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PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding

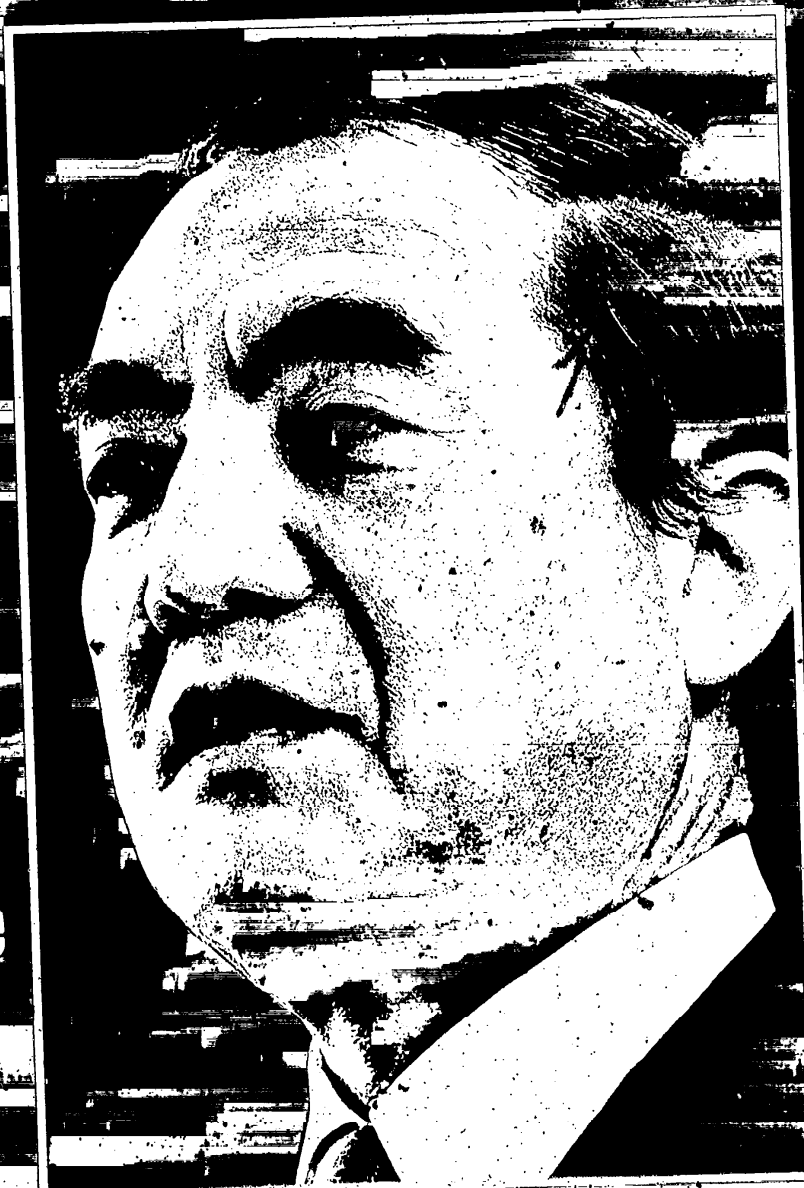
You Can Solve
Your
Financial Worries

Testing Time
for West Germany

Global Solution
to Our
Polluted Planet

**Yasuhiro
Nakasone**

JAPAN'S
NEW
PRIME
MINISTER



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Vol. 48, No. 3

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ABOUT OUR COVER

Yasuhiro Nakasone, Japan's vigorous new Prime Minister, was born in 1918 and educated at Tokyo Imperial University. A former Minister of State, Director General of Science and Technology, President of Takushoku University and holder of many other offices, Dr. Nakasone is also a master politician and a writer.

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Personal from...

Roy McCarthy

What If Adam Had Taken of the Tree of Life?

A most fruitful four-day visit to Johannesburg and Cape Town climaxed one evening in a dinner and social occasion at the home of Dr. Roy McCarthy, our regional director for South Africa. Present were the ministers of the Worldwide Church of God for the area, and their wives.

As I sat at the table after dinner, the various ministers and wives gathered around me. They asked many questions, especially concerning the kingdom of God, world conditions leading to it and other biblical subjects.

Somehow, it seemed to me something like times described in the New Testament when Jesus sat with a group of people, answering their questions and expounding about the kingdom of God. One sensed the presence of the Spirit of God—a spirit of love and peace, one of harmony and unity.

