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HOW CHRIST GIVES THE CHURCH ITS BELIEFS

By Herbert W. Armstrong

I SAID to my wife, 52 years ago, "All these churches can't be wrong. That's how I know the Bible says, 'Thou shalt observe Sunday.'"

But on intensive indepth study of the Bible, I found "all these churches" were wrong, and that they did not obtain their beliefs from God's Word, but rather that they believed doctrines and practiced customs that are contrary to biblical teaching.

I wanted to find God's teachings, doctrines, customs and practices. I found them! I found them in the same way the apostle Paul did.

An eye-opener!

And, to one steeped in the practices and doctrines of today's "Christianity" — both Protestant and Catholic — it is, indeed, an eye-opener.

But I followed Paul's example.

And I can say with him, "I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ . . . But when it pleased God, who . . . called me by His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the heathen, immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood [neither went I to a biblical seminary, but I went into night-and-day study of the Word of God, mostly on my knees] . . ." (paraphrased from Galatians 1:11-17).

The apostle Paul says, verse 17, that instead of going to other MEN, he went into Arabia. Apparently Jesus Christ, IN PERSON, manifested Himself and taught Paul there. For Paul said later, " . . . Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? . . ." (1 Corinthians 9:1), and: " . . . that he [Jesus] rose again the third day according to the scriptures: And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve . . . And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time (1 Corinthians 15:4-6, 8).

The 12 original apostles received their teaching direct from Jesus IN PERSON. The apostle Paul spent some three years in Arabia, and apparently that was the time when he saw JESUS IN PERSON and was taught directly by Jesus Christ. But as Jesus is the Word in Person, so the Bible is the Word of God IN PRINT.

Did Jesus appoint a "Doctrinal Committee?" The Roman Catholic Church has a Curia, which examines and passes on all doctrines and practices before the pope makes them official. How did CHRIST organize God's Church?

Now back to Galatians 1: "Then after three years [in Arabia] I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days. But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother" (Galatians 1:18-19). Continue on, "Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with me also. And I went up by revelation, and communicated to them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation, lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain . . . But . . . when they saw that the gospel of the uncircumcision [to the gentiles] was committed unto me, as the gospel of the circumcision [Israel] was unto Peter; (For he that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles" (Galatians 2:1-8).

One sent forth

The word *apostle* means "one sent forth."

The meaning here is unmistakable — as Peter was the *chief apostle* to Israel and Judah, so Paul was chief apostle to the gentiles.

Nevertheless, when ALL of the scriptures on this subject are put together, it becomes certain that Peter, in fact, was the overall chief apostle.

The New Testament Church of God received all its teachings, practices, customs, FROM THE APOSTLES, with Peter chief over all the others.

I know well that, in view of Roman Catholic teachings regarding Peter being the first pope, this statement will be challenged by many — but it is TRUE, nevertheless!

Peter did have primacy as chief apostle! I shall amply prove that. YET PETER WAS NOT A POPE! There is a vast DIFFERENCE!

Remember, an apostle is "ONE

SENT FORTH WITH THE GOSPEL." The Roman Catholic pope sits permanently (unless, as some few have done, he takes a trip to some other place — not as carrying the Gospel, but as a POLITICAL HEAD OF STATE).

Yet the apostles were the teachers, who instilled in the Church the BELIEFS, TEACHINGS, PRACTICES AND CUSTOMS of the Church. And all members of the Church were required by God to BELIEVE AND SPEAK THE SAME THING!

In the Church at Corinth, Paul began his letter, INSPIRED as part of GOD'S WORD, by saying, "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you . . ." (1 Corinthians 1:10).

Paul's letter to the Corinthians was CORRECTIVE, as were his letters to other churches, and he was inspired to speak in the name of — and AUTHORITY of — Jesus Christ, for, he said, (verses 11-12): " . . . there are contentions [divisions] among you . . . that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ." THEY WERE BEGINNING TO FOLLOW INDIVIDUAL LEADERS. They supposed those leaders differed in their teaching, though in fact those mentioned did all speak and teach THE SAME THING as CHRIST had instructed.

SOURCE of Church beliefs

Let's GET THIS STRAIGHT, once and for all! THE SOURCE of the beliefs, teachings, customs and practices in the Church of God is GOD HIMSELF! Not any man. Jesus said, "I have spoken nothing of myself" — the FATHER had instructed Him! Jesus, in turn, taught His apostles IN PERSON!

THERE WAS NO DOCTRINAL BOARD! The teachings of the Church did not come from a COUNCIL of ministers and/or lay

members, who voted on what to believe.

Right here, SOME are going to ask, "WHAT ABOUT ACTS 15? Wasn't that the first Church Council at Jerusalem, to settle points of doctrine?" THE ANSWER IS NO! And I intend to devote enough space in this article to clear up that point!

So far, I have shown you from Galatians 1 and 2 that Peter was the chief apostle to the house of Israel and Paul to the gentiles. Now I will show you that Peter actually had PRIMACY OVER ALL.

At the very founding of the New Testament Church of God, it was PETER who stood up and explained what had occurred — preaching the first sermon in the Church that led to 3,000 converts (Acts 2:14-39).

A day of two later, the number became 5,000. It was PETER who said to the cripple, " . . . In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk" (Acts 3:6). It was PETER who preached the sermon to the crowd thus attracted that converted 2,000 more.

Next came the incident of Ananias and Sapphira stealing and lying. It was PETER who spoke and caused them to drop dead.

Next, when signs and wonders were performed by the apostles, it was PETER'S SHADOW, as he passed by, that healed the sick.

Next the apostles were brought before the high priest and the council, and the spokesman for the apostles was PETER, who said, " . . . We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

Coming to Acts 8, when Philip, then a deacon, went to Samaria, and when the people believed Philip preaching the things concerning the Kingdom of God, they were baptized. It was Peter and John who went down to Samaria, laid hands on the newly baptized (gentiles) and prayed for the Holy Spirit to be given to

them. This is the first example of the Church of God's custom of laying hands on the baptized for receiving the Holy Spirit — and PETER was the leader, for when Simon the sorcerer tried to buy an apostleship with money, it was PETER who said to him (the first pope), " . . . Thy money perish with thee . . . for I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity" (Acts 8:20-23). He was the pater or peter — papa — pope of the Babylonian Mystery religion. Paul writes (II Thessalonians 2:7), "For the mystery of iniquity doth already work . . ." That religion, having without authority appropriated the name "Christianity," is named in Revelation 17:5, "MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT."

Is it not ironic that the one who rebuked and condemned the first pope was Cephas, whom Christ had called PETER?

But continue on.

We come to Acts 10. Although Paul was later to be made apostle to the gentiles, the time had come to first open salvation to the gentiles officially. And this was done by PETER, not Paul. It was PETER whom God sent to the house of the gentile Cornelius, to teach him. It was PETER who convinced the others at Jerusalem that God had opened salvation to the gentiles (Acts 11).

Peter not a pope

UNDERSTAND THIS about Peter. HE WAS NOT A PROUD RULING POPE. He was a humble man, strong in Christ's Gospel and faith, but he did not try to lord it over others or always take the top seat, unless his position required. He was HUMAN, still, though since the day of Pentecost he had the Holy Spirit. When Peter came to Antioch, more than 14 years after the founding of the Church, his human nature showed, when he withdrew from the gentiles after some Jewish converts arrived from Jerusalem. Paul rebuked Peter publicly for this. But then, we might well remember that Paul was also human. This event occurred in the chief gentile church, and Paul was a little nettled at seeing Peter withdraw from eating with gentiles because some had arrived from Jerusalem. This incident reflects the humanity of both Peter and Paul — and demonstrates, also, that Peter was not a pope, else Paul would never have dared rebuke him.

Now we come to that crucial 15th chapter of Acts.

(See HOW CHRIST, page 14)

Sharing...

'Little red hen' revisited

Once upon a time, there was a little red hen who scratched about the barnyard until she uncovered some grains of wheat. She called her neighbors and said:

"If we plant this wheat, we will have bread to eat. Who will help me plant it?"

"Not I," said the cow.

"Not I," said the duck.

"Not I," said the pig.

"Not I," said the goose.

"Then I will," said the little red hen, and she did.

A golden harvest

The wheat grew tall and ripened into golden grain.

"Who will help me reap my wheat?" asked the little red hen.

"Not I," said the duck.

"Out of my classification," said the pig.

"I would lose my unemployment compensation," said the goose.

"Then I will," said the little red hen, and she did.

At last it came time to bake the bread.

"Who will help me bake the bread?" asked the little red hen.

"That would be overtime for me," said the cow.

"I would lose my welfare benefits," said the duck.

"I'm a dropout and never learned how," said the pig.

"If I'm to be the only helper, that's discrimination," said the goose.

"Then I will," said the little red hen. She baked five loaves and held them high for her neighbors to see. They all wanted some; in fact they demanded a share. But the little red hen said, "No, I can eat all five loaves myself."

"Excess profits!" cried the cow.

"Capitalist leech!" screamed the duck.

"I demand equal rights!" yelled the goose.

And the pig just grunted.

They painted unfair on picket signs, and they marched around and around the little red hen shouting obscenities.

When the government agent came, he said to the little red hen, "You must not be greedy."

"But I earned the bread," said the little red hen.

"Oh, exactly," said the agent.

"That is the wonderful free enterprise system. Anyone in the barnyard can earn as much as he wants, but under our government regulations the productive workers must divide their product with the idle."

And they lived happily ever after, including the little red hen, who smiled and clucked, "I am grateful. I am grateful."

But her neighbors wondered why she never again baked any more bread.

Unfair treatment

The little red hen stopped baking bread because she felt she was treated unfairly. Is unfair treatment, real or imagined, a valid reason for stopping spiritual production in your life?

In a sabbatical program class

This issue's column was contributed by Bob Boyce, a minister on sabbatical in Pasadena.

we discussed local congregations and what motivates people to get involved, to become a part of the congregation and to want to see their church grow. Some of these motivating factors are achievement, recognition for achievement, the Work itself, added responsibility and advancement.

We all periodically find ourselves in an environment where achievement and recognition for our efforts are just not there. It's in the nature of life itself. It happens in the Church and in the world. It's demotivating to work hard on a project, come up with an idea that you think is going to be of great benefit to an institution, your job, your family or whatever, nurture it along and develop it and, just when it is ready to be born, so to speak, it is snatched away. Your idea is thrown out the window. It's gone, and you feel like quitting.

One of the most motivating passages in the Bible is John 15. When recognition is not there, when encouragement is not there, and your product, your department or your idea is thrown out the window, remember it.

"I am the vine, and my father is the husbandman; Every branch in me that bears not fruit, he takes away" (John 15:1).

Commanded to bear fruit

The little red hen, if she were God's hen, would today be in Campbell's soup! She quit producing. God says that we are to bear fruit. Every branch that bears fruit, He purges it, that it bring forth more fruit.

"You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you and ordained you that you should go and bring forth fruit," Jesus Christ says in verse 16.

He says we are to bring forth fruit—and He doesn't say if all of the physical motivating elements that normally should be there are there.

Hebrews 6:10 is also a constant source of encouragement and motivation that rises above all the physical motivating factors. "For God is not unrighteous, to forget your work and labor of love." There is a scorekeeper at work every day. No one can ever know all the things you do. No man can ever know all your motives, he can't know your intentions. The people you call who are discouraged, those you visit in the hospital, those you encourage, the ideas that you contributed but never bore your name, those things go into your record.

In the Kingdom of God, no one will be given credit for that which he did not do. For those of you who doubt and actions for others go unnoticed, you are in for a beautiful and pleasant surprise. God says He is not going to forget your work and labor of love.

If in your life, on your job and in your home, all of the physical human motivating factors are there — great. Wonderful. Pass them on.

But if they are not, don't let this stop you from being productive. Christ knows what it is that you do and will reward you for the bread you bake.

The pope and the contender

PASADENA — The pace of world events continues to quicken as we near the "crisis at the close of the age." Major nations are moving into significant new alignments; powerful personalities are emerging on the world scene — or are waiting in the wings.

Strauss' strong showing

In Europe, the shadow of Franz Josef Strauss is looming larger than ever on the West German political horizon. In what Mr. Strauss termed a "grandiose victory," his Christian Socialist Union (CSU) rolled up a solid win over the Social Democratic Party (SPD) of Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in Bavaria's provincial elections Oct. 15.

The CSU garnered roughly 60 percent of the vote, a bit less than the record 62.1 percent it collected in 1974. However, this time Mr. Strauss was running for — and won — the office of minister president (similar to governor or provincial premier) of Bavaria, which will give him a powerful voice in the *Bundesrat*, West Germany's federal upper house. Most significant of all, many believe Mr. Strauss has emerged as the leading contender to run against Mr. Schmidt for chancellor in Germany's 1980 national elections. A leading German political analyst says of the beefy Bavarian strongman, "He is a serious contender, and without doubt the strongest single political talent in Germany."

There are two possible paths to power for Mr. Strauss. He could challenge the rather lackluster Helmut Kohl for leadership of the country's conservative opposition. (The CSU is allied with the CDU [Christian Democratic Union] on the national level.) Or he could, as he has threatened, break up the alliance and turn his Bavarian party into a national one. The latter course might be more appealing at the moment, since Mr. Strauss is disenchanted at the fortunes of the CDU-CSU link. The CDU recently lost two key state elections, which if won would have put the conservative into the driver's seat in the *Bundesrat*.

Wary of nationalism

The *Manchester Guardian*, a liberal British daily, is ever wary of wayward German nationalism. In a recent editorial it stressed:

"What concerns all Europeans is that for the first time since World War II there now exists in West Germany a promising political opportunity for the immature right . . . The CSU, so far constrained to fight only in Bavaria, now wants to fight nationally as well . . . Mr. Strauss [has] explained one at least of the issues on which his party would differ from the Christian Democrats. There should now be an amnesty, he said, for all German war criminals."

"It is true that CSU leaders have cherished national ambitions before; notably on the morrow of the last federal elections in November, 1976. But in those days . . . Mr. Strauss was not advocating forgiveness for Nazis. The fact that his opposition seems to be splitting ought not to comfort Chancellor Schmidt. A right-wing national party is a political animal that Germany can still do without."

For the 63-year-old Strauss, the road to the top in Germany has been a long and arduous one. Countless times he has been counted down and out, but he has refused to fade away. Now his political star is shining brighter than ever. The overseas edition of *Newsweek* reported in its Oct. 30 edition:

"The feeling is growing in conservative ranks that only Franz Josef Strauss has the political muscle to beat the Social Democrats. Strauss has reportedly agreed not to strike out on his

own until after the state elections in Schleswig-Holstein next April. For a man who has waited more than 20 years to become chancellor, six months must not seem a long time to wait."

The Polish pope

The other personality in the news, of course, is the new head of the Roman Catholic Church, Pope John Paul II, the former archbishop of Krakow, Poland, Cardinal Karol Wojtyla.

His election came as a stunning

St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church in Krakow — at the personal invitation of Cardinal Wojtyla.

The election of a Polish pope has had a significant impact upon non-Catholics. In London, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Donald Coggan, was so moved by the news from the Sistine Chapel that he became the first head of the Anglican Church to attend a papal inauguration since the Church of England split with Rome nearly five centuries ago!

Significantly, a team of American Roman Catholic and Lutheran

WORLDWATCH BY GENE H. HOGBERG

surprise — especially to political leaders in the Soviet Union and the rest of the communist bloc in Europe.

The election of the first non-Italian pope in more than 450 years is significant for several reasons. First of all, it emphasizes that the Roman Catholic Church is, in its top administration, not just an Italian church, but is, as it professes, a universal church. The late John Paul I may prove to be the last Italian pope. There are now three times as many non-Italian cardinals as Italian ones. This majority is asserting its growing influence and, as a result, a future pontiff may conceivably even come from a Third World country. Note this too: A non-Italian pope might be less reluctant to consider moving the seat of the church from Rome to Jerusalem whenever that prophesied event occurs (II Thessalonians 2:4).

Secondly the new pope has spent most of his adult life behind the iron curtain. He knows the communist mentality well, bearing the scars of church-state confrontation in Poland.

In his first address, John Paul II asserted that "we have no intention of political interference, nor of participation in the working out of temporal affairs." But some observers feel that the pope cannot escape his unique background and training. In fact Eurocommunism expert Carl Marzani in the Oct. 28 issue of *The Nation* goes so far as to say:

"The probable influence of John Paul II on East-West relations, on the Common Market, on Washington, is awesome and unpredictable."

It is significant that the pontiff, according to syndicated columnist Joseph Kraft, has talked about wishing to visit not only his home country, Poland, but the Soviet Union as well. (The pope also accepted an invitation from President Anwar Sadat of Egypt to pray with Jewish and Moslem leaders in Mt. Sinai when [or if] peace is established between Egypt and Israel, according to the Cairo, Egypt, newspaper *Al-Akram*. The newspaper recalled that Mr. Sadat has long hoped to celebrate a peace treaty with Israel by erecting a combined church, mosque and synagogue on the summit of Mt. Sinai.)

Christian unity pushed

Lastly, the new pontiff gives every indication of vigorously pushing forward in the area of Christian unity. John Paul II has pledged the removal of the obstacles to unity between Catholics and, in his words, "our brothers in other churches." In his first message after assuming office the pope said this about ecumenism:

"Hopefully, thanks to a common effort, we might arrive at full communion [with other Christians]. We intend, therefore, to proceed along the way already begun, by favoring those steps which serve to remove obstacles."

John Paul II does not appear to be paying mere lip service to the unity issue. Only four days before the papal election, Protestant Billy Graham preached to an overflow audience at

theologians seeking to lay a theological base for reconciliation of the two churches has concluded that the doctrine of papal infallibility no longer represents a major obstacle.

Speaking of the 9,000-word document at the American Lutheran church convention in Minnesota, one Lutheran theologian assured fellow Lutherans, "They need not fear the doctrine of infallibility somehow replaces Jesus Christ with the bishop of Rome. The doctrine simply isn't that important."

In a previous paper, the Lutheran-Catholic team agreed that the primacy of the pope, acting as head of the church, "need not be a barrier to reconciliation" between the two bodies. It was suggested that it was possible to conceive of the primacy of the bishop of Rome in a reformed Christian church body including Roman Catholics, Lutherans and possibly others.

Dynamic leadership indicated

Pope John Paul II gives all indications of being a dynamic leader. At age 58, he is athletic and in robust health — in direct contrast to his short-lived predecessor. Also unlike John Paul I he is not befuddled by Vatican bureaucracy. He knows the art of politics, coming out of the pressure cooker of the church-state battleground in Poland.

In Poland the Catholic Church had to be unified around its core doctrines to survive. John Paul II is likely to give short shrift to liberal issues such as birth control or priestly celibacy, which have rocked the church in the West.

Let's watch the new pope in Rome — and the new contender in Germany.

