

the
PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding

FEBRUARY 1977

Internal Affairs
Volunteer

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR
RHODESIA?

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a magazine of understanding

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ABOUT OUR COVER

A "District Assistant" in Rhodesia's Ministry of Internal Affairs reflects the uncertain mood of all in his country today. A four-year guerrilla war drags on; settlement talks have stalemated. A report on Rhodesia's uncertain future begins on page 4.

Alon Reininger — Contact

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It seems very possible God has once again revealed something NEW to us, and important.

Actually the TRUTH — which has become the accepted and official teaching of this Church — started under most unusual conditions. This is GOD'S Church, and it, in this present era, rose up in this world whose God is (though the world is deceived into ignorance of it) Satan the devil. It is like a sprout of GOOD wheat sprouting up among thorns, thistles, and briers.

We are not "just another denomination." It is *true* that numerous denominations do teach some things as we do — but they have only the branches and the twigs of the tree. How many of them have the real TRUNK OF THE TREE — with its MAIN BRANCHES?

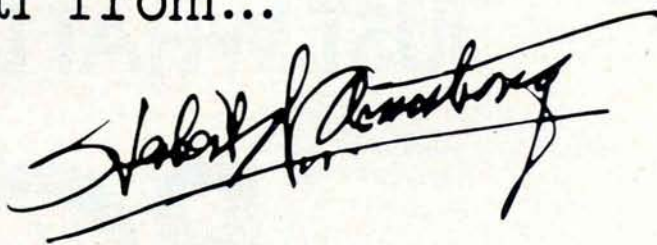
In other words, how many of them know what spiritual salvation *really* is, what the KINGDOM OF GOD (Christ's whole Gospel) really is, WHY God put humanity here on earth: WHAT is our real ultimate human POTENTIAL, or HOW we shall reach it? How many know GOD'S PURPOSE, or His MASTER PLAN for working it out? Or know why we are here, where we are going, or THE WAY? Those are the BIG MAIN branches of the tree of knowledge. They are the MISSING DIMENSION in knowledge.

So we are utterly UNLIKE any other church!

I personally was DUMFOUNDED when I discovered, late in 1926, that my Protestant Sunday school teaching had been the VERY OPPOSITE of what the Bible SAYS. I have been shocked beyond measure to find that humanity, including those in Christianity, or all religions in general — and with VERY infinitesimally FEW exceptions — really do NOT BELIEVE WHAT GOD SAYS.

Adam and Eve listened as God first instructed them — revealed knowledge and truth to them in the GARDEN OF EDEN. But THEY DID NOT BELIEVE WHAT HE SAID. Instead, they believed what Satan said. Shocking? You don't believe that statement? Open your Bible and read it for yourself! Or, are you willing to believe what Christ SAYS there? For He is the personal WORD OF GOD, and the Bible is His Word

Personal from...



How I Came to be Going to Kings and Heads of Government

in writing — the written WORD OF GOD. I BELIEVE what it says, for it is what CHRIST says!

Jesus came over 1,900 years ago with a vital MESSAGE from God — but after 3½ years of preaching it to hundreds of thousands, only 120 still BELIEVED WHAT HE SAID (Acts 1:15). I do BELIEVE *what He says!*

Let me tell you how it came about.

As the apostle Paul was traveling the OPPOSITE WAY from GOD'S way until God struck him down and revealed Christ's TRUTH to him, so was I putting my whole heart into business — unconcerned about God or His TRUTH. This is how GOD turned me around, opened my mind, poured His TRUTH into it.

He used the wife of my youth in my conversion. He opened her mind to the TRUTH of His Sabbath. This was like a bolt of lightning to me — only the bolt STRUCK ME straight through! To me it was religious fanaticism! At the same time I was challenged by a sister-in-law into an angry but diligent and thorough study and research into the theory of EVOLUTION as opposed to creation by the Creator God. Both caused me to study Genesis. Of

course I studied everything I could get hold of on Darwinism and evolution — the works of Huxley, Haeckel, Lyell, Spencer, Voght, Chamberlin, etc., etc.

I began to see that my childhood Protestant teaching was the OPPOSITE of biblical teaching. My intensive study into science and the Bible PROVED the existence of God, and the ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY of the Bible as His WORD — His revealed KNOWLEDGE to man.

I remember what a shock it was to read in Romans 6:23 that THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH, when in a Protestant Sunday school I had been taught the wages — or what we got paid — for SIN WAS ETERNAL LIFE in an ever-burning hellfire — that I would burn and burn forever, yet never come to be burned up. I was equally shocked to read the last part of the same sentence — but *the gift of God is ETERNAL LIFE through Jesus Christ our Lord*. I did not know eternal life had to be received as a GIFT — I was taught that I already had eternal life — I was an IMMORTAL SOUL.

To make a long story short, the first six months of this diligent, almost night and day STUDY IN
(Continued on page 17)

JUST WHAT DO YOU MEAN: BORN AGAIN ?

Just what is a "born-again" Christian? Don't be too sure you know! Many — perhaps millions — sincerely believe they have been "born again" — yet do not understand what Jesus meant when He used those words.

by Herbert W. Armstrong

WHY did the Pharisee, Nicodemus, understand when Jesus said to him: "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God"?

WHY do people not understand those words today?

HOW MANY know, today, that Jesus' Gospel was a sensational, never-before proclaimed NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT?

Jesus Was a Newscaster

Those in Judea knew — or should have known — Malachi's prophecy concerning this. It was the Gospel of God — and the word "gospel" means GOOD NEWS!

Jesus was a NEWSCASTER. His news was something absolutely NEW

— never before proclaimed to mankind. It was the most wonderful NEWS ever reported. Actually almost too wonderful for humans to believe. It was news of the utterly transcendent potential of man.

A humor columnist wrote a bit on the news printed in daily newspapers. It is actually NOT news, he insisted, since it is a reporting of events that already have happened. Therefore it is no longer NEW, but OLD when printed. He insisted it really ought to be called OLDS!

The tremendous Message that Jesus brought was NEWS! It was not a report of past events. It was ADVANCE news! — news of an almost unbelievable UTOPIAN WORLD TOMORROW!

And it is SURE!

And it was news that we may be BORN AGAIN! Yet almost nobody understands it!

HOW MANY, even today, know that Jesus' Gospel was actually so BREATHTAKING — so seemingly incredible, so startling, it should have left its hearers in a daze of awe! It didn't. WHY?

WHY has it never been recognized by the world as the stupendous NEWS that it actually was?

Simply because the leaders in Judea rejected it — hated it — hated Jesus for announcing the wonderful great news — turned most of the people against it. And it has been so MISREPRESENTED, so distorted and maligned, that the whole world has

been deceived — and has totally MISUNDERSTOOD IT! Your Bible says the WHOLE WORLD — *all nations* — have been deceived about that Gospel!

The *time* was at hand, then, for this Message to be announced! The time is at hand, today, for its true MEANING to be made SO PLAIN that people may UNDERSTAND IT!

IT WILL BE, in this article. And it is a crucial CHALLENGE to you who now read it!

And you have to UNDERSTAND what was that news announcement, or you can never UNDERSTAND what Jesus meant about being “born again.”

What Was the News?

Notice, briefly, first, what that astonishing NEW Message was!

The pre-announcement, in Malachi's prophecy, says: “Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me; and the Lord, whom ye seek [the Messiah], shall suddenly come to his temple, even the Messenger of the covenant . . .” (Mal. 3:1).

Now notice the beginning of the Messenger's proclamation of that Message.

It is recorded in Mark's Gospel, chapter 1: “The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; as it is written in the prophets. . . .” Then follows the citation from Malachi, written above. That is followed by the account of John the Baptist, preparing the way before Christ, the Messenger.

Then, verses 14-15: “Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the KINGDOM OF GOD, and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.” That is, BELIEVE the Good News!

What IS the Kingdom of God?

What did He mean — the Kingdom of God?

Jesus' whole Message — His Gospel — was about the KINGDOM OF GOD! Yet few know anything about it, today.

Do you know WHY?

Jesus' Gospel — His news AN-

NOUNCEMENT of the Kingdom of God — was SUPPRESSED during the very first century!

Paul wrote to the Christians in Galatia: “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ UNTO ANOTHER GOSPEL: which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and WOULD PERVERT the gospel of Christ . . .” (Gal. 1:6-7; see also II Cor. 11:3-4 and Rom. 1:18, where “hold” should be translated “hold back” or “suppress” as in some translations).

The MESSAGE God sent to mankind by Jesus Christ — His GOSPEL — His GOOD NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT — was not proclaimed to the world after about 70 A.D.

Jesus was born to be a KING. His Message was the coming KINGDOM OF GOD.

A kingdom is a), a NATION composed of people, and b), the GOVERNMENT of the nation.

In some cases, the people of a nation are the descendants — the children — of one man. The nation of Turkey is the descendants of the ancient Esau, twin brother of Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel, father of the nation Israel. Before the twins were born, God said to their mother, Rebekah, “Two *nations* are in thy womb . . .” (Gen. 25:23).

Now Jesus the Messiah was to come as “the Messenger of the COVENANT.” The “Old Covenant” had established the human children of Israel as a NATION OF KINGDOM OF *humans*, called the KINGDOM OF ISRAEL. Jesus came as the Messenger — heralding the Message of the NEW Covenant that shall set up the spirit-composed children of GOD as the Kingdom of God!

As the ancient Kingdom of Israel was composed of the human FAMILY of the human man Israel, so the Kingdom of God will be composed of the *divine* family of the divine GOD!

And what does this have to do with “being BORN AGAIN”? It has *everything* to do with it!

The prophet Daniel wrote of this Kingdom of God. In his second chapter, after foretelling of the

Chaldean Empire (Babylon), the Persian Empire, the Graeco-Macedonian Empire with its four divisions, and the Roman Empire, stretching even into the now-forming resurrected “Holy Roman Empire” in Europe, we read the following: “And in the days of these kings [the forthcoming United Nations of Europe] shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed . . . but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever” (Dan. 2:44). To “stand forever” it will, of necessity, be a Kingdom of IMMORTALS, not mortals.

It will be a WORLD-RULING Kingdom!

Daniel's seventh chapter portrays it again — and shows the connection with being “born again.” The four world empires — Babylon through Rome and its coming resurrection in Europe — are pictured as four beasts — wild animals.

Saints Become Immortal

Verse 17: “These great beasts, which are four, are four kings [kingdoms], which shall arise out of the earth. But *the saints* of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even for ever and ever.” To possess it FOR EVER, the saints will have to be IMMORTAL!

Then the Babylonian resurrection in Europe “made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; until the Ancient of days [Christ at second coming] came, and judgment was given to the saints of the Most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom” (verses 21-22). Read also verse 27.

The second coming of Christ is described thus: “And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever” (Rev. 11:15).

Yet in spite of these and many more such scriptures, many deceived theologians today mislead the people saying that the CHURCH is the Kingdom of God! Or, that
(Continued on page 27)



A RHODESIAN GUARD FORCE sentry surveys guerrilla-infested territory from the observation post in the center of a "protected village" in a tribal trust lands region.

RHODESIA

WHY NO PEACE IS IN SIGHT

by Gene H. Hogberg

The Geneva Conference on Rhodesia has adjourned, its delegates locked in a stalemate over how to arrive at a formula for achieving a peaceful transition to black rule.

Meanwhile the Soviet Union is stepping up its military aid to guer-

rillas who aim to "liberate" the country by force of arms. American intelligence sources report that Russian ships have recently been un-

The author recently toured southern Africa. This is the second in a series of exclusive reports.

loading additional tons of ammunition and other materiel in the ports of Tanzania and Mozambique.

The same sources also have been informed that about 5,000 Rhodesian guerrillas have been moving gradually from Mozambique to camps in Tanzania for training.

Mozambique, Tanzania and other black African countries have openly declared their intention to support guerrilla operations aimed at toppling the white government of Rhodesia.

On the Scene in Salisbury

For an altogether too brief and illusory moment, it appeared, last September, that peace might break out in Rhodesia; that the four-year-old fight against militant nationalist guerrillas would cease; that a peaceful, orderly transition to a black majority government could take place.

Swallowing the bitterest pill of his political career, Rhodesia's Prime Minister Ian Smith, under intense outside pressure, accepted U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's settlement formula. Against his better judgment — knowing full well that the nationalist opposition was hopelessly divided, that an Angola-style civil war between the contending forces could erupt catching both whites and black moderates in the middle, leading to massive white flight — he accepted the Kissinger plan, with its supposed safeguards to prevent such chaos from occurring.

I was in Salisbury, Rhodesia's pleasant capital city, the day Mr. Smith and his cabinet made their monumental decision. Along with about 50 other newspaper and television reporters from around the world, I stood outside Rhodesia's parliament building in the late afternoon hours of September 24.

Everyone sensed the gravity of the decision that was being agonized over inside the unpretentious structure fronting Cecil Square — named after Rhodesia's founder, Cecil Rhodes. At issue was the acceptance or rejection of Dr. Kissinger's settlement formula. Essentially, it called for a two-year transitional government for Rhodesia, which would, in turn, prepare the way for turning the reins of government over to leaders representing Rhodesia's blacks, who outnumber whites by a 20-to-1 ratio.

The deliberations inside were prolonged and undoubtedly intense. When Mr. Smith finally appeared, an hour after sundown, the swarming newsmen did their best to get the story. But to all questions the

never-ruffled Prime Minister had but one answer: the government's decision would be announced at 8:00 p.m. the following evening in a major address to be broadcast and telecast to the Rhodesian people.

All the next day, and increasingly more so as the time neared for Mr. Smith's address to the nation, the atmosphere in Salisbury seemed heavy with expectation. Shoppers on the streets seemed preoccupied. Diners in the Monomatapa Hotel, where I was staying, hurried through their meals in order to get to a television set in time for the history-making event. I returned to my room and its black-and-white, one channel set.

When the moment finally arrived,



RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER Ian Smith talks to newsmen after his cabinet conditionally accepted majority rule plan.

Mr. Smith said what all his countrymen knew — or feared, depending upon one's political outlook — he would say: that the 11-year-long period of self-declared independence under white rule was at an end; that the free world was not going to give Rhodesia any more support, even of a sub rosa nature; that the time was now to try to secure the best political deal with hopefully moderate black leaders in order to keep Rhodesia in the Western camp, free from communist domination.

No Alternatives Available

In his broadcast, Mr. Smith recalled his recent series of meetings in Pretoria with the South African Prime Minister Mr. Vorster and with Dr. Kissinger. He said that at these meetings it was made "abundantly clear" to him and his government that as long as the present circumstances in Rhodesia prevailed they could expect "no help or support of any kind from the free world."

Mr. Smith said his government, therefore, had no alternative but to accept the settlement plan as proposed in Pretoria. He stressed, however, that his government's acceptance was conditionally based on two assurances from both the Americans and the British: 1) that terrorism on Rhodesia's borderlands would cease, and 2) that United Nations sanctions against the beleaguered country would be lifted, once again permitting unrestricted trade between Rhodesia and the world and allowing for the infusion of badly needed foreign capital.

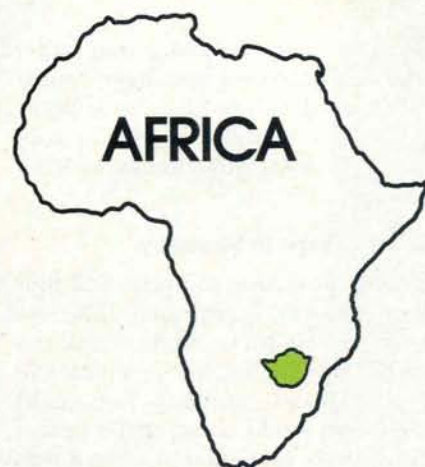
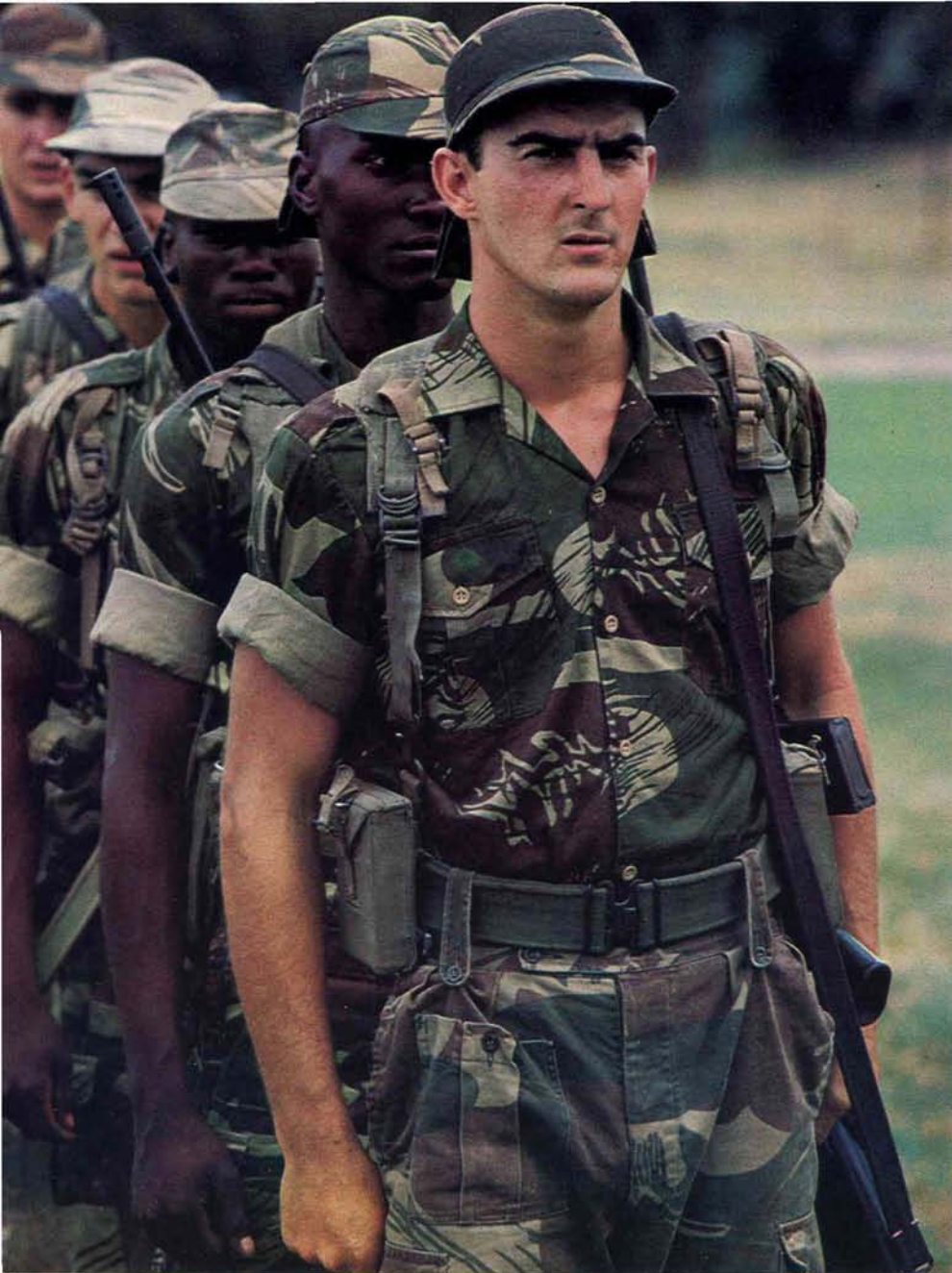
To those who heard Mr. Smith that evening, there were no "ifs, ands or buts." His government, he told viewers, accepted at face value the Kissinger plan. The same plan, he himself was told, had been agreed to by the leaders of the so-called "front-line" black states — Angola, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Botswana.

A "Two-Day High"

For a day or two in Salisbury, the political atmosphere could be best described as reserved optimism. *Perhaps, just perhaps, things might work out.* "Dr. K" appeared to have pulled another miracle out of his diplomatic hat.

The newspaper *Sunday Mail* was full of hope for the future. The end to sanctions, speculated some of its economists, could produce an economic boom. In fact, the biggest problem might be a sudden outburst of inflation. At last, obsolescent machinery in Rhodesia's factories could be replaced instead of being patched up with homemade parts.

A cartoon on the editorial page showed how the end to sanctions
(Continued on page 8)



RHODESIA'S ORDEAL

For over four years Rhodesian security forces have been fighting an ever-widening anti-guerrilla campaign in the country's border regions. The past year saw a sharp escalation in violence; nearly 1,200 guerrillas were killed in 1976 as opposed to 720 for the previous three years. Rhodesia's military services lost over 130 men in 1976 compared to 75 up until last year. Morale among the servicemen, both blacks and whites (left) is still high, but the price they are paying (funeral, bottom right) is a costly one as months go by without a peaceful settlement. Others, too, pay a price. Bodily mutilation of rural blacks by terrorists is not uncommon. Man, right, probably informed government officials of local guerrilla activity. In a sense, he was lucky; others have had their lips chopped off as well. Blacks in the "operational areas" have had to be relocated in fenced-off "PV's" or protected villages, which are guarded day and night (bottom left). Striking from bases in Mozambique or Zambia, terrorists exact toll in property also, such as this train (top right) on the vital rail link to South Africa. Raids on guerrilla camps often net sizable caches of Russian A-47 rifles and other communist-supplied armaments.



Photo credits, clockwise, beginning lower left: Michael Evans, Michael Evans, Rod Eja, Alon Reininger, Alon Reininger, Michael Evans. All from Contact.





DESPITE TERRORISM, traditional life goes on for Rhodesia's rural Mashona people. Inside a "protected village," a new storage bin for maize is erected, while a cluster of children giggle at the photographer.

could benefit the long-suffering Rhodesian consumer: He might be able to drive his 12-year-old American car (hopefully replaced soon with a new import) into a petrol station and say, "Fill 'er up!" ... He might be able to at last replace his 10-year-old razor blades ... be able to travel without currency distinctions ... and at last hear the "patter of feet belonging to foreign businessmen."

Business would profit from another angle, too. With an end to terrorism — one of the conditions of Mr. Smith's acceptance — no longer would Rhodesia's young men be called away from their jobs five or six times a year for extended tours of duty in the country's "operational areas" searching out guerrilla units flowing across the borders from Mozambique and Zambia.