"What if . . ."

Special interest came when one asked, "What would have happened to the world if the first human, Adam, had taken of the tree of LIFE?" That is a question I have never heard or read of being answered. But elsewhere than in Genesis the Bible does at least imply the answer, partially. It seems almost no one ever thought to ask that question.

Would we not have lived in a different world?

You now live in a world of awesome progress, development and accomplishment. Yet this same world is filled with appalling evils. Crime, violence, immorality multiply. Discontent, unhappiness, frustration fill human minds.

Why this astounding paradox?

Amid 20th century scientific and technological advances approaching the miraculous—amid tremendous advances in production of increasing

knowledge and its dissemination, we live in a world half literate, and half in abject poverty, living in filth and squalor.

WHY? Why cannot mankind solve his problems and eradicate his evils?

The die was cast at the very foundation of the world. Late 19th and 20th century intellectual progress has turned to and accepted the theory of evolution as the basic premise on which knowledge production and advancement is based. But knowledge development has been paralleled with escalating evils. Evolutionary ideas have not led to the increasing of, but the rapid elimination of well-being. Evolution cannot give us the answer to this mysterious paradox. It gives humanity NO HOPE for the future.

The only answer lies in the incident of the forbidden fruit in the garden of Eden. The only explanation of this world's paradox, and the meaning of the purpose of human existence lies in understanding of that incident, which in fact was the foundation of this world.

Yes, WHAT IF the first man Adam had taken of the tree of LIFE, instead of the forbidden fruit?

Adam was required to make a choice. In that choice the die was cast on the whole 6,000-year human society up to this time. The CAUSE of every evil experienced by the billions of human lives during these 6,000 years lies in the decision made by the human father of all mankind.

Yes, WHAT IF he had taken of the tree of LIFE?

Look at that pivotal incident of all human existence. The forbidden tree was to result in DEATH. It was the tree of the KNOWLEDGE of good and evil. On man's taking to himself that knowledge, God closed off the tree of life (Gen. 3:22-24) from all mankind until Christ, the second Adam, came. The exception to this were the prophets of ancient Israel for the writing of the Bible.

What did the forbidden tree really mean? That

knowledge has no connection with material knowledge. Man was created with a mind capable of acquiring knowledge concerning matter—dealing with wood, metals, agriculture—the sciences and technology. Good and evil are concerned with relationships with other minds.

Man was made to have and need a relationship with his Maker—the supreme mind. He was made to engage in relationships with fellow humans—who have minds. Good and evil concerns MIND in relationships with other minds. But man's mind was not a finished creation. It contains a spiritual content, not present in the brains of nonhuman vertebrates. Animals are equipped with instinct, but not thinking, reasoning, knowing minds. The human mind not only can receive knowledge of the material and its use, but also ATTITUDES in relation to other minds. That is, attitudes of love or of hate. Attitudes of self-centeredness and vanity; attitudes of envy, jealousy, animosity, competition, strife and violence; attitudes of rebellion or, on the other hand, attitudes of outflowing love, humility, reverence for God, obedience, cooperation, helping, serving, sharing concern for the welfare and good of others.

God Lives and Works

God the Creator from eternity has existed as God—a supreme spirit Personage—and the Word—also a supreme spirit Personage, willingly and by nature subservient to God in love. Constituting the God family, these two exist eternally (John 1:1-5, 14). They lived! How did they live by what relationship? God loved the Word who 1,986 years ago became Jesus Christ. The Word loved God. Two can't walk together except they be agreed. They were in perfect harmony. Neither can two continue happily together except one is leader or head. God has always been head over all.

Lying, they were *doing*. What have they been *doing*? They have been CREATING... Planning, designing, bringing into existence—positive constructing, not destroying. They worked thus together in love, peace, harmony. God created all

things BY the Word who became Jesus Christ (Eph. 3:9).

This way of LOVE, peace, cooperation always was their way of life. That way of life became the supreme LAW of the universe—for law is merely the WAY of life. People make laws to regulate their lives. There is a basic law or constitution on which every government is based. Even games in sports have rules. So outflowing LOVE is the foundational LAW of the government of God. Sin is the transgression of that law.