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Editor in chief: Herbert W. Armstrong

Managing editor: Dexter H. Faulkner

Assistant managing editor: Klaus Roth; associate editor: Sheila Graham; layout editor: Scott Ashley; "Local Church News" editor: Vivian Roth; composition: Kim Annaly; circulation: Roland Fries

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SEVEN PROOFS of THE TRUE CHURCH

By Herbert W. Armstrong

YOU LIVE in a world of religious confusion. WHY so many different religions? Taoism, Shintoism, Hinduism, the Moslem religion and Christianity with its many denominations and sects.

Religion is generally regarded as the worship of the Creator or the supernatural, although some Oriental religions are primarily philosophies.

The largest religion in the world, in claimed number of adherents, is Roman Catholicism. It has won near universal acceptance in the Western world as being the original Church of Christianity.

But where is the absolute AUTHORITY to identify the true religion and the one original Church of the Christian religion?

Or is any authentic? Communism rejects religion, labeling it "the opium of the people."

I seriously doubt if any has been put through the experience that came to me to settle this question with PROOF POSITIVE.

WHY do most people believe the things they believe? The philosopher C.E. Ayers said truthfully that few, indeed, have ever stopped to ask themselves in retrospect why they believe the things they believe or how they came to believe them.

I have answered many times that most people believe that which they have repeatedly heard, read or been taught, and have carelessly assumed those things to be true without question and without proof.

The disturbing dual challenge

I was born of stable and upright parents, with an ancestry in the Quaker faith that had emigrated from England to Pennsylvania with William Penn, a hundred years before the United States became a nation.

At age 18 I dropped all but the most passive interest in religion. I had put myself through an intensive self-examination, coupled with a survey of the various occupations and professions to determine where I belonged — to avoid fitting the proverbial square peg in the round hole. This led into the advertising profession and a business life. I was unusually successful. I had continued through the years diligent study and application. I had planned that my business contacts were largely with the great and the near-great.

Then, at age 34, I was assailed by very disturbing dual challenges. My wife, after nine years

of happy marriage, had begun keeping the seventh-day Sabbath. I was aghast! That, to me, was religious fanaticism! She claimed to have found this teaching in the Bible.

My first upsetting thought was, What will my business contacts and friends say? It was a devastating thought, humiliating!

All the arguments came quickly to my mind. They were of no avail. She said she found this teaching in the Bible:

"But the Bible says," I protested, "Thou shalt observe Sunday."

"Can you show that to me in the Bible?" she asked.

"No," I replied, "I don't know much about the Bible. My interest and studies have been in the area of business. But I know the Bible teaches Sunday observance because all these churches can't be wrong, and they receive their beliefs from the Bible."

"If," she smiled sincerely — but to me exasperatingly — "you can show me where the Bible commands Sunday observance, I'll go back to it."

There was no dodging the challenge. My marriage depended on it!

The second challenge

Coincidentally a sister-in-law, newly married and fresh out of college, hurled at me a second humiliating challenge.

"Herbert Armstrong," she accused contemptuously, "you are just plain ignorant! Everybody who has any education knows human life has come by evolution."

I was proud. I had not neglected study and education. I thought I knew the facts about evolution, and I didn't believe in it. But now I had to admit I had never pursued a thorough, in-depth research of the question.

The dual challenge drove me into a determined almost night-and-day research. That intensive study continued for six months before I found the *proved* answer. Yet the study to this day has never ceased.

I was not only humiliated and angered by these challenges — I

was determined to prove both my wife and sister-in-law wrong. Both challenges focused on a common starting point — the book of Genesis in the Bible — although that was only the beginning.

These challenges came at a period in life when I had ample time on my hands. I plunged with intense concentration into the study.

Evolution researched

But I did not begin the research in Genesis. First I delved thoroughly into the works of Darwin, Lyell, Haeckel, Huxley, Spencer, Vogt, Chamberlin and Moore, and even into the earlier works of Lamarck and his theory of "Use and Disuse," which preceded Darwin's survival-of-the-fittest hypothesis.

Immediately those writings appeared convincing. They necessarily are, to have won virtual universal acceptance in the world of higher education. I readily understood how the field of education had been gripped in the clutch of the evolutionary concept.

Evolution, as I finally learned, is the atheists' attempted explanation of the presence of a creation without the preexistence of a Creator.

This initial stage of my research rudely shook my faith in the existence of God. It brought me to the realization that I had assumed the reality of God, because from childhood I had heard — and therefore assumed — it. For a while my head was literally swimming. Was all I had ever believed mere myth and error, after all? I was awakened to the realization that I had never seen PROVED the reality of God! Now I was determined to know the TRUTH! My mind was being cleaned out from ideas and beliefs previously taken for granted.

Of all the writings on evolution, Moore alone had culled out many discrepancies in the theory. Yet he too went along with the doctrine overall.

But now I had, first of all, to prove or disprove the existence of God. It was not casual or superfi-

cial study. I continued in this research as if my life depended upon it — as, in actual fact it did, as well as my marriage. I studied books also on the other side of the coin.

Irrefutable proof of God

Suffice it to say here that I did find irrefutable PROOF of the existence of God the Creator — and I found proof positive of the fallacy of the evolutionary theory. I had the satisfaction of winning the admission of one thoroughly steeped in evolutionary thought — having spent years in graduate work at the University of Chicago and at Columbia — that I had definitely chopped down the trunk of the evolutionary tree, though like Dr. Moore, she had been so thoroughly brainwashed in it she had to continue in what she had seen and acknowledged was PROOF of its falsity.

Also I had the enjoyment of being able to cause my sister-in-law to eat those words branding me as ignorant. All of which was mere vanity on my part, which I had not yet eradicated.

I had proved the reality of THE GREAT MAJESTIC GOD! But my wife's challenge was still tormenting my mind. Already, in the evolutionary research, I had studied Genesis. I knew each of the world's religions had their own sacred writings. Once God's reality was proved, I had expected to continue in the pursuit of comparative religions — to see if any such sacred writings proved authoritative. Through which of these did GOD speak to mankind — if any?

Research continues

Since I had to research the Sabbath question anyway and already I had delved into Genesis, I decided to continue my study in the Bible — intending to examine in depth the writings of other religions afterward.

In my biblical study I came across, early, the passage in Romans 6:23: "... The wages of sin is death ..." I stopped, amazed. "Wages" is what one is paid for what one has done. Here I was staring at a statement diametrically opposite to my

Sunday school teaching prior to age 18.

"Why," I exclaimed, "how can that be? I was taught in church that the wages of sin is EVERLASTING LIFE — in an eternally burning hell."

Another shock came on reading the last part of the same verse: "... but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

"But," I questioned in disillusionment, "I thought I already had eternal life — I am, or I have, an immortal soul. Why should I need it as a gift?"

I researched the word *soul* by means of a Bible concordance. Twice I found the words, "... The soul that sinneth, it shall die." (Ezekiel 18:4 and Ezekiel 18:20).

Then I remembered I had read in Genesis 2 how God said to the first human, "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

In Genesis 2:7 I read how God "... formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man (dust, matter) became a living soul." This stated plainly that a soul is physical — formed from matter. I found that the English word *soul* is translated from the Hebrew *nephesh* and that in Genesis 1 fowl, fish and animals, all three, were *nephesh* as Moses was inspired to write.

Next, I happened to read where Jesus said, "And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man ..." (John 3:13). I researched the heaven and hell teaching further. I saw where the inspired Peter, on the day he received the Holy Spirit said, "For David is not ascended into the heavens ..." (Acts 2:34).

Teachings opposite of the Bible

I was, in utter astonishment, coming to realize that what I had been taught growing up in church was the precise opposite of what the Bible says in clear language.

This is not the place for a lengthy, detailed account of my intensive search in the Bible — bent on proving to my satisfaction that "all these churches can't be wrong, for their teachings came from the Bible." The essential point here is the simple fact that I did find irrefutable PROOF of the divine inspiration and SUPREME AUTHORITY of the Holy Bible as the revealed Word of God as originally written. Even all the so-called contradictions evaporated upon unbiased study.

Yet, to my utter dismay and (See SEVEN PROOFS, page 4)

"I was, in utter astonishment, coming to realize that what I had been taught growing up in church was the precise opposite of what the Bible says in clear language."

SEVEN PROOFS of THE TRUE CHURCH

(Continued from page 3)
chagrin, I was forced to "eat crow" in regard to my wife's supposed "fanaticism." It was not what I *wanted* to believe, THEN! But, by now I had taken a real beating. I had *proved* truth contrary to what I wanted to believe.

Let me pause here to add a point to what I wrote above, saying most people believe what they have repeatedly heard or read or been taught. There are two other psychological truisms in regard to WHY people believe what they do. One is, people carelessly accept what those around them believe. Most Thais are Buddhists because those around them in Thailand are Buddhists. There is the psychological tendency to go along with one's peers. One other

"... human nature tends to cause one to believe what he wants to believe, and refuse, regardless of proof, what he does not want to believe."

reason for people's beliefs is that human nature tends to cause one to believe what he *wants* to believe, and refuse, regardless of proof, what he does not want to believe. There is the old saying, "One convinced against his will is of the same opinion still."

God's Word is truth

That is why I have said the experience I was painfully subjected to in this six-months' intensive study was *UNIQUE* in human life and conduct. I know of no world religious leader who arrived at his teachings in such manner. Perhaps that is why GOD'S INSPIRED WORD *alone* — as I proved — is *TRUTH*. Only God is infallibly correct!

I was brought, by the spring of 1927, to a complete MIND-SWEEPING — my mind swept clean of previous assumptions and beliefs — surrendered to the WORD OF GOD, which by then I have *proved* TRUE, and the SUPREME AUTHORITY.

More, I had been brought to realize my own inadequacy and nothingness. I had been brought to a real repentance — CONQUERED BY THE GREAT MAJESTIC GOD — and with a solid rock-based FAITH in Jesus Christ. I was baptized, and the infilling of God's Spirit opened my mind to the JOY UNSPEAKABLE of knowing God and Jesus Christ — of knowing TRUTH — and the warmth of God's divine LOVE!

What I once hated I now LOVED. I found the greatest and most absorbing joy of my life in *continuing* to dig out those gold nuggets of TRUTH from God's Word.

Now came a new enthusiasm in biblical study and receiving the REVEALED knowledge of God.

Where is God's Church?

Now came the urgent desire to

find the *ONE* and *ONLY* true Church of God as founded A.D. 31 by Jesus Christ. He had said (Matthew 16:18) that His Church would not die but continue through the generations.

My intensive biblical studies had shown me the basic evidences that would identify that continuing original Church.

1) It would have rightly discerned the revealed TRUTH of God as contained in His Word, the Holy Bible. I had learned that GOD is the Source of knowledge, and He REVEALS that knowledge through His written Word. This Word, remember, I had *PROVED* by irrefutable PROOF the divine inspiration and SUPREME AUTHORITY of the Holy Bible as the revealed Word of God. God is the supreme Educator — Revealer of TRUTH.

2) It would be, not a human secular organization; but a SPIRITUAL ORGANISM, yet WELL ORGANIZED on God's revealed pattern. It would be composed of begotten children of God — the "... household of God ... built upon the foundation of the apostles and the prophets," with Jesus Christ its guiding HEAD (Ephesians 2:19-20), as a "... building fitly framed together growth unto an HOLY TEMPLE in the Lord" (verse 21) "... from whom the whole body [is] fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth ..." (Ephesians 4:16).

It would have UNDERSTANDING OF GOD'S TRUTH! And it would be PRODUCING ABUNDANT FRUIT.

I did not find such a church immediately. But in His due time, God led me to find that *ONE* AND *ONLY* original Church of God. I now reveal SEVEN MAJOR PROOFS that identify it.

PROOF NO. 1

WHO AND WHAT IS GOD?

It seems utterly unbelievable! The religions of this world do not know WHO or WHAT God really is! Yet religion is the worship of God. How worship what is UNKNOWN?

The only answer is that the Bible reveals that ALL NATIONS have been *deceived* (Revelation 12:9).

The true understanding of the very identity of God is one proof

"... most people believe that which they have repeatedly heard, read or been taught, and have carelessly assumed those things to be true without question and without proof."

that the one and only Church founded A.D. 31 by Jesus Christ is, today, the Worldwide Church of God.

It seems inconceivable — but you live today in a world of religious CONFUSION! Among the largest of the world's religions are Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Shintoism, Hinduism, the Moslem religion and Christianity with its hundreds of denominations and sects. The latter is the largest in number of adherents.

And yet only one, neither Roman Catholic nor Protestant,

knows WHO and WHAT God is!

Modern science does not know. Higher education does not know or teach. The intellectuals of the world in the first century were the Athenians. Certain philosophers of the Epicureans and of the Stoics encountered the apostle Paul.

"... What will this babbler say? ... queried some in ridicule (Acts 17:18). Others sneered sarcastically, "... He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods ..."

Paul on Mars' hill

They brought Paul to Areopagus, the supreme tribunal, on Mars' hill.

"May we know," they asked cynically, "... what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest, is? For thou bringest certain strange things to our ears ..." (verses 19-20).

Here were the world's most scholarly. Paul was preaching the truth of God.

"... Yemmen of Athens," said the apostle forthrightly and boldly, "I perceive that in all things you are too superstitious. For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions [idol objects of worship], I found an altar with this inscription, 'TO THE UNKNOWN GOD.' Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that He is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; and hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on ... the earth ..." (verses 22-26).

WHO IS GOD? CREATION is the basic proof of God. These Athenian Epicureans and Stoics did not even know that. Perhaps the adherents of many religions do not.

But what of the real NATURE of God? Just WHO and WHAT is God? We need a more concrete understanding than to say merely the Being who created all. That is the starting point. Only the one original Church Jesus founded A.D. 31 has the full answer.

Unique understanding

It seems inconceivable that of all the religions and churches in the world today, only *ONE* is unique in UNDERSTANDING the na-

counterfeit gospel had replaced it. From about A.D. 70 there ensued "the lost century." All historic record of the true Church of God had been systematically destroyed during that hundred years — the curtain had been rung down on Church activities, and when the curtain of recorded history lifted an entirely *different* church

"... of all the religions and churches in the world today, only ONE is unique in UNDERSTANDING the nature of the CREATOR of all that is!"

appeared, calling itself Christian. Extreme persecution of powerful forces had driven the true Church of God underground.

The church by the fourth century was more like the Babylonian mystery religion, having appropriated the name "Christianity." (Revelation 17:5).

Passover-Easter controversy

There had been a heated dual controversy — one called the Quartodeciman Controversy — between Polycrates and the bishops of Rome on the Passover-Easter controversy. The other, between Dr. Arius, a priest of Alexandria, and the Roman bishops on the Trinity doctrine.

Emperor Constantine of the Roman Empire government called the Nicene Council in A.D. 325 and made both, the pagan Easter (from the goddess Astarte) and the Trinity doctrine, LAW!

The Trinity doctrine limited God to three Persons. More of that later.

The King James translation into English translated the Holy Spirit as "Holy Ghost," under the delusion that the Spirit of God was a third Person — a "Ghost."

Also the translators of the 1611 version usually used the pronouns "he," "him," etc., in relation to the Holy Spirit — but not always — and the pronoun "it" also is used.

But how does God reveal Himself authoritatively?

The real beginning of the Bible

If one should ask another, "Where, in order of time sequence, do we find the real beginning in the Bible?" the reply probably would be Genesis 1:1,

the Word was a Personage separate from God — as shown in verse 14: "And the Word was [much later] made flesh, and dwelt among us ..." The Word *became* Jesus Christ.

The English "Word" is translated from the original Greek *Logos* meaning "Word," or "Spokesman."

That all things were made by Him is confirmed in Ephesians 3:9, where it speaks of God "... who created all things by Jesus Christ." "... he spake, and it was done ..." (Psalm 33:9).

Here are two Personages, yet both are GOD. How is that? A man named David Smith may have a son named Paul. But Paul, though a separate individual, is also Smith. However Jesus Christ did not become the Son of God until about 4 B.C., when born in human flesh from the Virgin Mary. Prior to that, He had ALWAYS existed, even as had God. Christ was originally "Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life ..." (Hebrews 7:3).

In the beginning God ...

Now come to Genesis 1:1: "In the beginning God ..." This was written originally by Moses in the Hebrew language. The English "God" is translated from the Hebrew *Elohim* — a plural noun. It is unplural in the same sense as the words "family" or "church" — denoting more than one component forming one whole. Not two Gods — but *ONE* God consisting of more than one Person.

When, only 1,900-plus years ago, Jesus was begotten in the womb of His human mother Mary, He was the *only* human ever so begotten *prior to human birth*! Yet, as we shall see later, humans may become begotten children of God — *after* human birth, but preceding a spiritual birth.

Throughout the first chapter of Genesis the Hebrew name of God is always the Hebrew *Elohim*, including "the Word" and "God."

But in chapter 2, Moses began adding another name for God — *Yahweh* in the Hebrew — as *Yahweh Elohim*. In the King James English translation it is rendered "LORD God," which is somewhat misleading.

It is interesting, at this point, to explain this name *Yahweh*. There is no one word in the English language that adequately translates it. It means "the self-existent, eternal living creative one." The Moffatt translation renders it "the Eternal." The Ferrar Fenton translation uses "the Ever-Living." Personally, to use only one word, I prefer to use "the Eternal" instead of "the LORD."

In any event the English (See SEVEN PROOFS, page 5)

beginning with the words, "In the beginning God ..."

RIGHT?

WRONG! In order of time sequence the earliest prehistoric revelation is in the New Testament in John 1:1: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Continue, "The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made" (verses 2-3).

The Word was one Personage. God was another Personage. Yet

ture of the CREATOR of all that is!

They *could* know! God reveals Himself in plain language in His Word, the Holy Bible. But no book has been so distorted, twisted and misrepresented as this *ONE* SUPREME AUTHORITY OF TRUTH!

The generally accepted teaching of traditional Christianity is that God is a Trinity — God in three Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, which they designate as a Ghost.

By about A.D. 59, the Gospel Jesus Christ proclaimed had been suppressed (Galatians 1:6-7). A

SEVEN PROOFS

(Continued from page 4)

"LORD" in the King James translation refers to that *Person* in the Godhead who in John 1:1 is called the "Word" — the very one who later became Jesus Christ.

Who was the God of the Old Testament?

That leads to an important point in the UNDERSTANDING of WHO and WHAT IS GOD.

Many if not most seem to believe the God of the Old Testament was the one Jesus prayed to as His FATHER. But many New Testament passages *quoting* from the Old Testament *prove* that the one of the Godhead who was born in human flesh as Jesus Christ was the "YAHWEH" of the Old Testament and "the Word" of John 1:1. That knowledge is a portion of Proof No. 1 identifying the true original Church today.

Jesus came, among other purposes, to REVEAL the Father. Ancient Old Testament Israel knew of only ONE PERSONAGE in the Godhead — although their Scriptures contained the Hebrew *Elohim*. But to them, primarily, God was conceived as of not only ONE God, but only ONE Person! The truth is, Israelites generally

"... Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father..." (John 14:8-9). WHY? Because God the Father — if human eyes could see — looks like Jesus. And what did Jesus look like?

Certainly NOT like pictures you have seen supposed to picture Him. For one thing, HE DID NOT HAVE LONG HAIR (1 Corinthians 11:14). He looked like other Jews then in Judea, else the chief priests would not have paid Judas Iscariot 30 pieces of silver to identify Him.

