The Good News of OMORROY'S AVORLD Sept. 1971

VHAT ON EARTH IS GOD DOING? SEE PAGE 9

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More About Our Cover

The "good Earth" from space showing a portion of its global weather patterns.

Is God still interested in this Earth or is He merely a philosophical father figure who anciently walked off into the nebulous reaches of the universe to occupy Himself with some unearthly project? Or is the Creator still actively DOING SOMETHING on this Earth?

Read the answers in this issue of TOMORROW'S WORLD!

Tomorrow's

September 1971

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Personal from



The Wonderful World Tomorrow

In this talk with our readers I want to say something about the many letters we have received from those who have read the exciting booklet The Wonderful World Tomorrow — What It Will Be Like — since it was first published nearly five years ago.

All but a few — from nearly 700,000 booklets already mailed out in the United States and Canada alone — have been enthusiastic, elated, inspired to know what a WONDERFUL world is soon to be ours.

I wish ALL OF YOU could realize that this wonderful coming world IS REAL — and most of you will be in it, I hope, as one of its changed immortals. It's not only REAL, it is coming SOON — possibly (I do not set dates) in less than ten years! Yes, very possibly that soon!

But what I am most concerned about is WHAT IT MEANS TO YOU — as an individual! Each of you! I wish all of our readers could think — as one wrote me — wondering what YOU will be doing, then!

I wish all our readers could be reminded, at this point, of that very first of the LAWS OF SUCCESS! There are seven laws that will produce success. The very first one is to have the RIGHT GOAL — to be fired with ambition to achieve that goal — to keep that goal constantly uppermost in your mind!

Have a definite, inspiring PURPOSE in life. Realize, as Winston Churchill said, there is a PURPOSE being worked out here below! Mankind was placed on this earth FOR A PURPOSE. That means YOU, as an

individual, were born and given the breath of life for a PURPOSE!

In this world's colleges and universities they teach nothing about that purpose. They know nothing of the real MEANING of life. They leave students without a goal. They don't know where they are going — or whether they are going anyplace.

But the all-intelligent, all-knowing Creator — who designed the human mind and body, created the human race, and supplies the air, water and food to sustain it — had a PURPOSE! And, through the Apostle Paul, He reveals to us that GOAL — in Paul's words, that "I might attain unto the RESURRECTION . . ." and, further, ". . . this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the MARK for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:11, 13-14).

The MARK — the PRIZE — the GOAL toward which Paul pressed forward is THE RESURRECTION TO IMmortality, in the Kingdom of God!

In this important booklet we have tried to paint in simple words — as revealed in the Bible — the WONDERFUL world which this Kingdom of converted, changed Immortals, under Christ, will produce.

But is BEING THERE, as a changed, immortal person, YOUR goal? Is that one overriding LIFE'S OBJECTIVE constantly before your eyes — constantly dominating your thoughts?

Many have written to tell me how exciting — how interesting and inspiring — it is to see just WHAT such patriarchs and prophets and men of God as Abraham, Joseph, Job, Daniel, Moses and others might be doing — how they will be brought back to life, immortal, in glorified POWER — and the high executive positions in the new WORLD GOVERNMENT they will occupy.

Interesting? Exciting? Wonderful? Yes, I should say it is! But, as I said above, I wish all of YOU were terribly concerned by asking yourselves where YOU will be — what YOU will be doing then!

I don't mean that you may decide for yourselves what precise position may be assigned to YOU. Yet, in general, I can tell you what position will be assigned you! It will be the position you are training for, qualifying for, RIGHT NOW — in this life!

WHY will Abraham, David, the Apostles Peter and Paul, be assigned the positions either directly named — or at least indicated — in the Bible? Simply

because they prepared for, and qualified for, those positions DURING THEIR MORTAL LIVES!

You — if you have been called to conversion now — are being JUDGED for your future position in God's Kingdom right now!

Few understand this — I know. But see if I can make it plain enough that at least *some* of our readers may UNDERSTAND. A number of "JUDGMENTS" are revealed in the Bible. Most people get all mixed up and confused by such theological terms as "judgments," "covenants," etc.

Understand, first, being "saved" — that is, being born into the Kingdom of God — given God's GIFT of eternal life — is altogether by GRACE, as God's free GIFT. You can't earn it! I have ALWAYS taught that! In spite of the false accusations of persecutors, who try to make you believe I teach "salvation by WORKS" (and they know better!!!), I have NEVER taught that. I do not believe that! I have always taught that salvation — what religious people call "being saved" — inheriting eternal life — being born into the Kingdom of God — just getting there — comes ONLY by GRACE (which means undeserved pardon) and as God's FREE GIFT. You CAN'T earn it! All your OBEDIENCE — all your good WORKS — won't buy it!

But — and here is where the persecutors are in confusion — you shall be REWARDED with whatever OFFICE you shall be placed in according to your WORKS! Check for yourself. Don't believe me because I say it — check for yourself.

For those who would like a more detailed and technical exposition of this vital principle, write for a FREE reprint "What'll You Be Doing in the Next Life?"

But, when the glorified Jesus Christ returns to earth, in all the supreme POWER and GLORY of God, as KING of kings to rule all nations, He will then assign the positions in His Government — the "reward" — to those who already — then — "ARE SAVED," to those who have, through grace, received God's GIFT of eternal life — then already made IMMORTAL! These shall have been resurrected to immortality, and have risen to meet Him in the air, as He is returning.

Now notice: Jesus says, "And, behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be" (Rev. 22:12).

Notice the parable of the pounds: When Jesus returns, having been coronated KING of kings, He will call to Him those He had given "the money" — that

is, His Spirit and salvation. The one who, in this mortal life, had gained "ten pounds" is made mayor over ten cities. The one who gained, in his Christian life in this time, five pounds is made mayor ruling over five cities. He qualified for only half as much, during this mortal life, so his REWARD in the Kingdom — the POSITION to which he is assigned — is only half as much.

Notice this picture of Christ's coming, and establishing of the Kingdom of God over the nations: "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 forever... And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints..." (Rev. 11:15-18).

One of the Judgments is the "Great White Throne Judgment." Notice that REWARD — rank in God's Kingdom — is according to WORKS! Not getting into the Kingdom, but rank, or reward, or office, once there: "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God [in a resurrection], and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works" (Rev. 20:12).

Peter taught that God JUDGES (not "saves") according to works: "... the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work" (I Peter 1:17). Paul taught that God "will render to every man according to his deeds" (Rom. 2:6).

Jesus said, plainly, "no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father" (John 6:65). And again, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:44). But, to you whom God has called at this time — to you who have repented, believed, received God's Holy Spirit and thus been converted — YOU ARE BEING JUDGED RIGHT NOW (I Peter 4:17). And if you say: "I'm already 'saved,' and there are 'no works' to salvation," and then you fail to go on overcoming, and growing spiritually (see II Peter 3:18), you not only will BE JUDGED by your lack of spiritual works to qualify for a higher office in God's Kingdom — but, far worse, you may be in the position of the servant from whom (parable of the "pounds" — Luke 19, quoted above) Jesus took

(Continued on page 45)

Where Will The MILLENNIUM Be Spent?

A promised time of peace and prosperity is just around the corner. Christ will soon begin His reign with the resurrected saints ruling with Him. But where shall they rule? In heaven? Or on earth? And over whom shall they reign? This astounding article answers all these questions about Tomorrow's World.

by Herbert W. Armstrong

HERE are the saints of God going to REIGN for the coming thousand years in Tomorrow's World?

Some say: "On the earth!"

Others say, "Up in heaven! All unsaved people shall be destroyed by the brightness of Christ's coming. The earth will be desolate during this thousand years."

But WHAT DOES THE WORD OF GOD SAY?

Will you notice, now, Revelation 20:6: "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God, and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."

This THOUSAND YEARS is commonly called "the MILLENNIUM."
But the question we now want to

settle — and settle it rightly out of God's Word — is, where shall we spend that thousand years? And over whom shall we reign?

What Are the Facts?

The facts of the resurrection and the second coming of Christ are plainly expressed in I Thes. 4:14-17, and I Cor. 15:52. The dead in Christ are resurrected, and the living in Christ are changed, and all are caught up to MEET the Lord in the clouds, in the air of the earth's atmosphere.

But the question is, WHERE DO WE GO FROM THERE?

Now, in order to reign, these saints must have someone to reign OVER. To rule is to RULE OVER. A king reigns over his subjects. The subjects are always of inferior station and power to the king. The king is in

authority OVER his subjects. And so, whether in heaven or on earth, there will have to be someone of INFERIOR RANK — of LOWER POSITION, over whom the saints shall have POWER and AUTHORITY! Now over WHOM will the immortal saints reign? And WHERE will they reign?

Notice Rev. 3:21. Jesus said: "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne."

Jesus spoke those words. He says that He is, at this time, sitting in WHOSE throne? — notice it — He says "as I...AM set down with my FATHER in his throne." The Father's throne is in heaven. The heavens have received Jesus UNTIL the times of restitution of all things (Acts 3:21). During this age He is sitting

on His Father's throne. And His Father's throne is in heaven, as the Scriptures plainly state.

TWO Thrones in Heaven?

Then, my friends, WHERE WILL JESUS' THRONE BE, when HE LEAVES His Father's throne — when the time of restitution of all things comes — and when He sits on His own throne? He does not say that the saints shall sit with Him on the Father's throne in heaven. He says they shall sit with Him IN HIS THRONE. Will His throne, too, be in heaven? Will there be TWO thrones in heaven? Will Jesus have a throne there, competing with the Father?

A Kingdom with Two thrones is a kingdom divided, and Jesus said a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus is not now, at this time, sitting on HIS own throne, but on HIS FATHER'S throne, reigning WITH HIS Father in exactly the same manner as the saints shall sit with Him, on HIS throne, reigning with Him.

Where, then, will HIS throne be?

Why, we read in Luke 1:30-32 that Jesus will be given the throne of DAVID. And DAVID'S THRONE IS ON THE EARTH! According to Jer. 23:5 and Ezek. 21:27, that throne, which will be located in the city of Jerusalem, ON THIS EARTH, is to be given to JESUS, whose right it is.

Now notice carefully. God's throne is in heaven. David's throne is existing today on Earth. At this time now, Jesus is on His Father's throne, in heaven — but when the saints reign for a thousand years, they shall be sitting with Him, on His throne, the throne of David, which throne is located on the Earth!

Saints to Rule the Nations!

Now notice Rev. 2:26-27: "And he that overcometh... will I give POWER over the NATIONS, and he shall RULE them with a rod of iron." Notice it! These same overcomers, who shall reign with Jesus on His throne, are to be given POWER over other people. And the ones they shall RULE are THE NATIONS. The nations of this EARTH! Can you conceive of nations in heaven

so sinful they need to be RULED with a rod of iron?

Then again, notice Luke 1:33: "And he [Jesus] shall reign over THE HOUSE OF JACOB forever." It is the HOUSE OF JACOB — the nations of Israel and Judah — whom God has BLINDED during this time (Rom. 11:7-8), whose blindness shall be removed and who shall find salvation (Rom. 11:25-26), when God sets His Hand again the SECOND TIME to recover the remnant of His people Israel (Isa. 11:11), during the times of restitution of all things! What a glorious GOSPEL! What wonderful GOOD NEWS!

Now notice one more text which tells in the PLAINEST OF LANGUAGE when the saints shall reign. Remember they are to reign OVER — to rule the nations. They shall reign a thousand years. Now turn to Rev. 5:9-10, and let us see whether we shall be willing to believe the plain words of God. Here we read of a new song about Christ who redeemed men of every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation, "And hast made them unto our God kings and priests: and they shall reign ON THE EARTH."

There it is, properly translated and in PLAIN LANGUAGE. "They shall reign ON THE EARTH." God give us willingness to believe it!

How Jesus Will Return to Earth!

Let us see now How Jesus will return to earth. In Acts 1:9-11, we read: "And when he [Jesus] had spoken those things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

We know He shall return at the close of this age, just prior to the battle at Jerusalem which climaxes this world's defiance of God's rule. His coming is described in the 19th chapter of Revelation, beginning the 11th verse. All nations are gathered against Jerusalem for this great battle, their armies having

previously assembled at Armageddon (notice also Rev. 16:13-16). This same battle is described in the 14th chapter of the book of Zechariah.

Notice it: "Behold, the day of the Lord cometh... For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle" (Zech. 14:1-2). This can be only the last battle of the great day of God Almighty, for it is the only time described in Scripture where ALL NATIONS are to be gathered against Jerusalem for battle, prior to the thousand years or millennium.

Now notice the 3rd and 4th verses: "Then shall the Lord go forth [second coming of Christ] and fight against those nations... And his feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east." Notice it — Jesus' feet shall stand upon the Mount of Olives — WHEN? It says "IN THAT DAY" — not a thousand years AFTER that day when this battle is being fought, but IN that day.

And so we see Jesus shall so come in like manner as He went, just as the Scriptures say. When He went, He was standing on the Mount of Olives. He was visibly caught up. A cloud received Him out of the disciples' sight. As many scriptures affirm, He shall come with clouds. And in the very day of the battle before Jerusalem, Jesus' feet shall stand once more on the Mount of Olives! Yes, He is coming as He WENT. He WENT from the Mount of Olives, and He shall RETURN to the Mount of Olives!

Now will He remain on the earth from that time, or immediately return to heaven? Notice verse 8: "And it shall be IN THAT DAY, that living waters [salvation, through the Holy Spirit] shall go out from Jerusalem... in summer and in winter shall it be." Beginning from that very day when He comes, this event, the work of the times of restitution of all things, shall continue on through SUMMER, and through WINTER!

Shall the land be desolate and uninhabited from that time on for a thousand years?

Notice verse 10: "All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: AND IT SHALL BE LIFTED UP, AND INHABITED."

And notice, too, that the nations which come from year to year are not altogether obedient — observe, in verses 17-19 how God will punish those who will refuse to obey. So these are not immortal saints. They are GENTILES. And notice carefully that these mortal sinning Gentiles shall be required to come up to JERUSALEM — and Jerusalem is ON THE EARTH. And it is AT THE TIME when Jesus Christ has returned to rule as KING of kings, and LORD of lords - yet future. It cannot be BEFORE the millennium. It cannot be AFTER it. It MUST be during the thousand years. And the place is ON THE EARTH. Here, my friends, are unanswerable scriptures!

What About Ancient Israel?

What about the descendants of ancient ISRAEL? Has God cast them eternally away? Some seem to think so. But, what do the SCRIPTURES say?

Back in the 26th chapter of Leviticus we read how God warned His chosen race that IF they would not obey Him, He would PUNISH THEM — for a duration of 2520 years! Not with eternal loss of salvation — but a duration of 2520 long years — the prophetic "seven times" mentioned in verse 28. The children of Israel became divided into TWO NATIONS — one called the House of Israel, the TEN tribes — the other the House of JUDAH, consisting of Judah and Benjamin, called the Jews. Ancient Israel sinned first, and was driven among the Gentiles, losing their iden-

tity. The world today commonly believes the descendants of ancient Israel are Gentiles. Then Judah sinned worse than Israel, and the Jews were taken to Babylon. God took away national dominance from Judah, and turned it over to the Gentiles.

Now I want you to study carefully one of the most wonderful, important chapters in all the Bible — the eleventh of Romans. Notice the question in verse 1: Has God cast away the Israelites? In verse 2 Paul says "NO!" Study verses 7 and 8. A few of them accepted salvation, but the rest were BLINDED - and - note it - Gop blinded them! Notice verse 11. They have not stumbled that they should FALL, or lose salvation, but salvation has come to the Gentiles why? — to provoke Israel to JEALOUSY, so they, too, will turn. Notice verse 15 — they are to be received again - and as life from the dead. Verse 23 says those who abide not still in unbelief shall YET receive salvation. Now study carefully beginning verse 25: "Blindness in part is happened to Israel [HOW LONG? Forever? No - note it] UNTIL the fulness of the Gentiles be come in" the end of this age during which God is calling a people from among the Gentiles to bear His name (Acts 15:14). And so, says Romans 11:26, "all Israel SHALL BE SAVED [how?]: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob." The Deliverer, Jesus Christ, is coming again!

When He comes, the Gentile times will be over — the BLINDNESS will be removed from the Israelites — and their opportunity — their FIRST chance — of salvation will then come to those whom God had blinded! This is at the time when He comes to REIGN on HIS THRONE — the throne of David, with the saints made immortal reigning and ruling with Him — and the time is DURING THE THOUSAND YEARS!

Notice verse 31. These blinded Israelites have not now, in this age, received mercy, that through the mercy of the Gentiles saved in this age, they MAY, THEN, obtain mercy and salvation. How? Because these saved Gentiles will then be kings and priests, assisting in this wonderful Work!

WHAT Will the Millennium Be Like?

Now compare what we read with the wonderful 11th chapter of Isaiah. This is the time when (verse 11) God is going to set His hand again the SECOND TIME to recover the remnant of HIS PEOPLE, who have been dispersed around the world. It is the time when they shall be re-gathered to the Holy Land — a time yet future. Observe verse 1: the Branch is Jesus Christ.

Observe that He shall, at this time, RULE and REIGN (verse 4). Now when is this time? Verse 6: the time when wild animals are so tame that wolves and lambs play together — when leopards lie down peacefully with goats — the calf with the young lion — and a little child shall lead them, unharmed. Verse 7, the lion will no longer eat raw meat — but hay like the ox. Now wild animals will not be this tame BEFORE the millennium. It will be AFTER the thousand years begins. Will these wild animals be taken to HEAVEN? — or will this take place ON EARTH?

Observe the 8th verse: there will be NURSING babies, and weaned babies there unharmed as they play with the most deadly snakes. At this time, then, BABIES ARE BEING BORN. Will there be NURSING babies IN HEAVEN? Will there be nursing babes in the promised NEW EARTH — after the thousand years? THINK! Will babes be playing, without harm, with deadly snakes BEFORE the millennium?

No! This MUST be during the thousand years, and it MUST be ON THE EARTH! — not in heaven.

Now come to verse 9. Animals will not be killing one another for food, and the WHOLE EARTH will then be FULL of the knowledge of the Lord!

That cannot be PRIOR to the millennium. The earth could not be full of the knowledge of the Lord if it were then desolate, and without an inhabitant! This proves the place of the thousand years is ON THE EARTH! — not in heaven as some teach.

And now notice, in THAT DAY — the very same day when wild animals are tamed — when children are still being born — and when the EARTH is full of the knowledge of the Lord, and when

the Lord is reigning and ruling with a rod of iron — verse 11 says that in THAT DAY — that very same time — the Lord shall set His hand again the SECOND TIME to recover the remnant of His people, Israel!

And in THAT SAME DAY (verse 10) the Gentiles shall seek Christ, the "root of Jesse" — and so there will be GENTILES present, seeking the Lord and His salvation! Study verse 12. Jesus shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather the dispersed of Judah. It is the time of the great RE-GATHERING OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH! And notice verse 14 — during this same time the Israelites shall spoil, or conquer the nations of the east, and lay hands on the Edomites, the Moabites, and the Ammonites!

The End of HUMAN Reign

At the time of the fall of Judah, God turned the reign of world government over to a succession of GENTILE kingdoms. There were to be just FOUR great universal world-ruling kingdoms — the Chaldean Empire, called "BABYLON"; the Persian Empire; Alexander's Greco-Macedonian Empire with its four divisions; and the ROMAN EMPIRE, which has had six past revivals and is destined to arise once more as a union of ten dictator nations or groups in Europe — ruled over by a great religious power (Rev. 17:12).

This Gentile reign, and its END, is pictured in Daniel 2 and 7. You may be familiar with the dream IMAGE of Nebuchadnezzar, described in the prophecy of Daniel 2.

At the END of this Gentile reign, what is to happen? Notice Daniel 2:44: "And IN THE DAYS OF THESE KINGS [not a thousand years after their reign] shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom...but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand FOREVER."

Now where will that kingdom be? The dream, interpreted by this verse, says: "the *stone* that smote the image" — Christ and His Kingdom, which consumes these Gentile kingdoms (I Cor. 10:4), "became a great mountain [nation], and *filled* THE WHOLE EARTH" (verse 35).

And in Daniel 7:27, we read: "And the KINGDOM [God's Kingdom]...

under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the SAINTS..." Not IN heaven, but UNDER it! Now WHEN? The "little horn" (a persecuting religious power) of this prophecy in Daniel 7, "made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; UNTIL the Ancient of Days came, and...the saints possessed the kingdom" (verses 21, 22). The leader of this persecuting power is called the false prophet (Rev. 19:20), and he lasts UNTIL we reign UNDER the whole heaven. This prophecy positively precludes any 1,000-year reign IN HEAVEN!

Four Misunderstood Texts

Now consider four texts that are often woefully misinterpreted to reject the undeniable truth of other scriptures.

II THESSALONIANS 1:8: This verse is speaking of angels who will take vengeance on those that know not God and obey not the Gospel. It is assumed that this text says that all people will be destroyed, but it doesn't say that. It is only those who refuse to obey who will perish. But there will be many other Gentiles who shall repent of their wrong ways and admit that their "fathers have inherited lies" (Jer. 16:19).