Adam transgressed that law—he sinned—when he rejected the tree of LIFE and continuing contact with God and chose, instead, to take to himself the knowledge of good and evil—the knowledge of HOW to live in relationship with other MINDS—both God and human. Thus he rejected the law of God.

Now, WHAT IF he had taken of the tree of life? God closed off the tree of life until Christ the second Adam came to redeem mankind. Jesus said, "I will build my Church." He chose 12 disciples. (The word *disciple* means student, one being taught.) Jesus taught them about the kingdom of God. He promised them they would receive the Holy Spirit. On the day of Pentecost, A.D. 31, the Holy Spirit came with a supernatural display (Acts 2). The Holy Spirit is the divine spiritual sperm, which impregnates with eternal LIFE (Rom. 8:11). Also it is the LOVE of God shed abroad in our hearts (Rom. 5:5).

What Did the Tree of Life Symbolize?

Therefore, the tree of life in Eden symbolized the Spirit of God, which imparts eternal LIFE. Adam was not created with eternal life. In that respect, his creation was not yet complete. Human creation is still going on!

If Adam had taken of the tree of LIFE, he would have received that LIFE just as the Christian may today by receiving the Holy Spirit. Only, Adam had not yet sinned—until he disobeyed. He would have needed no repentance as we do today. But he would have BELIEVED God. He would have received the

Holy Spirit—the LOVE OF GOD, which divine love fulfills God's law.

What more? Like Christians today, he would have become an HEIR of God. He would have been begotten to become a child of God, not yet born.

In I Corinthians 2:9, we read that the knowledge of spiritual truths, attitudes and purposes of God cannot be seen by the eye nor heard through the ear. All knowledge receivable by humans enters the mind through the five senses. But (verse 10) God reveals spiritual knowledge through his Spirit. Without the Spirit of God in combination with our human spirit, no human can comprehend spiritual knowledge. That is the reason the greatest, most intellectual, most highly educated minds CANNOT UNDERSTAND the Bible—which imparts spiritual knowledge.

Therefore, as the forbidden tree was one of knowledge leading to death, so the tree of LIFE was one of spiritual knowledge leading to immortal LIFE. What Adam took to himself was spiritual knowledge, which his mind, without the Holy Spirit of God, was not capable of comprehending. He decided for himself what is right and wrong. But Satan influenced him, through Eve, to decide selfishly.

Consequently, he decided what he thought was right or wrong in relation to others from an attitude of self-centeredness—not from that of outflowing love toward others.

The tree of LIFE—symbolic of God's Holy Spirit—was shut off and CLOSED to humans until Christ. Thus the foundation of this world—this civilization—was laid. Man has acquired material know-how to produce awesome progress, especially in this 20th century. But his progress is materialistic and physical. The uncompleted human mind has been capable of that. But the human mind has been only HALF there!

In relationship to God, what little mankind knows has been perverted by Satan. Man has been selfish in his relationship with people. He has lived the way of GETTING, not GIVING. He has been filled with greed, animosity, competition, vio-

(Continued on page 6)

JAPAN

Asia's Economic Superpower Faces Uncertain Future

by Gene H. Hogberg

Will the dynamo of Asia be content to remain only an economic giant? What can we expect from its new prime minister? Can militarily vulnerable Japan continue to rely for its defense upon the United States? These are vital questions as Japan moves into the mid 1980s.

THE ECONOMIC picture throughout Asia, comparatively speaking, is still extremely "bullish."

The worldwide economic recession—grim in many countries of the West—has only slowed economic growth in the Far East by a pace or two.

During the 1970s Japan—the economic "locomotive" of noncommunist Asia—posted a yearly growth rate of about 6 percent. During the current world downturn, the growth rate has been pared back to a still highly respectable 4 percent.

Moreover the growth rates, past and present, in other Far East Asian economies that have patterned their economies after that of Japan—South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore—have been similar.

Throughout the past decade, these countries, dubbed by one British journalist "the Gang of Four" and by others as "the four little Japans," averaged an astounding 9 percent average annual growth rate. The figures for the 1980s so far show only a slight drop-off.

The Japanese standard of living now roughly approximates that of the United States. Both its gross national product (GNP) and popu-

lation are roughly half that of the United States. In 1960, Japan's GNP was only 8 percent of America's.

Poised for Great Advances

"Over the next couple of decades you will probably see more economic growth in this region than in the whole rest of the world," Clayton Yeutter, president of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, said during a recent visit to Tokyo. "East Asia is the place for American business to make real efforts."