Now notice once again Genesis 1:26: "... God (*Elohim*) said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness [form and shape]..." God is described in the Bible as having eyes, ears, nose, mouth — hair on His head — arms, legs, fingers, toes. Jesus was "... the express image of his [the Father's] Person..." (Hebrews 1:3).

What is the HOLY SPIRIT?

If the Holy Spirit is not a Person — a Ghost — then what does the Bible reveal about the Holy Spirit?

The natural carnal mind of man

HOW GREAT He is.

King David was meditating on this and man's insignificance by comparison. He wrote, "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; what is man, that thou art mindful of him?" (Psalm 8:3-4).

Isaiah was inspired to write: "Who hath measured the waters [oceans] in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance? ... Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as ... small dust of the balance. ... All nations before him are as nothing. ..." (Isaiah 40:12-17). Then God is quoted, "To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? ... Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might. ..." (verses 25-26).

Yet, there is much more to come, in relation to David's comparison to man, and why God should be concerned about us — in a later chapter — and fantastically thrilling it is!

NONE but the Worldwide Church of God today possesses

"... the earth was inhabited by angels prior to the creation of man. Apparently God placed a third of the created angels on earth. They were given opportunity to share in God's creating activities by FINISHING the earth — working in and with its many elements, improving, beautifying, completing it."

knew nothing of God — the Person to whom Jesus prayed and the Father Jesus came to REVEAL.

However, another technical point is: God only *became* the FATHER of the GOD FAMILY when Jesus Christ was begotten and born as a human. Yet He may become *our* Father in heaven when begotten by His Holy Spirit. More of that later.

Now notice that God (*Elohim*) is more than one Person even though only ONE GOD.

In Genesis 1:26, *Elohim* said, "... Let us make man in our image, after our likeness..." Not "Let me" — but "Let us," — plural or uniplural.

In Genesis 2:2-3, "... On the seventh day (*Elohim*) ended his work which he had made..." And God (*Elohim*) blessed the seventh day "..."

Then, verse 4: "These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God (*Yahweh Elohim*) made the earth and the heavens." Again it was through the "Word" in the Hebrew named "Yahweh" that the earth and heavens were made, — as God created all things by Jesus Christ (Ephesians 3:9).

Does God have form and shape?

God reveals that He is Spirit-composed (John 4:24). Unless supernaturally manifested, spirit is invisible to human eyes.

Jesus said to His disciples, "... Ye have neither heard his voice ... nor seen his shape..." (John 5:37).

Later, "Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us." Jesus answered

simply cannot grasp an understanding of spirit. It is not matter. The Hebrew word for spirit is *ruwach*, and the Greek (New Testament) *pneuma* both are often translated into the English *wind*, or *air* or *breath* — because these physical words perhaps most closely explain *spirit* to the human mind — yet spirit is not physical or material. In Acts 10:45, the Holy Spirit was "poured out" on gentiles, comparing to physical water.

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit (not Ghost) that emanates out from both God and Christ everywhere in the universe. Through His Holy Spirit, God projects Himself, in Spirit, everywhere in the universe — yet both God and Christ have form and shape, even as man.

The Holy Spirit is many things. It is the very LIFE of the immortal God, which, entering into a human begets him with GOD-LIFE.

It is the POWER of God, by which, when Christ "spoke" it was done. It is the POWER by which God stretched out the heavens — created the vast endless universe.

The Holy Spirit, entering into man as God's gift, opens the mind to UNDERSTANDING of spiritual knowledge, unknown to the human mind otherwise. It is the LOVE of God "... shed abroad in our hearts..." (Romans 5:5). It is the FAITH of Christ, which may be given to God's begotten children through the Holy Spirit. It is the POWER of God, begotten within humans, enabling us to overcome Satan and sin.

'How GREAT Thou Art'

We have covered something of the nature of God. Now consider

the REVEALED TRUTH of WHO and WHAT is God!

PROOF NO. 2

THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD AND CREATION OF HOLY, RIGHTEOUS CHARACTER

As Creator, the most important feat of creation is holy, righteous CHARACTER.

That is so stupendous an accomplishment that even the GREAT MAJESTIC GOD, in all His matchless supernatural power, cannot create such character instantaneously or automatically by fiat.

That ought to take the reader's breath! Is there actually something that even God cannot do — by Himself alone?

Such character is the ability of a separate conscious, thinking entity with free moral agency — capacity for free choice — to come to KNOW the right from wrong, good from evil, to make the decision, and then with God's help exercise the WILL to DO the right or good, even contrary to self-desire.

Angels created first

Now for the moment go back to John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

That is the very earliest prehistoric record. It could have been

"... the most important feat of creation is holy, righteous CHARACTER."

millions or thousands of millions of years ago. The two eternally living Spirit Personages, who together constituted the ONE God, were ALONE in empty space. There was no physical universe — YET!

But, even as man thinks, and designs and plans before making — so did God, who much later made MAN in His own image.

God — with the Word — first conceived the plan and design to create angels, also immortal spirit beings, composed wholly of spirit.

So God created angels before creating the material universe, as revealed elsewhere in the Bible.

The DUALITY in creation

There is the DUALITY principle in God's creative process. Angels were the first created thinking, reasoning, separate entities created by God.

Angels were created with minds — ability to know, reason, make choices. But their creation could not be a *finished* creation until CHARACTER — either good or evil — was developed in them. And this is a PROCESS, to be EXPERIENCED. That character development was the second of the DUAL stage of their creation.

God initially INSTRUCTED them in HIS WAY — that of righteous character. It was the WAY of God's spiritual law — the basis of God's GOVERNMENT.

Then came the time of the creation of the PHYSICAL UNIVERSE. There was a vital connection between the creation of angels and the creation of the material universe. For that, too, was created by the DUALITY principle.

To illustrate, I compare this physical creation to the manufacture of unfinished furniture — sold in stores of most cities. Such furniture may be of fine quality, but lacks the finishing polish, paint or whatever.

So God created the heavens and the earth — the universe with its countless planets in sun or solar systems, galaxies, with the countless planets such as our earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, etc.

Genesis 1:1, where "heavens" is in the plural in original Hebrew and modern translations, together with Genesis 2:4, which speaks of "... the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Eternal God made the earth and the heavens," — indicated the earth was created as part of the material universe — all simultaneously created. Other scriptures imply this.

But, like the unfinished furniture, they were not at that time completed. Angels had been created prior to the universe, because they sang together and shouted for joy at earth's creation (Job 38:7).

A double DUALITY

Now we come to the fact of a double DUALITY in the creation of

angels and of the earth. For the earth was inhabited by angels prior to the creation of man. Apparently God placed a third of the created angels on earth. They were given opportunity to share in God's creating activities by FINISHING the earth — working in and with its many elements, improving, beautifying, completing it.

This required harmonious teamwork — all working together toward the common God-ordained goal. The earth was the *proving ground*, to QUALIFY them, by righteous CHARACTER development and finishing earth's creation, to share with God the same creative participation in completion of the myriads of planets of the vast universe.

To regulate this angel-effort, God placed on earth's THRONE the archangel, the cherub Lucifer, to administer the GOVERNMENT OF GOD over the angels.

I repeat — that GOVERNMENT is based on God's spiritual law — as all governments are based on a constitution of foundational law.

God's spiritual law is the way of God's holy, righteous CHARACTER.

Angels led into rebellion

The third of the angels (Revelation 12:4) on earth completed their creation by developing *evil* character — sinning (II Peter 2:4). The super archangel Lucifer (Isaiah 14:12-14) had been perfect in all his ways from the day of his initial creation, till iniquity — lawlessness — was found in him (Ezekiel 28:12-17).

Lucifer was not satisfied with rule over only the one planet — as the testing ground to prepare him for all planets. He wanted to rule all at once. He said, "... I will exalt my throne above the stars of God..." (Isaiah 14:13). He had been created with exceeding beauty, which "lifted up his heart" in vanity (Ezekiel 28:17). He became lustful, jealous and envious of God, decided on a war of invasion attempting to overthrow God on the heavenly throne of the universe. He led his angels into rebellion. These angels "... kept not their first estate, but left their own habitations..." — earth! (Jude 6).

But Lucifer and his angels were cast back down to earth (Revelation 12:4).

The creation of this third of all angels was *finished* — creation of evil character within them completed. Once their creation was completed, being spirit, they *could never change*! And they are immortal!

The GOVERNMENT OF GOD no longer was operative on earth! Lucifer's name was changed to Satan the devil. His angels became demons. Their minds had become perverted for eternity.

PROOF NO. 3

WHAT AND WHY IS MAN?

It must be as shocking to the reader as it was to me, to learn that NONE of the religions or churches but the Worldwide Church of God

(See SEVEN PROOFS, page 12)

"... NONE of the religions or churches but the Worldwide Church of God understands both WHAT man is and WHY humanity was put on the earth!"

"And this Gospel shall be preached..."

Matthew 24:14

Sermon Summaries from Ministers of the Worldwide Church of God

Are You Ready for Spiritual Graduation?

In the academic world, when you're going for your Ph.D., academicians call the final exam you have to take your comprehensive. And to pass you've got to prepare day and night, week after week, because you'll be asked everything you've learned about the subject you're studying.

In a sense, our Christian education is like preparing for a comprehensive. When Christ comes back to this earth, we're going to go through our comprehensives! He's going to quiz us extensively. And He's going to want to know what we're made of, and whether or not we have prepared to receive our degree (eternal life).

But along the way toward the comprehensives or the final exam, you have what's called midterms. Today I have some midterm questions that I hope will help us see whether or not we have the fruits of God's Spirit and are growing in those fruits. I think that's really what we want to know.

Question one

Are we still able to repent or still able to change? In Acts 2:38 Peter commanded the Jews to repent. Now we all know that before baptism one must have that initial experience of repentance. But repentance is not a one-time experience, but something that we must do daily. It is a way of life. Repentance and change today should be easier for us than it was last year.

God wants us all to repent because He has appointed a day when Jesus is going to judge us (Acts 17:30-31).

Let's look at II Corinthians 7 about this matter of repentance. Verses 9 and 10: "Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry," says Paul to the church at Corinth, "but that ye sorrowed to repentance." He is saying, "I was really happy [the main reason I rejoiced] not because you were sorry or because you were mournful; but because that mourning and that sorrow brought forth repentance and change."

"For ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death." In other words, a physical sorrow — being unhappy about something, sad about something — doesn't lead to anything profitable. But if you're sorry to the point where you change — where your life takes on a new direction, new scope, new heading — that, Paul says, will lead to salvation.

In I Corinthians 13:11, Paul also writes: "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." In other words: "When I was a child I acted and reasoned as a child; but when I grew up, when I repented and received God's Spirit, I put away childish things. I took on a new way of life, and I didn't return to childhood."

We have to grow to become perfect. Most of us have a lot of problems. Most of us have a lot of things that we want to overcome. And that's good, because the person who doesn't have anything to overcome is in serious trouble.

We have to continually examine ourselves "Till we all come into the knowledge of the Son of God unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13). We ought to look at Christ's righteous character and stack our character up against His. That's a good way to measure yourself for a midterm exam. Compare yourself with Christ. We must not compare ourselves among ourselves because that sets the standard considerably lower than it ought to be.

Question two

Can we accept and cope with trials and frustrations? Romans 12:1: "I beseech you therefore, brethren,

by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." The first thing we begin to see, then, is that we are bought and paid for. We are sacrifices, living sacrifices. We have said, "God, You do with us what You want." We no longer are our own beings to do as we please whenever we want. But we must always strive to do everything in the context of what God's will is.

Verse 2: "Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." So we've got to have a changed way of thinking — seeking the thoughts and ways of God rather than our own natural patterns of thought and action (Isaiah 55:7-8, Proverbs 3:5-7).

This theme is repeated in I Corinthians 6:19: "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost [Spirit] which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." So everything about us belongs to God. And if He allows a trial or a test to come upon us, it's for our good. We are His children!

Let's take a look at I Peter 5: There's a way to always be prepared when a trial comes along. In verses 6-9: "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time." Contrary to that, of course, are those who exalt themselves in this life. Their promise is that they're going to be humbled and abased. "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."

Satan just loves to see us down and frustrated, unhappy, sad and gloomy. Discouragement is one of Satan's chief tools; and he would love for all of us to be discouraged. He would love for all of us to lose faith. He's just about got you in the palm of his hand if you do.

"Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world." If you have a real trial or a real test, well, you're not the only one who has that. You're not the only one who suffers frustrations and worry. We all face the same problems, believe me.

I Corinthians 2 gives us another key on how to be able to cope with these trials that come along, without giving up. Verse 9: "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." When trials come, we must think about that tremendous reward that God has for us. He's got something prepared for us that is so far above these puny trials and tests that they're really nothing by comparison (Romans 8:18).

God says all things do work together for good (Romans 8:28). And in my years of experience in the ministry and as a Christian, I've seen it always work out if you just be patient and wait. My wife keeps telling me, "Be patient. Things will work out." I tell her the same thing. And sure enough, over the years things do work out. All things do work together for good — in the long run — for those who are called of God according to His promise.

James 1:2-4, "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers [different] temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." In a sense it says: Let

patience develop; let it grow; let it mature. And then it can be plucked off the tree as a whole piece of fruit — something that God is well pleased with.

I Corinthians 10:13, to wrap up this point: "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful who will not suffer you to be tempted above that which ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." He doesn't say He's going to prevent the temptations from coming upon us, but He says that along with the trial and the test, He's going to provide a way of escape that we might be able to bear it.

Christ is the author of our salvation, and He is the finisher. So He's going to be there to help us; and He's going to help us build that character and withstand the trials.

Question three

Do we find more satisfaction today in giving than getting? In other words, is it easier and more enjoyable to give today than it was last year? Is it easier to give of our time, or do we find that we're a little bit more possessive in this regard? What I want to stress is the matter of giving of time or service. "It's more blessed to serve others than to be served," is what Jesus is saying in Acts 20:35.

Let's take a look at what God has given us so that we can get the proper perspective on this question. In Matthew 10:8, Christ said (talking to the disciples here, but it applies to all of us): "Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers . . . cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give." There's not a one of us who has paid for God's truth, paid to receive it. We were given it freely.

God's truth came into our minds, and He opened our minds to understand it. Now God says, "You have that knowledge; you share it with others." And of course the way we share that fruit with others is to support God's Work; be behind it and promulgate the Gospel through *The Plain Truth*, through *The World Tomorrow* program and all the articles and other publications. "Freely you have received; freely give."

Jesus said, "Whosoever does not bear his cross and come after me, cannot be my disciple." And a part of bearing that cross is the giving of our time — that means in prayer and Bible study and in serving, helping others who are in need — instead of having a spirit of get or covetousness that we see in this world today. We must have a spirit of giving.

Question four

Do you have a greater capacity to love today than a year ago?

I John 2:15, 16 shows us very plainly that we are to love the people of the world but not love the world or its society. "Love not the world [the society], neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."

And in I John 3:1: "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God." What kind of love does God have for us that we should be called the begotten sons of God?

God loved us so much that He was willing to give His only Son for us. Verse 16 of that same chapter: "Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." How well are we doing on this point?

I John 3:17-18: "But whoso hath this world's good and seeth his brother have need, and shuts up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the

(See GRADUATION, page 7)

This sermon was given by Benjamin R. Chapman, pastor of the Pasadena Auditorium A.M. church and Ambassador College faculty member.

FORUM

WITH STANLEY R. RADER

This issue's "Forum" is a result of an employee meeting Oct. 30 in which Stanley R. Rader, general counsel to Herbert W. Armstrong, fielded questions concerning many aspects of the Work and its activities. "Forum" will feature these sessions whenever they occur by running excerpted transcripts of discussions, questions and answers that we feel reflect the interest of our readership about developments within the Work.

Someone gave me a little book today that contains a lot of good advice. It's called *Bits and Pieces*. I see a quotation from [the late] Justice Louis D. Brandeis, formerly a member of the Supreme Court and one of the leading lawyers and jurists of this nation. Mr. Brandeis said that nine-tenths of the serious controversies that arise result from misunderstanding—from one man not knowing the facts, while to the other man seem important, or otherwise failing to appreciate his point of view.

Our hope is that by communicating more we can clear up any misunderstandings and really have a dialogue. Those of us at headquarters responsible for doing much of the day-by-day work of this great Work will be able to better understand one another and the purposes of the Work if we learn to communicate more often, more openly, more directly.

We must also remember that the voice of the Work, at least in my opinion, is the sum total of many things. It is the sum total of every sermon given by any minister. It includes every television message that Mr. [Herbert] Armstrong makes; every radio message he delivers; every lecture in every classroom by every professor; every act (thinking or unthinking) on the part of every person, regardless of his position; every statement that any person might make (knowingly or unknowingly, wittingly or unwittingly), again, regardless of his position. That's the sum of the substance of the voice of the Work. And if we don't speak with one uniform voice, I question who will heed us when we try to get our message across to the world.

So, I'm here today (on my way to Tucson [Ariz.] within the hour) to see if there is anything that has arisen since we last met that I could help you to better understand. Maybe in the process of hearing from you there will be things I didn't understand at that time that we now have come to grips with more fully.

Mr. Rader, could you dispel a rumor for us. I don't mean to put you or anybody else on the spot, but there's a rumor going around that a

Church evangelist who left the Work in 1974 is still full-time on the payroll of the Work. Could you comment on that?

Would you care to mention the name of that evangelist?

Yes, sir, Mr. Portune.

Mr. [Albert] Portune is not on the payroll, per se, of the Work, and he has been helped for the past three years, I believe. When he left, those of us who were closest to him, and I was one of those persons, tried everything in our power to keep him from making what would turn out to be the biggest mistake of his life—to leave the Work.

But he felt he had gone much too far and had made too many mistakes. He told me that in a five- or six-hour conversation on the last evening before he made the ultimate decision to leave. I spoke with him from about 10:30 in the evening until about 4:35 in the morning. (My wife was feeding me peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwiches and little glasses of milk, which I was sharing with my wire-haired terrier.) He said that unfortunately this is not a very forgiving Church. And, in his opinion, not being a very forgiving Church, he felt his colleagues would not let him back. They would make it so uncomfortable

required to take very menial positions just to keep a roof above their head.

After about a year he appealed to Mr. Armstrong in Christian charity, if there was not something that we could do for him. To take into consideration, as I said, those good years, we had to also consider the bad years. As a consequence Mr. Armstrong decided that he should be entitled to something, taking into consideration the circumstances, and we have given him a modest retirement allowance. I think it has been going on for almost three years.

Does that answer your question? How much is a modest allowance?

It comes to about \$9,600 a year.

Mr. Rader, I have some questions with respect to the press. Was this latest interview mentioned in the film a local or national one? What are our relationships with the press? What are our future plans?

Our relations with the press are quite good. We're subject to some interest, and I think that some of the unfortunate focus is a thing of the past. I believe we will find that we're dealt with more fairly by the press in the future.

