

the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding

VOLUME XXVI, NUMBER 12

DECEMBER, 1961



THE BEAUTIFUL AMBASSADOR COLLEGE campus in Pasadena, California. Here students are taught how to live—as well as how to study. Read in this issue what is wrong with the present generation and how it can be corrected through right education.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From the Congo

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"It is a great pleasure for me to write you about the two books you sent me, namely, *The PLAIN TRUTH* and 'Who Will Rule Space?' I read and enjoyed them. Even my senior officers enjoyed the pamphlets. Greetings from members of the Nigeria Police serving here, who are all readers of your pamphlets."

UNO, Congo, Leopoldville

Inmate Wants to Know God

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"It has been my pleasure to indulge in reading some of your most eye-opening Bible literature. Your writings were introduced to me through one of my fellow inmates here in this institution. I have tried every way but God's way. I wish to gain true obedience toward our Father which is in heaven. Your writings have convinced me there is a God. Now I shall devote the rest of my life trying to gain more knowledge of Him."

Man from a State Reformatory

High School Student Develops True Perspective

"I am a senior in high school. I was overjoyed to find your program on the radio at 6:30 in the morning. Now I can listen to your inspiring and convincing program while I dress for school. I do not worry about Berlin and bombs and all the other problems of our day so much now. After listening to the program I know of a deeper certainty that God is directing everything, and that He has a plan for this world. This morning I slept late, missed the program, and the entire day went wrong."

Student from Pennsylvania

Editor's comment: There's a young fellow with a right attitude. Everyone should follow *this* student's example and learn to develop trust and confidence in God's protection.

Truck Drivers Tune In

"I am a truck driver from Denver to Chicago. My partner and I listen to you all the time wherever we can reach

you. I enjoy it more than any program I can tune in. There are lots of truck drivers that listen. I know, because I have asked them."

Man from Brighton, Colorado

"Paradise Lost"—Source of Knowledge?

"I have heard your broadcast from time to time over WNAX Yankton, South Dakota, as do some of my congregation, and consequently have had some questions asked me which you raised on your broadcast. As for your statement on the question of the length of the hair of Jesus, may I recommend you read up on Bible customs and, for a direct reference, read from 'Paradise Lost,' Book IV, beginning with line 304, by John Milton and you will find the accurate picture."

Minister from Merville, Iowa

Editor's comment: The reader didn't even quote Milton right. The reference is to *Adam* not Jesus Christ. Apparently some people would rather reject the words of an apostle inspired and directly taught by Jesus Christ and accept instead the writings of a man steeped in the superstitions of a darkened world! Isn't it time we learned what is the real source of our religion?

Business Drought Broken

"For about 3 or 4 months now my business has been so slow that I could hardly make ends meet. This morning I sent you \$2.00 that I felt that I could not afford but I sent it. Today my business was so good that I could hardly take care of it. I am sending \$5.00 in this letter."

Man from Louisiana

Learns Tithing Is Law of Love

"Enclosed is my small offering. At first I found it hard to understand how you were able to send all your books and leaflets entirely free, for I was sure that people would never send money unless they had to. But now, since, with your help, I have started really studying my Bible, and learning the plain truth about it, I guess I'm beginning to understand how God really works. For now I

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find that I want to give. It's not the case of having to or feeling obligated to, I just feel I must help other people to discover the joy in God's way of living."

Reader from Scotland

(Please continue on page 8)

The Shocking TRUTH about "QUEER" Men!

It's time America and Britain really FACED the problem of effeminate and homosexual men in our midst! It's time we learned the ANSWER to this revolting situation!

by Roderick C. Meredith

"SOMEDAY we'll outnumber you, and then you'll be the abnormal ones and we'll be the normal."

So says the homosexual to the rest of society in the shocking book, *"The Sixth Man,"* by Jess Stearn.

This book takes its title from the estimate that one out of every six American males already is tainted with homosexuality, and that the proportion is increasing. It indicates that many male homosexuals are *married men* with families and responsible jobs!

Harold L. Call, of the Mattachine Society, Inc., said: "Among those you love most deeply there is likely to be at least one homosexual person. It could be a son or daughter, brother or sister . . . Many homosexuals . . . are 'among our most respected and successful citizens.'"

One often overlooked aspect of this sordid situation is the recent related *terrifying rise in venereal disease*. From Chicago, Dr. Evan W. Thomas of the city Health Department publicly admits: "There has been a marked increase in the venereal disease rate among teenagers, as we all know."

"But the significant rise that has received little or no public attention is that occurring among males. Less than ten years ago, the ratio of VD was about one male to every female. Now the ratio is FIVE males to every female."

"Seventy-eight per cent of the males interviewed said their contacts were MALE . . . It is the MALE PROSTITUTE we are most concerned about now," he said. (Emphasis ours.)

A Shameful Tragedy

Why are men so seldom real MEN any more? Why do some perverted males want to make love to other MEN?

Isn't this TERRIBLE? The greatest tragedy of all is that many of our leaders and "intellectuals" fail to grasp the very deadly seriousness of the whole situation. For in Britain and America, homosexuals list among their numbers those from the lowest dregs of society—AND those from the highest positions in politics, business, music, art and even religion!

Just a few months ago, the *third ranking* official in the British foreign office was hauled into magistrates court and accused of committing a homosexual act with a 19-year-old private in the Coldstream Guards. And it is common knowledge that literally *dozens* of minor officials and employees in the U. S. State Department and other government branches are *practicing homosexuals*! In fact, it is through this weakness of some employees that the Communists have been able to obtain top secret information on U. S. defense and intelligence operations.

Reprehensible, you say?

But notice what the recent chief religious authority of ALL ENGLAND had to say: "The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Geoffrey Fisher, tonight spoke in the House of Lords in support of a change in British law to make homosexual acts between consenting adults in private no longer a criminal offense. The Archbishop said *the right to decide one's own moral code* and obey it, even to a man's own hurt, *was 'a fundamental right given to him by God* and to be strictly respected by society and a criminal code'" (Reuters Release, December 4, 1959).

Dr. Fisher's statement gets to the BASIS of the whole problem. Does each individual human being—completely APART from the Supreme GOD—have

the authority to decide what is "right" and what is "wrong"?

What is the TRUTH?

Many, today, seem to think that man does have the right to set up his "own" moral code. This "do-as-you-please" philosophy—this PERMISSIVE way of life—does not strongly condemn the murderer, the rapist, the juvenile delinquent—even the Communist in our midst. Rather, it tries to "understand" him.

But what are the "fruits"—the RESULTS—of this permissive way of life?

The crime rate is UP—and juvenile delinquency is SKYROCKETING. Divorce and remarriage—which God *condemns*—is increasing by leaps and bounds. Homosexuality is *increasing rapidly*. And *venereal disease* is spreading at an alarming rate—*especially among HOMOSEXUALS*!

In general, as FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover has stated, there is a growing disrespect for ALL LAW and CONSTITUTED AUTHORITY among America's youth.

The latest issue of *This Week* magazine revealed that over ONE BILLION dollars in supplies and equipment is STOLEN each year from American industries and businesses *by the employees themselves*!

More and more, our major cities are being spoken of as "concrete jungles" where sudden, agonizing DEATH may come at any time, our women are not safe alone on the streets. *Nor are men in many areas.*

An increasing percentage of *weak, SICKLY* young men have to be rejected each year by the draft. And even our "glorious" soldiers, sailors and marines

began to DEFECT to the enemy for THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY during the Korean conflict!

It is sickening to realize it, but roughly ONE THIRD of all GI prisoners in Korea were guilty of some form of *collaboration* with the enemy. Furthermore, during the entire Korean war NOT ONE of our men broke out of a permanent prison camp and returned to our lines—which is the primary mission of a prisoner! This was the FIRST WAR IN UNITED STATES MILITARY HISTORY of which this can be said!

WHY?

The Real ANSWER

Strange as it may seem, much of the real answer to this shameful problem is understood by the *Communists themselves!* The United States Army has captured several Communist Intelligence Reports showing their analysis of why so many Americans defected and turned traitor to their country.

The following is an excerpt from one of these captured documents: It is addressed to the Chief of Intelligence of the Peoples Republic of China: "The American soldier has weak loyalty to his family, his community, his country, his religion and to his fellow soldier. His concepts of right and wrong are hazy. Opportunism is easy for him. He himself feels frightened and insecure. He underestimates his own worth and his own strength and his ability to survive."

America, WAKE UP!

May God help you to realize that this problem of *effeminate men* is not concerned just with weak, "queer" characters in some other part of your town or city. It is a thing affecting MILLIONS of American men of all ages and backgrounds! Our very SURVIVAL as a nation is *directly affected* by this vital problem!

As the above report so vividly points out, the American man is just plain WEAK!

He is WEAK in his loyalty to his family, his religion and to his fellow man. "His concepts of right and wrong are hazy."

He has been reared on a PERMISSIVE philosophy where there is no real sense of definite *right* or *wrong* in his family and community. There has been no real

AUTHORITY in his church or in his home to instill in him a definite sense of *responsibility* toward God and his fellow man.

No wonder he becomes "queer" so easily—and in so MANY WAYS!

For not just in war but in *broken homes and juvenile delinquency* the weak, spineless, effeminate American male is responsible to a great degree. A respected marriage counselor, Dr. A. H. Clemens of Washington, D. C., recently stated that almost all family breakdowns can be traced to MOTHER-DOMINATED HOMES. He said: "That phony romantic stuff that Hollywood is teaching is very misleading." Psychiatric research has shown, he pointed out, that *homes dominated by the mother produce "ninety-one of each one hundred mentally sick adult males"* and the vast majority of all schizophrenics, split personality sufferers.

Increasingly today, in America and Britain, men are allowing WOMEN to rule their lives from the day of their birth until the day of their death! And this statement is more LITERAL than most of you probably even begin to realize!

Notice the typical "modern" situation: When a baby boy is born, first hospital nurses and then his mother dictate his

every move. Then he goes to school, and *women teachers* take him over and mold him to a large extent in their image. After school, most of his play hours will still be under the supervision of *mother*. If he happens to take music lessons, chances are that a *woman teacher* will dominate him during this part of each week. Then, on Sunday, he may go to a typical Sunday school where WOMEN tend to dominate in nearly every department.

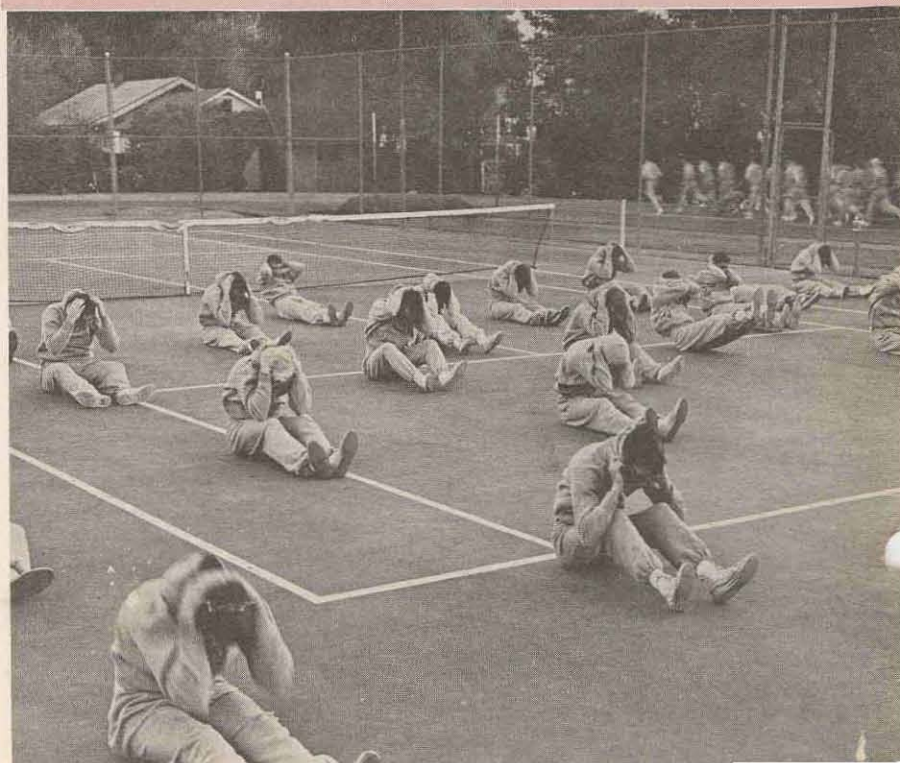
In school, he often finds that "nice" little girls are held up as an example to the rest of the class by the women teachers. They may have the privilege of taking the roll, or reporting on "bad little boys" when teacher is gone from the room.

Even in adolescence, the girl is usually taught more sex know-how and regarded as more "responsible." The boy is expected to "get all he can," and the girl is expected to *keep him in line!*

In adult society, the young man finds that *women* tend to determine what type of social activities there shall be—and when and where. Emily Post and other *women* are the self-appointed "authorities" who tell the American male how to behave himself.

Do you now begin to understand
(Please continue on page 12)

Ambassador College men must be on the athletic field early in the morning for physical training. A healthy body makes for a healthy mind.



What DO Church Goers Believe?—and WHY?

A very large segment of American and British life attends church on Sunday mornings. WHY do they go? WHAT do these church goers BELIEVE, and WHY? The plain truth is a little shocking—and illuminating!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

NOTHING is so astonishing as the truth! It is often stranger than fiction. Most people who attend church regularly, or even occasionally, would be really surprised if they should probe into their own minds far enough to ask WHY they go, and just WHAT is their religious belief—and WHY?

Do You KNOW?

As a baby, I was taken to church. As a child, I was taken to Sunday school and church. It was a Quaker church. I attended church until I was eighteen. Then I began attending the theatre, the athletic contests, or the dance. When we were married, my wife and I felt we ought to attend church. We looked over the churches in the general area of our home, selected one that was convenient, respectable, with a reasonably modern building, a friendly and personable pastor, and members we liked socially.

But WHY did we join? WHY did we attend church?

Well, we just felt we ought to—that's about all. Did we stop to reason why we ought to attend church? Well, no. But all people *should* attend church, should they not? We supposed so. Why? We probably didn't think much about why! But hasn't everybody always *heard* that one should go to church? Of course! And so, we simply assume, take for granted, and accept without question what we've always heard. Usually we don't know WHY.

What Did We Believe?

Did we have a definite religion? Reflecting back, my answer would have to be "No"—how about you?

What did we believe? Well, we had

no deep-rooted convictions. We believed, of course, those things we had most often *heard* in church. We believed in heaven and hell—an ever-burning hell. We believed in the immortality of the soul. We believed in Sunday, and Christmas and New Year's and Easter, and from boyhood I had heard the pastor talk about a few weird things, or names, or something that had absolutely no meaning to me—"Pentecost," "Grace," "Antioch," "sanctification," "justification," "dead in trespasses and sins." Of course I knew all those things came out of the Bible—but then, I always said: "I just can't understand the Bible."

And, speaking of the Bible, what *does* the average church goer think about the Bible? I think that in those years I was typical of many. It was "the Good Book." I did, in a way, regard it with a certain superstitious awe. It was beyond my comprehension. Of course I assumed our church got its beliefs out of the Bible. The preacher could understand it. But then, too, I grew up looking on the minister as a person *different* from the rest of us. He was a sort of holy man, not tempted to sin or to enjoy the worldly pleasures like the rest of us. He was like a man from another world. But the Bible was the Book men laid their hands on when taking the oath of office. And it was the one Book I should have been too embarrassed to carry down the street.

Did I look on it as "the Word of God?" Well, yes, I suppose so. But then I never thought of it in *specific* terms as the message, the instruction of God, to give man the explanation of what he is, and why he is here, and where he is going, and how he ought

to live, and how he can be happy, and prosperous, and enjoy life more.

Somehow "religion" was for Sunday morning—except that I had been taught that its prohibitions lasted all day Sunday. It was sin to go to the theatre on Sunday, and it was a sin to dance, or smoke, or swear, or "drink" at any time — and even theatregoing was "worldly" and probably a sin at any time. Playing cards was sin, too.

Religion? Well, vaguely I had heard that Adam was the first man, and that he sinned, and "fell"—whatever that meant. As a result I vaguely conceived that life was like a one-way trip on a train. Because of Adam, the switch in the track at the end of the line is thrown to shoot us all down to hell. So I knew we needed to "get saved," although I had been taught that I had a "birthright membership" in the church, so I guessed I probably was already "saved"—I never worried about it. When one is "saved," the switch in the track is then thrown so that, when he gets to the end of the line he will be shot instantly up to heaven, "to be with the Lord" in mansions above, "over the river," or "on the other shore," wherever all that was. Anyway, it was "up yonder" and when they called the roll, I was going to be there.

And what was my idea of GOD—and of Christ—and of the devil? Well, God was One to fear and be appeased, in a way—and yet, if we pleased Him, He could make things break our way for us. If we faced a frightful tragedy and possible death, crying out to Him might save us. But generally, I think I rather took it for granted that God didn't want us to be happy or enjoy life—He certainly frowned on all

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RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

TO THE U.S. & CANADA

WINS—New York—1010 kc. 9:00 a.m., Sun.; 7:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 *WNTA—Newark, N.J.—970 on dial—9:00 a.m. Sun.; 7:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 WIBG—Philadelphia—990 on dial—12:30 p.m. Sundays.
 WPIT—Pittsburgh, Pa.—730 on dial—3:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 WBMD—Baltimore, Maryland—750 on dial—12 noon daily.
 WEAW—Chicago—1330 on dial—9:30 a.m., Sun. (AM & FM), 7:00 a.m., Mon. thru Sat.
 WWVA—Wheeling, W. Va.—1170 on dial—10:30 a.m.; 11:15 p.m., Sun., E.S.T.; 10:00 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.
 WKYR—Keyser, W. Va.—1270 on dial—5:30 a.m., daily.
 WCKY—Cincinnati, Ohio—1530 on dial—7:00 and 9:30 p.m. Sun., 5:30 a.m., Mon. thru Sat., E.S.T.
 WSPD—Toledo, Ohio—1370 on dial—9:05 p.m. every night.
 WADC—Akron, Ohio—1350 on dial—9:30 p.m. every night.
 WIBC—Indianapolis, Ind.—1070 on dial—10:30 p.m., Sunday.
 WJBK—Detroit, Mich.—1500 on dial—9:30 a.m., Sun.
 WSM—Nashville, Tenn.—650 on dial—12 midnight Mon. thru Fri.; 1:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Sun., C.S.T.
 WLAC—Nashville, Tenn.—1510 on dial—7:00 p.m., daily; 5:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat., C.S.T.; 10:30 a.m. Sun.
 WPTF—Raleigh, N.C.—680 on dial—5:30 a.m. and 8:05 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.; 9:30 a.m. Sun.
 WGUN—Atlanta, Ga.—1010 on dial—Mon. thru Sat. 11:00 a.m., Sun. 4:00 p.m.
 *WMIE—Miami, Fla.—1140 on dial—9:00 a.m. Sun.; 12 noon Mon. thru Sat.
 WGBS—Miami, Fla.—710 on dial—10:30 a.m. Sun.
 KWKH—Shreveport, Louisiana—1130 on dial—9:15 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 11:00 a.m. and 11:30 p.m. Sat.; 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. Sun.
 WNOE—New Orleans, La.—1060 on dial—9:30 a.m. Sundays.
 KTHS—Little Rock, Arkansas—1090 on dial—9:15 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 8:00 p.m. Sat.; 9:30 a.m. and 8:15 p.m. Sun.
 XERF—Del Rio, Tex.—1570 on dial—10:00 p.m., Mon. thru Sat.; 11:00 p.m., Sun.
 KCTA—Corpus Christi, Tex.—1030 on dial—12:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 4:30 p.m. Sat.; 2:00 p.m. Sun.
 XELO—800 on dial—every night, 8:00 p.m., M.S.T., 9:00 p.m. C.S.T.
 XEG—1050 on dial—every night, 8:30 p.m. C.S.T.
 *Asterisk indicates time change.