This predicted growth, if the world rebounds from recession and if there is no trade war—mighty big "ifs," especially the latter one—will almost surely be led by Japan.

Certainly, no country in the world is better prepared to face the economic future. Japan's universities are training 10 times as many engineers as Britain's. Japanese industry, moreover, employs more people in the critical area of research and development than Britain, France and West Germany put together.

What alarms Japan's competition in the Free World—mainly the United States and Western Europe—has been Japan's rapid advance in electronics and high technology.

They are acutely aware that what

has happened to the American and British automotive industries, to Swiss watches, to radio and television manufacturers, is on the verge of happening to their computer industries.

From Imitators to Innovators

The Japanese and their Asian neighbors have long since advanced from the lowly position of being mere imitators of Western technology.

The Japanese and others, according to *The Economist* of Britain (June 19, 1982), "improve on the technology they borrow, keeping an ear cocked keenly for what the market is demanding."

From now on and into the future, some experts predict that Japan will be a leader in *creativity* as well.

This aspect of Japanese national character has not been heretofore dominant. Japanese society lays great stress upon group effort. The individual that stands out in the crowd—as most inventive geniuses do—has not been looked upon favorably by his fellows. There is an old Japanese proverb that states: "The nail that sticks out the farthest gets hammered down."

Nevertheless, experts expect innovation and creativity to mushroom in the years ahead, adding more strength to the "Japanese challenge." The principal key to

Japan's success, however, is not adaptation, innovation or creativity. Neither is it devotion to individual effort and hard work.

The real key to success is cooperation.

Cooperation and Hard Work

While Japan as a whole epitomizes the "spirit of competition" with regard to its nervous trade partners, within each company the opposite principles of teamwork and cooperation hold forth.

Because of these factors the Japanese have the edge over competitor countries where labor and management and often government are all too often pitted against one another.

Westerners may laugh at stories about Japanese workers singing company songs before the morning work shift—or doing group calisthenics to "work up the blood" before charging the work area—but these teamwork and loyalty-molding techniques work. Ask any American worker in Japanese-owned plants in the United States where similar but modified practices have been adopted. They'll tell you their benefits.

Journalist Brian James, writing in the British newspaper, *The Daily Mail*, wrote a three-part series in his newspaper (November 29, 30 and December 1, 1982) warning his readers of an "Asian-run world by the year 2001."

The world, Mr. James said, "is tilting out of our control. Within 20 years, the Asian nations could substantially control what happens to the economics of the rest... in effect, who works, who eats."

He saw a display of robots at an

industrial exposition. Japan has nearly 80,000 robots performing routine work today.

By far the leading nation in "robotics," Japan is expected to have 10,000,000 of the human-replacing machines by the end of the century, roughly one robot per 10 Japanese.

At the exposition one Western observer said, "I have seen the future—and it works." His more perceptive companion said: "I have seen the future... and it's me NOT working."

Decadent West Losing the Race

Author James then compared the Japanese dynamo with the declining, decaying cultures of the English-speaking world:

"Look at Britain. We were like them once; full of religion, belief in the value of work, fair day's pay and all that. Times change."

"Look at America. Thirty years ago you'd have said the same about them; dynamic, go-getting. Then a new generation comes along. They run into problems, drugs, slum cities, disrespect for elders and authority, abandon old ideas on thrift or possessions."

Significantly, author James asked of his British countrymen—"Will we be the coolies of the 21st century?"

As if to answer the question, he relayed an incident that occurred at a late evening business dinner in Tokyo. With his normal inhibitions a bit relaxed, a Japanese businessman told Mr. James:

"We know how we want the future. We will use the U.S. as our grain bowl, and Australia as our mine." And Europe? "Europe," he

said, "Yes, that will be our boutique."

Growing Disrespect for America

Astute Japanese observers can see what's happening inside the United States and other skidding powers of the West. One such observer is Eiji Kobayashi, professor of economics at the University of Nara in Japan. He has visited America five times and is greatly disturbed at the changes he has seen taking place. He told reporters for an American political journal:

"In the past several decades, Americans have grown less disciplined and less hard-working. They are more decadent and concerned only with their own self-interest."