I'll be doing a 30-minute radio show this week. It's been postponed once already. There's a newscaster there, Bob Steinburg, and I've been invited to the KABC [Los Angeles] studios. I'm not sure when it will air. I'm doing the Michael Jackson program for public television. That will be a week from Thursday.

The interview I referred to in the tape was done in our own studios under our control. Our television people prepared a set of hard questions—questions that either had not been asked or not asked in quite the same manner. We did about 90 minutes with Larry Burrell, whose name might be familiar to you. It's in the process of being edited by our own television people. We'll probably

HAVE A QUESTION FOR 'FORUM'?

Due to the success of Stanley Rader's headquarters personnel meetings and resulting "Forum" column and a number of enthusiastic comments received concerning them, Mr. Rader would like to open the column to questions from Church members.

Questions of interest to the general membership of the Church will be answered. In some cases questions may be altered slightly to be combined with other questions of a similar nature. Questions should be accompanied by a Good News mailing label (names will not appear in print) and addressed to:

Stanley R. Rader
"Forum"
300 W. Green St.
Pasadena, Calif., 91123

the answers could be more informative. It was totally spontaneous. Again, it was something like the Tom Snyder show. That, by the way, was totally spontaneous. I didn't see Snyder until 30 seconds before the first question was asked. And he was already on camera when I stepped up. They told me to look at the camera that's got the red light, and that was it. We went on pretty cold.

We get calls constantly from the press, but we don't want to address ourselves to each and every person. Sometimes they're only asking for the interview for selfish purposes. They're not interested in us or in sharing any important matters with their public. It's just something without any meaning. We try to evaluate which ones to respond to.

I've been invited to appear sometime next month on the NBC Today show. We're considering that. But as you know, that's a small segment of time by comparison to the Snyder thing. You get maybe five minutes, and five minutes is not adequate to

[Ralph] Helge had been handling extended negotiations with interested buyers for five or six weeks now. There are two buyers very much interested. Offers have been reduced to writing but have not been executed by either potential buyer. Yet we received this Friday a telegram from one of the buyers telling us he has executed the offer, has forwarded his check of \$475,000, which would be earnest money to be paid outside of escrow. In the event there should be a default, the money would be ours. He had already given us \$25,000, which we're holding. We have it banked. Those papers haven't appeared yet. And we don't have the money.

Yet, when we were in Big Sandy 10 days ago, the reporter took it upon himself to call one of the parties in Lynchburg, Va. And he received confirmation that the property had been bought by a certain industrialist (one of the parties we're dealing with) and that the property would be conveyed to him and his group, which is some kind of Baptist evangelical association, and they would use the property as a retreat.

Having received that confirmation, they printed it all over the Big Sandy area. That made it difficult for some of our people on the spot. I had already left, Mr. Armstrong had left, some of our local ministers were there, the coordinator of the Festival facilities, Mr. [David] Robinson, was on the spot. It made it look like we were withholding information and our people had to read about it in the newspapers. I had to call the newspapers and tell them they were causing us damage. The property had not been removed from the market because it had not been sold to anybody. Other parties were still bidding on it. If they kept printing that kind of material, we might have cause to sue for damage because they'd be interfering with our efforts to sell the property to

(See FORUM, page 8)

"Those of us at headquarters responsible for doing much of the day-by-day work of this great Work will be able to better understand one another and the purposes of the Work if we learn to communicate more often, more openly, more directly."

for him that his usefulness would be something of the past.

At any rate, when he left under this cloud, we were not in a position to do anything for him of a personal nature, taking into consideration the good years with the bad. In this case there were many good years. Apparently there was just a short period of time where there were some events that might be characterized as bad and might be attributable to him.

For a year he had no financial support whatsoever. He suffered quite a bit from it. He and his wife were

make the transcript available, certainly to our members and co-workers in *The Good News*. And if our TV people are happy with the production, we might use it as a PR tool to combat other press coverage that might not be to our liking in the future.

If we get a call from ABC or CBS or one of those network groups, we might simply supply them with a copy of our own tape, let them listen to it, and pick out whatever they want to from it. It's rather comprehensive. And as I said, the questions were hard questions, which were good, so that

cover a subject as important as our own.

Was the sale finalized on Big Sandy?

No, it has not been. It's still causing us a certain amount of damage, and some confusion. When I arrived in Big Sandy [Tex.] with Mr. Armstrong, I consented to a press interview, and there were people there from the Tyler, Gladewater and Longview, Tex., papers. They gave us very good coverage and one of the questions asked was about Big Sandy.

Mr. [Ellis] La Ravia and Mr.

Graduation

(Continued from page 6)

love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." In other words, it isn't enough to say we love our fellowman. We have to be *doers* of love. We must be willing to help others in need, not just wish them well.

"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born (begotten) of God and knoweth God. He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation of our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another" (1 John 4:7-11).

So love is of God; God is love. 1 John 5:1-3: "Whoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born [begotten] of God: and everyone that loveth him that

begat loves him also that is begotten of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments [contrary to many today who say otherwise] are not grievous."

The Commandments of God tell us how to love God and our fellowman. The first four of the Ten Commandments tell us how to love God; the last six how to love our neighbors. Love must be a motivating force in our lives.

11 John 5:6: "Now I beseech thee, lady [a reference to the Church], not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another. And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it."

I think most of us understand about love. We see attributes of love defined in 1 Corinthians 13, the "love chapter." Charity is an old English word for love. Love is patient, humble, thinks the best about others,

shuns gossip or evil imaginings. Love is dependable, hopes for the best for others, rejoices in truth.

Jesus went on to explain more about love in action in the parable about the Judgment in Matthew 25:31-46. Here love is portrayed as the criterion of judgment, the attribute that produces good works and is the basis for our judgment when we stand before Christ. Read these verses carefully because one day each of us will have to give account to Christ for the love we showed or failed to show to others.

Love is the most important element of all. Without it we are empty noisemakers (1 Corinthians 13:1). Anyone can talk religion. We have to practice and have real love.

Frankly, when I review these points myself, I have to ask myself, "Am I ready for my comprehensives?" And I'm not sure. I need a little more time. And I think we all feel that way too. So the thing is, if our lives are our time, then we'd better use that time profitably. We had better do something with it.

And then each of us can positively answer in the affirmative, "I am ready for the Kingdom of God."

FORUM

WITH STANLEY R. RADER

(Continued from page 7)
parties ready, willing and able to buy it.

Friday I got a call from the Los Angeles Times. I got a call again today and yesterday, because they read in what they considered to be a reasonably reliable Baptist newspaper, the same story—the property had been sold. I told them it hasn't been sold, and they shouldn't print. And they haven't as yet. But they call me every day because they want the break the story.

If we do sell the property to one of these buyers, it will be for about \$10.6 million, which would be \$100,000 more than our asking price and something like 25 percent more than the fair market value of the property, based upon the best and very recent appraisals by the leading firms of the area, and much in excess of our investment. It will also relieve us of at least a million or two per year in expenses, which are really just funds needed to keep the place from being overrun by weeds. This year's budget was about \$1.8 million. You can see it would be a good thing if the property is sold, and we're hoping that it is.

The property in Brickett Wood [England], by the way, has been sold. Mr. [Frank] Brown, here on a short visit, just advised me that the money has already been banked. And that was for two million pounds.

The last time, you mentioned plans for foreign broadcasting. Has anything been done in that area?

We haven't done anything as yet because we haven't had a chance to

hurt the reputation of the many. But by the time the new program is completed under the new leadership, I think you will find that we have the kind of institution Mr. Armstrong intended Ambassador College to be, and I think the number of those doing things contrary to God's way will be fewer.

Is it true that the Worldwide Church of God has incorporated the name of the Church of God, International?

Yes, but that's a technical matter. We have certain rights as an institution and a certain duty as stewards of that institution to protect those rights. One of those rights is not only the right to our name, but the right not to be unfairly dealt with by others and not to have others unwittingly confuse this institution with any other institution—particularly if an effort might be made by others to palm themselves off to the general public as being of or with or part of the same institution. So the Church of God, International, is just a cute play on Worldwide Church of God. They just took the word *world* and called it international and tagged it on the end.

Mr. Helge and I are very well versed in the field of law this particular falls within. If it becomes necessary to take more affirmative action to protect the rights of this institution, the rights of the brethren, we have to lay the proper foundation.

How effective have Garner Ted Armstrong's efforts been in establishing a church and have his efforts in any way hurt the Worldwide Church of God?

We feel that his efforts have been singularly unsuccessful whether looking at it from his point of view or looking at it from our point of view.

"I think within a short period of time we will have the kind of college here that Mr. Armstrong had intended all along."

bring all of our media efforts into a coordinated program. But the fact that the question came up was important for all of us involved in that effort. We are checking it out to see what can be done, who can make the programs and what funds can be provided.

Students feel that last year Ambassador College was attacked. Some students feel hurt because they feel that they did a good job, went back out to church areas and started Outreach programs, etc. I will admit there were some bad apples, but overall, I feel the majority of the students were hurt by the attacks.

All of the students certainly should not in any way feel attacked or condemned. I think Mr. Armstrong did find it necessary to address the issues. He was dealing with the right problem and having dealt with the right problem, I think we are back on the right track.

I spent Sunday with the widow of Bing Crosby, Katherine Crosby. She is the official patroness for the nationally televised show that will come from this Auditorium in December in memory of her husband. Bob Hope will host it. Perry Como and others will probably be on the program. She remembers Ambassador College with great affection. She commented that the students she had met were the nicest people she had met from any campus. I think that is the way most people will respond when they see the best of our Ambassador College students. But those few students that might have been the kind Mr. Armstrong might be addressing himself to—remember, he wasn't attacking the students. If the students were in error, it was the responsibility of those who were leading the students. I apologize for anything that may have hurt you as an individual and to the school in general. We know it's always the few who offend; it's always the few who

Our income is up, not down. Our church attendance is up, not down. That information was reported fully in one of the recent issues of *The Good News*. That's very indicative. That can be contrasted by the effect that some of our renegade ministers had back in 1974 when they hurt us. They did not hurt us to the point that we were mortally wounded, but they did hurt us. The nature and extent of the damage was immediately visible in terms of church attendance, overall tithing and in terms of Holy Day offerings. But church attendance and church income has been up, not only for the regular tithes and offerings, as reported to you in *The Good News*. But I just had Mr. [Jack] Bicket, our assistant treasurer, prepare a report on the Holy Day offerings and that will appear in both the *Pastor's Report* and *The Good News* in the very next issues showing that church attendance at the Feast was up and showing that Holy Day offerings were up [GN, Nov. 6 issue].

To dispel rumors, which ministers have gone with Garner Ted Armstrong or plan to go with him? We would like to know who is doing what?

To my knowledge, the only person who has openly gone with Mr. Ted Armstrong is Ron Dart. Ron Dart was sent from Pasadena, removed from his position last January, by Ted Armstrong himself. He was sent on a sabbatical, labeled as an indefinite one, to Austin, Tex. And the reasons for that were rather plain to those of us who were here, and that was that a change was necessary. So I don't know if that is the very reason why Mr. Dart left, but I would assume that it's one of the reasons why he left because he must have felt there was no place for him to come back to here. But we haven't heard of any other minister having left the church.

The three speakers that he had in

"We know what the problems are, now we have to marshal all of our resources, not only our money, but our manpower, our physical equipment and our spiritual resources."

Jekyll Island were himself, Ron Dart, and Mr. [Bill] McDowell, who left the Church somewhat under a cloud a few years ago. [A more recent list of ministerial changes, prepared by the Work's Ministerial Services Department Nov. 15 appears in "Update" on page 16.]

In the last few months there has been a lot of talk of consolidating and getting the college on the right track, but we have not heard much about plans regarding the commission. What plans in the future do we have for AICF, 'Quest'78, the broadcasts, etc.?

Mr. Armstrong's last article in *The Good News*, which you should have seen just before the Feast, tells you what the plans are for Ambassador College. Plans are to make it again a four-year institution. We have sound leadership there now. We have Mr. [Raymond] McNair, our deputy chancellor, and Mr. [Roderick] Meredith, our dean of faculty. They're working closely with Mr. Armstrong on developing a curriculum, which will in time broaden as classes are added. We now have a first-year class. We'll soon have a second and then a third and a fourth. I think within a short period of time we will have the kind of college here that Mr. Armstrong had intended all along with about 550 students living on campus, married couples probably living off. We would probably have a few special students at the graduate level. We would have our sabbatical program. I would guess around 750 in total. We would have courses designed to help the people here to get the kind of education that will enable them to serve the Church in the future in some functional role. That's the way I see it.

On television, we're working intensively to consider both the short- and the long-term aspects vis-a-vis that medium. We're heavily committed to radio at the moment. Radio is very expensive, and we are analyzing and reevaluating our commitment in light of the kind of audience out there today. The audience tuned in to radio is different today than in the past.

We have a fine television department with creative, dedicated people, and top flight administrative personnel. They're working around the clock not only filming wherever necessary for Mr. Armstrong, but creating new programs, new program formats, one-hour programs and one-half-hour programs, which we hope will bring us to a point, by the fall of 1979, where we will be permitted to break loose from all the prior institutional barriers and allow us to use the television medium effectively for the first time. We can thus maximize our impact in the United States in particular and Canada to a slightly lesser extent. We hope to back any effort in television with a massive promotion or awareness campaign, which I feel is essential for a successful television program. Most of you watch television yourselves. You know how the networks have to promote their own programs, how they have to fight for their share of the audience. You know how the independents have to fight market after market for their share. You see how everything is backed up by spots on television and radio, as in national and regional magazines, newspapers; it's a massive job. We never have really done it. And till you get the attention of the people, you're not going to register at all. We're kidding ourselves to think we can buy radio and television time and assume the audience is going to tune in. You have to lead your audience to that program, otherwise it would be like standing on top of a cliff and shouting your message into the wind and into

the ocean. There's too much competition out there. It was different a few years ago, even 10 years ago it was different.

For years, for example, I advocated we buy Sunday morning television time. I was repeatedly laughed out of the room. Nobody watches Sunday morning television. Nobody watches Sunday morning television for religious programming. Now if there is anyone here who doesn't know that statement is false, then you are not tuned in on what really is happening. That's where the audience is Sunday morning. There are people standing in line to take up our time if we relinquish it. It's a seller's market today.

I said your best time is early morning for religion, even during the week. In 1972, I went out and personally opened up market after market across the United States and bought early morning programming on major stations by convincing them to turn on one-half hour early just for us. Showed them how they could make a little money by just opening up one-half hour early. Now take a look and see who's buying those early morning times. You'll see that they are religious programmers—PTL and 700 Club. That's the type of stuff they're buying.

I can show you memo after memo where we talked about cable television and satellite. Fell on deaf ears. The others are now doing it. We know what the problems are, now we have to marshal all of our resources, not only our money, but our manpower, our physical equipment (may have to be updated in time) and our spiritual resources. Pull them all together so that in this end time we can do a bigger, more powerful job. We are doing it. Some of the things now being developed, some of the concepts being played with by our television and other creative people are exciting indeed. And they will produce fruit.

The Plain Truth, Mr. Armstrong has written to you about. It's going to be made even more powerful. It's going to become a major force in the United States, whether we're talking about a spiritual magazine or just any magazine, just by its sheer numbers. We hope in time to have multiple millions of copies with a much more dynamic content out on the newsstands as well as to increase the number of subscribers to *The Plain Truth* by our other methods.

Mr. [Richard] Rice's department, which we call subscriber development, is working constantly to improve its techniques of bringing people who have already been added to our list of subscribers of *The Plain Truth* to a greater awareness of what we know this world and this life is all about.

Mr. Armstrong is writing books. I

"Some of the things now being developed, some of the concepts being played with by our television and other creative people are exciting indeed. And they will produce fruit."

think this week's *Time* magazine, or maybe it was last, had a whole article on the book business. It seems to be a revelation to everyone that people do read books. Well, they do, and Mr. Armstrong is writing the books. He announced there is an audience out there we have not reached. He's writing the books, and we're going to get them out to those people—not only to Church people—but I think they're valuable to the Church people. I think what he's writing, if understood by all of us, will be great companion pieces

to the Bible. But there's a market out there, and I think we can reach that market. Again we have to back it up.

There was an article in this week's *Publishers Weekly*, which is a magazine that goes out to the book publishing industry. Just got my copy in the mail, which was interesting, because Mr. Gordon Muir, who's in town from the East Coast; was just mentioning yesterday how they're just beginning in certain areas, and we were in the vanguard to introduce *Quest*78 magazine and, it is hoped, *The Plain Truth*, into bookstores around the country. Most bookstores do not carry magazines. There are some 4,000 established book dealers where they have only a modest number of magazines on display. We feel *The Plain Truth* and *Quest*78 magazine might fit in nicely.

We are trying to work on all these areas to pull it all together.

Meantime, I've been left with a \$2.5 million budget deficit for the present year, and this is already Oct. 31. So I'm in the process of balancing the budget between now and June 30. A budgetary period, you know, is an artificial period of time. I've asked Mr. Bicket to study about going to a calendar-year budget. In any event, we're thinking way ahead. We're going to have to budget 18 months at a time, 24 months at a time, to implement the various programs we are talking about.

Did you ask about *Quest*78 also? That's still in the balance. Mr. Armstrong mentioned it at all the Feast sites. I mentioned it in conversations with the ministers.

Did you see the film on the foundation at the Feast? I didn't see it in its final form, but I understand it was outstanding. I saw it when it was still in the process of being prepared on slides. But *Quest*78 continues to be somewhat of a problem for us. We all want to do what we can to keep it. Mr. Armstrong knows that it has great value. It's not easy to make everyone understand how much good it can accomplish for us. Those who can't comprehend it just have to have more trust and faith in those who are more directly involved to know it can be of some good. But it is a problem because as the film should have stated (Mr. Armstrong's remarks should have been there by either a voice-over or in person), the main problem involves financial considerations after this current fiscal year. Does anyone remember that statement being made? That's really the issue now because I was told when I got back on the scene, as recently as July 1, that *Quest*78 would be self-supporting after the present fiscal year—meaning that July 1, 1979, it would be self-supporting. I was told that between January and June we would get a

return of some of our subsidy that we are presently laying out for the period July 1 through Dec. 1.

I'm not happy with the results of my independent studies since July. I just did get back and forth before the Feast. I'm not happy to say that I don't believe the figures given to me July 1. I do not believe that *Quest*78 will be able to give us back some of our subsidy between January and June. I'm going to have to play it like Harry Truman—show me—before I will (See FORUM, page 10)

Worldwide Church of God full-time U.S. ministry

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FORUM

WITH STANLEY R. RADER

(Continued from page 8)
believe it will be self-supporting after July. I'm continuing to pursue the other alternative, which of course would be a sale of the magazine. I'm working with Litton Industries, I'm working with CBS, I'm working with ABC and others. We keep getting inquiries. We have an inquiry from North American Publishing, which publishes *Q* magazine. I get letters from people who want to help us dispose of the magazine because they've heard it might be for sale.

That's exactly where it stands now. I'm not too happy with it. People are still trying to make me happy. But once you get in with the figures, you begin to find that some of the data is not quite as hard as you would like it to be, and it kind of shakes you up.