II THESSALONIANS 2:8: This is another text supposed by one particular denomination to teach that all wicked people will be destroyed by the brightness of Christ's coming.

Notice verse 3. His coming will not occur until the MAN OF SIN is revealed. Who is the man of sin?

The same as the false prophet, for he does the same deeds. Now notice verse 6— he is to be revealed in his time. Continue into verse 8: "And then shall THAT Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall...destroy with the brightness of his coming: EVEN HIM, whose coming is after the working of Satan..." (verses 8 and 9).

Note it! Does this say ALL the wicked and unsaved people shall be destroyed by the brightness of Christ's coming?

No! The Bible does NOT say that — it says THAT Wicked PERSON who is to be revealed — just one man! He is the FALSE PROPHET, and his destruction is also described in Rev. 19:20. How plain!

JEREMIAH 4:23-27: This is mis-

applied by one denomination to be the WHOLE earth during the millennium.

Study the book of Jeremiah from the first chapter. God commissioned Jeremiah to WARN JUDAH to turn from their sins. If they did not, Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon was to bring his armies against them, make THEIR LAND desolate, their cities empty, and carry the Jews to Babylon as slaves.

Note Chapter 4, verse 5: Nebuchadnezzar, "the destroyer of the Gentiles" (verse 7), is on his way "to make THY LAND DESOLATE; and thy cities shall be laid waste without an inhabitant." This is speaking of the cities of Judah. Study verses 13-17. It is only the cities of JUDAH (verse 16) to be made waste. Notice verse 30 — "When thou" — the Jews of Jeremiah's day — "art spoiled, what wilt thou do?"

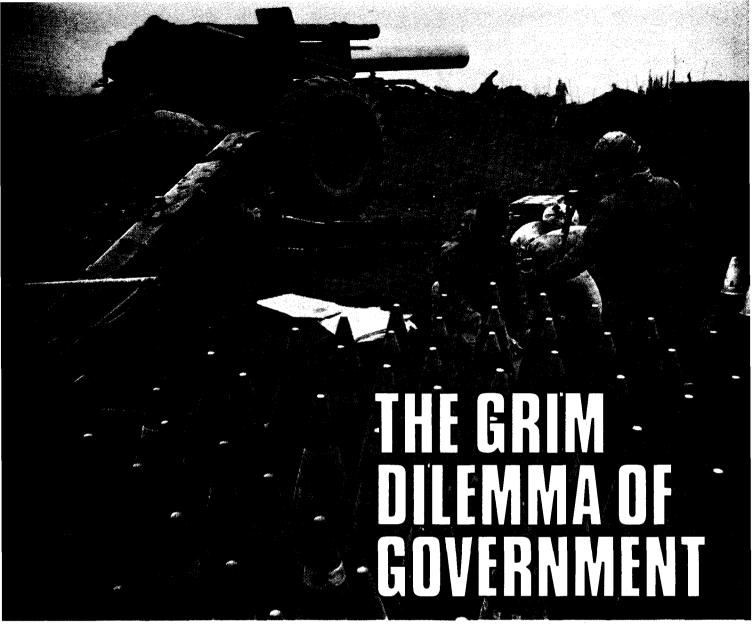
This passage has no reference whatsoever to the thousand years, or to the whole earth, but the land of Judah ONLY, and during the sieges of Nebuchadnezzar, occurring over a space of about 20 years. The context shows that the original Hebrew word should be rendered "land," not "earth."

Jeremiah was speaking of the whole land! — the whole land of Judah!

JOHN 14:1-3: This text is also used as a proof-text for going to heaven. Jesus said, "If I go ... I WILL COME AGAIN, and receive you unto myself." He receives us unto Himself WHEN HE WILL HAVE COME AGAIN - right here on the earth. We are to meet Him IN THE CLOUDS, and airplanes fly higher than that every day. That same day we come on down with Him upon the Mount of Olives (Zech. 14:4, 5). "That where I am, THERE ye may be also." After Jesus receives us unto Himself, He will remain here on this earth. We shall ever BE with Him. We shall sit with Him in His Throne - which is the throne of David ON THIS EARTH.

The places that Jesus is preparing are positions of responsibility in the KING-DOM He went to receive (Luke 19:12 and Matt. 25:34) — note that the Kingdom is PREPARED, and its PLACE is on the earth!

What glorious Good News — WE SHALL REIGN ON THE EARTH DURING TOMORROW'S WORLD! (Rev. 5:10.)



Black Star Photo

"World Peace Through Law" — "One World Government" — these are the cherished hopes of mankind for the future. Today, government leaders recognize WORLD GOVERNMENT is the only hope for lasting world peace. But take a long look at the greatest attempts of man in all history to put together such a world government. What do you find? It's time you recognized no human government knows the WAY to world peace!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

THE UNITED NATIONS is in trouble. Envisioned by world leaders as the ONLY way to lasting peace after World War II, the United Nations organization was formed, a building site donated by the Rockefeller family and an impressive, modern building complex erected to house the many offices and conference halls.

The record is not unimpressive.

There have been some successes, some failures. But too many of the international disputes to come before the United Nations have tended to remain unsolved — like running sores between governments.

And today, the headaches seem to outnumber the successes.

With the two Chinas, the Cold War, the Middle East crisis, Vietnam and dozens of little hot wars to worry about, the UN finds itself heir to a whole host of problems not remotely envisioned by its founding fathers in the early postwar years.

Take a brief look at some of its past occurrences in retrospect.

The Anything-But-United Nations

It seems almost like the fulfillment of an old household slogan, "Hindsight is better than foresight." And, to millions of us, the archaic attempts at world peace after World War I by the League of Nations appeared, in 1941, unbelievably shortsighted.

We saw, in retrospect, the terrible inadequacies of the Treaty of Versailles, all of the faults with the short-sightedness of the Western allies — the problems *inherent* in the Danzig Corridor, the refugee problems, the Sudetenland, the Saar and Czechoslovakia.

Suddenly, in 1939, it began to crystallize. Finally, in 1941, on December 7, it came sharply into focus for Americans who preferred to dream and play on their island of security in the midst of a world in ferment.

And now, in this modern age, we see in retrospect the failings at Yalta, Teheran, and Potsdam. We see the short-sightedness of Western planners in allowing a nuclear stalemate to occur; a divided Berlin, Germany, Korea, and the almost staggering lack of initiative on the part of the West to win the peace after they had won the war!

San Francisco Conference

My father, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, was an accredited press correspondent attending the world conclave in San Francisco for the formation of the United Nations Charter in 1945.

He saw and heard there the greatest statesmen in the world, including Britain's Clement Attlee and Russia's Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov, solemnly admit the United Nations was the world's "LAST CHANCE" for peace. No truer words were ever spoken!

The United Nations DOEs represent man's greatest single effort in all history to bring ALL nations together in mutual understanding and cooperation.

Take a brief look at the record.

Since those fateful days, more than sixty wars have been fought, the world has been hurled from the machine age to the jet age through the nuclear age and into the space age, and many wars are still blazing today!

Leaders in some of the big powers have warned the United Nations HAS ALREADY FAILED. Many have called it a "sounding board" for Communist propaganda.

And today, the headaches seem to grow only larger, and more insistent.

In a conference on world law, Secretary General of the United Nations U Thant said, "What element is lacking, so that, with all our skill and our knowledge, we still find ourselves in the dark valley of discord and enmity? What is it that inhibits us from going forward together to enjoy the fruits of human endeavor and to reap the harvest of human experience?

"Why is it that, for all of our professed ideals, our hopes, and our skill, peace on earth is still a distant objective, seen only dimly through the storms and turmoils of our present difficulties?" (Emphasis ours.)

Yes, what element (or elements) is lacking? We shall see — and see very clearly!

The Needed Ingredients

Government is much more than just big business — requiring educated men. Government *should* require a vast amount of education: in true history, government, languages, true and proven science, literature, and in all fields! Right governments *should* require kindness, selflessness, understanding, equity, trust, patience, and faith.

It should require men of courage; capable of great personal sacrifice; completely HONEST men, who always tell the truth, even to their own hurt.

It should require understanding of the deep racial, social, and economic problems—the problems of health, education, and welfare, of conservation, of labor and management. It should require a depth and grasp of HUMAN NATURE, and real dynamic LEADERSHIP! It SHOULD require all these qualities, and a great many more.

But contrast these vital prerequisites to rule with the spectacle of governments on this earth.

INSTEAD of law, order, education, understanding, magnanimity, long-suffering, patience, kindness, justice, equity, trust, faith, a deep grasp of human nature, total lack of racial and

religious bias, and all of the lofty qualities which SHOULD go into any government — you find selfishness and egotism, desire for personal power, graft and corruption, lying, cheating, injustice, and many inequalities.

Take a look at many of the new African states. For instance, Rwanda's President has no telephone in his palace in Kigali. Periodically he sends a minister driving off to neighboring Uganda to find out what is happening in the world.

Also national pride engenders pretensions as well as problems. Impoverished Dahomey boasts a \$6,000,000 Presidential residence that is larger than Buckingham Palace. Mauritania has a Directorate of Forests and Waters, though it has no forests and precious little water.

Striving for independence, "Uburu," nation after nation entered into horrible tribal conflicts; self-seeking leaders turned to sources of military aid (sometimes Red China) to aggrandize their own position of power; nepotism, graft, corruption, and bloody purges reigned.

Leaders were assassinated, bloody civil wars fought, and the ancient question of whether to spend national wealth on guns or butter was resolved by plunging into debt for costly arms.

The people continued to suffer.

Look at the lesson of Cuba. From the clutches of one despot, the people leapt wildly into the arms of another tyranny which made the first look benevolent. One dictator is replaced by a worse dictator.

Human government, no matter how well-intentioned some few idealists may be, usually degenerates into chaotic disarray. Well-meaning heads of state soon find themselves propelled, even against their will, along avenues not of their own choice; forced into making decisions which they know will come back to haunt them.

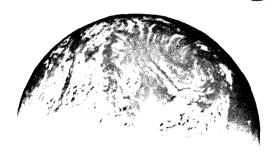
There is no more volatile issue on earth today, and particularly is this true of the United States, than the issue of WRONG GOVERNMENT!

Results of Man's Governments

NONE of the governments in this world today have brought this world peace. NOT ONE of the governmental

(Continued on page 46)

What "on Earth" is God Doing?



Exactly what does God DO all day? Does He merely sit majestically in a lofty throne room in heaven issuing occasional edicts and throwing random lightning bolts around? Is God just a philosophical father-figure who anciently abandoned His creation and walked off into the nebulous reaches of the distant universe to occupy Himself with some unearthly project? Or is God still interested and actively DOING SOMETHING on this earth?

tyd Sal Prisis

by Brian Knowles

HAT has God been doing on this earth since He first created Adam and Eve some 6000 years ago? Has He abandoned "Project Earth"? Did the Creator merely set in motion forces at Creation which continue unaided until this day — or is God still actively doing something as far as this earth is concerned? You need to know!

Many have the wrong impression of God. They have Him pictured as a sort of divinized father-figure with white hair (which He does have), wearing long shining robes, enshrouded in splendor, who does little or nothing anymore insofar as mankind is concerned. To many, He is an impotent God. An obsolete "Creator Emeritus." A retired Deity!

Such concepts are grossly in error! They are merely the pipe dreams of carnal men who secretly — or perhaps openly — wish that God would just go away! The average person is just not receptive to the idea of a powerful God who could and would intervene in their personal lives. Read Romans 8:7 in this connection. Most people feel more comfortable when God is out of the picture. Man is simply not inclined, by nature, to want to include the true God in his knowledge. Romans 1:28 verifies this basic fact.

But God is not "dead." Nor is He "hiding in Argentina" as has been sarcastically suggested on some automobile bumper stickers! God is very much alive and ACTIVE!

God Is a Worker

Centuries ago, Jesus Christ told us what the God Family has been and is doing. Notice it in John 5:17. "...Jesus answered them, MY FATHER WORKETH HITHERTO, AND I WORK." The methodology of God is basically unchanging (Heb. 13:8; Mal. 3:6). God has always been at work and always will be. He has always had a Work!

Sometimes God has done His Work personally and directly. On other occasions He has worked through angels. Most often, however, God has done His work through human instruments.

The Creator of mankind has a great Master Plan of salvation. This plan is concerned with mankind and is being worked out under the guidance of Jesus Christ, who is "the captain of our salvation." Of course, God the Father is in charge. Jesus Christ obediently and faithfully carries out the instructions of His Father.

The Work of Creation

It is not known how long ago God originally created the whole

material universe. It could easily have been millions of years ago. It might have been more recently. In any case it was a beautiful creation. The angels of God (created earlier) rejoiced with singing at the harmony and beauty God had produced (Job 38:4-7). Certain angels under the leadership of a great cherub named Lucifer were placed in charge of this planet. After a time, however, mutinous feelings began to well up in Lucifer. He was not willing to "settle for earth"! He persuaded one third of the angels to rebel with him, and then he attempted to overthrow the throne of God! Jude states that the angels "... kept not their first estate [this earth], but left their own habitation..." Naturally their attempt at a "coup" was unsuccessful. They were cast back down to the earth where they presently reside. They became known as "demons" (Jude 6; Isa. 14:12-14; Ezek. 28:11-19; Luke 10:18).

In their anger, these fallen spirit beings wreaked great destruction upon the material universe. Evidence of this can be seen in the cataclysmic condition of the solar system. Even the moon bears the scars of Satanic wrath.

Before man could be placed on this flood-inundated globe, God had to re-create its surface and make it a fit environment for man. This re-creation took six literal 24-hour days. For one week the restoration of this earth to an inhabitable state was the Work of God! After six days of labor God "... ended HIS WORK which he had made..." and created the Sabbath by resting on the seventh day (Gen. 2:1-3).

(For more information on these points please write for our free articles entitled "Did God Create a Devil?" and "How Long Were the Days of Creation?")

Following the creation week and the introduction of man to this planet, God began to work with certain *individuals* to train them for positions of rulership in His anticipated Kingdom. He used certain men to preach about His Way and to warn this world of the results of *its* way! These men were known as "preachers of righteousness." Noah was the *eighth* such person (II Peter 2:5).

God's Work Through Noah

About 1600 years after the creation of Adam, man had a population explosion (Gen. 6:1). It was accompanied by an increase in crime, violence and corruption of every kind (Gen. 6:5, 11, 13). Things got so bad that the very thought processes of mankind went "haywire." "... Man had done much evil on earth and ... his thoughts and inclinations were always evil ..." (Gen. 6:5, The New English Bible). God could not allow it to go on.

Being a just God, the Creator of mankind elected to warn man of the just punishment He planned to mete out. The man He selected to speak to humanity on His behalf was Noah. Noah was given a WORK to do for God. It involved the preaching of a warning message to mankind as well as the building of a huge ark to deliver his own family from the impending flood. God gave man plenty of time to repent too! Noah was given a slice of time 120 years in length in which to do the Work of God (Gen. 6:3).

Naturally Noah was ridiculed as he performed the Work. After 120 long years of warning the people of the coming punishment of God, NONE had responded to his message! Only seven other members of his immediate family gained entrance into the ark which God used to perpetuate the human race!

Following the flood, humanity began to multiply again. God again began to work in the life of a man named Abraham. After a lifetime of testing, teaching and training, Abraham became qualified to ultimately rule the entire earth under Jesus Christ in Tomorrow's World! (Romans 4:13.) He was called the "father of the faithful."

From Abraham descended Isaac and Jacob. Jacob's name was changed to Israel and his sons were the progenitors of the 12 tribes of the *nation* of Israel.

God intended to use this nation as a model for the rest of the world to imitate. The fledgling nation was formed in the "womb" of Egypt. Due to an unusual set of circumstances, the children of Jacob had been obliged to move from their own country into the land of Egypt. There they reared families, which in turn reared other family

groups, which finally multiplied into a nation. A nation of slaves.

When Israel's numbers became substantial, God decided to separate them and establish them as a nation in their own right. It would take time to re-educate these downtrodden slaves. They would have to be properly prepared for nationhood! Law systems would have to be established. They would have to become organized and depaganized! A right relationship with their God would have to be instituted.

Moses Did God's Work

God chose an Israelite who had been trained in the royal court of Egypt to do the Work! Moses.

God used Moses to bring Israel out of slavery.

Part of God's Work under Moses' administration involved the construction of a portable tabernacle for religious worship. God gave Moses definite instructions including a verbal "blueprint" of the building. In order to finance this building program, Moses was instructed by God to ask for an offering from the people.

"... The Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering..." (Ex. 25:1-2). As always, not everyone had his heart in the Work God was doing through Moses, and so God included additional instructions with the command to take up an offering. Moses was only to accept it from those who "... giveth it willingly with his heart..." (verse 2, last part). The contributions were to include gold, silver, brass, fine fabrics including animal furs, as well as onyx stones and various spices and incense.

Perhaps people had not become so calloused at that time to people wanting handouts! Likely there were fewer "charitable organizations" and collection agencies around to bilk the populace of their money for lost or fruitless causes. Besides, God had just given them wages for years of slavery under the Egyptians! (Ex. 12:35-36.) So, rather than being suspicious, the Israelites contributed so willingly to the Work of God that Moses had to cry "STOP!" Believe it or not, the Israelites actually contributed far more than was

needed to accomplish the Work of the tabernacle. "The children of Israel brought a willing offering unto the Lord, every man and woman, whose heart made them willing to bring for all manner of work, which the Lord had commanded to be made by the hand of Moses" (Ex. 35:29). Those who were given various responsibilities in the Work under Moses were inundated with funds and materials! They said, "... The people bring MUCH MORE THAN ENOUGH for the service of the work.... So the people were restrained from bringing. For the stuff they had was sufficient for all the work to make it, and too much" (Ex. 36:5-7).

At the time of Moses the whole nation basically supported the Work of God. But there were the usual dissenters, though their number was perhaps fewer by percent than today! And what was their approach to God's Work and its human leader Moses? Nothing you haven't heard before. They said in effect, "Who does he think he is? Does he actually believe he is the only one God is working through? Hasn't God worked through us too?" Read two such accounts for yourself in Numbers 12:1-2 and Numbers 16:1-3.

God also gave certain craftsmen in His Work His Holy Spirit in a special way to enable them to more effectively prosecute their part in the Work (Ex. 35:31-32). As always the Work of God has been done by God's Spirit working in human lives to give them greater ability!

Finally, we are told, "... So Moses finished the Work" (Ex. 40:33).

Joshua Follows Moses

Following the death of Moses, God raised up Joshua, Moses' faithful general and "understudy" for many years, to do the Work. It became the responsibility of Joshua to see that the Israelites settled in the promised land of Canaan. God's Work through Joshua covered a twenty-year period.

The death of Joshua introduced the time of the Judges in Israel. This blood-flecked chapter in ancient Israel's history was a time of great violence and political anarchy. "In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did

that which was right in his own eyes" (Judges 21:25). God's Work during this time was not as extensive as it became at a later period. Internal conditions did not permit it. However, God did use a few individuals such as Caleb, Samson, Jephthah, and others to do various things on His behalf during this time.

Following this period of Judges we come to the time of the Kings of Israel. It was during this period that the nation of Israel became divided into two separate houses: the House of Judah and the House of Israel. The two most outstanding kings of the entire period were David and his son Solomon.

Davidic Extravagance?

Because David had shed much blood in warfare, God did not permit him to begin actual construction on the temple. But God did inspire David with the whole design concept and allowed him the responsibility of preparing for the building of the temple. His son Solomon was destined to be accountable for the actual building of the edifice.

But David had enormous zeal for the House of God! He attacked the project with unusual fervor and desire! He said, "... I have set my affection to the house of my God..." (I Chron. 29:3) and "... I have prepared with all my might for the house of my God..." (verse 2).

David had detailed blueprints prepared for his son Solomon (I Chron. 28:11). He personally gave of his own wealth millions of dollars' worth (by today's values) of gold, silver and precious stones for the temple (I Chron. 29:2-4). After having set the example, David then requested contributions from the nation for the temple-building program. He said, "Now who is willing to give with open hand to the Lord today?" (I Chron. 29:5, The New English Bible.) Yes, it was God's Work! Again, as in Moses' day, the response was staggering! More millions poured in from the people for the financing and building of the temple.

The willingness of the people to back up the Work of God filled David with personal satisfaction and joy! But did he thank the people for their contributions? Not at all! David then thanked God for the matchless privilege of being able to have a part in the Work of God! He thanked his Creator that he could give and for the people's generosity! Notice the words of David, a man after God's own heart!

"And now, we give thee thanks, our God, and praise thy glorious name. But what am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to give so willingly like this? For EVERYTHING COMES FROM THEE, AND IT IS ONLY OF THY GIFTS THAT WE GIVE TO THEE" (I Chron. 29:13-14, The New English Bible).

Yes, David prepared for God's House with all his might! He even intended that the walls be overlaid with pure gold and silver. Of course, there were some who probably looked upon this ambitious plan as "Davidic extravagance." After all, wouldn't acacia wood do? But God had inspired the plans! (I Chron. 28:12, 19; 29:4.)