Japanese, said Professor Kobayashi, "see the United States growing weaker and weaker—not just economically, but also militarily. America is no longer a model for us, technologically.... As Japan has grown as a great economic power, we have more frictions and conflicts with your country, and economic friction often leads to greater conflicts."

When he first visited the United States about 20 years ago, Professor Kobayashi continued, "I felt a certain inferiority, because America was so much more prosperous than Japan. Like most Japanese, I admired America. But today, the situation is reversed: Japan is much more prosperous and efficient than the United States. Our sense of inferiority has turned into a feeling of superiority. My admiration for America has been shattered. But I very much hope that your country will recover its former strength and prosperity."

It certainly doesn't help relations

Yasuhiro Nakasone

Japan's New Prime Minister

Western writers have traditionally portrayed Orientals as enigmatic and inscrutable. But such labels have never been applied to Japan's new prime minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Yasuhiro Nakasone's views have never been a secret to anyone. During the course of his 35 years in politics, he has gained a reputation for unusual frankness and candor. He is regarded as one of Japan's most outspoken and

controversial politicians.

Nakasone-san has made strong friends—and fierce enemies. His supporters describe him as brilliant, perceptive and decisive. His political foes label him "dangerous,"

"opportunistic" and "rabidly nationalistic." Some even brand him "militaristic."

The new prime minister projects an unmistakable image of strength. His trademarks have been decisive action and bold

decisions. He strongly identifies with the deep-seated traditions and aspirations of his country.

The economic and political troubles facing the Free World's second-largest economy may require just such a firm hand at the helm. As one analyst has observed, "Nakasone could be that rare leader who arrives at just the right historical moment."

No one doubts that Yasuhiro Nakasone, 64, will

between Japan and America, to have Japanese businessmen and tourists flogged, mugged and even murdered on the streets of major U.S. cities such as Los Angeles!

Whither Japan?

It is extremely significant that, at this stage, in Japan's post-World War II history, a "new style" leader for the Asian power has emerged on the scene.

Yasuhiro Nakasone, who assumed the office of prime minister on November 26, 1982, promises to break the mold of recent "decision-by-consensus" politicians (see commentary below).

In an interview in the December 14, 1982, *Wall Street Journal*, Mr. Nakasone said: "Often the tendency of Orientals has been to be rather vague, opaque and foggy, but my style is different. I want to get rid of opaqueness and foginess and clarify my position as much as possible."

Mr. Nakasone stresses that the bedrock relationship of all that must be preserved is the tie to America. Washington, with its "nuclear umbrella," preserves Japanese freedom and independence.

At the same time, the new prime minister is expected to call for his own countrymen to pick up more of their own national defense. An extension of this would be a policy he favors—that of Japanese forces having the capability to protect vital ocean sea lanes as far as 1,000 miles from Japan.

Mr. Nakasone is certainly no militarist, but he would favor the rewriting of Japan's postwar constitution—ordered by the Americans—and its controversial Article Nine. Under the terms of this pro-

vision, the Japanese were forced to renounce war as a "sovereign right." Article Nine also states that "Japan will never maintain land, sea and air forces, as well as other potential forces for war."

Mr. Nakasone has long maintained that the current constitution compromises Japan's sovereignty. In any sense, the so-called air, land and sea "self-defense" forces that Japan already possesses make somewhat of a mockery of Article Nine.

Mr. Nakasone is also on record as calling for the restoration of the Emperor as head-of-state.

U.S. Pressure, Asian Fears

Many influential voices in the United States, including that of Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger, have also been pressuring the Japanese in the direction of limited rearmament.

The general consensus in Washington is that Japan should do more in its own self-defense, if nothing else, to help redress the enormous balance-of-payments problem between Washington and Tokyo. Japan has an unwritten rule of not spending more than 1 percent of its GNP on defense (as opposed to about 6.6 percent for the United States).

Not a few observers—in Japan as well as all over Asia—are highly dubious over the prospects of a greater militarized Japan.

For example, a top South Korean government official recently told an American visitor in Seoul that the United States ought to be very cautious about pushing Japan to boost its defense spending. The result, a few years down the road, he said, could be Japan attempting a policy of military superiority in Asia, res-

urrecting fears of what happened more than 40 years ago when Japanese expansion in Asia brought nation after another under the heel of Tokyo's "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere."

Perhaps the most vivid reservation to such a development was expressed by President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines. President Marcos was a hero in his country during its occupation by Japanese forces in World War II.