*KRLD—Dallas, Texas—1080 on dial—8:10 p.m. Mon. thru Sun.
 KCUL—Ft. Worth, Tex.—1540 on dial—7:00 a.m., Mon. thru Sat.; 1:00 p.m., Sun.
 KTRH—Houston, Tex.—740 on dial—9:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.; 8:30 p.m. Sun.
 KENS—San Antonio, Tex.—680 on dial—9:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.; 9:00 p.m. Sun.
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 KRMG—Tulsa, Okla.—740 on dial—9:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.; 7:30 p.m. Sun.
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 WKYB—Paducah, Ky.—570 on dial—12:00 noon, Sun. thru Sat.
 KCMO—Kansas City, Mo.—810 on dial—8:15 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.; 7:30 p.m. Sun.; 5:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 KWTO—Springfield, Mo.—560 on dial—7:00 p.m. daily.
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 WNAX—Yankton, S. Dak.—570 on dial—8:30 p.m. nightly.
 KLZ—Denver, Colo.—560 on dial—10:45 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sat.
 KCPX—Salt Lake City, Utah—1320 on dial—7:00 p.m. every night.
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 KPHO—Phoenix, Ariz.—910 on dial—6:30 p.m. every day.
 CFRN—Edmonton, Alberta—1260 on dial—7:30 p.m. every night.
 CKLW—Windsor, Ontario—800 on dial—7:00 p.m. Sundays.
 *CFQC—Saskatoon, Saskatchewan—600 on dial—7:30 p.m., Sun. thru Sat.
 In French—
 CKJL—St. Jerome, Quebec—900 kc.—10:30 a.m. Sunday.

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 *KSAY—San Francisco, Calif.—1010 kc.—7:30 a.m. every day.
 KRAK—Sacramento, Calif.—1140 on dial—10:00 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.; 10:30 p.m. Sun.

KFRE—Fresno, Calif.—940 on dial—8:00 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.; 10:30 a.m. Sun.
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 KRKD—Los Angeles—1150 on dial—7:00 p.m., Mon. thru Sat.; 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sun.
 KGBS—Los Angeles, Calif.—1020 on dial—10:00 p.m. Sun.
 KBLA—Burbank—1490 on dial—7:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. daily.
 XERB—1090 on dial—7:00 p.m. every night.
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 KIRO—Seattle, Wash.—710 on dial—10:30 p.m. and 5:30 a.m., Mon. thru Sat.
 KNBX—Seattle—1050 on dial—12:00 noon every day.
 KHQ—Spokane, Wash.—590 on dial—9:00 p.m. every night.
 KWJJ—Portland—1080 on dial—10:00 p.m., Sundays; 9:00 p.m., Mon. thru Sat.
 KUGN—Eugene—590 on dial—7:00 p.m. every night.
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 KULA—Honolulu, Hawaii—690 on dial—10:00 p.m. every night.
 In Spanish—
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In English—
 RADIO LUXEMBOURG—208 metres (1439 kc.)—Mondays and Tuesdays: 23:30 G.M.T.
 In French—
 RADIO LUXEMBOURG—1293 metres—5:40 a.m. Mon.
 EUROPE NO. ONE—Felsberg en Sarre, Germany—182 kc. (1622 m.)—Wed. 5:45 a.m.
 In German—
 RADIO LUXEMBOURG—49 metres (6090 kc.) and 208 metres (1439 kc.)—Sun., 6:05 a.m.; Wed., 7:00 a.m., M.E.T.

TO AFRICA

RADIO LOURENCO MARQUES, MOZAMBIQUE—3301 kc. and 4925 kc.—10:00 p.m., Saturdays; 10:30 p.m., Mondays and Tuesdays.
 *RADIO ELIZABETHVILLE (The Congo)—OQ2AD—5980 kc. (60 m.), 10:00 p.m., Sun. thru Fri.

TO ASIA

RADIO BANGKOK—HSJS—461.5 metres (651 kc.), Monday 10:35-11:05 p.m.
 RADIO TAIWAN (FORMOSA)—"The 3rd Network, B.C.C."—BED23 Taichung 1380 kc.; BED78 Tainan City 1540 kc.; BED79 Kaohsiung 1220 kc.; BED82 Chiayi 1460 kc.; —18:00 T.S.T., Wed. and Fri.

RADIO LOG

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

ALTO BROADCASTING SYSTEM — PHILIPPINE ISLANDS:

DZAO, Manila — 620 kc. — 9:00 p.m. Sunday.

DZRI, Dagupan City — 1040 kc. — 9:00 p.m. Sunday.

DZRB, Naga City — 1060 kc. — 9:00 p.m. Sunday.

DXAW, Davao City — 640 kc. — 9:00 p.m. Sunday.

TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

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

2AY — Albury, NSW — 1490 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 10:00 p.m. Sun.

2GF — Grafton, NSW — 1210 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

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

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

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

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

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

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

3BO — Bendigo, Vic. — 960 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and Sun.

3CV — Maryborough, Vic. — 1440 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. and Sun.

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

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

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

3SH — Swanhill, Vic. — 1330 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. and Sun.

3SR — Shepparton, Vic. — 1260 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. and Sun.

3UL — Warragul, Vic. — 880 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. and Sun.

3YB — Warrnambool, Vic. — 1210 kc. — 10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. and Sun.

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

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

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

4TO — Townsville, Qld. — 780 kc. — 10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TO LATIN AMERICA

In English—

RADIO SWAN — Swan Island — 1160 kc. — 5:30 p.m., C.S.T. Sun.

RADIO AMERICA — Lima, Peru — 1010 kc. — 6:00 p.m. Saturdays.

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

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

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

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

In Spanish—

RADIO SWAN — Swan Island — 1160 kc. — 9:00 p.m., Sat. and Sun.

RADIO LA CRONICA — Lima, Peru — 1010 kc. — 7:00 p.m. Sun.

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

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

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

things closer to hand. As I said, religion was for Sunday. It had no relation to or connection with the rest of life as a whole—my school, fun, play, hobbies, and, as I grew older, business, philosophies and beliefs.

What a "Bible Christian" Is Like

Years later my wife and I became acquainted with a woman who, in some ways, was rather peculiar. This woman really *had* a religion. She read and studied the Bible every day. She seemed to *understand* it! She had definite beliefs and convictions, and she said the SOURCE of all of them was *not* anything she had heard at church, but what she read in the Bible. She said the Bible carried *authority*, and was the only source of knowing the TRUTH. She actually studied the Bible to learn *how to live*—not just on Sunday—but *every day*! Actually, this woman was HAPPY in her religion. She prayed a great deal, and she seemed to really *know* God, and to be on personal terms with Him!

She was, judged by customary standards of the general public that attends church but has little or no conception of what one's church actually does believe, a rather peculiar woman.

She didn't believe any of those major beliefs I had always heard in church: being an immortal soul, going to heaven or hell when one dies, and, strangely, she did not observe Sunday or Christmas or New Year's or Easter or Valentine's day or Hallowe'en. She said none of these ideas are taught in the Bible.

This woman was a "Bible Christian." The SOURCE from which she got what she believed was the Bible.

This woman asked my wife, one day before I had met her, to open her Bible and read a certain passage. Then she asked my wife to turn to another passage and read it—then another, and another.

After reading several of these passages, my wife, in astonishment, exclaimed, "Why, this is not what I've always been taught. I've always heard and believed *just the opposite* of what it says here in the Bible!"

My wife thereupon *believed* what she read in the Bible—and that *changed her religious belief*. To me, she had be-

What DO Church Goers Believe?

(Continued from page 5)

worldly pleasures. Christ, however, was more kind and loving—He was our Saviour. Above all, neither God nor Christ were REAL to me—they were

in reality "far off."

Now these were not definite, concrete beliefs or deep-rooted convictions. They were just etherial, vague assumptions. I never gave them deep or specific thought. I just took them for granted, supposing everybody believed these things. My mind was focused on the material interests of the moment—

come a religious fanatic. I was angered, furious. Argument did no good. She had all the answers—and right out of the Bible. This was the incident that challenged and angered me into the first real study of the Bible of all my life.

I said, "You can't tell me that all these churches are wrong. I know they get what they believe out of the Bible!" So I devoted six months to intensive, almost night and day, research and study to try to find, *in the Bible*, what I had been taught in church. I, too, was astounded to find just the opposite. I obtained the literature of churches supporting their beliefs. I searched the commentaries, the lexicons, the Bible encyclopedias. I searched out the arguments of higher criticism on these points. I tried my best to overthrow my wife's new Bible beliefs—but they definitely were in the Bible. I studied evolution, almost doubted the existence of God, researched science and philosophy, and PROVED that the all-intelligent personal Creator God does exist. Then I put the Bible to the test—and by several infallible proofs, PROVED it to be the very revelation of the living God to mankind, carrying final AUTHORITY.

At last, once I swallowed my pride, admitted defeat, was humbled, had repented, and accepted the Christ of the Bible—a different Christ than I had previously pictured—I had found the true SOURCE for belief.

What a difference there is between professed "Christians" who are church goers, and a true BIBLE Christian! I know that difference because I have been both!

Regardless of whether one has been *angered* into an honest study of the Bible, as I was, or whether he had never been to church or heard anything else in the first place, or WHY he looks into the Bible for himself, he will find the same thing there that I found—if he is honest and willing.

A person who is born and reared on a faraway uninhabited island in mid-ocean, having never heard *any* religious belief, if he had a Bible and was able to read, would be a total stranger to many of these things I was taught in church—he would see, in the Bible, just what everybody else does who

looks into it *honestly*.

What's wrong, then? When today's "enlightened" clergy, and its theological seminaries where young ministers are educated, spend more time trying to determine how much of the Bible they wish to classify as myth, and how little as truth—when only 1% of theological students, by actual survey, believe in any "second coming" of Christ which is stated and affirmed repeatedly in the Bible—when theologians and the professional clergy "interpret" the Bible to mean the very opposite of what it plainly says, in order to pretend that it supports their pagan teachings—then you may *know* what is wrong.

If you will read Jeremiah 23, Ezekiel 13, and 34, which are prophecies of conditions *now*, in our day, and of Christ's statement of Matthew 24:4-5, 11, 24, of the false preachers that would deceive the MANY; and of the many statements in the Bible that the whole world would be deceived, you will begin to understand. It is, indeed, hard for one born, reared, and steeped in this world's education, religion, customs and ways, to realize that this is *not* God's world, but Satan's. It comes as a jarring *shock*! I know. I've experienced it!

The Bible ought never to be interpreted. It means what it says, and it says what it means. Taken as it *is*, it *makes sense*.

Don't be a spiritual coward. Look into it *for yourself*. It's full of surprises—it's full of TRUTH—it's full of the way to a positive peace of mind, to happiness, to prosperity, abundant living here and now, and to salvation in joyous eternal life—FOREVER!

God's world is soon coming—the peaceful, happy WORLD TOMORROW!

Letters to Editor

(Continued from page 2)

Chain Reaction

"I enjoy your PLAIN TRUTH magazines so much. I give them to a sister here, she sends them to a sister in Iowa, the Iowa sister sends them to a sister in Kansas, and she gives them to the neighbors."

Woman from Lakewood, California

Editor's comment: We'll be glad to send a year's subscription free upon request to each of these ladies so each can have her own personal copy.

True Gospel Stands Trial

"We do enjoy the preaching of the gospel by you and your son. We listened for one year before writing you. We certainly tested everything you said. We thought at first it was another false religion, but we now know that it is the one true gospel."

Woman from B. C., Canada

Tithing Brings "Extra"

"I have only recently started tithing. This is truly the best investment we have ever made. Since that time, my husband has been called to work 'extra' and I am sure we have grossed twice the amount of our tithe."

Woman from San Antonio, Texas

Plain Truth Makes Bible Real

"I am keenly interested in The PLAIN TRUTH and look forward to getting it each month. It shocked me terribly at first, but you are making the Bible real to us. It is intensely interesting. Formerly, the Bible was a closed book, but, thanks to you, what a difference."

Woman from Newcastle on Tyne, England

Public Apathy Demonstrated

"Public apathy is referred to quite often in The PLAIN TRUTH and on The WORLD TOMORROW. While discussing current history in our Personal Finance class this week I was surprised to learn that the *entire* class, with the exception of myself and the teacher, did not even know what the Common Market, the Inner Six, or the Outer Seven were. They did not even care about our foreign trade and its importance to our survival."

Reader from Michigan

Cigarette Money

"Enclosed is some more cigarette money. Thank you very much for your part in this. I feel very much better both in health and peace of mind, knowing the money, little though it is, is being wisely spent instead of wasted."

Co-Worker from Belgium

When Was Christ Born?

Where is there Biblical authority for the celebration of Christmas? Does the Bible command Christians to observe the birthday of Christ? Strange as it may seem, there is no Scripture commanding Christians to observe a wintertime holiday season!

Here is why!

by Ernest Martin

THE FACTS about the origin of Christmas will startle you! Abundant historical evidence proves beyond doubt that Christmas is not of Biblical origin at all. The festival—believe it or not—had its beginnings among the pagans! "Christmas" customs were being observed by almost the whole of the pagan world centuries before Christ!

Whence Comes Christmas?

The largest pagan religious cult which fostered the celebration of December 25 as a holiday throughout the Roman and Greek worlds was pagan sun worship—Mithraism. The chief deity in this heathen religion was the "Sun Goddess"—the Oriental goddess of the heavens, called "the queen of heaven." The season of year when this goddess received her greatest adoration from the pagan world was at the time of the winter solstice—in December. This winter festival was called "*the Nativity*"—the Nativity of the Sun.

Why haven't most of you been told these facts of history before?

Sir James Frazer in his monumental work on ancient religion, "*The Golden Bough*," relates that during the second and third centuries after Christ an intense rivalry was apparent between professing Christianity and this old pagan religion of Mithraism. Of course, Christianity, so-called, managed in the end to suppress this strongly implanted pagan creed, but the victory was in name only! History shows a good deal of compromise was effected by the early Catholic leaders with the teachings of Mithraism. Notice: "An instructive relic of the long struggle between Christianity and Mithraism is preserved in our festival of Christmas, which the Church seems to have *borrowed directly from its heathen rival*. In the Julian Calendar the 25th of December was regarded as

the Nativity of the Sun. . . . The ritual of the nativity, as appears to have been celebrated in Syria and Egypt, was remarkable. The celebrants retired into certain inner shrines, from which *at midnight* they issued with a loud cry, 'The Virgin has brought forth! The light is waxing.' The Egyptians even represented the newborn *sun* by the *image of an infant* [remember, this was *before Christ*] which *ON HIS BIRTHDAY*, the winter solstice, they brought forth and exhibited to his worshippers" (from *The Golden Bough*, St. Martin's ed., pp. 471, 472).

The similarity between this ancient pagan rite and the modern Christmas is as striking as it is obvious!

Let us notice yet another fact recorded by Frazer concerning this winter festival. "No doubt the Virgin who thus conceived and bore a son on the 25th of December was the great Oriental goddess whom the Semites called the Heavenly Virgin or simply the Heavenly Goddess" (p. 472).

This "Heavenly Goddess" was the pagan Queen of Heaven whose worship (with all her festivals) is utterly condemned in the Bible. Read it for yourself in Jeremiah 7:17-20; 44:15-19.

History Speaks

"What led the ecclesiastical authorities to institute the festival of Christmas? The motives for the innovation are stated with great frankness by a Syrian writer [5th century A.D.]. . . . 'It was the custom of the heathen to celebrate on the same 25th of December *the birthday of the Sun*, at which [time] they kindled lights in token of festivity. In these solemnities and festivities the Christians *also took part*. Accordingly when the doctors of the Church perceived that the Christians had a leaning to this festival, they took counsel and resolved that the true nativity [of

Christ] should be solemnized *on that day*,'" concludes Frazer's quote.

This could hardly be plainer! The Catholic Syrian writer in question lived only a few years after the Christmas festival was officially adopted and sanctioned by the Catholic Church. He knew it was borrowed directly from the heathen. And yet, those Church leaders had the plain injunction from God (which they were all aware of) that the customs of the heathen *were not* to be brought into the worship of Christ. See Jeremiah 10:1-4 for a specific prohibition of the Christmas celebration.

Can the Birthday of Christ be Known?

The major reason December 25th was chosen to commemorate Christ's birthday was that it represented the chief religious day among most of the heathen. The Church authorities erroneously reasoned that it was proper to replace the sun god with the son of God—Christ.

Hardly any of the early scholars really believed that Christ was born on December 25. In fact, there were all types of guesses by the men of the fourth and fifth centuries, and almost everyone disagreed with the other. See Smith's *Dict. of Christian Antiquities*, Vol. 1, p. 358. But the people just couldn't give up celebrating the season.

The truth is, no man knew — or knows—when Christ was born! The Gospels say nothing as to the day of His birth. This lack of reference is in itself significant. If God had wanted Christians to celebrate His birthday He surely would have told His people when it was!

This omission also shows how unconcerned the Gospel writers were over the exact date of Christ's birth. To the early Christians, there was nothing especially significant in a *birthday*. Actually, the only two instances of birthday

celebration in the Bible refer to evil men. Notice Genesis 40:20 where Pharaoh's birthday was observed. And also Matthew 14:6 where it describes John the Baptist being beheaded at Herod's birthday party!

Only the heathen celebrated their birthdays in Bible times. No wonder, then, that the early Church never observed the birthday of Christ. That was a custom of the heathen, not of God's people! The authoritative *Catholic Encyclopedia* admits: "In the scripture, sinners alone, not saints, celebrate their birthdays." 1908 Edition, Vol. 3, p. 724, under article "Christmas."

Thus, it becomes easy to understand why the question of Christ's birth did not really become important until the fourth and fifth centuries. At this time, the matter was looked into because of the influx of pagans into the "Church" and because of their adherence to their old customs—wanting to celebrate the birthdays of *their* old gods. So, to please the pagans, December 25 was chosen. The Church was, however, destitute of records which showed the exact day of Christ's birth. So it had to forge them in the name of the Roman archives.

In What Season Was Christ Born?

Even though there are no records which show the date of Christ's birth, there is sufficient evidence within the Bible itself which clearly reveals that His birth was nowhere near, *of all days*, December 25.

First, to show this, let us consider the time of Christ's ministry which we find revealed in the Gospel record.

The Gospels show that Christ ministered a little over three years. To be exact, a prophecy in Daniel 9:27 shows that Christ would preach the Gospel for three and one-half years, or for one-half of a prophetic week. (A natural week has seven days.) This section of Daniel describes a *prophetic* week or a period of seven *prophetic* days. In this prophecy, *each day equals one year*. Daniel, then, is speaking about a seven-year period; and in the *midst* of that period, that is, at the end of three and one-half years, Christ's earthly ministry would come to an end. (See Numbers 14:34 and Ezekiel 4:6). This Scripture in Daniel gives us a clear prophecy telling

us that Christ's ministry would last 3½ years!