This was indeed *good news* — if it were true.

Torpedoed by Moscow

The Kissinger plan, however, didn't make it through the weekend.

What has followed since that night of September 25 is but another chapter of the sorry, sordid state of affairs in contemporary Africa. First the "front-line" presidents, in a pronouncement from Lusaka, Zambia, claimed they never saw the final settlement Smith agreed to — and wouldn't have approved it if they had.

Political analysts generally dis-

count their disavowal. Most likely the Soviet Union, through Presidents Neto and Machel (of the new Marxist-oriented states of Angola and Mozambique, respectively), pressured the black states into abruptly changing their minds.

Ever since the Kremlin doused the flickering flame of peace, Rhodesia's plight has gone from bad to worse. The front-line states and representatives of Rhodesia's four black nationalist organizations demanded the convening of a conference at the European headquarters of the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, to settle the issue. Smith reluctantly agreed — stating that he would be attending only to implement the Kissinger plan, not to negotiate the package anew.

Nationalists Ripped by Dissension

Even if progress of a sort is reached in Geneva, genuine peace is by no means around the corner. On the nationalist side, there are deep divisions, which have been merely papered over, and which will reappear as wide as ever once the Geneva formalities are dispensed with. To begin with, there is that curious, "patriotic-front" coalition between Joshua Nkomo, long-time "moderate" who says he supports a capitalist system for Zimbabwe (the nationalist's name for Rhodesia), and Robert Mugabe, who claims that a future Zimbabwe must "follow socialist principles" and "assault

capitalist and bourgeois tendencies." The Nkomo-Mugabe marriage of convenience is opposed by two other groups, the first headed by Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who has considerable popular support, and the second headed by Ndabaningi Sithole, formerly Muzorewa's chief lieutenant.

The intense nationalist rivalry has erupted periodically in violence, with the bloody slaughter of guerrillas belonging to one group by those loyal to another faction.

The Cape Town, South Africa, newspaper *Die Burger* notes that the factious nationalist movement is further complicated by ancient tribal loyalties:

"The discord and strife among the black people is an important aspect of the Rhodesian problem which is not taken into consideration seriously enough, especially by the outside world. Even if the whites of Rhodesia could be wished away, it would not ensure that a solution would be found. Possibly rather the contrary, for then the strife between the black groups, who have already so clearly indicated their bitter animosity towards one another, could be intensified.

"On the one hand there are men such as Mr. Joshua Nkomo, who is supported mainly by the Matabeles and who leans over towards the capitalist system, and on the other hand there is the Rev. Sithole who is supported mainly by the Shona-speak-



VARIED FACES OF RHODESIA — Nationalist leader, Joshua Nkomo, left, ponders his role in a future "Zimbabwe." What role is left for country's 270,000 whites, outnumbered by 6,000,000 blacks, is biggest question of all.

ing people and who leans over far to the other side. The division and strife between them strongly remind one of the situation in Angola at the time of independence in that country. It is among other things to counteract a development similar to that in Angola that it is considered so vitally important to keep as many whites as possible in Rhodesia. As things stand at present, a stabilizing influence can come only from them."

Unpalatable Truth

That last phrase — that only the whites can act as a stabilizing influence — is an extremely hard one for many people to face today. Nevertheless, it is a fact that in Rhodesia, as elsewhere in Africa, it was the white Europeans who not only introduced progressive civilization but eliminated two scourges which had ravaged the native African peoples: disease and tribal warfare.

In 1890 when Rhodes' pioneer columns first arrived in what is now Rhodesia, the region was inhabited by no more than one million people. Today, according to Lewis H. Gann of Stanford University's Hoover Institute: "Rhodesia's African population amounts to 6 million and keeps expanding at a rapid rate that hardly bespeaks grinding oppression, much less genocide. Within the lifetime of a single grandmother, the country was propelled from the

early Iron Age to the age of modern industry. In terms of health service, life expectancy, education, use of consumer goods, and agricultural production, the condition of the indigenous people has improved in a manner that would have been inconceivable to an ancient Shona king.

"By African standards," continues Gann in the summer 1976 issue of *Orbis*, "the Rhodesian economy is reasonably balanced. The country's farmers, especially the white entrepreneurs, are reasonably efficient. Rhodesia, a country as large as California, can feed herself and even produces a food surplus for export. How many 'progressive' nations can make that claim? Its mining sector has grown. Manufacturing, too, has made much progress and now accounts for a somewhat larger share of the GNP than farming and mining together."

Adds the *Natal Witness* of Durban: "It is a simple, irrefutable historical fact that 80 years of white rule in Rhodesia have been, on the whole and in any measurable terms, beneficial to the whole population. On one hand, as black leaders are quick to observe, the white population has enjoyed an enviably high standard of living, but, on the other hand, there can be little doubt that the black, miserably poor though he may be in far too many cases, is substantially better off in health, in security, and even in numbers than

he would have been without the white man's presence."

Far from being oppressed, some of the Zimbabwean nationalist leaders, during periods of incarceration for illegal political activities, have actually been able to obtain advanced university degrees by correspondence! (One of the degrees was granted by the University of South Africa, in that supposed citadel of oppression.) Such treatment is in marked contrast to the deliberate disfigurement of victims meted out by some of the guerrillas today — the lopping off of ears, lips, noses, and other much marks of incivility. (The victims are almost all black.)

The Birthright Blessing

The truth is, the prosperity enjoyed by Rhodesia's whites has not been gained at the expense of, or through the "oppression" of their far more numerous black countrymen. Hard work, the entrepreneurial spirit, the ability of the European mentally to adapt to the modern industrial world as opposed to the approach of the average African still attuned to traditional tribal customs and ways of doing things is in large part responsible for the large white-black prosperity gap. But there is another, even more important reason for the prosperity Rhodesians have heretofore enjoyed.

Rhodesia's whites, like English-speaking Anglo-Saxons everywhere else, have been the beneficiaries of a

Photos: left, Alon Reininger — Contact; right, Michael Evans — Contact

unique blessing, one not earned, in the final analysis, even by the stint of their own efforts. They have been the recipients, strange as it may seem, of the birthright blessings conferred upon them by a distant biblical ancestor — the patriarch Abraham. (To understand this all-important subject, write for our free booklet *The United States and the British Commonwealth in Prophecy*. It will open your eyes as to the real reason why the English-speaking world is having its troubles today.)

Rhodesia's blacks have — to the limits of their own cultural backgrounds — benefited from this birthright blessing as well. The proof of this is the greater standard of living they have enjoyed in comparison with the inhabitants of most of Africa's black-ruled states.

Majority Rule — No Such Thing

In this light, it is sheer folly to think that conditions will be any better for the black man under a "majority-rule" government — simply because the term "majority rule" in the African context is also sheer folly.

Dr. Ernest Lefever, a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington D.C and the author of several books on Africa, wrote in the *Wall Street Journal* on June 2, 1976:

"Despite screaming headlines to the contrary, we persist in our illusions about what is politically possible in tropical Africa. Dr. Kissinger implies that somehow Rhodesia could move quickly from 'minority rule' to 'majority rule' and that after this transition 'minority rights' would be respected. The record of the last 15 years does not sustain this hope."

The record? According to the 1976 Freedom House worldwide survey of political freedom, of the 37 black African states, three (Botswana, Gambia and Mauritius) have democratic political and civil rights, while 11 are "partly free" and 23 are "not free," that is, they enjoy virtually no political or civil rights.

The popular base of the ruling elites of many of these states is often far smaller than that of the ruling minority in Rhodesia — often comprising a mere handful of men of one tribe or sub-tribal group. But

such black minority regimes are not condemned by either the politicians or the news media of the Western world.

Dr. Lefever perhaps exposes a raw nerve when he adds:

"The Rhodesian government is not condemned because it rests on a narrow base — all other African regimes do — but because that base is predominantly white in an overwhelmingly black country. It makes little difference whether the Rhodesian regime is more democratic, representative, and humane than many black regimes or that it operates by the rule of law, permits and responds to opposition groups, has a relatively free press, is constrained by its limited electorate, and is attempting to broaden political participation — attributes rarely present in black African countries. It even makes little difference whether there are greater educational and economic opportunities than in some black countries. What matters is race, as though the colour of skin had some intrinsic relationship to basic human rights."

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THE UNITED STATES
AND
BRITISH COMMONWEALTH
in Prophecy

Uncertain Future

Rhodesians deserve a chance to work out their own solutions, free of communist-supported "liberators" and misguided pronouncements from the West. Prime Minister Smith has committed himself to majority rule — "responsible" majority rule. There is no turning back now. If the self-appointed nationalist leaders can't agree on a future course of action, Smith is ready, he says, to work with other representatives of Rhodesia's black peoples willing to cooperate in constructing a peaceable future for the country.

Smith also claims that he had been assured by both Henry Kissinger and South Africa's Prime Minister John Vorster that his country would receive outside aid if the Geneva talks broke down "because of the fault of the black politicians . . . and definitely not the fault of myself and my government."

He did not elaborate on what the aid would be, but apparently referred to, as a minimum, the lifting of international sanctions against Rhodesia. Greater access to Western arms was also a veiled implication, since he emphasized that Rhodesia with but a little help could still handle the badly split guerrillas — providing there is no all-out Russo-Cuban intervention.

The Rhodesian crisis won't go away quietly. It is destined to remain front-page news for quite some time. At this moment, there is no peaceful light at the end of the tunnel.

At this juncture the Geneva conference appears to be a total failure, leaving, at least for now, only the crucible of war. The impact upon the United States, Great Britain — and perhaps more importantly, neighboring South Africa — of intensified guerrilla activity supported by Soviet arms remains to be seen. Nevertheless, it is an extremely dangerous situation.

All of which is a pity, for Rhodesia is one of the most pleasant — and despite the current difficulties — peaceful countries to live in anywhere in the world; a country in which there remains a tremendous reservoir of good will and cooperation between blacks and whites. It would be a shame to see it all end in disaster. □

THE MAJORITY: UNCOMMITTED, UNCONCERNED AND UNAWARE

by Garner Ted Armstrong



It's crazy time. Alarm and apathy shouldn't mix, nor "Christian gunmen," but they do. Today, when awesome world events demand urgent action, when frightening trends in conditions demand the soberest contemplation, when violence, kidnappings, assassinations, murders, civil wars, hijackings, and the toppling of governments should cause the deepest introspection, the millions doze. Famine with flatulence, emergency with ease, crisis without concern: none really mix. Yet they prevail. What about you? Would you go to a poker game in a burning house? Swim in a typhoon? Fly serenely into a thunderstorm? Walk lazily through a mine field? Liberally lace your scotch with arsenic? Lie down to sleep on a sinking ship? It's time you wondered about the paradox of apathy in a time demanding total commitment.

Few humans are truly aware. Oh, we become sensitized to the little things — things that affect our daily lives in some important way — like joblessness, low wages, high taxes, soaring insurance rates, or

gun control. But very few seem capable of comparing potential Arab oil embargoes with the price of wheat in Canada; the transition of government in America to the potential for war in Korea or Yugo-

slavia; the incredible, yet underplayed, little noticed, unpublicized drought that has gripped Europe, Britain, Canada and the U.S. with international relations and the price of food. Nor are very many able, it

seems, to grasp the relationship of any of the foregoing with *Bible prophecy*!

Yet, according to the prophecies in your Bible, you are living in the *last days* of this present civilization. An *age* is about to end. A vast epic is taking place — the decay and final destruction of civilization as we know it — and a *new and different age* is soon to emerge which will be utterly different in every respect to *this age*. But millions upon millions are *unaware* of the relationship between present world conditions and Bible prophecy!

For twenty long years on *The World Tomorrow* program, I have been referring repeatedly to Christ's prophecies found in Matthew 24. I have continually said that wars and rumors of wars would intensify on the world scene, along with famine, droughts, shortages, disease epidemics, record-shattering earthquakes, and all the prophesied events leading to the "great tribulation" (Matt. 24:21-22). Take a quick look at this world the way it really is.

A Sick, Sick World!

Growing civil anarchy — terrorism, violence and crime — continues to tear at the threads of Western civilization. Twenty thousand murders per year in the United States alone. These are the headlines that rock the world today.

The grim events of Entebbe served to remind us that anti-Semitism is far from dead in this world's society. Blatant, unabashed, raw racism is a sleeping time bomb which threatens to erupt anew.

Recently there have been veiled threats ("We will bring down the temple of humanity") by a smaller power to use the unthinkable weapon if pushed into a corner. As the United States continues to foster the proliferation of nuclear weaponry in the world (albeit through the beneficent spread of "peaceful" nuclear reactors), the number of nations actually possessing the bomb increases year by year — whether we have the courage to admit it or not.

Meanwhile, Western arms policies continue to fuel the Middle East. America finds it necessary to supply both sides of the fence with supersophisticated weaponry. Take

Iran for example. Reports *The Middle East* magazine: "It [Iran] now has 'on order' 80 F-14 Tomcats, along with 190 Phantoms and 179 F-5E interceptor aircraft. Tehran is also attempting to obtain in oil-for-arms barter deals another 300 of the latest available aircraft on the Western market, including F-16s and F-18s. . . . Besides these, there are reportedly another 1,500 Chieftain tanks 'on order' from Britain" (October 1976, p. 19). If current orders are filled, combat aircraft levels in Iran will be doubled. West and East have been rushing arms into the Middle East at record rates. The spark is bound to be touched off sooner or later. Those weapons will no doubt be used.

The Energy Crunch

Militarily speaking, the West continues to sell advanced munitions to countries that have their hands on its throat. As *Fortune* warned: "Since the Yom Kippur War, our dependence on OPEC oil has increased from 17% to 22% of our [American] domestic production, and *if present trends continue, we will be buying nearly half of our oil from OPEC countries by 1980*" (January 1976, p. 102).

Have Western nations been about the business of encouraging conservation of unrenewable energy resources by, say, cutting back on the use of "our toys"? Frankly, no! In the U.S., Detroit is back to building *more* big gas hogs than ever.

The *Fortune* editorial continues: "It almost seems as if we have settled apathetically for living indefinitely at OPEC's mercy. . . . If the Arabs were to unlimber their oil weapon against countries supporting Israel, we could be left with the option of either giving in or taking military action. Viewed against these ugly possibilities, the current dithering [inaction and lack of policy] looks like an abdication of the national interest."

The panic period of the energy crisis (late 1973 and early 1974) will be paled into insignificance by the next one, especially in the United States. Can you imagine what it's going to be like with our crude oil faucet turned fully halfway off?

Already there is a very real natu-

ral gas shortage in the United States. Notes *Business Week*: "Each year across the country, the shortage of natural gas worsens, concealed to some extent by the recent string of warm winters . . . but nonetheless real and ever more threatening. Indeed the gas shortage is in many ways the leading edge of the real 'energy crisis.' . . . According to figures released last week by the Federal Power Commission, the nation this winter will suffer a 22% *shortfall in supplies*. Last year the figure was 18%. The year before 14%" (September 27, 1976, p. 66).

The Time of the End

As I've said so many times before, any way you want to slice it, this world is headed into a time of indescribable troubles on a global scale. We are *now* living in what the Bible calls "*the time of the end*."

The end-time fulfillments of Matthew 24 are shaping up very fast. The time for procrastination in proclaiming an urgent warning and witness to the nations of this world is over. We must fulfill our awesome responsibility.

Yet prophecy after prophecy in your Bible warns us that at the time when the second coming of Jesus Christ would be imminent, vast numbers of God's own people would drift into lethargy and apathy, sleepily going about their own day-to-day affairs as if trying to shove the unacceptable future into the back of their minds and pretend there is unlimited time left for their own personal pleasures.

It makes no sense at all for people in a burning building to be telling jokes — or farmers given severe storm warnings to scatter their stock to summer pastures. Yet, as the Bible predicted, many today live their daily lives as if oblivious to the deadly potential of these times!

Soon, a great depression that will make the crash of '29 look like a picnic by comparison will rock the world. From any given moment nation after nation in the affluent, industrialized world could plunge into poverty — with banks failing and closing, business and industry going bankrupt, and a barter system replacing present economic systems.

Out of this will emerge growing

anarchy, racial bloodbaths, urban wars, gang violence as armed groups pillage from their own countrymen in a frenzied effort to survive. The collapse of present systems could take place in any given 90-day period following a shocking failure of the economic system. Living, as we do, in the shadow of the bomb and on the verge of chaos — we still like to pretend these shocking events will not, no, *cannot*, occur. We somehow convince ourselves all will be well — there's no need for concern — we have always managed to tough it out before, and we can tough it out again.

Jeremiah's warnings fell on deaf ears — but the enemy came.

John the Baptist was a "voice crying in the wilderness" not only in fact, but in prophetic symbolism — a voice carrying a message of the coming of the Son of God *then*, and the need to repent, but carrying that message into a wilderness of religious confusion, doubt, apathy, lethargy and unconcern.

Jesus said: "And in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled, which says, 'You will keep on hearing, but will not understand; and you will keep on seeing, but will not perceive; for the heart of this people has become dull, and with their ears they scarcely hear, and they have closed their eyes lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and turn again, and I should heal them.'" (Matt. 13:14-15, *New American Standard Bible*).

What Is Your Obligation?

Did you ever notice Jesus' prediction that a great Work of WITNESS and WARNING to this sleepy world would immediately *precede* His own interference in world events? "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the

world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matt. 24:14).

The **ONLY** prophesied event, then, which determines exactly **WHEN** the "end shall come," is the *preaching of that witness and warning message to the world!* That great Work, proclaiming the soon-coming of Christ, and making plain the true MEANING of today's frightening world conditions, was prophesied to take place *just before* a great tribulation!

Somehow, YOU have come into

24:37-51; Matt. 25:1-13; Rev. 3:14-22).

Knowledge carries obligations. Awareness of world conditions carries *responsibility*. If you were the first to discover a building on fire, surely you would report it. If you had advance warning of a flash flood, surely you would warn your neighbors to go to high ground. If you were *aware* of impending danger, *surely you would feel a responsibility!*

Knowledge of this kind requires a *commitment!* It requires *action* instead of apathy.

What is, then, the obligation required of one who **KNOWS** the scope of world conditions in the light of Bible prophecy — who clearly sees the *fact* that we are living in the prophesied time of the end?

Obviously, it is to become **INVOLVED** in that great Work of God. It is to search the Scriptures, to *watch* world news and changing world conditions (Luke 21:36), to **PRAY** for the Work, and to support the Work.

Paul said: "Continue in *prayer*, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak" (Col. 4:2-4).

Paul said to *keep on praying* in a *watchful* attitude, fully sensitized and *aware* of the meaning of conditions. He said to pray specifically for the *work* being done of preaching a message of *warning* and *witness* to all nations — to make it your very *life* — as it was to Paul, and to all those called into God's Work down through the ages.

In this time of **NONINvolvement**, of inaction, of lethargy, inattention, sleepy, turned-off, "don't-care" attitudes, are YOU one who can clearly see a calling of God and *answer* that call? □

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Free New Booklet



contact with that great Work! Are you one who is so sleepily *unconcerned* about this present world that you just *cannot* seem to become alert to the tremendous meaning of the times in which you live? Paradoxically, Jesus prophesied that His **OWN PEOPLE** would be about *half asleep* at the most dangerous moments in history. Search the Scriptures concerning the condition of the Church of God just prior to the tribulation, and you find a *sleepy* church, lying down on the job, drowsily unconcerned (see Matt.



A TALE OF TWO PROPHETS

by David Jon Hill

"For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ" (John 1:17). Was Moses ever acquainted with grace and truth? Did Jesus ignore the law? Did these two prophets — one the founder of Israel and mediator of the Old Covenant, the other the Son of God and the Mediator of the New Covenant — have anything in common? Were they Jekyll and Hyde, or two of a kind? Were they opposites, or just alike? Contradictory or complementary? Let's get to know both Moses and Jesus better — the tale of these two prophets is fascinating!

Hard, strong, stern — does that describe Moses?

Merciful, loving, longsuffering, meek, lowly, kind, forgiving, friendly — does that describe Jesus?

Could both of these descriptions possibly fit *both* Moses and Jesus?

Almost every Christian knows more about Jesus than he does about Moses. Let's become better acquainted with that man Moses. Let's look into the pages of Scripture and find out more about that prophet God used to begin the writing of His Holy Bible. Let's get to

know that Moses who prophesied of Christ — that Moses who brought Israel from slavery to sovereignty (Acts 7:37 and Exodus 6:26, 27).

Behind the Scenes

Let's become personally familiar with the character and personality of that Moses who was "mighty in words and in deeds" according to Stephen, the first martyr of the Christian Church (Acts 7:22). Let's set aside all preconceived notions about that man Moses, and get to know him intimately. We can draw

from history and tradition, but let's avoid bigotry at all costs. Let's go behind the scenes of plague and pestilence, behind the events of the parting of the Red Sea and the giving of the Law, behind the stories of the building of the tabernacle in the wilderness, the establishment of the Levitical priesthood.

Moses was a human being. He suffered frustrations from unfulfilled desires, misunderstandings of his motives from his fellow Israelites, self-doubts concerning his own abilities to perform the momentous tasks God required of him, family problems with his wife, sister, brother, in-laws and adopted parents.

Let's get to know him better — he was really a pretty nice guy. Let's become Moses' friend — after all, God was! (Exodus 33:11.)

Jesus descended from Judah. Moses came from Levi. Both were sons of Abraham. Jesus was a "babe in a manger." Moses was a babe in a boat. Moses was born a slave. Jesus was the single object of intense persecution by a king inspired by Satan determined to exterminate Him while He was yet a child. Moses was adopted into Pharaoh's family and became a prince of Egypt. Jesus was the Prince of Peace. Moses was a general of the armies of Egypt. Jesus was Captain of the Host. Moses fled for his life into exile in Sinai, away from Egypt. Jesus was taken, to save His life, in exile into Egypt by His parents.

Years of Preparation

Moses' life spanned 120 years. Jesus' human life was only a little over 33. Moses' life is easily divided into three distinctly different periods of 40 years each. Eighty years passed before God called Moses to his most important remaining forty years. But the measure of the man Moses was greatly influenced by those eighty years of preparation. Let's look at them briefly.

Whatever the arguments as to which is dominant in a man's life, two things shape the person: heredity and environment.