After David's decease, his son Solomon took seven years to build the temple. It was one of the marvels of the ancient world. David's zealous preparation paid off in one of the greatest — if not the greatest — pieces of architecture of all time. It was a glory to God indeed!

God's Work Under Elijah

At a later period in Israel's history, when the wicked King Ahab was ruling over the nation, God raised up another Work under the leadership of Elijah (I Kings 17:1). Many miracles were performed during Elijah's ministry, including the raising of the dead to life! (I Kings 17:17-22.) This great prophet pulled no punches in attacking the false doctrines of Baalism that were prevalent in his day. His confrontation with the prophets of Baal is a well-known event. The story is found in I Kings 18:19-38. Elijah sarcastically mocked the nonexistent god of these pagan pariahs. Notice the humorous paraphrasing of the account in the Living History of Israel version:

"About noontime, Elijah began mocking them. 'You'll have to shout louder than that,' he scoffed, 'to catch the attention of your god! Perhaps he is talking to someone, or is out sitting on

the toilet, or maybe he is away on a trip, or is asleep and needs to be awakened!"

Even in the Work of God, sarcasm has its rightful place if it is used in righteousness!

Interestingly enough, God had inspired Elijah to raise up three colleges or schools for the training of prophets. They were located in three different towns in Israel. One was at Bethel and a second was at Jericho (II Kings 2:3, 5). A third school for prophets was located at Gilgal (II Kings 4:38). Elijah continually travelled between these three schools, instructing the young men who were being trained for their parts in the Work!

Of course, Elijah was accused of "badmouthing" the nation! King Ahab said venomously to God's servant on one occasion, "... Art thou he that troubleth Israel?" (I Kings 18:17.) Actually, all Elijah was doing was diagnosing the national sins of ancient Israel. Rather than troubling the nation, he was doing it a favor! Elijah denied the charge: "... He answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that YE HAVE FORSAKEN THE COMMANDMENTS OF THE LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim". (verse 18).

By setting aside God's way and rejecting God's laws the nation was troubling itself. Israel's internal and external ills were self-induced. Elijah was merely pointing out this fact in an effort to get the nation to turn from its sinful ways to a better and more profitable way. But his words fell on calloused ears. He was persecuted by both the religious and the political leaders of his day.

Yet, in spite of heavy opposition, Elijah continued to do the Work of God until God removed him to a place of safety where he performed a different ministry for some years.

God's Work Under Nehemiah

From the years 721 to 718 B. C. the House of Israel went captive to the Assyrians and was never again heard from by that name. The House of Judah followed Israel into captivity over 100 years later. They were taken captive by the kingdom of Babylon. They were

then removed from the *land* of Judah just as the House of Israel had been removed from their land. After their captivity, Israel and Judah's territory was repopulated by various pagan Gentile peoples.

Later about 50,000 Jews returned to their homeland under the leadership of Joshua and Zerubbabel. Joshua was given the responsibility along with Zerubbabel of rebuilding the Temple. Once again God's Work involved a large building program.

But God told Zerubbabel that it would not be by mere *human* effort or ability that the Work would be accomplished! He said it would be "... Not by might, nor by power, but BY MY SPIRIT, saith the Lord of hosts" (Zech. 4.6).

Later God inspired Nehemiah with an overwhelming desire to rebuild *the* wall and city of Jerusalem.

Let's "zero in" on Nehemiah and notice some interesting points about how God did His work through this dynamic leader.

As previously stated, God's methods remain basically constant, though the goal of a given period in His Work may change.

The object of God's Work under Nehemiah was primarily to rebuild the city of Jerusalem and especially its surrounding wall. After praying and fasting over it, Nehemiah was granted special favors by the Persian king. He was given the materials and the means for the great reconstruction project he was about to undertake. Letters of safe passage were obtained. Nehemiah attacked the problem with enthusiasm and a great measure of faith.

But as with God's Work in this modern age, there were those who opposed it and even ridiculed the whole idea! The "big three" in the party for the opposition to Nehemiah had interesting names. The leader was named Sanballat, which means "the moon-god has given life"! Another of the men was called Geshem. His name meant "rain shower." You might say he was a big DRIP! The third of these enemies of God's Work was named Tobiah. His name ironically meant "the goodness of Yahweh" [The Eternal — one of Christ's names] (Neh. 2:19).

These three tried their worst to upset the work God was doing through Nehemiah. But all their efforts failed. They attempted direct attack, defamation of character, insults, ridicule, lying and intrigue. But God brought their efforts to nothing! The Work got done. Their attempts at undermining the Work only served to "sharpen up" those who were doing it! It kept them on their toes and helped unite them in a titanic and zealous effort which finally proved overwhelmingly successful!

"Not Many Mighty ..."

People were no different in Nehemiah's day than today! God's Work was accomplished by much the same kind of people then as it is today. Notice Nehemiah 3:5, "And next to them the Tekoites repaired; but their nobles put not their necks to THE WORK OF THEIR LORD."

This has long been the case. The nation's leaders — its financial, intellectual and cultural elite have rarely rolled up their sleeves and pitched in to do God's Work!

Paul pinpointed the same situation in his day hundreds of years after Nehemiah.

He said, addressing the Church in Corinth, "My brothers, think what sort of people you are, whom God has called. Few of you are men of wisdom, by any human standard: few are powerful or highly born" (I Cor. 1:26, The New English Bible).

When the enemies of the Work tried to divert Nehemiah's attention from what he was accomplishing, he stated, "... I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: WHY SHOULD THE WORK CEASE, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?" (Neh. 6:3.) Nehemiah and his followers labored on in faith. Finally "... the wall was finished ... in fifty and two days." Nehemiah finished the WORK God had commissioned him with. Then those vicious enemies who had opposed it from the beginning ". . . perceived that THIS WORK WAS WROUGHT OF OUR GOD"! (Neh. 6:15-16.)

Following the completion of the wall, Ezra and Nehemiah reemphasized the observance of God's annual Holy Days (Neh. 8). The weekly Sabbath

and the laws concerning tithing were reestablished (Neh. 10:31, 37-38; 13:15-22). A dedication ceremony was held upon completion of the wall (Neh. 12). Under Nehemiah's leadership the organization of Levitical choirs was reinstated. Beautiful music again became a part of the basic life style in ancient Judah (Neh. 12:27-43).

The Work of Jesus Christ

Hundreds of years after the time of Ezra and Nehemiah, Jesus Christ, the Messiah, was born in Bethlehem in Judea. He was the Son of God in the flesh. His ministry lasted from the fall of 27 A.D. to the spring of 31 A.D. He came to do the Work of preaching the Gospel of the coming Kingdom of God and to die for the sins of mankind. Part of His work consisted of training disciples (students or learners) to carry on the Work after His death on the stake. At the completion of His ministry He had 120 such students. Twelve of them became apostles (Acts 1:15, 26).

After the death of Jesus, the apostles carried on the preaching of the Gospel. They traveled to distant countries with the message of God's government. Of course, they had to rely on personal evangelism since the modern printing press and the radio had not been invented. Their work was limited to the confines of the Roman Empire and some other countries. (Be sure to request our FREE article entitled "Where Did the Twelve Apostles Go?")

One by one, tradition tells us, they were martyred. John outlived all the others. Following John's death around the end of the first century, others carried on the Work. But from that time on the organized preaching of the Gospel on a large scale fades from view. Of course the true Church continued to exist alongside a growing counterfeit of Biblical Christianity. The true Church never died (Matt. 16:18). It continued through various stages or eras, but not as a powerful worldwide organization. It existed as a relatively obscure, scattered and powerless entity for centuries. But it never lost the basic truths of God. The true Church recognized the true Gospel. And undoubtedly the Gospel was preached on a small personal scale. But following the death of John, the *organized* preaching of the Gospel on a powerful basis ceased. The Church was persecuted and its numbers decimated in great martyrdoms. The concentrated power of the "holy people" was scattered so that a worldwide Work was virtually impossible.

It was not until this modern twentieth century that God again raised up a Work of sufficient size and influence to preach the Gospel on a powerful worldwide basis!

God's Work Today!

Why should anyone think it strange that God would have a Work today? In this day of increasing human woe and troubles, should not God be doing a Work and warning people of the results of rejecting Him? And if such a Work exists, why should it not recognize itself? Is it arrogant for God's servants to recognize their Boss? Of course not! Yet some will say of those doing this great Work of God today, "Who do you think you are? Do you claim to be the only true Work of God?" After all, there is only one true Church! That's what your Bible says, isn't it? Read Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 4:4; I Corinthians 1:13, etc.

We state dogmatically and positively, THIS IS THE VERY WORK OF THE LIVING GOD! We do not apologize for that! But it's up to you as an individual to prove that!

God's Work Same Today

Today the primary objective of the Work of God is to preach and publish the Gospel of the soon-coming Kingdom and Government of God (Matt. 24:14; Mark 13:10). It is being done as a witness, not to gain members or proselyte adherents! The Work of God today is not set up as a rival organization to this world's churches.

God has commissioned us to cry aloud, spare not, and show our people their sins (Isa. 58:1). We have not been commissioned to preach smooth things and mealy-mouthed platitudes! Our job is not to appease or cajole a sin-laden world! It is to WARN a society bent on self-destruction! This Work comes in the same spirit and the same power as Elijah once did (Mal. 4:5-6). And like Elijah we label paganism and

idolatry for what they are! And as in Elijah's time, the "prophets of Baal" still wail and moan, calling upon "another Jesus" who does not hear them!

Today the conditions are similar to Noah's day and becoming more so all the time (Matt. 24:37). And as Noah's words fell on deaf ears, so the words of this Work bounce off the flinty foreheads of a rebellious and stiff-necked nation!

As God told Zerubbabel, this Work is not being accomplished by mere human efforts. It is being done by the power of God's Holy Spirit (Zech. 4:6).

As in Nehemiah's time, only a comparative handful have become active in this Great Work! They do not include for the most part the noble, the mighty, or the financial and intellectual elite of the world!

Today over 150 million people are being exposed to the Gospel of the Kingdom of God via radio, television and the printing press. But only a bandful are making it possible by their financial support and their fervent prayers. But those God has called to do this Work are dedicated and loyal to the commission God has given them. They love this world as God did (John 3:16), but they do not love its sins.

If YOU wish to have a more active part in this Work of God, He will not deny you! But it must be "willingly and from the heart." It behooves you to prove to yourself whether this is indeed where God is working today!

Those who deny themselves in this end time and prayerfully support and do the Work of God will receive God's reward!

"For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love..." (Heb. 6:10). Those who do the Work will be rewarded according to their works! (Prov. 24:12; Ps. 62:12; Matt. 16:27; Job 34:11.) (This does not refer to salvation, but rather to the reward they will receive after God has given them the free gift of salvation.)

Remember the ringing words of the great Prophet Elijah:

"How LONG WILL YOU SIT ON THE FENCE? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him.... And the people answered him..."?



Why have so few discovered the "keys" to personal happiness and peace of mind? This article reveals the VITAL knowledge that is desperately needed by millions of people suffering from the tensions and frustrations of this modern world!

by Roderick C. Meredith

HE dog is out, Jane! Why didn't you shut that gate?"

"You were the one who left the gate open, John. You never shut it when you come in from work!"

"Jane! I don't like the tone of your voice!"

"Well, it's the truth and you know it, John!"

"Oh, SHUT UP, and get the kids out looking for that dog! You're so hard-headed you never admit ANYTHING you do wrong!"

Typical Family Scene

Ever hear any talk like that?

Of course you have. For that kind of arguing, bickering, accusing and squabbling is par for the course in millions of modern homes.

These millions of husbands and wives, mothers and daughters, brothers and sisters constantly keep each other stirred up, frustrated and emotionally off balance. They may not always be "mad" at each other. But they are upset, competitive and belligerent none-theless.

Many a young couple has nearly everything going for them. They have a beautiful home, lots of food and clothes, nice car, TV, the works.

But they are wretched. They are miserably unhappy much of the time because of their constant fussing, fighting and turmoil. WHY?

They have not learned to guide and RULE their mind and emotions in the proper way! They haven't learned to emphasize the positive and creatively build happiness into their lives.

What Modern Science Has Found — and What the Bible REVEALS

In the last few decades, modern science has found increasing evidence that the vast majority of our physical aches, pains and illnesses are either caused

entirely — or are heavily contributed to — by our upset human emotions!

During recent years, medical scientists have come to realize that wrong emotions can produce the symptoms of literally dozens of different bodily ills. Common complaints such as gas pains, dizziness, headaches, constipation, pain in the back of the neck, ulcer-like pain, gall bladder-like pain, and tiredness are all included.

Many intelligent people assume they are immune to emotionally induced illness. But as you go up the ladder of human responsibility, mental alertness and capacity, the more emotional problems you will find. For the alert mind can think of ten things to be worried or concerned about in the time a slower mind can think of only one!

The person with greater capacity usually takes on greater responsibilities — which means, usually, more tense emotions. So we have far more heartburn, heart attacks and ulcers, for instance, among top executives than among day laborers.

It is now established scientifically that no matter how intelligent you are your emotions can literally KILL you!

Three thousand years ago, the inspired writer of Proverbs stated a truth



that medical science is now just in the process of confirming: "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones" (Proverbs 17:22). This Biblical statement is true in more ways than one, for emotional upset almost *literally* "dries the bones" of its victims.

A classic example of the above is the manifestation of fibrositis, or muscular rheumatism. It was found that many young men in the service developed this disease during World War I. At that time, it was thought that the disease, which causes pains in the chest and muscular structure of its victims, was due to the wet, miserable and exposed living conditions in the trenches of Northern France. But in the Second World War, almost the same percentage of men in the battle line developed fibrositis. The percentage was the same whether they were fighting in the cold, wet Aleutian Islands, or in hot, dry North Africa.

Later, it was proved that fibrositis was emotionally induced and had no relation whatever to geographical location. Yet the pain is very real — and acts, just like what King Solomon wrote in Proverbs 17:22 — like the "bones were dried" and need an oiling!

But the "merry heart" does GOOD in preventing not only this *fibrositis* but a multitude of other ills and diseases as well — including heart disease and ulcers.

We Must LEARN to Be Satisfied

Again, the Proverbs state: "A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken" (Proverbs 15:13). And it is certainly true that the man who lets his mind dwell on sorrow, frustration and negative thoughts will literally "break" his spirit or mind in a way that may actually lead to insanity - carried to the ultimate extreme. Emotional brooding and worrying over petty problems or temporary disease only creates a vicious cycle whereby these are much more liable to occur next time! The entire mental attitude becomes negative, the wisdom and judgment are clouded, the drive and enthusiasm are diminished.

Again: "All the days of the afflicted are evil: but he that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast" (verse 15). Often, a very small farmer or day laborer in America or Britain, or a peasant in Asia or Africa may be FAR MORE HAPPY than the business "tycoon" — so filled with the spirit of

competition, hostility, resentment, and frustration — in our modern Western world.

In spite of all our material blessings, so many millions of us in this Western world have not learned to be "satisfied." We have not learned to be grateful and thankful for the blessings we have received.

All too often we have great swelling vanity. In our striving for "success," we are easily upset and irritated if things don't go just exactly according to schedule. We become angry or bitter if anyone gets in our way — whether it be in our job, in line at the water cooler, or slowing down our car on the freeway!

Learn to RULE Your Emotions

Growing up in this Western world, most of us are taught how to dress and eat, how to read and write and get along reasonably well in the bare "functioning" of life and earning our daily bread. But we are NOT taught God's spiritual LAWS of life — nor are we taught how to RULE our emotions properly!

This most important of all knowledge ought to be taught in the home first of all. But the home is often the

worst possible example of emotional stability, happiness and obedience to the laws of God, physical or spiritual.

This is a vast subject, and there is room for much more to be said in following articles. Nevertheless, you can start now to teach yourself proper emotional control and responses to life which will greatly aid in producing a really happy, balanced life! It will require effort and concentration at first, especially. In order to be truly effective, it must be practiced diligently as a way of life so that it becomes second nature. The following points are not merely to "skim over" as a matter of interest, but to study, review and use in building a fuller, more balanced and happy life for yourself and your family as you learn to share with others.

Here, then, are SEVEN STEPS toward overcoming emotional upset and building happiness into your life.

I. Accentuate the Positive and Practice Cheerfulness

How many of you grew up in families where the *negative* feelings were always stressed — the misfortunes, the frustrations, the dark side of things? Millions have. And this very type of attitude is something to avoid like the plague.

For people who are constantly worrying, harping and complaining are prime candidates for emotionally induced illness. They are the ones who will have the most heart attacks, ulcers and other emotionally induced problems.

At the same time, the man who practices cheerfulness and positive thinking is far happier. He sees good possibilities and incidental joys in nearly everything. He is thankful to God to just be alive. Thankful for the breath of air he breathes, the food he eats, the clothes he wears, the house he lives in. Thankful he has any kind of car to drive — since so many hundreds of millions in other parts of the world do not. Thankful if he has any radio or television at all. This type of individual is one who enjoys a quiet walk out of doors looking at the clouds above, the plants, the trees, the birds and all the beauties of the creation about him. He is one who enjoys visiting with and looking into the eyes of his fellow human beings with radiant, unfeigned warmth and often with merriment.

He has determined to enjoy life, not merely endure it.

Back during the Second World War, we here in America were enjoying a cute song that went something like this: "Accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative, don't mess with Mr. Inbetween!" This song helped many get over some of the doldrums of the last few years of the Depression, work long hard hours during the Second World War and maintain a generally positive attitude in the face of problems.

Look on the Bright Side

This is the attitude we must create in ourselves if we are to be successful and happy as we want to be. Along with this positive attitude, there must also be a spirit of thankfulness and rejoicing. A most inspiring section of the Bible where these very attitudes are emphasized is in Paul's letter to the Philippians. Here was a time when the apostle himself was a prisoner of Rome - guarded by a Roman soldier - and whose legs were evidently shackled by a literal ball and chain. Yet this man of God writes: "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, REJOICE" (Philippians 4:4).

Then, continuing in verse 8, Paul exhorts: "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

Here, in plain language, and in a time of personal trial, God's Apostle was plainly telling the Christians of that day to rejoice and to think positively about the things that are true, honest, just, pure and lovely.

Notice that he did not dwell on the probable "unjust" circumstances contributing to his arrest and imprisonment. He did not dwell on the fact that he was bound with a chain and being guarded by a Roman soldier — with perhaps death in the offing if his trial did not turn out well.

This is not a matter of "mind science" or forgetting the real problems

that present themselves. But it is a matter of facing those problems with a truly positive and cheerful attitude even under adverse circumstances.

It is a matter of learning and disciplining yourself not to continually dwell on the negative aspect of things and so defeat your own purposes by brooding and worrying. It is a matter of accentuating the positive things—lightening tight situations with a little bit of humor and cheerfulness wherever possible— and constantly looking on the "bright side."

II. Don't Cry Over Spilled Milk

Some people continually keep thinking over, brooding over, talking over and generally "moaning around" about every defeat, setback, frustration that they can think of. How utterly miserable they are making themselves!

And there is no excuse!

Every intelligent human being can teach himself — if his parents, friends and tutors fail to teach him — the lesson that crying over spilled milk is stupid. Yes, there is no better word for it — just plain stupid! Oh, I know that we all do it sometimes if we're not careful. But that still doesn't excuse it. For we can change if we really want to!

Again, the inspired Apostle Paul gives excellent advice: "Forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forth to those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14).

Will you learn to "forget" — at least as far as worrying about — all your past frustrations, defeats and misfortunes? Can you learn to start each day with a clean slate mentally? Can you learn to "press toward the mark" — toward your goals — without constantly worrying about the past or about temporary misfortunes along the way?

Of course, if you are wrong, learn to examine the facts unemotionally. And by taking "inventory" of your plans, progress and goals occasionally, you will make far fewer mistakes. When you do make serious mistakes, learn to repent — as the Bible says — and be very sorry that you did. But "repentance," Biblically speaking, involves far more than being sorry. For repentance

implies CHANGE. It means that you are so sorry — at the time, although not "brooding" about it forever — that you are willing to turn around and go the other way.

That is fine, and as it should be. You should be willing to change when you are wrong. You should be willing to admit error and be sincerely sorry when you find you have made a mistake or committed a sin.

But even God Himself does not require you to stew around forever, worrying, running your sins or misfortunes through your mind over and over again like a repeating phonograph record!

So learn to quit worrying about the past. Learn to stop pitying yourself. Learn not to cry over spilled milk!

III. Always AVOID Bickering and Arguments

Life is simply too short to spend it in acrimonious bickering, fighting and arguing with your associates or those you love. And, strangely, the very ones we love most are often the ones we spend the most time arguing with.

Often it is merely a matter of family background and habit. But it is a costly habit in terms of time, energies and the devitalizing effect of negative emotions. It is not worth the price.

So if you are in a position where you must exhort or correct others, learn to do it firmly, fairly and quickly. Simply let your associates know that you will not tolerate, or engage in, long-drawn-out arguments and debates.

Of course, learn to use tact and diplomacy when you do have to disagree with or correct others. Do it gently, when possible, and in private.

With your wife, or with associates on the job, avoid the habit of disagreement and thinking you have to "straighten things out" by enlarging upon or improving what others have said in a way that leads to disagreement or argument.