What does this show? Very much!

Since we know that Christ's ministry came to an end at Passover time in A.D. 31 (for proof of this, write for our reprint article: The Crucifixion was Not on Friday), then 3½ years preceding the spring of A.D. 31 would put the commencement of His ministry in the early *autumn* of A.D. 27.

But what does this prove? Let us see!

The Gospel further tells us that Christ began His ministry just as He was approaching 30 years of age (Luke 3:23). This was the age required by the Old Testament to which priests must attain before they could be installed as official ministers and preachers (Num. 4:3). The Jews also considered that 30 years of age was the age of maturity and real manhood.

Notice what this indication shows. Since Christ was just about 30 years old when He began His ministry in early *autumn*, A.D. 27, this clearly shows He was born sometime *in the early autumn* of 4 B.C.—30 years before!

Autumn the Only Possible Season!

There are many proofs which point to an early autumn birth of Christ. For example, if Christ had been born in any of the seasons preceding autumn 4 B.C. (that is, spring or summer of 4 B.C.), He would have been *past* 30 at the commencement of His ministry. But the Scripture says He was *about* or *approaching* 30.

Also, let us consider the season immediately *after* autumn 4 B.C.—the winter. If He had been born in the winter of 4-3 B.C. then He could, of course, have been under 30 when He began preaching (as the Gospel says). But this season is out of the question! Here is why! We have the plain testimony of the Scriptures that the flocks were still *in the fields* at the time of Christ's birth (Luke 2:8). The flocks were never in the fields in Palestine during the winter season. They were kept inside barns or in protected places during the months from mid-October to mid-March. See *Clarke's Commentary* on Luke 2:8. The late autumn and winter of Palestine were too severe for the flocks to remain in the open and

unprotected from the rain, wind and frost. Notice Matthew 24:20 for a reference to Palestinian winters.

These facts alone prove that an *early autumn* 4 B.C. date is the only conceivable period in which Christ could have been born!

More Proof: The Temple Ritual!

In the New Testament we have another important chronological feature which will show the season of Christ's birth. It concerns the time periods in which the Levitical priesthood served in the Temple. By comparing these prescribed times with certain New Testament references, we can arrive at the very season for the birth of Christ.

In the days of Christ, the Aaronic priesthood which offered the sacrifices in the Temple at Jerusalem was divided into 24 separate divisions. Each division (called a "*course*") had one chief priest who was chosen by lot to represent the whole division in the Temple for a week's period. This chief priest was to offer the evening and morning sacrifices and the incense offerings.

The priesthood was divided into 24 courses by David. In his time there had become so many priests that all could not possibly serve in the Sanctuary at the same time. So David divided them into 24 courses and gave instructions that one course should serve in the Sanctuary for one week, then the next course could serve the following week, etc. These 24 courses of the priesthood are described in I Chronicles 24. The names of the individual courses are given from verse 7 through 19.

We are further told by Jewish records that each of these courses began serving at noon on a Sabbath and continued their service until noon the next Sabbath—a one-week period (*Sukkah*, 55b). The Jewish historian, Josephus, who lived during the time of the Apostle Paul and was himself a priest belonging to the first of the 24 courses (*Josephus' Life*, 1), also tells us that each one of these courses served for one week, from Sabbath to Sabbath (*Antiquities*, vii, 14, 7).

The Jewish records again tell us that the courses also served bi-annually—twice in the year. That is, the first course would begin serving in the spring

of the year, on the first week of the sacred year. The second course would serve the second week, etc. This went on until the twenty-fourth course had served. Then, in the autumn of the year, at the first week of the civil year, the first course would commence again and all of the courses would repeat the order. Thus, on each of the 48 weeks during the year one particular course of the priests served in the Temple.

But, added to these 48 weeks are 3 extra weeks in the year during which ALL 24 of the courses served together. These 3 weeks were during the three major Holy Day periods: the Passover in the beginning of spring; Pentecost in late spring; and Tabernacles in the early autumn. Because multitudes of people were always in Jerusalem at these three times of the year, ALL 24 courses of the priests stayed on in Jerusalem and served together in the Temple (*Sukkah*, 55b).

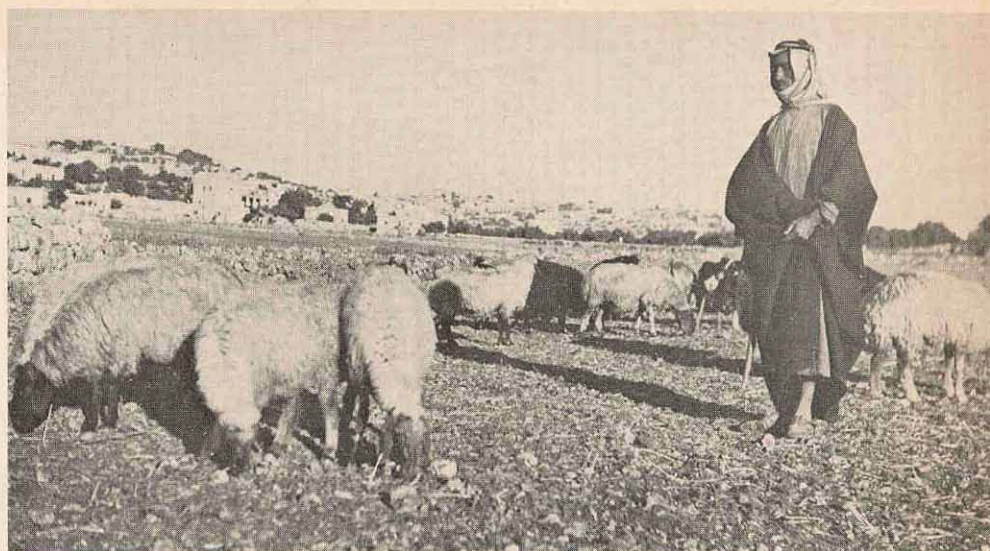
So, the 51 weeks of the Hebrew Calendar are accounted for. (Occasionally, a 13th month was added to the calendar to allow the months to remain in their proper seasons of the year. When this extra month was added, the priests who officiated in the 12th month repeated their service in the 13th—*Miggalah*, 6b).

It is important to realize that the *first course* of these 24 divisions began their ministration with the first Sabbath in the first Hebrew month—that was Nisan, in the very early spring. See especially I Chronicles 27:1,2 and following verses.

With this information, it becomes possible to know the particular weeks in which each of the 24 priestly courses served in the Temple. And consequently, we can know the time period in which some significant New Testament events took place. Let us now see the importance of this information with regard to Christ's birth.

The Course of Abijah

In the Gospel of Luke we are told that a certain priest named Zacharias was performing his service in the Temple at Jerusalem when a most marvelous thing happened. He was privately told that his wife Elisabeth, who was quite advanced in years, was going



In that September night in 4 B.C. the shepherds tending their sheep heard the angels announce the birth of Jesus. Here you see a modern Arab shepherd tending his sheep near Bethlehem.

to conceive and bear a son and that the son's name was to be John.

This, of course, is familiar to us all. But I wonder how many have noticed the time period in which Zacharias received this information? Let us notice this section of Scripture closely.

"There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias, OF THE COURSE OF ABIA [Abijah in Hebrew]: and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth" (Luke 1:5).

This scripture clearly tells us the particular course of the 24 priestly divisions that Zacharias was serving in. *It was the course of Abijah.*

Notice further!

"And it came to pass, that while he executed the priest's office before God IN THE ORDER OF HIS COURSE, according to the custom of the priest's office, his lot was to burn incense when he went into the Temple of the Lord" (Luke 1:8,9).

Now this is very significant! It shows that Zacharias was serving *in the prescribed time intended* for the course of Abijah. By referring to I Chronicles 24:10, you will see that the course of Abijah *was the eighth in order!*

This plainly means that he was ministering *in the ninth week* after the beginning of God's first month Nisan. (The reason it was the ninth week and not the eighth is that the Passover season always occurs in the first month

and during *the third week*. Since all 24 courses served that particular week, according to the laws set down by David, this means that Zacharias officiated during the ninth week after the beginning of Nisan, the first month in spring.

Now comes the question: On what days did Zacharias serve?

The year in which all of this occurred was 5 B.C. The first day of Nisan in this year was a Sabbath, the very day on which the first priestly course began its ministration. On our Roman Calendar, this day was April 6. Thus, by simple arithmetic, Zacharias, who served in the ninth week, was serving from Iyar 27 to Sivan 5 (June 1 to June 8). This was the time he was told that his wife was going to conceive and bear a son. But let us go one step further.

There was no chance of Zacharias leaving immediately after the ninth week to return home. Why? Because the next week was a Holy Day "week"—it was Pentecost! Zacharias was obliged to remain over one more week with the other 23 priestly courses and serve in the Temple. This extra service kept him in Jerusalem until Sivan 12, or June 15. At that time he was free to return to his home in the hill country about 30 miles south of Jerusalem.

Now why are all these dates important. We will see if we pay attention to what the sacred writer tells us.

"And it came to pass that, *as soon as*

the days of his ministration were accomplished, he departed to his own house" (Luke 1:23).

This shows Zacharias returned home immediately after his ministration and then his wife conceived (verse 24). This would have occurred about the first week after he returned from Jerusalem. Gabriel had told him that he was to remain dumb, completely speechless, until the child was born. It should be obvious that no man would want to stay in such a condition—and certainly no longer than necessary. And too, Zacharias was a righteous man and was anxious to see God's command fulfilled. So, with reasonable assurance, Elisabeth must have conceived sometime immediately after Pentecost week! This week was from Sivan 12 to Sivan 19 (mid-June).

With this information we are able to come to the exact season for John the Baptist's birth.

The human gestation period is very near 280 days or 9 months and 10 days. If we go forward this amount of time from about Sivan 16 or mid-June in 5 B.C., we arrive *at about the first of Nisan* (March 27th) 4 B.C. The birth of John the Baptist was undoubtedly near this time—in the very early spring.

Now, let us come to the main question: What about the birth of Christ?

The Gospel says that Christ was just 6 months younger than John the Baptist (Luke 1:26, 36). And, by adding this six months to the time of John's birth (the 1st of Nisan), we come to about the 1st of Tishri or near mid-September for the birth of Christ. So again, we arrive at *an early autumn birth for Christ*. So Christ was not born in the winter after all!

Other Substantiating Information

There are many other evidences which show Christ's early autumn birth. For one, we are told that Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem to be taxed (Luke 2: 1-5). At first sight we might think that this may have been the *only* reason for their journey from Galilee to Bethlehem. Such, however, was not the case. For if the journey was for taxation purposes alone, *only Joseph*, the head of the house, was required by law to

go. There were absolutely no Roman or Jewish laws which required Mary's presence. But yet, Mary went with Joseph. This fact alone has puzzled commentators for centuries. *Why* was Mary there?

The fact is, this taxation was coincident with the end of the agricultural year in Palestine—that is, in the early autumn just before the Feast of Tabernacles. It was customary to pay taxes on agricultural products at the end of the civil year—at the end of the harvest. For example, the Law of God commanded that the tithes of agricultural products could be paid year by year (Deut. 14:22). The civil year for tithes and taxes was reckoned from early autumn to early autumn. Even the Jews today adhere to this method of reckoning the ending of the civil years. And also in ancient Palestine, the agricultural or civil year ended and began on the first of Tishri (Hebrew Calendar)—in early autumn.

Some, however, assume that while all this was very true among the Jews, this particular taxation was decreed by Augustus Caesar, the Roman Emperor (Luke 2:1). Thus, they conclude, it must have been conducted in the Roman manner and not dependent upon Jewish laws. This assumption is not consistent with the facts of history. At the time of this taxing, Judaea was merely a "protectorate" of Rome. The Romans did not exact *direct* taxes from the people during this early period. They were receiving tribute from Herod, but the Romans allowed Herod to gather the taxes *as he saw fit*. And, it is plainly known that Herod was endeavoring to follow the customary laws of the Jews. Even the most critical of scholars hold

(Please continue on page 26)

The Shocking TRUTH about "QUEER" Men!

(Continued from page 4)

what is so terribly WRONG with American and British men today?

The Only SOLUTION That Will Work

There are many "do-gooders" and intellectuals who could come up with

any number of plausible solutions to this critical problem. However, we need to be reminded, "there is a way which SEEMETH right unto man, but the end thereof are the ways of DEATH" (Prov. 14:12).

The first and most important step toward the real solution to this problem is to bring the *true* GOD into the picture. He is the God that created and now RULES the entire universe.

This true God said: "Let us make man in our *image*, after our LIKENESS: and let them have DOMINION over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth . . ." (Gen. 1:26). God created man in His form and shape, and to a limited extent with His type of *wisdom and understanding*, as a potential RULER over His creation. This rulership requires WISDOM and STRENGTH. Man was given both of these.

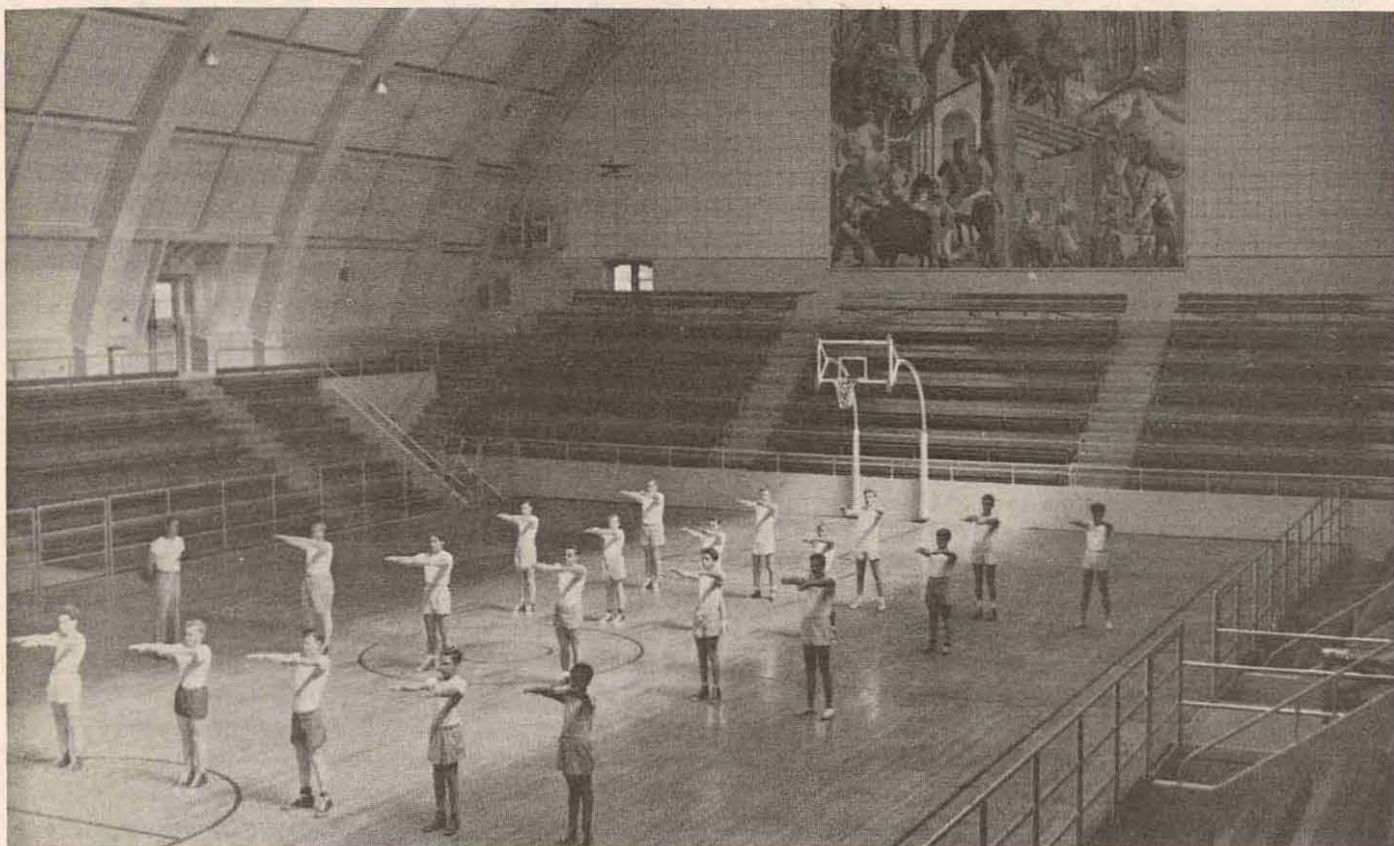
Woman was not made to be the RULER over men, but rather a help to the man. For God said in making woman: "I will make him an *HELP* meet (or *suitable*) for him" (Gen. 2:18).

The true God created the woman to be "one flesh" with the man in marriage (verse 24), and intended him to LOVE and cherish her as his *own body* (Eph. 5:28).

The true God warned man not to PERVERT this natural union of the man with the woman, in marriage. "If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with womankind, both of them hath committed an ABOMINATION: *they shall surely be put to DEATH; their blood shall be upon them*" (Lev. 20:13).

In the New Testament, the true God CONDEMNED the early Greek and Roman philosophers—upon whose ideas *altogether too much* of our culture and education is founded. He said they "changed the truth of God into a lie" (Rom. 1:25).

Then God states: "For this cause God gave them up unto VILE affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: and likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recom-



Wide World Photo

Many public schools are recognizing the urgent need of physically educating our youth.

pense of their error which was meet" (verses 26-27).

The true God calls any perversity of this kind a VILE thing—and He HATES it with a RIGHTEOUS INDIGNATION!

Do YOU?

In any case, American males are becoming more SOFT and SISSIFIED. A recent news clipping states: "Some psychiatrists are worried because the new American male lacks aggression. He is becoming too polite, too sweet, too easily turned away from his goals. Our women now have more aggression than the men."

Yes, our American men are becoming "nice little boys." They are *not* real MEN!

A recent Associated Press release states: "The good life of America—its cars, its pushbuttons, its bountiful larder, is turning us into a nation of SOFTIES. That was the message Tuesday night of 'The Flabby Americans,' on ABC. The picture drawn of Americans, young and old, was not attractive. The program pointed out that our young people have been described as 'a generation of marshmallows'" (emphasis ours).

And the sickening TRUTH is that these *soft*, MARSHMALLOW-like men very easily turn to HOMOSEXUALITY and become "queers" in every sense of the word. They are neither MEN nor WOMEN—they are a *wretched*, PERVERTED "it"!

A recent book on mental health reveals that *nations that become soft and effete almost ALWAYS fall under the heels of more aggressive countries!* Our very national SURVIVAL is going to be affected by whether American men are real men or "its"!

Recent findings of a team of researchers from the University of Minnesota medical school reveals the following: "Typically, the sex offender had a tendency toward being EFFEMINATE and is somewhat less than normal in sexual capacity and interest in girls."

Not only are our *effeminate* men AFRAID of the enemy in battle, *collaborators* with the enemy after they are captured, AFRAID—as the leaders in some cases of our country and our State Department—to call the enemies' bluff and make him back down, they are also *weak* and AFRAID of normal interest in women leading to marriage and therefore in *their cowardice* turn to HOR-

RIBLE crimes of perversity against young women and little boys and girls!