Moses' great grandfather was Levi, son of Jacob and Leah, and founder of one of the tribes of Israel. When Leah, Jacob's cousin

on Abraham's side of the family, bore Levi she was very happy because he was her third son by Jacob. Leah was not Jacob's choice for a wife, but through deception by Laban, Jacob's uncle-cum-father-in-law, became his first legal wife. Jacob's choice was Rachel, Leah's sister. Therefore Jacob preferred Rachel and snubbed Leah. God saw Leah's problem and blessed her with the majority of Jacob's sons. At the birth of this third son, Leah felt things would be different: "Now this time will my husband be *joined* unto me, because I have born him three sons: therefore was his name called Levi" (Genesis 29:34).

Levi, in Hebrew, means "joined." Although Leah's sentiment regarding her third son was personal, her choice of name for Levi later proved to be prophetic as well: the entire tribe of Levi "joined" the nation of Israel to God by fulfilling the offices of the Levitical priesthood!

Beginning with Abraham, who married his half-sister, and continuing through Isaac, who took a cousin to wife, and Jacob, who also married a cousin, the custom of the family had been to maintain the genetic pool by intermarriage within the family. Many problems were created by this, but many strengths were also passed on. The record of the family shows wealth, education and brilliance. Until politically generated slavery via the first pogroms of history in Egypt thrust Abraham's descendants into a poverty so abject they didn't even own their own bodies, he and his offspring were wealthy beyond most modern concepts of riches.

Educated in the finest institutions of learning in the centers of the civilization of their day as well as by the crucible of trade, commerce and animal husbandry, Abraham and his children were cosmopolitans of the nth degree of their day. Contrary to popular opinion, the record seems to show that Abraham and his family brought culture to Egypt, rather than obtaining it there.

As to brilliance: Abraham, blessed by God, managed to extricate himself from two politically tricky situations with the Pharaoh of Egypt and the King of Gerar — not only escaping the consequences of

lying to them, but adding immensely to his already great riches in the process. Isaac maintained the family wealth and duplicated Abraham's political coup with a later King of Gerar. Jacob even outmaneuvered his own father and brother (with his mother's help), won both the birth-right and the blessing from Isaac, outfoxed the very foxy Laban, his uncle, and established independent wealth for a family of twelve sons and a daughter! And of course we all know of the brilliant success of Joseph, the half-brother of Levi, in Egypt.

Faults and Talents

The purpose of all this is to show that despite the fact that Moses began as the son of a slave, he had inherent capacities in his bloodlines which qualified him to be used to fulfill the unique commission God called him to accomplish.

On the other hand, there were family characteristics many prefer to overlook in lionizing these holy men of the Bible. God doesn't leave it out, however. He tells the whole story and makes these giants much easier to understand by showing their entirely human faults as well as talents. The family had a streak of clever, scheming deviousness and used it to execute plots against each other as much as against the world around them. Strong, if not violent, tempers provided another common trait. Opinionated and of iron will, they were from time to time not even beyond arguing with God Himself — though the main thrust of their lives was one of faithful obedience.

Another overview of Moses' heredity was a strong dominance among the women of the family. No second-class citizens, these women — they are only a bit overshadowed by even more dominant males in the family, by custom, tradition and the way God made things.

Following the family tradition, Moses' father, Amram, married his own aunt, his father's sister — and together they produced Miriam, Aaron and Moses: all participating in the focus of this genealogy of strong traits.

Living in more than difficult times, Amram and Jochebed,

Moses' parents, gave birth to him in an impossible time for raising sons. By royal decree all boy babies were to be exterminated. The Egyptians feared a population explosion among their Hebrew slave class would endanger their national existence: hence infanticide by law! Using their natural history of resourcefulness and exercising faith, Moses' parents set their as yet unnamed three-month-old son on a voyage down the river precalculated to end at the feet of the frustrated, childless daughter of Pharaoh as she pursued her ritualistic ablutions in the waters of the Nile-god Egypt served.

Clever Miriam spied on the event and reported all to mother Jochebed (both *strong* women). Even more clever, Jochebed managed to ingratiate herself with the royal daughter of Pharaoh and wrangle herself the position of wet nurse and governess for that blessed gift of the Nile, (named now) Moses! And in addition, she got paid! That fascinating interplay of human endeavor and God's intervention at times of crisis set Moses on a career unprecedented in history.

Just as the innocent naming of Levi by Leah, drawing from the circumstances of his birth, was later prophetic, so was the naming of Moses by the daughter of Pharaoh. Viewing the child's miraculous appearance on the bosom of the god-Nile as an answer to her prayers, she dubbed him "Drawn Out" (Moses), because, she said, "I drew him out of the water" (Exodus 2:10). Later, as you know, this Moses was to "draw out" the entire slave-nation of Israel, and in so doing destroy Egypt for generations.

First Forty Years

Paul tells us in Hebrews a peculiar thing about Moses: "Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible" (Hebrews 11:26, 27.) This truth, inspired by the Holy Spirit, says Moses knew his heritage, his background, the promises and prophecies passed on from

Abraham to Jacob to Levi to Amran, to Moses!

The biblical record of Moses' first forty years covers just half a chapter, but the skeleton outline of events provides enough detail to flesh in most of the remainder from reason and tradition. Taught the truths Abraham received from God, Moses' first learning experience, his primary education, was received at the breast of Jochebed, the witty, clever, faithful mother-cum-governess for the adopted, miraculous Gift of the Nile, the new Prince of Egypt!

Built onto this basic foundation of truth was his royal education. Adopted into the very top social stratum of the greatest civilization of the day, nothing was spared to provide him with the very best available on earth in every facet of his life. History, perverted by political necessity of the time as is the case of all history. Mathematics from the accumulated intelligence of the unprecedented and, to this day, unduplicated excellence of pyramid builders. Medicine from physicians performing delicate brain surgery unduplicated until our present century. Military tactics from the reservoir of the strongest army of the day. Literature and the arts from one of the cradles of this most precious segment of life, in the human sphere of things. Political science, engineering, horticulture, astronomy, the physical sciences, the social graces, government, law, protocol, jurisprudence . . .

Forty years of the best education, including practical application, available on earth — and, of course, all paid for from the royal treasury! And, most important of all, this entire process was God-guided. The Lord knew how He was going to use Moses all along. And, speaking of cleverness, wasn't God pretty clever, getting Satan and his deceived followers to provide a proper background for His boy Moses!?

Life Begins at Forty

Permeated with the truth of God taught him by his real mother, saturated with all the knowledge the royalty of Egypt could provide, Moses came to the first severe crisis point of his life. Seeking to destroy this spoiled gift of the gods, Moses'

siblings of actual Egyptian royalty must have precipitated his need to flee into exile when he slew that Egyptian in defense of his blood-brethren.

Well, they say life begins at forty! And for Moses, at least, a completely NEW life began at forty.

Reared in the lap of luxury unimaginable, unlimited funds to sustain his every need and whim, an unlimited supply of manpower always at his disposal to execute whatever project he might want to pursue, lauded, praised, honored and revered, protected, provided for and pampered — Moses now faced making his living with his own two hands! Exhausted and fear-ridden from his flight from Egypt, Moses met a Midianite mogul named Jethro-Reuel (which modest name, being interpreted, means "His Excellency, the Friend of God"). J.R. offered him a job as a shepherd for his flocks which wandered for sustenance all over the Sinai wilderness.

Another forty years of Moses' continuing education lay before him. The rough life of a nomadic herdsman, forced to survive and thrive in the blast furnace of that impossible piece of geography: the Sinai Desert! What a comedown for the powerful Prince of Egypt. Peniless, wanted for murder by the most powerful nation on earth, son of a slave people, inexperienced in living by the sweat of his brow, Moses began a new life. Forty years and Moses had gone from rags to riches — and back to rags again!

But don't feel too sorry for him — God was with him, and he *knew* it! He knew about Christ! He could picture in his mind's eye the fulfillment of promises made to Abraham about the first coming of Jesus that you and I can read about in the Gospels as recorded history. And beyond that, he could also picture the other promises of that second coming that hasn't happened yet: the Kingdom, the power and the glory of God on earth! Moses could see all that as if it had already happened. He was jealous in guarding in his heart and mind his own part in that Kingdom of God — and he well knew what kingdoms are all about.

That knowledge, that faith sus-

tained him completely. Moses didn't miss a beat in picking up his new style of life in the desolate desert. He selected a rough, strong, hardwood stick and started herding sheep.

It wasn't all bad news. J.R. had a supply of daughters that wouldn't quit, seven of them! He happily gave Zipporah, his eldest, to Moses for his wife, and promptly became a grandfather. Moses called his son "Stranger" (Gershom), because, he said, "I have been a stranger in a strange land" (Exodus 2:22).

Jesus' Enigmatic Statement

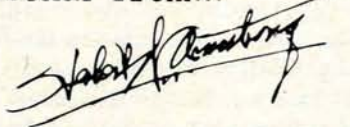
One thing we should understand thoroughly is that Moses was very personally acquainted with the One we call Jesus. The Jesus of the New Testament was the *Lord* of the Old Testament! Jesus frustrated the theologians of His day with this enigmatic commentary: "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad. Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am"! (John 8:56-58.)

Jesus the Word of God who was God, and became flesh, always existed. He was the One who told us that no man had either seen or heard the Father. It was through Him that all things that are made in heaven and in earth were made. Jesus is the One who, in the prayer He made to His Father just before the crucifixion, asked for the Father be restored to which He came to earth.

The doctrines of some would negate Jesus to being a created being, having a beginning. Some think He is Michael the archangel. And of course some are of the opinion that He was just an outstanding human being of His day expounding social philosophies beyond the scope of His generation. And many deny Him altogether, even as a historical person, and feel He is the invention of whoever it was that started the Christian movement, an outstanding member of the mythical

(Continued on page 45)

Personal from...



(Continued from page 1)

DEPTH, made me realize how WRONG I had been — in how I lived — in what I believed — in almost every way. It brought me to a state of literally GIVING UP everything I had believed — starting all over again *from scratch*, realizing the Bible was God REVEALING true basic knowledge. It brought about a complete conversion by the spring of 1927. I came to feel everything about me had been WRONG — NO GOOD — I compared myself to a worthless hunk of burned-out junk.

I think FEW have ever had preconceived beliefs, ideas, opinions, *so thoroughly ERASED from their minds* — able to look at the BIBLE as God literally speaking to me (in print) — giving me KNOWLEDGE that was true!

But God was calling me to a VERY SPECIAL COMMISSION. In many ways He had prepared me in certain experiences — most UNUSUAL experiences — in early life from age 16 for my future calling.

In other words, God brought me to a WILLINGNESS to completely OPEN MY MIND to His revelation of TRUTH — even though it was often truth I did not like to receive.

I know of NO OTHER who has ever become founder of a religion, or a religious leader of ANY KIND, who ever came INTO THE TRUTH in the way God BROUGHT ME INTO IT.

Always, it seems, men start out in religious or Bible study with so MANY PREVIOUS FALSE BELIEFS that what new knowledge they do learn is all mixed up with so much previously believed ERRONEOUS teachings, they never do come to receive GOD'S TRUTH pure and simple, just AS IT IS!

At a luncheon today, I was saying that the MOST IGNORANT people in the world today are the HIGHEST EDUCATED! That is true BECAUSE this world's education — especially its higher education in the great universities — is almost altogether BASED ON the FALSE PREMISE of the EVOLUTIONARY THEORY. They have

been "educated" by being TAUGHT things that are UNTRUE — opposite to, or antithesis of, TRUTH. Children are started out, aside from the three "R's," being TAUGHT things that are either direct lies, theories, or false propaganda. They are graded on how closely they recite or write in tests what has been given them.

One example: A grandson of mine was once asked by his teacher (he was in grade school), "Who discovered America?" "The Indians," he answered. "You are WRONG, Larry," said the teacher. "Don't you know that COLUMBUS discovered America?" "But the Indians were already here long before Columbus came," answered my grandson. He was given a failing grade for that correct answer.

Our system of education is one of memorizing. Children and older students are expected to MEMORIZE what is taught, whether true or false. German children are taught one thing about World Wars I and II, but British and American children have altogether DIFFERENT history books from which they are taught.

I commented at lunch today that the hardest ones to educate in the millennium when the KINGDOM OF GOD rules the earth will be the college professors and the vain scholarly minds of the "highly educated." It is FAR more difficult to UNLEARN error than to LEARN a truth never heard before.

But God brought me through a process that ERASED former mis-knowledge — and, as it were, gave me a clear start from "scratch."

I wonder if you realize that every TRUTH of GOD, accepted as true DOCTRINE and BELIEF in the Worldwide Church of God, came from Christ through me, or was finally approved and made official through me.

Forty-three years ago, God committed to me His GREAT COMMISSION — to carry Christ's Gospel MESSAGE of the imminent coming KINGDOM OF GOD into all the world.

Again I say that is a STAGGERING RESPONSIBILITY!

Alone, I would be utterly helpless to carry out that commission. Therefore, God used me first in raising up HIS CHURCH of this era, *to stand*

loyally back of me, making it possible.

The parent church was 19 members. That was in August 1933. I had really been given the GREAT COMMISSION in mid-July of that year when I was 40. I was not elected; I was appointed by Jesus Christ, the HEAD of the Church. HOW may that be known? BY THE FRUITS — BY THE FACTS, which cannot be contradicted!

My wife and I were then members of NO church. We were attending, fellowshiping in love, and trying to cooperate with the people then known as Church of God, Seventh Day, with headquarters at Stanberry, Missouri. Their ministers, comparatively uneducated (only one had a year of college), jealous of the fruit God was bearing through me, opposed and persecuted me from the beginning, though the brethren all seemed to love my wife and me warmly. But we had never become members of their church.

Soon we learned of the distinction, in the 2nd and 3rd chapters of Revelation. God revealed to me, plainly, in 1926-27, that in these two chapters Christ was speaking of the various conditions in His Church all through this age up until His return as King of kings in His KINGDOM. But the conditions mentioned in the message to the angel of the Church at Ephesus predominated during that first era of the Church. They had among them some of the Laodicean lukewarmness. They also had the apostles and their immediate successors proclaiming the ANNOUNCEMENT of the KINGDOM OF GOD. But because of rapidly growing persecution, and the rise of what later became the Roman Catholic Church, their people rapidly were turning to "ANOTHER GOSPEL" (Gal. 1:6-8; II Cor. 11:3-4; Rom. 1:18, 25; etc.). But the predominating condition in that era was that they had lost their first love.

But we in this Philadelphia era have too much of that fault, also. When first TRULY converted, it is like a ROMANCE, but we too soon cool down in our LOVE for Christ and HIS WORK.

Those brethren I came among were humble, sincere, strict Sabbath

keepers, but as a whole, spiritually DEAD — especially their ministers. Still there were some among them who had that first love of the TRUTH. But they did NOT proclaim Christ's Gospel of the KINGDOM OF GOD, nor even understand what it was. They were bent on preaching a "third angel's message."

God allotted 6,000 years for humanity to go its own way — following Adam's example. Men organized their own societies, governments, forms of education and commerce, not realizing they were being swayed by Satan in the process. Man is writing the lesson by EXPERIENCE — going Satan's WAY — the way that can only bring evil results.

Now that 6,000 years is almost up, the KINGDOM OF GOD is about to take over and GOVERN this earth. The time has arrived when God wants the imminency of His KINGDOM to be ANNOUNCED to all the world.

The living Christ trained and chose me to carry out that staggering and tremendous GREAT COMMISSION.

NO MAN, of himself, could have decided to do this, and, on his own human ability and power alone, have RAISED up this Worldwide Church of God, have developed the facilities and machinery for BROADCASTING THAT ANNOUNCEMENT — by radio, printing press, television, personal preaching to THE WORLD. This WORK OF GOD has grown into a great, powerful WORLDWIDE and WORLD-KNOWN work.

There is but one answer. No one can believe that I alone had the ability and the power to accomplish something that never before in the history of man has been done! GOD DID IT, though He used me as a human servant. NO MAN BY HUMAN ABILITY COULD HAVE ACHIEVED IT.

Yet God always has worked through ONE MAN, surrounded by helpers.

Early in my studies — 1926-27 — God opened my eyes to the fact that, while Revelation 2 and 3 covered the conditions in the WHOLE CHURCH from its beginning to Christ's coming, these two chapters also represented successive ERAS, with a certain characteristic domi-

nating each. WE are the Philadelphia era at the specific TIME when God is having to OPEN DOORS to nations where those doors have been CLOSED to Christ's message.

Another vital NEW TRUTH God revealed to me was our identification as the lost sheep of the House of Israel (Matt. 10:6) — as distinguished from the Jews (see booklet, *United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy*). Another was the fact that ANGELS first inhabited this earth, prior to Adam. That the GOVERNMENT OF GOD was established on earth over them, and that they sinned (II Peter 2:4), rejected GOD's GOVERNMENT, rebelled, and went their own way of DESTRUCTION AND DARKNESS, instead of God's way of CONSTRUCTION and LIGHT.

Although I learned early many of these BASIC TRUTHS, God did not commit to me His GREAT COMMISSION until I had been severely tried and tested — by opposition, persecution, hardship, giving up everything my heart had been previously set on. The commitment to me of the GREAT COMMISSION came when I was 40 years old — almost SEVEN YEARS after I was first called by being challenged into Bible study.

In those early days of getting Christ's last MESSAGE to the people, I had to start in the VERY SMALLEST manner possible. I first spoke over radio in October 1933. I proclaimed, for five days straight, the KINGDOM OF GOD, showing the PROMISES were made to ABRAHAM — that they were for inheritance of the EARTH, not heaven — that Christ was going to return to EARTH and rule here for a thousand years. Hundreds were SHOCKED! They looked in their Bibles, as I had asked them, to the very scriptures I gave them. They went to their ministers. They said to them, WHY have YOU been preaching to me just the OPPOSITE of what the Bible says, showing the scriptures to their ministers. That brought persecution from the ministers, but people began to LISTEN.

On January 8, 1934 the program called "Radio Church of God" went on the air, never to cease to this day. Audiences GREW. I had to take it on FAITH.

Once, when I had to leave home in two minutes for the broadcast,

without the money to pay (as I had to in advance) for that morning's broadcast, a man came to the front door, saying, "Here's my tithe," and left running. It was 10 dollars. Another time I was walking to the station for a broadcast, and the money HAD NOT COME. But a man met me on the way, and handed me the money. ALWAYS, one way or another, the money came. This was a WORK OF FAITH. It was the Work of GOD!

In those early days I was especially interested in the book of Ezekiel. A special reason was that I saw Ezekiel was first given God's message in PROPHECY, while he was a Jewish slave, by the River Chebar in the land of Babylon. Now this was close to 120 years after the House of ISRAEL had been taken captive to ASSYRIA.

My astonishment was aroused when I saw that his message was to be taken to the HOUSE OF ISRAEL. Now Ezekiel was a slave among the HOUSE OF JUDAH — not Israel. By this time many of the "lost sheep of the House of Israel" had migrated north and west from Assyria. They were, by Ezekiel's time, in Britain and Western Europe.

The book of Ezekiel starts off in the first chapter with a rather weird description of his vision of the GLORY OF GOD.

The first message, or instruction from God, comes, beginning the second chapter. "And he said unto me, Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation... [and they shall know] that there hath been a prophet among them" (Ezek. 2:3, 5; cf. Rev. 3:9).

Now notice chapter three. In verses 8-10 of the second chapter, he had been given the message in a book — a roll, written on both sides — about which I will refer later. In chapter 3, verse 1, God says: "... Eat THIS ROLL, and GO speak unto the house of Israel." Again in verse 4: "Son of man, GO, get thee unto the house of Israel, and speak with my words unto them."

NOWHERE in the Bible are JEWS called "the house of Israel." This term applies ONLY to the TEN-tribed Kingdom of Israel taken into Assyrian captivity more than a hundred years before Ezekiel and the Jews of

the House of JUDAH were taken to Babylon.

Nowhere in the book does Ezekiel record his journey from where he was in Babylon to those of the House of Israel who were then in Britain and Western Europe. Nowhere does he record his giving of the message to them. He merely RECEIVED the message. He merely RECORDED IT IN WRITING.

There is no reason to think his message was ever delivered to the House of Israel in *Ezekiel's time*. The message in fact is for today — and contained a WARNING of things to happen to Britain, America and the Western European nations NOW in OUR DAY.

I saw clearly, back in those early days, that Ezekiel's prophecy was a message to be taken by some MODERN TWENTIETH CENTURY servant of God — a "modern Ezekiel" to America, Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

I dwelt in hundreds of broadcasts on this book of Ezekiel and its WARNING of things IMMINENTLY NOW to HAPPEN to Britain, the United States and Western Europe.

Of course I always did, from the very beginning of this WORK OF GOD, proclaim the good news of the COMING KINGDOM OF GOD.

The original apostles proclaimed the KINGDOM OF GOD, but they also put very special emphasis on something that specially applied only to their time, right then. They were personal EYEWITNESSES to the death, burial and *resurrection* of Jesus Christ. In THEIR day, the chief opposition and persecution came from those Jewish leaders who rejected Christ as the promised Messiah.

DO NOT MISUNDERSTAND. The Jews as a whole did not reject Christ. Indeed, virtually all His followers — the 120 that were WITH HIM and the apostles (Acts 1:15) from which the Church started — all were Jews (or proselytes). The Church BEGAN as almost 100% JEWISH. The apostle Paul always went first to the Jews, and most of his churches started out as Jewish. The persecution was not so much from the rank and file of Jewish people as from their Jewish RULERS, who held political jobs under the Roman gov-

ernment — the Pharisees — and also the scribes and Sadducees.

Nevertheless, the EARLIEST opposition and persecution the apostles faced at the BEGINNING of the Church was from these officials who REJECTED Christ as the promised Messiah. The apostles were EYEWITNESSES to His life, death and RESURRECTION. They spent 40 days with Him AFTER His resurrection.

In OUR TIME, God showed me in the New Testament where He sent His disciples FIRST to the same "lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Matt. 15:24). And so it was that Christ, the Head of this Work, caused me during the first 20 or 25 years of this Work to put SPECIAL emphasis on Ezekiel's warning to OUR PEOPLE, IN OUR DAY. (Again, read the above-mentioned booklet.)

But in the MEANTIME I was making every effort, as well as Garner Ted after he came on the broadcast — 1955 and after, as my chief assistant in God's Work — to get the GOOD NEWS of the coming KINGDOM OF GOD into *other countries* AROUND THE WORLD — but with VERY LITTLE SUCCESS.