The constant carping away of a disgruntled wife or husband or business associate can indeed wear one's nerves to a thin edge. If many in a family or organization engage in this type of thing, it will certainly work ruin.

So, again, avoid arguments and bickering like the plague.

The price is simply too high.

IV. Turn Defeats Into Victory

Even though your team loses the game or you lose the big sale or contract, don't let this get you down. Learn to accept with equanimity the ups and downs of life. Use the lessons learned in defeat as the springboard for future victory.

In that way, try to turn every defeat into a victory!

Even though an immediate or physical victory will not always be yours in this life, remember that the best victory is to have kept your composure, your love, your courage and your goodwill for others.

Many men and women who have been crippled by war or disease have achieved a remarkable victory because of their very affliction. Overcoming obstacles, doing fantastic things in spite of their handicaps, they have set an inspiring and magnificent example to the rest of us. Often, this kind of victory is the greatest, the most rewarding and the most lasting of all.

V. Face and HANDLE Your Problems With Big-Mindedness, Faith and Courage

The Great Depression of 1929 revealed the fiber of many men and women. Because of terrible business reversals, many an investor and businessman became hysterical, developed high blood pressure and ulcers. Some even committed suicide.

Others, although equally shocked by this sudden reversal in the order of things, determined to see the problem through. They made new investments, built new businesses, in some cases took up entirely new professions and made a success! They were unwilling to let the immediate, the "around," upset them for the rest of their natural lives.

How about you?

Have you learned to be big-minded enough not to let little upsets throw you into the depths of despair? Have you learned not to become resentful or angry just because the other fellow loses his temper? The right answers to these questions are the hallmarks of a big man — a successful and happy man. For, with God's help, we must learn to discipline and control our thoughts and

emotions so that they do not in fact hinder us from accomplishing our LONG-RANGE GOALS.

Obviously, the man who is easily upset, mad or discouraged is in for terrible trouble if he is dealing with others a great deal in this busy, hustling world. He will alternately be frustrated, angry or discouraged.

But with God's help — if we ask for it in prayer — we can control our minds and emotions. Proverbs tells us: "He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that RULETH HIS SPIRIT than he that taketh a city" (Proverbs 16:32). The truly "big" man RULES his mind, emotions and attitudes so that they do not defeat him.

An amusing yet meaningful account of how Winston Churchill practiced this principle concerns his being run down by a New York taxicab in 1931. He was confined to a bed of pain and kept from his work for some time. Of course, he could easily have become discouraged or perhaps bitter against America and all cab drivers.

Instead, Churchill made front-page news by completely exonerating the driver. Then, he dashed off a lurid description of the episode for which he received \$2,500.00!

Churchill was big-minded about what could have been thought of as a "tragedy" by a lesser man. He possessed the understanding that this upset was only temporary and need not be a tragedy at all unless he and his emotions made it so.

VI. Build Faith in God

In the trials of life, you will need to have faith in something bigger than yourself. You should certainly take the opportunity to prove to yourself the existence and present, active rulership of the personal God of the Bible. (Write for our free booklet Does God Exist?) As you come to see that there is a great purpose being worked out here below, it will give you perspective and wisdom in handling the day-by-day and year-by-year problems of your life.

Learn to take God at His Word. Learn to obey God. Then trust Him to deliver you from trials and tests. "In the fear of the Lord is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge" (Proverbs 14:26).

If you don't already know it, some day you will learn and really know that the only real faith and courage is that which comes from Almighty God.

With the proper faith and courage from God, you will learn to face and handle your problems instead of running from them. The weak man is the one who "puts off" handling problems as they come up. He is the one who tries to ignore them, give them to others or bury them in desk drawers or filing cabinets.

Often, the emotional turmoil and gnawing worry and brooding resulting from not handling or solving serious problems is far worse than the immediate action of handling these problems — no matter how unpleasant it may be at that particular moment.

One of the laws of success for an executive or leader is to put the most difficult job at or near the top of his "to do" list! He must learn to do the big or difficult job first. He must not shrink from it, but act while his original momentum of getting the facts is still with him.

All of us need to learn to do this in our personal lives. Be sure you get all the facts. Be sure you take time to think and pray to Almighty God over a misunderstanding, an argument or a problem in your family, life, or job. But once this is accomplished, take action quickly!

Face and handle these problems with the wisdom, faith and courage that comes from God!

VII. Be a Doer

There is no use quickly reading vital information like this unless you are going to act on it and put it to work in your life!

Even God describes this principle in relationship to His Law: "For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified" (Romans 2:13).

Will you be a doer?

Every one of you reading this has negative thoughts, fears, frustrations, and wrong emotions from time to time. Many of you are, of course, simply loaded with these. This has been, with you and in your family, a veritable way



How Your Affects

OF THE twenty leading causes of death in the United States at the turn of the century, thirteen of them were infectious diseases. Only three were in the general category of degenerative diseases.

Today the balance has been nearly reversed, so that only four infectious diseases place in the top twenty while there are nine degenerative ones. Tuberculosis, pneumonia and diarrhea were the leading killers then; heart disease, cancer and stroke have the top three positions today.

Although the American life-span has increased from an average of 47 in 1900 to 70 today, it seems that very few reach a ripe old age free of one or more of the degenerative diseases. But even more importantly, few senior citizens are reaching an advanced age still enjoying an interesting, happy and really satisfying life.

With most of the infectious diseases now considered "out of the way," scientists have turned their attention to the degenerative diseases and to what is referred to as "the problem of aging." To determine whatever factors there might be which predispose one to a long and enjoyable life, one of the research techniques which has been used is the interviewing of representative samplings of older people to see just how they have lived their lives so as to reach their "ripe old age." The conclusions of two such polls are interesting in the light of what God's Word

— the Bible — says about the subject.

An early but extensive study was conducted by Dr. Flanders Dunbar, then

ducted by Dr. Flanders Dunbar, then editor emeritus of Psychosomatic Medicine and director of Psychosomatic Research at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons. From 1951 through 1953 about twenty percent of all white people in the United States age 95 or over were interviewed. While not discounting the importance of such factors as heredity, moderation in eating and exercise, the study found that these old people seemed to share a common factor — emotional maturity and a positive outlook on life. Many of them, when questioned on the subject, had his or her formula or secret for longevity, but these were not as important as the fact that all of them had learned to take things in their stride.

Dr. George Gallup, the famous pollster, made a similar study of 530 people aged 95 and above in the United States and Great Britain, His findings were published in his book The Miracle Ahead. Dr. Gallup's research also acknowledged the influences of heredity, avoidance of obesity (overweight), balanced diet, physical activity and other practices known to be conducive to good health. But he came to the very similar conclusion that the oldsters he had interviewed were, as a group, different in that they consistently showed a positive attitude about life - they enjoyed living!

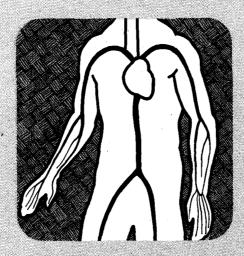
This positive attitude is so crucially

Mind Your Body

important to health and longevity that scientists now believe they can spot a potential centenarian by age fifty, according to how he reacts to life's stresses. In fact, insurance actuarians can statistically predict your life-span by taking into consideration your previous health pattern and life picture — the way you have learned to handle yourself.

Now, it is no new revelation that one of the important goals of Christian living is an enjoyable, happy, interestpacked life on earth here and now. However, all too often, religionists point to "the great reward in the sky" as the sole reason for living the Christian life. What is usually neglected is the fact that obedience to God's laws produces a long, thoroughly satisfying physical life! God has not neglected to give ample information in His Word about how to obtain this life and how to make it last as long as possible. Let's consider a few of the many scriptures which have been available all along for those who want to reach a ripe old

The book of Proverbs is a particularly rich vein to mine in this regard. Notice Proverbs 3:1 and 2 for a starter: "My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: for length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee." Then add Proverbs 9:10 and 11: "The fear of the Eternal is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding. For by me thy



days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased."

Medical scientists have proven that the emotions and thought processes play a vital causative role in a whole host of diseases, many of which can progress from the stage of being only psychosomatic, in which there is no actual organ disease, to actually becoming real bodily illnesses with organ pathology. God's Word has plenty to say about the beneficial effects of right thoughts. Notice Proverbs 14:30: "A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones." Proverbs 15:13 says much the same thing. Proverbs 16:24 tells us: "Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones."

It is very instructive to use a concordance and see the great number of scriptures, both in the Old Testament and in the New, where God tells us to rejoice and be happy. This attitude is so very essential to physical health and to a sense of well-being, that God actually commands us to be happy. The scriptures containing this command are numerous.

God also tells us how to be happy, sound-minded and physically whole — all we need to do is read and obey the Bible. How about this one for a summary of the Book on the subject of long life and good health: "Fear God and keep his commandments: for this is the WHOLE man" (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

-J. H. Overton, M.D.

of life. You simply grew up in a family where arguing and bickering, dwelling on the negative side, crying over spilled milk and general pessimism prevailed.

Overcoming this tendency in your life, in your family, in your job will require constant thought and effort. You will have to work hard at first to establish the cheerful, positive approach as a way of life for you.

But the results will be far more than worth it.

So use each key in this article as a tool — a working blueprint to help you make a better life in regard to the proper control of your mind and emotions. And watch future issues of Tomorrow's World carefully for other vital articles along this line.

Jesus said: "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more ABUNDANTLY" (John 10:10). He also said, ... "I am the way, the truth and the life..." (John 14:6). The only truly lasting WAY and lastingly abundant life is being revealed in the pages of this vital magazine. For it is based on obedience to the *living laws* and WAY of the Almighty God of love, wisdom and mercy.

Personal Counsel

If you have questions — or you just want to learn more about this way of life, here is GOOD NEWS.

As a part of the Adult Education Program, we now have trained men available in all parts of the United States and many other parts of the world. These dedicated men are ready to counsel with you personally, answer your questions or to help you with any spiritual problems. We won't send anyone to see you unwanted — not unless you request it.

But if you would like one of these trained men to call and counsel with you about any problems, answer any questions, even explain anything in the Bible—there is such a man near you. Actually, most of these men are consecrated and ordained ministers. They, and we here at the Headquarters of this great Work, want only to help—to serve. We count it a privilege to do so.

We want others to be willing to learn, to prove and to LIVE that WAY.

world today suffers from the mistaken notion that Christ came to do away with His Father's religion — the religion of the Old Testament. Nothing could be further from the truth! Jesus Himself said, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill [fill to the brim]" (Matt. 5:17).

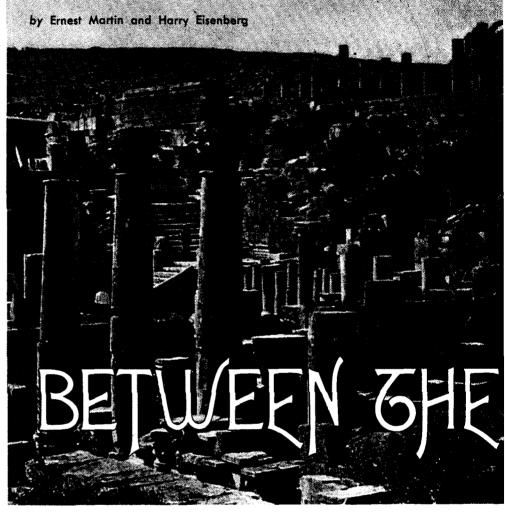
Christ plainly said that He did not come to do away with His Father's religion but to *complete* God's revelation. Then why are so many confused on this point? Why do some mistakenly preach that the Law was "done away"?

One of the major assumptions in this connection is that most theologians assume that the Pharisees and the other religionists of Jesus' day were the representatives and the exponents of the revelation given to Moses - God's Old Testament religion. But the Bible shows that the One who later became Jesus Christ was the Lord of the Old Testament: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.... All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made" (John 1:1, 3; see also Eph. 3:9 and Heb. 1:2). Just where and when did the Pharisees get their practices which Jesus condemned?

The Return From Babylon

Chronologically speaking, the last three authors of the Old Testament are Ezra, Nehemiah and Malachi. These three men all worked among the Jewish community that had returned to Judaea after the Babylonian captivity. They were largely successful in bringing to the people an awareness of God's true religion. A body of priests (Aaron's descendants whom God had ordained to be the religious leaders) was set up to guide the people in matters of religion. This company of men was known in history as the "Great Assembly" or "Synagogue" (Knesset Hagedolah). Due to the work of this body throughout the period of Persian dominance the Jews were living for the most part in accordance with God's Law (Heinrich Graetz, History of the Jews, Jewish

dust who were the Pharisees and where did their religious doctrines originate? In the Old Testament? If so, why did Christ so strenuously oppose their ideas? Is the Bible—both Old and New Testaments—a house divided? An examination of the period "between the Testaments" shows that while men may be divided—the Bible is not!



Publication Society, Philadelphia, 1894, Vol. I, pp. 406-407).

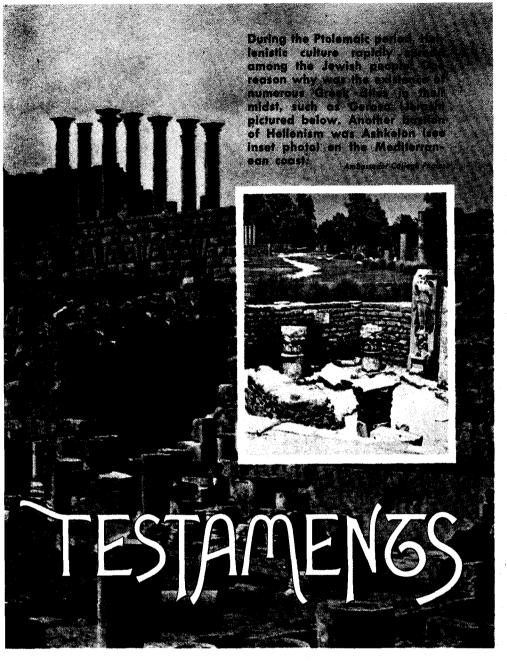
Because of this, God granted them special protection and privileges by a series of miracles, at the coming of Alexander the Great in 330 B.C. This is described in Josephus' *Antiquities of the Jews*, Book XI, Chapter X, Parts 5-6.

A New Way of Life

At his death, Alexander's empire was divided into four parts (Dan. 8:22). Judaea first passed under the rule of the Ptolemies of Egypt and, later, the Seleucidae of Syria. Both of these were Macedonian (Greek) dynasties and were great exponents of the pagan, Gentile way of life known as "Hellenism."

The basic philosophy behind Hellenism was this: Every man had the right to think for himself on any matter as long as there was not a real departure from the customs that were essentially Greek.

This philosophy — freedom of thought or individualism, which is seemingly altruistic in principle — resulted in myriads of confusing and contradictory beliefs among the Greeks in every phase of life. Every man was allowed his own ideas about the sciences, the arts, law and about religion. So varied were the opinions among the Greek scholars in the various fields of study that individuals took pride in contending with one another over who could present the greatest "wisdom" and "knowledge" on any particular subject.



With the encouragement of the rulers, Hellenism spread rapidly in the Ptolemaic Empire. Judaea was by no means exempt.

Great Assembly No Longer in Authority

Within a score of years after the coming of the Greeks, the Great Assembly disappears from history as an organized body having religious control over the Jewish people. It is not known how the Greeks dismissed this authoritative religious body from its official capacity as teachers of the Law. But it is obvious that the authority of the Great Assembly was eroded and the Greek leaders forbade them to teach.

Without the religious guidance of the Great Assembly, many Jews began to

imbibe the Greek customs and ideas which were inundating the land.

"With the change from Persian to Greek rule [the Ptolemies were Greeks, remember], Hellenism made its influence felt, and came pouring like a flood into a country which had known nothing of it. There was no escape from its influence. It was present everywhere, in the street and the market, in the everyday life and all the phases of social intercourse" (R. Travers Herford, Talmud and Apocrypha, Soncino Press, London, 1933, page 77).

Much of this Hellenistic influence came from the numerous Greek cities which were established under the Ptolemies. Most of these were on the Mediterranean seacoast or on the east side of Jordan.

With the Great Assembly removed from the scene and this new culture substituted for the Law of God, the Jews began to absorb many elements of Hellenism. The Jews had no one to guide them in understanding the Law except a few isolated teachers here and there who lacked the official authority of the Great Assembly.

After a few years of this influence, the people literally came to a state of religious confusion. Some endeavored to keep a form of the Scriptural teachings, but with Hellenism everywhere, it became almost impossible to adhere to the true form of the law of Moses. Almost everything the Greeks brought to the Jews was antagonistic to the laws of God, and, without the religious guidance of the Great Assembly, many of them began to tolerate these innovations and even, as time progressed, to take up many of the Greek ideas and customs themselves.

100 Years of Ptolemaic Rule

After a series of battles with the Syrians, Ptolemy I, the Greek king of Egypt, took firm control of Judaea in 301 B. C. His descendants retained that control for over one hundred years, until 198 B. C.

This one-hundred-year period of Greek-Egyptian domination is very important in the religious history of the Jews. This is the period in which many great and significant changes first began to take place in Jewish religious life.

"During the comparatively quiet rule of the Ptolemies, Greek ideas, customs and morality had been making peaceful conquests in Palestine" (Charles Foster Kent, History of the Jewish People, page 320).

There was little resistance to these inroads. We are informed by Dr. Jacob Lauterbach, a learned Jewish scholar, that Jewish tradition knows of no religious teacher who taught any form of religion from the death of Simon the Just (270 B.C.) until about the year 190 B.C. (Jacob Z. Lauterbach, Rabbinic Essays, Hebrew Union College Press, Cincinnati, 1951, page 196).

"This would have been impossible," Dr. Lauterbach says, "if there had been

any official activity of the teachers in those years" (ibid.).

But there was none. In fact, whole generations came and went, offering no great resistance to the new customs which were encouraged by the commercial and educational intercourse taking place between the Jews, Greeks and Hellenistic Egyptians. In fact, thousands of Jews migrated to Egypt during this period. By the end of the Ptolemaic period, there were over a million Jews in Egypt, out of a total population of about seven million.

A prime example of Hellenistic influence is the *pagan* concept of the immortality of the soul. This doctrine was widely publicized in the writings of the pagan Greek philosopher Plato.

The Coming of the Seleucids

In 198 B.C. the Seleucid kingdom of Syria conquered Judaea and drove out the Egyptians. Like the Ptolemies, the Seleucids were also of Greek origin and equally Hellenistic in culture and outlook.

At first, conditions in Judaea were pretty much like what they had been under the Ptolemies. The Seleucid ruler, Antiochus II, was favorably inclined toward the Jews.

Conditions rapidly changed, however, with the coming to the throne in 175 B.C. of Antiochus Epiphanes.

Shortly after he ascended the throne, there was a contention among several of the priests in Jerusalem for the office of High Priest. Jason, the brother of the reigning High Priest, persuaded Antiochus to transfer the office to him, by offering a large sum of money to the King.

Jason was Hellenistically inclined and was followed in this by many of the people. "A passion for Greek costumes, Greek customs, and Greek names [Jason's Hebrew name was Joshua] seized the people. Large numbers were enrolled as citizens of Antioch [the capital of Syria]. Many even endeavored to conceal the fact that they had been circumcised.... To demonstrate that he had left all the traditions of his race behind, Jason sent a rich present for sacrifices in connection with the great festival at Tyre in honor of the god Hercules" (Kent, History of

the Jewish People, pp. 324-325).

Of course, not everyone in Judaea went this far, but by and large, most people are inclined to follow their human leaders, at least to a certain extent.

About three years after Jason assumed office, Menelaus (Hebrew name Onias), a man most believe to have been of the tribe of Benjamin (not a descendant of Aaron and therefore not truly a priest) offered Antiochus a larger bribe than Jason, and he was named High Priest instead. Because of this, Jason fled beyond Jordan to the Ammonites for refuge. (See McClintock and Strong, Cyclopaedia of Biblical, Theological and Ecclesiastical Literature, Vol. I, pp. 271-272; and II Maccabees, Chapter 4).

Many of the Jews thought Jason had been unjustly deprived of becoming High Priest. Many of the people began to take sides — some for Jason, some for Menelaus. Fighting broke out between the two groups, both of whom were led by outright Hellenists.

Jason's forces won out and Menelaus fled to Antioch. There Antiochus became infuriated to learn that many of the Jews had taken sides against his appointed official or, in effect, against his government itself!

At that time Antiochus was planning to conquer Egypt. When that failed, due to the intervention of the Romans, he decided to take out his anger on the rebellious Jews at Jerusalem. He planned not only to subdue the Jews but to put an end to their religion once and for all.

Antiochus, feigning peace, proceeded to take the city. He polluted the Temple by burning swine's flesh on its altar, and erected a statue of Jupiter Olympus in the Holy Place. This had been prophesied by Daniel (Dan. 11:29-31). He plundered the Temple of all objects of value and then issued a decree forbidding the Jews to worship God or in any way to exercise their religion.

Despite the severity of this decree, there were many Hellenistically inclined Jews who nonetheless accepted it without protest. Many of these Hellenists were priests and Levites.