This thing of *weak* and *effeminate* men is a far-reaching and SERIOUS business!

The only real *solution* is to really WORK ON IT from Almighty GOD'S point of view—not from the *perverted, confused ideas of men!*

The Steps to Take

The true GOD reveals that it is not only the literal *act* of homosexuality that is wrong, but even the *tendency* towards such things is a SIN against our Maker and our fellow man. In the New Testament of God's written revelation to man, He states: "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolators, nor adulterers, nor EFFEMINATE, nor *abusers of themselves with mankind*, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God" (I Cor. 6:9-10).

A man who just allows himself to become EFFEMINATE is in fact *dishonoring* and DISGRACING his Maker in whose image and likeness he was orig-

inally made! All men need to *realize* and ACT on this basic truth.

From the point of view of GOD—our Maker and Ruler—what is *true masculinity*? Is it the picture of a hairy-chested, ignorant male monster who beats and abuses women and children?

DECIDEDLY NOT!

Rather, the truth is that the male of the species—in a very special way—should become in body, mind and spirit LIKE GOD. For God states: "For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the *image and glory* of GOD: but the woman is the glory of the *man*" (I Cor. 11:7).

In this same chapter, God reveals the order of authority in society as HE intended it to be: "But I would have you know, that the head of every man is *Christ*; and the head of the woman is the *man*; and the head of Christ is *God*" (verse 3). Being made even more *directly* in the image of God than the woman—who was created to be his helper—man is to be in AUTHORITY as God's representative in human society and over all the animal creation on earth.

What God-like, *truly* masculine qualities should man cultivate and exhibit, therefore?

An entire book would, of course, be needed to list and fully describe all of these qualities. But I would like to emphasize *two* basic qualities of true masculinity—as revealed in God's Word—that ought to be expressed in *three* categories.

These *two* basic qualities are STRENGTH and LEADERSHIP.

When God was calling out Abraham to serve Him with his whole heart and to be "the father of the faithful" He revealed Himself in the following manner: "And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the ALMIGHTY GOD; walk before me and be thou perfect" (Gen. 17-1).

When, in making the Old Covenant with ancient Israel, notice how God revealed Himself to them: "And Mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the Lord descended upon it IN FIRE: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount QUAKED GREATLY. And when

the voice of the trumpet sounded long and waxed *louder* and LOUDER, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice" (Ex. 19:18-19).

Many more instances could be cited, but the point is that God revealed himself with POWER when He wanted man to realize and respect His office. And man himself—as God's direct representative on earth over all other created beings—has also been given greater STRENGTH and POWER to carry out his office.

God says: "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am GOD, and there is none else!" (Isa. 45:22). Knowing it is best for us, His children, God is not bashful about taking the LEAD. He completely DOMINATES in His dealings with men.

But modern man—originally made in God's image—has begun to DISSIPATE this *strength* of body, mind and personality. He has become WEAK—INDECISIVE—FEARFUL.

Let us now examine the *three categories* in which man should develop the strength and leadership which God intends that he should exhibit.

Physical Strength and Confidence

PHYSICALLY: First of all, modern men should quit being physical "marshmallows" and begin to develop physical *strength* and *energy*! Through proper *food*, *sleep* and *exercise* they should

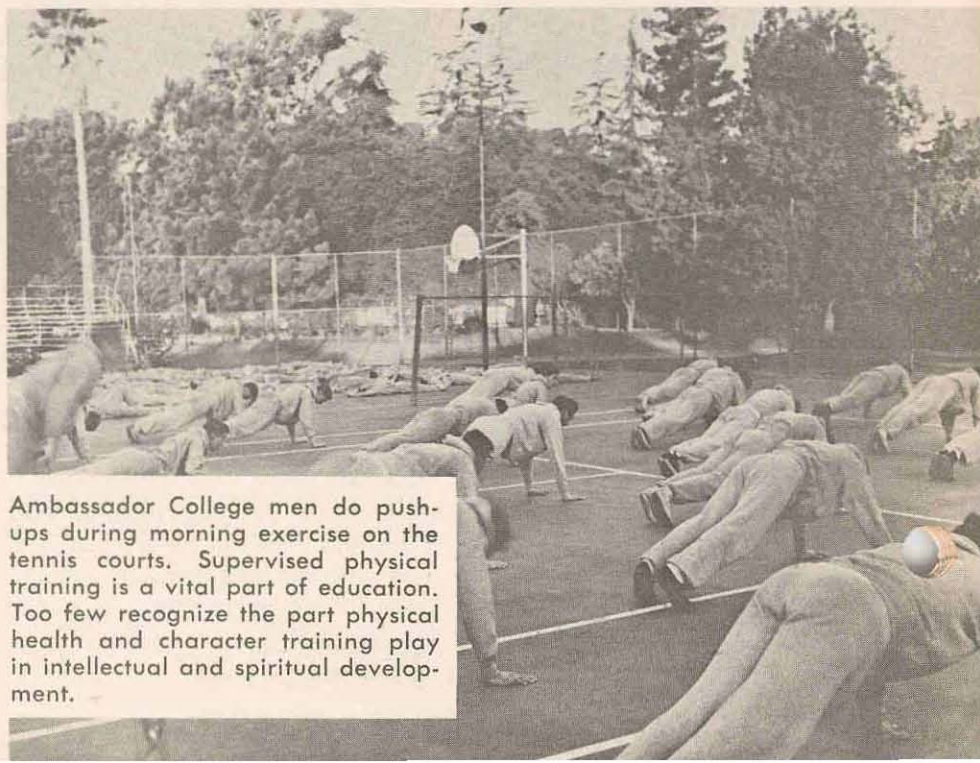
develop a sense of *self-confidence* and *leadership* which makes them better able to take their place at the head of human society.

All of the laws of good health enter into this, but one of the primary ones in regard to the problem of masculinity is that of EXERCISE. Most American men, today, *sitting* in front of their TV sets, *riding* to work, *sitting* at their desk, do not get NEARLY enough exercise. That's why they are "softies." They are completely UNLIKE the pioneer men of yesteryear who were constantly *walking*, *chopping* down trees, *plowing* behind a team of horses, *working* and *DRIVING* their way through the wilderness and over obstacles! Unless, alas, they are already too old or have heart trouble or some similar condition, American men need to *exercise vigorously* and really SWEAT. They need to feel their *blood stirred up* and get the male hormones stirring in their system! They need to feel a *firmness* and *hardness* in their muscles, an *agility* and *coordination* in their body as a whole and a sense of ENDURANCE when the going gets rough. Even physically, they need to *feel* what it is like to be a MAN!

Mental POWER and LEADERSHIP

MENTALLY: Modern British and American men need to be taught a more *positive* and *masculine* mental attitude.

(Please continue on page 36)



Ambassador College men do push-ups during morning exercise on the tennis courts. Supervised physical training is a vital part of education. Too few recognize the part physical health and character training play in intellectual and spiritual development.

CRIMINALS are MADE, Not BORN!

No discipline, no punishment, has bred a generation of youthful criminals in our society. Read how discipline and punishment can be constructive!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

JUST after our last installment was published, reducing to utter ridiculousness the abysmal miscalculation of the so-called "phases" of growing children, a shocking article appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*.

The article was a report of a pediatrician's talk before a meeting of the California Academy of General Practice, held in the Statler Hilton Hotel in Los Angeles.

Space does not permit a complete reprinting of the article here, but in essence, here is what it reported:

The Fake Phases of Youth

Parents were warned to *recognize* and *study* the various so-called "phases" of growing children so they would not be unduly ALARMED when their children began behaving like ghouls, monsters, wildly depraved maniacal imbeciles!

The doctor calmly revealed to those of other medical practices that little children of only months can "totally disrupt" a household—but parents were counseled to merely "sweat it out." It would all pass, they are assured—into the next stage.

But—OH, the HORRORS of that one!

Between 18 months and 2½ years the child is supposed to become dictatorial, "domineering, demanding, and his favorite word is 'no,'" assured the doctor. Then, supposedly, he advances to the stage of 4 years, where he likes to HIT, BITE, THROW ROCKS, BREAK TOYS and RUN AWAY! The 4-year-old, assured the doctor, is just NORMALLY expected to do these things—because, you see, he is four! He is not cowed by material threats, and does NOT FEAR threats of punishment, but is *defiant* and *swag-gering*!

And *then*—the INCOMPREHENSIBLE suggestion is given by the learned doctor—that parents must use "firm

discipline." BUT WHAT KIND? HOW? And are RESULTS to be expected?

The doctor didn't say. But apparently not—because, he went on, "The 6-year-old often likes to say 'I'll kill you,' or 'I hate you.'" It is also, advises the doctor to bewildered parents, the age when he is most apt to CHEAT and STEAL!

But—THIS ISN'T ALL!

By the time the child is 8, he is exuberant, expansive, cocky and rarely finishes anything he starts. At 9, he is independent and resists bossing, exploiting adults to get his own way, and uses neurotic excuses. At 10, he is suddenly "nice," said the doctor—but at eleven he is RUDE and ARGUMENTATIVE. The doctor warned sagely against making demands on any 11-year-old.

At 13, they like to be left alone, at 14 they are "noisy" said the doctor, and at 15 they are "HARD BOILED" and practically secede from the family union.

But parents who are busily "SWEATING IT OUT" are advised *not to fear* these awesome gyrations, neurotic tendencies, demoniacal rages, psychotic behaviours, these fearsome crimes, enraged attacks, expressions of hatred and sudden disappearances of their growing progeny.

No—there will be a brighter day tomorrow! "And 16," said the doctor, "is really sweet 16." At last—according to this particular pediatrician, your children are happy, friendly, good tempered, self-assured and "realize that Mom and Dad have finally learned something in the past few months."

Funny?

It would be, if it were not so piteous, so utterly shameful, and so terrifyingly DAMAGING to the eager, pliable, growing minds of our youth!

Isn't it almost a complete insult to the intelligence of any normal-minded

human being to accept and believe, let alone attempt to "practice" such methods of "child observance" (since it certainly cannot be called "child-rearing")?

But this is surely enough. For months, we have seen *clearly* the awful miscalculations of a modern permissive society that, as J. Edgar Hoover said, has "substituted indulgence for discipline."

We have seen it *proved*. To take further installments in exposing the ridiculous theories of the practitioners of licentiousness would be a waste. We must now begin to really understand the TRUTH.

It is time to unshackle our minds from the pagan concepts spawned by Satan in his rebelliousness against authority! It is time to turn to GOD, and to His sacred WORD, the *only source* where we can really *get our bearings* amidst all this chaotic CONFUSION.

Discipline CAN Be Constructive

The carnal-minded worldly theorists look upon *all* discipline from the standpoint of the widely-publicized ABUSES of ill-trained parents. A sensational case of child-beating is enough to convince most people that ALL punishment, however sensible, loving, kind, and judicious, is WRONG.

To punish, or not to punish—that is the question!

But *punishment*, remember, is only a PART of the picture—and on the negative side in the main. However, punishment can and should be a POSITIVE measure as a valuable tool in real constructive *teaching*. But much more of this later.

Let's clear the air—let's come to really UNDERSTAND.

PUNISHMENT, when meted out in the proper manner, and at the proper time, is one of the greatest BLESSINGS a human being—at *any age*—can receive!

This society is a godless, lawless society! It is a society which has cut itself off from God! It did not like to "retain God" in its knowledge! Instead, it has followed a *way* which "seems right" to man! (Prov. 14:12).

The FRUITS of this "way" of man are now everywhere evident! It's about time YOU began to look to the SOURCE of all truth, to the *manual of the Inventor*, to answer the question, "should you punish your children?"

First, let us explode the theory of society, *once and for all*, that *punishment and love cannot come from the same source!* GOD IS LOVE! He says:

"... Ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him:

"For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth" (Heb. 12:5-6).

Notice, Almighty God *punishes* His children, because He *LOVES* them! True Christians today are supposed to be constantly recipient of God's just and merciful chastisement, His punishments and His admonitions, His corrections and rebukes! God says:

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for *reproof*, for CORRECTION, for instruction in righteousness:

"That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (II Tim. 3:16-17).

The Holy Word of God is GIVEN to correct us, to chastise us, to rebuke and reprove us! In our lawless society which has substituted "indulgence for discipline" we see vast hordes of professing "Christians" who advocate NO LAW! They think the *law of God* is done away! They advocate a doctrine of no authority, no reproof, no rebuke, no correction, no law! Therefore, by the very NATURE of their teachings, they advocate a *non-Biblical religion!*

God says:

"If you endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with

sons; for what son is he whom the Father chasteneth not?

"But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. . . . Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are *exercised* thereby" (Heb. 12:7-11).

One of the very *characteristics* of a loving God is His NATURE of meting out just, merciful and loving PUNISHMENT when it is needed! To be without this chastisement, to be left, without God's punishments, to go our own way—uncontrolled, unrestrained and unchecked would mean the ultimate destruction of our society! We have been going in that very direction for nearly 6,000 years! And now, as all the prophecies of your Bible show, Almighty God is about to step in, as any loving father would, and PUNISH in no uncertain terms!

In like fashion, a *child* who is allowed to grow up through various "phases" of rebellion, unchecked and unrestrained, without the loving but firm hand applied *where* it ought to be, *when* it ought to be, *how* it ought to be, is going to end up as a confused, uncertain, neurotic emotional MESS—and, in all likelihood, a hardened unregenerate criminal!

The oft-quoted "scripture," "spare the rod and spoil the child" is *not* a scripture! It is a "saying" which people have repeated down through the years as *being* a scripture—and is not found in the Bible in this form. However, *in principle*, it is certainly *based* upon the Bible.

A Child's First Contact with Authority

To a tiny, squirming infant—his parents are "god." That is, they are the supreme authority in his life. They constitute his life-giver, his provider, protector, his law and his ruler! There is a perfect type in the rearing of children which helps us to understand the manner in which Almighty God is rearing *His* children, reproducing Himself! Just as modern religionists have substituted

doctrines of licentiousness, permission to do evil—"do as you please-ism" so have the modern child counselors advocated their spineless doctrines of parental indulgence.

If the little child cannot have an *orderly* existence, and cannot be kept within certain bounds which he is *made* to understand, he becomes confused, frustrated! God says:

"The fear of the Eternal is the beginning of knowledge:

"But *fools* despise wisdom and instruction.

"My son, *hear* the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:

"For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck" (Prov. 1:7-9).

Just as the Christian must really learn to FEAR God, so must the little infant learn to *fear* his parents! But fear is not "to be in terror of!" Some, in complete incomprehension of the meaning of scripture, talk of the "authoritative" God of the Old Testament, and of the "Loving" Christ of the New! Little do they realize Jesus is the GOD of the Old Testament! If you have not seen this vital point of scripture clearly *proved*, then write for our free article, "Is Jesus God?" which will be sent to you by return mail. To *fear* God is to stand in awe of Him. We *love* God because He first loved us! And God says if He *loves* us, He will punish us when we do those things which are going to result in our own destruction!

In like fashion, the parent who truly LOVES his own children will want to punish them in the right manner, at the right time, when *they* are doing things which will cause much greater hurt.

To a tiny, newborn infant, his parents reign supreme. He knows of no other authority, no other law, no other governing influence, no other protector, provider—and he knows of no other love. Recognizing this fact, parents should again realize that the time to *begin* training their children is at birth—not a moment later!

Why Spank?

Most of us are looking for *temporary* goals. The only purpose in spanking

he should be concentrating on the LONG-RANGE GOAL of teaching his child *respect* for *authority* and the *rights* of *others*, he would have done the following:

He would have left the silverware *right where it was in front of Johnnie!* (Of course, had Johnnie been receiving all the proper training at home this situation may have never arisen in the first place!) He would have picked up the knife patiently, placed it in its proper place on the table, looked levelly at the child and said once, sharply, *firmly* but *quietly*, "No!" The chances are about 999,000 to one Johnnie would immediately seize the silverware in his chubby little hand again! Of course! That's what is *expected!* He must be *taught* not to disobey. The next step is to firmly take the silverware from his hand in calm and patience, arise from your chair, pick up Johnnie and carry him outside. This is going to cause far less disturbance, *far less embarrassment* in the *immediate situation*—and is going to help form a good habit in the child. After Johnnie's father gets him to a place of comparative privacy, such as their own car, he *explains* to the boy what he has done. He might say, "Johnnie, you dropped your silverware on the floor and disturbed others. I told you NO!—not to touch the silverware again! You **DISOBEYED!** And now, because *I love you*, and I don't wish to have you grow up to be disobedient, I must teach you I mean *exactly what I say* when I tell you NO!" Whereupon the father should punish Johnnie appropriately. Five or six firm licks on his bottom may be enough! But, in any event, this punishment must be *appropriate* to the occasion, neither too severe, nor too lax! Punishment, in order to be *effective*, must be *felt!* But a great deal more of this later.

Then, the father picks up the child after his tears have subsided, wipes his face and carries him calmly back to the table, placing him again in his seat.

An unnecessarily lengthy procedure, you say? It is, IF the only thing about which you are concerned is a *little peace* and *quiet* during one of the thousands of meals you are going to eat in your lifetime! FAR FROM IT, if you are concerned about rearing your child correctly, teaching him the *meaning* of

parental authority and discipline, and using these minor incidents as a means toward the *long-range* goals.

Rather than merely solving an *immediate* problem for the sake of a handful of complete strangers and what "they think" about your methods of child rearing, you have added to your child more of the stuff from which *right habits* are formed.

This is such a *common* situation that it may bear repeating. *Too many parents* actually DO let their "soul spare for his crying" *lessening* the punishment, or neglecting it altogether, letting the child use crying and screams as a *weapon* with which to get his own way!

Ultimate Benefits of Constructive Discipline

J. Edgar Hoover said something so piquant, so strikingly applicable, that it should be briefly quoted:

"Criminals are made, not born. Long before a youngster is legally labeled 'juvenile delinquent,' his acts repeat a familiar pattern of conduct—falsehoods, *disobedience*, truancy, petty stealing. Each dereliction leads to another. Unless he learns the fundamental lessons of self-discipline, trouble is inevitable.

"Every child should have maximum freedom of expression, but when such freedom transgresses common decency or infringes upon the rights of others, it must be curtailed. Our prisons are filled with individuals who enjoy freedom of expression without self-discipline" (p. 3, *How Good a Parent Are You?*, Hoover). (Emphasis ours.)

A child who has been *taught* obedience from the time of mere *infancy* will have practically NO CHANCE of ever turning into a juvenile delinquent. This is not to say mere punishment and respect for authority is the ONLY panacea against juvenile delinquency. There are many other reasons, among them; parental neglect, broken homes and divorce, unhappy homes, bad examples, outside influences, dangerous literature and the pressures of modern day society.

Even an ordinarily well-disciplined child, if placed in other equally bad situations, merely develops into a juvenile delinquent.

However, for the purposes of this series we are concerning ourselves primarily with the subject of discipline in physical punishment.

God gives an *absolute promise*, a Divinely inspired GUARANTEE that if you: "Train up a child in the way he should go . . . when he is old, HE WILL NOT DEPART FROM IT" (Prov. 22:6).

Do you *tremble* before the word of God? The chances are, you don't! The REASON you don't, is because *you*, like many millions of others, have, in all likelihood, been reared with a concept that the Bible does not mean *what it says!* God answers:

"Thus saith the Lord, the heaven is My throne, and the earth is My foot-stool: Where is the house that ye build unto Me? And where is the place of My rest?