In those Gentile countries, the government CONTROLS ALL MEANS OF PUBLIC COMMUNICATION OR EDUCATION. They and their forms of government seek to control the MINDS of their people.

For years I tried to reach countries like India, China, Russia, Argentina, Brazil, etc., and even Britain, France, Germany, Holland, Belgium, etc. from radio stations OUTSIDE their countries but close to their borders.

These stations were represented to us by New York agents as super-power stations that would give us huge blanket coverage in the adjoining nations we wanted to reach. We went on them, thinking at the time that we had found a way to reach these nations from the OUTSIDE. We even started really BUILDING our United States listening audience — and *Plain Truth* circulation — through three Mexican stations just across the border.

But, outside of these, most of the others proved to be really of virtually no value. They were stations that had been installed during the war by U.S. military sources. After

the war, these "smart" agents told local agents they could keep them going as profitable businesses by selling time to religious broadcasters — regarded by them as "suckers" who would buy anything.

But except for South Africa, they did very little if any good. They simply were NOT getting the message out to the world. The doors to these nations we were trying to reach were really *closed* to us, then. Closed to Christ's message.

But Christ said to His Philadelphia era Church, that *because* we have but little strength, He would *open those doors to us* (Rev. 3:8).

Now I want to take you back to Ezekiel and show you something I think VERY EXCITING and MOST IMPORTANT!

God said to Ezekiel: "But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee... open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee. And when I looked, behold, an hand was sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book was therein; and he spread it before me; and it was written within and without: and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe" (Ezek. 2:8-10).

Continue: "Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and GO speak unto the house of Israel" (Ezek. 3:1).

Now let us turn to the book of Revelation.

Chapter one gives the opening salutation and the introduction, giving the real SUBJECT of which the book is concerned. It is in verse 10: "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet."

In the opening salutation we find that it is NOT the revelation of John at all, but the revelation of Jesus Christ. The apostle John was merely the WRITER, who recorded (1) the WORD OF GOD, (2) the testimony — direct words of — Jesus Christ, and (3) all the things that he SAW in VISION. In this vision he was taken from the Isle of Patmos, where he actually was as he wrote, into THE DAY OF THE LORD — a special period of TIME here called the "LORD'S DAY."

The DAY OF THE LORD is the time when GOD supernaturally shall INTERVENE in this world's affairs, the

beginning of His TAKING OVER ALL its governments, societies, production, commerce. We have had 6,000 years of the DAY OF MAN. Now we shall soon have 1,000 years of the DAY OF GOD.

Chapters 2 and 3 are messages direct from Jesus, in heaven, sent to the angels (which some believe means to the chief human leaders of the SEVEN CHURCHES). Chapter 4 describes a vision of God's throne in heaven. Chapter 5 shows God on His throne with a BOOK in His right hand — again, a SCROLL, written on both sides, and rolled up and SEALED with SEVEN SEALS. No one in heaven or earth was able to open the seals and REVEAL what was therein written. Then appeared one as a slain, resurrected Lamb, standing in front of the throne, and HE alone was worthy to open the seals and REVEAL the meaning of the book. He stepped forward and took the book from the right hand of God.

The sixth chapter shows the opening of the first SIX of the seals. The seven seals cover the ENTIRE BOOK. The sixth seal, in time sequence, brings us down to the DAY OF THE LORD, with terrifying SIGNS in the sun, moon and stars.

The seventh chapter begins with four angels poised to let go the blowing of the first four TRUMPETS of the seven TRUMPET PLAGUES, which are and constitute (that is, all seven trumpet plagues) the seventh SEAL.

Then another angel appears crying out to the four angels to HOLD UP the blowing of these trumpet plagues UNTIL the servants of God are sealed.

So here is one example of where God deliberately held up world conditions, and His own intervention UNTIL something important to HIM was accomplished. In this case it was the sealing of the 144,000. And also the other great numberless MULTITUDE of all nations. They (this numberless multitude) have all come through the GREAT TRIBULATION, which was symbolized by the fifth seal.

The seventh seal is not opened until the beginning of the eighth chapter. The first trumpet plague blew upon the earth, the second on

the seas, the third plague was upon the rivers and lakes, and the fourth upon the sun, moon and stars.

This left three more plagues, called WOES. The seventh trumpet — the last — will be the seven LAST PLAGUES, at the very TIME of Christ's coming to earth to RULE all nations.

The ninth chapter carries the events into the first and second WOES (or the fifth and sixth trumpet plagues).

But we now come to an INSET chapter, as I have called certain ones, such as the 13th and 17th chapters — in a sense, "flashback" chapters, to bring up to date earlier events. The seventh trumpet or THIRD WOE is not opened until chapter 11, verse 15.

Now notice this tenth chapter — an inset chapter, not necessarily at all occurring at the TIME sequence of the end of the ninth chapter. The actual recording of EVENTS, TIMEWISE, is not continued until chapter 11, verse 15.

This chapter 10 has been virtually OVERLOOKED. I did not comment on it in the earlier days, or expound it when I wrote the OUTLINE of the book of Revelation, or the full booklet on the Revelation. There was NO WAY it could have been understood then — until after subsequent events — just as we could not have understood how Satan sways the entire WORLD, as explained in Ephesians 2:1-2, until we had radio and television.

A MIGHTY ANGEL comes down from heaven, his face as the SUN, his feet as pillars of fire. His voice was as the roar of a lion. He set his right foot upon the sea, and his left upon the earth.

He had a LITTLE BOOK open.

This mighty angel in the second half of this inset prophecy, beginning verse 6, swears by the Eternal GOD there shall be "time no longer" (A.V. — marginal translation — "no more delay"). But the angel continues, "But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel [seventh trumpet — which shall be the seven last plagues — and which also is the PRECISE TIME of Christ's coming as KING over the earth], when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished . . ." (verse 7).

I italicized "when he shall," referring to the sounding of the last and FINAL trumpet, to show that the time setting of this brief two-part inset prophecy is NOT AT OR IMMEDIATELY AFTER the sixth trumpet (of chapter 9) — but SOME TIME PRIOR TO IT! Therefore, in time setting, this is a flashback. Now continue:

The apostle John in his vision is told to take the little book, which is open in the hand of the angel, and eat it up.

HOW LIKE EZEKIEL'S PROPHECY!

It was sweet as honey in his mouth but BITTER in his stomach.

The message of the little book seems to be what the angel next said: "Thou must prophesy [proclaim — preach — foretell] again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and KINGS!"

Now WHEN?

After verse 6!

The message of the little book written on both sides of a roll, to be eaten and swallowed, takes us directly back to Ezekiel's prophecy. Ezekiel himself, as I have shown, NEVER WENT TO ISRAEL, NEVER DELIVERED THAT MESSAGE. It was not a prophecy for the Israel of his day — but for OUR DAY, NOW. Ezekiel's prophecy was NOT a message to MANY NATIONS, speaking different languages, and to their KINGS. It was to the REBELLIOUS PEOPLE of the House of Israel and it was emphasized to Ezekiel they were NOT of strange speech — NOT foreign Gentile nations.

This WORK OF GOD did carry that message to those same people in OUR DAY.

Now WHEN is the TIME of this prophecy in Revelation?

Read right on. Chapter 11 is merely a chapter division written by MEN. But John's book of Revelation continues right on. The apostle, in his vision, is told now by this same angel to rise and MEASURE THE TEMPLE. But LEAVE OUT the court which is for the Gentiles, for they shall tread down the Holy City for 3½ years. So the TIME of our prophecy is at least 3½ YEARS before Christ's coming — before THE GREAT TRIBULATION, before the beginning of the DAY OF THE LORD and before

(Continued on page 45)

A personal letter from Herbert W. Armstrong

TELLING OF HIS VISIT TO SOUTHERN AFRICA



ARRIVAL — Dignitaries greet Herbert W. Armstrong at the airport in the southern African nation of Swaziland.

Dear Plain Truth Reader:

I have been virtually a prisoner in my hotel suite here at Port Elizabeth, South Africa, in the Elizabeth Hotel for one week with a seriously sprained ankle. I can hobble around a little, but if I must go as far as across the room I go in a wheelchair. It's the first time in my life I can remember using a wheelchair.

It happened a week ago tonight, on Thursday, November 11. I was having a one-night public campaign in the "Great Room" of this hotel (which seats about 700 or 800 people). The room was virtually packed. I was in fine shape for it and spoke for an hour and a half —

one of the strongest sermons of my life (no punches pulled).

Extra Strength

I was feeling that God had given me extra strength and power beside a spirit of deep conviction that held the audience spellbound and *moved* them emotionally. I know the sermon did not seem long to the audience because it contained a fast-moving story flow from the BEGINNING when only the "WORD" and "GOD" existed, right on through all creation to NOW, showing WHY God put humanity on the earth and the CAUSE of all world troubles and HOW God finally will bring us world PEACE — and the GLORY that shall

yet be man's human potential, FINISHING THE CREATION OF BEAUTY AND GLORY OVER THE ENTIRE LIMITLESS UNIVERSE!

It truly is the most EXCITING, INTERESTING, MEANINGFUL and IMPORTANT story that could possibly be told — and it's all TRUE!

Sitting in two of the three chairs to the left of the pulpit were Mr. Stanley R. Rader and Mr. Robert Fahey, manager of the South African office and the Work in this part of the world.

The meeting had been opened by Mr. Fahey, followed by remarks introducing me by Mr. Rader. I had been sitting in the middle of the three chairs. As I finished, Mr.

Fahey, sitting next to the pulpit, rose and started to move backwards so I could walk in front of him to my seat in the middle. So without thinking I started to walk around behind him. I guess it seemed at the instant impolite to walk in front of him. At any rate, with my one blind eye and very poor eyesight in the other, I did not notice that we were on a platform that did not extend all the way back to the rear wall.

Actually it extended only a couple of steps backward from the pulpit. It was a rather BIG two steps

up to the platform or three shorter steps. Anyway, without seeing the back end of the platform, I stepped into thin AIR — and fell down to the floor — some sixteen to eighteen inches.

It all happened so suddenly I hardly realized what had happened, but both Mr. Rader and Mr. Fahey and other men were there instantly to pick me up. I had fallen full weight on my left ankle while twisted inward.

It was a bad sprain.

Next morning the doctor came. I

was taken in an ambulance to a hospital which seemed to be about three cities away. I was taken on a stretcher. The ambulance was COVERED so we could see only out through one or two very small openings — with a big red cross on each side and the rear of the outside of the ambulance. Both Stan and Bob went along, sitting on a side seat, while my stretcher filled the remainder of the interior.

The attendants lifted me on the stretcher stairs up to the second story of the building and into a



ROYAL AUDIENCE — Mr. Armstrong presents a gift of Steuben crystal to King Sobhuza II of Swaziland, while Mr. Stanley Rader, who accompanies Mr. Armstrong on his travels, looks on. The king, 76, has ruled the 6,700-square-mile kingdom for 55 years. He is attired in his nation's traditional tribal costume.

room equipped with X-ray apparatus.

No bones were broken, just a very severe sprain, but a severe sprain, I found, can be a VERY PAINFUL EXPERIENCE. I was returned to my hotel suite in the ambulance after the foot was wrapped in bandages. Soon a wheelchair and a pair of crutches arrived at my room.

Fortunately for me, since I have been literally imprisoned here for a week — so far — they provided me with what I suppose is the presidential suite. It contains one fairly

large, L-shaped living room with a guest bedroom and large bedroom with two bathrooms, one with tub only and the other with shower.

But, even though I was unable to carry on with the heavy schedule, Messrs. Rader and Fahey, along with others from the Johannesburg office, have tried to carry out much of the planned schedule for me, leaving one of the other men to be with me day and night in my hotel suite.

I have done what I could. Unable to travel and carry on the arduous

speaking engagements, I have made the best of the time to WRITE. I have sent in seven or eight articles for *The Plain Truth*, beside co-worker letters, getting caught up on my writing.

On this trip we left Van Nuys Airport in California, home base for our G-II jet aircraft, at 7:05 p.m. Thursday, October 21, for an overnight flight to Rome, arriving there at 8:17, Pasadena time, that is, Friday morning — only by Rome time it was already 5:17 in the evening. On the flight I had managed



HANDSHAKE — Prime Minister Maphevu Dlamini of Swaziland greets Mr. Armstrong (above). Mr. Armstrong and King Sobhuza converse during the audience at the royal palace (left).

to get a little sleep and to write a co-worker letter and part of an article.

Mr. Rader had needed to be in Washington, D.C., and so had gone on ahead by commercial flight. He and Mrs. Rader were already in Rome awaiting us. With me on this long, overnight flight were my daughter, Beverly (Mrs. Gott), and Ramona Martin.

We spent Sunday in Rome and Monday drove out to a hotel and spa, about 2½ hours' automobile drive north of Rome in a valley surrounded by mountains. It is one of the oldest spas in the world, 2,000 years or more, with sulfuric springs providing an excellent location for a health and weight-reducing spa. Beverly and I were each about 10 pounds overweight and Ramona somewhat more than that. Mr. and Mrs. Rader remained in Rome, and before we left for South Africa Mrs. Rader flew commercial back home.

From this spa I continued writing and telephoned in a co-worker letter and possibly an article for *The Plain Truth*. Ramona remained at this spa. Beverly and I joined Mr. Rader in Rome and flew on to Johannesburg.

Our schedule called for leaving Rome a few days after arrival there on October 22, but the summit meeting with heads of state at Geneva required the presence of Ian Smith, the prime minister of Rhodesia, so the four- or five-day schedule for Salisbury, Rhodesia, was canceled, and Beverly and I stayed on at the spa during those days.

Mr. Rader, Beverly and I made the long flight from Rome to Johannesburg, making fuel stops at Cairo and Nairobi on Sunday, November 7.

I was able to get more writing done on the flight. We arrived Sunday night at Johannesburg and were met at the airport, worn and fatigued, by staff members from our office.

Monday we had an open day to rest up for a very arduous four-week schedule of meetings, campaigns, speeches, dinners, etc., all over South Africa. Also, I managed to get more writing done at the hotel on articles, leaving one long article at our office to be Telexed or telephoned in to Pasadena.

On Tuesday, November 9, we



flew over to a country we had never before visited, Swaziland. Luggage call was at 7:30 a.m. (our crew picked up our luggage about 2½ hours before actual takeoff time at the airport). We (passengers) leave an hour or so later after we arrive at the airport, go through immigration and are taken to our plane. All is ready for takeoff as soon as our pilots receive the call by phone "November Triple-One Alpha Charlie cleared for takeoff."

At the airport in Swaziland we were greeted by many officials and loaded into waiting cars and driven to a very nice hotel, the Royal Swaziland Hotel and Spa. Our takeoff time at Johannesburg that morning was 9:45 a.m., arrival in Swaziland 10:30.

At 12:30 we departed for the palace. We drove through two sets of

armed gates manned by brightly uniformed guards which opened for us upon identification and drove along a beautiful, tree-lined private roadway to the palace. At a simple frame building I was ushered in, the others following behind me into the throne room, which would have been the parlor if it were a residence.

King in Tribal Dress

The king is now 76, has been king (Sobhuza) 55 years — since age 21. He was in native tribal costume, bare feet, a wraparound sort of shawl and a pair of feathers stuck into his hair at the back of his head.

It is a small country of only 454,000 population wedged in between northeast South Africa and southwestern Mozambique. It is not one of the world's richest countries,

having a per-capita income of only \$280.

The prime minister in his official dress uniform also met me at the entrance to the palace and accompanied us into the meeting with His Majesty the king. We had a real jolly visit with His Majesty. Swazi-

DINNER — Mr. Armstrong hosted and spoke at a dinner for the king and his cabinet.

worn. However, we had all dressed in dark suits and semiformal attire, which was quite all right for the occasion.

Speech on Radio

The prime minister made a very short introductory speech, perhaps two minutes. Then Mr. Rader spoke on the AICF and introduced me, and I spoke exactly 30 minutes. It was taped and will be used as a

We flew on to Port Elizabeth, having to make a stop at Durban to clear immigration and customs on reentering the Republic of South Africa. Here we all had to leave the plane and go inside the airport to clear immigration with our passports.

At this point in my writing I was interrupted by a visit from the doctor. I'd hoped that by tomorrow, Friday, I would be able to put the



land's independence has been guaranteed by Great Britain since 1881.

That evening I hosted a dinner at the hotel attended by very high officials, heads of all government departments and their wives, with the prime minister sitting in the middle of the speaking table between Mr. Rader and me. About the time the dessert was being served I arose, asked for attention, mentioned my very enjoyable meeting with His Majesty the king that afternoon and proposed a toast to the king.

Incidentally, we were quite surprised on arriving in the banquet room that night. Most of the leading officials were dressed in tuxedos with black ties. A very few were in loud-colored special tribal costumes. We (our own party) all had tuxedos but had not brought them from the plane, supposing they would not be

Swaziland radio program. This was at the government's request. We were asked by the prime minister to return to the country as soon as possible on our next visit.

Next morning we were scheduled to fly to the Transkei, which gained its independence as a free black state in October. We had already met the new prime minister, who had flown in to Johannesburg to meet me in June. Our schedule called for takeoff at the airport at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, a meeting with the prime minister at 11 a.m. and an address before service clubs at 1 p.m., with airport departure at 2:30 p.m.

However, when we learned of conditions not being overly friendly between Swaziland and the Transkei, we decided to postpone the Transkei visit.

sock and shoe on my left foot and get on with our crowded schedule. But the ankle is still swollen, and it is impossible for the shoe to go on.

The doctor suggested it would be better to put the left ankle in a cast in order that I may leave here either tomorrow, Friday, or at the latest by Sunday. I have now returned from the doctor's office with a heavy cast on the left ankle. I hope it won't last longer than two weeks.

We do have a heavy schedule ahead for the next two weeks in South Africa. Mr. Rader called me from South-West Africa by telephone yesterday. They are getting things set up for a future campaign there. He is flying on to Kimberley for a 6 p.m. press conference and to pinch-hit for me for a Rotary Club speech at 8 p.m. I was supposed to have a meeting tomorrow afternoon



PHOTO REQUEST — King Sobhuza of Swaziland, shaking hands with Mr. Armstrong, requested a group photo. Southern Africa Regional Director Bob Fahey (second from left) looks on.

with the mayor of Kimberley. I was scheduled for a diamond-mine tour tomorrow afternoon and to fly on to Johannesburg tomorrow night. I hope I can at least do that.

Next Monday I am scheduled for a meeting with Minister H. H. Smit at 11:30 and a 1 p.m. luncheon with Minister Piet Koornhof. They are, respectively, minister for public affairs and minister of education. Tuesday I speak at the Johannesburg Rotary Club, at 3 p.m., meeting with the mayor at 4:30 and a Zionist group and friends at 7 o'clock, followed by another Rotary Club meeting.

Three Appearances a Day

And so on, averaging three appearances, meetings or speeches per day for the week. The week of November 28, Monday, a Bible study is scheduled for Salisbury; Monday at 9:30, a meeting with President John Wrathall of Rhodesia and an afternoon press-TV conference; on Tues-

day morning a meeting with the mayor, and that afternoon a meeting with the prime minister, Ian Smith; Wednesday a lunch with one of the ministers of the government, and 8 o'clock a Zionist lecture.

Then we return to Johannesburg, and that is as far as I have the schedule at hand as of now. I hope I can make it all from here, with the heavy cast on my left foot.

Then back to Rome and a few days in London to check on moving my personal things from my home and things not sold with the college at Bricket Wood.

I will try to keep our *Plain Truth* readers more closely informed regarding my personal travel and experiences in the future. Hope to be back home in Pasadena early in December, for at least a few days.

But this world is MOVING FAST to its very END, and I have so MUCH to report all over! Front pages of this week's *Time* and *Newsweek* magazines are "Poland, a Dangerous Dis-

content" and "After Tito, What?" Every week more and more the news shows this world FALLING APART RAPIDLY.

I've sent in somewhere around eight to 10 articles, including co-worker letters, articles for *The Plain Truth*, and others, including this.

I am driving myself on and on harder than ever, and even though forced to be a virtual prisoner in this hotel suite for a week I have turned out a big volume of articles you will be reading. God is revealing more and more TRUTH to my mind.

I need your prayers as never before. My BIGGEST and GREATEST WORK is yet to be done. I must stay alive and be filled with youthful VIGOR, DYNAMIC POWER more and more.

With deepest love and prayers,
In Jesus' name,

Shirley Armstrong

BORN AGAIN

(Continued from page 3)

"the Kingdom" is some mysterious ethereal nothing "in men's hearts."

Jesus said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand."

What did He mean? WHY had this Message never been proclaimed before? The answer requires a pre-history background.

There Was Once Peace on Earth

It isn't popular today to mention the existence of a devil. But the Bible, again and again, puts great emphasis on the presence of a real, literal devil.

Biblical revelation shows that originally this earth was a place of PEACE, happiness — a real utopia. It was then ruled by the GOVERNMENT OF GOD. That Government will be once again RESTORED (Acts 3:20-21) by Christ returning to earth in the supreme POWER and GLORY of God!

But what happened? WHY don't we have that Government now? Why is there no PEACE on earth?

When the earth was originally created, the angels shouted for JOY! (Job 38:7.) It was beautiful. It was PEACEFUL. It was populated by angels — not then by humans. It was governed by the GOVERNMENT OF GOD. There was a super archangel — a cherub named Lucifer (meaning "bringer of LIGHT") — one of two cherubim whose wings stretched over the very throne of God in heaven. Lucifer was thoroughly trained in the administration of the GOVERNMENT OF GOD (Isa. 14:12-14; Ezek. 28:12-17).

God governs by His spiritual Law — a Law based on the principle of LOVE. Love, first, to God with submission and obedience, and secondly to His creatures — the way of outgoing concern for the good and welfare of others. But Lucifer's heart was lifted up in vanity, because of his beauty and vast knowledge. He rebelled against God, mutinied, set out to organize his angels into an invading army and to conquer GOD — in order to rule the entire vast UNIVERSE. This removed

the Government of God from the earth. But also it disqualified Lucifer as earth's ruler. However, the very principle of God's Government requires that the ruler retain office *until* a successor qualifies *and is inducted into office*.