On the other hand, for many other Jews, the majority of whom may have been only slightly interested in religion previously, this decree forbidding such basic practices as circumcision and requiring idol worship was simply too much

The Maccabean Revolt

In the small village of Modi'in, the head of a priestly family, Mattathias, and his five sons, stood up to oppose Antiochus and his decree. "If anyone be zealous for the laws of his country and for the worship of God, let him follow me," he proclaimed (Josephus, Antiquities of the Jews, Book XII, Chapter VI, Part 2).

Thousands flocked to his banner and a full revolt was under way.

Just before his death, Mattathias made his third son, Judah (called Maccabee), general of their army. After a long series of battles with his forces greatly outnumbered, Judah defeated the Syrians and their Samaritan allies. In 165 B. C. he went up to Jerusalem and purified the Temple, restoring the true ritual of God.

Judah was killed in a later battle. Finally Simon, the last survivor of Mattathias' sons, was able to proclaim an independent nation with himself as High Priest.

The nation was now, at last, free of foreign domination. But the years of religious anarchy and Hellenistic influence had taken their toll. Dr. Lauterbach states: "During the seventy or eighty years of religious anarchy, many new practises had been gradually adopted by the people" (Lauterbach, page 205). The British scholar Travers Herford adds: "In the absence of authoritative guidance, the people had gone their own way; new customs had found a place among old religious usages...new ideas had been formed under the influence of Hellenism which had permeated the land for more than a century, and there had been no one to point out the danger which thereby threatened the religious life of the people" (Herford, Talmud and Apocrypha, pp. 64-65).

The Sanhedrin

We are now at the point where the Pharisees first make their appearance in history, some time after the Maccabean wars. But before we note this, we need to examine briefly the rise of the Sanhedrin, the body which they dominated during much of its existence.

While some sources would lead us to believe that the Sanhedrin was the direct successor to the Great Assembly, this was not the case. It was not until about 196 B. C. after a hiatus of some eighty years that the Sanhedrin was first established. This is shown by an ancient manuscript found today in a text called Fragments of a Zadokite Work. This text points to 196 B.C. as the year the Sanhedrin first met. This body is said to consist of "men of understanding from Aaron" (that is, priests), and "from Israel wise teachers" (that is, non-priestly teachers) (Lauterbach, Rabbinic Essays, page 203).

This is significant! The writer mentions there were both priests and lay teachers in the new Sanhedrin. This was an innovation. Until this time only the priests, with their assistants, the Levites, were considered to have the authority to teach religion to the people.

This would not have been permitted while the Great Assembly, the successor of Ezra, was in authority. This is clearly shown from the writings of Malachi, who was contemporary with Ezra, Nehemiah and the early days of the Great Assembly. "For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he [the priest] is the messenger of the Lord of Hosts" (Mal. 2:7). The law of Moses, which God had directly commanded him, clearly enjoined that the priests and Levites were to perform the functions of teachers, not just any layman who would presume to do so. (See Deut. 18:1-7; 33:10 and also Ezek. 44:23.)

Lay Teachers Reject Sole Authority of Priests to Teach

Why this radical change? Again we must briefly go back to the period of religious anarchy when the Egyptian Ptolemies ruled Judaea.

Both the Ptolemies and the later Seleucid rulers looked upon the High Priest as the head of the Jewish nation. In turn, it was the High Priest, with his assistants (other priests) who dealt with the Hellenist rulers on behalf of the nation.

Outstanding among these were Joseph, the son of Tobias, and his son Hyrcanus. In order to be successful diplomats at the Hellenistic court in Alexandria, they felt it necessary to adopt Greek ways. And these they brought back with them to Judaea. Thus, it was the priests, the ones who should have been teaching the people God's Law, who became the chief proponents of Hellenism.

From 206 to 196 B. C. a series of battles between the rival Hellenistic kings of Syria and Egypt devastated many parts of Judaea. Some blamed Hellenism for this trouble and began to seek to return to the laws of their fathers. But to whom could they turn?

The priests as a whole had become thoroughly Hellenized. In fact, different priests were taking sides in the wars and were even raising up armies to help either the Syrians or the Egyptians. The only ones who had studied God's Word and remained committed to it in any form were a few laymen and some minor priests. These sat in the new Sanhedrin.

What Was God's Way?

Prior to and during the Maccabean revolt, the outwardly Hellenistic priests and their followers supported Antiochus Epiphanes. The lay teachers and the Sanhedrin as a whole supported the Maccabees. Religiously speaking, the major result of the Maccabean victory was the total discrediting of Hellenism in Judaea. The High Priesthood was given to the Hasmonean (Maccabean) family itself, which descended from minor priests. No one was an outright Hellenist any longer. Many were desirous of following God's way. But whatever religious unity there might have been was short-lived.

The question basically was one of determining just what was God's way. There was, of course, the written Bible (the Old Testament). But how were the people to apply its teachings to the various problems and events that arise in daily life? The Jews, remember, had just emerged from a period where the teaching and practice of God's Law had been forbidden. And this had been preceded by an era of some eighty years during which Hellenism had made great inroads into the daily lives of the

people; and all this while there had been no organized body directing religious life.

Hundreds of years before, Ezra and those priests and Levites assisting him had "... read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and [had given] the sense, and caused them to understand the reading" (Neh. 8:8). Through the ages, God's servants have been responsible to show the people (with His guidance) how His Law applied in various situations in their lives. This was never the prerogative of anyone who wanted to choose "the ministry," "the priesthood" or "the rabbinate" for a vocation, but only those whom God specifically chose. And in ancient Israel, under the Old Covenant, God chose the priests, primarily, with the Levites to assist them, for this purpose of teaching.

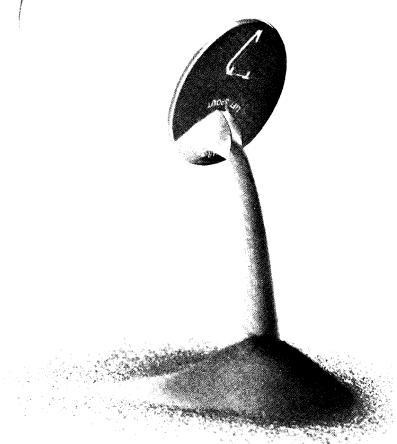
The Pharisees Come on the Scene

Following the Maccabean victory there were many priests who were ready and willing to resume their ancient, God-given role as teachers and expounders of the Law. But there were also the lay teachers who had come to sit in the Sanhedrin and had made a notable contribution to the Maccabean cause at a time when many priests were outright Hellenists and supporters of Antiochus Epiphanes. Lauterbach says that the lay teachers "refused to recognize the authority of the priests as a class, and, inasmuch as many of the priests had proven unfaithful guardians of the Law, they would not entrust to them the regulation of the religious life of the people" (Lauterbach, page 209). It was these lay teachers who organized themselves into the party of the Pharisees.

Although many of the priests had indeed become Hellenized, this did not necessarily give the lay teachers the right to usurp some of the priests' Godgiven authority. But, sadly they insisted on following the way that seemed right to them (Prov. 14:12; 16:25). However, two wrongs did not make a right in that day any more than they do today.

What these two wrongs did result in will be shown in the next installment. Watch for it in an upcoming issue of Tomorrow's World.

Jesus Christ compared His disciples to SALT. Why salt instead of some other seasoning? Read this interest-grabbing article and find out WHY Christ called His followers...



"THE SALT of the EARTH"

by John Robinson and Alan Heath

For most of us, salt is accepted as a routine commodity. Perhaps we picture the shaker on the dining room table. Or perhaps we think of the Morton salt girl pouring salt all over the sidewalk in a blinding thunderstorm. Maybe we think of the coarser variety of salt used when the family gets together to make homemade ice cream. But did you know that of all the salt in the world, only three percent is used in the home?

There are over 14,000 catalogued

uses of salt. No basic commodity is put to as many uses as salt.

Salt is used by meat packers, chemical companies, food processors and soap manufacturers. It is also used in the production of glass, as a water softener by commercial laundries, and in the smelting and refining of metals. Farmers use it to preserve hay that has been harvested wet, and ranchers provide salt "licks" for their cattle. Salt is even used for the construction of secondary roads, as a binder to hold other roadbed materials together. And after the roads are built, salt is used to de-ice them. Salt is also used extensively in the production of sodium, chlorine, washing soda, caustic soda and hydrochloric acid.

Sources of Salt

Until recently, useable salt has been very rare. A great deal of time and effort has been spent searching for salt sources. Today we obtain salt from three main sources: 1) mines, 2) wells, and 3) salt water in the oceans and certain lakes.

Sixty percent of the world's total salt production comes from mines. There salt is often found in "veins" — much like silver, gold and other metals. In some areas of the world, domes of salt have been squeezed upward toward the earth's surface from a mother bed lying buried several thousand feet below. Since salt is not as dense as the surround-

ing earth, great underground pressures under the salt bed cause it to "flow" upward along fault lines or cracks in the earth. Salt that occurs in this manner is mined much like metal ore and coal. Then it is either crushed and sold as is or processed further. Processing of salt from mines is usually accomplished by making a brine (water and salt) solution out of the rock salt and then evaporating the water by any of several methods.

Another 25 percent of the world's salt resources comes from wells. A large drill is used to reach the salt deposit. Water is then piped down the drill hole and forced up another small shaft parallel to the first. The resulting brine produces granular salt.

The other 15 percent of the world's salt production comes from the oceans and salt lakes. Extracting salt from salt water is the most ancient method for producing useable salt. Ironically, it is the most time-consuming and least efficient. However, the oceans alone hold enough salt to build a wall around the equator 180 miles high and one mile thick! The same amount of salt could form a layer one and one-half miles deep over the continental United States!

But despite the seeming abundance of salt today, it still remains very precious in many parts of the world. Some natives in Central Africa eat meat raw to keep from losing the precious salt in the juices of the meat. And there are natives in the Amazon region of South America who take plants with a high salt content, crush them and boil the juices for small quantities of this precious commodity.

Salt in History

Salt is mentioned many times in the Bible. It was an important part of the animal sacrifices of the Old Testament — so important that God commanded the priests to season all meat offerings with salt (Leviticus 2:13). Even in pagan worship, salt was considered a necessary ingredient in sacrifices.

Wars have been fought over salt. Roman historians recorded Germanic tribes fighting over possession of "sacred salt springs."

Salt played a major role in the defeat of the armies of Napoleon during their retreat from Moscow. The soldiers' wounds wouldn't heal, because their bodies lacked salt, and thousands of them died.

While Alexander the Great was conquering the world, huge salt mines were discovered and worked in northern India. And later during the days of the Roman Empire, Roman soldiers built the Via Salaria — the Salt Road. This was one of the greatest military roads of history and stretched from the salt works at Ostia to the capital city of Rome. (Ostia was located on the Mediterranean coast southwest of Rome.)

Salt was once so valuable that the Caesars partially paid their soldiers with bags of salt. The payment was called salarium argentum — "silver salt" — because it took the place of money. Our English word "salary" comes from the Latin word salarium, which simply means "salt."

Salt has had an effect on language in other ways. In Iran the saying, "untrue to salt," described disloyalty. And even in the United States we use the saying, "not worth his salt." The statement originated in ancient Greece where slaves were bought with salt.

Throughout history, this precious mineral has been in the limelight. It has been a symbol of wealth, used as money, fought over and considered a very important part of the sacrificial ceremonies of many religions.

Salt was especially important in Christ's time. The people were more aware of its value. Salt was not as readily available as it is now. There were times when many had to do without it. We can begin to see that Christ's statement in Matthew 5:13 regarding salt was much more meaningful to the disciples then than for us today.

But let's take a closer look at some of the *specific* aspects of salt. We will find even greater meaning. Christ did not use salt as some *idle* analogy. He chose it beause of its unique properties.

Salt Is Enduring

Have you ever known of pure salt going "BAD"?

A good example of "old" salt is in a salt mine. These salt deposits are thousands of years old and yet they are the source of most of the salt we use. Even refined salt can be stored for long periods of time and still maintain its saltiness. It may have become lumpy and hard, but it is still salt and it remains "salty."

Salt is an enduring mineral which can't spoil. This is one of the reasons it was used in the burnt offerings of Israel—it was a symbol of God's lasting covenant with His people. Salt is the opposite of LEAVEN—the type of sin.

Did you know it is impossible to destroy the savor — the "saltiness" — of salt unless it reacts chemically with another compound?

Natural salt can be subjected to severe tests and still remain enduring. Dissolve it in water — it disappears. No longer is it in its solid state. But does it *endure?* Taste the water and see. Salt can also be subjected to extreme temperature. In fact, it will melt at the red-hot temperature of 800° C. and still maintain its unique chemical composition.

Because of these "enduring" qualities, Christ drew the comparison of salt to Christians. If the salt lost its savor or enduring qualities (which it never does), it would be good for NOTHING. In the same way if we ever lose our saltlike qualities, then we are also good for nothing — not even a dunghill! (Matthew 5:13; Luke 14:34-35.)

Many times salt occurs in nature mixed with materials such as dirt, rocks and other minerals. If it is subjected to a force of water, the salt will go into solution and be leached out. The salt does not lose its savor — it is just transported elsewhere and is no longer part of the original aggregate material.

Christ was explaining in Matthew 5:13 that we are to be like salt. And when He refers to losing the savor, He is explaining to His disciples not to lose the qualities of salt — not to let some outside force cause the "aggregate material" to lose the salt that is part of it.

In comparing His followers to salt, Christ was admonishing them to remain steadfast and true — to endure — in the way of life He had given them. He promises a wonderful reward for those who do endure (Revelation 2:26).

Christ also realized His followers would have to live in a world of sin — a world that did not acknowledge the

true God. Sin — disobedience to the laws of God (I John 3:4) — is a spoiling influence on people. But Christ's disciples have been taught the truth and have been given instruction in God's way. They are to be like salt — not subject to the spoiling influence of the world around them.

Just as salt can be subjected to many "tests" without changing its chemical composition, so should we as Christians be able to undergo the trials and tests that are a necessary part of our spiritual lives (James 1:2).

Symbol of Purity

Another reason Christ likened His disciples to salt is because of its physical quality of *purity*.

Because of its purity, salt is used as a disinfectant — germs can't live in it. You may remember your grandmother brushing her teeth with salt as a substitute for toothpaste. The practice may have seemed strange to you. Actually, the mild abrasive action of salt helps clean the teeth, and its disinfectant qualities make it an effective mouthwash.

Christ used the analogy to explain to His disciples that they were really the only PURE people in the world — pure because at that time they alone were obeying His Law and following His way of life.

Christ wanted His disciples to realize the need to be a spiritual disinfectant for this world. Sin, in a sense, is like a culture of spiritual germs and bacteria. Christ's followers today are to *fight* against sin just as a disinfectant fights germs and prevents' them from multiplying.

Christ was explaining to His disciples the need to clearly understand the *pure* quality of salt they were to inculcate in their lives.

Salt Is Precious

Even with the greater accessibility of salt today, it is still a precious commodity. We take it for granted, treat it as commonplace. But just think where we would be without it! Industry would be hurt. And just imagine how bland food would be without it.

Have you ever gone to a restaurant and ordered a big, juicy steak? The waitress served it to you, still sizzling on the platter. You took one bite — but something was wrong. It just didn't have much flavor. So you picked up the small salt shaker on the table and sprinkled a tiny amount of salt on the steak. What a difference it made!

We can all agree that salt is precious for this reason alone. It was even more precious in Christ's time because people did not always have it available for use on their food.

So Christ was explaining to His disciples just how precious God's "calledout ones" really were (Psalm 116:15). God's people are just as precious to Him today. They are sprinkled over the earth just like that salt you sprinkled on your steak. It didn't take too much, and you couldn't even see it after it dissolved into the juices of the meat. But the difference in flavor was certainly pronounced. By the same token there is a small, precious group called to do God's Work — to fulfill the commission given by His Son in Matthew 24:14.

Salt as a Preservative

Throughout history salt has played an important role as a preservative. During the 1500's and 1600's, when men were exploring and sailing on the high seas, ships were not able to put into port every few days to replenish their supplies. Because of this, sailing vessels were stocked with barrels of beef soaked in brine. This saltwater solution kept the meat from spoiling. Salt was also used in tanning hides, and in brine solutions in pickling as it is today. Salt's preservative nature makes it a useful and necessary product even in our modern society.

Salt is a preservative of life, too. Wild animals will travel long distances and risk danger to lick salt from natural deposits. And salt is necessary for the health and well-being of every person on earth. If it weren't for the percentage of salt in our blood and body cells, human beings would die, just as Napoleon's wounded men died during their retreat, when their bodies lacked salt.

SALT PRESERVES LIFE.

And Christ's true servants are the means by which God will *preserve* this entire earth!

Christ commissioned His followers to preach the Gospel to the entire world as a witness, to go to all nations carrying the *truth* of His way of life. It is this way of life that will bring real *freedom* to the entire world (John 17:17; 8:32).

Also read Malachi 4:5-6. Look it up in your own Bible. Read it right now—for yourself. "I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord." This is what God's Work is all about. This is the commission that we as the followers of Jesus Christ are being called to do. Elijah is a type of this Work—a Work of which you are a part.

We are being called to "turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse" [the word "curse" is more properly rendered UTTER DESTRUCTION, and the same Hebrew word is so translated in Zechariah 14:11 and I Kings 20:42].

Each of us has been called to a very important job. We are being called to help preserve the entire world — saving it from UTTER DESTRUCTION. It is a profound opportunity. And an awesome responsibility.

Will we accept the challenge?

Only if we are willing to sacrifice, to change, to repent of our old ways. Only if we are willing to truly become "the salt of the earth."

Coming in the Next Issue

Jesus said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). Nicodemus did not understand what He meant. Neither do deceived religionists today. The question of when we are born again — and what is meant by it — is one of the most totally misunderstood subjects extant in the religious world today.

In order to make the truth about this subject plain, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong has completely rewritten his article "Just What Do You Mean... Born Again?" He has added several truths never before understood. Originally published in 1962, this article answers this vital question dealing with the very purpose of human life.

Be sure to read "Just What Do You Mean... Born Again?" appearing in the October issue of Tomorrow's World. Thousands of empty shells, discarded products of useless wars. Terrified looks on small faces, victims of those wars. The smug look of those who have too much and don't know it. This is part of our disintegrating world, fulfilling the predictions made centuries ago. Ellison -- Black Star; Below: U.P.1.; Below right: Ambassador College

The FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE are taking their toll. Hundreds of millions the world over are suffering the tragedies of war, famine and disease pandemics. World peace has slipped through our fingers, and tomorrow isn't exactly welcome.

Violent crime and "rumors of wars" are a part of our daily news. Our streets are battlegrounds. Honesty, integrity and morality have been replaced by a "do as you please" philosophy.

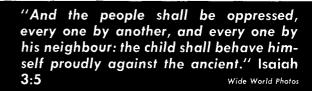
Shocking pronouncements in both the Old and New Testaments are suddenly and terrifyingly applicable. When placed alongside news photographs of current world problems, they strike a solemn chord.

Were they, in fact, written expressly for our generation?....





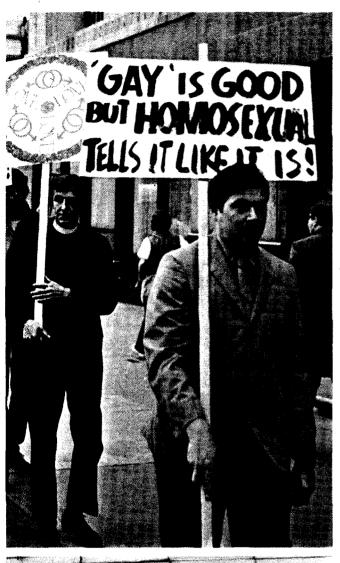




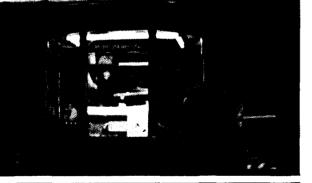


"...The land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence." Ezekiel 7:23

Middle: Ambassador College Photo; Wide World Photos



SEX LSD LESBIANS



"The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not." Isaiah 3:9

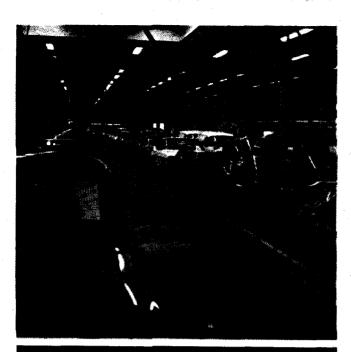
Ambassador College Photos



"They were as fed horses in the morning: every one neighed after his neighbour's wife." Jeremiah 5:8

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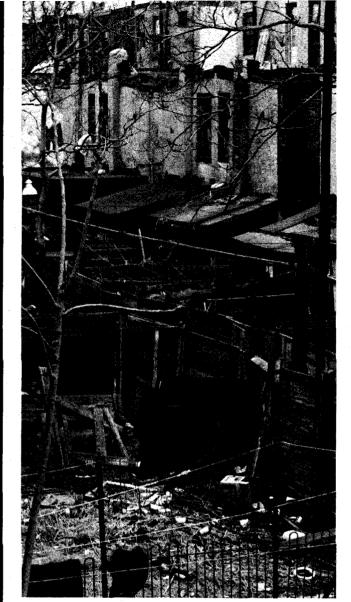
ANYTHING GOES!