"For all those things hath Mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the Lord: But to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and *trembleth at My word!* (Isa. 66:1-2).

God gives an absolute GUARANTEE that a properly trained *infant* will *not* DEPART from the *way* of his father when he is "old"! Do you believe it? Are you willing to PRACTICE it?

Remember, *God is love!* God punishes *us* because He loves us, even as WE should punish our children in the right manner, at the right time—because we *love* them. "He that spareth his rod *hateth* his son! But he that *loveth* him chasteneth him betimes" (Prov. 13:24). God says to withhold proper punishment from a child is LACK of love, and is actual *hatred* for the child! Your Creator says you are *withholding* something mighty precious from your child if you do not punish him when such punishment is deserved.

"Withhold *not* correction from the child: For if thou beatest him with the rod [stick or switch] he shall not die.

(Please continue on page 39)

The Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong

Now the work grows up and exerts an impact on the entire Pacific Northwest. Suicide prevented, atheist converted, PLAIN TRUTH finally becomes a printed magazine permanently.

INSTALLMENT 40

NOW that the broadcast had started in Seattle, the work began rapidly to take on new life.

Up until this time, it certainly bore no resemblance to what would be expected by most people to be the very WORK OF GOD. How could anything have had such humble and crude beginnings? Did anything ever start smaller? Looking back on those years now, I am, myself, astonished! It surely couldn't have happened. Yet, it did!

Smallest Beginnings

Actually, it had started out on Klickitat Street in Portland, Oregon, in 1927. Beaten down by successive business reverses caused by forces beyond my control, looking on myself as an abject failure, I had given what seemed a worthless life over to the living Christ who had bought my life with His own. I didn't think He could do much of anything with it. Not that I doubted His ability or lacked faith in HIM—a new-found faith; but, rather, it was hard for one newly converted to see how even God in all His power would do anything with worthless material.

Reduced to a \$50 per month income, which required only about an hour a week of my time, I can look back and see myself, now, part of the time on my knees praying and studying the Bible—part of the time clicking out articles or study-notes on an old tiny, fold-over, portable Corona typewriter, recording the wonderful new TRUTHS I was learning.

Somehow, in my own mind, I still think of the work having had its first beginning on that little old out-dated typewriter—the first model of the first make of portables to be put on the market.

The actual broadcasting and publishing work was not to start until 1934—seven years after conversion! Those were years of intensive study, preparation—and economic hardship.

Dating from my conversion—and even the six months of challenging study that preceded it—I had come into contact with the Oregon members of a very small Church. It was the Church of God, with a scattered membership over several parts of the United States—nearly all rural people—and a small publishing house and headquarters located in a small store building on the main street of Stanberry, Missouri.

It had become evident that their belief and practise was based more nearly on Biblical truth than any church or denomination I knew. Yet it seemed something was lacking. They seemed utterly lacking in power. Something always restrained me from actually becoming a member.

But by 1931 the members I had come to know in the Willamette Valley of Oregon had become separately incorporated as the Oregon Conference, independent of Stanberry headquarters in treasury and administration. I was ordained by them in 1931, and employed from June until late November as an evangelist, at \$20 per week salary.

After a detour back into the newspaper business for 15 months, I came back to the Valley in February, 1933, as their evangelist at a salary of \$3 per week. This was at the bottom of the great depression.

But two other elders in the Conference, unsalaried, but with eyes on my little \$3 per week, brought repeated persecution. In August I had to choose between bowing to unscriptural practises or remaining free at sacrifice of the weekly \$3. My wife and I saw that,

to serve God, our living had to come from Him, too. From there on we have always looked to GOD, not man, for every need.

We didn't leave the Church. We didn't set out to start any "new movement." At the time I was holding the meetings in the little one-room country schoolhouse eight miles west of Eugene. These meetings resulted in the 19-member church organized later that year.

Officially, the radio broadcast and The PLAIN TRUTH were started early in 1934 by that little local Church of God at Eugene, Oregon. But in actual operation it had of necessity to be conducted entirely by myself. The reason was simple: there was no other leadership.

The church members were supposed to tithe their incomes. But the number of families were few, and the people were economically poor, and those were the depression days. The meager amounts from this source were supposed to contribute to my family's living, in lieu of salary—but the amount only partly supplied our sub-standard existence. There were two or three small special pledges for the broadcasting, and occasionally a member contributed a dollar or two—once in perhaps several weeks, as much as \$5.

But in no sense was this little Church able to underwrite or financially sponsor the broadcasting and publishing work. I was virtually "on my own" and on sheer faith.

Thus it was that this whole work started in January, 1934, in virtually a home-operated, humble and necessarily very crude manner. Actually the entire WORK of the Church, aside from regular weekly services, and mid-week prayer meetings, put me in the position of

a man totally without funds or backing starting out "on his own" to preach and publish the Gospel to the whole world. Of course I had no vision of anything like covering the whole Pacific Coast, let alone a national or world-wide impact at the beginning.

I had not sought the ministry. It was the very last thing I could ever have chosen—until I was converted and literally pushed into it. But now I knew I was called by the living Christ. I knew I was to preach—to whatever number I could.

With Man—Impossible!

What man could start out, without money, without support or backing, without any car and having to walk or hitch-hike, on his own, with an unpopular Message to which people were hostile, and expect to get that Message preached and published to the millions on all continents around the world?

With man, it certainly is IMPOSSIBLE! No wonder I was told, in those days—as I have recorded before: "You won't get far—people won't support that kind of straight Bible preaching—the Bible gives correction, rebuke, tells people their sins. People don't like to be told they're all wrong. No, Sir—they won't support you."

But now I was not looking to *people* for support—I was relying on GOD! There is a Scripture that says, "with man it is impossible, but with GOD all things are possible!"

And *that* is the answer!

Through the years I have encountered a few individuals who thought they had a vision to "preach Christ" and started out on their own, without backing, to do it. Some have gotten out some kind of mimeographed literature, or even managed to have a "tract" or two printed. But none I knew of ever grew. All soon gave up. Their work lacked the inspiration, the "spark," the vital "something" to make it tick—and GROW! The answer, of course, is that the POWER OF GOD was lacking. They *were*, in true fact, *on their own*! Christ had never called or sent them. They were *not* speaking HIS Word faithfully! Without His guidance and the dynamic power of His Spirit, their work soon came to naught:

The only reason this work survived—and grew—is that I was not, after all, "on my own."

Pitifully small as this effort was during those first few years—crude in every way, in its physical action and material appearance, still it was, though assuredly not then apparent, the very WORK OF THE LIVING GOD. The divinely-imparted dynamic spark was in it. People have asked, in recent years, what makes this now great work "tick." The vital energy and life which the living CHRIST has imparted is what makes it tick!

The Difference

The things God does *through man* must always start small—usually the very smallest—but they grow big, until they become the biggest. Jesus compared this to the proverbial mustard seed.

Today there are three billion people populating the earth. God started this—with *one man*, out of whom he made one woman. The nations of Israel, Judah, Turkey, the Arabs, all started with *one man*—Abraham. The only true religion started with *one man*—Jesus Christ! Ultimately those born of God through Him will fill the earth.

This work certainly had no professional appearance in those days, although there must have been power in the broadcasts—they had the ring of sincerity and the truth the listeners had not heard before. And The PLAIN TRUTH, though crude in *appearance*, nevertheless reflected the years of professional writing experience. Mistakes were made. This was due to the *human* element. It was the guidance and power of God injected into it that gave it its real impetus—but God was using a mighty imperfect human instrument, and so human limitations entered into the picture too. These caused some of the set-backs, and God allowed others to test and refine and help perfect the instrument He was using.

I know of evangelists who have been skyrocketed suddenly to fame before vast audiences. They started out big and quickly became celebrities acclaimed by millions. But they were started out by organizations of MEN. It was organized religion which pumped into their great stadia, coliseums, super-tents or

vast auditoriums the multi-thousand crowds. And all such world-famous evangelists must preach *only* what is allowed by the denominations or churches who back them, and must refrain from preaching anything contrary to their doctrines.

Suppose, for example, such an evangelist backed by the conservative fundamentalist-evangelical denominations should tell his audience the Bible commands them to keep the seventh-day Sabbath. Suppose a "big-time" evangelist with so-called "pentecostal" backing in his giant circus tent should shout to his thousands that "speaking in tongues" is *not* the "Bible evidence" of "the baptism of the Holy Spirit." Immediately they would be branded HERETICS. Immediately they would lose their organized backing, their crowds would desert them, they would be plunged into "disgrace."

But such men come and they go. Their work is foredoomed to die. If they are backed by men, supported by organized men, they must become the willing TOOL of such organizations. But when one is truly called and chosen of God, he must become wholly yielded to God as God's servant, and he must speak God's Word faithfully, else GOD's support is withdrawn. *What a difference!*

Redoubling Growth

Jesus Christ said, "Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up" (Mat. 15:13). Again, "Except *the Eternal* build the house, they labor in vain that build it" (Psalm 127:1). But, David was inspired to say (Moffatt translation): "Though I must pass through the thick of trouble, thou wilt preserve me: . . . The Eternal intervenes on my behalf; . . . *thou wilt not drop the work thou hast begun*" (Psalm 138:7-8). That PROMISE of God has sustained me through the years of opposition, persecution and trouble. God is still keeping that promise, and He will perpetually!

Looking back, now, over the actual physical circumstances, conditions, and happenings of those years, it seems utterly incredible that a work started in such a humble, crude manner without any visible backing could have survived,

let alone continued to grow at the pace of 30% a year. It has DOUBLED in size and power about every 2 years and 7 and a half months.

When an operation expands by multiplication, instead of by addition, the growth rate seems incredible. Ask the average person, "Which would you rather have, a penny, doubling its amount every day for 30 days, or a single million dollars today?" and he probably will take the one million quickly. But he will cheat himself out of more than four and a third million dollars, if he does.

Now here is the surprising factor. The first several days, this doubling itself does not seem to build up very fast. At the end of the first week, you would have only 64¢—still less than a dollar. But on the eighth day you break into the DOLLAR class.

The first seven years of this work seemed, then, like very slow growth. But around this time we expanded into Seattle. We were now covering the Pacific Northwest. We had started out covering one county. We had gone through these years with only two issues of a *printed* Plain Truth—all others ground out on a crude old neostyle, ancestor of the mimeograph. We had no addressing machine—we addressed by hand. We had no filing cabinets—I used cardboard cartons. I had no office desk—I used scarred-up old tables I found in the little, inside, unventilated room we called the "office."

But now, with a Seattle station, the work again had, for the third time, DOUBLED in size of operation. From here on growth was to appear to speed up.

If you figure out the amounts, starting with 1¢ and doubling the amount each day, you'll see that after the first 7 days it appears to mount up much faster. After 14 days it has multiplied to \$81.92. You still are not even in the hundred dollar bracket. But from there it expands rapidly. After 21 days it totals \$10,485.76; and after 28 days you are in the MILLION dollar bracket, with \$1,342,177.28.

Of course this work did not double in size every day, every week, or even every year. But doubling in number of people reached, in number of precious lives converted, in radio power, and in

scope of operation every two years and seven and a half months is, after all, a very rapid and almost unheard-of rate of growth. And that rate of redoubling has continued for 28 years!

Printed at Last

If this work had the appearance, those first seven struggling years, of the pitifully insignificant and hopeless effort of an individual striving desperately "on his own," it began now rapidly to take on the appearance of a more substantial operation. Those with spiritual discernment began to recognize it for what it was—the true WORK OF GOD.

A limited fund had been raised to start the broadcast on KRSC, in Seattle.

In preparation for this, a part of this special fund had been used to have The PLAIN TRUTH issue for August-September, 1940, *printed!* This was the first printed number since the May-June, 1938, number. It was shown reproduced in the 38th installment, September, 1961 issue. Except for the two crudely printed issues of 1938, The PLAIN TRUTH had been mimeographed ever since it started, in February, 1934.

But at last, with this August-September, 1940, number, The PLAIN TRUTH graduated permanently from the hand-made mimeographed class! Along with the other phases of the work, The PLAIN TRUTH was growing up!

It "grew up" only to a most humble start as a *printed magazine*, however. This issue, and the few to follow, were printed on a very low-cost yellow paper we had used for years for the mimeographed editions. It was only 8 pages. And it was issued only bi-monthly. On page 4, under the mast-head box, appeared this notice: "This is the first issue of The PLAIN TRUTH since May. There was no June or July number this year. For the immediate future we hope to be able, the Lord willing, to publish one number each two months. Later we hope to be able to send you an issue every month, and to enlarge The PLAIN TRUTH to 16 pages, just double the present size. Constant improvement is our goal."

That improvement came slowly through the years—but the effort was never relinquished, and gradually the improvement did come.

HOW YOUR PLAIN TRUTH SUBSCRIPTION HAS BEEN PAID

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

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

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

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

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

Many months later, it did double to 16 pages. Circulation doubled and redoubled through the years. After years as a 16-page magazine, it went to 24, then 32, and today readers of The PLAIN TRUTH read a professional-appearing magazine of 40 pages, with a circulation above 350,000 copies.

Just one more enlargement, in number of pages, is envisioned. We hope, in the reasonably near future, to go to 48 pages, with a heavier cover—and possibly more colors. But, we feel, 48 pages of solid reading—without advertising or fiction—is about as much as *any* magazine publishes, and as much as readers can digest in one issue. But *other* improvements are still planned, even today—more illustrations, and even more world-coverage of news by our own staff writers.

In publishing that first regular printed issue of The PLAIN TRUTH, more than twenty-one years ago, an additional 500 copies were printed in anticipation of the first two months' response from the new Seattle broadcast.

Amazing Seattle Response

The broadcast had started on KRSC, in Seattle, September 15, 1940. By November 1 the receipt of mail from listeners was mounting rapidly. More than 500 requests for copies came from the

The PLAIN TRUTH

A magazine of understanding

August-September, 1940

Published by HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

Vol. V—No. 3

The Invasion of the British Isles in PROPHECY

SINCE the last issue of The PLAIN TRUTH, tremendous things have happened. Now even greater events impend.

France has been crushed by the Nazi juggernaut.

That key event, which we have told our readers and radio listeners for years would come as the crucial turning-point in this prophesied end-time world collapse—Mussolini's declaration of war against Great Britain, now has actually occurred.

The battle is on, in the Mediterranean, where, according to Bible prophecy, the greatest phases of the war are to be fought. The Italians will capture both Palestine and Egypt.

The invasion of the British Isles is awaited hourly—may be in actual progress before this paper is in your hands—may, possibly, not come at all.

Russia has made a series of lightning moves, annexing the Baltic states of Latvia, Esthonia and Lithuania, taking Bessarabia and part of the Black Sea coast from Rumania. Russia now has two or three million soldiers massed on the Rumanian and Polish-German frontiers. Thus Stalin has furth-er encircled and checked Hitler, as we have been telling you, since last September, he was in process of doing.

Invasion of Britain

WHY has Hitler delayed these several weeks his threatened "blitzkrieg" invasion of Britain?

First, because Stalin has deterred him. While most professed students of prophecy have shouted that the prophesied alliance

Will Hitler succeed in conquering the British Isles?

Will the UNITED STATES be invaded—and if so, will we be able to repel the Germans, or will we, wealthiest of nations, be ruled by Hitler?

Here is an up-to-the-minute summary and analysis of the war, in the light of Bible prophecy.

between "Gog" and "Gomer," (Ezekiel 38:6) was fulfilled in the non-aggression pact between Russia and Germany, we have continuously warned our listeners and readers, since last September, that this prophecy has not yet been fulfilled. We have seen no proof that Germany is the "Gomer" of that prophecy, and no alliance has taken place. Rather, Stalin laid a clever trap into which Hitler stupidly fell, plunging him into war with the British which he did not want, and was not ready for, at the time. Russia, the "Gog in the land of Magog" of this Ezekiel prophecy, will not, as we have continually pointed out, enter the war until later. She will hold back, pitting her various enemies one against the other. Stalin feared Hitler more than any other power—yet it is Britain and America he hopes ultimately to conquer. By the non-aggression pact with Hitler, he turned Hitler away from Russia and set him to weakening his ultimate enemy, Great Britain.

Yet Stalin cannot afford to see Hitler completely conquer England, and become the undisputed master of all Europe. So he has moved in the Baltic and in the Balkans to encircle Germany. He has massed a few million armed troops at the German back door, ready to walk in should Hitler become so busy invading England that he would be powerless to stop it. This is reason number one for Hitler's delay in attacking the British Isles.

Reason number two is that Hitler found he was not ready. The British have prepared for defense with lightning speed. Today England is an armed camp. Hitler cannot successfully conquer England unless he completely controls the air—which he is now far from being able to do.

As this is written, greatly intensified air warfare has raged over Britain for the past five days. Where one hundred bombers were kept continually over British soil the past few weeks, five hundred are now being sent over. Soon the Germans will send a thousand. At the moment there is speculation as to whether this is merely an intensified aerial blockade, or heavy bombing preliminary to actual invasion, or whether it is actually THE blitzkrieg invasion in its first stages. Probably it is all three.

It is the fight for control of the air which Hitler must win before actual invasion can succeed. Germany outnumber Britain in number of planes about 3 to one. Emphasis now is not so much on damage done by German planes, as on the respective number of planes each can shoot down at least one British

Here is reproduced the first printed copy of The PLAIN TRUTH since the May-June 1938 number. With this issue the magazine "grew up." Here you can read the prophecies about World War II.

first four or five broadcasts. The Co-Workers' Bulletin dated November 1, reported the subscription list of The PLAIN TRUTH had reached 3,000. We still had to keep the mailing list by handwriting, or typing, and in this manner personally address every copy. This required volunteer labor and several days' time. Mail response now indicated a listening audience of 150,000 with the three radio stations.

Although requests for The PLAIN TRUTH exceeded 500 the first five weeks from the Seattle station, there were, of course, *very* few contributions—especially when none were in any way solicited. Nevertheless, for the encouragement of older Co-Workers, this November 1 Bulletin stated: "Offerings are just *beginning*, now, to come from listeners to KRSC, our Seattle station. First, \$1. Then, later, another dollar; then \$6 the next week—\$8 total so far." It was now costing nearly \$100 per issue to publish and mail out The PLAIN TRUTH.

In this issue of the Co-Workers' Bulletin (sent only to those who had become voluntary regular contributors), excerpts from several letters from listeners were reproduced—17 of those from the Seattle station, and 9 from the Portland station.

Portions of some of those letters are illuminating. Here are just a few:

"FROM SEATTLE: 'Am enclosing \$1 to help a little in your God-given work. How I wish it could be more, but when I can possibly, will send more. Received the copy of The PLAIN TRUTH a few days ago. . . . I have wondered many times when these Scriptures would be revealed, and by whom, but God knew, and He has given the wisdom to one He can trust. You have my prayers.'" This letter accompanied the second dollar received from the program on the Seattle station. Jesus Christ said His sheep hear His voice. They recognize His Message. They catch the difference instantly. Some of these letters came from people who discerned that this, indeed, was Christ's own Gospel—very different from that the world had heard.

"FROM BINGEN, WASHINGTON: 'Will you please send a copy of The PLAIN TRUTH. I thank God for men

who tell the truth about His Plan of salvation. There are only too few in this time of great need.'"