Interviewed on an American telecast program early in 1982, President Marcos was in a generally jovial mood. But when the question came up about whether he approved of a greater military role for Japan in Asia, his countenance suddenly and dramatically changed. "Oh, no!" he shot back, grimly looking at his questioners.

Textbooks and New Revelations

Adding fuel to the fire of Asian suspicions of Japan's future course was the great textbook controversy, during the summer of 1982.

Officials in nations throughout the region exploded in anger when it was learned that Japan's education ministry had approved of changes in school textbooks dealing with Japan's military activities during the war. (Example: the Japanese military "advanced" into north China rather than "invaded," as in older books.)

The changes had been pressured by circles in Japan that had wanted to restore, in their own way, some honor to the recent past. They claimed that earlier books had been written by "pacifist leftists," who stripped Japan's youth of patriotism and respect

leave his own distinctive mark on Japan during his tenure as that nation's 17th postwar prime minister.

Prime Minister Nakasone was born May 27, 1918, the son of a lumber dealer. He graduated from the prestigious Tokyo University in 1941. During World War II he served as a naval officer.

In April, 1947, Mr. Nakasone won his first election to parliament, at the age of 28. It was not long before his outspoken views

attracted public attention.

In 1951, the young parliamentarian sent a 7,000-word petition to General Douglas MacArthur urging an early end to the U.S. occupation of Japan and a restoration of complete Japanese independence. Both objectives became reality the following year, but Mr. Nakasone's "insolence" in so aggressively asserting his views earned him an unfavorable reputation in the

eyes of American occupation authorities.

Mr. Nakasone was also a critic of the 1952 U.S.-Japanese security treaty and an early advocate of a stronger Japanese military posture.

In the course of his three-and-one-half decades in public service, Mr. Nakasone served in numerous government offices, including director of the Japan Defense Agency.

Yasuhiro Nakasone

gained his country's top office last November 26, following the surprise resignation of Zenko Suzuki.

With strong backing from former prime minister Kakuei Tanaka, Mr. Nakasone successfully overcame fierce intraparty opposition to win the presidency of the Liberal Democratic Party, Japan's ruling party since 1955. Two days later he was elected prime minister by the LDP.

(Continued on page 45)

for Japanese history and culture.

Because of the storm of protests, the Japanese government announced that it would take another look at the controversial changes in the interest of regional harmony.

On top of the textbook controversy there came to light new evidence of brutal disease and human endurance tests carried out on prisoners of the Japanese in occu-

pied Manchuria during the war.

Then Americans were treated on television, in late 1982, to a gripping account of the suffering of American and Philippine soldiers in the Philippines from 1942 to the end of the war. The documentary was entitled *Bataan—the Forgotten Hell*.

Key Is Confidence in U.S.

Because of recent past history,

Japan's leadership will certainly be cautious before translating its enormous economic power into greater political and military influence.

For now, at least, the Japanese are content to crouch safely behind America's nuclear shield. But, no doubt, leading Japanese are beginning to have grave doubts about

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Personal from...

(Continued from page 2)

lence, destruction. He has destroyed all of God's earth his hands could touch or change—polluted the air and the water, worn out the soil. But WHAT IF Adam had taken of the tree of LIFE which God freely offered him?

"He Would Have . . ."

He would have received the Holy Spirit of God. He would thus have been given a spiritually comprehending mind. He would have continued in close relationship with God, especially in the Person of the Word, later designated as Yahweh, who would have revealed knowledge and truth progressively to Adam as he was able to absorb and understand it. He would have received the LOVE of God, God's divine love for fulfilling the law. He would have received the FAITH of God, and even spiritual POWER to resist evil and for self-control.

But, would Satan have been banished from the earth at the time? From here on many questions may arise that God has not as yet revealed to us in the Bible. But some answers are evident, and others indicated by what is revealed.

Christ, the second Adam, resisted and rejected Satan in the great temptation (Matt. 4). But he did not take over the throne of the earth from Satan at that time, although he had qualified to take it over.

We, who do receive the Holy Spirit, are not made immortal at once; nor even in this mortal life. We must continue to overcome, to grow in grace and spiritual knowledge, and we must endure to the end of this mortal existence before

we shall be made immortal. So it is indicated surely that Adam would have continued as a mortal, having God's Spirit, until God's righteous character had been developed in him. Eventually he would have been made immortal. Satan would have been deposed and Adam would have sat on the throne of the earth.