"Their land is also full of horses, neither is there any end of their chariots."

Isaiah 2:7

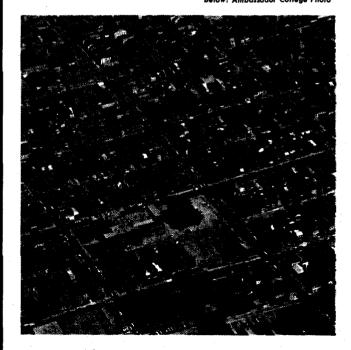
Above: Ambassador College Photo Below: L.A. County APCD



"Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place."

Isaiah 5:8

Above: H. Armstrong Roberts, Below: Ambassador College Photo



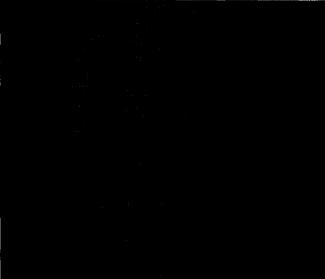




"Ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom." Matthew 24:6, 7

Ellison — Black Star Photos

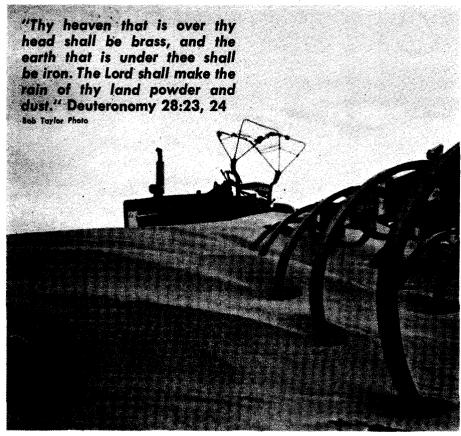




"For, behold, the Lord, the Lord of hosts, doth take away...the mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient." Isaiah 3:1, 2

Top: Ewing Galloway, Wide World Photos







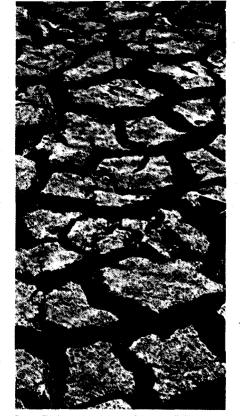


"The seed is rotten under their clods...the barns are broken down; for the corn is withered. How do the beasts groan! the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture."

Joel 1:17, 18

Ambassador College Photo

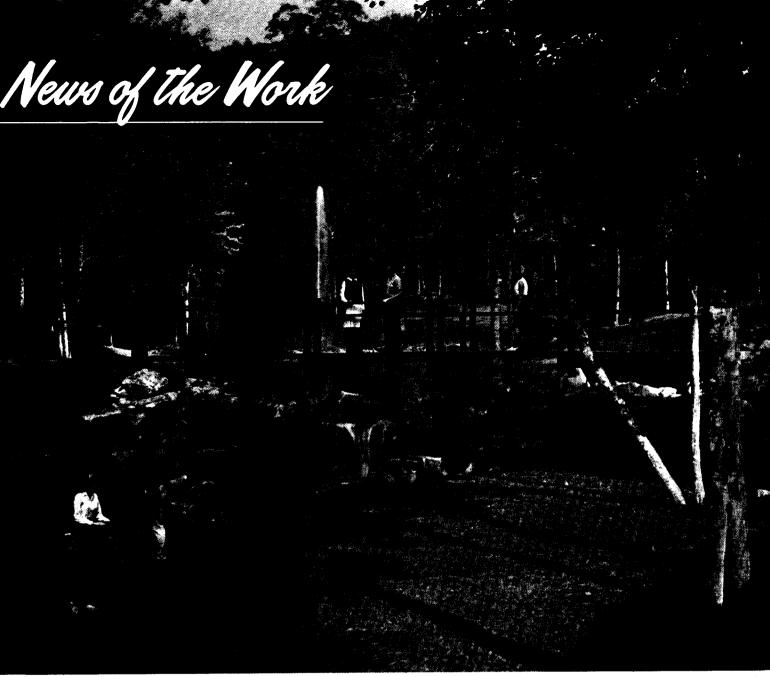
"Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away." Hosea 4:3



"I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice...say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine." Revelation 6:5,6

Ambassador College Photos





Ambassador College Big Sandy, Texas

by Leslie L. McCullough

Ambassador College is ONE college with THREE uniquely different campuses. The youngest of these three campuses is located 100 miles east of Dallas in beautiful East Texas. In this article, we present Ambassador College, Big Sandy.

AMBASSADOR COLLEGE is devoted to restoring the missing dimension in education. On each of these three campuses, students are energetically pursuing the college motto: "Recapture True Values." Ambassador students are blazing new trails in education and research while retaining all that is sound and good from our present system of education.

The original Ambassador campus is located in a beautifully landscaped, carefully manicured residential area of Pasadena, California. This forty-five-acre campus with its contoured lawns, sparkling fountains and colorful gardens sets the standards for Ambassador College.

The second campus is located in the

"Green Belt" just a few miles from the outskirts of London, England. The third campus, and the one with which I am personally more closely associated, is found a little over one hundred miles east of Dallas near Big Sandy, Texas.

Each campus has its own special character and appeal. To quote the founder of Ambassador College, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, they each "mutually excel one another."

Occasionally, visitors to the Texas campus ask why an Ambassador campus was started in Big Sandy. Most readily accept campuses in or near large metropolitan areas, but wonder at a college nestled in a rural area of East Texas. Here's the reason why.

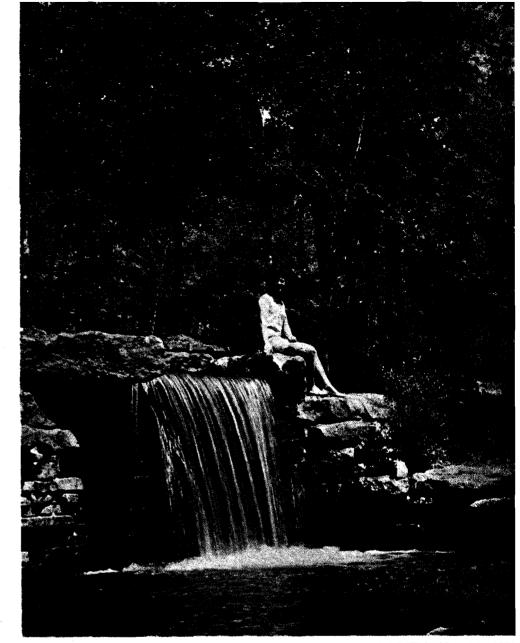
Prior to the establishment of the Texas campus, the grounds were maintained as a facility for private meetings and conventions. At that time there was a large metal assembly hall, and a redwood convention building which doubled as a dining hall and kitchen to serve those attending these conventions. There were also 1,600 acres of land.

Meanwhile, around the year 1960, the campus in Pasadena was no longer able to accommodate the growing number of students and acceptable applicants. Therefore, a second campus was opened in Bricket Wood, England. By the fall of 1964, history had repeated itself and the need for a third campus was apparent. Because we had acquired possession of the buildings and property which already existed in Big Sandy, that site was chosen to be the third campus.

Starting a Campus

The campus began with only the barest of necessities. Most of the campus activity took place in the two alreadyexistent buildings.

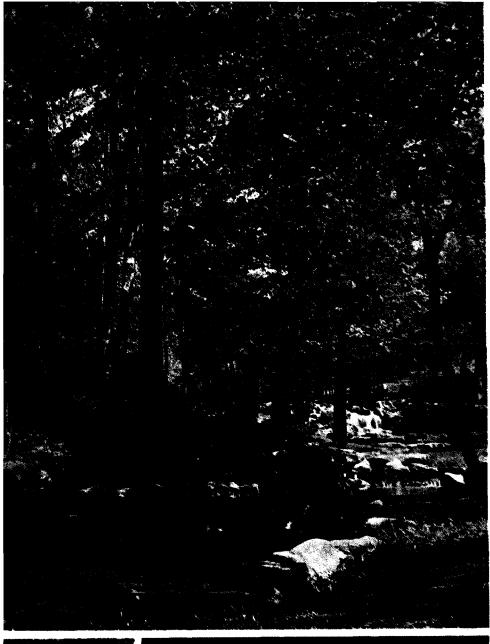
The redwood building became the student dining hall and library. The huge metal assembly hall with adjoining offices became the college gymnasium and administration center. Student housing was comprised of a group of small metal structures previously used for temporary housing. Temporary classrooms were carefully constructed, and Ambassador College in Big Sandy,



Above: Landscaping transformed a sluggish spring into a lively and attractive series of streams and pools. Below, left: Broad lawns lead up to some of the original campus buildings, now the home of the Library. Below, middle: Dormitories, Texas-style. Below, right: Spectacular night view of the rising swan sculpture which greets visitors at the entrance to the Big Sandy campus.









Texas, was ready for an eager group of pioneer students.

It was a little on the rustic side that first year. We had none of the fine buildings of the other two campuses. The landscaping was primitive. But the spirit was the same one found on the other two campuses.

One hundred eight enthusiastic pioneers made up the student body. Fortysix were transferred from Pasadena and sixty-two new students were chosen for the freshman class. My responsibilities as Deputy Chancellor were assigned late in the first semester, and in January 1965 my family and I moved to Texas. That year we had a graduating class of seven — six men and one woman.

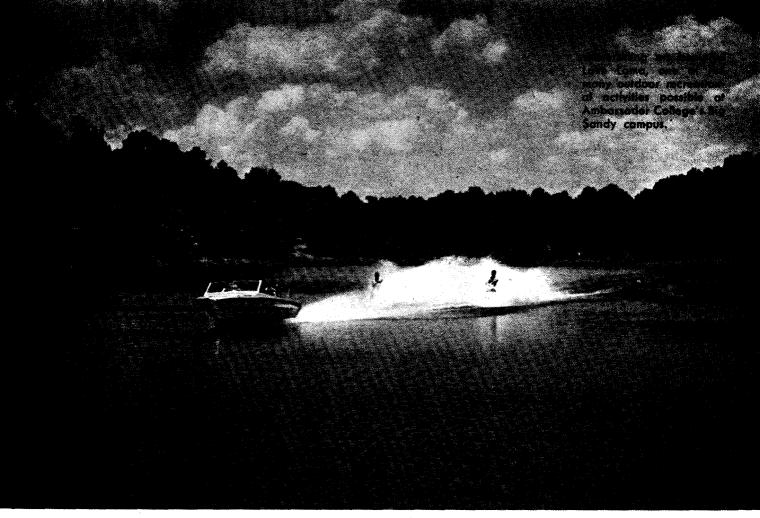
Since that time the Big Sandy campus has enjoyed continual growth. The original enrollment of one hundred eight students has swelled to nearly four hundred. The original graduating class of seven was joined by this year's class of seventy-five. And the Freshman Class of 1971 will be roughly three times the size of the 1965 class.

There are now wide sweeps of rolling, gently sloping, contoured, green-carpeted lawns. Natural springs form sparkling streams to accent the gardens. With a little help from our own stone-masons, we now have a twelve-foothigh waterfall that tumbles water into pools which are home for our black Australian swans.

A magnificent fountain and sculpture of five swans rising in flight from a 120-foot pool greets incoming visitors. World-famous British sculptor David Wynne provided the work of art to complement the naturalness of the Texas setting.

The redwood building of the early 1950's has been completely remodeled and refurnished. The kitchen and dining hall are gone. The main assembly area has been remodeled to form a beautiful, spacious library and classroom complex. The old dishwasher and storage area have given way to a modern science laboratory.

The huge metal building has been redesigned to provide for the ultramodern new dining area which occupies the eastern two fifths of the former huge convention hall. The remaining three fifths of the building comprises a



combination field house and assembly hall.

It is in this area that we have been able to present some of the cultural events for which Ambassador College is well known. The Dallas, New Orleans, and San Antonio Symphonies have all presented concerts in our field house. Guests from the surrounding communities have welcomed the opportunity for an evening of fine music. Their appreciation of these annual concerts was recently expressed by the more than two. thousand who attended our spring concert, which featured a combined group of Pasadena and Big Sandy students performing with the San Antonio Symphony.

In addition to presenting the same basic curriculum as the other two campuses, Big Sandy offers some unique opportunities. The 4,500 acres now owned and leased by the College provide for the Ambassador College Agricultural Research Program. The beef herds and dairy provide not only research opportunities, but a chance for students to work with and grow some of the food used by the College.

Environmental Research

A new organic digesting system for handling the waste products of cities is now being installed and will play an important part in the environmental research projects sponsored by the College. As most of our readers know, Ambassador College is sensitively aware of and concerned with the crushing problems of environment and human survival.

Because of the easy availability of space, the Texas campus provides a logical locale for environmental research and testing. The campus is in effect a "capsule society." We operate our own water treatment plant, dispose of our own wastes, maintain our own grounds, produce the majority of our own dairy products, raise all our own beef (for both United States campuses) and grow a portion of our own vegetables. In addition, with student labor and a skeleton crew of full-time employees, the College has built campus roads, landscaped our grounds, built a 9-hole golf course, and cleared the way for a 42-acre lake complete with marina and beach facilities.

As a result, students and staff alike have had opportunity to work firsthand with the problems of environment and maintaining ecological balance. We are learning how to solve such municipal problems as where to put roads, how to handle phosphates, what to do with raw sewage without polluting our lake, how to achieve a right type of lake ecology, how to rejuvenate tired soil, what types of cattle work best for our needs and what effects pollutants have on plant life and soil fertility.

Over the next months, we will feature reports on the various projects and research facilities we sponsor on our Big Sandy, Texas campus — individual summaries spotlighting several different areas of study. We want to share with you some of the exciting things we've been able to learn or are in the process of learning about our delicate environment. And the beautiful part of our research is that it is practical and workable. Ambassador College, Big Sandy, Texas, is recapturing the right values of life and our environment which will carry right on over into the World Tomorrow.

Education in Tomorrow's World

Much of education in today's world is impersonal, incompetent, irrelevant. Education in Tomorrow's World will be pleasantly different. Here's how.

by George Geis

RIMINALS are not the only ones serving time in our society. Around the world the majority of students are also but serving time, in an apparently endless and aimless process of education.

The "inmates" are getting restless.

Students barely old enough to frame a solid opinion are voicing their opposition to the boredom and purposelessness of what's going on in their classrooms—students as young as junior high.

Some do more than voice their opinions. For just one example, ninety-nine teachers were attacked in San Francisco junior high schools in the year 1969. That's why, according to a recent survey conducted by the Syracuse University Research Corporation, 85% of the high schools responding to questionnaires reported some type of disruption over a recent three-year period.

But student disinterest and resultant violence is only a symptom of the disease — a sickness that is gnawing at the vitals of our institutions of learning. The cause is very much deeper.

Teacher Incompetence?

Of high school graduates responding to an ACT YOUTHPOLL, 78% had negative comments about their high schools. The alarming stats go on and on from survey after survey, poll after poll, questionnaire after questionnaire.

Schools fail to stimulate their students. They fail to engage and enthuse minds which should be at the peak of curiosity. The child's simple joy of learning is rarely developed.

Would you believe that some schools are even resorting to giving trading stamps just to get the pupils to attend?

Is teacher incompetence the root of

the problem? No one can deny many teachers are incompetent and unqualified. And incompetent teachers do produce lazy, disinterested, even hostile students.

On the college level, the hearts of many otherwise competent professors are where their treasures are, in research grants, not in the classroom. They do not teach well.

But neither of these teaching deficiencies is the real cause of the problem. There do remain institutions where highly competent teachers teach and students do learn. Yet "bricks are flying" on such campuses as well. Students are dissatisfied. There is still a missing dimension on campuses, in high schools, and even in grade schools.

Students have failed to find a meaningful view of society — or of their place in it! So they just naturally turn to attack first the educational system — the world they are associated with.

The IBM number; the crowded lecture hall of 500 students with a professor lecturing on a television screen; the shoulder-to-shoulder jostling in the campus bookstore, on the sidewalks, in the corridors; high-rise student dormitories; serpentine registration with a one-hour wait; the academic "factory"— all are part of the problem. The young, inexperienced student can easily feel "just a number," or like a tiny ant in a big, meaningless anthill.

It's so impersonal, as if no one really cares. The teacher's job in the classroom lasts only from bell to bell. He or she is not concerned with the product after the conveyor belt carries the students outside of the classroom. Not much interest. Too busy. Hardly human.

A true picture? Unfortunately, yes, to so many of the young who need personal interest and *human* contact, not impersonal, didactic instruction.

Is Education Relevant?

Thinking students ask, "Why must I take this class? What real understanding of the world that I'm living in does it give me? Or how will this course help me in my life's occupation?"

One student, somewhat disappointed with this education, responded to the ACT YOUTHPOLL, "Education should be directly related to life. Memorization just for the sake of a test is a waste of time."

Most students, upon graduation from high school or college, do want to be able to earn a living, to get a good job in society. And they want their courses to lead them in an efficient and productive manner into a job where they can experience accomplishment and success.

Yet, though it may not be totally the fault of our high schools and colleges, the fate of many graduates today is education without employment or perhaps with employment that is incongruous with their education. And that doesn't make sense.

But suppose every individual's education did qualify him for and fit him into a suitable job. Is that the only purpose of education?

There is another basic part of complete education. It is the essential knowledge that is concerned with *life* itself.

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, founder of Ambassador College, describes this knowledge: "... Those basics are these: the knowledge and teaching of the true meaning and the purpose of human life on this earth; a discernment of the true values from the false; the teaching of the very principles of right living — of

the WAY to peace, happiness, abundant well-being..."

The quest for and subsequent dispersing of this kind of knowledge has been grossly ignored in this space-age society, where the emphasis has been heavily given to science and technology, business and industry. Knowledge of science and other related areas is certainly valuable, but it must be placed against the backdrop of the more essential knowledge discussed above.

Education Begins in the Home

It is a true maxim that education begins in the home. But what if it never begins? Today, Dad and Mother are too often "too busy" to be directly involved in educating their son or daughter, not realizing that lack of diligence in educating their children in early life dramatically affects their entire future education.

The number of working women in the United States has doubled since the time just before World War II, but the number of working mothers has increased eightfold. In the World Tomorrow a mother working outside her home will be a rare thing.

Instead, mothers will be liberated — totally liberated to work hard at the exhilarating full-time job of caring for and educating their children.

Children will be taught the proper moral values — based on the Bible — by their parents. They will be taught how to build character. But children of today have a hard time applying the proverb, "My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother," (Prov. 1:8) because they do not receive much "instruction" from Dad or "law" from Mom.

A full 50% of a child's ability to grasp and to learn new concepts is acquired by age four, 80% by age eight. So it is vitally important that mothers (and also fathers) maximize their child's intelligence in the early years of his life.

In Tomorrow's World children will receive this teaching early, and it will help weld families together.

"And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shall talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up" (Deut. 6:6-7).

No longer will the ability to educate be viewed as a mystery system of rituals that can only be performed by the professionals. Much basic education in the classic three "r's" and in other areas will likely take place in the home.

In the semi-rural (yet highly civilized and cultured) society of Tomorrow's World (Micah 4:4), Dad also will spend much of his time at home, not away and so "busy at the office" that he doesn't have time to educate his children. The father will set his children an example they can see of hard work and diligence, and the children will follow the example and participate in all that needs to be accomplished.

A successful wage-earning example is the factor that psychologists say determines more than any other whether a child will be able to hold down a job and become self-supporting when he is grown.

So whether farming the family land with Mom and Dad or perhaps learning Dad's trade or occupation, or seeing Mom working in the house, the children will see the example and learn early in their lives to get joy out of useful, productive work.

The Schools Themselves

Set within the peaceful, semi-rural communities of Tomorrow's World will be top-quality teachers. The job of a teacher will be highly respected and adequately financially remunerated. But an instructor will have to be totally qualified.

The teacher in Tomorrow's World will be of outstanding character, an example all students will come to want to follow. His teaching will sincerely reflect that he has already proved that the Way of life in the society of Tomorrow's World really works.

He'll be extremely personable and personal. Teachers will share their lives with the students, and show deep interest, in turn, in each of their students' lives. Teachers will care about their students and will show it.

They will also be demanding, in order to give to the students the great

sense of satisfaction that comes from producing. But since the teachers will be so exciting and stimulating, the students won't mind the work.

Mutual understanding will be at an all-time high. Communication will be "solid" between teacher and student, as it will be between parent and offspring.

Real character will be expected of the student. If discipline is needed, the teacher will administer it — in a loving manner. Breaking of the rules of society or school will be dealt with head-on. Lying to a teacher will not be shrugged off or dismissed. Cheating will no longer be winked at. And of course, student revolts will no longer be tolerated.

No longer will schools be "academic factories" of multiple thousands. Nor will they just be places to train the intellect. As in the home, the Bible will be the *foundation* of knowledge. Courses in all academic areas will be built upon this foundation. With right principles of living, students will develop balanced personalities.