"FROM DEEP RIVER, WASH.: 'We listen to your broadcast every Sunday, and would like to receive the magazine. . . . I realize you do not ask for money, but I am enclosing \$1 to help in God's work.'"

"FROM INDIANOLA, WASH.: 'The portion of your sermon, delivered over the radio yesterday, that I heard was most enlightening and constructive, and I should appreciate having you send me The PLAIN TRUTH. These certainly are the kind of Biblical explanations that the world needs today.'"

Yes, some who hear The WORLD TOMORROW program do recognize it as GOD'S VERY OWN MESSAGE, and it has been the generally unpreached TRUTH of God's Word, and the power of His Spirit that has given this work *life*, and *vitality*, and caused it to grow from smallest beginnings!

Now just two or three portions of letters from listeners over KWJJ, Portland. These, too, are significant:

"FROM OREGON CITY: 'I received your message today and with tears streaming from my eyes, thanked our heavenly Father that the way had been opened for your Seattle broadcast.'"

"FROM LA CENTER, WASH.: 'I enjoy your broadcast so much, and regret when I have to miss one. I feel lifted, and see more light after listening. God is certainly with you in every word that you say—one can just feel His presence. I would appreciate a copy of The PLAIN TRUTH, please.'"

"FROM PORTLAND: 'In your last broadcast you mentioned that the public might not approve your words. From your own teachings, your *concern* is to preach the TRUTH, just as you have been doing. . . . The LORD approves. That is enough. The PLAIN TRUTH is most excellent. . . . This old world is now in the critical time when we need a pilot to show us whither we are headed. You are doing a great job. I know you are giving the truth to those who never heard it, and probably never would, who will not go to the present-day church and who hold the church to be a hypocritical racket. But they listen to

you. Keep up the good work.'"

Atheists Converted

This Bulletin carried a sub-head on page 5: "*Even Atheists Being Converted.*" It said: "Yes, even ATHEISTS—those who have convinced themselves there is no God. . . . Seldom, if ever, have you heard of atheists being converted. Yet I know definitely of at least two who have been changed from death to life, through this work of which you are a vital part. Both are active Co-Workers now."

One was a young mother, prominent in the Communist Party. The facts in her case have been covered previously in the Autobiography. The second was a young man in Vancouver, Washington. I reported, in this Bulletin: "Last February 16, we received this letter—the first we had ever heard of this young man:

"Dear Mr. Armstrong: I started listening to your broadcasts in September, 1938, and since that time I have been coming to my senses. In other words, you have been the medium through whom God has acted to blast away my atheistic ideas, false conceptions and idiotic philosophies. This, to me, is a modern miracle, for I have long considered myself impregnable to what seemed to be the greatest myth of all time—God and the Bible. . . . I've been listening for a long time to various pastors, ministers and preachers, if only for the malicious pleasure of finding fault with what they say. The first time I tuned on you, I was stuck. Then I started thinking—probably for the first time in years. Then I started regretting. I didn't deserve it, but found the door open when I knocked. It's marvelous how much different one's attitude is when it is taken from a spiritual angle. All things seem different. It's something God only can do for a person. I wish you could reach a much larger audience, and I'm praying for the time when you can.'"

This man, some time after writing this letter—yet this was prior to going on the air in Seattle—attended meetings I was holding in Vancouver (Washington), and was baptized shortly after this Bulletin went out Novem-

ber 1, 1940. His prayer for the expansion of the work—along with many other prayers—was answered, and he became a valuable instrument of God, collaborating with me in God's work. He was a nationally known artist. All *Plain Truth* readers have read his BIBLE STORY, rendering the story-thread of the Bible in plain, simple, dynamically-interesting language. This man is Basil Wolverton. The letter quoted above was the first I ever heard from him. It gives evidence of some of the "fruit" God was producing through this work, even in those pioneer days.

This November 1, 1940 Bulletin ended with these words: "ON TO LOS ANGELES is our slogan now!" Yes, the work was growing up!

Christmas Slump

But immediately we encountered another obstacle threatening the work. The Christmas shopping season was upon us. Always December had been our toughest month to weather through. So many Co-Workers became so occupied with Christmas shopping, trading gifts back and forth among friends and relatives, many forgot and neglected any gift for Christ, whose birthday they supposed they were celebrating. I was forced to remind our Co-Workers of this, in the next Bulletin, dated December 6, or else see the entire work stop. It explained:

"The Seattle broadcast has had to start just as we come to the Christmas shopping season. Each year it seems that two-thirds or more of all our Co-Workers forget the Lord's work *entirely* through December. Brethren, the *tithe* is THE LORD's for His work! Here we are, in the most serious hours of all earth's history! We are told in the Scriptures to *preach the Gospel*, to KEEP AT IT, *in season and out of season*! This is the END-time, when Jesus said *this Gospel* of the Kingdom must go to all the world for a witness, *just before the END* comes! . . . This Message *must not stop*! Surely proclaiming God's Message and the salvation of souls must come *first*—material gifts second!"

It seems that with the results of that letter we did struggle through. Meanwhile the listening audience, and The

PLAIN TRUTH circulaion, continued to enlarge.

By mid-February, 1941, circulation of The PLAIN TRUTH had climbed to 4,000 copies. Mail response now indicated a weekly listening audience of 150,000 or more. Letters were coming from all classes of people—women, laboring men, farmers, office workers, and also from business and professional men.

Suicide Prevented

In early February, 1941, we received a letter from a man who said he was on the point of committing suicide in his discouragement, when by accident—or, as he himself suggested, intervention of God—he heard the broadcast of February 9. He wrote that this Message got through to him—made him realize that what he needed was not suicide, but CHRIST! He wrote a heart-touching appeal to help him find his Saviour and salvation. He was, of course, given personal help.

More and more, evidence piled up demonstrating the power of God working and energizing His work through us.

In the Bulletin of February 14, 1941, the following appeared:

"ANNOUNCEMENT:

"Mrs. Armstrong and I announce that our daughter, Beverly, is to be married to Mr. James A. Gott of Eugene, on Friday morning, February 28th, at ten o'clock, in the little Church at the end of West Eighth Avenue, in Eugene.

"Beverly is the soprano in the Radio Church quartette, whose beautiful singing is so familiar to our radio audiences."

During this week of February 23, an exciting event had happened. We had purchased our first "almost new" car, taking delivery the night before the wedding.

First New Car

Somewhere around November, 1940, station KRSC in Seattle had switched our time from 4:00 p.m., which was the same time we aired on KWJJ, Portland, to 8:30 Sunday mornings. At first I suffered keen disappointment, feeling it would mean a smaller audience. But it proved a blessing in disguise. The

listening audience picked up faster than ever.

Best of all, it made it possible for me to drive to Seattle to put the program on live, instead of sending transcriptions. In those days our transcriptions had to be recorded in almost amateur manner on inferior equipment in Eugene. The "live" broadcasts made possible news reporting, and analysis of the very latest news, hot off the radio station teletypes, explaining the prophetic meaning with the Bible.

We were still limping along every Saturday afternoon and night the entire 320 mile drive from Eugene to Seattle in our old 1934 Graham. Constantly we had con-rod trouble.

For many months this arduous routine was continued. I usually arrived in Seattle about 1:00 a.m. Sunday morning. I remember well tuning in Seattle's powerful 50,000-watt station KIRO, which I could hear on the car radio the entire distance from Portland to Seattle. How I wished we might broadcast over such a powerful station! But we couldn't afford it—then. God *has* allowed us not only to afford it, but opened time for us on that splendid station twice daily, now.

The gruelling routine of those weekend trips lasted, I believe, until the spring of 1942. Arriving at my hotel—one of the newer but smaller ones—a service was provided whereby the garage, a block down the street, came after my car upon my arrival. After a very few hours sleep I was awakened at 5:00 a.m.—showered, shaved, dressed, and down to the all-night fountain in the corner drug store, where I bought the morning paper and hurriedly checked through it for prophetic news while drinking a glass of orange juice and a cup of coffee.

Then I hurried back to my hotel room, opened up my briefcase and portable typewriter, and started rapping out script for the broadcast. In those days, even before the United States entered the war, security precautions required that every word be presented in script form—one copy for the station announcer, one from which I was to speak. I did not dare deviate from the script.

Today neither Garner Ted Armstrong nor I use much script. We do like to have the first two or three sentences typed in script form to get us off to a start, but from there on our daily programs are nearly altogether ad-libbed. Of course we have notes, clippings and, always, a Bible in front of us. We never quote the Bible from memory—that is always read directly from the Bible.

I had to have the half-hour script completed promptly at 8:00 a.m., when I dashed down, checked out of the hotel, and found my car waiting for me at the hotel entrance. Arriving at KRSC at 8:15, I had 15 minutes in which to hand over the station copy of the script to the announcer, scan quickly the news teletape for any last-minute bulletins of significance I had not found in the morning paper, and clip it and write out any comment on my portable typewriter. At exactly 8:30, the familiar "GREETINGS, Friends!" was going out on the air. At 9 o'clock I leaped into my car, stopped off at the old "Half-Way House" midway to Tacoma, for breakfast, then continued the tiresome jaunt, with a state 50-mile-per-hour speed limit, on the old horse-and-buggy winding highway to Portland. Stopping off at Chehalis for lunch, I usually arrived in Portland about 3:00 p.m., with one hour to again check teletapes for last-minute news. Then, on the air over KWJJ at 4. Off at 4:30. Arriving in Eugene at 7:30 I would find the little church filled with a Sunday night audience. Then an evangelistic sermon and, usually, preaching every night through the week, working daytimes in the office answering letters, writing *The PLAIN TRUTH*, or out making calls on people needing help, people interested, holding private Bible studies, etc. It was a grind.

From the time I started driving to Seattle, I had to put the old Graham in the repair garage regularly every week. Finally, by February, 1941, it was costing me \$18 per week on the average for repairs, and then, on Monday, February 24, the garage owner told me:

"Mr. Armstrong, this car is not going to hold together for another single trip to Seattle. You've got a con-rod and a

(Please continue on page 40)

THE BIBLE ANSWERS

Short Questions

FROM OUR READERS

My child recently asked me, "Where did God come from?" Could you please help me with the right answer? I remember asking the same question when young.

Having first proved that God DOES EXIST, a very natural subsequent question is, "Where did GOD COME FROM?"

Men of all ages have pondered this question, contemplating it for endless hours in a fruitless search through all the labyrinths of their carnal minds. Yet none of them have thought to look to the only Source of true knowledge, the Holy Bible. It is not that they have not READ the Bible or looked into it in that sense; it is rather that they have refused to BELIEVE what the Bible plainly says.

The almighty, everliving, all-knowing God, as Creator of heaven and earth, and the Author of His Holy Word, is certainly in a far better position to tell us where He came from, than we as His created beings are to figure it out for ourselves, apart from His Divine Revelation. So for the answer to our question of God's origin, let us turn to the BIBLE and see what it has to say.

The Bible reveals to us God's attributes and character, by the dozens and scores. It tells us that God is love (I John 4:16). It tells us He is omnipotent (Rev. 19:6). It tells us God is merciful and full of wisdom. It tells us that God is everliving and eternal—the Beginning and the End (Rev. 1:8). When we begin to use words such as "ever" and "never" and "always" we are using words which our limited, finite minds cannot REALLY comprehend. When we read that God has ALWAYS BEEN and try to comprehend that, our minds will go just so far, as we stretch our imaginations to their limit. Then we come to what seems like a concrete wall and find we cannot understand further. ETERNITY into the past is something it is impossible for us to fully

comprehend. And yet, beyond the farthest reaches of our imagination, God has always been.

But if God has always been, where did He COME FROM? The answer is simple—if God has ALWAYS BEEN, He didn't come from ANYWHERE—He has just ALWAYS BEEN!

If we overcome and are accounted worthy by God of being born into His Kingdom as His very own sons, composed of spirit, as He is, and VERY GOD ourselves, we will be able to understand many of the things that are mysteries to us today. Nowhere in the Bible does God reveal to us where He came from. He just tells us that He is EVERLIVING and ETERNAL. God has revealed all we need to know at this time in order to obtain salvation. The things we don't know and can't understand belong to God for Him to give to us at His Will and time. Our duty is now to act on what we DO know and to keep God's Law and grow to perfection so we can enter God's Kingdom. There God can teach us the answers to many of our human mysteries.

God says through Moses, "The secret things belong unto the Lord our God; but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law" (Deut. 29:29).

Why does the Bible say—"going down to Caesarea" from Jerusalem—when Caesarea was north of Jerusalem?

Because maps today are standardized—so that north is at the top of the page, and south at the bottom—we have come to think of north as being up, and south as being down. We say we are "going up" when we mean going to the north of us, and "going down" when to the south.

In the Bible, however, going up and

down means ascending and descending. In Palestine, the land slopes down from the mountain ridge just west of the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea. Caesarea was a seaport on the coastal lowlands and Jerusalem is on a high, rocky plateau in the mountains. To go from Caesarea, south to Jerusalem, would literally mean *going up*—going up into the mountains. You often read in the Bible about going up to Jerusalem, not just from Caesarea. It is all—
(Please continue on page 39)

When Was Christ Born?

(Continued from page 12)

that this particular taxation in 4 B.C. was conducted purely in the Jewish manner (*Ency. Biblica*, cols., 3994-3996). This is, then, a plain indication that the taxation was very near the 1st of Tishri (the early autumn)—the ending of the civil year in Palestine when such things were common.

This, again, shows an early autumn birth for Christ.

Why "No Room at the Inn"?

Many people have wondered why there was such a large crowd of people in Bethlehem at the time of Christ's birth? Of course, there was the taxation at the time (Luke 2:1), but it never was customary for *many* people to crowd a town and stay there for a period of time just for taxation purposes. And, as already mentioned, why did Mary journey to the south with Joseph when there was no Roman or Jewish law which commanded her presence at such a place of taxation?

The reason these historical indications are "difficulties" to many Biblical commentators, and seem to be beyond explanation, is because most people fail to realize the true time of year all these things took place.

Actually, Joseph and Mary had gone to Bethlehem just at the end of the Jewish *civil* year. This would have been just the beginning of the Hebrew seventh month of Tishri. During this particular month, Jerusalem and all the immediate towns were filled with people who had come to observe the Holy Days

in this seventh month: the Feast of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, and the Feast of Tabernacles.

Bethlehem was one of the towns right near Jerusalem (about 5 miles south) and was considered in the "festival area" of Jerusalem. (See *Shekalim*, vii, 4.) When the people would come to keep the ordained Holy Days of God, Bethlehem became filled with people. Josephus, the Jewish historian, mentions that it was customary for over 2 million Jews to go to Jerusalem for Passover (one of the Holy Days). See *War*, vi, 9, 3. Normally, Jerusalem was a city of only 120,000 inhabitants. You can imagine what these 2 million people would do to the housing situation in Jerusalem and the surrounding towns. No wonder, then, that in Bethlehem "there was no room in the inn" (Luke 2:7). The time Christ was born was at a season when Bethlehem was filled with people coming to observe the Holy Days at Jerusalem.

And, no wonder that *we find Mary along with Joseph*. It was customary for Joseph and Mary (and later their family) to go to Jerusalem for the Holy Festivals (Luke 2:41; John 7:1-10). And, since this autumn time was the end of the civil year in Palestine, a normal year-end taxation by Herod was also associated with this period. Joseph did not want to leave his wife home alone *since he had to go to pay taxes* and then observe the feast. It could hardly be plainer!

What Was the Inn?

It is also interesting to note that the "inn" in which Joseph and Mary were to stay was not an ordinary caravan hotel. This word in the Greek is used only two other times in the Bible—Mark 14:14 and Luke 22:11. In both places it refers exclusively to temporary "guestchambers" which housed people in Jerusalem *during the festival periods*. And, since Bethlehem was one of the "overflow" towns which housed many of the people coming to Jerusalem for the Holy Days, it is readily understandable why such "guestchambers" would be in Bethlehem as well.

Actually, these "guestchambers" were primarily in the private homes of people who had opened up their rooms for the

influx of people attending the feast.

Rather than remaining at home as ordinarily would have been done, Mary had to come to Bethlehem, and while residing in the "overflow" town of Bethlehem (there being no room for them except in a manger), Christ was born.

With this evidence, we can confidently place the birth of Christ sometime in the early autumn—undoubtedly in the seventh Hebrew month. It could not possibly have been in any other season!

We have Christ's ministry commencing in autumn A.D. 27 right near his 30th year. This places His birth in the early autumn of 4 B.C.

Also, the time for the eighth course of Abijah indicates that John the Baptist was born very near the first of Nisan 4 B.C.—the early spring. Christ was born six months after John—or again, in the early autumn.

We know that this particular taxation mentioned in Luke was reckoned after the Jewish manner. Their civil or harvest year also ended in the early autumn.

And too, there was no room in the "guestchamber" for there were many people staying in Bethlehem for a period of time. This again corroborates the early autumn birth—during the festival period of the Hebrew seventh month.

But still, with all these indications of the proper season of Christ's birth, *we still do not know the exact day!!!* God never intended us to determine it!

Let us wake up to the truth about Christmas and quit the pagan superstitions we have inherited from childhood!

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The Bible Story

by Basil Wolverton

CHAPTER THIRTY-EIGHT

TWELVE SCOUTS SEARCH CANAAN

PERHAPS you will remember the time when the Israelites who complained were suddenly, supernaturally electrocuted. At that time the people begged Moses to exhort God to have mercy on them. (Numbers 11:1-3.)

Later, when many died because of eating too much quail flesh, no screaming groups of people came to beg or demand of Moses that he again plead with God for them. Many were too ill to come to Moses, and those who weren't ill realized that the dead and the sick had brought these conditions on themselves.

Nevertheless, there were some here and there who even later persisted in eating quail flesh that was beginning to spoil. The result was more illness and a few more deaths.

Moses' Mistakes Cause Criticism

On the route to the promised land Moses again met an Ethiopian woman whom he had known over forty years before in Egypt. Without consulting God, and even though he was already married to Jethro's daughter, Moses now married the Ethiopian.

Because of these mistakes there developed a strong feeling of envy by Miriam, the sister of Moses and of Aaron. Instead of privately taking up the matter with Moses as she should have done, Miriam, made a public issue of it.

"Moses had no business doing that. He is just upsetting everybody," Miriam complained to Aaron. "Moses should have consulted me."

Although he realized that Miriam was wrong in being envious and critical, and

that she was attempting to exert far too much authority, Aaron was inclined to agree that Moses shouldn't have made any great decisions without taking at least some of the matters up with him and his sister. But he was for letting the matter drop right there and discussing them in private with Moses. Miriam had no intention of doing that, however.

"I think we should take this matter to the people," Miriam went on. "Surely God is inspiring you and me as to what should be done. But Moses acts as though he is the only one in touch with God. Unless he's stopped, he'll take all authority to himself and do just as he pleases with the people."

"Perhaps you're right," Aaron mused. "The feeling of too much authority could have a bad effect on any man—even our brother Moses."

Nothing in this world has ever been done or thought or spoken without God knowing about it. Although Aaron and Miriam were chosen servants of their Creator, they displeased Him by their critical, envious and unkind remarks about another chosen servant who was above them in authority.

Alone in Aaron's tent, the two felt a peculiar sensation, as though someone were very close and watching them.

God Summons Miriam and Aaron

"Miriam! Aaron!" a stern voice startled them. "Go to the tabernacle!"