Speaking about 'Quest/78' and its main problem being financial, how much do you feel the magazine is worth to us even if it causes a deficit in terms of its benefits?

Good question. I can't answer it because it was never conceived of in those terms. But it's a good question because it's the very one that came up yesterday when we had a meeting about different areas of the Work; various department heads were called in. It's a good question because it's

one that we might have to examine.

What would *Quest/78* be worth even if we had to subsidize it in the future? That's what we're working on. We want the answer to that question.

When we established the operation, it was presented to us by the person that we relied upon to implement the idea that we had. We told them we wanted the magazine to be successful regardless of what kind of criteria one were to consider in evaluating the success of the magazine, meaning we wanted it to be a financial and an artistic success, and

your investment you expect to get back.

But after that period of time, if it were to continue to be successful only by being subsidized and if it were our only magazine, some people might say: "Well, people really aren't interested in any of the values that are contained in that magazine. It only continues to be published because the people are going to subsidize it." But remember, the man who was acting as one of our leading lights in the magazine was the former publisher of *Sports Illustrated*, which is one of the more successful magazines. It took 14 years for *Time* magazine to get *Sports*

In the face of the sagging dollar and declining economy, do you foresee any problems for the Work?

We are constantly being eaten up by inflation just as every organization that has to live on a reasonably limited income. But we feel that the Church is now going to go into a period of growth. We have literally been static. We've been stagnating for some seven, seven and a half, eight years. What we have experienced is the Church brethren, despite inflation, despite the difficulty it has caused them as individuals, are giving more to take up the slack that has been caused

"What we have experienced is the Church brethren, despite inflation, despite the difficulty it has caused them as individuals, are giving more to take up the slack that has been caused by the fact that the nonmember income has not grown."

do everything that we wanted the magazine to do. We said we don't want it to be subsidized because it might diminish the value of the magazine.

People react or respond differently to a magazine truly independent and independently successful financially than a magazine that's subsidized. People might say, would that magazine really be coming out each month—this is after a period of time. And you have to put money out ahead of time to make anything work. That's

Illustrated into the black. But we never intended to wait 14 years. We were told that we would have it in the black within three years and that we would have a return—a handsome return.

I would have been willing, as my memoranda indicated, to buy the idea of the magazine, even with a modest return—not this fantastic return successful magazines generate. They can generate very handsome profits. But I would have been willing to accept just a modest return on our investment because of the benefits that we expected to flow from it. Now we may have to ask that question, what would it be worth to the Church to subsidize it a bit, give it a chance for a few more years. Certainly, I would not be willing to recommend to Mr. Armstrong that we continue it if it's going to impede our progress in other areas more vital to the Work—media exposure and the like. But if we could do both for a limited period of time, then it would be a good question to have the answer to.

by the fact that the nonmember income has not grown. It has shrunk about 50 percent in terms of real dollars, and despite the fact that costs have gone up. But now that we have removed what we feel has been one of the primary reasons—if not the primary reason—for lack of Church growth, all we have to do is begin to show a modest Church growth. We've had no growth. But if we begin to grow by even 5 percent in terms of Church membership, it begins to change our numbers rather drastically. And if we should go back, and we think we can, to our old growth curves, then you can see the future is bright. We always suffer more in times of inflation than in times of mild recession. That seemed to be the case for us when the country went through recession during the past 20 years. We never suffered as a result of the recessionary conditions. We only began to suffer when our growth stopped, and inflation began to eat us up. So we're hopeful about the future. It all looks bright.

ICCY plans celebration for 10 years' cooperation

This article is reprinted from the summer issue of ECHO, a Jerusalem, Israel, based publication produced by the International Cultural Center for Youth in Jerusalem (ICCY).

JERUSALEM — On Dec. 1 [now scheduled later in December], the International Cultural Center for Youth will honor the past 10 years of successful cooperation with Ambassador College and the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation. Mr. Moshe Kol, chairman of the board of directors of the ICCY has appointed a special committee to formulate suggestions as to how to mark this event. Mr. Herbert Armstrong, chancellor of Ambassador College and the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation, and Mr. Stanley Rader, vice president of the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation,

plan to participate in this celebration.

Ten years ago, Mr. Kol met Mr. Armstrong in the Knesset in Jerusalem, and they both agreed to build a lasting bridge between Israel and Ambassador College. Mr. Stanley Rader was very active in the implementation of the agreement between Ambassador College and the International Cultural Center for Youth in Jerusalem. Mr. Armstrong is known today as a distinguished humanitarian, fostering understanding between peoples of different cultures and beliefs for a better world.

The ICCY is very proud of the partnership between the Ambassador Foundation and our programs for Jewish, Arab and Druze Israeli youth. Mr. Kol said he is sure that the work of the ICCY gives great satisfaction to Mr. Armstrong and his associates.

Members lose child, home in tragedy during Feast

SEDRO-WOOLLEY, Wash. — Fire swept the residence of Sedro-Woolley Church members Roger and Sharon Weinkauff during the Feast of Tabernacles, killing the couple's 22-month-old daughter and destroying the house they were living in.

Mrs. Weinkauff, alone at the time with her four children, managed to rescue three of the children but was unable to locate her youngest daughter in the thick smoke after the fire broke out about 7 p.m. on Oct. 16. Only hours before, the entire family had returned to their Burlington, Wash., home from Holy Day services at the Seattle, Wash., Feast site.

An announcement of the tragedy made at Feast services brought tre-

mendous response according to Sedro-Woolley pastor Valden White. Contributions from brethren alone totaled \$5,700 for the stricken family. Local citizens and various organizations also contributed to help the fire victims said Mr. White.

"Donations from brethren began pouring in in the form of prayers, clothing, food, furniture and money," Mr. Weinkauff said. "We would like to just say thanks for your generosity and caring in our time of need."

The Weinkauff family is now relocated in Mount Vernon, Wash., where Mr. Weinkauff continues in his work in construction. Their address is 1122 Railroad Ave. S., Mount Vernon, Wash., 98273.

80 feast behind iron curtain

By John Sarkett and Bonnie Sarkett

CARLSBAD, Czechoslovakia — Clearly, this was not an American Feast.

Instead of 8,000, our throng numbered 80. Instead of prime rib, we ate rump steak. And if the service and hospitality of the Feast hotel was not always what we might have expected, perhaps we were learning something about the socialist system.

This was the 1978 Feast of Tabernacles in Carlsbad (Karlovy Vary), Czechoslovakia, the first to be openly observed behind the iron curtain. And despite some minor inconveniences, it was our most meaningful Feast yet.

Kingdom-oriented

The reasons were many. Messages by Frank Schnee, John Karlson, Victor Root, Alfred Hellemann and others were kingdom-oriented and especially pertinent. The sightseeing ventures to Prague and Marienbad, Czechoslovakia, and the Iron Ore Mountains were excellent diversions, as were other social activities like the dance and slide-show evenings. The European brethren—from East and West Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Poland—were extremely cordial and outgoing.

But in the midst of these Fall Festival goings-on, amidst the services, the fellowship, the eating and the drinking, a dramatic subplot was being played out by the East German brethren, and that's what we will remember most.

Though the Feast was fully sanctioned by Cedok, the official tourist

bureau of Czechoslovakia, that did not remove all difficulties for the East Germans.

The East German government strictly forbids participation in a religious meeting like the Feast of Tabernacles so those brethren were unable to stay in the Grandmoskva, the Feast Hotel, to avoid being discovered and heavily penalized, perhaps jailed.

But that in no way diminished their joy in being here. One East German, a former heavyweight in the Communist Party, with tears in his eyes, expressed his joy on the first day of the Feast with a great bear hug for Mr. Root, a minister in the German Work. One man explained, "It means so much to me that the Feast was held here so that I and the others from the DDR [East Germany] could attend."

There were more tears from another East German, but this time not tears of joy. A young mother of four, overwhelmed with her problems, started crying quietly to herself one day in services. While she was being comforted, someone explained that the woman's husband had come from East Germany the day before and insisted she return home. This was more than a typical husband-wife squabble over the Church. The family was forced to live in a section of town reserved for religious fanatics. The husband was anxious over what his wife and family's attendance at the Feast would mean for their personal safety.

For some East German brethren, there were no tears of joy or grief, just an uneasy feeling of being watched, that maybe a police squad-

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(Continued from page 16)

ranged by Jack Martin, with Robert Kuhn's assent. I subsequently sent reports through Jack Martin to the West Coast which I assumed went to the proper executives of the foundation. In those reports I described the books in detail, inviting any criticism. None was made.

"It therefore came as a surprise to hear some books were being held up in shipment and production because there was something offensive about them."

This letter from Mr. Gillenson sent to me in June was a result of my telephone conversations and letters to him expressing great disappointment at the selection of some of the books on both the fall and spring lists. However, it was only in May that any of this came to my attention, and I am thankful for the efforts of Mr. [Roger] Lippross and others in his department to bring the matter to my attention. Unfortunately, by the time I learned of the more or less undesirable books it was impossible to delay their publication. I have, however, cautioned Mr. Gillenson that in the future all publications or intended publications must be approved by me (and I, of course, will approve none without Mr. Armstrong's approval) lest there be anything in any project that would appear not to meet the criteria that we have established for the books to be published by Everest House.

Mr. Armstrong and I both feel that Everest House will be a vehicle that will dramatically enhance the successful marketing of his books—two of which are already in the hands of the printers and two more expected to follow very quickly. Mr. [Wayne] Cole and others have written very strong memoranda to Mr. Armstrong in total support of both *Quest/78* and Everest House, as valuable vehicles for fulfilling the great commission.

ron would interrupt the proceedings and cart some away for questioning (as actually happened to Mr. Karlson at a nonsanctioned Feast of Tabernacles in East Germany in 1972.)

No trumpets were sounded. No film crew was there to produce a documentary about the East Germans. But people noticed just the same.

Bigger and better

Next year's Feast in Carlsbad promises to be even bigger and better, with 200 to 300 attending, according to Mr. Schnee, director of the German Work. He has invited top Cedok officials to Pasadena to meet Herbert W. Armstrong and sign the final contracts. This may help open the door into the East Bloc countries as well.

One American summed it up this way: "Someone looking for a Feast site with a close-knit family feeling really ought to consider Carlsbad for next year. It really gives you a different perspective to meet our European counterparts, especially the East Germans."

Due to the limited amount of local-church-news reports submitted from activities shortly before the Feast, "Local Church News" does not appear in this issue. Reports that would normally appear in this issue will be combined with other reports in a future issue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHS

BAAS, David and Margie (Holden), of Cincinnati, Ohio, boy, Daniel Jeremy, Nov. 4, 1:37 p.m., 7 pounds 5 ounces, first child.

BARBUSH, George and Kathy (Lehman), of Oak Lawn, Ill., boy, Matthew Albert Herbert Deason, July 22, 8:05 a.m., 7 pounds 13 ounces, now 2 boys.

CHOATE, Carl and Elaine (Mages), of Cape Girardeau, Mo., boy, Joshua Stephen, Oct. 7, 11:43 a.m., 7 pounds 11 ounces, now 4 boys.

CRABB, Stephen and Beulah (Skaggs), of Odessa, Tex., boy, Aaron Brook, Oct. 30, 10:46 a.m., 7 pounds 11½ ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

CRAYTON, Mike and Debbie (McConnell), of Greenfield, Mo., boy, Dustin Michael, Sept. 30, 7:24 a.m., 9 pounds 2 ounces, first child.

CREED, Dan and Jan, of Bismarck, N.D., boy, Chad Cameron, Sept. 18, 7 pounds 8 ounces, first child.

CRESSMAN, John and Diane, of Allentown, Pa., boy, Carl Philip, Oct. 9, 12:50 a.m., 8 pounds, now 3 girls.

DENZLER, Guido and Brenda (Reaser), of Houston, Tex., boy, Todd Kuko, Aug. 31, 9:46 p.m., 8 pounds 10 ounces, now 2 boys.

EKAMA, Jerri and Kathleen (Wong), of New Philadelphia, Ohio, girl, Tanya Kay, Aug. 27, 6:44 p.m., 8 pounds 8 ounces, first child.

GULLY, Jan and Jill (Pickington), of Amarillo, Tex., boy, John Jeffrey, Oct. 26, 11:53 a.m., 7 pounds 2 ounces, first child.

GUTHRIE, Billy Joe and Janice, of Birmingham, Ala., girl, Tanya Lynn, Oct. 18, 4:32 p.m., 7 pounds 14 ounces, now 3 girls.

HEAP, Thomas and Kenya (Archer), of Modesto, Calif., boy, Benjamin David, Oct. 13, 7:18 a.m., 6 pounds 4 ounces, now 2 boys.

JOHNSTON, Ted and Donna (Graves), of Fort Collins, Colo., boy, Joseph Edward, Oct. 23, 2:13 p.m., 8 pounds 3 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

MASEK, Rich and Mary, of Cleveland, Ohio, girl, Amy Michelle, Oct. 23, 8:20 a.m., 7 pounds 14 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

MOODY, Danny and Lisa (Pemberton), of Lawton, Okla., boy, Blake Daniel, Oct. 30, 3:27 p.m., 8 pounds 6 ounces, now 2 boys.

NICHOLS, Donald and Karen (Foster), of Tulsa, Okla., girl, Jacqueline Ann, Nov. 2, 12:33 p.m., 7 pounds 14 ounces, first child.

PITMAN, James and Mary (Callahan), of Pockett, Okla., boy, Charles Wesley, Oct. 4, 10:40 p.m., 9 pounds 1 ounce, first child.

SCHAUHECK, Jorge and Juanita (Madrigal), of San Jose, Costa Rica, girl, Christa, Oct. 27, 7:15 p.m., 6 pounds 6 ounces, first child.

SOOTER, Richard and Patricia (Wilhoite), of Kansas City, Mo., boy, Kenneth Wayne, Sept. 22, 11:12 p.m., 5 pounds, first child.

TIPON, Lorenzo and Nieves (Hidalgo), of Pampanga, Philippines, girl, Melanie H., Oct. 25, 3 a.m., 8 pounds, now 3 boys, 3 girls.

WHITE, Terry and Debra (Biggerstaff), of Asheville, N.C., girl, Melissa Lee, Oct. 5, 10:12 a.m., 8 pounds 10 ounces, now 2 girls.

WEDDINGS

Sheri Lynne Chaney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Chaney of Middletown, Ohio, and Thomas Ray Ragland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Ragland of Urbana, Ohio, were united in marriage Sept. 17 in a garden wedding at the home of the bride, Richard Thompson, pastor of the Dayton, Ohio, church, officiated. Clifford Perryman was best man and the bride's sister Colleen was maid of honor. Tom and Sheri now reside in Mechanicsburg, Ohio, and attend the Dayton P.M. church.



MR. AND MRS. T. RAGLAND

Marie Jones and Nathan Green were united in marriage in Mobile, Ala., Sept. 30. The afternoon wedding and reception took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hilford Jones. The ceremony was conducted by Donald Thomas, minister in Mobile. Gennette Jones was maid of honor and Hilford Jones was best man. The couple is residing in Key Stone Heights, Fla.

Mark Zebrowski of Long Beach, Calif., and Brenda Tessitore of Montrose, Colo., were married July 16 in the mountains near Montrose, Colo. Dale Pack was best man and Jan Mock was maid of honor. Ledru Woodbury of Grand Junction, Colo., officiated. Both are Ambassador College graduates.

Sandra Jeanette Collins and Charles Michael Gully were united in marriage Oct. 13 in Phenix City, Ala. Otto Lochner, pastor of the Columbus and Warner Robins, Ga., churches, performed the ceremony. The bride is the daughter of Raymond Collins and the late Mary Lee Collins of Phenix City. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Gully of Manchester, Ga. The couple attended the Columbus church.



MR. AND MRS. CHARLES GULLY



MR. AND MRS. RICHARD WEBER

Patricia Littleton of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Richard Weber of Newman, Ill., were married Oct. 7 at the McQuary home in Harrison, Ind. Jeffrey E. Barnes, pastor of the Cincinnati (Ohio) West church, officiated. Ed Allen and Dorothy Shoemaker were the honor attendants. The couple now reside at 113 S. Shirley St., Box 191, Newman, Ill., 61942.



MR. AND MRS. STEVEN TAILON

Vicky Lynn Gomer and Steven Anthony Tailon were united in marriage by Bill Johns, pastor of the St. Paul, Minn., and Eau Claire, Wis., churches, Oct. 14 at the home of the bride's parents. Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gomer of Black River Falls, Wis., and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Tailon of Pendleton, Ore. They are now residing in Santa Barbara, Calif.



MR. AND MRS. ROY KOONS

Roy Koons and Kathleen Saphar were united in marriage Oct. 8 at Princeton University Chapel, Princeton, N.J. Edwin G. Saphar, father of the bride, G. Howard Koons, father of the groom, and Richard Frankel, pastor of the Woodbridge, N.J., church, officiated. Roger Diamond was best man and Fannie Sue Saphar was maid of honor.

ANNIVERSARIES

Lovegain for Mrs. Debbie Christman: (stop) I love you very much (stop) Nov. 25 marks three truly wonderful years (stop) Thank you for your loving patience and support (stop) Happy anniversary darling. Love Jim (will never stop loving you)

To Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wickham: Congratulations on your 35th anniversary Nov. 27. Mom and Dad, and best wishes for the next 35 years! Love from Wayne and Anita.

To Mary and David Roscoe: Best wishes for a happy second anniversary, from your new old friends, Wayne and Anita.

Mr. and Mrs. Rowe Killingsworth celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at the Big Sandy, Tex., Festival this year along with their four children, 14 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Studie and Rowe Killingsworth were married Sept. 13, 1928. They have been members of God's Church since 1956. This was their 21st Festival.

Richard—Seven years of life together on Nov. 29. Our path has been steep, rocky and dark, but our God has led us ever onward into a beautiful valley filled with character, deep love, two beautiful children and more happiness than I knew possible. I love you, Sherry.

Dad and Mom, happy 29th anniversary Nov. 25. May you have many wonderful years to come. Love from Ted, Donna, Traci and Joey.

Dear Dad and Mom, hope you have a happy anniversary. Love, Robyn, Kerrie, Carolyn, Jan, Vicki and Andrew.

To my one and only: For three years we had our good and bad times (mostly good ones). We have our three plus one children to raise in God's way and to give our love to them. The last three years have been a happy and fruitful period, and hope for many more years together. Happy third anniversary, Nov. 16. With all my love, Norman, Cicero, Ill.



MR. AND MRS. WILEY GLOVER

Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Glover of Ozark, Ala., celebrated 60 years of marriage Sept. 3 in the home of their daughter. Attending the reception were four generations: seven children, 10 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren. Others attending were friends and neighbors. Mr. and Mrs. Glover are members of the Worldwide Church of God and are now attending the Geneva, Ala., church.

Monte and Dad, happy anniversary. May the love you have given to new heights and continue to grow forever. May you have many more happy fulfilled years. We love you dearly. As always, Rick, Sandy, Becky, Neil and Mark.

Obituaries

AMARILLO, Tex. — Ina Lou Lain, 40, died Aug. 11. She was a 1960 graduate of Ambassador College in Pasadena. Jeff Booth, minister here, officiated.