Lucifer's name was changed to Satan, the devil. His angels became demons. As a result of this universal rebellion on earth, universal destruction and chaos struck the surface of the earth. In six days God reshaped the earth's surface (Genesis 1), creating fauna and flora — and MAN!

When Man Appeared

God formed MAN, not after any animal kind, but in God's own likeness — not of spirit composition as is God, but of material flesh and blood. The first man, Adam, father of the human race, allowed Satan's attitude of REBELLION to enter his heart, failing to qualify as Satan's successor.

When Jesus was baptized by John (Mark 1:9-11), immediately He underwent the most titanic struggle ever, in His temptation by the devil (verses 12-13; Matt. 4:1-11).

Jesus had come to qualify to replace Satan — to restore the Government of God on earth, and bring back WORLD PEACE! But, as the first Adam had undergone and succumbed to Satan's temptation, Jesus had to face and overcome this disqualified Satan.

Jesus underwent this test under the most trying and difficult conditions possible. He had been almost totally depleted of physical strength by fasting 40 days and nights — no food and no water! Yet even in this physical weakness, He was made the stronger SPIRITUALLY.

Few have ever realized the stupendous struggle that took place in that crucial temptation. Jesus resisted Satan's supreme temptations. He did it by quoting Scripture and OBEYING GOD. He *proved* under the maximum possible test that He would obey God's laws and administer God's GOVERNMENT faithfully. Then, in utter physical weakness but supreme spiritual strength, He proved He was Satan's Master, by

giving Satan a crisp command to leave — and the defeated Satan slunk away!

Then (Mark 1:14), having qualified for the executive administration of the Government of God on earth, Jesus came into Galilee, saying, as quoted above, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand"! (Verse 15.)

WHY the News Was NEW

How was the time fulfilled?

WHY was the Kingdom of God then at hand — and not before?

Simply because the wonderful news of the coming Kingdom of God could not be announced UNTIL a successor had QUALIFIED to replace Satan as earth's ruler!

At last the Kingdom of God — GOD'S GOVERNMENT over the earth — was at hand! At last, it was assured, and the time was fulfilled! The One who had qualified to rule the earth was now free to announce His coming Government!

WHY Kingdom Not Yet Set Up

Yet Jesus was not going to *take over* the reign immediately. There were a number of reasons:

1) God had set a definite PLAN, with a definite time-program, for working out His PURPOSE here below! It is a 7,000-year plan of seven millennial "days," of which the first seven literal days of re-creation were a type. The first six of these millennia were allotted for man, of his own free volition (though swayed by Satan) to go his own way. Also, in effect, they were allotted as the six millennial "days" for Satan's "labor" of deception over humanity, to be followed by the millennial "Sabbath," in which Satan will observe *enforced* rest from his work of deceiving the nations, and God will teach humanity His TRUTH!

2) Jesus, in God's PLAN, was first to choose and teach disciples to become apostles, to carry on the proclamation of the GOOD NEWS — and to become the foundation of His Church.

3) Christ is going to set up a world government over all earth's nations only with the administration of a thoroughly trained and experienced

organization. The first six thousand years of human experience has proved abundantly that man, under Satan's sway, is utterly incapable of ruling himself. Human-devised governments always have failed to bring world PEACE. Yet man, even now, seems unwilling to admit that fact. Men are still trying, in vain, to work and fight for PEACE. And *that* is where being "born again" comes in.

God's Government will be DIVINE GOVERNMENT, by the saints converted into divine SPIRIT PERSONS, born of God! As those born of humans are *human* beings, so those born of the divine God will be DIVINE BEINGS, having been given IMMORTALITY! They shall be born into — enter into — inherit the KINGDOM OF GOD.

Kingdom Is a Family

A KINGDOM is a nation composed of people, as well as the GOVERNMENT of that nation. The Kingdom of GOD is composed of the divine FAMILY of God. The One Being we habitually think of as GOD is the FATHER of that Family.

Christ is a Son of God — a member of that divine FAMILY, even as we may be! That divine FAMILY is the Kingdom of God.

There are five KINGDOMS — the vegetable kingdom, the animal kingdom, the human kingdom (we are *not* of the animal kingdom, erroneous education to the contrary notwithstanding!), the angel kingdom — and the GOD Kingdom!

God (Heb. *Elohim* — the uni-plural name, meaning more than one Person, forming the ONE God) said, "Let us make man in OUR image, after OUR likeness." We were made of material flesh, but in the form and shape of God, and with MINDS on a totally different plane than animal brain. The human family was made so that we might be able to receive God's Spirit, and become His children. Animals were NOT so made.

In God's wonderful plan for working out His PURPOSE here below, God has allotted the time period between Jesus' first coming in human flesh, and His second

**Nicodemus understood
what is meant by
being born. He knew it
meant being delivered
from his mother's womb.
It meant being
delivered into the world!**

coming in power and glory, for the calling of *some* to receive His Spirit, and be spiritually educated and trained, through His Word, to become rulers with Christ when He sets up His KINGDOM.

The Crux of Salvation

4) In order that man might be reconciled to God, Jesus also came for the express purpose of DEATH, by His shed blood paying for us, in our stead, the death penalty we have incurred as the penalty of sin. In order that we might be given God's gift of ETERNAL LIFE, Jesus' resurrection from the dead was necessary before we could receive eternal life.

5) The PLAN called for Jesus' ascension to God's throne in heaven — the throne of the Government of God over the UNIVERSE — to become our High Priest, during these years of training and spiritual development of the heirs of God to be used in the executive administration of the Government of God when Christ *does* set up that Government over earth's nations.

6) Jesus could not induct Himself into the office while here on earth in human form. It was necessary for Him, as explained in the parable of the pounds (Luke 19), to go to heaven to there *receive* the authority of the Kingdom from God (the Father) — and to be CROWNED! The coronation ceremony will take place in heaven at God's throne, *before* Christ's return in POWER and GLORY!

7) Then He must return in all that POWER and GLORY and supreme authority to RULE!

Those are the reasons why Jesus did not then, immediately, set up or establish the Kingdom of God!

But even Jesus' own disciples

could never seem to understand that He was not going to set up the Kingdom of God immediately. It is human to want things NOW!

WHY Jewish Rulers Hated Message

The Jewish rulers of Jesus' day, also, thought He was proclaiming a government to be set up immediately — to overthrow the Roman Empire, then ruling Judea as a vassal state.

One of these rulers of the Jews was a man named Nicodemus. He was a Pharisee, and the Pharisees were hostile to Jesus, because of this new Gospel. Nicodemus, however, wanted to meet this astonishing Messenger and discuss it with him. To avoid criticism from his colleagues, he came to Jesus by night.

"We know," he said, "that you are a teacher come from God."

The "we" implies that the divine identity of the Messenger and the source of His message was known to the Pharisees.

Judea was a vassal state, under the rule of the Romans. The Romans were shrewd enough to force leaders among the Jews to administer most of the details of government, under higher Roman officials. Of course, the Roman rule was protected by occupying military forces. This system made life for the Jewish sub-rulers very desirable — a status worth maintaining.

At once Jesus perceived the import of Nicodemus' first words. His Message was the good news of the coming WORLD GOVERNMENT of GOD — that is, the KINGDOM OF GOD — the GOVERNMENT of GOD.

These Jewish rulers feared that Message. Jesus was of their race — a Jew. If they did not oppose Him, they feared being shorn of their power, and perhaps put to death as subversives threatening the overthrow of the Roman government. And the Pharisees thought Jesus proclaimed the *immediate* take-over of that rule!

Not of This Age

Therefore Jesus did not waste words. He struck straight through to the crux point — the Kingdom of God is *not* of *this* world — this time — this age — but of the WORLD TO-

MORROW — a different and a following AGE. Not composed of humans, but of immortals — the GOD FAMILY!

So Jesus said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3).

Notice carefully, please — being "born again" has a vital connection with the Kingdom of God — with THE FACT that it is not of this time — this age. And — I repeat — Jesus' Gospel — His Message — was the Kingdom of God.

But Jesus' abrupt opening statement left Nicodemus confused. The religious leaders, and the hundreds of denominations and sects professing Christianity today are confused and deceived! Today's religionists put a different twist on it than did Nicodemus, however.

Nicodemus *did* understand clearly what is meant by being *born*. He knew it meant being delivered from his mother's womb. It meant being delivered into the WORLD! Today's religious leaders read into it a different meaning! What Nicodemus could not understand was *how* — in what manner — anyone could be born AGAIN! And of course, being carnal-minded, he could only conceive of a second *physical* birth. But he *knew* what being *born* meant!

Born Human a Second Time?

Puzzled, he asked: "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?" He was confused about what it meant to be BORN. What Nicodemus could not understand was a second *human* birth. He was unable to conceive of any other but a second *physical* birth — his mind could not *grasp* spiritual things.

Now Jesus had made clear that the Kingdom of God is something that can be seen — but not until or UNLESS one is "born again." Not during this physical *lifetime*! Also, verse 5, the Kingdom of God is something a man may *enter into* — but not until after he is born AGAIN — another and entirely different birth.

The apostle Paul made clear that the Kingdom of God is something a human may inherit, but not in this age — not while he is composed of material flesh.

Then Jesus came quickly to the point — that the Kingdom of God is not of this present human LIFE in this present WORLD — it is not of this TIME — this present life-TIME — or age — it is the succeeding age — and the life to come.

Here is the crux point that explains it all: Jesus said:

"That which is born of the flesh is flesh: and that which is born of the Spirit is *spirit*."

Man is now flesh — human. He is MATERIAL SUBSTANCE. "Dust thou art," said God to Adam, "and unto dust shalt thou return." Again, "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Gen. 3:19 and 2:7).

Those Born Again To BE Spirit

But, said Jesus plainly, when one is born of the Spirit HE WILL BE SPIRIT! Look at it! Read it in your own Bible.

The Kingdom of God will be composed of SPIRIT BEINGS — not of humans!

At birth of human flesh, one is delivered from his mother's womb into *this* world. When born of the Spirit one will be delivered from the CHURCH of God (physical) into the KINGDOM of God (a Kingdom of SPIRIT BEINGS!).

Man is now COMPOSED of flesh — material substance — matter.

When BORN AGAIN he will BE spirit — a SPIRIT BEING, no longer human. He will be COMPOSED of spirit — of spirit composition — with life inherent — with self-containing life — not then existing by the breath of air and the circulation of blood.

Of the next age when the Kingdom of God will rule the world — the next LIFE — Jesus said "they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are *as* the angels of God..." (Matt. 22:30). Marriage is a physical, fleshly union. In the age of God's Kingdom — when "born again" — we shall BE spirit, not flesh. Born of God as SPIRIT BEINGS, no longer human. Angels are spirits — composed of spirit (Heb. 1:7). Jesus did not say we shall then *be* angels — but *AS* the angels — sexless and composed of SPIRIT. Angels are spirit beings — created as such — but not begotten and BORN of God as God's own born children. We therefore shall be much higher than angels!

Jesus explained this further to Nicodemus:

"The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is everyone that is born of the Spirit" (John 3:8).

You cannot see wind. Wind is compared to spirit. It is INVISIBLE. That's why mortal FLESH, as we now are, cannot SEE the Kingdom of God. Those who inherit it will *be* spirit — normally invisible to eyes still human.

Energy of an A-Bomb?

Jesus was comparing also the POWER of one *born* of the Spirit to that of wind. A scientist of the U.S. Weather Bureau, Dr. J. Murray Mitchell, Jr., Research Climatologist, said that the energy of one average hurricane is much greater than an A-bomb such as destroyed Hiroshima. I am quite certain that no human claiming to have been "born again" in his human life is capable of exerting a tiny fraction of that kind of energy. But — as I shall show in this article, one when he *becomes* spirit will have that kind of POWER!

Not While Flesh and Blood

The apostle Paul made clear that the Kingdom of God is something a human may INHERIT, but not in THIS AGE — not while he is composed of material flesh. He may, now, be-

come only an HEIR, not YET an inheritor!

"Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption" (I Cor. 15:50).

Leading up to this verse, Paul had made it very clear.

"The first man is of the earth, earthy [human]: the second man is the Lord from heaven [a divine GOD Being]" (I Cor. 15:47).

This is what Jesus was saying to Nicodemus. He was of the earth, earthy — human — he was flesh, not spirit. He was born of the flesh, so that's what he was — FLESH. When one is born of the Spirit, he will BE SPIRIT.

BUT WE CANNOT BE spirit in this present age.

THERE IS A TIME ELEMENT CONCERNED WITH BEING BORN AGAIN!

Continue, now, in I Corinthians 15:

"As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy" (verse 48). That is precisely what Jesus was explaining to Nicodemus. He was born of the flesh — he WAS flesh. He was born of the earth — he WAS earthy. And so are we all! And, same verse, "...and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly." But for us humans, WHEN? Not in this life!

Next verse: "And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall [future — resurrection] also bear the image of the heavenly" (verse 49). As we are now flesh, we shall be SPIRIT — at the resurrection. That is when we shall be "BORN AGAIN" — when we shall *see, enter into, the Kingdom of God* — when we *are* spirit — at the resurrection!

"Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep [be dead], but we shall all be *changed*, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we [the then living] shall be *changed*" (verses 50-52). *There is the TIME when we may be*

Now in being "born again," the process of this birth begins when God's divine spirit-life is imparted to us by the Holy Spirit, from His very person.

born again — *when we may see, enter into, inherit the Kingdom* — when "BORN AGAIN" — and NOT BEFORE!

How CHANGED When Born Again

How shall we be changed? The next words answer!

"For this corruptible [flesh, as we now are] must put on incorruption [spirit — that which is born of God is spirit] and this mortal must put on immortality." Be changed from material flesh to spirit!

Until born again, we cannot *see* the Kingdom of God — (Jesus to Nicodemus, John 3:3).

Until born again, we cannot *enter into* the Kingdom of God — (Jesus to Nicodemus, John 3:5).

Until no longer flesh, but *changed* into SPIRIT, we cannot enter into the Kingdom of God — (Jesus to Nicodemus, John 3:6-8).

While still flesh and blood (as Nicodemus was and we are) we cannot *inherit* the Kingdom of God — (Paul to the Corinthians, I Cor. 15:50).

Until the resurrection, at Christ's coming, we shall not be changed from corruptible flesh into incorruptible SPIRIT (Paul — I Cor. 15:50-53 and verses 22-23).

Until the resurrection, therefore, we cannot *see, enter into, or inherit* the Kingdom of God. WE CANNOT BE BORN AGAIN UNTIL THE RESURRECTION!

Now Heirs — Not Yet Inheritors

While in our present status, born of the flesh and composed of flesh, we cannot see, enter into, or inherit the Kingdom of God. Notice, now, the status of the truly converted Christian, in this life — this world:

"Now if any man have not the

Spirit of Christ, he is none of his" (Rom. 8:9). Unless one has received the Holy Spirit, and this Spirit is dwelling in him, he is not a Christian. Joining a church does not make one a Christian. Receiving and following God's Spirit does!

Holy Spirit Entering Compares to Sperm Entering Ovum

But now see how God's Spirit entering and dwelling in one compares to the physical sperm impregnating the ovum — the imparting of eternal SPIRIT life, later to produce — to bring forth — a SPIRIT PERSON! A fertilized ovum — an embryo — is NOT a *born* human person. Life from the father has been imparted to it — he has begotten it — but neither embryo nor fetus is YET a *born* person. In the same manner the Spirit-begotten human is not, yet, a SPIRIT PERSON OR BEING, as Jesus said he shall be *when* born again!

Continue: "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you" (verse 11).

UNDERSTAND THIS! There is a direct comparison between having been born of the flesh, and being born AGAIN of God. Jesus said that which is born of the flesh *is* flesh — a born *human*. That which is born of the Spirit (God) *is* spirit — a born SPIRIT PERSON!

A mortal human life *starts* when a sperm cell from the body of the father impregnates — imparts physical LIFE to — an ovum (egg cell) in the mother. At this point the father begets, sires. He does not "bring forth": the mother does that, later. His part in the PROCESS leading to final birth is then *done*. BUT THERE IS A TIME ELEMENT. At the TIME of begetting, birth (parturition) has not YET occurred.

It is necessary to make this explanation, at this point, because the popular deception of a deceived traditional "Christianity" is to claim that when one "receives Christ" — "accepts Christ" — "professes Christ" — or first receives God's

Holy Spirit to dwell in him, that he is already "BORN AGAIN."

First, then, notice the physical type and comparison.

The TIME Element

In human physical reproduction, there is a TIME ELEMENT. From impregnation — *begettal* on the part of the father — having *conceived* on the part of the mother — to BIRTH, or *parturition*, or being delivered from the mother's womb is a TIME ELEMENT of nine months.

That nine-month period is called *gestation*. Upon conception, the now fertilized *ovum* is called an *embryo*. A few months later, it is called a fetus. But *during* this nine-month period of *gestation*, we do not speak of the embryo-fetus as having been *born*. It is in the PROCESS toward birth. It is the child of its parents. But it is then the *unborn* child of its parents. The father has already begotten it — sired it. But the mother has not yet given *birth* to it. Yet it is, during the gestation period, the *unborn* child of its parents.

Now in being "born again," the PROCESS of this birth begins when GOD's divine SPIRIT-LIFE is imparted to us by the Holy Spirit, from His very PERSON, entering to dwell within us. Repeat, from Romans 8:

"But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken [change to immortal spirit] your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you" (verse 11). This is describing the same thing explained in I Corinthians 15:50-53, the resurrection.

Millions of sincere professing Christians believe that when they profess Christ (or receive His Holy Spirit) they are "born again." What actually happens is this:

The Church Our Mother

When one, after repentance, faith and baptism receives the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God puts him into — baptizes him into — God's Church. The Church is called the Body of Christ. So we read: "By one Spirit are we all baptized into one body" (I Cor. 12:13).

Again, the Church is called "Jeru-

Scripture after scripture, analogy after analogy, comparison after comparison, shows that being born of God is a process in which there is a time element.

salem above," or "the heavenly Jerusalem" (Heb. 12:22-23). Now notice, in Galatians 4:26: "But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all."

The analogy is this: When begotten by God the Father by receiving His Holy Spirit, we are put into the Church, which during this gestation period is our MOTHER.

The human mother of the fetus within her womb serves the function of feeding her unborn child with physical food, so that it may develop and grow physically. And also she carries it where she may best protect it from physical injury or harm, until parturition — delivery from her womb.

The spiritual mother — the Church — is commissioned to "feed the flock" (I Pet. 5:2) through the ministry which God has set in the Church "for the perfecting of the saints... for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man..." (Eph. 4:11-13). Just as the human fetus develops and grows physically during the PRE-birth gestation period, so WE, after begettal by God's Spirit, develop and grow SPIRITUALLY in PRE-birth state.

But not only is the Church to feed the members on the Word of God — spiritual food — but also to protect these conceived but yet unborn children of God from spiritual harm, as the very next verse shows: "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive..." (Eph. 4:14).

Then, at the time of the resurrec-

tion, we in the Church — the spiritual Mother — shall be DELIVERED from her, and born into — brought forth into — the Kingdom — the spirit-composed FAMILY of God.

Sons of God NOW

Now, further: "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" (Rom. 8:14). The unborn child in his mother's womb is the child of his father and mother, though not *yet* born — delivered from the womb. So are we, if God's Spirit dwells in us — if we are being led by God's Spirit — children of God. Yet, at *this time*, we are in the *gestation* state, not yet that *parturition*. And only HEIRS. Not inheritors!

Continue: "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be [future — at resurrection] also glorified together" (verse 17).

Now see how this passage designates the resurrection into GLORY — when we shall BE spirit — as a BIRTH!

"For the earnest expectation of the creature [creation] waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God" — that is *the time* of Christ's coming to REIGN, and of the resurrection to (being *born* of) SPIRIT composition — "... because the creation [RSV] itself also shall be delivered [a *birth*] from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and *travaileth in pain* together until now" (verses 19-22).

Here is another comparison: we shall be delivered from *this world* (the Church is *in*, though not *of* this world) into the glorious WORLD TOMORROW and the Kingdom which shall rule it.

The CREATION is waiting for this time of Christ's coming, the resurrection, and the Kingdom of God. Because the creation *shall be DELIVERED* from the bondage of corruption. Not now delivered — SHALL BE — at the resurrection time! Although this is not referring directly to *our* being born again, it is a direct comparison to the BIRTH of a

child being DELIVERED from its mother's womb.

The resurrection — the time when we are changed to BE spirit and to INHERIT the Kingdom — will be a time of DELIVERY FROM the bondage of corruptible flesh and from this world of SIN — A REAL BIRTH!

Christ Born a Second Time by the Resurrection

Continue in Romans 8:

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he [Jesus] might be the firstborn among many brethren" (verse 29).

Now compare with Romans 1:3-4: "Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; and declared to be the Son of God . . . by the resurrection from the dead."

Jesus was, in the human flesh — His first birth — a descendant of David, and, by the resurrection from the dead — (born AGAIN) — the Son of God, now no longer human, but composed of SPIRIT — a Spirit Being. He thus became the FIRST SO BORN of many brethren who *shall* be BORN AGAIN at the time of the resurrection of those who are Christ's.

Of course we understand, and so did Paul in writing the above, that Jesus was also the Son of God while in the human flesh. Though *born of a human* woman, He was sired by God. But this is comparing the two births — the one from the human Mary, as descended from the human David — the other, by His resurrection to glory, as Son of God by His resurrection, in the same manner we may be.

Emphatically this does NOT imply that Jesus was a sinner needing salvation. He was the pioneer, setting us the example, that we, too, may be BORN of God.

When Born Again What Shall We Be Like?

When we are born again, what shall we be like?

Here is the answer: "For our conversation [citizenship] is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who

**"Thou crownedst him
[kingship] with glory
and honour, and didst set
him over the works
of thy hands . . ." — that
is, God's creation
(Hebrews 2:7).**

shall *change* our vile body [FLESH], that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body . . ." (Phil. 3:20-21). And what is Christ's GLORIOUS body like? His eyes are as flames of fire — His face bright as the sun at full strength — Revelation 1:14-16.

A TIME When Begotten But Not YET Born

Thus, scripture after scripture — analogy after analogy — comparison after comparison — shows that being BORN of God is a PROCESS in which there is a time element. Just as being born of the human flesh is a *process*.