Fearfully they looked quickly about, but they saw no one, though the voice seemed to be right beside them.

"Could—could it have been God or an angel of God speaking?" Miriam stutted nervously.

"It must have been one or the other," Aaron murmured, swallowing with difficulty. "We had better go to the tabernacle right away."

Outside the tabernacle they met Moses, who also had been summoned there. Aaron and Miriam—especially Miriam—were uncomfortable in Moses' presence because of talking about him as they had done. The three of them stood in uneasy silence, waiting for something to happen. (Numbers 12:4.)

Slowly the cloud of God descended over the tabernacle. There was a blinding blaze of light from within the curtained inner room. The three Israelites shielded their eyes with their arms and backed away from the unusual brilliance. Then a voice boomed from inside the shimmering doorway.

"Now listen to Me! Lest there be any doubt as to the one through whom I choose to speak and direct in these times, be assured that Moses is the servant who is to bear the greatest responsibility. Let it be known that I, the Eternal, speak to him directly

as one being to another, and not in some mysterious or sly manner, or in dreams and visions, as I speak to ordinary prophets. You, Miriam, and you, Aaron, it is time you know that these things are so. Why, then, were you so foolish as to speak against Moses, my chosen servant?" (Numbers 12:5-8.)

Aaron's face was the color of ashes as God concluded His rebuke. Miriam cringed in fear. Moses was both embarrassed and angry to learn that he had been the object of wrong remarks by his brother and sister. Nevertheless, he felt a little sorry for them because he knew that God often acted with terrible swiftness when it was His intention to punish anyone.

Miriam and Aaron were relieved when they saw the blinding light in the tabernacle disappear. They were even more relieved when they saw the cloud float up from the tabernacle.

"God is departing," Miriam whispered to Aaron. "Surely He wasn't too displeased with us, or He would have done more than just talk." (Verse 9.)

"Don't speak like that!" Aaron warned, glancing uneasily at the departing cloud. "God doesn't forget. We should get back to our tents and pray for mercy!"

"Why should we pray for mercy if God doesn't choose to punish us?" Miriam asked.

Irked by his sister's senseless question, Aaron turned to look searchingly at Miriam. That searching look caused him to draw back in horror.

The flesh of his sister's face, neck, arms and hands had suddenly taken on a sickly white hue! Aaron shuddered as he tore his eyes from her ghastly face.

He knew that she had suddenly become a leper! (Verse 10.)

"Moses!" Aaron called in a quavering voice.

Why God Rebuked Miriam and Aaron

Moses was slowly walking away at the moment. He turned and came back because he sensed the despair in Aaron's tone. When he saw Miriam's condition, he was very upset. Miriam for the first time noticed her hands. She gave a shriek and collapsed on the ground. Aaron quickly knelt down beside her and looked pleadingly up at Moses.

"Don't let God take her by this terrible disease!" he begged. "Ask Him to forgive our foolish sin and heal her." (Numbers 12:11-12.)

Moses knelt down, leaned over with his face to the ground and called out to God.

"Make her well now, God!" he cried out. "Be merciful and forgive her and Aaron of their sins! Remove this awful disease from my sister now!" (Verse 13.)

Then God suddenly answered Moses: "Because of her disrespect for authority,



Aaron drew back, horrified to see that Miriam had suddenly become leprorous!

Miriam must be shut out of the camp and My presence for seven days."

To her horror and disgrace, Miriam was led to a distant spot far outside the camp, there to sit and loathe herself in utter misery.

Meanwhile, the Israelites were prepared to start out again. But the cloud didn't move forward, and this obviously meant that God was delaying the march until Miriam would be brought back into camp healed. (Verses 14-15.)

After a week had passed, she was brought back into her tent. God had answered Moses' prayers and had healed her. She and Moses and Aaron were very thankful. At the same time, Miriam was sorry for having spoken out so boldly and wrongly against Moses. If she had failed to repent, God would have refused to take away her terrible leprosy, and it would soon have caused her death.

Miriam learned the lesson that all Christians should learn—that speaking evil of the servants God has chosen to work for or represent Him is indirectly speaking evil of the One who created the whole universe and every one of us. Only foolish and ignorant people dare to make unkind or wicked or untrue remarks about the Creator or His servants.

God tells us that wisdom begins with respect for Him. (Psalm 111:10 and Proverbs 9:10.) Those who don't respect God and His rules are actually the most foolish people, regardless of what their stations in life are. On the other hand, any humble,

poor, uneducated person—if he or she fears God and obeys Him—is much wiser than all “learned” God-denying people lumped together.

Journey to the Promised Land

After Miriam had been brought back into the camp at Hazeroth, the people moved northward for several days. Although it was late summer, they journeyed on through the hot desert country to Paran, eventually coming to a mountainous, secluded oasis area called Kadesh or Kadesh-barnea or Sela. (Numbers 12:16 and 13:26.)

It was still many miles to the promised land of Canaan, but at Kadesh the cloud came to a halt for more than a night. The people found several wells and springs in that region, and there was enough grass for their animals. It was evident that God meant the Israelites to camp at that place for at least several days. The tabernacle was erected just as it had been at Sinai, and the various tribes set up their camps in the same positions.

“Choose twelve capable men—one who is a ruler from each of the twelve tribes—for a scouting expedition up into Canaan,” God instructed Moses. “They are to bring back a full report on the land. Then the people will learn from their own respected leaders that it is a good land they are approaching.” (Numbers 13:1-2.)

Moses picked twelve outstanding men from the twelve tribes. These included Joshua, a young man who had previously been very helpful to Moses, and a man named Caleb of the tribe of Judah. Joshua and Caleb were chosen as leaders of the expedition. (Verses 3-16.)

“You twelve are to go up into Canaan as scouts,” Moses told them when they were brought together. “It’s up to you to find the best and easiest route there. Carefully observe everything. Notice whether the land is flat or hilly and what kind of crops it bears. Note the people, to find out how numerous they are, whether they are warlike, peaceful, strong or weak. Find out what their villages and cities are like, and what strongholds they have. Be sure to see where the best forests are located, as well as the best grazing and farming areas. Bring back some of the produce of land. And don’t fear for your lives, because you can rely on God to protect you as long as you obey Him.” (Numbers 13:17-20.)

The Scouting Expedition Begins

Going to Canaan wasn’t simply a matter of packing a few things and leaving. The scouts needed some idea of the general layout of the land. This knowledge came from the Kenites—Moses’ father-in-law’s family—and from traveled strangers at Kadesh who had joined the Israelites. From them Moses obtained information concerning

the boundaries, mountain ranges, lakes, streams, forests and desert areas of Canaan. This was carefully studied by the twelve picked men, and maps were made for them to follow.

When at last the picked scouts had said goodbye to their families and friends, they set out to the northwest from Kadesh or Sela across the narrow Zin desert.

They proceeded on through the mountains northwest of the desert. After plodding wearily in the heat over many miles of rugged territory in the region of Edom, they topped a rise to gaze down on a vast expanse of water more than 4,000 feet below them!

Today this body of salty water is known as the Dead Sea. It is almost 1,300 feet below sea level—the deepest chasm on the Earth's surface. It is forty-seven miles long from north to south, and is nine and a half miles across at the widest spot. It is 1,300 feet deep at its greatest depth. The dimensions were slightly different back when the Israelite scouts suddenly came upon it.

"This must be what is known as the Salt Sea or the Sea of the Plain!" one of the men exclaimed, pointing to the whitish shoreline far below. "You know what that means!"

"It means we have reached Canaan!" Joshua shouted triumphantly. "We know from what we have heard that this large lake is part of the eastern boundary of the promised land!"

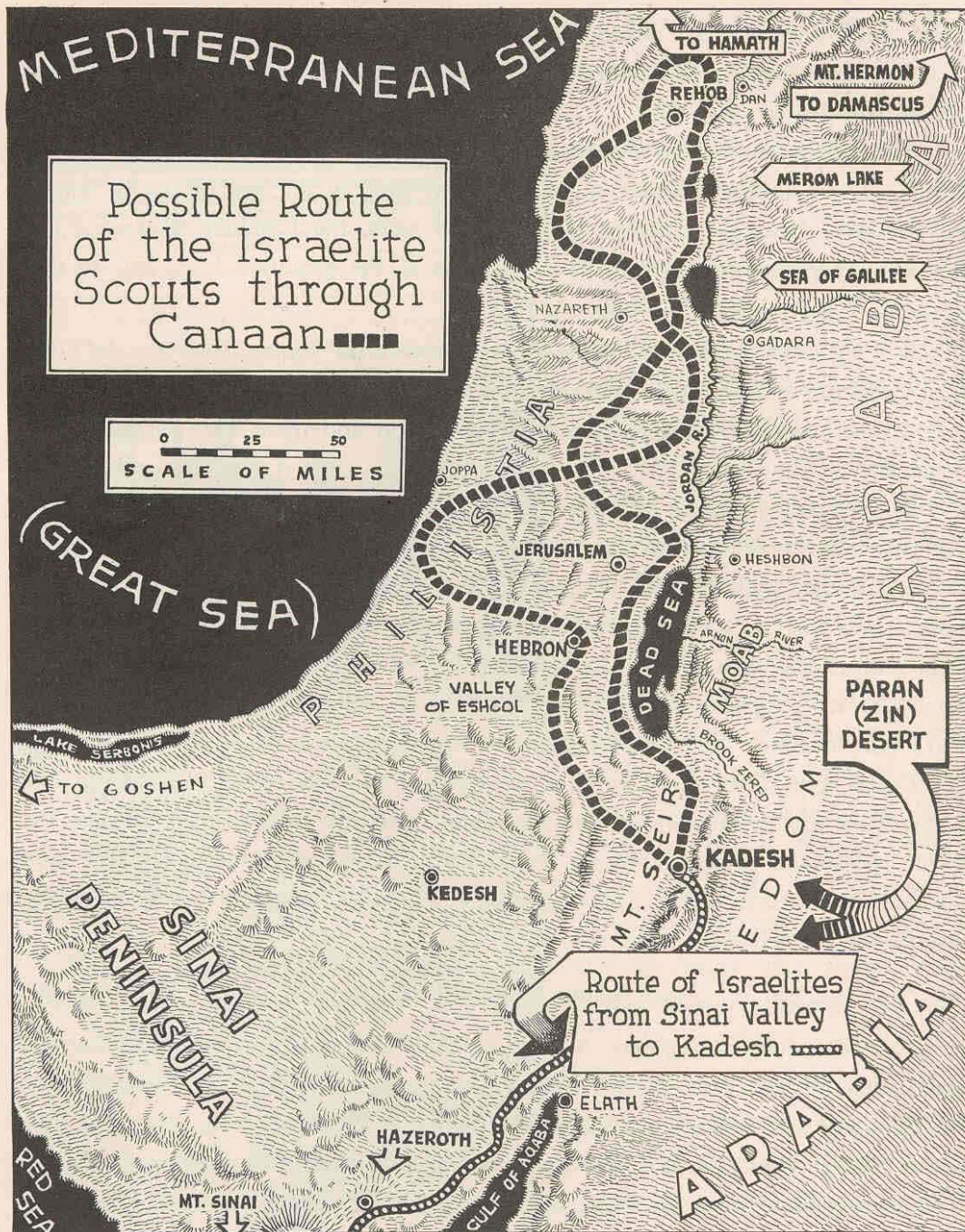
There was happy excitement among the twelve men. Having some idea of where they were, they felt successful and more secure. That night they camped on the towering area overlooking the water, and next morning started down from the mountains to skirt the west shore of the long lake.

For the next few days their progress was fairly easy. However, the midday heat was quite intense, and they found that it was wise to travel only in the mornings and evenings.

The Jordan Valley Visited

At the north end of the Dead Sea they turned eastward to come to the Jordan River, the main stream emptying into the Dead Sea. There in the river bottom region they saw that there were many beautiful farms and that the crops were excellent.

The scouts continued northward, sometimes following the Jordan River and sometimes veering off toward the mountain range to the west. They had purposely avoided the country east of the Jordan River and the Dead Sea because the promised land was then from the Jordan River westward. (Numbers 33:51-53; 34:1-2, 12 and Deuteronomy 12:10.) The people they met stared suspiciously at them, probably regarding



them either as wandering traders, bandits, or vagrants.

A few days later they arrived at another body of water known today as the Sea of Galilee. It was known then as the Sea of Chinnereth. This lake, seven miles wide at the north end and thirteen miles long, was the one near which Jesus Christ would

spend much of his life. It is about 200 feet to the bottom at the deepest point. The hills back from its east shores jutted up to 2,000 feet. Its surface was about 700 feet below that of the Mediterranean Sea.

The scouts traveled on northward far past the Sea of Galilee to a town called Rehob, on the northern border of the promised land, in the land of Aram, known today as Syria. Having knowledge of where they were, the Israelites recognized that they were very close to the northern boundaries of the promised land, and so they turned back southward. (Numbers 13:21.)

Moving down through the fertile regions between the Jordan River and the Great Sea (the Mediterranean), the scouts saw even more people than they had seen near the river. Crops looked even better, trees bore more fruit and there were more signs of prosperity.

The scouting Israelites had been coming to more and more great cities teeming with people and bristling with fortifications. The people continued to stare at the twelve strangers as they trudged along the road. The Israelites made no effort to visit with them. It was wiser to keep to themselves than run the risk of getting mixed up with robbers or violent men. The scouts were well-armed for purposes of hunting, and their rugged, bearded appearance undoubtedly warded off more than one group of bandits who might otherwise have attacked them for whatever was in the Israelites' packsacks.

Deciding to move westward from the Jordan Valley, the scouts moved to the east shores of the Mediterranean Sea. They had heard awesome tales of how warlike the people were in that region. These, the Philistines, were the ones through whose land God had kept Israel from traveling when they had first left Egypt, even though it would have meant a much shorter trip.

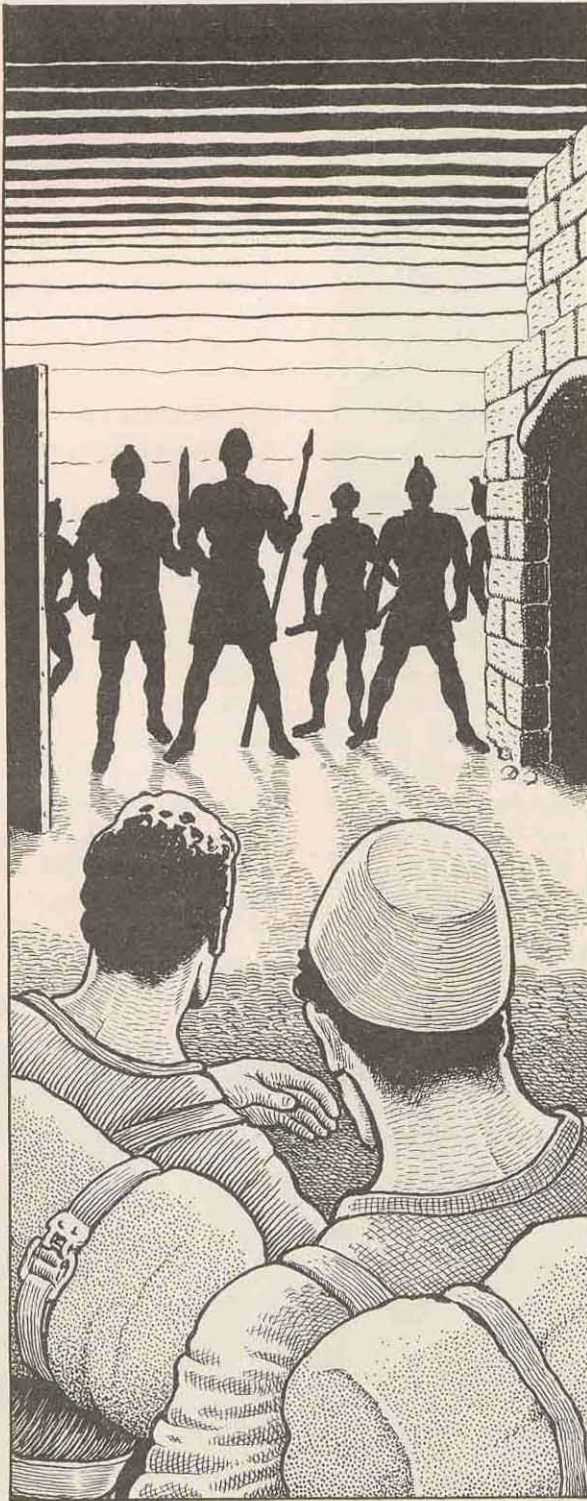
The Scouts Meet the Philistines

There the scouts were especially cautious. They moved around the towns and villages instead of going through them. Here and there they noticed armed Philistine men who obviously were soldiers or civil officers. Once they spotted a whole platoon of such men at a distance, but the scouts weren't set upon, stopped or even questioned.

Crossing back to the southeast, they came to Hebron, one of the oldest cities in the world. It had been founded seven years before the founding of Zoan, the first city founded in post-flood Egypt. (Numbers 13:22.)

At Hebron the scouts were so curious to get a good look at the people and buildings and bazaars that they considered traveling right through the streets.

"I should like to go through the town as much as any of you," Joshua frowned thoughtfully, "but I think it's too much of a risk. If we all go together, we could be



Joshua and Caleb saw their path out of Hebron blocked by armed men.

looked on as a band of renegades, and officers might stop us."

"How about splitting up into pairs?" Caleb suggested.

"That should help!" Joshua nodded. "But we can't become too separated. Each couple must be far enough apart that we won't be regarded as a group, but close enough to be within sight of each other at all times."

Accordingly, the twelve divided into six pairs and joined a straggling line of all kinds of people approaching Hebron from the north.

Hebron wasn't a large city teeming with great crowds, but its narrow, stony streets were lined with shops where knots of rather drab humanity bobbed and shuffled in and out. Mixing in with the hodgepodge of people and pack animals, the scouts saw and heard many interesting things. Shopkeepers called out their wares to them. Small, ragged boys begged them for handouts. Grinning, beady-eyed men, spotting them as strangers, slipped up beside them and offered to guide them to various places of amusement.

Intent on getting through Hebron, the Israelites weren't halted by salesmen, beggars or men who had more than guide service to

sell. They moved through the bazaar area and into the southern fringe of town. Joshua and Caleb, who were ahead, saw several armed helmeted men pour out of a nearby building and station themselves menacingly in the street.

"We can't go this way!" Caleb whispered. "Those soldiers mean to block our path!"

It was obvious that the scouts had at last run into serious trouble, and just when they had almost completed their trip!

(To be continued next issue)

The Shocking TRUTH about "QUEER" Men!

(Continued from page 14)

They need to understand that Almighty God created them to be the LEADERS in society and that—whether or not they assume this leadership—*God still holds them RESPONSIBLE.*

Even the very first man, Adam, tried to "pass the buck" in the original sin by saying: "The *woman* thou gavest to be with me, *she* gave me of the tree, and I did eat" (Gen. 3:12).

Notice God's answer to this weak-kneed attempt of Adam to let the woman usurp his authority: "*Because thou has hearkened unto the voice of thy wife . . . CURSED is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life*" (verse 17).

Oh yes, all the modern "wacky" psychiatrists and psychologists and their opinions notwithstanding, man is fully CAPABLE of being the *right kind* of leader in society *if* he is not too LAZY!

