."

The former prime minister saved her biggest salvo for those attempting to create, as it were, a new united European empire.

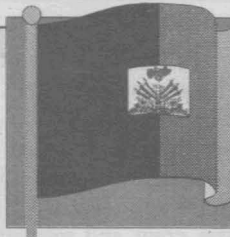
"The lesson of the last century, and this, is that nations put together artificially will not have sufficient identity to stay together."

The age of empires is gone, she continued—the Ottoman, the French, the Habsburg, "even the benevolent British Empire," drawing laughter from the audience.

The latest artificial state to fall, she added, is the Soviet Union. Following closely is Yugoslavia, "and to impose an artificial identity in Europe flies in the face of history."

It is obvious, from listening to these fundamentally opposed views of the future, that the battle for Europe's soul, as it is sometimes expressed, has only begun.

Looking at passages in the 13th and 17th chapters of Revelation, one has the feeling that Mrs. Thatcher's concerns are sound, that it will require coercive force to hold the artificial European empire of the future together.



Canadians flee Haiti coup after the Feast

By Bruno Leclerc

Bathurst, Chatham and Campbellton, N.B., pastor

Monday, Sept. 30: On the Last Great Day, the army, under the leadership of Gen. Sidras, led a coup against President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Barricades were erected, roads blocked and travel restricted. (About 78 Feastgoers, which included four Americans, 18 Canadians and a member from Guadeloupe, attended the Jacmel site.) A radio announcer for Voice of America said gas stations had been set ablaze and people were being shot and killed in the capital, Port-au-Prince.

Tuesday, Oct. 1: The hostess of La Jacmelienne hotel (where we stayed during the Feast) said we could leave for Port-au-Prince, but no guarantees were given for our safety. Coty Myrtill, a ministerial trainee in Guadeloupe, Blaise Franklin, local church elder, and I decided we should wait and see how things developed in the aftermath of the coup.

Wednesday, Oct. 2: Mr. Franklin went on an exploratory excursion and found the roads blocked. At night gunshots signaled the beginning of curfew.

During the week a Haitian radio station announced that 40 people were executed after a dead soldier was discovered. Tension among Haitians diminished, however, after the ousted president spoke before the United Nations Security Council. He called for a stop to all violence.

Then news came of a shortage of treated water and, beginning Oct. 7, no electricity. We decided it was time to leave.

Sunday, Oct. 6: Our hotel hostess arranged for international Feastgoers to stay at a hotel in Petionville, 20 minutes from the airport. We packed our suitcases and boarded the buses.

The driver on the leading bus drove like a madman down the winding road toward Petionville. Despite requests to slow down he terrified the passengers. Some were physically sick before they arrived at Port-au-Prince.

The Haitian brethren were reunited with their families and relatives, and the international members traveled on to Montana hotel. That evening I contacted the Canadian ambassador in Haiti to ask if any planes were leaving the country. The airport had been closed since the coup.

Monday, Oct. 7: The Canadian ambassador telephoned us to say Carib-Inter (a private airline company) had vacant seats on a flight leaving for the Dominican Republic in 30 minutes. Members had their luggage packed in 15 minutes.

But it took more than 30 minutes to check out of the hotel and our taxis took 40 minutes to travel what should have been a 20-minute journey to the airport. We arrived at the airport to see the plane pass overhead.

The staff of Carib-Inter offered us seats on two planes for US\$1,500 in cash. We emptied our pockets and, among ourselves, came up with \$1,574.

By late afternoon we were going through customs. We noticed soldiers were everywhere. A pilot for Carib-Inter told us to "stay together. If the soldiers point their guns at you don't move. Usually they don't shoot white people. But if they do start shooting, get down because they'll shoot everyone." What a relief when our two small planes took off!

We flew to Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic, where custom officials asked for a welcome tax of US\$10 a person. To exchange our currency they required us to buy 70 percent of the amount in pesos. Our pilots told them we were not tourists but in transit to Miami, Fla. A senior official who knew we were without plane tickets or U.S. dollars let us exchange some Canadian dollars into pesos so we could buy food. We had an uncomfortable night's sleep on the floor near the Pan Am flight counter, but we wanted to be as close to the departure gate as possible.