Mrs. Lain is survived by her husband Edward; one daughter, Sara; three sons, Ernest, Steven and Daniel; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warner Grabbe of Silverton, Tex.; two sisters, Susan and Ronda, both of Silverton; four brothers, Carson and Lester, both of Pasadena, Orin of Cambridge, Mass., and Crockett of Knoxville, Tenn.

BATON ROUGE, La. — Edward R. Brecheen, 56, died Aug. 27 after an extended illness. He was able to attend Sabbath services only once after his recent baptism. Funeral services were conducted by Karl Beyersdorfer, pastor of the Baton Rouge church.

Mr. Brecheen is survived by his wife Louise and seven sons. One son, Nathan, is a baptized member of God's Church.

BIGSANDY, Tex. — Jean Keener, 47, died Aug. 17 after a long battle with cancer. She was baptized in 1970 and attended the Big Sandy church. Dr. Don Ward, pastor of the Tyler, Tex., church, conducted funeral services.

Mrs. Keener is survived by two daughters, Kay Wait and Sidaia; a grandson, Zachary Wait; two sisters; brothers; and a stepson.

CLEVELAND, Ohio — Mark Bradesku, 25, died Sept. 4 following a highway accident in Clearlake Highlands, Calif.

Mr. Bradesku is survived by his wife Barbara; one son, Luke; his parents and grandparents; four brothers; and one sister. His mother, Isabel Bradesku, is a member attending the Cleveland East church.

GLENDORA, Calif. — Ann Darlene Steele, 41, died Aug. 9 after suffering seven years with cancer. Bernie Schnipfert, a minister in the Pasadena area, officiated.

Mrs. Steele is survived by her husband Roger, son Larry Barton, 20, and daughter Rachelle Barton, 16.

HOUSTON, Tex. — Horace E. Poindexter, 85, died Sept. 29 after a short illness. Harold Treybig officiated at the funeral services.

Mr. Poindexter, known for his success with organic gardening, was a longtime member of the Houston West church. He is survived by his wife, Sadye; a daughter, Beverly; and a son, Michael; as well as two grandchildren and a sister.

JACKSON, Tenn. — Youtber Singleton, 78, a retired farmer, died July 6 after an illness of six weeks. Mr. Singleton, well liked by all who knew him, has been a dedicated member of God's Church since 1965. Ted Phillips, Jackson pastor, conducted funeral services.

Mr. Singleton is survived by his wife of more than 50 years, Gertrude; five daughters, Henriella Diggs of Pekin, Ill., Vir-

ginia Singleton, Norma Cox, Shirley Harvey and Nancy McKenzie, all of Jackson; one son, Richard, also of Jackson; 17 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; five brothers; and two sisters.

MACOMB, Ill. — Irma Mullins, 70, died of a heart attack Oct. 29 in her home. She had been a member of God's Church since 1965.

Mrs. Mullins is survived by two children, 11 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Mrs. Carmen Thompson, a grandchild, is also a member of the Church.

MIAMI, Fla. — Milton Clayton, 54, died Sept. 18 of cancer. He was a member of God's Church for more than seven years.

Mr. Clayton is survived by his wife Annie Mae, also a member; 12 children; his mother, Bertha Clayton; his stepmother, Almetta Clayton; six brothers; four sisters; and 21 grandchildren.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — Marcella M. Wells, 52, died Oct. 19 after a valiant fight against cancer. Robert Hoops, pastor here, officiated at the funeral services in Prior Lake, Minn.

Mrs. Wells, a member of God's Church for seven years, is survived by her husband Jasper and daughter Lori, also members.

NANUET, N.Y. — Clotilde B. Jaeger, 87, died Sept. 23 after a battle with diabetes complicated by a broken hip. Fondly known as "Grandma Jaeger," she was among the pioneer members of the first New York City church in 1960. Graveside services were conducted by Lloyd Briggs, minister of the Woodbridge, N.J., church.

Mrs. Jaeger had served as official translator in New York City beginning in 1926 and several of her books are in the New York City Library. She is survived by her husband, Frank Kauger.

NEWMAN, Ill. — W.C. "Bud" Riggs, 52, died Sept. 6 from cancer at Burnham Hospital, Champaign, Ill. He was baptized in 1966 while attending the El Monte, Calif., church. Mr. Riggs moved from California in 1969 to Murrayville, Ill., where he farmed and later operated the Murrayville Disposal Plant.

Mr. Riggs is survived by a daughter, Maxine Baurer, of the Champaign church; two grandchildren, Karrie and Toby; a half sister, Carolyn Spencer (a Church member) of Modesto, Iowa; a brother, Carl Riggs Jr.; and his father and stepmother, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Riggs Sr. of Roodhouse, Ill.

NUCLA, Colo. — Erven C. Case, 57, a member of God's Church in Grand Junction, died Sept. 21 after a short illness with cancer. Grand Junction pastor Ledru Woodbury officiated at the graveside services.

Mr. Case is survived by his wife Ruth; three sons, Rex, Eric and Vern; a daughter, Karen Welborn; four grandchildren; his father; two brothers; and a sister.

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Otis L. Everett, 87, formerly of Washington, D.C., died Sept. 10 at the Metro General Hospital in Pinellas Park, Fla. He was a retired housepainter. Ron Reedy, pastor of the Evansville, Ind., church, conducted the services in Washington.

Mr. Everett is survived by two sons; Leeman of St. Petersburg and Robert of Peoria, Ill.; three daughters, Beulah Walker, of Loogootee, Ind., and Imogene Papabom of Queens, N.Y.; and Imogene Krochmal of Ritley, Tenn.; two stepdaughters, Lavon Fields of Washington and Grace Sullivan of Detroit, Mich.; 25 grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — Arthur Robert Vrooman, formerly a member of the Norwalk, Calif., church, died Sept. 17 after an 18-month illness with a brain tumor.

Mr. James Friddle officiated at graveside services Sept. 22.

Mr. Vrooman and his wife Betty were baptized in September, 1972, in Norwalk, Calif.

In addition to his wife Mr. Vrooman is survived by a daughter, Julie Low, and a son, Rel, both of Wisconsin; a son, Martin, 11, of San Diego; one brother; and five sisters.

VANCOUVER, B.C. — Eleanor Allan, 72, died of a heart attack Sept. 14. She was a member of God's Church for 12 years and was loved and will be missed by many.

ENGAGEMENTS

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Peterson of Lakeland, Fla., are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Robin, to Tony Morelli Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Morelli Sr., of North Providence, R.I. A spring wedding is being planned.

Mr. Walter J. Mohler of Darlington, Pa., is happy to announce the engagement of his daughter, Judi, to Daniel E. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger A. Smith of Joliet, Ill. A spring wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Marsh of Baltimore, Md., are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Diane, to Ronald Reale, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Reale of Melbourne, Australia. They are planning an April wedding.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

We'd like to let the readers of *The Good News* know about your new baby as soon as it arrives. Just fill out this coupon and send it to the address given as soon as possible after the baby is born.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT
THE GOOD NEWS
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| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Last name | Father's first name | Mother's first name |
| Mother's maiden name* | Church area or city of residence/state/country | |
| Baby's sex <input type="checkbox"/> Boy <input type="checkbox"/> Girl | Baby's first and middle names | |
| Month of birth | Day of month | Time of day <input type="checkbox"/> A.M. <input type="checkbox"/> P.M. |
| Weight | No. of sons you now have | |
| No. of daughters you now have | | |

*Optional

Our coupon baby this issue is David Lammon, son of Mike and Debbie Lammon of Syracuse, N.Y.

SEVEN PROOFS of THE TRUE CHURCH

(Continued from page 5)
understands both WHAT man is and WHY humanity was put on the earth!

Science cannot give you the answer. Modern higher education does not know or teach the answer. And, with these basically important questions, WHY all the evils in this chaotic and sick world, now facing the No. 1 problem of whether human life can survive through the remainder of this 20th century.

I ask, HOW can even the most highly educated be so IGNORANT of so IMPORTANT a TRUTH?

Earth's face in devastation

Instead of improving, beautifying, completing earth's creation, the sinning angels brought it to desolation and ruin.

Come now again to Genesis 1:1-2: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep."

The original Hebrew for "without form and void" is *tohu* and *bohu* — meaning waste, desolate, deteriorated. The word was also translated "became." All was oceanic surface — and light had been by angel lawlessness turned into darkness.

Let me here interject a biblical principle. The entirety of a subject is often not stated within the context of one place. There is this instruction in Isaiah: "Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? . . . For precept

creation of MAN, God first renewed the face of the earth. This is explained in Psalm 104:30: "Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created; and thou renewest the face of the earth."

Now back to Genesis 1:2. The earth was in a state of ruin. " . . . And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters."

The first thing God did was turn darkness back into LIGHT as originally made. God said, " . . . Let there be light: and there was light" (Genesis 1:3).

So in six days God RENEWED THE FACE OF THE EARTH (not its original creation), preparing it for the creation of MAN!

Once again the earth was a perfect creation — but lacking the finishing touches.

The PURPOSE of man on earth

WHY did the Creator God put MAN on the earth? To improve the physical earth as God gave it to man, finishing its creation, which sinning angels had deliberately refused to do. And in so doing to RESTORE the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, with God's way of life, and, further, in this very process FINISHING THE CREATION OF MAN by the development of God's holy, righteous CHARACTER, with man's own assent. Once this perfect and righteous character is instilled in man and man converted from mortal to immortal spirit, then is to come the INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL — man being BORN INTO the di-

PROOF that identifies the one true Church of God!

How human MIND functions

Now we come to another truth, so far as I know exclusive in the one true Church.

Did you ever wonder about the vast difference between human mind and animal brain? This incidentally is another PROOF of the falsity of the theory of evolution!

The physical brain of vertebrates in the animal kingdom is almost precisely the same in physical form, design, constituent, as human brain — and the brains of whales, elephants, dolphins are larger, and chimp almost as large. Yet the output of human brain is indescribably greater. Few indeed know WHY!

Many passages of scripture show that there is a spirit in man. Spirit is *not* matter, and man is wholly matter. But, as there could be a small metal object swallowed by mistake IN man, yet no part of the man himself, so with the spirit within each human. Because it is, in the form of essence — not a ghost or being of itself, and to distinguish it from God's Holy Spirit, I designate it as the "human" spirit. Nevertheless, it is spirit and not matter.

This "human" spirit imparts the power of intellect to the human physical brain. The spirit cannot see, hear, taste, smell or feel. The brain sees through the eye, hears through the ear, etc. The "human" spirit cannot of itself think. The physical brain thinks.

What, then, is the function of

natural mind can know only what the brain can physically see, hear, taste, smell or feel. The natural mind is *confined* to physical, material knowledge!

"But God hath revealed them [spiritual things] unto us by His Spirit . . ." (verse 10).

"For what man knoweth the

"ONLY when the Holy Spirit enters, combining with the 'human' spirit, can a man come to know that which is spiritual."

things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? . . ." (verse 11). A cow, sheep or dog cannot know the things a man knows — and neither could a man, except by the spirit of man, which is *in* him. Likewise, the natural man with this one spirit is *limited* to material knowledge — . . . even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God" (verse 11).

ONLY when the Holy Spirit enters, combining with the "human" spirit, can a man come to know that which is spiritual. "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned" (verse 14).

That is WHY the most highly educated are overall the most ignorant. They are confined to knowledge of the material. Knowledge of God and the things of God are foolishness to him. But, of course, God says, " . . . the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God . . ." (1 Corinthians 3:19).

World CUT OFF from God

Now back to the first human, Adam.

Remember God's PURPOSE in creating man on the earth: 1) to restore the GOVERNMENT OF GOD on earth, and by regulating human life through that GOVERNMENT, a) complete the physical creation of earth where angels turned it to ruin, and b) in the process complete the creation of MAN by developing righteous spiritual CHARACTER; and 2) establishing the KINGDOM OF GOD and eventu-

ally the incredible human potential of finishing the creation of the vast UNIVERSE.

This supreme PURPOSE required: 1) that MAN reject Satan's WAY, embracing GOD's WAY of LOVE, based on God's spiritual law, and 2) that man be made first of matter so that, if he was led into Satan's way of GET, he could be CHANGED, converted to GOD's WAY of LOVE. Spirit, once a finished creation, as angels became evil characters, cannot be changed! Spirit is constant and eternal — not subject to change. But physical matter is constantly *changing*.

Through God's master plan for His Spiritual creation, to be covered later, it had been master-planned by God and the Word that the Word would divest Himself of His supreme glory, and in due time take on Him the likeness of human flesh as Jesus Christ, making possible the spiritual phase of the creation of MAN — God REPRODUCING HIMSELF! What a MASTER PLAN for the extreme ULTIMATE in creative accomplishment! How GREAT is our God — in mind, purpose, planning, designing, as well as CREATING — from the tiniest germ or insect to the most huge sun, dwarfing our own great sun to insignificance!

And the incredible human potential is that the GREAT MAJESTIC GOD is, IN MAN, reproducing Himself — man can be born into the GOD FAMILY!

The first human, Adam, was created with the potential of qualifying to replace Satan, the former Lucifer, on earth's throne, restoring the GOVERNMENT OF GOD.

But it was necessary that he resist and reject Satan's GET way and choose GOD's WAY of His law — the way of LOVE (GIVE!). His Maker talked first to Adam and Eve — instructed them thoroughly in the GOVERNMENT and spiritual LAW of God — even though in Genesis 2 only the most condensed summary of God's instruction to them is revealed. Satan was restrained from any contact with them until God first had completely taught them.

Two symbolic trees

In the gloriously beautiful Garden of Eden, into which God placed them, were two symbolic trees. One was the "tree of life." Taking its fruit, freely offered, symbolized obedience and faithfulness to God's law of outgoing LOVE and receiving the gift of God's Holy Spirit.

The other was the tree of "the knowledge of good and evil." Taking of its fruit was taking to *themselves* the knowledge of what is good, and what is evil — deciding for themselves what is right and what is sin. This, of course, meant rejection of GOD'S LAW, which defined for *them* the right and the wrong.

The glorious archangel

"Few today remotely realize the great power, now turned to cunning deception, possessed by Satan. Apparently Adam completely underestimated him."

Lucifer, as God originally created him, was the pinnacle of God's creative power in a single being. Few today remotely realize the great power, now turned to cunning deception, possessed by Satan. Apparently Adam completely underestimated him.

The wily Satan got to Adam through his wife Eve. He did not say, "CHOOSE MY WAY." He appeared as a subtle serpent. He cleverly deceived her.

(See SEVEN PROOFS, page 13)

"Man was made to have (with his assent) a special relationship with his Maker! He was made in the form and shape of God. He was given a spirit (essence) to make the relationship possible."

must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little" (Isaiah 28:9-10). But most who try to apply this principle in biblical understanding take each "little" out of context, in order to interpret their own idea into it.

Much directly concerned with what is revealed in Genesis 1 is filled in by other passages of scripture in various parts of the Bible.

So now, let's UNDERSTAND the background. Earth's angels had *not* completed the creation of this planet by improvement, development and beautification. Rather, they had brought it to desolation and ruin. The GOVERNMENT OF GOD had been nullified on earth.

And now *only* God could be *certainly* relied upon never to depart from the way of His law and His government.

No higher, more perfect kind of being could be created than Lucifer — and he had rebelled. Since GOD ALONE would never deviate or turn from GOD'S WAY, God now determined (or probably had already predetermined) to accomplish the SUPREME creative feat — to REPRODUCE HIMSELF!

In God's supreme wisdom He knew this must be brought about *through matter*!

Man in God's image

To prepare the earth for the

vine FAMILY of God and then participating in the completion of the CREATION of the entire endless expanse of the UNIVERSE!

So, on the sixth day of that (re)creation week, God (Elohim) said, " . . . Let us make man in our image, after our likeness . . ." (Genesis 1:26).

Man was made to have (with his assent) a special relationship with his Maker! He was made in the form and shape of God. He was given a spirit (essence) to make the relationship possible. Much more of that a little later.

The soul is MORTAL!

But God made MAN *wholly* of MATTER! This was necessary for the supreme accomplishment God willed.

"And the Eternal God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath [air] of life; and man became a living soul" (Genesis 2:7). Man, formed from material dust of the ground, upon breathing air, BECAME a living soul. It does not say man is or has an immortal soul. What was formed from material ground BECAME a soul.

Therefore the SOUL is physical, composed of matter, and can die. This is a TRUTH believed by very few denominations and probably by no other religions — another

the "human" spirit? It is *NOT* a "soul." But it 1) imparts the power of intellect, of thinking and of MIND power to the human brain; and 2) it is the very means God has instilled making possible a personal relationship between human MAN and divine GOD.

Two stages of man

God creates, as previously mentioned, by the principle of DUALITY. So it is with the creation of MAN. It is accomplished in TWO STAGES: 1) the physical phase, which began with the first man, Adam; and 2) the spiritual stage, which begins with the "second Adam," Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 15:45-46).

So also, man was made from creation (and birth) with the one "human" spirit — but he is INCOMPLETE. He was made to need another Spirit — the HOLY SPIRIT of God, and when that gift of God is received, His " . . . Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit; that we are the children of God" (Romans 8:16) — in the begotten or first stage of the spiritual creation.

This is most clearly explained in 1 Corinthians 2.

" . . . Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart [mind] of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him" (verse 9) — spiritual knowledge. The

SEVEN PROOFS

(Continued from page 12)

He put DOUBTS in her mind about God's veracity. He deceived her into believing God had been unfair — selfish. He subtly injected vanity of mind. He misled her into thinking it was *right* to take of the forbidden fruit.

Adam, not deceived, nevertheless went along with his wife. With her, he took to himself the determination of what is right and what is wrong — thus DISBELIEVING what His Maker had said, REJECTING God as Savior and Ruler — rejecting God as the source of revealed BASIC KNOWLEDGE. He believed and followed Satan's way!

Man's sentence pronounced

When God "drove out the man" from the Garden of Eden and barred reentrance — lest he go back and receive eternal life in sin (Genesis 3:22-24), God PRO-NOUNCED SENTENCE!

God said, in effect, "YOU have made the decision for yourself and the world that shall spring from you. You have rejected me as the basic source of knowledge — you have rebelled against my command and my government — you have chosen the GETTING, TAKING way of Satan. Therefore I sentence you and the world you shall beget to 6,000 years of being CUT OFF from access to me, my revealed knowledge, my way of life — EXCEPT for the comparatively exceeding few I shall specially call for special service preparatory to my Kingdom. GO, and produce your own fund of knowledge with your carnal, hostile minds. Produce your own carnal scholarship and system of disseminating it. GO and create your own gods and religions. GO, form your own human-devised GOVERNMENTS. Satan, in all this, will deceive your world into receiving his ATTITUDE of vanity, lust and greed, envy and jealousy, suspicion and disbelief, competition and strife and violence — into unrealized REBELLION against me and my way of outflowing LOVE! After your world has written the lesson of your way in 6,000 years of evils, troubles, frustrations, sickness, sorrow, suffering and DEATH, I will INTERVENE! I will by supernatural divine POWER take over the government and education of the whole world, calling all to me — to repentance of your false way, and to eternal salvation."