Every man needs to be *taught* or *teach himself*—which he can do if he really wants to—to USE his mind. He needs to learn to exercise *mental discipline*, to develop *knowledge, understanding* and WISDOM to make right decisions. Every man needs to learn to exercise RESOURCEFULNESS—to think his way around any problem and come up with the *right* solution. He needs to have VISION to think ahead into the future and foresee the real outcome of his present actions and habits. He needs to realize that becoming truly WELL

educated is not something merely for sissies and bookworms, but for a real MAN who is going to be the *leader* in human society to *plan* what ought to be done, to exercise the *mental energy* and *discipline* to see that the job gets done properly, and to accept the RESPONSIBILITY before God and his fellow man for the authority in which he has been placed.

All parents and all society need to learn that every young boy needs to be TAUGHT the proper masculine way of *acting* and *thinking*. The most important person to teach these things by EXAMPLE is the boy's own FATHER.

More Real FATHERS Are Needed

Every father needs to spend *much*

time with his sons. He needs to teach them about how to participate in sports, how to handle fear and anger, how a decent human being ought to approach sex, how a real MAN plans, builds, and develops his CHARACTER to be the *right kind* of husband and father when he grows up to have his own family.

These things can be taught *best of all* by a boy's own father. Countless respected judges, teachers, social workers and other experts on the problems of juvenile delinquency have come to the conclusion that "*a child who respects his FATHER will respect his teacher, the laws of his country, and all the persons around him.*"

As much as possible, every father should teach his sons many types of



Ambassador girls exercise to maintain good physical and mental health.

responsibility. He should teach them to *work* around the house, how to handle money, how to make an impartial and FAIR decision in love, for the good of the whole family or group. A young boy—or girl, for that matter—seeing this example from his father and the head of the family, will have this lesson indelibly stamped into his character as he grows up.

Every father needs to take his son *biking, camping, hunting and fishing*—teaching him all the time *self-discipline, resourcefulness, perseverance* and STRENGTH, CONFIDENCE and LEADERSHIP.

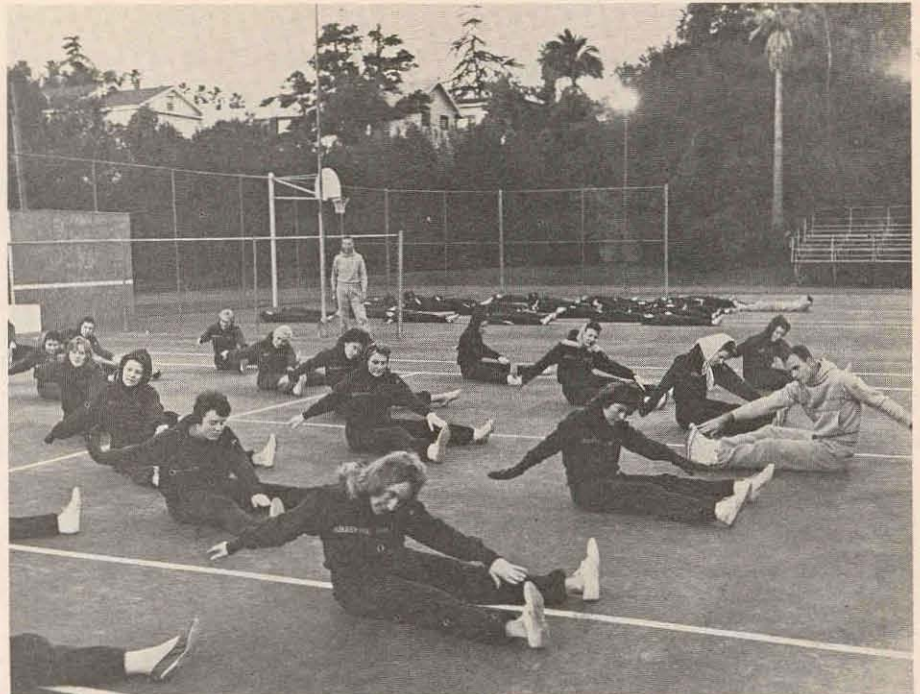
And all the while—as we have stated—each father should teach his sons the proper attitude of LOVE—not lust—and APPRECIATION for the opposite sex that God intended. Thus trained by the EXAMPLE of his father and other men, every boy would grow up WANTING to be the *right kind* of LEADER in his home and community. From boyhood, a definite sense of physical and mental STRENGTH would be instilled in him—based on *training, experience* and REALITY. He would, then, be truly QUALIFIED to take his place as the *leader* of his wife, the *father* of his children and a *guiding force* in his business and community circle.

In short, he would be a *real MAN*.

The SPIRITUAL Category is Most Important of All

A man's *strength* and *leadership* should not be confined to physical things alone. For the *spiritual leadership* of real, masculine MEN in Western society is one of the greatest needs of our time! As in the home, the school, and the social sphere, so modern woman has tended to DOMINATE in the religious sphere of life as well. It is a well-known fact that far more *women* go to church than men. More *women than* men are Sunday school teachers. In the home, WOMEN are increasingly regarded as the *spiritual leaders*.

Men haven't really thought this problem through and decided that the women SHOULD lead them in these things. Rather, they have often subconsciously *assumed* that the woman is more "righteous" because she lacks aggressive drives which they see in



Girls, too, need physical exercise to maintain good health, to be alert students and have healthy children.

themselves. And, besides that, most men are just too LAZY to try to take the lead which God intended in spiritual matters.

In fact, the "religious" women tend to be among the guiltier ones in this whole problem of *effeminate men*. One writer comments: "Some of the blame, I think, is on the mothers. Many of them try to create sissies in their own image rather than in the image of the fathers. *The more religious the mother is, the more inclined she is to emasculate her sons.*"

Remember, however, that the true GOD says: "The head of the woman is the man." In His Word, God also commands: "Let your women keep SILENCE in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be *under obedience*, as also saith the law. And if they will learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a SHAME for women to speak in the church" (I Cor. 14:34-35).

God led the Apostle Paul to state—in the *inspired Scripture*: "But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in SILENCE" (I Tim. 2:12). Many modern female religionists—confused and deceived by the god of this world—will,

I know, write in with great indignation over this statement and try to condemn the Apostle Paul and what GOD *inspired him to write* in the Bible for THEIR GOOD! Notwithstanding, what God has inspired in these verses is divine TRUTH.

All real students of the origins of modern "Christianity" realize that most of our modern religious ideas have evolved from a WOMAN—Semiramis, the wife of Nimrod mentioned in Genesis 10. In Alexander Hislop's authoritative volume, *The Two Babylons*, he shows how virtually ALL of this world's religions have evolved from the ancient Chaldean mystery system evolved by the harlot-wife of ancient Nimrod, who founded Babylon in rebellion against God.

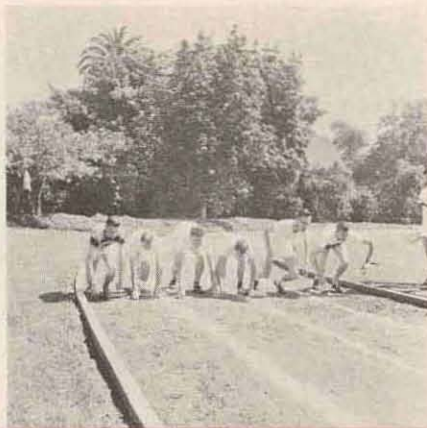
False Religions Tend to Be EFFEMINATE

The false religions of this world are basically effeminate in their personality and appeal. That is one reason many real men—ignorant though they are of exactly why—are REPELLED by this sort of nonsense. The sentimental, weak, SICKLY appeal of so many modern churches is enough in itself to drive any real MAN away in disgust!

Satan, of course, is the *author* of the



Sports and games help young people learn character and true sportsmanship. Too many young people have never learned to take a defeat and to strive to do better.



whole sordid mess. Satan is a "QUEER!" Your Bible speaks of him in this manner: "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the *devil* and *Satan*, which *DECEIVETH THE WHOLE WORLD*: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him" (Rev. 12:9).

It is very hard for most people to honestly BELIEVE that God means what He says. But He DOES! Satan has literally DECEIVED this earth as a whole into following and practicing *false religions* which are *perverted*, "queer" and *effeminate* in origin and personality and atmosphere—totally UNLIKE the religion of the true GOD who is indeed *very masculine*.

Modern religion even tries to make Jesus Christ out to be *weak* and *sickly* and *effeminate*! A recent Hollywood movie, or "monstrosity"—as the case may be—is a case in point on this matter. Notice the vivid description that a recent issue of *Time* magazine gave of the kind of Christ this wretched film portrays: "The imitation of Christ is little better than blasphemy . . . What-ever possessed producer Bronston to offer the part to Jeffrey Hunter, 35, a fan mag cover boy with a flabby face, a cute little lop-sided smile, baby-blue eyes and barely enough . . . ability to play a Hollywood marine? And . . . why shave his armpits and powder his face till he looks like the pallid, simpering chorus boy Christ of the religious-supply shoppes?"

It's time to WAKE UP!

This type of "religion" and this type of a *sickly*, effeminate FALSE Christ is an *ABOMINATION* in the sight of Almighty God the Creator!

It is time for real MEN to get back to "the faith once delivered"—to the religion of the BIBLE. It is time for them to really STUDY the lives of Abraham, Moses and DAVID to see what a real man should be like!

It is time real MEN took the lead in society and got rid of the "queer" ideas in the field of dress, art, music and literature—to mention just a few areas of modern life which have been perverted by our EFFEMINATE society.

Notice these things!

Instead of singing in a deep, forceful, masculine voice, why—especially in the last few years—do we find so-called "singers" whining through their noses in a sick dog, pleading tone to their "ladylove." Why do we find a type of art rising up in the last few years which is indeed "queer" to the *nth* degree—a veritable MESS of jumbled forms and lines and colors?

Why do we find the "leaders" in men's clothing styles trying to palm off on British and American males little "pink" shirts and socks and ties to wear, nylon under pants like females wear, and cute little bows and buttons and other childlike contrivances on their suits and sports outfits? WHY?

Learn the True God's PURPOSE

The answer is that the true GOD has

been left out of our thinking and acting in EVERY PHASE of modern society. That is why it is indeed *perverted* and "queer"!

After describing how the very FOUNDERS of our "civilization" went off into literal *perversity* and "queerdom," God states: "And even as they did not like to retain GOD in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient" (Rom. 1:28).

The true GOD who created you shows in His Word that all real men should have STRENGTH and LEADERSHIP. And these qualities should be guided and motivated by true Christian LOVE. This is not maudlin *sentimentality* or *weakness*, but wise, masculine *concern* and *compassion* for the needs and wants of their fellow men according to God's will.

The Apostle Paul commands: "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, *quit you like MEN, be STRONG*" (I Cor. 16:13).

The *true religion* of Jesus Christ will indeed motivate men to be real MEN—to have *wisdom* and *strength*, and to LOVE their wives, children and fellow men with outgoing concern and consideration.

Finally, to all males who read this let me say: APPRECIATE the fact that God made you a *man*, a potential leader and a potential KING and RULER in His coming Kingdom (Rev. 2:26). *Develop* your masculine qualities of *strength*, *leadership*, *wisdom* and *love*. And APPRECIATE the fact that God made woman to be a wonderful HELP to a man. Objectively *train yourself* to *love* and *appreciate* the *beauty*, the *sweetness*, the *softness*, the *kindness* with which God has endowed the right type of woman. In the *right way*, learn to LOVE and *cherish* all women, but ESPECIALLY your own beloved wife and daughters!

Help them, protect them, provide for them, *cherish them*—but YOU be the MAN and leader of the situation! In this *God-intended* way, your wife will have a deeper sense of *security* and JOY than ever before, your sons will grow up with *confidence* to be real MEN, your neighbors and community will be re-invigorated by your *masculine leadership*, and your NATION will be far bet-

ter able to protect itself and to survive in the chaotic months and years that lie ahead.

Most of all, you will be fulfilling the PURPOSE for which you—as a MAN—were placed on this earth!

Short Questions

(Continued from page 26)

ways literally true, because Jerusalem is on a plateau 2500 feet above sea level, and from whatever direction you approach, you must climb the plateau to enter the city.

In Acts 25, both Jerusalem and Caesarea are mentioned. The first verse says Festus "ascended from Caesarea to Jerusalem." So you see, "went up" from Caesarea to Jerusalem means "ascended."

Does the Bible have anything to say about gambling and horse and dog races?

Nowhere in the Bible do we find the words "horse racing," "gambling," "bingo," "slot machine" or similar words relating to gambling. However, the Bible DOES give us the principle that God wants us to follow in regard to gambling activities.

God wants us to prosper (III John 2). But to attempt to prosper by being a parasite and a leech on society is NOT God's way. The principle of trying to get something for nothing is a wrong principle, bringing only trouble, heartache and emptiness to the one who practices it.

Witness our nation today. Employees are trying to GET more money from their employers without GIVING the employer more in return. This get-something-for-nothing attitude has brought nothing but mounting frustration and unhappiness to our modern, increasingly materialistic society, and in the end will help to bring about its complete ruin.

This ATTITUDE of getting something for nothing as well as its demoralizing effect is greatly magnified when applied to gambling. It is Satan's principle to gamble—to try to get something for nothing; it is God's principle to work diligently, GIVING of yourself, and to

receive the reward of *satisfaction for a job well done*—in ADDITION to being paid well.

God says, "He that tilleth his ground shall have plenty of bread, but he that followeth after vain things shall have POVERTY enough. A faithful man shall abound with blessings; but he that maketh haste to be rich (as in gambling) shall not be unpunished" (Pro. 28:19-20, Jewish Version). These verses PROVE that God wants us to prosper by good hard WORK, not by trying to make a "fast buck." Verse 22 of this same chapter reads, "He that hasteth to be rich hath an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him." How TRUE this verse is! This is how NOT to strive to become rich—or even to earn a living.

The RIGHT way to become financially successful and secure is to have GOD as your partner, to obey His laws (Joshua 1:8; Ps. 1:1-3), to give God HIS tithe of your income (Mal. 3:10), and then to *apply yourself* and remember that "He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich" (Pro. 10:4).

"I heard on your program that the law is not done away. What about Romans 10:4 which reads: . . . Christ is the end of the law . . .?"

Like many another, the questioner has probably been told from childhood that the law of God was made void and of no effect—that Christ did not set us an example of how to live—that Christian liberty allows us to follow whatever our conscience leads us to do. Those who teach this false doctrine have completely missed the point of Romans 10:4.

Romans 10:4 explains the *purpose* of the law of God. You probably did not know that the law of God has a *purpose*! This purpose is to teach you God's definition of right and wrong, and to show you how to become like Christ.

The Bible plainly states that Christ set us an example and that we should follow in His steps (I Pet. 2:21). Christ never *sinned* (Pet. 2:22 and Heb. 4:15). That means Christ never once broke the law, because to sin is

to *break* the law (I John 3:4). So Christ set us an example, that we should do the same as He did.

Those who deny God's law are ignorant of God's righteousness (Ps. 119:172), and are actually trying to establish their own righteousness! They are rebelling against the law of God. God's law has, as its aim or purpose or END, to teach us how to become like Christ. This is our *end*, or goal—to become like Christ.

In your Webster's dictionary you will find the word "end" is defined as: "the object aimed at . . ." This same word is used in James 5:11 which reads: ". . . and have seen the 'end' of the Lord . . ."—that is, the aim or purpose or goal. It certainly can't mean the cessation of the Lord for He is immortal. God's law, too, "is spiritual," and hence eternal (Rom. 7:14).

How clear! Romans 10:4 reveals that the law of God expresses God's character. The law is the written form of God's character just as Christ was the human embodiment of God's character. The law then leads us, as its aim or end or purpose, to have the very character of Christ.

Criminals Are Made, Not Born!

(Continued from page 18)

"Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell" (Prov. 23:13-14).

The Hebrew word herein used for "rod" would be better translated into our modern English "switch," according to our modern terminology. Certainly no implement which could be termed a rod, such as a curtain rod or a heavy stick of any nature should ever be used in disciplining a child.

Correction should be utilized as a *positive* part of learning! It is, as revealed in the Bible, one of the METHODS of teaching! God says, "Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him" (Prov. 22:15).

Further, your Bible reveals "The rod and reproof give wisdom: But a child

left to himself bringeth his mother shame!" (Prov. 29:15).

Yes, reproof, correction, proper dis-

cipline can be utilized as one of the most important methods of positive TEACHING!

AUTOBIOGRAPHY

(Continued from page 25)

bearing situation that won't get you there and back. It will cost \$110 to fix it. The blue-book value of your car, even after you spend that \$110, is now only \$105—so your car is now worth \$5 less than nothing, actually. If ever you intend to trade this old hulk in, it's a matter of right now—or never!"

But I could not afford a new car!

Anyway, I went over to the DeSoto dealer, to see what could be done. The dealer himself showed me a car—the most beautiful car, I thought, I had ever seen!

"We've had this car in here six weeks," he said. "My wife has used it six weeks as her personal car. It's just barely broken in—has 1,700 miles."

"But I can't afford such a car," I said.

"You can afford this one," he replied, confidently. "Because my wife drove it that 1,700 miles, I can make you a deal you *can* afford. Come, take a ride in it."

With assurance I was not obligated, I got in. It certainly was different than the old Graham! We drove out to our house, and I persuaded Mrs. Armstrong to get in for a short ride. She was very skeptical. She knew it was beyond our reach.

While we were gone, another man had appraised the old Graham. On our return, he handed a slip of paper to the dealer. He offered several hundred dollars for the old car—which I had just learned was worth \$5 less than nothing. Anyway, it came to within \$50 of making the down payment, and he offered me the car on \$40 per month payments. That was much less than I was now having to spend on repairs. But I could not meet the \$50 cash payment.

"Look, Mr. Armstrong—I want you to have this car. Can you get me \$10 cash before the end of the week, and the other \$40 before the end of the month? I'll let the regular \$40 monthly

payments begin May 1st. Now can you meet *that*? I simply insist on having *some* cash before you take the car—if only \$10."

Yes, I could do that. Actually, it was not going to increase expenses, but reduce them! It was providential!

And so, as it worked out, I got the \$10 in to him on Thursday evening, and took delivery of the car. And that car turned out to be, actually, the best car I have ever owned, even to this day. Those 1941 DeSotos were great cars.

The next morning, I married my own daughter—to Mr. James A. Gott. After the wedding, they rode with Mrs. Armstrong and me in the new car to Seattle. There was just one way Mrs. Armstrong and I figured we could give them a honeymoon. The nicest short trip we knew for such an event was the boat trip from Seattle to Victoria, B.C. In those days they were running the very fine ships, the Princess Marguerite, and the Princess Kathleen—later, I believe, destroyed in the war.

We regretted having to intrude ourselves into their honeymoon as far as Seattle, but it was the only way we could afford it at all. I had to be in Seattle by Sunday morning for the broadcast. Jimmy was able to get off from work only the two days, Friday and Monday. By going with us to Seattle, they had their transportation for that distance without cost.

We stopped overnight at Chehalis, arriving early next morning at the boat docks in Seattle. They arrived back Sunday night. We drove back to Eugene Monday. Having that *almost*-new car made it a wonderful trip. That was once that a slightly used car was everything the dealer claimed!

Next month I hope we can cover the events of how, with our other daughter, on a trip to Los Angeles to be married, we started on the air in Los Angeles, at last!

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