The campus will have a practical atmosphere. Upon graduation students will not enter an unfamiliar sphere of job opportunities. While in school they will be trained for a job they know exists and one they know they will enjoy. And practical on-the-job training will be common during earlier school years, perhaps even with Dad; for formal schooling won't necessarily need to take up the entire day.

Teachers will fully realize that their job is not to take the place of a parent, but to help parent and son or daughter to be even closer in their communication and enjoyment of each other.

School and parents will mutually support each other to give the young man or woman proper vocational guidance, to place each in a position to give the most to society. Selfish considerations like making the most money will not even enter in. This society will be based on giving, and everyone will receive more than enough.

The Church — Capstone of Education

Today, the WAY of life best for man
— the Way of peace in society, the

Way of the Law of God — is little understood. In the World Tomorrow it will be expounded every week to all citizens.

"... For when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness" (Isa. 26:9).

The Church will thoroughly explain and teach the amazingly simple, yet totally inclusive Law of God. Finally the minds of men will be opened to what the way of God really is and that it definitely pays to live that way.

Then, when materialism is no longer the basis of society, mankind will finally be able to learn that everyone can indeed enjoy fabulous material blessings, not by taking and grasping but by the way of giving. Through the Church, concern for fellowman will become the fabric of society; for the Church will administer the Spirit of God. And by the Spirit of God residing in and leading individuals, all business will be run, all services will be rendered, according to the principle of love (Rom. 5:5).

And the Church will make this principle plain.

A CHANGE Must Be Made

We've seen where education stands today. The fruits demonstrate the need for drastic change. How can it be made? By student violence? According to a recent Gallup Poll, "Eight in ten college students believe that the American political system does not respond quickly enough to meet the needs of the people." And "As many as four students in every ten think change in America during the next 25 years is more likely to occur through a revolution than through relatively peaceful means."

In a way, the students are right. A revolution is going to occur in education — to change rapidly and dramatically not only American education, but that of all the world. It WILL solve the problems in today's education. But it won't come the way some envision.

Here Is How It Will Occur

The Kingdom, or Government of God, will be set up on this earth in Tomorrow's World. Jesus Christ will head it. He will be King of kings, and

Lord of lords (I Tim. 6:15; Rev. 17:14).

He will by no means be a figurehead ruler. His government will be able to move swiftly and decisively. He will rule with a "rod of iron" (Rev. 12:5).

It will be government from the top down, yet with the best interests of the people in dictating policy. If, at first, all people do not totally agree with this government, they'll quickly see the fat benefits of the new educational program (Isaiah 52:7-8).

Moral Standards and a Unified Society

With total, yet understanding authority, the Government of God will be the "Department of Education"; and standards of conduct in life will be taught (Micah 2:4, last part). Moral guidelines will reshape society. They will begin in the home, be thoroughly expounded in the schools, and be reinforced by the Church.

Thus a citizen of Tomorrow's World will have no question in his mind of what is "right" or "wrong."

This vital, no longer missing dimension in education will provide a student with a clear and dependable guide to right character, a clear and satisfying concept of his place and individual value in human society, and an understanding of the purpose of human existence. Unified education will instill in him profitable principles of living, with solid emphasis on how to attain a successful and happy family relationship with God and Christ which can last for all eternity.

The knowledge so tragically absent in the schools, homes and churches of today's world will be conspicuously present in homes, schools and churches in Tomorrow's World. Lives built on this foundation will be happy, productive, emotionally balanced. Dissatisfaction, rebellion, and drug abuse will disappear.

So we are talking about revolutionary changes in the very structure of society which *will* occur regardless of what man thinks or does today.

We're talking about directives coming from an all-wise King of the earth, Jesus Christ.

We're talking about a change in the

human spirit, to one of giving instead of getting.

And, believe it or not, we're also talking about the educational institutions for which pilot programs are this very minute being run. (If you're interested in finding out more about these pilot programs, write for your FREE copy of This Is Ambassador College.)

Of course, we're not saying that God's new educational system will spread over the entire earth instantaneously, even at the return of Jesus Christ. Time will be required to train parents and teachers. In some areas of the world, it may take two or three generations just to reach 100% literacy. But pilot projects will rapidly begin in many places. Even whole countries will first be developed as showcases to other nations, demonstrating to them the fabulous benefits of the new system. And no nation, once it sees the benefits, will want to have part in other educational systems.

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house [the Government of God] shall be established in the top of the mountains... and MANY PEOPLE shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem" (Isa. 2:2-3).

Notice another account in the same book, "... Yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers: And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left" (Isaiah 30:20-21).

These scriptures show the nations will ultimately be willing and eager to accept God's new educational system. And the effectiveness of His system will grow as the millennium marches on.

Generation after generation will be taught what life's purpose is and how to have happy and productive lives. "The earth shall be full of the *knowledge* of the Lord" (Isaiah 11:9).

This is EDUCATION in Tomorrow's World.

Are You Watching?

JESUS CHRIST thunders to those of us living in the end time, "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man" (Luke 21:36).

But how do you watch? What do you watch? And why is it important anyway?

Nationwide surveys indicate that some residents of the U. S. don't even know who the Vice-President is! Millions are ignorant of who their own elected representatives are — let alone leaders of other important nations around the world. Millions are oblivious to major trouble spots, important capitals, and strategic locations in the world.

You can't afford to be that uninformed!

The Apostle Paul set an example for us when he appeared before King Agrippa: "I think myself happy, king Agrippa, because I shall answer for myself this day before thee... especially because I know thee to be expert in all customs and questions which are among the Jews..." (Acts 26:2-3).

Paul watched what was going on around him. He knew who the government leaders were and knew something about them.

In writing to the Thessalonians, Paul foretold our day: "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them..." (I Thes. 5:3). The only reason people say "peace and safety" is that they aren't watching — they don't know what to look for to see that there is no peace — that there is no safety!

Paul continued, "But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief" (verse 4). . .

You don't need to be caught by surprise as all the prophesied end-time events occur — if you are watching!

Don't be deceived by what appears on the surface. That's exactly what those saying "peace and safety" are looking at — the surface.

Look beyond the pretty facade to the real problems in your nation and in the world.

Look at the overall concepts of the human way of life. See the greed and selfishness evident the world over and ask yourself, "Where will it all end if things continue unchanged?"

Certainly, the grass is still green in most places. The birds still migrate. The supermarket shelves are still lined with food. The paycheck for most keeps coming every week. Governments continue to set up new commissions and appropriate more money to solve problems.

But all this is on the surface — it can be changed virtually overnight!

Realize that the Black Forest of Germany was just as green in the summer of 1939 as any other summer. The day of the stock market "crash" in 1929 dawned just as beautifully as any other day. The few who looked behind the normal veneer of those times could see deep trouble. Most did not.

Watch the economic trends of the world!

Whose balance of payments deficit is increasing? Which nations are pulling ahead industrially and economically? Who is asking whom not to demand gold to redeem currency? Whose people are working overtime without pay to produce more, and whose are complaining and "bellyaching," striking for more pay, fewer hours, and better benefits — and less production?

Which nations are intimidating

others economically? And how long can a nation throw its weight around economically before it begins to do so politically — and militarily?

Watch the Middle East — know what's happening there. It is a crucial area in international power politics. Know the leaders of the nations involved. Watch what they are saying and doing!

Be aware of what's happening to the United States and Great Britain — in comparison to ancient Rome and every other government that collapsed because of internal decay.

What is happening to our moral fiber? How is the crime rate doing—the venereal disease rate? Are we solving our problems or only going deeper into the rut? Are we removing the cause or merely treating the effect?

Are cities solving their financial problems? How? By heavier taxes? By turning to the state and federal governments? What happens when the federal government needs help?

Watch world affairs.

And READ THE BOOK! Study BIBLE PROPHECY!

You don't need to be saying "peace and safety" when sudden destruction comes!

You don't need to be in darkness that that day should overtake you as a thief.

Read and know God's Word. Know what God said would happen in our day.

Then watch what's going on around you. Listen to people. Read the newspapers and magazines, listen to radio and TV newscasts. Continue to read TOMORROW'S WORLD and watch prophecy being fulfilled!

Watch! And pray! — that you may be accounted worthy to escape!

THE STORY OF MA

for children five to one hundred five

Written and Illustrated by Basil Wolverton

SIEGE — WARNING — DEFIANCE — GRIEF!

CHAPTER ONE HUNDRED FORTY-NINE

ING ZEDEKIAH of Judah trembled with a fear he had never known before when he heard that a mighty Babylonian army was approaching his nation. About all he could do, outside of barking out a few frantic commands, was to regret his unwise decision to rebel against the king of Babylon and to curse all who had influenced him to make it. (II Kings 24:20; 25:1; II Chronicles 36:9-13.)

Besieged!

The people of Jerusalem were fearfully amazed at the numbers of troops and cavalry that moved in around the city. There were also many chariots and a few formidably huge catapults and battering rams on wheels. All this proved that Nebuchadnezzar intended to make every effort and use every means to take the capital. If he should succeed, it would mean a quick end to the whole nation.

Days passed and there was no attack. There was only a strong voice from the Babylonian camp, occa-

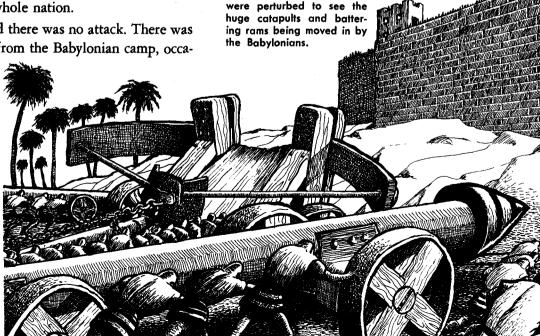
sionally exhorting the Jews to open the gates and come out peaceably to save themselves or eventually die from lack of food.

Lack of food. however, wasn't a matter of great the concern to Jews. There were vast stores foodstuffs in the

city — enough to last for months. And as long as the enemy remained unaware of the source of their underground water supply, there would be no problem there.

Days added up to weeks, and weeks turned into months. From time to time the Babylonians tried to get their hooks and rope ladders fastened to the wall tops under cover of darkness, but showers of arrows, spears and rocks always wiped out the would-be intruders.

The enemy also tried using the battering rams, but those who manned them died by Jewish weapons before the rams could reach the gates. To try to even the score, the invaders hurled boulders over the walls with their catapults. But this was done only with a heavy loss of men, because the catapults had to be moved within the Jews' arrow range. Otherwise, the boulders merely smashed ineffectively low against the walls.



Men on Jerusalem's walls

As the tempo of these exchanges was stepped up over the months, it became alarmingly obvious to the Jews that their food supply was diminishing much faster than they had thought it would. In the first place, they hadn't believed that the Babylonians would stay so long.

The enemy needed food and water, too, but it was available simply by raiding nearby farms and villages. Outside of unforeseen circumstances, it was possible for the Babylonians to stay for years. Comfortable in his huge, elaborately furnished tent, Nebuchadnezzar had no intention of moving until the Jews were starved into submission.

Now that food finally had to be severely rationed, Jeremiah made another appeal to Zedekiah to save himself and his people by going out and surrendering to Nebuchadnezzar.

"God has told me that if you do this thing," Jeremiah wrote to the king, "the Babylonians will spare our lives. But if you wait until they have to force their way in, there will be much bloodshed because you have broken your promise to the Babylonians and are refusing even to ask for mercy." (Jeremiah 21:8-14.)

Of course this angered Zedekiah, even though he was almost convinced that the prophet was right. There were moments when he was on the verge of taking Jeremiah's advice.

To add to the miseries of Jerusalem's inhabitants, a contagious sickness developed. As usual, the poorer people and refugees living in squalid conditions suffered most, though few of any class escaped the weakening illness. Even Zedekiah suffered because of his profound personal troubles.

"Whoever failed to lay in a larger supply of my favorite wines isn't going unpunished!" he warned complainingly.

Is the Siege Lifted?

Conditions rapidly became more serious. Soldiers were given the largest rations, but the limited amount of food wasn't sufficient to keep them fit. The immediate future appeared so dismal that many people began to repent of their wrong ways and to try to make up for them at the last moment. One matter that especially reached the Jewish conscience was the over-holding of servants. One of God's laws was that bondservants should have their freedom after six years of service. (Deuteronomy 15:12-15.) Many masters had held their servants well past the

release time, even though Zedekiah had made a public reminder that they should be given their freedom in the seventh year, which was in progress at that time. Almost overnight there was much relinquishing of servants, who were given the legally required money, valuables and property to get them started on their own just when their futures appeared impossible.

With the city on the brink of disaster, God once again instructed Jeremiah to warn Zedekiah of what would soon happen. This time the prophet was to give the warning in person. The king was surprised that Jeremiah had the courage to come to his palace and trouble him with more disturbing pronouncements.

"God has sent me to you with more reminders of what is about to occur," Jeremiah began. "He wants you to be convinced that because of our national sins, the Babylonians will succeed in entering and burning this city and slaughtering many. You shall attempt to escape, but you shall be captured and taken by King Nebuchadnezzar, who shall send you to Babylon to die. Perhaps you will be relieved to learn that you shall be afforded an honorable and ceremonious funeral — in Babylon. It would be wise to consider these things. There is still time to save many lives by surrendering to the Babylonians." (Jeremiah 34:1-7.)

If Zedekiah hadn't had a deep secret fear of God he preferred to conceal, he might have signalled his guards to seize the prophet. Instead, he motioned them to escort Jeremiah safely from the palace.

Things became so intolerable in Jerusalem that many were considering joining together to force open the gates and rush out to the besiegers. This would probably have been at least attempted had it not been for a puzzling turn of events. One morning it was noted that there was a great stir in the Babylonian camps. Tents came down. Within a short while troops, cavalry and chariots were moving off to the south! (Jeremiah 37:5.)

The Jews couldn't believe their eyes. Or ears, because the huge army created quite a clatter as it departed. Greatly perplexed, weakly jubilant but very suspicious, they reasoned that this might be a ruse to lure them out in search of food, and that the enemy might suddenly return to slaughter any who left the city. Hours passed. Finally bands of Jewish soldiers ventured out to hurry to nearby farms and villages and try to find food. One might imagine that

there would be a mass rush to get out of Jerusalem, but most were afraid to leave and many were too ill or too weak.

The End of Repentance

The sudden change of events caused some changes in Zedekiah's attitude. The miserable, subdued feeling that had been growing on him almost fell away. He was relieved to be able to more freely believe that Jeremiah's gloomy prophecies weren't necessarily going to take place.

There were other changes in the attitudes of some other people in Jerusalem. Now that it appeared that the crisis had passed, most of those who had freed their servants rounded them up and put them back at their menial work. Besides, they took back the money, valuables and property they had given them at a time when it appeared that these things might not have any future value to the givers. (Jeremiah 34:8-11.)

There had been much praying and repenting taking place in Jerusalem in recent days, but now much of this came to a halt with those who assumed that the city was again free and that food would soon be available.

Everyone was intensely curious about what had caused the Babylonians to leave and where they had gone. Zedekiah was anxious to know the answers. He sent scouts to follow the plain path of the moving army. The scouts' failure to return was evidence that the invaders didn't wish to allow themselves to be followed. Though the king's belief in Jeremiah had been shaken, he was certain that the prophet would know more about what was going on than anyone else.

"I want you to go to Jeremiah and tell him that I would like him to pray for the safety of Jerusalem and the people," Zedekiah instructed two men of high rank and reputation. "When he learns that I'm asking for his help, he might give encouraging information without your having to ask, whereas if you question him, he'll likely say nothing or start giving nothing but horrible predictions." (Jeremiah 37:1-3.)

"I am surprised that our king has sent you to ask me to pray for Jerusalem," Jeremiah told Zedekiah's representatives after they announced the reason for their call. "My prayers wouldn't be very effective while the people of Jerusalem and the king prefer not to do things God's way.

"What Zedekiah really wants right now is to learn where the Babylonians have gone and if they're coming back. He would also be pleased to hear that I have been wrong in my predictions. I have not been wrong. Everything I have mentioned will come to pass.

"The Babylonians have gone to meet the Egyptian army, which set out days ago for Jerusalem with the intention of driving off the besiegers. Even now the two armies are confronting each other. The Egyptians shall flee back to their nation, and the Babylonians shall return at once to again surround Jerusalem.

"This time they'll enter and burn the city. God has told me that even if Judah's soldiers should severely wound every enemy soldier, He would still see to it that the Babylonians would miraculously rise up and carry out the divine intention that Jerusalem should be destroyed!" (Jeremiah 37:4-10.)

Zedekiah was surprised, troubled and angered when he heard what Jeremiah had to say. He had no trouble believing that the Babylonians had gone to meet the Egyptians in battle, but he wanted to doubt that the Egyptians would be defeated.

False Accusations

In those few days of respite from the besiegers, there was heavy traffic through Jerusalem's gates, even though most of the inhabitants feared to venture out. Those who came and went were mostly those searching desperately for food. Only a small amount was brought in, because the enemy had already scoured nearby regions for it.

Jeremiah was among those headed out of the city. He had important business to take care of in a small town close by. He would have preferred to go there and stay, inasmuch as he believed there would be greater safety there than in Jerusalem, but he didn't plan to leave his friends and Baruch his secretary. As he approached the gates, an officer stepped out to block his way.

"I know you are Jeremiah," the officer said. "I also know that you are deserting to the Babylonians. You're probably going to them right now with some kind of information!"

"Not at all," Jeremiah calmly explained. "I am on my way to the town of Anathoth to take care of some personal business."

"Sure you are!" the officer exclaimed mockingly.

"That personal business is with the enemy, but I'm going to spoil your plan. Come with me!"

With a sharp sword pointing toward his ribs, the prophet didn't have much choice of directions in which to go. In a few minutes he realized that he was being taken to the king's palace.

"I think I know you," Jeremiah observed as he strode briskly along in front of his captor. "Aren't you Irijah, a grandson of one of the king's prophets, Hananiah?"

"I am," the officer replied with a grim grin. "I'm sure you remember predicting my grandfather's death. Obviously, you begged your God to bring this about so that you could gain the king's trust. Now I'm going to even the score by turning you in as a traitor to Judah, caught in the act of sneaking off to the enemy!"

In a courtroom in the royal palace, Jeremiah was taken before some of the princes of Judah, who were angry with him because he was advocating that Judah should surrender to Babylon instead of relying on Egypt. They displayed their feelings by taking turns viciously slapping him in the face. Irijah stood by, greatly enjoying the cruel performance. Finally he walked into the milling group and seized the prophet.

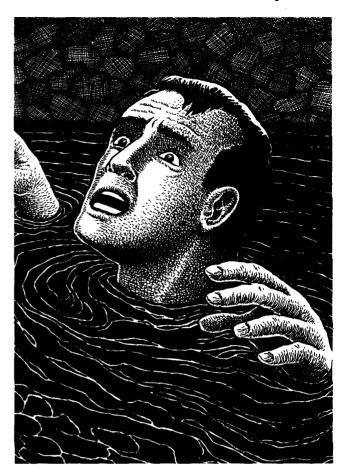
"This man is ill!" he quipped. "He needs a long rest. I know just the place for him. It's in the home of Jonathan the court secretary next door — in the dungeon!" (Jeremiah 37:11-15.)

Jeremiah was jailed there. It was a cold, dank, rodent-infested cell with barely enough light to see by, and that only in the daytime. The prophet endured the misery of this filthy place until the king heard what had happened to him, which was several days later. Zedekiah was irked because this thing had been done without his knowledge. The possibility that Jeremiah's God would be angered worried him. A short while later the prophet was enjoying warmth and food in the king's private quarters.

Temporary Relief

"This doesn't mean that I'm releasing you from prison," the king said. "It could depend on what you have to tell me. Has your God had anything more to tell about the Babylonians?"

"He has," Jeremiah replied, thankfully masticating one of the few bits of food before him.



Jeremiah sank up to his shoulders in the cold mire of the ancient dungeon.

"Then tell me, man!" Zedekiah impatiently commanded, hoping that there might be encouraging predictions for a change.

"God told me again that the Babylonians shall surely capture you!"

Zedekiah clapped his hands to his head and frowned at Jeremiah, who stood up and faced him.

"What great offense have I committed against you or anyone in Judah that I should be imprisoned?" the prophet asked. "Was it wrong of me to stand against your lying prophets, who insisted that Nebuchadnezzar would never come against Judah? Because I have tried to help Judah by proclaiming God's warnings, why should I die in the filth of the dungeon below the house of Jonathan the court scribe? I've not asked any favors before, my king, but now I'm entreating you to spare me from being sent back to a place where a human being can't live very long!"

Jeremiah was risking stirring up the king's ire by what Zedekiah might consider complaint and criticism, but the prophet knew that it would probably be his only opportunity to speak out on his own behalf. The king said nothing for a few moments. Then he called to a guard.

"Take this man back to prison!" he instructed.

The guard motioned curtly to Jeremiah, whose hopes for a few more days of life sank with the king's orders.

"Don't return him to the dungeon where he was," Zedekiah added. "Put him in the main prison in a cell adjoining the jail court so he can have a daily walk. And tell the jailer that I want this man to receive clean water and a piece of bread every day as long as it is available." (Jeremiah 37:16-21.)