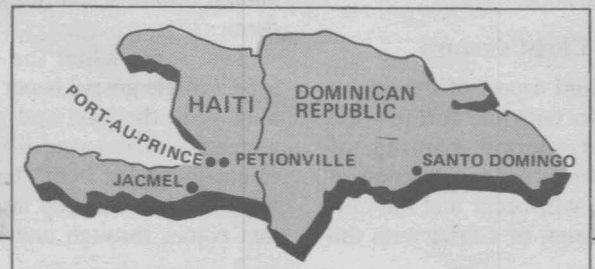
Tuesday, Oct. 8: To purchase tickets to Miami we pooled our resources again—this time sharing our credit cards. Before we left, the customs officials wanted a departure

tax of US\$110 from us, which would require us to purchase \$400 worth of pesos. After an animated discussion we were exempted from the tax. After all, we were in transit, we had never been admitted into the country and we had never left the airport.

In Miami, Air Canada honored our tickets (which had lapsed) to Montreal, Que. We arrived in Montreal early in the evening, with gratitude and relief.



BRUNO AND RITA LECLERC



Ministerial Ordinations

- Daniel Boesch,** Rome, Italy, pastor, was ordained a **preaching elder** Sept. 30.
- Louis Davies,** a deacon in the Santa Ana, Calif., church, was ordained a **local church elder** Oct. 26.
- Rodney Dean,** Sydney, N.S.W., North pastor, was ordained a **pastor** Sept. 23.
- Vernon Jaeger,** a deacon in the Duluth, Minn., church, was ordained a **local church elder** Oct. 26.
- Darryl Larson,** a deacon in the Grand Forks, N.D., church, was ordained a **local church elder** July 6.
- Gerhardt Marx,** of the Dunstable, England, church, was ordained a **local church elder** Sept. 18.
- William Miller,** Appleton and Green Bay, Wis., pastor, was ordained a **pastor** Nov. 2.
- Pedro Rufian,** Madrid, Spain, pastor, was ordained a **preaching elder** Sept. 23.
- Joe Scott,** Fort Lauderdale, Fla., assistant pastor, was ordained a **local elder** Sept. 18.
- Carlos Tavares,** of the Lisbon, Portugal, church, was ordained a **local church elder** Sept. 23.

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 3)

and would enable Christ to live in us and us in him.

Jesus spoke of this in John 14:26: "But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."

Transformation of life

Christ in us is more than just acknowledgement and acceptance of what God has done for us. It involves a transformation of life, a new birth, a birth from above.

True believers are children of God. Christ is in them, and they are in him. Their entire perspective of life has changed. Everything they do is now done in newness of life, led by the Spirit of God.

This change is not just a matter of a person "turning over a new leaf." It is a change from the inside out, generated by God through his Spirit. It is a change from walking in darkness to walking in light.

Yet, it is not a matter of our own righteousness, for we still sin. Amazingly, in our new relationship with God through Jesus Christ, God no longer imputes sin to us. He counts us as righteous for the sake of Christ: "This is why 'it was credited to him [Abraham] as righteousness.' The words 'it was credited to him' were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification" (Romans 4:22-25).

As we walk in newness of life with God in Christ, we devote ourselves, as Jesus did, to serving and obeying our Father in heaven. The Spirit in us leads us in the love of God, the love that fulfills the law (Romans 13:10). Our hearts and attitudes are turned toward loving God, and toward loving our fellow human beings.

However, when we fall short, we go to God in repentance, and because of the death of Christ in our stead, he forgives our sins. Jesus is right now our High Priest in heaven, making intercession for us (Hebrews 2:17, 7:25).

Through what God has done for us in Jesus Christ, we are brought into reconciliation with him and enabled to live a righteous life through the Holy Spirit—we become the light of the world and the salt of the earth. We are washed clean of the corruption of sin through Christ's precious blood (I Peter 1:18-21) and raised in newness of life through his resurrection (verse 3).

What God has done and is doing in Jesus Christ enables us to become children of God and prepares us to receive the inheritance that awaits us when Christ returns in glory—the future aspect of the gospel. *The gospel changes our lives* while we await the future hope.