At the *time* when the father *begets* and the mother *conceives* — of the union of sperm cell and ovum — the fertilized ovum becomes an *embryo*. But it is not yet delivered from the womb — not yet *born*! And will not be for nine months. A pregnancy is *in progress*. Yet during this period of physical development and growth, it is the unborn child of its parents.

In like manner, at the *time* when the Spirit Father, God, begets a human with the Spirit (the spiritual counterpart of the physical *sperm*) — the Holy Spirit — he becomes a *son* of God! He is then already a *son* of God.

But he is still human — he is still material flesh and blood. He must now undergo a period (until death, the resurrection) of spiritual development and growth. He is in the *gestation* state in the PROCESS toward being born. He is in the CHURCH of God, but the Church is *not* the KINGDOM of God.

The Church is composed of *human, flesh-and-blood* children of God. And, flesh and blood cannot see, cannot enter into, cannot inherit the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom

of God is made up of spirit-composed children of God. The Spirit-begotten human in the Church is in the *process* of being born of God, BUT he has not yet entered the Kingdom of God. He has not yet been BORN of God.

He is in the *gestation* state toward spirit-BIRTH, but not yet BORN of the Spirit. He yet has a lot of spiritual developing and growing to do — acquiring the spiritual *character*-image of God.

POWER Greater Than Energy of Wind

There is another passage, understood by almost none, that reveals our astonishing *transcendent* potential!

It begins in Hebrews 2, verse 6. But first, notice about Christ, in chapter 1:

"God . . . hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of *all things* [Moffatt and others, *the universe*], by whom also he made the worlds; who, being the brightness of his glory, stamped with God's own character [Moffatt] and upholding [sustaining] the universe by the word of his power . . ." (Heb. 1:1-3). ALL POWER in heaven and earth (Matt. 28:18) has been given to Christ. He is now Chief Executive of God's Government of the UNIVERSE.

Now begin with Hebrews 2:6; a citation from Psalms 8:4-6:

"What is man, that thou art mindful of him?"

Yes, why should the Great God be concerned about us mortals? WHY did He put us here on earth? What is the PURPOSE of life — what is our transcendent potential? It is so far above and beyond anything you have thought or imagined, it seems shockingly incredible!

Can you believe it? Are you willing to believe what is now plainly stated? Here comes the astonishing answer, beginning verse 7:

"Thou madest him a little lower than the angels." Some translations have it, "for a little while lower than the angels." Continue: "Thou crownedst him [kingship] with GLORY and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy

hands . . ." — that is, God's creation. Continue:

NOT YET the Universe!

"Thou hast put ALL THINGS [Moffatt: the UNIVERSE] in subjection under his feet. For in that he put ALL in subjection under him, he *left nothing* that is not put under him . . ." Can you grasp that? The entire vast, endless UNIVERSE! But that is for BORN sons of God. Man is not yet BORN — except Christ only! Continue. Here comes the answer:

" . . . But *now* [in this present gestation state] we see NOT YET all things [the universe] put under him" (verse 8).

But what *do* we see, NOW?

"But we see JESUS . . . crowned with glory and honour" (verse 9). Yes, as revealed in chapter 1, Jesus has already been given the executive administration of God's Government — the KINGDOM of GOD — over the entire UNIVERSE! Only, *until* our time to inherit and possess the government of EARTH, at Christ's return. He is allowing Satan to continue on this earth his work of deception. Now continue:

"For it became him [Jesus], for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto GLORY, to make the captain [margin, leader — or forerunner, pioneer — the One who has gone on before us, as we are to follow] of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them *brethren*" (verses 10-11).

Christ First Born of Many

We are, as quoted before, heirs of God, and joint-heirs — as BRETHREN — with Christ. He has gone on ahead, through a resurrection, to GLORY as the pioneer!

He is the firstborn of many brethren! He has INHERITED "all things" — the UNIVERSE! We are still heirs — still in the gestation stage of the process of being BORN of God. Jesus is now our High Priest, supervising our spiritual development — preparing us to be kings and priests, reigning *with* Him!

As a physical babe must grow physically, so we in the Christian life must grow in spiritual knowledge and character (II Pet. 3:18) to become perfect.

The first thousand years we shall reign ON THE EARTH. For He shall have "made them kings and priests: and they shall reign on the earth" (Rev. 5:10, RSV).

The First Thousand Years

For that first thousand years, Jesus is to reign on the throne of His earthly ancestor DAVID in Jerusalem (Isa. 9:6-7). And, "he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron . . ." (Rev. 2:26-27). But how and from where shall we rule?

Jesus said, again, "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne [at Jerusalem], even as I also overcame, and am [now] set down with my Father in his throne" (Rev. 3:21).

When BORN of God, we shall BE spirit, no longer human flesh and blood. We shall be given POWER! As Daniel revealed, the saints then shall take the kingdoms of earth's nations and RULE them — for the first thousand years.

And . . . *after that*? The passage in Hebrews 2 shows that then, under Christ, we shall be given power to rule over the entire vast universe — literally ALL THINGS. For that is the power that has been given to Christ, and we are joint-heirs, to become joint-INHERITORS with Him.

All Power — The UNIVERSE

Most people have passed right over many vital statements in the Bible, not recognizing their tremendous import!

Let me give you a few. Ask yourself, have you ever recognized the true import of these statements in God's Word?

Matthew 28:18: "And Jesus came and spoke unto them [after His resurrection], saying, ALL POWER is given unto me in heaven and in earth."

Matthew 11:27: Jesus said: "ALL THINGS [the whole universe] are delivered unto me of my Father . . ."

John 3:35: "The Father loveth the Son, and hath given ALL THINGS into his hand."

John 13:3: During the last Passover, "Jesus knowing that the Father had given ALL THINGS into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God . . ."

John 16:15: "ALL THINGS that the Father hath are mine . . ."

I Corinthians 15:27: "For he [the Father] hath put ALL THINGS under his [Christ's] feet. But when he saith ALL THINGS are put under him, it is manifest that he [the Father] is excepted, which did put ALL THINGS under him. And when ALL THINGS shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put ALL THINGS under him, that God may be all in all."

And — incredible, yet true! — we, in Christ, are made co-heirs with Christ in this ultimate supreme rule.

Incidentally, I Corinthians 15:27-28, along with verses 22-26, indicates that our reign over the universe shall follow the thousand years' reign on the earth.

Must GROW During Gestation

Human life *starts* with what the Bible terms "corruptible seed" — physical male sperm. Divine life *starts* with that which is incorruptible — the Holy Spirit of God entering the human person. But as the human embryo must GROW till it becomes a fetus, which must GROW to the point of being born into the human family, *so* the Christian in whom divine life has been started by the gift of God's *incorruptible* Spirit must GROW toward perfection to be born into the GOD family. He will *then* be perfect, unable to sin.

Peter gives an analogy of this:

"Being born again . . ." (I Pet. 1:23). *Being* — in process of — not having *been* — not yet an immortal person — but *being* "born again, not

of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible . . .” (Other translations use the term “begotten.”) *Greek: anagennao* — to beget anew — (Young). Peter is here referring to the process having *started* within us by the incorruptible Spirit of God — *not* as our human life was begotten by human physical sperm. Peter here shows that the Spirit of God is the incorruptible “seed” that imparted the presence of eternal life within us. Continue: “. . . By the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”

Peter continues, chapter 2: “Wherefore . . . as newborn babes . . .” Not that we *are* already-born *perfect* divine spirit persons having entered into and inherited God’s Kingdom. He is comparing the Christian’s spiritual “gestation” period to the growth of a newborn human physical baby simply because it would be awkward indeed to compare it to a physical embryo or fetus. He is not saying we *are* already *born* babes in God’s Kingdom — but *as* — or *like* newborn human babes. It is an *analogy*, which Webster says is a comparison or “likeness between two things . . . consisting in the resemblance *not* of the things themselves, but of two or more attributes, circumstances or effects.”

Peter is simply showing that, *as* a newborn human babe must be nourished and *GROW* physically (even, for that matter, as must the unborn fetus), so Christians must grow spiritually. Continue: “. . . Desire the sincere milk of the word” (RSV has: “long for the pure spiritual milk”) “that ye may *GROW* thereby” (I Pet. 2:1-2). Paul styled it “unto the *perfect* man” (Eph. 4:13) — unable to sin. When born again, we shall not be helpless spirit *BABES*, but spirit beings of perfection *unable* to sin. This Christian spiritual *GROWTH* is in spiritual character and knowledge in this present human life. *As* a physical babe must grow *physically*, so we in the Christian life must grow in spiritual knowledge and character (see II Pet. 3:18) to become *PERFECT*, which we shall never attain *UNTIL* born as spirit *beings*.

The scriptures calling Jesus the only begotten Son of God all apply to His begettal as the human Son, His first birth born of the human mother, Mary.

The Comparison

During our converted human Christian life, we are already children of God, as yet unborn. We have within us, through the gift of the Holy Spirit, the presence of *ETERNAL LIFE* — Spirit life — divine life — *BUT*, only from and through *GOD*. We do not, yet, have any eternal life *inherent* — of *ourselves*, independent of God! And, *WE COULD LOSE IT* — be aborted!

This compares to the unborn physical fetus in the gestation period. It has human life — but only through the umbilical cord and *FROM* the mother — *NOT* independently of itself. And it can be aborted!

This is so clearly brought out in the Bible, in I John 5:11-12: “And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, *and this life is in his Son*.” It is not inherent in us. We do not now in this life have born life of our own, independent of Him. Our contact with Him through His Spirit is the umbilical cord through which we are partaking of eternal life *from Him*. Continue, verse 12: “He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son hath not life.” If one is *cut off* from Christ, he has *NO* eternal life.

A *BORN* human baby has human life *on its own* — independent of its mother. That defines the difference between the state of begettal and a born state! The only difference is, in the Christian life we are fed and protected by and through the spiritual Mother — the Church — while our actual eternal life comes into us through and from *GOD*. But when *BORN* again, of *GOD*, we shall have *ETERNAL LIFE INHERENT* — of our own! We are *NOT* now in that state!

HOW Jesus Was the ONLY Begotten Son

King David of Israel had God’s Holy Spirit. Praying for forgiveness, following his adultery with Bathsheba and murder of Uriah, he implored: “Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me” (Psalm 51:10-11).

The prophets had received God’s Holy Spirit. Peter wrote: “. . . Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit” (II Pet. 1:21). They could not be called “holy men” unless God’s Spirit was within them.

Abraham, Isaac and Jacob are to be seen in the Kingdom of God. Jesus said so. Therefore God’s Spirit was “dwelling in them” — they were begotten of God — but *THEY WERE NOT BORN* of GOD — for Jesus is the *firstborn* of many brethren.

But if *they* were *begotten* of God by the Holy Spirit — and hundreds of years before Christ was born, how could Jesus be called “the *ONLY* begotten Son of God”?

ANSWER: The scriptures calling Jesus the *ONLY* begotten Son of God all apply to His begettal as the human Son, His *first* birth — born of the human mother, Mary. Jesus was the *ONLY human* ever begotten by God prior to *HUMAN* birth. In Revelation 1:5, the A.V. speaks of Christ as the *first begotten* — but other translations render it, properly, *first-born* — referring to His resurrection, not His human birth from His mother Mary.

Jesus was *NOT* the *first* begotten *in the sense* that Abraham, David and Old Testament prophets were begotten.

Before Jesus was conceived by Mary, He was not the *SON* of God. God is the divine *FAMILY*. He was one of that Family. In John 1:1, He is called the “Logos” — the Word. He, like the Father, had existed eternally. But He is nowhere in God’s Word referred to as a *SON* of God prior to conception by Mary. His *human* birth was His *first* birth. He gave up the *GLORY* He had with the Father in order to be born into the world to save the world.

Abraham and many others — prophets and writers of the Bible — were begotten of God — they were in the same identical state as human Christians who have God's Spirit within them today. But they have not, even yet, *INHERITED* — *entered into* — the Kingdom of God. They have not yet been *BORN* of God.

Jesus had to be the *FIRST* to be *BORN* of God — the *FIRSTBORN* of many brethren. That was His *second* birth, as the resurrection will be ours! "And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise [were not born into the KINGDOM]: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect" (Heb. 11:39-40).

This, again, *PROVES* that the conversion in this life — receiving the Holy Spirit — is only a *begettal* — NOT a birth! For Old Testament fathers and prophets *received* God's Spirit — but they were not "born again" because Jesus was the *first* so born!

How does this *PROCESS* of being born again take place?

What Is the WAY?

Peter gave the *WAY*, and the conditions. Repent, he said, and be baptized, as an act of *FAITH* in Christ, His shed blood in payment of the penalty of our sins, and His resurrection making possible our eternal life and being born again. Then, he said, we shall receive the Holy Spirit. Those in whom the Holy Spirit dwells *ARE* *CHRIST'S* (Rom. 8:9); all others are not. But *IF* God's Spirit dwells in them, God will, by a resurrection *AS* He raised Christ from the dead, bring forth all such in immortal spirit life — composed of spirit as Christ is.

All these scriptures *MAKE* *CLEARLY PLAIN* that we are to be *BORN AGAIN* by, and *ONLY* by, a resurrection to spirit composition.

We are now heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ — NOT *YET* *INHERITORS*, or possessors of the Kingdom.

The Human Birth

What is a birth — what is meant by being born?

**All who now are
begotten sons of God
shall then be born —
elevated from mortal to
immortal, from decaying
flesh to spirit —
from human to divine!**

The actual final *birth* is called *parturition* — a baby being delivered out of its mother's womb.

But this *birth* requires a father, as well as a mother! If it were not for the *PART* the father contributes in the process, there would be no fetus to be *born*. But *THERE IS A TIME ELEMENT*. The father's part in what shall, later, be the *birth* is to beget — to gender — to sire. From his body emanates the sperm cell that unites with and *starts* life in an ovum within the mother. *This* occurs nine months *prior* to *parturition* — or *birth*.

We *never* say, in the English language, that immediately when an embryo is conceived in the mother — sired or begotten by the father — that the embryo has already been *BORN*! Birth has not occurred! To say it would sound idiotic, ridiculous!

From conception must follow the *PROCESS* called *gestation* for nine months. The embryo takes on human form and is called a fetus. It must develop and grow physically to be born.

So with being born again, in a spiritual birth.

What comes from the divine Father is the Holy Spirit. Just as the unborn child in the mother's womb is, even in the fetal state, the child (yet unborn) of its parents, so those in whom God's Spirit dwells are, already, children of God. But they are still *OF* this *first birth* — still human — still composed of physical flesh. They are still in their spiritual Mother — the Church — which is still *in* this corruptible present world, though not *of* it. When *born* of the Spirit, said Jesus, they shall *BE* spirit.

But *IF* God's Holy Spirit dwells

in them, God *then* will resurrect them (if they are dead), or *change* them (if still living) from physical to spirit composition at Christ's coming. They will then be *brought forth* — *delivered* from their Mother, the Church of God, into the Kingdom of God.

Of the *first birth*, we are, and remain, *FLESH! HUMAN* beings!

Of the *second birth*, which is spiritual, we shall *BE* spirit, no longer flesh — but *SPIRIT* beings! — Divine Beings!

Glorious World Tomorrow

What *WONDERFUL*, almost *INCOMPREHENSIBLE*, *GLORIOUS GOOD NEWS*!

And the *BEST NEWS* is, that the *COMING OF CHRIST* is now drawing *VERY NEAR*! Just a very few more years! And then — the *PEACEFUL, HAPPY, GLORIOUS WORLD TOMORROW*!

All who *NOW* are *begotten* sons of God shall then be *BORN* — elevated from mortal to *IMMORTAL*, from decaying *FLESH* to *SPIRIT* — from *HUMAN* to *DIVINE*!

And that true born-again experience will be incomparably more *GLORIOUS* than the false, vague, meaningless, so-called "born-again experience" that deceived *THOUSANDS* think they have had now.

Can your mind grasp what an incredible, transcendent *GLORY* is the true potential of those who do *BELIEVE, REPENT* and *OBEY*?

But, the scriptures that break before our eyes this *GLORIOUS GOOD NEWS*, also warn us to *TAKE HEED*, and to make our calling and election sure! □

RECOMMENDED READING

If you would like to receive this article in booklet form, please write for *Just What Do You Mean . . . Born Again?* Booklets by Mr. Armstrong on related subjects include: *What Do You Mean . . . Salvation?*, *What Will You Be Doing in the Next Life?* and *Just What Do You Mean . . . Conversion?* These booklets are provided free of charge by the Worldwide Church of God as a service in the public interest. Worldwide mailing addresses are on the inside front cover.

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TUCSON — Channel 9, KGUN-TV, 1:00 p.m. Sun.

Pacific Time

ANCHORAGE — Channel 13, KIMO-TV, 6:30 p.m. Wed.
CHICO — Channel 12, KHSL-TV, 10:30 a.m. Sun.
FAIRBANKS — Channel 11, KTVF-TV, 5:00 p.m. Sat.
HONOLULU — Channel 2, KHON-TV, 12:30 p.m. Sat.
LOS ANGELES — Channel 9, KHJ-TV, 10:00 p.m. Sun.
PORTLAND — Channel 12, KPTV-TV, 11:00 a.m. Sat.
RENO — Channel 2, KTVN-TV, 3:00 p.m. Sat.
SACRAMENTO — Channel 13, KQVR-TV, 11:00 a.m. Sun.
SALINAS — Channel 8, KSBW-TV, 5:00 p.m. Sun.
TACOMA — Channel 11, KSTW-TV, 11:30 a.m. Sat.

CANADIAN STATIONS

Atlantic Time

***HALIFAX** — Channel 5, CJCH-TV, 2:00 p.m. Sun.
***MONCTON N.B.** — Channel 2, CKCW-TV, 2:00 p.m. Sun.
ST. JOHN'S — Channel 6, CJON-TV, 1:00 p.m. Sun.
SYDNEY — Channel 4, CJCB-TV, 2:00 p.m. Sun.

Eastern Time

BARRIE — Channel 3, CKVR-TV, 12:00 p.m. Sun.
KINGSTON — Channel 11, CKWS-TV, 12:30 p.m. Sat.
MONTREAL — Channel 12, CFCF-TV, 5:30 p.m. Sun.
***NORTH BAY** — Channel 4, CHNB-TV, 1 p.m. Sun.
PETERBOROUGH — Channel 12, CHEX-TV, 12:30 p.m. Sat.
QUEBEC CITY — Channel 5, CKMI-TV, 12:00 noon Sun.
SAULT STE. MARIE — Channel 2, CJIC-TV, 9:30 a.m. Sat.
SUDBURY — Channel 9, CKNC-TV, 1:00 p.m. Sun.
THUNDER BAY — Channel 4, CHFD-TV, 1:30 p.m. Sun.
TIMMINS — Channel 6, CFCL-TV, 1:00 p.m. Sun.

Central Time

BRANDON — Channel 5, CKX-TV, 12:30 p.m. Sun.
REGINA — Channel 2, CKCK-TV, 12 noon Sun.
SASKATOON — Channel 8, CFQC-TV, 12 noon Sun.
SWIFT CURRENT — Channel 5, CJFB-TV, 11:30 p.m. Sun.
WINNIPEG — Channel 7, CKY-TV, 12 noon Sun.
YORKTON — Channel 3, CKOS-TV, 12 noon Sun.

CALGARY — Channel 4, CFCN-TV, 1:00 p.m. Sun.
EDMONTON — Channel 3, CFRN-TV, 11:00 a.m. Sun.
LLOYDMINSTER — Channel 2, CKSA-TV, 1:00 p.m. Sun.

DAWSON CREEK — Channel 5, CJDC-TV, 4:30 p.m. Sun.
VANCOUVER — Channel 8, CHAN-TV, 11:30 a.m. Sun.
VICTORIA — Channel 6, CHEK-TV, 11:30 a.m. Sun.
WHITEHORSE — Channels 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 13, WHTV-TV, 7:00 p.m. Sun.

This is only a partial listing. For a Worldwide Radio/TV Log please check inside cover and write to the office nearest you. Some time periods subject to occasional pre-emption. Please check your local listing for possible time or day changes.
* denotes new stations or changes.