Although Jeremiah was very grateful for the better cell with more light, as well as more hope for living, it was still miserable to be cooped up.

From Terrible to Worse

As Zedekiah expected, the princes of Judah who had hoped for Jeremiah's slow death in the dungeon were quite irritated on learning what the king had done. They came to him to complain that the prophet's continued statements about a Babylonian victory were spoiling the Jewish soldiers' will to fight.

"This man is a valuable tool of the enemy," they told the king. "As long as he is alive, whether in or out of prison, he'll have an undermining effect on the morale of our army. But once it becomes known that he no longer lives, the soldiers will conclude that his God didn't care enough about his rantings to back them up by sparing his life. A dead prophet doesn't have much influence."

Zedekiah had enough worries without being at odds with his counsellors, the princes. He wanted to spare Jeremiah because he secretly feared God, but at the same time he wanted to avoid trouble by not offending the princes.

"I am not convinced that Jeremiah deserves death," Zedekiah told the princes, "but I am weary of this conflict you are having with him. Whatever you do now I won't oppose. It's up to you if you want his blood on your heads."

Only a little later Jeremiah saw his jailer approaching, presumably to bring his daily ration of bread and water. But instead of passing food to his inmate, he unchained the door bar, pulled the heavy door back and motioned for Jeremiah to step out. Another man appeared carrying a coil of rope. Jeremiah walked along between them, as he was ordered,

through several dismal passages and down some stone steps. They stopped at last in a dingy stone room with a wide, dark hole in the floor. It was so dark in the hole that Jeremiah couldn't see anything but blackness in it. With no word of explanation, the men tied the rope around Jeremiah's chest and pushed him into the dark hole. Little by little he was lowered into the gloom. Suddenly he felt the chill of cold mud oozing up around his feet and legs. The rope slackened, allowing him to sink gradually into the slimy mire! (Jeremiah 38:1-6.)

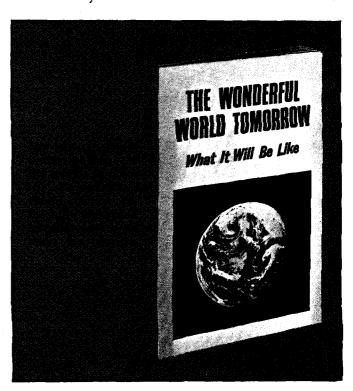
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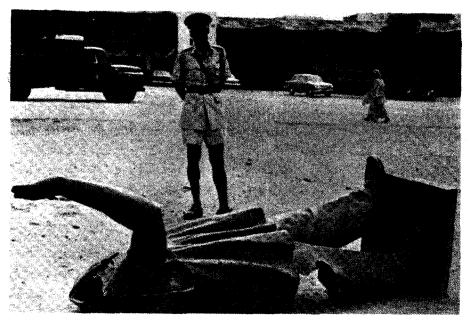
Personal

(Continued from page 2)

away the very salvation he thought he had! It takes a LIVING faith to save!

So — I just wanted to say to those who have read The Wonderful World Tomorrow — What It Will Be Like — read it AGAIN, and let it be REAL to you. Recognize the connection with what you read there to your own life. (If any readers have not yet received this vital booklet, your own free copy is on reserve for you in the mailing room. Why not request it?) Study God's Word daily! Realize you must learn to live by its every word! So Live by It! And pray, earnestly, daily, and Often! Put into practice in your life what God teaches you in His Word! And get your heart in HIS WORK! Pray for it!





A broken, mocking peace gesture. A rusting, overturned tank. Man's efforts to govern himself usually end in confusion and collapse, and his attempts to bring about peace usually result in the bloody opposite.

GRIM DILEMMA

(Continued from page 8) systems of this world has brought a REAL and a LASTING peace, even for its own peoples!

Look at the tribal bloodshed in Africa; the violent religious battles in Vietnam; the stifling economies of much of Latin America; and impending famines in India; the worsening crime, deepening moral decay, and the sickness of "too much" blighting the big powers! There is no peace today!

Not in all human history has ANY attempt of mankind to govern himself led the world toward peace!

Today, we are closer to HUMAN EX-TINCTION through the squabbles of GOVERNMENTS than ever before in human experience! Point out the government that has brought the world peace! Identify, if you can, the ONE GREAT SYSTEM that has ALWAYS SUCCEEDED! Just as two plus two still makes four, so does the very FACT of mankind's searching for PEACE, MAN'S WAY, always lead toward greater wars!

World Government Only Solution

All statesmen recognize the stern fact that WORLDWIDE government is the ONLY solution to man's ills. They know only a SUPER WORLDWIDE government, embodying ALL nations, with WORLD courts, world laws, and a world police force could ever succeed.

And yet, they know such a govern-

ment in the hands of men is

A world government? That would mean every nation would renounce its own sovereignty. It means an immediate solution to the deepest problems dividing the human race! It means immediate solutions to all the monstrous problems of RACE, language, and education!

It would mean a complete revision in the perspective of history, as it wildly differs in different nations; it would mean immediate TRUST between all nations, immediate disappearance of all nationalism, chauvinism, racism, rightism, leftism, communism, capitalism—and the immediate adoption of one world religion!

It would mean human beings would suddenly QUIT being vain, selfish, suspicious, hostile, truculent, nationalistic, egotistic, proud, lustful, jealous, greedy, steeped in their own traditions, and deeply committed to their own religious faiths.

It would mean mankind would SUD-DENLY have to become HUMBLE, meek, long-suffering, easy to be entreated, slow to anger, magnanimous, selfless, loving, sharing, giving, understanding, eager to listen, always believing the best, never speaking evil, totally honest, completely CHANGED!

If You Were to Become a "Citizen of the World"

Put it this way: If YOU were representative of YOUR government — and were considering membership in a WORLD government — here's what it would take for you and all your people to succeed!

You would have to immediately GIVE UP ALL your own national history, with its colorful and "quaint" traditions—realizing that one WORLD history book would have to be written, not always showing the past of YOUR nation in the same light in which you have been accustomed to viewing it.

All your national CULTURE must go. The reasoning you follow when you see someone else accomplishing an act, and say, "we do it better." All national PRIDE is out the window, and all national CONSCIENCE. Your stirring of heart at all the old songs, the old wars of yesteryear, the old heroes — the

graveyards filled with your "glorious" dead — all the traditionalism, ceremony, culture, art, literature — it all goes.

And all feelings of love for COUNTRY must go — since there will BE no such things as different countries! Your natural suspicion toward other languages, races, religions and cultures must go immediately! Your feelings about black, yellow, brown, white, about health and hygiene, about marriage and social customs, about clothing, dress, and even your way of eating must give way to a new "world" culture!

And everything which would be a REMINDER of these things would have to go.

Your old pictures, uniforms, dresses, scrapbooks, sheet music, mementos, records, and all reminders of any past military experience must go. And so must all old chants, marches, songs, and military cocktail toasts!

Do you begin to realize the truly IM-POSSIBLE PROPORTIONS such a solution takes on?

Who Would Rule?

And WHO WOULD RULE? Would members of ALL races be present? And WHAT POWER WOULD ENFORCE that rule? What if two or three members of one race, representing different countries, decided against this deep uprooting of all nationalism — and pulled out of that one world government?

Who would decide to punish them? How would they be punished? What if they had NUCLEAR WEAPONS — hydrogen and atomic bombs?

Who would head the WORLD POLICE FORCE? How would it be controlled? What if a black policeman arrested a white citizen of the world, and other whites, not having totally overcome their racism, resented it?

Would YOU be satisfied with such a solution?

Are YOU ready to make such changes, and make them IMMEDIATELY?

It's about time you saw once and for all there is no man-made solution for the deep governmental sickness of this world!

But there is a solution!

Jesus Christ Predicted World Government

World government will work in *spite* of the overwhelming problems of this world today.

Today it has come God's time once again to proclaim the good news of the real solutions to this world's ills.

And, true to what most world leaders have recognized, the answer is ONE WORLD GOVERNMENT!

Jesus Christ of Nazareth proclaims a world-ruling government, taken out of the hands of man. Jesus was asked what would be the signs along the way of His impending return to set up the world-ruling government of God. (See Matthew 24.)

He answered by talking first of religious confusion. (Many sections of Scripture talk of growing ecumenism, the emergence of a super religious figure to proclaim himself God, and an increasing trend toward church unity!)

Christ then explained how we would be living in a time of "wars and rumors of wars" with great empires and kingdoms vying for world rule!

Hard on the heels of a time of war, with only brief resting periods in between rounds of WORLD WAR, Christ said we would enter a period of drought, famine and increasing earthquakes and natural disasters!

Down through the past three decades and more, our publications have carefully catalogued each one of these, with articles substantiating and corroborating these remarkable prophecies of Jesus Christ — showing how vividly and remarkably accurate they are, and how we are, believe it or not, living in the very time He predicted nearly two thousand years ago!

Christ said that except a supernatural intervention would occur (yes, that "strong hand from someplace" that a leading news magazine mentioned) no human flesh could be saved alive! (Matthew 24:21-22.)

Prophecies Being Fulfilled NOW

But just PRIOR to the truly horrifying outbreak of worldwide CALAMITOUS events, described in the Bible as "the Great Tribulation," Jesus Christ said the

GOOD NEWS of the coming Kingdom of God would be preached in all the world, as a WITNESS and "then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14).

And a part of that prophecy is beingfulfilled before your very eyes this instant!

Somehow, you have come in contact with the very Work of God which Jesus Christ predicted would be active on this earth at this time!

We, of *The* World Tomorrow program, this magazine Tomorrow's World, and the many books, booklets, and articles on various subjects concerning this wonderful Good News which Jesus brought, are your WATCHMEN to proclaim the impending disasters which are going to strike mankind—and which are SURE—and also to proclaim the good news to you and to anyone who will listen or read that there is a way out—that there is hope of a solution in the years just ahead!

The complete picture of why world government is so necessary, and HoW it will finally come about, and what it will be like is too lengthy, and requires far too much in-depth expounding of the literally dozens of scriptures which plainly speak of God's government of the future, to explain completely in this issue.

So if you want to read the step-bystep solutions, even to such global problems as race, religion, wars, drought and famine, pollution, and all the other problems that plague the human race, then write for our free booklet The Wonderful World Tomorrow — What It Will Be Like.

In it, you'll see thoroughly expounded the plain scriptures which show specifically what some of the solutions are!

You'll see a preview of the very Kingdom of God RULING on this earth, like being projected forward in time, right on out into the future — into the world tomorrow!

Write for it immediately, before you forget! Just send your request to:

Tomorrow's World

P.O. Box 111

Pasadena, California 91109

For those outside the United States, see the inside front cover for the address of our office nearest you.

ANSWERS to your Questions

"What did Jesus mean when He told His disciples "... Be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven"? (Matt. 5:12.) Doesn't this prove the reward of the saved is heaven?"

Only a few verses before Christ said, "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." Now do some of the saved — "the persecuted" (verses 11-12) — go to heaven to collect their reward, while others — "the meek" — inherit the earth? Did Jesus Christ contradict Himself in His very next breath? Certainly NOT!

We can begin to understand by noticing what the Apostle Peter was inspired to write: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, RESERVED IN HEAVEN for you" (I Peter 1:3-4). Notice it! The reward of the saved — the inheritance of true Christians — is RESERVED in heaven. That is where it is kept at this present time.

But do Christians go to heaven to receive their reward? Jesus Christ explained it in the book of Revelation: "And behold, I come quickly; and my reward is WITH ME, to give every man according as his work shall be" (Rev. 22:12). When Christ returns from heaven the second time, He will bring the reward of the saved with Him! Though now temporarily reserved in heaven, Jesus will bring the reward to this earth!

Jesus explained it further in the parable of the young nobleman who went to a far country, to receive for himself a kingdom, and to RETURN (Luke 19:12). Christ went up into heaven

to receive His Kingdom from the Father (Daniel 7:13-14), and at the end of the present AGE He will RETURN. At His second coming He will return to earth and REWARD His true servants according to how much they have overcome their sins and produced the fruit of obedience (Luke 19:13-19).

But what is included in the reward of the saved? For one thing, rulership over the earth! When He returns Jesus will say, "Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou AUTHORITY over ten cities" (verses 17, 19). Now read this: "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).

The Prophet Daniel was also inspired to write, "And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom UNDER the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him" (Dan. 7:27).

How clear! Jesus did not say Christians will receive their reward IN heaven. Rather, the reward — authority, an office of power in the Kingdom of God — is being temporarily RESERVED in heaven because that is where Jesus is now. But it will be brought to the earth, where Jesus will reward His saints, in the Kingdom of God, with positions of RULERSHIP and authority over the nations.

An upcoming article in TOMORROW'S WORLD will discuss the subject of heaven in detail. Watch for it!

"I have sinned so many times in my life that I sometimes seem unsure about whether God can forgive me." God not only will forgive sins, but He will even forget them (Hebrews 10:17). He will remove transgressions from us "as far as the east is from the west" (Psalm 103:12).

Notice the example of the woman who was forgiven in Luke 7:37-48. "And behold, a woman in the city, which was a SINNER...stood at his [Jesus'] feet ... and began to wash his feet with tears . . . Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spake within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for SHE IS A SINNER." This woman was publicly known as a sinner. But Jesus forgave her completely. Verse 47 says, "... Her sins, which are many, are forgiven." The key was not how many or how few sins she had committed, but that she was in a humble, repentant attitude — deeply broken up about her life, and willing to change.

"While reading one of your articles in *Tomorrow's World*, I read where you said the Bible never contradicted itself. What about Acts 9:7 and Acts 22:9? They seem to contradict."

Acts 9:7 states, "And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, HEARING A VOICE, but seeing no man." The apparent contradiction arises when we compare Acts 22:9 — "And they that were with me saw indeed the light; but they heard not the voice of him that spake to me."

These verses are complementary—rather than contradictory. In Acts 9:7, the people heard only the sound of a voice. Luke (the author of Acts and the same one who had just written Acts 9:7) later shows they were not able to understand what this voice was saying. Acts 22:9 should more properly be translated: "And they that were with me saw indeed the light...but they understood not the voice...." The original Greek akouō has both meanings: "hear" and "understand."

You can find the solution to other Bible difficulties by writing for our reprint article "Twelve Rules for Bible Study." It's FREE of charge.

Letters to the Editor

Personal from the Editor

The "Personal" article in Tomorrow's World for July 1971 ("The Unpardonable Sin"), is extraordinarily clear and good. I am familiar with most of your references, but am astonished at the clarity of your exegesis. The effect is much like replacing a 25-watt light bulb with one of 100 watts or better. Your article lights up all the corners, and even behind things that create shadows.

Theron W., Knoxville, Tenn.

I have been receiving both of your magazines, as well as most of the books offered. But, I have never read anything as plain as the editorial ["The Unpardonable Sin"] in the July issue of Tomorrow's World. I wish everyone could or would read this.

Hazel S., Cassville, Missouri

• This particular "Personal" is available in booklet form. Write for your free copy of Just What Do You Mean... the "Unpardonable Sin"?

"How to Solve Family Arguments"

I read the article in the July issue of Tomorrow's World, "How To Solve Family Arguments." I wish I had read it long ago. It sure would have helped me. I was divorced a year ago this past April. I think this article should be given to every couple thinking of marriage or planning to marry.

Betty M., Las Vegas, Nevada

The "Jesus Trip"

Thanks for the article on "The Jesus Trip" in Tomorrow's World. It's about time professing Christians as well as the "Jesus People" discovered what the real Jesus was like. It was quite eye-opening to me in many respects and gave me a much greater respect and appreciation for Jesus Christ. No one need be ashamed or embarrassed about the true Jesus. I think also that the false picture of Christ portrayed in many denominations is carried over to their clergymen. It may be a parallel that so many of today's ministers have such effeminate, sentimental voices and give the impression of no backbone. It's no won-der that the majority believe Christianity is for women and children or for weakminded, spineless people. But, I'm thankful that the opposite picture is portrayed in Tomorrow's World, and all the accompanying literature. The emphasis is on real down-to-earth masculinity, femininity, and real character that the Bible so plainly teaches.

Rose N., Big Bear Lake, California

I usually agree with you wholeheartedly, but you thoroughly shocked me in your June issue of *Tomorrow's World*. I am referring to the "Jesus Trip" story. I, as

usual, agree with most of it, but the part about Jesus drinking a strong drink just didn't grab me as the "Jesus" image. I just happen to be one of these people who have been brought up thinking drinking was as bad as murder or any other sin. I know what you always say, Mr. Armstrong, "Don't take other people's word, read your Bible." Well, I did. It plainly states in Proverbs 31:1-7 that strong drink is not fit for leaders and to "give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts." Now, I ask you, Mr. Armstrong, is Jesus ready to perish? I do wish you would explain yourself.

Vicci Q., Yocum, Kentucky

• Vicci, the key to understanding Proverbs 31:1-7 is verse 5. "Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted." Clearly the emphasis is on drinking so much that one's judgment is befogged and clouded. These verses do not say it is wrong to drink in moderation. And several other scriptures positively show it is all right to drink alcoholic beverages. See Amos. 9:14; Eccl. 10:19; I Timothy 5:23; Judges 9:13.

Jesus Christ turned water into wine at a wedding feast (John 2:1-10). He came eating and drinking [alcoholic beverages] — His enemies accused Him of being a winebibber [an alcoholic — see Matt. 11:19]. Actually Jesus drank wine in true moderation. And also at the Passover (Matt. 26:27-29). Why not write for the FREE reprints "Is Drinking A Sin?" and "Alcoholism — A Worldwide Curse" to get a balanced picture of the whole subject?

"Science vs. Theology?"

Having read your article "Probability — What it Says About Evolution" I was amazed. Before I received Tomorrow's World I always believed that science could provide the answers to all nature's mysteries. Now I am convinced that science can't provide all the answers. Some mysteries are inexplicable as your "Science vs. Theology" articles prove.

I. D., Lanarkshire, Scotland

Whew! My brain is still a little dizzy from its first bout with your article in Tomorrow's World entitled "The Evolution of the Computer." In my quietly busy world of dishes and diapers in our corner of rural America (not very many years re-

moved from the mental disciplines of college life), I found your article to be most staggering, jam-packed, and enlightening as to the events in the world around me. This article will require many more readings for me to fully grasp its content (which I know is by comparison only a "nanosecond" of the total information in the complex field of computers). I can't fully express my awe at the glimpse you have given me of God's miraculous creation.

Mrs. Thomas B., Terra Bella, Calif.

The Story of Man

I enjoyed "The Story of Man" in Tomorrow's World. It makes Old Testament history come to life. The illustrations are also excellent. The first issue I received contained chapter one hundred forty-two. At the rate of one a month, the first chapter must have been written when I was eight months old.

Doug W., Wooster, Ohio

Personal Counsel

My wife and I find the article "Is God Calling You?" in the May '71 edition most encouraging. Remember your statement, "The call is out," — and your invitation, "The next move is yours"? The end of said article gives us great courage to ask for personal counsel. We would more than appreciate having the opportunity to visit with one of your representatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. W., Maitland, Florida

I have just finished reading the article "Is God Calling You?" The result is the confirmation of a sneaking suspicion that He just might be. So if you could arrange a visit from one of your counsellors, I would be grateful.

T. A. M., Otautau, New Zealand

Tithing

Nice timing on your Ending Your Financial Worries booklet, since a job and money happened to start coming my way in between the time I ordered it and the time I received it. It posed an interesting question, too. "If I give to God the 10% that is rightfully His, will He make sure that the remaining 90% will cover 100% of my expenses?" Well, there is one way to find out: Here's another check for you. Besides, there was once a time in which I had to depend on others to pay for Tomorrow's World magazines that I read and the World Tomorrow program that I listened to on radio. I feel that it is only fair that I join their ranks so that those who have no income to give 10% of, can hear and read God's truths.

Mike B., Mason, Ohio

• Welcome to our family of Co-Workers.

Printed in U.S.A.

★ JUST WHAT DO YOU MEAN... BORN AGAIN?

Don't be too sure you know! Many professing Christians sincerely believe they have been "born again" — but do not understand what Jesus meant by those words. The true answer is not only surprising — it is startling! The most important truth you can know, here made so plain you will UNDERSTAND!

★ SEVEN PROOFS GOD EXISTS

This is the most vital decade of all history! NEVER has it been more urgently necessary to answer the question, "Does God Exist?" Atheists, scientists and historical geologists assume He does not! Churchgoers, some Christians, assume He does! It's time to QUIT ASSUMING! It's time you saw the PROOF!

★ SHOULD A CHRISTIAN OBSERVE HALLOWEEN?

What about this strange festival? What have goblins, witches and ghosts to do with this feast of demoniacal masks and gaudy decorations?

★ WHAT IS THE DEVIL'S RELIGION?

Have you ever heard of a church called "The Devil's Congregation"? Have you ever seen a sign labeling a building, "Satan's Synagogue"? Have you ever heard a radio program called, "The Devil's Endeavor"? OF COURSE NOT! But does the devil have a religion? Here is the answer from God's revelation to mankind.