Christ's return

The third aspect of the gospel has to do with the future—the glorious second coming of Christ, when the resurrection of the dead will occur and the millennial reign of Christ with the

saints will begin. This is the time for which we pray every day, the time when we will receive the promised "inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you" (verse 4).

It is the great and marvelous time when God will intervene in human history in an unprecedented way to begin the final process of ending all evil, tears and death.

This aspect of the gospel is one that most churches today have failed to emphasize. It is this culminating aspect of the gospel that we have the blessing of celebrating each year during the Feast of Tabernacles.

All three aspects of the gospel form the *whole* gospel, the incomparable *good news* of all that God has done, is doing, and will yet do for humanity through his Son, Jesus Christ!

Now, let's look at one consequence of placing the greatest part of our attention on the future aspect of the gospel. For decades we preached that Europe would rise out of the ashes of World War II to become an economic and military superpower. This kind of preaching became, in many ways, our trademark. The more we preached it, the more excited we became when any step toward that point became apparent.

We tended to look at all

ing, proclaiming and living in the reality of the love God has shown us by sending his Son to die for us.

Paul wrote in Ephesians 5:1-2: "Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

Us and them

There is another consequence of an unbalanced emphasis on the future aspect of the gospel. It tends to breed an attitude that is more focused on escaping from this corrupt world, with all its evils and dangers, than on doing God's will and fulfilling his purpose. Such an attitude tends to look forward to Christ's coming primarily as a way to escape the disasters the Church is preaching about.

This can create an attitude toward "them"—the world—and "us"—the Church. Our mission tends to become primarily that of the Ezekiel watchman, to simply blow the trumpet of warning and doom so that the blood of the sinners would not be on our heads.

Yet, these attitudes are not balanced, because they do not take into account the wholeness, the fullness, of the gospel.

As Herbert W. Armstrong frequently pointed out, many

Our deepest desire should be to touch sinning human beings with the joyful truth of salvation in Jesus Christ, the hope of the resurrection of the dead and the glory of Christ's coming reign.

prophecy primarily in the light of the end time—the future. As we did, the proper emphasis, even in biblical prophecy, on the death and resurrection of the Savior faded, for many, into the background.

It is good to hope and pray that the end of this age will come soon. But because of an unbalanced focus on one part of the gospel, some in the Church began unconsciously to overlook the misery and sorrow of warfare and disaster, seeing instead merely the soon coming of Christ to deliver us from our troubles.

The horrible conditions in this world were seen by some simply as the just punishment for sin. Our commission was seen by some as merely to warn, but not to "offer a cup of cold water."

Paul's admonition, "As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers" (Galatians 6:10), fell into the background. Some could not understand why the Church should offer help to suffering or unfortunate people. After all, didn't Christ just command us to warn?

Some felt, "Why should we get involved in helping people who are suffering, especially since they are only suffering because of their own sins?"

Is it possible for converted Christians to desire to see wars and rumors of wars, earthquakes, natural disasters and disease epidemics?

Yes, it is, when the future aspect of the gospel is out of balance with the past and present aspects—when our hope for future judgment is not balanced with the love, mercy and faith that comes through understand-

ing and living in the reality of the love God has shown us by sending his Son to die for us. Therefore, they bog down in various unbalanced forms of the gospel message, centering mainly around Jesus' role as crucified Lord who forgives the sins of humanity, but failing to add the complete picture, which must include equal emphasis on the present work of Jesus as living High Priest and Head of the Church to whom we owe all devotion, allegiance and obedience, and the future work of Jesus as King of kings and Lord of lords.

In time, we tended to focus so much on that missing, future aspect of the gospel that we, as a body, came to the point that the other aspects of the gospel were not treated in equal balance. The desire to escape from the coming tribulation tended to become more real to us than the desire to share the good news of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and the desire to be new creatures in him, to live in him and him in us, and to love one another.

It is often easy to see the shortcomings of others, but hard to see our own.

If the Son of God had not come to live among us as a man and had not willingly sacrificed his life for our sins, and had not been resurrected to glory, then there would be no second coming.

The second coming fits in perfect harmony with all that came before. Were it not for Jesus' death and resurrection, there would be no saints.