AKRON — **WSLR**, 1350 kc., 5:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun., 8:30 p.m. Sun., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
ALLENTOWN — **WSAN**, 1470 kc., 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
ASHEVILLE — **WWNC**, 570 kc., 11:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
ATHENS — **WDOL**, 1470 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
BALTIMORE — **WTOW**, 1570 kc., 3:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
BINGHAMTON — **WKOP** 1360 kc., 8:00 a.m. Sun.
BLUEFIELD — **WKQY**, 1240 kc., 12:00 noon Mon.-Sat., 1:30 p.m. Sun.
BROCKTON — **WBET AM & FM** 1460 kc., 97.7 mc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CAYCE — **WCAY**, 620 kc., 12:00 noon Mon.-Fri.
***CHARLESTON** — **WCHS**, 580 kc., 10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CHATTANOOGA — **WDEF AM & FM**, 1370 kc., 92.3 mc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 6:30 p.m. Sun.
CHESAPEAKE — **WCPK**, 1600 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CINCINNATI — **WLW**, 700 kc., 11:00 p.m. Sun.
CINCINNATI — **WZIP**, 1050 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
***CLEVELAND** — **WERE**, 1300 kc., 8:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
COLUMBUS — **WWVY-FM**, 104.9 mc., 6:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
***DAYTON** — **WONE**, 980 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 9:00 p.m. Sun.
DECATUR — **WQAK**, 1310 kc., 10:05 a.m. Sun.
DETROIT — **WLDM-FM**, 95.5 mc., 7:15 a.m. Mon.-Fri., 9:00 a.m. Sun.
FAIRFIELD — **WCNW** 1560 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
FINDLAY, OH. — **WFIN**, 1330 kc., 10:30 a.m. Sun.
FLINT — **WKMF**, 1470 kc., 10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
FORT WAYNE — **WGL**, 1250 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

FRANKLIN — WFTN 1240 kc., 12:00 noon Mon.-Fri.
GAINESVILLE — WAKA, 1390 kc., 7:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
GAYLORD — WATC, 900 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
GLOVERSVILLE — WENT 1340 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
GREENVILLE — WNCT AM & FM 1070 kc. & 107.7 mc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
HAMMONTON — WRDI, 1580 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
HAMMONTON, N.J. — WRDR-FM, 104.9 mc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
HARRISONBURG — WHP, 580 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
*HORSEHEAD, N.Y. — WENY, 1230 kc., 9:30 a.m. Sun.
INDIANAPOLIS — WBRI, 1500 kc., 2:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
JACKSONVILLE — WBIX, 1010 kc., 10:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
JACKSONVILLE, FL. — WCMG, 1090 kc., 12 noon daily.
JOHNSTOWN — WJAC, 850 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
KINGSFORT — WKPT, 1400 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
KISSIMEE — WFIV, 1080 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
KNOXVILLE — WSKT, 1580 kc., 8:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
LANCASTER — WXRL, 1300 kc., 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
LAURINBURG — WSTS-FM, 96.5 mc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
LENOIR — WJRI, 1340 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
LONDON — WFTG, 1400 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
LOUISVILLE — WFIA AM & FM, 900 kc., 103.9 mc., 11:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri. AM; 7:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri. FM
LOUISVILLE — WHAS, 840 kc., 11:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 8:00 p.m. Sun.
MIAMI — WIOD, 610 kc., 11:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
*MIDDLETOWN — WCNX, 1150 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
*MIDLAND — WMPX, 1490 kc., 10:15 a.m. Sun.
*MONTGOMERY — WMGY, 800 kc., 10:00 a.m. Sun.
MONTPELIER — WSKI, 1240 kc., 6:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
NEW HAVEN — WELI, 960 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 9:30 p.m. Sun.
NEW ROCHELLE — WVOX, 1460 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 10:00 a.m. Sun.
NEW YORK — WOR, 710 kc., 6:30 a.m. & 11:30 p.m. Sun., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
NIAGARA FALLS — WHLD, 1270 kc., 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
PHILADELPHIA — WRCP, 1540 kc., 12 noon, Mon.-Fri., 10:30 a.m. Sun.
*PIKEVILLE — WPKE, 1240 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PITTSBURGH — WPIT, 730 kc., 12 noon, Mon.-Fri., 11:00 a.m. Sun.
PITTSBURGH — KQV, 1410 kc., 10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PORTSMOUTH — WIOI, 1010 kc., 12:35 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PROVIDENCE — WJAR, 920 kc., 11:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
RALEIGH — WPTF, 680 kc., 1:15 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 9:30 a.m. Sun.
*RICHMOND — WRVA, 1140 kc., 10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
ROANOKE — WFIR, 960 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
ROCHESTER — WHAM, 1180 kc., 11:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 10:00 a.m. Sun.
ROCHESTER — WWNH, 930 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SAVANNAH — WSAV, 630 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SCRANTON — WGBI, 910 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
SHEFFIELD — WSHF, 1290 kc., 9:30 a.m. Sun.

SPRINGFIELD — WACE, 730 kc., 12 noon
Mon.-Fri. & Sun.

***STATESBORO — WWNS**, 1240 kc., 7:00 p.m.
Mon.-Fri.

***SYRACUSE — WSOQ**, 1220 kc., 6:30 a.m.
Mon.-Fri.

TAMPA — WINQ, 1010 kc., 5:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

***TOLEDO — WSPD**, 1370 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-
Fri. & Sun.

UNIONTOWN — WMBS, 590 kc., 9:30 a.m. Sun.

VALDOSTA — WGAF, 910 kc., 10:30 a.m. Sun.

WALTERBORO — WALD, 1060 kc., 12:00 noon
Mon.-Fri.

WARREN, OH. — WHHH, 1440 kc., 10:30 a.m.
Sun.

WASHINGTON D.C. — WKYS-FM, 93.9 mc.,
9:00 a.m. Sun.

WASHINGTON D.C. — WRC, 980 kc., 9:00 a.m.
Sun.

WATERBURY — WDEV, 550 kc., 6:30 p.m.
Mon.-Fri.

WINTER GARDEN — WHLY-FM, 106.7 mc.,
7:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.

WHEELING — WWVA, 1170 kc., 5:00 a.m.
Mon.-Fri., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun., 10:30
a.m. & 11:30 p.m. Sun.

APPLETON — WAPL AM & FM, 1570 kc., 105.7 mc., 6:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
***ATOKA — KEOR-AM**, 1110 kc., 4:25 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
ATOKA — KTEN-FM, 93.3 mc., 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
AUSTIN — KLBj, 590 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 9:30 a.m. Sun.
BIRMINGHAM — WYDE, 850 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 6:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Sun.
BOWLING GREEN — WLBj, 1410 kc., 5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CHICAGO — WMAQ, 670 kc., 5:05 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
COFFEYVILLE — KGGF, 960 kc., 5:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri., 6:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
***DALLAS — KLIF**, 1190 kc., 7:30 a.m. Sun.
***DALLAS — KRLD**, 1080 kc., 11:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
DE FUNIAK SPRINGS, FL. — WGTX, 1280 kc., WQUH-FM, 103.1, 12:15 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
DES MOINES — KWKY, 1150 kc., 12:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., & Sun.
DULUTH — WDSM, 710 kc., 6:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
EAST GRAND FORKS, N.D. — KRAD AM & FM, 1590 kc., 103.9 mc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
EDEN PRAIRIE, MN. — KRSl, 8:00 p.m. Mon.-Sun.
EVANSVILLE — WJPS, 1330 kc., 10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
EVANSVILLE — WVHI-FM, 105.3 mc., 4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
FAYETTEVILLE — KFAY, 1250 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
GADSDEN — WAAX 570 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 12 noon, Sun.
GLADEWATER — KESs, 1430 kc., 12 noon Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
GRAND FORKS — KRAD AM & FM, 1590 kc., 103.9 mc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
GREEN BAY — WGEE, 1360 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
HOUSTON, MS. — WCPC, 940 kc., 4:30 p.m. Sun.
HOUSTON, TX. — KPRC, 950 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
IOWA CITY — KXIC, 800 kc., 6:05 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
JACKSON — WTJS, 1390 kc., 7:00 p.m. Sun.
***JONESBORO — KNEA**, 970 kc., 11:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
KANSAS CITY — KMBZ, 980 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
LAKE CHARLES — KLCL, 1470 kc., 10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
LENOIR CITY — WLIL, 730 kc., 8:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
***LIBERAL, KS. — KSCB**, 1270 kc., 10:30 a.m. Sun.

LITTLE ROCK — KAAY, 1090 kc., 7:30 p.m. daily, 9:30 a.m. Sun., 5:15 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
MAGEE, MS. — WSJC, 810 kc., 10:00 a.m. Sun.
MEMPHIS — WREC, 600 kc., 11:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
MIDLAND — KWEL, 1600 kc., 11:30 a.m. Sun.
MILWAUKEE — WISN, 1130 kc., 11:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
MOBILE — WKRG, 710 kc., & 99.9 mc. 11:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri., & 7:30 a.m. Sun. 8:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun. (FM).
MONROE — KREB-FM, 106.4 mc., 5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
MT. VERNON — WMIX, 940 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
NASHVILLE — WSIX, 980 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 8:00 p.m. Sun.
NEW ORLEANS — WWL, 870 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
OKLAHOMA CITY — KTOK, 1000 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
PADUCAH — WDXR, 1560 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PAMPA — KGRO, 1230 kc., 6:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PANAMA CITY — WPCF, 1430 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PEORIA — WMBD, 1470 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
ROCHESTER — KOLM, 1520 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
ROLLA — KCLU AM & FM, 1590 kc., 94.3 mc., 12:25 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
RUSSELLVILLE — KARV, 1490 kc., 10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
ST. JOSEPH — KUSN, 1270 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
ST. PAUL — KRSI, 950 kc., 8:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
SAN ANTONIO — WOAI, 1200 kc., 5:00 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 7:30 p.m. Sun.
***SHERMAN — KTXO**, 1500 kc., 4:45 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SIoux FALLS, S.D. — KIOV-FM, 104.7 mc. 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SIoux CITY, IO. — KSCJ, 1360 kc., 6:15 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
TEXARKANA — KOSY, 790 kc., 5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
VICTORIA — KTXN-FM, 98.7 mc., 9:30 a.m. Sun.
WATERLOO — KXEL, 1540 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 8:00 p.m. Sun., 105.7 mc. FM, 8:30 a.m. Sun.
WATERTOWN — KWAT-FM, 96.1 mc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Mountain Time

ALBUQUERQUE — KOB, 770 kc., 11:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
ARVADA — QXQI, 1550 kc., 1:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
BLACKFOOT — KBLI, 690 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
BOISE — KAIN, 1340 kc., 6:55 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
CASPER — KTWO, 1030 kc., 6:05 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
DENVER — KOA, 850 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 7:00 p.m. Sun.
DURANGO — KIUP, 930 kc., 6:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
FARMINGTON — KRZE, 1280 kc., 6:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
KALISPELL — KOFI, 1180 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
***LAS CRUCES — KGRT**, 570 kc., 10:00 a.m. Sun.
***MISSOULA — KGVO**, 1290 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
ONTARIO, OR. — KSRV, 1380 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PRESCOTT — KYCA, 1490 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SALT LAKE CITY — KSL, 1160 kc., 5:06 a.m. & 11:06 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 5:30 a.m. & 11:25 p.m. Sun.
TUCSON — KTUC, 1400 kc., 12:45 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun., 6:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri., 6:30 a.m. Sun.
WHEATLAND — KYCN, 1340 kc., 5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Pacific Time

AUBURN, WA. — KGRG, 89.9 mc., 12:00 noon Sun.
CHICO, CA. — KHSL, 1290 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
COVINA — KGRB, 900 kc., KOB-FM, 98.3 mc., 12 noon Mon.-Fri., 9:00 a.m. Sun.
EUGENE — KATR, 1320 kc., 7:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
FRESNO — KBIF, 900 kc., 1:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
KEALUKEKUA, HI. — KKON, 790 kc., 6:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
LAS VEGAS — KTRI-FM, 92.3 mc., 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
LOS ANGELES — KLAC, 570 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m. Sun.
MEDFORD — KAGN-FM, 98.5 mc., 8:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
MEDFORD — KSHA, 860 kc., 7:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
OLYMPIA — KITN, 920 kc., 6:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
***PASCO — KOTY**, 1340 kc., 1:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 12:00 p.m. Sun.
PORTLAND — KLIQ, 1290 kc., 7:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
PORTLAND — KWJJ, 1080 kc., 9:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 9:30 p.m. Sun.
SACRAMENTO — KRAK, 1140 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SALINAS — KTOM, 1380 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SAN DIEGO — KSDO, 1130 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
SAN FRANCISCO — KFMR-FM, 104.9 mc., 8:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
SAN FRANCISCO — KNBR, 680 kc., 11:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SAN FRANCISCO — KKIS, 990 kc., 10:00 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
SEATTLE — KIRO, 710 kc., 5:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SEATTLE — KXA, 770 kc., 7:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
SEWARD — KRXA, 950 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SPOKANE — KICN-FM, 99.0 mc., 12:00 noon Mon.-Fri.
VISTA, CA. — KMLO, 100 kc., 9:00 a.m. Sun.
WAIPAHUA, HI. — KAHU, 940 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
YAKIMA — KUTI-FM, 104.5 mc., 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.

CANADIAN STATIONS

Newfoundland Time

BAIE-VERTE. — CKIM, 1240 kc., 6:00 p.m. daily.
CLARENVILLE — CKVO, 710 kc., 6:00 p.m. daily.
GANDER — CKGA, 730 kc., 6:00 p.m. daily.
GRAND FALLS — CKCM, 620 kc., 6:00 p.m. daily.
MARYSTOWN — CHCM, 560 kc., 6:00 p.m. daily.
ST. JOHN'S — VOCM, 590 kc., 6:00 p.m. daily.

Atlantic Time

CAMPBELLTON — CKNB, 950 kc., 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 p.m. Sat.
FREDERICTON — CFNB, 550 kc., 10:05 p.m. daily.
MONCTON — CKCW, 1220 kc., 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
NEWCASTLE — CFAN, 790 kc., 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
***SAINT JOHN — CFBC**, 930 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SYDNEY — CJCB, 1270 kc., 6:00 p.m. daily.
YARMOUTH — CJLS, 1340 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.

Eastern Time

BLIND RIVER — CJNR, 730 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.

BRANTFORD — CKPC, 1380 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
CORNWALL — CJSS, 1220 kc., 10:30 p.m. daily.
DAUPHIN, MAN. — CKDM, 730 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
DRYDEN, ONT. — CKDR, 900 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 10:30 p.m. Sun.
ELLIOT LAKE — CKNR, 1340 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
FT. FRANCIS — CFOB, 800 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. 10:30 p.m. Sun.
HULL — CKCH, (French) 7:00 a.m. Sun.
KINGSTON — CKWS, 960 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
KIRKLAND LAKE — CJKL, 560 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
LEAMINGTON — CHYR, 710 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
LINDSAY — CKLY, 910 kc., 10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
***MONTREAL — CFMB**, 1410 kc., 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
MONTREAL (French) — CFMB, 1410 kc., 5:00 p.m. Sat. & Sun.
NEW LISKEARD — CJTT, 1230 kc., 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
NORTH BAY — CFCH, 600 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
PEMBROKE — CHOV, 1350 kc., 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
QUEBEC — CKCV (French) 1280 kc., 7:00 a.m. Sun.
RIMOUSKI — CJBR (French) 900 kc., 7:00 a.m. Sun.
STE. AGATHE — CJSA (French) 1230 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon. Wed., Fri.
SAULT STE. MARIE — CKCY, 920 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
SHERBROOKE — CHLT, (French) 630 kc., 7:30 a.m. Sun.
SMITHS FALLS — CJET, 630 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
THETFORD MINES — CKLD, (French) 7:00 a.m. Sun.
***THUNDER BAY — CJSD-FM**, 94.3 mc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
THUNDER BAY — CKPR, 580 kc., 9:30 p.m. Sun.
TIMMINS — CKGB, 680 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 10:00 p.m. Sat.
TROIS RIVIERES — CHLH, (French) 550 kc., 7:00 a.m. Sun.

Central Time

KENORA — CJRL, 1220 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE — CFFR, 920 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
PRINCE ALBERT — CKBI, 900 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
REGINA — CKRM, 980 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.
SASKATOON — CFQC, 600 kc., 8:30 p.m. daily.
SWIFT CURRENT — CKSW, 1400 kc., 10:30 p.m. daily.
WINNIPEG — CKJS, 810 kc., 9:00 p.m. daily.
YORKTON — CJGX, 940 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.

Mountain Time

CAMROSE — CFCW, 790 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
CROWSNEST PASS — CJPR, 1490 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun.

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 * denotes new stations or changes.

IN BRIEF

A VISIT WITH IAN SMITH

by Stanley R. Rader

The author accompanies Plain Truth Editor-in-Chief Herbert W. Armstrong on his frequent visits with heads of state and other leading international dignitaries.

SALISBURY, RHODESIA, November 29, 1976: We have just left the office of Prime Minister Ian Smith. Much has happened in this part of the world since our first visit last May. In fact, nothing is the same in the Republic of South Africa, as well as Rhodesia, since June 16, when the first mass rioting began in the black township of Soweto, a suburb of Johannesburg.

Shortly after the onset of the riots, Prime Minister John Vorster of the Republic of South Africa flew to Europe to meet with Secretary of State Kissinger (a meeting that had been planned for some time) in order to discuss the problems of the southern part of the troubled African continent. At that time Mr. Kissinger had not as yet visited South Africa or Rhodesia, but had made a much-publicized "swing" into the black African states and had made many statements proclaiming United States support for "black-majority" rule — statements which, of course, militated against the governments of Mr. Vorster and Mr. Smith.

Later in the summer, Mr. Kissinger visited Africa again, and this time his journey included a series of meetings in Pretoria — the administrative capital of South Africa — first with Mr. Vorster, and finally with Mr. Vorster and Mr. Smith. At these meetings the position of Rhodesia in relation to the rest of southern Africa, and indeed to the Western nations, was discussed in great detail, and it was made clear

to Mr. Smith that the pressure from the free world would continue to mount as long as the present circumstances in Rhodesia prevailed.

These same meetings led to an acceptance by Prime Minister Smith and the rest of his cabinet of the proposals made by Mr. Kissinger, working in close consultation with the British government. This, in turn, led to the conference presently in session in Geneva, where representatives of the Rhodesian government and the Black Nationalist leaders are meeting under the auspices of the British government and Mr. Ivor Richard. Unfortunately, as the Prime Minister told us today, it was apparent to him that the Black Nationalist leaders did not intend to abide by the five-point program that constituted the Rhodesian government's

acceptance of the Kissinger proposal. Although the Prime Minister indicated that he was ready and willing to return to Geneva, he would not do so unless there was some real possibility that the other parties would be getting down to discussing the real business of the conference.

Prime Minister Smith had agreed to an independent, majority-ruled government within two years, during which time there would be an interim government — two-tiered — a council of state, evenly divided between black and white, with a white chairman, and a council of ministers led by a black prime minister. The ministries of Defense and Law and Order would remain under the jurisdiction of the whites, a provision intended to preclude a sudden emigration of the white population. Mr. Smith emphasized that the preliminary agreement that was responsible for the Geneva conference did not give the answers to all of the problems, but it did present an opportunity to all

(Continued on page 43)

MR. STANLEY RADER meets Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith in the Prime Minister's office in Salisbury, November 29, 1976.



Human Survival

And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved . . . Matthew 24:22



AERIAL PRAYER — South Dakota farmer Don Clelland needs rain after one of the most severe droughts in the state's history, and he isn't afraid to advertise to low-flying aircraft. Clelland plowed the message into a stubble field.

LIVING IN THE SHADOW OF WORLDWIDE FAMINE

A News Bureau Staff Report

America, the land of plenty, breadbasket of the world! For nearly 200 years American food stocks have comfortably fed America's people and for the past three decades filled much of the food needs of the increasing number of food-short nations.

To Western eyes, food shortages occur only in lands where gaunt oxen pull knotty wooden plows through impoverished soils amid squalid huts. Famine and hunger are problems south of the border or far across the ocean.

But could famines such as re-

cently afflicted Sub-Sahara in Africa and Bangladesh ever strike in the prosperous developed nations of North America and Western Europe?

Record Drought in Breadbasket Nations

In recent months some of the worst droughts on record have hit key areas of the world.

Last summer the worst dry spell and heat wave in over a hundred years hit England, northwestern France, West Germany, northern Italy and parts of Belgium. For Brit-

ain the drought was the worst in 250 years. Extra food and animal fodder had to be imported to make up for the unprecedented drought.

In the United States, northern California, the Dakotas and Minnesota were especially hard hit by drought, as were sections of Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska.

Farmers in South Dakota and Minnesota have suffered the worst. Dale D. Gullickson, director of marketing and agricultural development for the South Dakota Department of Agriculture, calls it "the most serious drought in South Dakota this

century." He estimates drought-related agricultural losses for the state for 1976 to be "around a billion dollars."

A report prepared by the drought task force in South Dakota says that "statewide, it can be seen that estimated crop production in 1976 is 55.5% below the average 1967-74 level." In some counties, crop decreases are estimated at 90% or more. As for cattle, according to the task force report, farmers and ranchers in 17 counties "are expected to experience a reduction in cattle numbers of more than 50%."

The Minnesota Farmers Union estimates drought losses in that state at \$1.15 billion for 53 of 87 counties. According to one U.S. agriculture official: "The drought has been more intensely localized in South Dakota, parts of Minnesota and Iowa. But there has been a lack of rainfall in much of the region stretching from southern Wisconsin and western Ohio all the way to northern Missouri, eastern Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and southern Minnesota."

The ten-state region he outlined is often called the Corn Belt, but it accounts also for much of the country's production of soybeans, oats, hay, alfalfa and wheat, as well as beef and dairy cattle.

On America's west coast, California farmers, who provide much of the nation's food, lost more than \$1 billion worth of crops during 1976 because of the winter drought, two harvest-time strikes, a damaging freeze and unseasonable rains. The California Farm Bureau warned on November 28 that another dry winter would produce a new round of severe agricultural losses. It called 1976 "one of the most damaging and frustrating production years in history."

"Nearly every farmer suffered to some extent, but for some time the losses were catastrophic," said Fred Heringer, bureau president. "Production from entire orchards was lost; cattlemen without feed or pasture were forced to liquidate."

Far from the United States, in Australia, one of the world's key food-exporting nations, drought conditions reduced a previously forecast 1976 wheat crop of 12 mil-

lion tons to only around 8 million. In southern Australia many key cropland and grazing areas had no more than 10% of their normal rainfall during their 1976 growing season. Millions of sheep and thousands of head of cattle had to be killed.

Ominous Weather Trends

The paradox of overall near-record food crops in the U.S. at the same time of spotty but severe drought is no source of peace of mind to agricultural experts, who realize that the bountiful yields of recent years have largely been achieved through the release into production of lands once held in reserve. They also know that much of the credit for tremendous yield increases over the last 15 years should be attributed to *optimum weather conditions* which prevailed until 1974. According to John McQuigg, a leading government climatologist at the University of Missouri: "The probability of getting another fifteen consecutive years that good is about one in 10,000."

For the past several years, leading climatologists have been warning that the United States may be headed for some tough weather years if certain adverse weather cycles of the past are repeated. There is some pretty hard evidence that there have been at least eight successive dry periods east of the Rockies spaced 20 to 22 years apart. No one knows for sure why they occur, but there are plenty of theories (many focus on sunspot activity).

At the same time there appears to be a major global change in weather patterns. Many meteorologists feel a gradual cooling trend is going on, at least in the Northern Hemisphere. Other scientists are not sure.

Scientists generally do agree, however, with the observation of J. Murray Mitchell Jr. of the U.S. National Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration: "From the agricultural productivity point of view the climate's not going to get better. It can only get worse.... If there's anything we can be reasonably confident about in terms of projections of future climate, it is that *the climate of our crop-growing areas will become more variable than it has*

been in the recent past" (emphasis ours throughout article).

Drought Already Overdue

According to leading weather officials, a major drought is already overdue in the American Great Plains — now the world's most important breadbasket. A few years ago, Dr. Walter Orr Roberts, director of the National Center for Atmospheric Research, said: "I personally am watching very intently for a drought in the mid-1970's in the high plains."