Except for those specially called for special duty preparing for God's KINGDOM, ALL HUMANITY HAS BEEN CUT OFF FROM GOD THESE 6,000 YEARS!

I know and privately discuss world conditions with many heads of state — kings, emperors, presidents, prime ministers, ambassadors, men high in governments. They all have to deal with problems and evils with which they are utterly unable to cope.

WHY? Few indeed know. But I have just told you the CAUSE. This KNOWLEDGE makes the one true Church of God UNIQUE in the world!

The TRUTH that all are CUT OFF from God except those specially called by God was emphasized by Jesus. He said, plainly, "NO MAN CAN come to me, except the

Father which . . . sent me draw him . . ." (John 6:44). No scripture contradicts that.

The only day of salvation?

The most universal false teaching, believed by virtually all churches called Christianity, except the one and only true and original Church of God is that ALL are automatically *lost* unless they profess Jesus Christ as Savior — and that now is the *only* day of salvation.

Those cut off from God are NOT lost — unless called and then lost. They are simply NOT YET JUDGED! All so far called since Adam have been called, not alone for salvation, but primarily for a special mission — and salvation goes along automatically if they do repent, believe, receive and be led by the Holy Spirit.

All still living will be called during the millennium, with Christ ruling all nations — and all others uncalled (previously) will be resurrected and called in the Great White Throne Judgment following the millennium. There will be no Satan to overcome then.

Just as Adam was required to reject and overcome the pull of Satan to qualify to succeed to the throne of the earth, so was Jesus Christ, the second Adam. Jesus Christ *did* qualify. Those converted prior to His return must also qualify, in order to sit with Him on His throne (Revelation 2:26, 27 and 3:21).

PROOF NO. 4

THE TRUTH ABOUT ISRAEL

The Holy Bible is essentially the book of and concerning the nation Israel. It is concerned with other nations only as they come into contact with Israel.

But the answer to WHY God

Moses was not seeking God, but God called Moses at the burning bush. But Moses made excuse, protesting the assignment — saying he could not do it because he had an impediment of speech. But God called his brother Aaron to speak for him.

The children of Israel, 430 years after Abraham, were groaning and crying out because of their slavery in Egypt — but there is no statement recorded that they were seeking a relationship with God. However, God heard their groanings and delivered them by supernatural miracles out of Egypt under Moses.

There must have been two to four million of them — for there were 600,000 men, not counting women and children.

At Mt. Sinai God proposed to them His covenant that they become His nation and His congregation ("... the church in the wilderness . . ." Acts 7:38). God offered them, for obedience to His government, material and national rewards — but *no spiritual salvation*. The Holy Spirit was given only to the prophets whom God called and chose.

Now WHY did God call a carnal, unspiritual people into a husband-and-wife relationship, as well as His nation with His government?

Wonderful abilities of natural mind

Natural carnal MAN, with the one "human" spirit imparting materialistic intellect, has been — even without contact with and help from GOD — able to accomplish wonders in the physical realm. This is *not* testimony to the goodness of MAN, but to the wonderful creative ability of man's Maker!

At the tower of Babel God said: "... they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from . . . which they have imag-

ined to do" (Genesis 11:6). In-

vention and production of the modern computer — sending men to the moon and safely back — are two modern examples.

Cut off from GOD — having only the one "human" spirit that empowers intellect — MAN has developed a scholarship that says, "Given sufficient KNOWLEDGE and we can solve every problem." The modern university is a KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION factory.

Yet, I have said the most highly educated are the *most ignorant* — because their development of knowledge has been LIMITED — confined to the physical and material. Without the Holy Spirit of God, they are, in the vernacular, "not all there!"

God says of this "intellectual" human mind, that it is "... deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked . . ." (Jeremiah 17:9) — and, "... the carnal mind is enmity [hostile] against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Romans 8:7).

God had shut man off from

completely from the revealed knowledge from God. But, as

stated previously, God retained the prerogative of calling out of man's world certain few in preparation for His Kingdom. So God deliberately called a NATION, and through Moses revealed to them the knowledge of HIS LAW — HIS WILL — HIS WAY OF LIFE, which is outflowing LOVE!

God DID NOT give them His Holy Spirit. He gave that only to Moses and the prophets — all specially called.

But God did give them His spiritual LAW. As a *substitute* for the shed blood of Christ, He gave them animal sacrifices, which could not remit sins — were only a reminder of sin. He gave them also, as a temporary *substitute* for the Holy Spirit, a law of physical rituals, meat and drink offerings and carnal ordinances. These instilled the *habit* of obedience. Then, of course, as a civil nation He gave them His GOVERNMENT, with its basic spiritual law and its statutes and judgments. He gave them HIS SYSTEM of government — authority from the TOP DOWN. God Himself was their Congress,

degree — until Joshua died at age 110.

Then, true to human experience, when that generation died, "... there arose another generation after them, which knew not the Eternal . . ." And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Eternal, and served Baalim — a pagan god of the Canaanites (Judges 2:10-11).

Repeatedly they would forsake God, turn to idolatry of neighbor nations, go into captivity — cry out to God for deliverance, when God would raise up judges (heroes, leaders) by whom God freed them — then after a degree of peace amid idol worship when the judge died, God allowed them to be taken into captivity again.

This continued for some few generations.

Then Israel was ruled by the priest Eli. Eli had two sons, also in the priestly service. These sons were taking unlawful gain from the people, misleading the people, having immoral relations with the women who assembled at the door of the tabernacle. Now Eli was very old — near 90 — and said to his sons, "... Why do ye such things? . . ." (1 Samuel 2:22-25). "... Notwithstanding they hearkened not to the voice of their father . . ." The sons continued the evils, and the priest Eli did not put them out of the priesthood.

When sons go wrong

God said to Eli, "Wherefore . . . honor thy sons above me? . . ." (1 Samuel 2:29) and decreed they should die. When news came to Eli, past 90 years, that his sons had been killed and the ark of God taken in battle, Eli fell backward, broke his neck and died!

Perhaps another evidence of the Worldwide Church of God being the one original Church of God is that its apostle did remove his son, who was secularizing God's Church and college, besides other sins. It is a difficult and heartbreaking thing for a father to have to do. Eli honored his sinning sons, holding priestly office, above God. God's apostle of our day, crushing and heartbreaking though it be, was given the courage by the living Christ to do that very difficult thing.

Samuel had been trained as a prophet from a child under Eli. He was Israel's next leader. But the people rejected God as King over them and demanded a human king "that we may be like all the nations" (See SEVEN PROOFS, page 16)

HOW did carnal Israel respond?

But how did carnal-minded Israel respond to God's great generosity, love and blessings? Let God answer!

He says: "Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the Eternal hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me. The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not

know, my people do not consider. Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the Eternal, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger. They are gone [have done] away backward" (Isaiah 1:2-4).

After Moses

After Moses, the Israelites were led into the promised land by Joshua. Israel served God — to a

"Except for those specially called for special duty preparing for God's KINGDOM, ALL HUMANITY HAS BEEN CUT OFF FROM GOD THESE 6,000 YEARS!"

"One reason God raised up ancient Israel was to prove, eventually (not yet realized) to all humanity that the carnal mind with all its intellectual accomplishments simply will not accept and live by the revealed knowledge of GOD . . ."

HOW CHRIST GIVES THE CHURCH ITS BELIEFS

(Continued from page 1)

Few in God's Church have fully understood this chapter. I shall go into sufficient detail to make it clear!

Unauthorized teachers

Notice, verse 1: "... certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved." Who were these men? NOT apostles, or they would have been named.

Right here, MARK WELL THIS POINT: GOD PUT HIS TRUTH INTO HIS CHURCH THROUGH CHRIST AND THROUGH THE APOSTLES! These men were not apostles. What they taught was NOT FROM JESUS!

The apostle Paul KNEW WELL that God gave His Church its teachings only through Christ and the apostles. Immediately Paul withstood these unauthorized teachers.

Verse 2: "When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they [probably the local members, not fully realizing that Paul, being apostle to the gentiles, had authority to settle it] determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question."

These men from Judaea were undoubtedly Jewish Christians who had not received authentic teaching through the apostles — nor did they recognize Paul's authority as an apostle, or they would not have entered into such disputation with him.

Undoubtedly, being Jewish converts, without full apostolic teaching, they looked on the Church as merely an extension of Judaism. Incidentally, the Judaism of that time was NOT Mosaic teaching. But after the days of Ezra and Nehemiah, the only organized Jewish religion was among the descendants of the contingent of Jews sent back to Jerusalem from Persian captivity (see Ezra 1:1-3) 70 years after the destruction of Solomon's temple, to build the second temple — to which Jesus later came. After Ezra and Nehemiah, the rabbis gradually made a considerable change in the old covenant religion given Israel by Moses.

World cut off from God

Their Israelite ancestors had always wanted to be more like the world around them. In I Samuel 8 you will read of how they wanted a king and government more like the other nations of the world. Now the WORLD, except for Israel, which was specially called by God, was CUT OFF from God. Remember, all those centuries and millenniums, the Chinese, Japanese, people of India, Southeast Asia, Africa, the Roman Empire, knew little or nothing about GOD. They all had their own religions, and most were derived, with some changes, from that established by Semiramis, the mother-wife of Nimrod (Genesis 10).

Now these pagan religions — of Egypt, Greece, Babylon, Rome — had known nothing of

God's GRACE — unmerited, undeserved PARDON, forgiveness of past sins on repentance. Instead, their religions had adopted a system of self-inflicted punishment, ordeal or torture, to justify past sins.

Israel given laws through Moses

Moses had been used of God to give Israel certain laws. First, there was the overall spiritual law of LOVE; or the Ten Commandments — although Israel without the Holy Spirit could keep that law only in the strictness of the letter (in the New Testament it must be according to the Spirit — or the obvious intent). This is called in the Bible the Law of God.

Then, through Moses, God gave them the "law of Moses" — a sacrificial law of animal sacrifices, which could not justify sin, but was a reminder of sin, and was a physical substitute for the sacrifice of Christ. When Christ died on the cross, animal sacrifices ceased.

There also was a ceremonial law — of physical rituals, carnal ordinances, meat and drink offerings, etc. — to teach them the HABIT of obedience — things to do repeatedly morning, noon and night. The law of rituals, including circumcision, was PHYSICAL, and a substitute until the Holy Spirit should be given, to teach them the HABIT of obedience.

In Galatians 3:19, this law was ADDED, because of transgressions. That is, transgressions of the spiritual law. In Galatians 3:24, this ritual law is called a "schoolmaster" to bring them to Christ. In Romans and Galatians, the terms "works of the law" always refers to these PHYSICAL laws, which were TEMPORARY until Christ. Sometimes the single word works means "good works," in accord with the spiritual law, and sometimes the "works of the law" when mentioned in the context will for brev-

Now back to Acts 15.

These Jews who had come down to Antioch thought this system of PENANCE was still in effect. In Galatians 5:3, Paul shows that if a man was circumcised as a legal ritual, he became a debtor to do the WHOLE RITUAL LAW — and the context is speaking of the RITUAL LAW, though this verse does not use "works of the law."

Paul was quite willing to take this to Jerusalem, BECAUSE PETER WAS THERE AT THE TIME.

This visit of Paul to Jerusalem is undoubtedly the one mentioned in Galatians 2. Apparently, according to Galatians 2:9, the only apostles at Jerusalem at that time were Peter, James and John.

But in Acts 15:4, it is stated: "And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders..."

Then, verse 6, "And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter." All ordained ministers are called elders in the Bible. This means the lay members were excluded, but the apostles and ordained ministers ranked lower than apostles came together in this council.

Peter settles the question

Now we see that even these elders were not clear on this matter of circumcision. For, verse 7, "And when there had been much disputing, PETER rose up..." and settled the matter!

Continue, verses 7-11: "... PETER rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe. And God, which knoweth the hearts, bear them witness, giving them the Holy Spirit, even as he did unto us: And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. Now therefore why tempt

... in other words, acting as chairman of the meeting, James in effect started by saying, "PETER has declared!" — Peter has settled it — "... how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name." Again affirming Peter's primacy — for when God decided to open salvation to the gentiles — to call some of them to salvation, whereas heretofore God had called only Israelites (and even then NOT to salvation, except the prophets) — when God opened salvation to the gentiles, He used Peter to do it! Now continue James' speech: "And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written, After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up: That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things."

This was quoted from Amos 9:11-12.

NOTE THIS! The Church of God is built on the FOUNDATION of the apostles and the prophets — Old Testament prophets as well as the VERY FEW prophets of the New Testament. And James was here quoting from the prophet Amos, to add his own approval to Peter's DECISION. James is not making the decision — he is making official Peter's decision!

Continue: "... Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God: But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood" (verses 19-20). Pollutions of idols was related to idolatry, and idolatry and fornication were violations of the SPIRITUAL law, eternally binding. Eating blood or things

it OFFICIAL, inspired by the HOLY SPIRIT.

Jesus gave Peter primacy

In all these successive instances, I have shown you, step by step, that Peter was LEADER of the apostles — and that the Church received its teachings and doctrines FROM THE APOSTLES!

But God has always worked primarily through ONE MAN at a time — as Abraham, then Isaac, then Jacob, then Joseph — later Moses, then Joshua, later Samuel, then David — and, in the New Testament Church, PETER. But Peter was an apostle — one sent forth proclaiming the message — not a resident pope over a political hierarchy.

Now notice how JESUS gave Peter primacy over apostles:

Jesus had asked His apostles-to-be whom they said Jesus really was. "And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus said unto him [UNTO PETER] Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee [UNTO PETER], That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell [the grave] shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee [PETER, not the Church] the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou [PETER] shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou [PETER] shalt loose on earth, shall be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 16:16-19).

There has been much discussion at Pasadena between certain ministers of lower than apostle rank, as to the CHURCH binding and loosing.

So now let it be MADE OFFICIAL — by Christ's present-day apostle — that this binding and loosing PLAINLY, CLEARLY, was given to Christ's chief APOSTLE — not to lower-rank ministers ordained by his authority — not by the CHURCH as a body — but by the APOSTLE!

When men who held office under the apostle, and by his appointment or approval, took it into their own hands, in his absence — stealthily KEEPING IT FROM HIM — to water down God's TRUTH, alter His doctrines, assume unauthorized authority, then the living CHRIST moves His apostle to ACT SWIFTLY, to PUT OUT the prime mover in this conspiracy, and, under Christ, set God's Church and Work BACK ON GOD'S TRACK!

PRaise THE ETERNAL GOD! He has not left nor forsaken His CHURCH! Jesus Christ still REIGNS SUPREME in God's Church, as He shall, very soon, reign over all the earth!

Many harmful errors in the STP still remain to be PUT STRAIGHT — and it shall be done by JESUS CHRIST, through His apostle, as rapidly as is humanly possible!

JESUS CHRIST is the living HEAD of this Church! He built it through His apostle. And He, CHRIST, still rules SUPREME in the one and only area on earth where the GOVERNMENT OF GOD is being administered today!

"Let's GET THIS STRAIGHT, once and for all! The SOURCE of the beliefs, teachings, customs and practices in the Church of God is GOD HIMSELF! Not any man."

ity speak of just "the law," but the context will make it plain the subject is the RITUALS. The Greek for "works" of the law is *ergon*, which means physical effort.

Beside these temporary physical rituals and sacrifices, God gave them, through Moses, statutes and judgments — the CIVIL LAWS of their nation. They were not necessarily temporary or substitutional, but were to last as long as the NATIONAL GOVERNMENT was administered over the nation Israel.

Dos and don'ts added

Now the rabbis, after Ezra and Nehemiah, added some 65 dos and don'ts even to the keeping of the Sabbath. They adopted the PAGAN PENANCE — self-inflicted punishment — and construed the physical rituals as a means of justification of past sins. THIS WAS JUDAISM — something really quite different from the religion of Moses.

ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? But we believe that through the GRACE [not ritual penance] of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they."

Verse 12, "Then all the multitude kept silence..." PETER had settled the question!

Right here, NOTE CAREFULLY! Peter was an apostle — ONE SENT FORTH proclaiming the Gospel, not a resident pastor of a church. James was pastor of the Jerusalem church at the time, though also an apostle. Therefore James acted as chairman of the meeting — even though PETER gave the DECISION. As a matter of protocol, as chairman (as we would call it today), we come now to verse 13:

James speaks as chairman

"And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me. Simeon [Peter] hath declared

strangled was NO PART of the ceremonial law, but a law of health that was not substitutionary.

OBSERVE SPECIALLY: This was not a matter, as did happen at Pasadena, of one of lower rank appointed by an apostle, while the apostle was in another part of the world, calling together a conference of ministers of various ranks — all under that apostle — and determining or changing doctrine — watering down God's TRUTH — and sending it out, as the Systematic Theology Project (STP), was claiming falsely and without authority that it was an authoritative doctrinal pronouncement!

In this case, it was PETER, chief apostle, who set the decision. The letter they then sent to the church at Antioch specified that this decision was inspired by the HOLY SPIRIT. PETER set it, James, local pastor acting as chairman of the meeting, confirmed Peter's decision, making

Member's book teaches children new alphabet

By John Walshe

DUBLIN, Ireland — Reading is not as easy as ABC; it is quite a difficult skill to master, and many people grow up having failed to come to grips with basic literacy.

Now a 70-year-old Irish teacher has written a book designed to simplify the whole process. He hopes it will be used in Irish schools and by groups dealing with adult illiterates.



WILLIAM HICKSON

Former Trinity lecturer William S.E. Hickson, M.A., M.S., has written the book using the Initial Teaching Alphabet (ITA), which was devised by Sir James Pitman. In the ITA alphabet, which has been used in many British and American schools, the letters are more closely related to the sounds.

Supporters of ITA point out that the traditional alphabet is too confusing for many schoolchildren and that a more logical approach is needed.

The problem with the ordinary alphabet is that it does not follow any rules. Words such as *pie* and *the*, my and *buy* are different to look at but sound the same.

But *gone*, *done* and *bone* look similar, yet they are all pronounced differently, and that, says ITA supporters, causes confusion and frustration when a youngster starts to read.

To add to the confusion there are different ways of writing letters. For example, there are two ways of writing *d* (*D*, *d*), only one of *c*, and variations such as *TH*, *Th* and *th*.

The ITA supporters say also that three letters of the traditional alphabet, *c*, *q* and *x*, are effectively redundant and that the remaining 23 letters cannot systematically spell the 40-plus different sounds in the English language.

Says Mr. Hickson, who lives at Evergreen, Coolmore, Arklow, County Wicklow: "The mental effort required for tackling these reading inconsistencies is so great that comprehension is ruled out, and this results in the loss of self-motivation."

He adds that "my book was developed by feedback from illiterate pupils in vocational schools over some years. Although it is tailored to 14-year-olds, it has proven most successful for any age-group."

He claims that with it even pupils of a low IQ have been able to make the transition to ordinary print in five weeks.