Jesus has not called us just so we can escape coming disasters; he has called us to a relationship with him. In fact, Peter encourages us by writing: "But rejoice that you participate in the suffer-

ings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed" (I Peter 4:13).

Yes, in his perfect wisdom, God often delivers his people, and he often spares his people from disaster, but that is certainly not the primary reason God calls us.

God has called us that we might be his children, that we might share a relationship with him as our Father and with Jesus Christ as our Brother. God has redeemed us to himself. He has, through the blood of Jesus, cleansed us of our sins so we can have that relationship with him.

As human beings, we think a lot about our needs, our security, our comfort. It is no wonder that we tend to see God as the one who will save us out of all our unpleasant circumstances. And certainly, sometimes God does deliver us from difficult circumstances.

But God's great purpose for us goes far beyond our immediate circumstances. God is working out a great plan of eternal salvation for all humanity, and his people are the firstfruits of that plan.

Deliverance from corruption

We need deliverance from far more than just unpleasant circumstances in this life. We need deliverance from that which cor-

rupts and destroys permanently—spiritual corruption.

As Paul wrote: "I am carnal, sold under sin" (Romans 7:14). The corruption of selfishness separates us from the holy and perfect God. It is the root of hatred, strife, conflict, misery, despair, suffering and pain.

God sent his Son to take all this on himself that we might be reconciled with him, that we might share perfection in eternal glory with him. God has given us this precious truth with the command that we share it with others.

Paul wrote: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation" (II Corinthians 5:17-19).

Our calling is to preach the gospel. It is the same gospel that was preached from the beginning. Paul described it in I Corinthians 15:1-4, 24-26: "Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

"For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.... Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after

he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death." It is the complete gospel—the gospel of the kingdom of God, the gospel of human salvation through Jesus Christ. It is the gospel of hope, of truth, of peace. It is God's gospel—the gospel of reconciliation with God and of one with another through God. It is the true gospel, and a gospel that must not merely be preached, but *lived*.

This is why we tithe. So we can do what Jesus told us to do: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:19-20).

I find great comfort and encouragement in Jesus' moving words in Luke 24:44-47: "He said to them, 'This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.'"

"Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, 'This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.'"

This is our calling, our goal, our mission. This is also our hope—that God, for Christ's sake, will see us through all trouble and trial until that glorious day when our Savior will return with our inheritance!

Unification of Europe, like any major development on the world scene, should help motivate us, to bring home to us the reality of prophecies concerning this evil world out of which we have been called. Frightening events should motivate us—but they should not replace the true gospel.

The true gospel is a gospel of hope, of joy, of peace. It is a gospel of love, even for one's enemies. "Perfect love casts out fear," John wrote (I John 4:18, New King James).

Our deepest desire should be to touch sinning human beings with the joyful truth of salvation in Jesus Christ, the hope of the resurrection of the dead and the glory of the coming reign of the King of kings.

It is to this gospel that we have all been called, and to this Spirit-transformed life in Christ Jesus.

If fear of coming events motivates a person to repent, I am thankful, but I pray for that person to grow to the point that it is no longer fear of coming events, but the love of God, that motivates him or her to remain faithful.

Let's thank God daily for his calling in Christ. Let's pray for his Spirit to guide us in all we do. We have been born from above, a people belonging to God, that we may declare the praises of him who called us "out of darkness into his wonderful light" (I Peter 2:9).

Please continue to remember the financial needs of the Work in your prayers and in your offerings.

NEWS OF PEOPLE, PLACES & EVENTS IN THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

UPDATE

PASADENA—The ABC News program 20/20 included a segment featuring personnel from the Church's flight crew and administrative assistants in an Oct. 18 program outlining how to survive an airline crash.

According to **Jim Peoples**, manager of the Flight Operations Department, ABC News contacted an independent contractor who trained Church personnel in flight safety and asked for an interview on survival techniques.

"The contractor, who is considered an expert in flight safety, was impressed with the way the BAC 1-11 personnel responded to the training," said Mr. Peoples, "and asked us if they could take part in the segment as examples of how passengers can maximize their survival ability."