Dr. Irving Krick, noted long-range weather forecaster, told *Plain Truth* researchers: "Now we think that the latter half of the seventies will bring more general drought extending from the Southwest up, encroaching farther north and east into the grain belts of Kansas, the corn areas of Iowa, Illinois, and so forth."

Dr. Stephen H. Schneider, research scientist at the Boulder, Colorado, weather research center, also told our interviewers in 1974: "I would say that the odds of having drought conditions in the seventies are probably higher than they were in the sixties without any theory at all — just because we've had a very good stretch in the last fifteen years in the United States."

Henry Lansford of the National Center for Atmospheric Research near Boulder, Colorado, adds that "it will not take an apocalyptic event such as the onset of a new ice age to bring human suffering from famine. Even if no long-term changes in climate are forthcoming, the immediate potential appears to be deadly serious. The climate, trends that some scientists are predicting could bring us to a point of catastrophic consequences between the increasing population and inadequate food supplies much sooner than many people expect."

Finally, Reid Bryson, noted University of Wisconsin climatologist, says: "The evidence is now abundantly clear that the climate of the earth is changing in a direction that is not promising in terms of our ability to feed the world."

World's Gravest Problem

Weather uncertainties in the food-exporting nations could not come at

a more serious juncture in human history. At a recent world food conference it was pointed out that in 25 years — or about one generation — world food production must more than double to give the rapidly increasing world population just a little improvement in food quantity, and hopefully, quality.

The same conference projected that food *deficits* of the developing countries by 1985 will amount to a staggering 80 to over 100 million tons annually. Such deficits, in the words of Dr. John A. Hannah, executive director of the U.N. World Food Council, are “too high to be considered manageable, physically or financially. And these shocking shortfalls will greatly increase with each weather disaster.” Thus, adds Dr. Hannah: “The challenge of providing food for hungry people . . . is the greatest challenge of the last quarter of the twentieth century.”

Dr. Raymond Ewell, a leading fertilizer expert from the State University of New York, goes one step further, labeling the world food crisis “the biggest, most fundamental, and most nearly insoluble problem that has ever faced the human race.”

Why is this so? *Simply because the world today consists almost entirely of food-deficit countries.* “Important exporters at the global level,” writes food expert Lester R. Brown, “can be numbered on the fingers of one hand. While scores of new food importers have emerged over the past two decades, not a single new exporter has emerged!”

If the trends of the past several years continue, writes Brown in the December 1976 issue of *The Futurist*, “the collective import needs of the 100-plus importing countries eventually will greatly exceed the exportable supplies from North America, particularly when the harvest is poor. Inevitably, harsh decisions will have to be made by the U.S. and Canadian governments on who gets food and who does not. . . .”

Brown's prognosis sounds very similar to the conclusions reached by William and Paul Paddock in their book *Famine 1975, Who Will Survive?* (published in 1967 by Little, Brown and Company, Boston and Toronto). The Paddock broth-

ers concluded that not all countries could possibly be helped in a future world food crisis; that those who stood a chance to survive should be helped (“the walking wounded”) but that other poor, overpopulated, chronically food-short lands would simply have to be left to fend for themselves.

The world food-trade pattern has been “altered profoundly in recent decades” adds Brown. Within only one generation, virtually the entire world has come to depend on North American food exports. Asia, Africa, Latin America, Western Europe, and Eastern Europe, including the Soviet Union, are now all *net grain importers*. Much of the food imported into these regions is used to feed burgeoning urban populations. And by the year 2000 the world will be half urban — up from 29% in 1950.

“Not only are nearly all countries today food importers,” explains Brown, “but a growing number now import over half of their grain supplies. Among these are Japan, Belgium, Senegal, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Lebanon, Switzerland and Algeria. Others rapidly approaching a similar degree of dependence on imported foodstuffs include Portugal, Costa Rica, Sri Lanka (Ceylon), South Korea and Egypt. . . .”

Brown's conclusion: “Overwhelming dependence by the world's cities [and nations] on imported food supplies from a single geographic region in a world of food scarcity brings with it a vulnerability to external political forces and climatic trends that is risky indeed.”

Production Limits Reached in U.S.

The dependency factor is deeply disturbing in light of agricultural conditions under way in North America. Even aside from bad weather, other factors are not promising. For one, yields of every major crop, whether it be wheat, corn or rice, have leveled off after years of unprecedented increases. Cost-effective fertilizer usage also seems to have reached a limit. In addition, as previously noted, “soil-bank” croplands have already been put back into use, leaving little expandable land in reserve.

Then, too, environmental con-

cerns over older broad-spectrum insecticides and pesticides have disrupted the war against insects and other pests.

Plant geneticists, furthermore, see no breakthroughs on the horizon in the form of new super-yield crop varieties. They are instead working as fast as they can — on a treadmill, as it were — just to maintain the constant flow of new-enough varieties intended only to keep ahead of all the rats, molds, mildews and insects which in themselves constantly mutate in reaction to the man-made poisons.

Most Critical Factor

Weather remains the single most critical factor, however, in the world food picture. Yet weather seems to have become a highly unpredictable, variable element.

According to H. James Tippet, chief of the grain section of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Statistical Reporting Service, the most confounding feature of the South Dakota drought, for example, has been the irregular pattern of rainfall. Some areas have remained bone-dry all year long but nearby areas have received adequate rainfall and are either normal or above average in production.

Although 53 of South Dakota's 67 counties have suffered major crop losses, at least 12 other counties in the western half of the state have remained untouched by the drought. In nine of those counties, production is actually up.

How similar to a rather obscure passage in one of the minor prophets of the Old Testament: “And also I have withholden the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest: and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it rained not withered. So two or three cities wandered unto one city, to drink water . . . yet HAVE YE NOT RETURNED UNTO ME, SAITH THE LORD” (Amos 4:7-8).

Worst Thing That Can Happen to a Nation

Believe it or not, the moral condition of a country is directly linked to

its material well-being. Is it only a coincidence that as American and many other Western societies engage more liberally in immorality, sexual perversion, "liberation" movements of every stripe, as well as top-level and governmental corruption — they also find themselves afflicted with puzzling, frustrating problems in their agricultural sectors?

There is a link. There is a God, and the moral condition of a nation can cause that God to intervene directly — for a blessing or a cursing — in the forces of nature.

The Bible contains examples of God changing weather patterns either to bless a people or to punish nations for their mounting national sins. God warned the sin-laden Israelites that, if they continued in their iniquities, he would withdraw his blessings — such as rain — from them: *"Therefore the showers have been withheld, and the spring rain has not come"* (Jeremiah 3:3, RSV; see also Jeremiah 14:22; Isaiah 5:6).

Continuously, God warned the ancient Israelites of the reason for protracted spells of inclement weather: *"When heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee..."* (1 Kings 8:35; see also Amos 4:6-9).

God promised His people: *"If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them; then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit"* (Leviticus 26:3-4).

But God also gave a prophetic warning, applicable in principle to any proud nation that forsakes God and refuses to turn from its national sins: *"I will break the pride of your power; and I will make your heaven as iron [endless days of scorching sun], and your earth as brass [drought-hardened earth]... for your land shall not yield her increase"* (verses 19-20).

In our resource-hungry world, America prides itself on its agricultural power on the international scene. But how quickly that "pride" could be broken by the one who ultimately controls the powerful forces of the weather. □

IN BRIEF

(Continued from page 39)

Rhodesians to work out amongst themselves, without interference from the outside, a future constitution. Mr. Smith emphasized that he "remained dedicated to the ideal of doing all that he could to ensure that Rhodesia remains a country in which all, of whatever race or color, can live and work and prosper together in peace, harmony and stability."

He emphasized that, despite the incessant pressure upon him, his government and the people, the nation's morale and confidence was still high and, as in the past, whatever sacrifice would be necessary would be made in order to secure for all what should be the destiny of Rhodesia.

The Prime Minister emphasized that he and his government had always stood for evolution as contrasted with revolution. Earlier I had been asked on a Rhodesian broadcast interview (and again the following day for Rhodesian television) whether we of *The Plain Truth* were not in fact "conservatives." I had stated that the answer would be in the affirmative if one meant by "conservative" one who believes in change, but change without chaos and change which would produce the greatest amount of good for the greatest number of people.

Even as the conference continues in Geneva, the activities of the terrorists (trained and operating from havens outside of Rhodesia

and supplied with Chinese and Russian weapons) have been increasing. We were invited to visit a guerrilla-infested "operational" area, located within a hundred miles of Salisbury. We were part of a contingent of radio, television and pressmen from all parts of the world who were briefed by Security Forces in the presence of 18 dead terrorists — killed only a few days before — and brought to the Security Forces command area at Rusape for identification. The dead bodies bore witness to the evils of warfare and to the reality of bloody guerrilla terrorist activity. Many of the dead, pathetic though it may be, wore black and red material and a token rosette around their necks, because the witch doctors in Mozambique had told them, according to the Security Forces spokesman, that the colors would give them protection against Security Forces' bullets. The terrorists were clothed in denims, rather than in uniforms, and weapons seized with them were of Russian or Chinese origin. All of the bodies were identified as being those of black Rhodesians, rather than of infiltrators from neighboring nations.

The Prime Minister and others are, of course, concerned about the future of American politics and policies in light of the recent election of Jimmy Carter. It is this journalist's opinion that President-Elect Carter will prove to be a great president, and, having been trained as an Annapolis graduate, he will fully understand, better than any president within recent times, the importance of southern Africa to the free world and the threat that communism poses for the area. And, being a Southerner by birth and having lived there his entire life, the president-elect will know better than any other president in recent times how truly difficult it is to resolve all problems in a multi-racial society, and how necessary it is that adequate time be allowed to bring about the changes which all enlightened people would opt for. □

NOTICE TO GOOD NEWS READERS

The series of articles on "Universal Salvation" commenced in *The Good News* magazine will not be continued in *The Plain Truth*. However, it will be available to those interested in the form of a reprint article. The reprint will contain all three projected articles originally planned for *The Good News*. If you would like a free copy write to the address of our office nearest you (see inside front cover).



Garner Ted Armstrong

SPEAKS OUT!

Our Family Life Stinks!

Something sinister is happening to the institution of the family and the home in the United States and throughout the Western world. The traditional structure of the family — the basic building block of a strong society — is being systematically destroyed! And we'd better wake up to the consequences!

The watchwords of the American home used to be terms such as *permanence, stability, security*. Father was the head of the home, the breadwinner, the wage earner. Mother was at home caring for the children and managing the house — and happy and proud of her role.

But in this day of women's "liberation" and changing sex roles, father, frequently, no longer assumes his dominant position, one upon whom the other family members depend. Mother, in addition, has left the home to seek "fulfillment" through a job of her own.

"But what's wrong with that?" many ask. "What difference does it make? Who's getting hurt?"

Who's getting hurt? The children are. The parents of future generations are. Look what's happening. Preschoolers often grow up without the vital parental contact, guidance and example so critical in those early formative years. School-aged children, returning to an empty house after school, are left to their own devices. The result is sometimes shocking.

Not long ago an appalling story appeared in the Los Angeles *Times*

which revealed that an estimated 30,000 children — primarily boys, ages six to 17 — in the Los Angeles area are being sexually abused by the thousands of "gay" perverts with which the city teems.

An investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department revealed that in nearly every instance, these victimized kids came from a broken or neglected home, a home in which no strong father figure was present, or a home where mom was at work, or where the parents had abandoned their parental responsibilities. Many of these youngsters, the report showed, are simply starved for a little affection. And so they fall easy prey to the seduction of homosexual deviates who ply the streets of L.A. looking for some sexual titillation while offering "love" to their victims.

Those children fortunate enough to avoid being victimized in such manner may instead become involved in juvenile crime, which is on the upswing nationwide.

Illegitimacy is also a growing threat to the family institution. Nationwide over 13% of all children are born to unmarried women, who — in 50% of the cases — are still *teenagers*. Nearly one million teenagers become pregnant every year. In fact, it was recently reported that having babies out of wedlock is actually becoming a *status symbol* among teenage girls!

Skyrocketing divorce rates are also assailing the family institution. Couples are throwing in the towel

and calling it quits more than ever before. One out of every three marriages in the United States ultimately ends in divorce. And again, it's the children who suffer.

Talk with some of the police officers who have to deal with the constant stream of juvenile offenders. Ask the officers about the family backgrounds of these kids, and they'll tell you about homes broken by divorce, abusive or neglectful parents, fathers who spend no time with their children, mothers who are rarely home.

Curiously, there are still those who say nobody is getting hurt, that the changes we're seeing relative to home and family are *positive*!

We in the United States and the nations of the Western world are bringing a *curse* upon ourselves, and many are too blind to see it. If we don't change our ways, turn around and halt the disintegration of the building blocks of family and home, then the entire structure of our society will come crashing down.

Many of the same mistakes that led to the ultimate collapse of the once-mighty Roman Empire are being repeated in America, Britain, and other Western nations. The disintegration of the home is only one of many factors speeding us along the same path. Write for our free booklet *The Modern Romans* for a comprehensive look at what lies in store — if we don't change our ways. □

COMING NEXT ISSUE . . .

A PEOPLE WHO "CAN'T AFFORD" TO TITHE

This article will discuss the biblical principle of tithing and the dramatic, bountiful blessings that accrue to the faithful tithe payer.

In the meantime, why not write for our free booklet entitled *TITHING*? It offers an informative, in-depth look at a practice that remains as vitally important today as it was in biblical times. Thousands of people have found that tithing is the best investment they ever made. (Please use the literature request coupon on the back cover.)

TWO PROPHETS

(Continued from page 16)

pantheon of Christendom. If we are to believe John, Paul, Stephen, Peter, Luke, Moses, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, etc., etc. were tellers of truth, then we must conclude that Jesus not only preexisted, but was indeed the God of the entire Bible, the Spokesman for the God family, the Word of the Lord, the Almighty God *Elohim* who spoke and there was light! This is not intended to be an establishment or defense of this truth — we have literature you can write for that does that — but merely an overview resume so you will understand the personal relationship the holy men of old had with the Son of God whom we worship.

So when Jesus told the critics of His day, "Before Abraham was I am"! He was being neither grammatically nor factually incorrect. When Jesus trod this earth as the physical son of man, He was not only filled with compassion for the multitudes of His generation, but remembered intimately and with godly depth of fondness all the spirits of just men made perfect in the many generations that had preceded His presence at Bethlehem. Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses were not just prophetically hoping about the coming of the Messiah in some future generation; they were direct recipients of personal promises from the One who became our Savior. They were not just empty, historical names Jesus had to learn about as a boy in Nazareth — to Him they were all old familiar friends to whom He had personally made eternal promises!

Old Familiar Friends

Besides the power of the Holy Spirit, the memories Jesus held of these men and women of the Bible who had all died in faith, believing in Him, must have sustained and inspired Him to fulfill His commission perfectly. Jesus anxiously looked forward to that day — yet to come — when He will call them from their graves to glory in His Kingdom. They may seem distant, almost un-human characters to us, but to Jesus they were all old familiar friends, all of whom He loved

enough to die for! And He did!

Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever — Hebrews 13:8 — so Jesus, by any other name, is just the same! And He had MANY names! Moses knew Him — better than you know your closest friend — as the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He knew Him as the *Elohim-God* who told Moses all the necessary details of those seven days of creation. Moses knew Him as *El Shaddai* — God Almighty — who sustained with His great power the forefathers of Moses. Moses knew Him as the God of the Covenants — *YHVH*, or *Jehovah* as some call Him — who made covenants with Adam, Noah and Abraham before He made His "Old Covenant" with Israel. Moses foreknew Him as Christ, his Savior, the Son of God — and he believed, and died in faith in Him! Jesus was no stranger to Moses — He was his Friend!

Moses the Octogenarian

After forty years of sheep tending on Sinai, being eighty years of age, Moses was at last ready to perform the commission for which he had been born. A commission that would take him yet another forty years to perform. The epic of the Exodus, the giving of the Law, the building of the nation Israel, the writing of the beginnings of the Bible, the establishment of the Levitical priesthood and the Tabernacle-cum-Temple services in the wilderness — all this and so much more lay

yet before Moses, the octogenarian. For Moses, life began at eighty!

But Moses didn't volunteer for the job. In fact, he was quite adamant in refusing it. He so pursued his reluctance to serve in the capacity that means "Moses" to most of us that he argued with God to the point of making Him angry! Moses brought up every excuse to avoid the commission God had for him. He reasoned, he begged, he squirmed, he suggested alternates, he told God He'd picked the wrong man — all to no avail as you and I well know. But what a tale that is!

Be sure to read it in the next issue of *The Plain Truth*. We all know Moses did the job — but the story of how it all happened will make you love that man Moses and that God Jesus so much more, you can't afford to miss it! □

(To Be Continued)

RECOMMENDED READING

David Jon Hill has served in the ministry for twenty years. He holds a master's degree in theology and is Senior Editor of this magazine—*The Plain Truth*. He has also written several booklets. Among them are two specifically about the "Book that nobody knows"—the Holy Bible. The reader is invited to write for *Read the Book* and *How To Study the Bible*. Many thousands have benefited by the little-known information in these two publications. Come to know your Bible by requesting these attractively printed booklets. Addresses are on the inside front cover.

Personal from...



(Continued from page 20)

the seventh angel blows the last trumpet! Then it continues on into the message of the TWO WITNESSES — also referred to and perhaps identified in Haggai and Zechariah. And THEY SHALL PREACH A LAST WARNING TO THE WHOLE WORLD FOR 3½ YEARS!

And it is not until after ALL THIS that the time element picks back up with the sounding of the seventh trumpet in chapter 11:15.

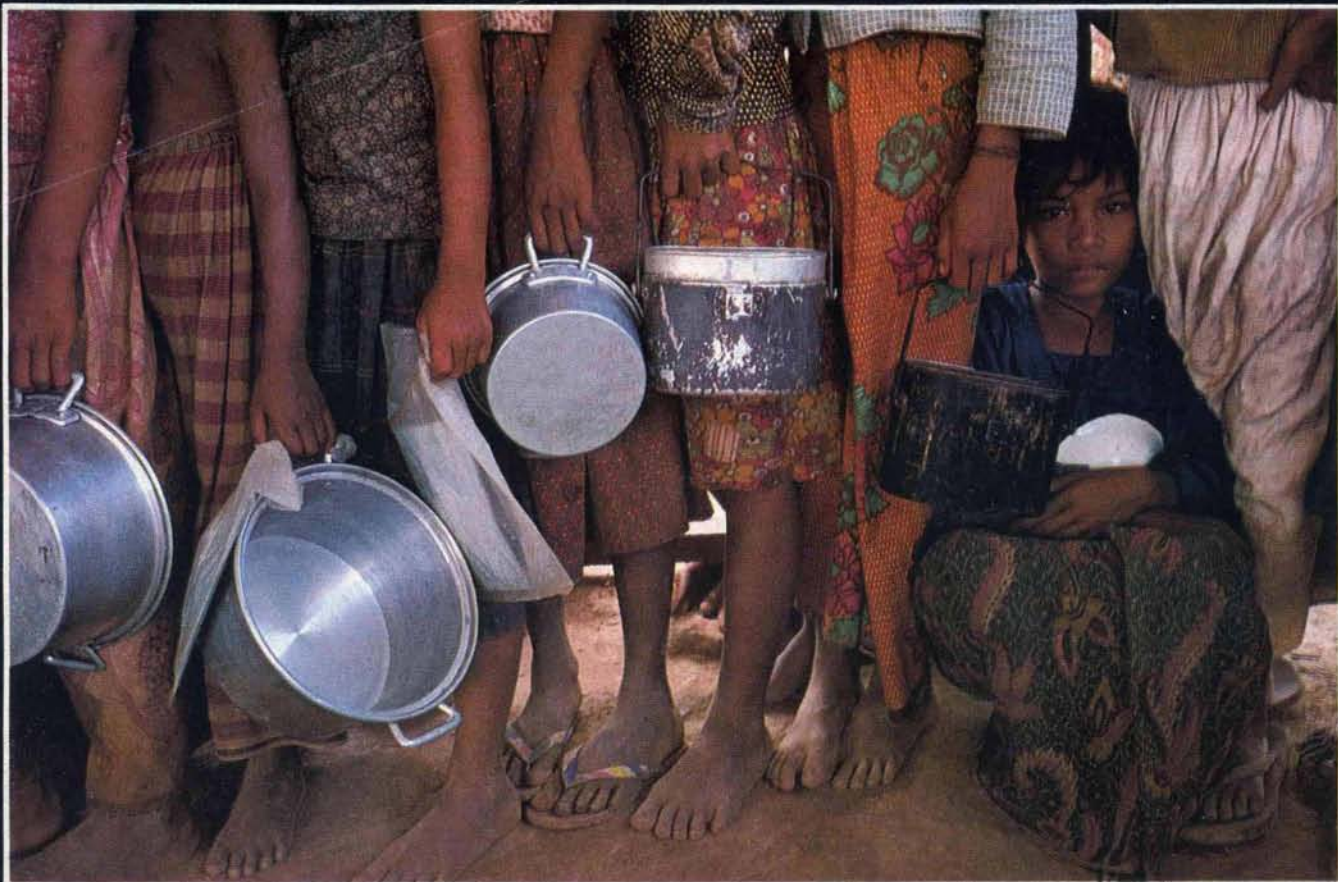
Therefore, MY CONCLUSION?

Could it be possible, after proclaiming the Gospel of THE KINGDOM OF GOD, as well as Ezekiel's warning to the people of Israel, that, beginning January 1972, when my PRESENT CAMPAIGN of walking through the doors God said He would open (Rev. 3:8) to KINGS and many NATIONS of DIFFERENT LANGUAGES was at last getting under way, that it is the FULFILLMENT OF THIS PROPHECY OF REVELATION 10?

To me it comes as a STARTLING, AMAZING, EYE-OPENING NEW LIGHT DIRECT FROM GOD!

THAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PHASE OF GOD'S WORK TODAY!

And THE JOB IS GETTING DONE! □



The Increasing Majority

Scenes like the one above have become all too familiar. Our senses have been battered by too much news of human suffering. It's hard for us to feel the hurt and hopelessness evident in those sorrowful eyes. But the suffering is real and those who are hungry and destitute are fast becoming a majority in our world. If you are concerned, and would like to know more, write for our free booklet on Famine.

IMPORTANT FREE BOOKLET OFFER

LITERATURE REQUEST/CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please check:

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