The ITA system has 44 characters, compared with 26 letters in the traditional alphabet. But when capital letters and different letter-writing styles are taken into account, the ITA medium has fewer characters to master.

Each shape in ITA stands for only

one sound, and, with 24 of the 26 letters to the ordinary alphabet retained, it is claimed that the changeover is considerably helped along."

However, international experts are

This article, about Church member William Hickson, is reprinted by permission from The Irish Independent of Dec. 2, 1977.

Mr. Hickson is a longtime member of the Dublin church and a deacon. He is a retiree in name only; he busies himself teaching remedial-reading classes almost full time.

not entirely in agreement over the success of ITA in easing the acquisition of reading skills.

Professor Desmond Swan, president of the Reading Association of Ireland, told me that a lot of research had been carried out but the results were inconclusive.

His own impression was that ITA does enable some to learn to read faster, but by no means is it the answer to all our reading problems among pupils or adults.

One drawback is that ITA is expensive to introduce. Apart from the basic reader, other books would have to be provided for the pupil.

Another important factor to be considered is the "reentry" period from ITA to traditional spelling. Although Mr. Hickson says this is simple once the pupil has mastered ITA, others disagree and say it can be akin to learning a new language.

Professor Swan also points out that pupils miss the "cues" which aid the acquisition of normal spelling if their first contact with the written word is through ITA. These cues include signs on buses, billboards and notices.

Other experts I spoke to also had reservations about the introduction of the ITA scheme here. However, Mr. Hickson replies that none of them had tried it out experimentally, and if they had they would have seen the success of ITA. His book is available from a number of booksellers or direct from Folens & Co., Ltd., Alton Road, Tallaght, County Dublin.



FOSTER FAMILY — Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fair, center, members of the Youngstown, Ohio, church, pose with their children. (Photo by Cynthia Sieger)

Adopted children get new home, new chance with foster family

NEW WILMINGTON, Pa. — Adoptions of healthy, white infants are rare. Most children available for adoption today are older, of mixed racial heritage and/or have emotional or physical problems.

The children adopted by the

Mr. and Mrs. Fair are members of the Youngstown, Ohio, church. This article is reprinted by permission from the New Wilmington, Pa., Globe.

Thomas Fair family of Cheriwood Road, New Bedford, do not fall into any of these categories.

"We started out taking foster children," stated Mrs. Fair. "These kids

weren't wanted by their parents and we loved them like our own, so we adopted them."

"We've loved children," she continued. "I couldn't have any more after Tammy so we looked into foster care. We never thought about adoption."

Tommy Fair, now a second grader at New Bedford Elementary School, first came to the Fairs as a foster child when he was 10 months old with his sister, who was 3.

The brother and sister were placed in foster care because of severe neglect. Tommy had been found in a playpen with three dogs. For the next three years they remained with the Fairs and had frequent visits with their natural parents.

Rights relinquished

It was at the end of the three years that the natural parents requested that their daughter, age 6, be returned to their home. They also relinquished their rights to Tommy, who was then free for adoption by the Fairs.

During the six months of waiting for the adoption to become final (either set of parents have the opportunity to change their minds during that time period), the Fairs "were worried, but not overly worried," by the prospect of also losing Tommy.

"I still wonder about the little girl, but the mother has since remarried into a better situation, so I hope things are better for her."

In the adoption process, Tommy acquired his name.

"I explained to him that he was to have a new name," remembered Mrs. Fair. "It's going to be Thomas R. Fair, like your father."

The reaction was not totally expected. "He was so excited to be Tommy. He kept repeating his name and telling everyone he was Tommy. He never mentioned being Ronnie again."

Children receptive

Mr. and Mrs. Fair feel their natural children have been very adaptive and very receptive to the new and changing faces in their family.

Tammy, who was 6 when Tommy arrived, is a sixth grader at New Bedford

Elementary. Cindy is a senior at Wilmington Area High School and engaged to be married in August. The oldest daughter, Darla Calvert, is married and lives in Portersville. John Bonivich has been a foster son of the Fairs for five years. A graduate of Wilmington Area High School, he now works for Keppers in Masury, Ohio.

Christopher, who is in kindergarten, also came to the Fairs at 10 months.

"He was underfed," recalled Mrs. Fair, "and had pneumonia. He came to us from the hospital because he had been hurt in his parents' home. We started feeding him and he started growing so good and fast. He's a sweet little boy," she added.

Child welfare supportive

After almost four years, stated Mrs. Fair, "I approached Child Welfare to have them talk to Chris' parents. They had only ever seen him one time, about two weeks after we got him. Child Welfare was very supportive of our interest in adopting Chris, and the parents signed for his relinquishment. My family was very happy," she added.

Besides their present family, the Fairs still take care of foster children. They estimate they have had 56 foster children over the past seven years.

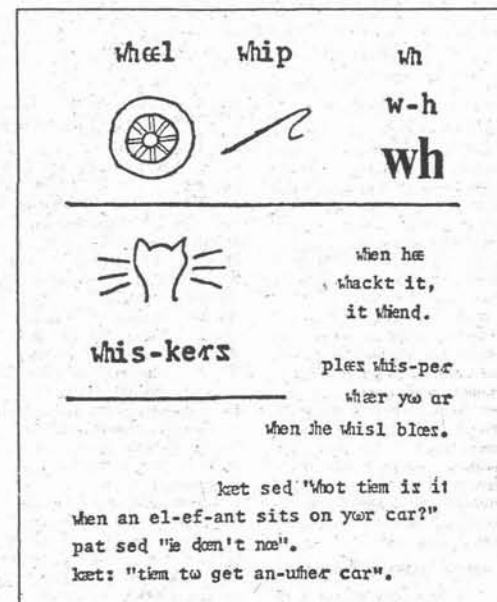
"I've had a lot of different situations," admitted Mrs. Fair. "I take any child who needs help. It's a tremendous blessing. In the time I have them, I feel I've helped them."

Adopt more children

Would they adopt other foster children if the opportunity arose?

"That would probably be what we would do," Mrs. Fair exclaimed. "My husband always says if it were up to me, I'd have them hanging out the windows and doors and everything else. People say how much we're doing to take these children, but they do so much for us!"

When asked about the financial burden of such a large family, Mrs. Fair responded, "If you have love for children, you don't need finances. They need love and time, you manage on what you have."



ITA METHOD — A page from Mr. Hickson's book illustrates how the Initial Technical Alphabet is used to teach reading to children and adult illiterates. (Graphic courtesy The Irish Independent)

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

PASADENA — Ministerial Services has released the names of those men who have been recently ordained and/or raised in rank.

Robert Dick, church pastor of the Columbus (Ohio) A.M. and P.M. churches, was ordained to pastor rank.

Ross Beath, church pastor, Bathurst and Blackheath, Australia; **Lloyd Briggie**, associate pastor, Nanuet, N.Y.; **Briscoe Ellett**, associate pastor, Greenville, S.C.; **John Jewell**, church pastor, Plymouth, England; **David Magowan**, church pastor, Liverpool and Stoke-on-Trent, England; and **Marc Masteron**, church pastor, Gainesville, Fla., were ordained as preaching elders.

The following men have been ordained local elders: **Gordon Brauchla**, Anderson, Ind.; **Steven K. Buchanan**, Austin, Tex.; **Frederick H. DeMent**, Richmond, Ind.; **Stanley E. Denzinger**, Detroit (West), Mich.; **Pablo S. Dimakis**, Mexico City, Mexico; **John D. Gibbs**, Indianapolis, Ind.; **Lionel K. Haworth**, Shreveport, La.; **Michael D. Henley**, Columbus, Ga.; **Paul Krautmann**, Guyana, South America; **Charles Mayer**, Montreal (French), Que.; **Gerald R. Shoukufi**, San Diego, Calif.; **Albert E. Sousa**, San Juan, Puerto Rico; **Dwight B. Vian**, Evansville, Ind.; **William White**, Cairns, Australia; and **Bert B. Wyland**, Portland (West), Ore.

Additional manpower changes are also announced. Entering the non-

career ministry will be **Larry Boyts**, Atlanta, Ga.; **Paul Shumway**, Spokane, Wash.; and **John Strain**, Houston (North), Tex.

The following men are no longer in the ministry: **Ronald Dart**, Austin, Tex.; **Robert Porter**, Portland (West), Ore.; **Harry Walker Jr.**, Pasadena; **Harry Walker Sr.**, Dickson, Tenn.; and **Lyndel Wornat**, St. Louis (South), Mo.

Ted Phillips will also no longer be in the ministry. Replacing Mr. Phillips as church pastor of the Dickson and Jackson, Tenn., circuit is **Joe Dobson**, formerly the church pastor of the Lawton, Okla., church. **Dave Carley** will now pastor the Ada and Lawton, Okla., congregations.

Tom Harrison, presently serving in the Chico, Calif., church area, will enter the noncareer ministry. Replacing Mr. Harrison as church pastor of the Louisville, Ky., church is **Ray Meyer**, formerly the church pastor of the Houston (East), Tex., church.

William C. Wilkinson, formerly a local church elder in the Atlanta, Ga., church, died Oct. 12.

Clifton Charles is ministering to the church in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

The following church names have been changes to reflect their new locations: **Meeker, Colo.** (formerly Craig, Colo.); **Bethlehem, Pa.** (formerly Allentown, Pa.); and **Seattle, Wash.** (The Seattle North and South congregations have combined into one service.)

There are three new churches:

Bordeaux and Toulouse, France, are pastored by **Bernard Audoin**, and Frankston, Australia, is pastored by **Rod Dean**.

☆☆☆

PASADENA — Plans are under way to hold a full ministerial conference in Pasadena Jan. 15 through 18 according to **C. Wayne Cole**, director of the ministry worldwide.

"We hope that as many as possible in the International Work will be able to come in as well," said Mr. Cole, but added, "International area budgetary restrictions will have to be considered and worked out with the regional directors."

Mr. Cole said; "Mr. Armstrong is very much looking forward to speaking to the majority of our ministers during the meetings and we are all looking forward to a very profitable conference."

☆☆☆

PASADENA — Youth Opportunities United (YOU) third annual International Youth Leadership Conference is set for Dec. 22 to 27 here according to the YOU office.

Some 600 teens representing 50 states and 18 countries are expected to attend. Ambassador College will play host to the affair and provide room and board for the delegates.

☆☆☆

PASADENA — In response to a number of requests for an update of ministers in the full-time employ of the Work, the Work's Ministerial Services Department has released the names of all U.S. ministers who are full time. *The Good News* is carrying the list on page 9 of this issue.

A list of non-U.S. ministers in the full-time employ of the Work will appear in a future issue of *The Good News*.

Quest/78 discussed

PASADENA — In view of recent developments pertaining to *Quest/78* magazine, *The Good News* here reprints excerpts of statements made by Herbert W. Armstrong and his assistant, Stanley R. Rader, to bring read-up to date on both the status of *Quest/78* and Everest House, the Work's publishing house.

Following is a transcript of opening remarks made by Mr. Armstrong in a Sept. 8 area coordinators meeting in Pasadena:

I want to read to you one statement that I made in a memorandum to *The Plain Truth* staff. I said that I did not especially want to start *Quest/77* and *Quest/78*, but reasons were presented to me why it could be a means of indirectly helping in the great commission and building for us a certain credibility in the publishing world. This latter has been accomplished. It is becoming recognized as the No. 1 magazine of excellence. So far as the high-class field of excellence is concerned it is rated No. 1 now.

Now I have always believed in quality first and quantity second. Of course, quantity is good, too, provided you have the quality first. And *Quest/78* is quality. Its appeal is not to the rank and file of the world or the majority. Whether to dispose of it now hangs in the balance because of financial considerations beyond the current fiscal period. But at least it is the best and so recognized in the publishing industry.

Now I tell you I look at a copy of *Quest/78*, and I see my name. Most magazines now put the publisher and offices down at the bottom of the masthead list, but I am at the top of that group as the founder and chairman, and I am glad that if my name is

there, it's there on a high-class, quality product.

I have always believed in quality. God believes in quality. Jesus Christ believes in quality. I have believed in quality, and Christ has built through me and with me a quality institution here. We have twice been awarded an award for the finest, most beautiful, best landscaped and best maintained college campus in the United States. Now I am not ashamed of it. I still have to say that I go along with God, and I think most of you or all of you do too. And that's the way we have to go.

I just wanted to say that *Quest/78*, now, is already recognized in the publishing industry as the No. 1 quality magazine. And the very fact of our identification with it, you have to remember, does give us a certain prestige when you consider all the publicity that has happened to us, and you go back over all the unpleasant publicity that we have had.

Following are excerpts from an article written by Stanley R. Rader to the worldwide ministry in a Sept. 11 *Pastors Report*. Mr. Rader prefaced his copy by saying, "Mr. Armstrong's comments made last Friday before the area coordinators (see copy, above) should answer a number of questions concerning the future of *Quest/78*. I do believe, however, that a little history of Everest House would be helpful at this time."

Last fall, Robert Kuhn and I engaged the services of an outstanding editor in the trade publication field. We knew that eventually it would be in the best interest of the Work that Mr. Armstrong's books be published and receive wide distribution amongst the reading public — a public that has been increasing each and every year in the religious field. We also felt that a trade publication house would be a valuable adjunct to *Quest/78* and would permit us to penetrate even more deeply into a reading audience that otherwise would be unreachable by us with our regular publications.

Unfortunately in January Mr. Gillenson, the editor of Everest House, came to Pasadena in the company of a number of employees from the business side of *Quest/78*. They came at the invitation of Robert Kuhn for the purpose of meeting Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong, who, again unfortunately, was introduced to Mr. Gillenson and others as the chief operating officer of the Church, the college and the foundation. I was not invited to the meetings that were held in Pasadena, and express instructions were given to the personnel in attendance, including Mr. Gillenson, that information was not to be made available to me in the future.

At the meetings and in subsequent correspondence between Mr. Gillenson and headquarters, Mr. Gillenson received express authority for each and every project that he planned for both the spring and fall lists of Everest House. In a letter written to me July 27, Mr. Gillenson stated: "In January I went to Pasadena for the express purpose of presenting the list of books that we had put together. I asked to see anybody in authority and was told to talk to the following people: Garner Ted Armstrong, Ray Wright, Wayne Cole, Brian Knowles, and perhaps one or two other people in addition to Jack Martin, Glenn Parker and Robert Kuhn. At the meeting I described every one of the books and invited comment. All seemed to agree that none of the titles would create problems."

"During the visit, I was asked to inspect the prepublication facilities and was urged to use them. The meetings with Garner Ted Armstrong and the prepublication meetings were arranged."

(See QUEST/78, page 10)

SEVEN PROOFS of THE TRUE CHURCH

(Continued from page 13)

tions" of Satan's world (I Samuel 8:4-7, 20).

God gave them Saul, tallest man in Israel. But in due time Saul disobeyed God and sinned. God sent Samuel to the house of Jesse where God had chosen Jesse's youngest son David to be the next king over Israel.

Samuel's sons had not continued in Samuel's ways. And now King David had sons who conspired to take their father's throne. First, Absalom, having been exiled for committing murder, on being received back by kindhearted David, conspired to steal his father's throne. Later another son, Adonijah, conspired to seize it and overthrow his father.

But God had chosen David's son Solomon to succeed to the throne over Israel. After Solomon's death his son Rehoboam became king.

Solomon had reigned in splendor. Not only had he built the world's finest edifice, the Temple (as God had willed and approved), but he spent lavishly on great public works, buildings and other projects. He lived in gorgeous splendor, exceeding every king before him. For this he grievously overtaxed the people. He plunged, in old age, into idolatry and turned to women.

After Solomon's death the people sent a delegation to King Rehoboam. "Reduce the excessive taxes," the people's delegation said, "and we will serve you" (I Kings 12:4).

Rehoboam consulted the older, wiser men, who advised him to heed the complaint of the people. Then he sought advice from the younger men, whose advice he followed, saying to the people, "... My father hath chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions" (I Kings 12:11, 14).

Again, a younger son departed from the wisdom of older men, and willfully sought to lead God's people on his own rebellious way.

But the nation thereupon rejected King Rehoboam and made Jeroboam king. However, the tribe of Judah, with Benjamin, seceded in order to maintain David's dynasty and formed the new kingdom of JUDAH.

Jeroboam established the capital over the kingdom of Israel at Samaria, north of Jerusalem. And so the Israelitish nation was now divided into TWO NATIONS — the kingdom of Israel with its capital at Samaria and the kingdom of Judah with Jerusalem its capital. Often, in biblical history, they were called, respectively, the "house of Israel" and the "house of Judah."

Jeroboam immediately led Israel into idolatry. After a succession of 10 kings and seven dynasties of continuous idolatry and other sins, God drove the house of Israel into captivity. King Shalmaneser of Assyria conquered them in a siege from 721 to 718 B.C., removing them from their land, carrying them as slaves to Assyria on the southern shores of the Caspian Sea.

Shalmaneser thereupon "...

brought men from Babylon ... — and other cities following the Babylonian Mystery religion — ... and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel: and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities thereof" (II Kings 17:23-24).

Kingdom of Israel NOT JEWS!

So here is another TRUTH unknown in the teachings of most churches called Christianity — Israel was divided into two nations — and the people of the kingdom of Israel were NOT Jews, nor are they ever called Jews in the Bible!

The first place where the word Jew or Jews occurs in the Bible is in II Kings 16:5-6, where ISRAEL and ally Syria were AT WAR against the JEWS!

But those of the house of Israel did not remain more than a generation or so in Assyria. They migrated northwest. They became known as "the LOST Ten Tribes." And indeed they were doubly lost — lost in identity until they themselves, after a generation or more, did not know who they were — and lost spiritually from God.

The knowledge of this, from the Bible, is ANOTHER PROOF of the one original true Church today!

This mystery is cleared up in a substantial booklet, *The United States and the British IN PROPHECY* — sent free upon request. It is one of the most amazing, exciting, eye-opening books ever written. Shocking — but TRUE! Meanwhile the house or kingdom of JUDAH (the Jews) con-

tinued to an extent in God's ways, but within a hundred years were sinning worse than Israel had done.

Judah driven out

By about 604 B.C. King Nebuchadnezzar had become king over the world's FIRST EMPIRE — the Chaldean Empire, often called Babylon. In 604 to 585 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar's armies captured the kingdom of Judah and moved the Jews into Babylonian territory as slaves.

Seventy years later, the Persian Empire had succeeded the Chaldean. God caused King Cyrus, by communicating via "stirring up the spirit of Cyrus" (Ezra 1:1) — his one "human" spirit — to issue a decree sending a contingent of Jews back to Jerusalem to build the second temple. Zerubbabel was the governor of the contingent and builder of the temple to which Christ came, at His first appearing on earth as the human Jesus. Also, prophetically, this Zerubbabel was the type of one to come in the LAST DAYS of this world whom Christ would use in building the temple to which the glorified all-powerful Christ shall come at His second appearing. Apparently none but God's true Church understands the truth of the building of this temple.

Some of Judah remained in and near Jerusalem — others were scattered into Russia, Poland, Yemen. Most of the Israelis in today's Israel have migrated into the original "promised land" from these countries. (To be continued next issue.)