The segment showed Church employees demonstrating survival techniques, including how to remove an aircraft door in an emergency and how to escape a smoke-filled cabin after a crash.

☆☆☆

BAKERSFIELD, Calif.—The church here celebrated its 30th anniversary Nov. 2.

Guest speakers at Sabbath services were evangelist **Richard Ames** and **Camilo Reyes**, Modesto, Calif., pastor.

Activities included a buffet dinner, a program spotlighting the history of the Bakersfield church and a salute to pioneer members and ministers.

☆☆☆

PASADENA—Five Church employees and ministers received plaques and watches Nov. 7 for 25 years of service to the Church.

They are **Bill and Donna Butler**, from the Pasadena East A.M. church; **Valerie Brown**, computer typesetter; **Sam Dunlap**, an employee in the Landscape Department; **Larry Omasta**, senior producer of *The World Tomorrow*; and **James Welshans**, lead donation processor in Mail Processing.

☆☆☆

PASADENA—If there is sufficient interest, Youth Opportunities United (YOU) will offer a 12-day tour of the Soviet Union July 13 to 24. The tour will visit Moscow, St. Petersburg (formerly Leningrad), Lvov in the Ukraine and Helsinki, Finland.

All accommodations will be in first-class hotels. The cost is about US\$2,395, not including connections to New York City.

The group will visit the Kremlin, Petrodvoretz and the Hermitage Museum, as well as other places of interest.

If interested please request an application from your pastor. Applications need to be turned in to the YOU office by Jan. 15. Interested adults may also submit applications.

☆☆☆

PASADENA—The October issue of the national magazine *The Secretary* featured Church involvement in recycling paper and other waste.

Amy Pieper, an executive secretary in the Pastor General's Office, is active in a Los Angeles area professional development group for secretaries. Mrs. Pieper was interviewed about the Church's effort to be environmentally aware.

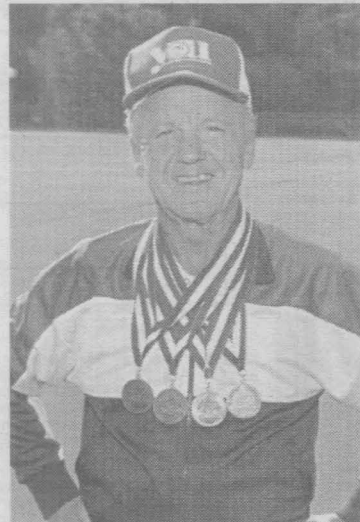
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ST. GEORGE, Utah—**Kermit Nelson**, Youth Opportunities

United coordinator, received one gold medal, two silver medals and one bronze in track and field at the World Senior Games Oct. 14 to 25.

Around 2,000 senior athletes (age 50 and older) from around the world participated in the games, and competed in events such as softball, swimming, bowling, basketball and cycling.

This is the fourth year Dr. Nel-



KERMIT NELSON

son has participated in the games. "This year I was the youngest in my age group (65-69)," he said. "You can only enter six events so I had as my goal to win six medals."

Dr. Nelson won medals in four events, but pulled a hamstring on the last jump of the long jump and couldn't enter the other two events.

☆☆☆

AUCKLAND, New Zealand—In May, member **Joyce Nielson**, 51, climbed the highest mountain on the North Island, Mt. Ruapehu (2,796 meters or 9,226 feet), and nearby Mt. Ngauruhoe (2,290 meters or 7,557 feet).

An avid mountain climber since 1980, she has climbed the Matterhorn and Mt. Blanc in Switzerland, Mt. Cook in New Zealand, and Mt. Ranier, Mt. Baker, Mt. Adams and Mt. Hood in the northwestern United States.

She says she enjoys the challenges involved in mountain climbing. "I believe that life is a gift and should be utilized to the utmost."

"Many people hold themselves back because they're afraid of failure. They're afraid to delve into the unknown," she added. "But I've found the only way to find out what you're capable of doing is to do it."

She plans to climb Mt. Tasman, at 3,497 meters (11,540 feet) the second highest mountain in New Zealand, in December and Alaska's Mt. McKinley, the highest peak in



SURMOUNTING CHALLENGES—Joyce Nielson, a member in New Zealand, at the summit of Mt. Cook, the country's highest mountain. "I've found the only way to find out what you're capable of doing is to do it," she said.

North America, next year.

☆☆☆

PASADENA—In early August,

the Mail Processing Center (MPC) received a letter from a woman in Prague, Czechoslovakia, who requested someone to answer her questions from the Bible in Czech. She learned of the Church through her brother-in-law who lives in San Fernando, Calif.


MPC employee **Eva Peck**, who speaks and writes Czech, translated the letter.

Coincidentally, Mrs. Peck and her husband, **Alex**, who also works for the Church, had planned to visit relatives in Prague before the Feast.

After receiving approval from the German Office and **Robert Berendt**, a minister who oversees the area, they visited the woman Sept. 5.

She had many questions, covering a wide range of subjects, and showed serious interest in the Bible.

After the Feast MPC received a follow-up card, confirming her continued interest in the Church. There are no members or co-workers living in Czechoslovakia.

 100% recycled paper

Handmade treasures take a bow

76-year-old craftsman carves out new career

By Marty Ronish

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.—At a time in life when many folks settle into a rocking chair, 76-year-old George Parthemore, a member here, is starting a new career.

Marty Ronish is a member who attends the Albuquerque, N.M., church. Dr. Ronish conducts the Albuquerque church orchestra, which was featured in the 1991 Feast film.

The Albuquerque church is a musical church, so when Mr. Parthemore began attending in 1984 he barely had a chance to sit down before being encouraged to play first-chair violin in the church ensemble.

His years of experience playing in amateur groups had led to a casual interest in violin-making. When he saw that the church needed instruments for the young people learning to play, Mr.

Parthemore made violins and loaned them to the brethren. Now that the ensemble has become an orchestra he can barely keep up with the demand.

The first violin Mr. Parthemore made was a surprise to the orchestra. He had been working on the instrument at home without telling anyone and then he came to rehearsal one week with a new, unvarnished violin.

He probably wouldn't have said a word if the orchestra hadn't noticed and been so impressed.

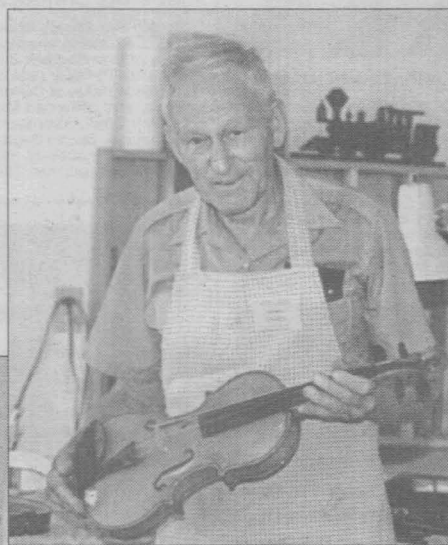
He now has a full-fledged instrument workshop in his home. His wife, Sarah, brings him food and encouragement during his long hours in the shop.

Mr. Parthemore has taken several courses with a craftsman to learn how to make violins profes-

sionally. Like all artists he has developed his own style, techniques and tools.

For dust-free drying of the many coats of varnish, Mr. Parthemore lined a wooden crate with foil and installed ultraviolet lights. His jigs and clamps are homemade, and he constantly fiddles with his varnish recipe to make it suit the dry New Mexico climate.

Mr. Parthemore starts each instrument from a piece of wood that looks like it belongs in some-



one's fireplace. The curved violin sides he shapes by hand. First he soaks the wood strips in hot water, then bends and clamps them so the wood holds its shape.

The joints have to be precise. Using calipers and a chisel, he painstakingly works to get just the right thickness of wood at just the right place. The job requires not only skillful woodworking but also a musical ear.

Two of his early violins were made to be wall decorations, but they sounded so good that they are now being played.

From time to time Mr. Parthemore takes back some of his instruments to make improvements.

For the Albuquerque church, George Parthemore not only creates treasures he is a treasure.



SHAPING HANDS—George Parthemore, a member in Albuquerque, N.M., outfits the church ensemble with handmade violins. He learned his craft after taking courses with a professional craftsman.

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