He would have been taught by God continually. He surely would have learned to teach Cain, Abel, Seth and other children, from the cradle, in God's way of life and in resisting Satan.

God has not revealed it all. But we may know it would have been a far different world than that which Satan has deceived.

What DID and WILL Happen

But the first human, Adam, did not take of the freely offered tree of LIFE. So what is important to us is what did, and will happen.

God's PURPOSE in creating and putting on earth the human family was and is to reproduce himself—to create in and through the human family his own GOD FAMILY WITH PERFECT SPIRITUAL CHARACTER, to have the human family born into the GOD FAMILY. God's PURPOSE stands. It shall be accomplished. But, how?

God's own perfect character can only be created in us by him, but with our own individual free choice, decision and will. The first Adam did not then acquiesce in that decision, and free will. He yielded to Satan and opposite character through his wife Eve.

Thereupon God moved swiftly to do certain things.

First, he shut off access by humans to the tree of LIFE—to immortality. God was not willing that humans should live eternally in the unhappy state of perverted

minds and the consequences of sin.

At the same time, so that sinning man be not lost from God-like happiness, and the possibility of being born into the God family, it was thereupon necessary—at the very foundation of the human world—that Christ should come, be born human, and through death pay the penalty for the sins of all humans who repent and turn to God's way of life.

Simultaneously, it was appointed that all humans should die, but after this, through a resurrection, come to judgment (Heb. 9:27) in which the book of life could be opened (Rev. 20:12)—and, that as in Adam all should once die, so in Christ should all be made alive (1 Cor. 15:22) and then judged.

In due time, nearly 4,000 years from the foundation of this world, Christ came. He said, "I will build my Church." As a foundation (with the prophets), he called and taught his 12 disciples. He commissioned them, as apostles, to teach all whom God would call. To them, upon repentance and belief, the Holy Spirit would be given, begetting them as sons of God. Even then, the Holy Spirit was still closed off to all except those chosen and drawn by God.

At the end of the Church age and 6,000 years from Adam, Christ would return to earth as King of kings and Lord of lords, ruling all nations, with the saints, for one millennium.

After this shall come the Great White Throne Judgment when all not called previously shall be resurrected in the judgment and come to understand what only a privileged few, who are called now, already understand.

Undoubtedly, billions of humans finally shall be born into the God family. □

THE PLAIN TRUTH

Despite this Recession YOU CAN SOLVE YOUR FINANCIAL WORRIES

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Here are facts you probably didn't know about your income.

FINANCIAL worries seem to plague us all!

In these recessionary times nearly every one of us is engaged in a constant struggle to make ends meet. Financial worries seem constantly to bear us down—rob us of real happiness and joy! Why should this be?

There is a reason! You can be free from financial worry!

What Most People Don't Know

Let me tell you something you probably *don't know* about your income. If there is anything people are jealous of in this period of rising costs, it is the money they earn. They usually work hard for it. And they want full freedom in deciding for themselves what they do with it.

People say: "What I earn is mine—I can do what I please with it!" But is the money you earn really your own? Don't be too sure. Listen to facts about your income you probably haven't known!

What you earn is not yours!

The man who says, "What I do with the money I earn is nobody's business! I produced it—it belongs to me," is mistaken.

What you earn by work performed, by services rendered, from investments made, *is not yours*—not any of it—that is, not UNTIL—and I will have to explain that "until."

There are two prior claims on your income. One, of course, is taxes.

But the *first* is God's claim. Most people have never realized this fact—but it is a fact. God Almighty the living creator-ruler of the universe claims it all—every dollar—every pound—every franc—every mark. Your Maker who gives you the very air you breathe tells you it all belongs to him, not to you!

But didn't you earn it? Didn't you produce it?

Not exactly! Everything produced—money, and the things that money can buy—comes out of the earth. You didn't produce the earth! God created that! You merely applied certain energy in thinking and in physical action to that which God created and owns. And where did the energy you expended come from? You didn't create it—you merely utilized what God created and supplied. God created even your thinking processes.

God Almighty created *not* only matter, but all force and energy. God set them in *motion*, in the laws of physics and chemistry. He created the human mind. He supplies even the energy used in thinking and acting. Yes, all has come from God!

It is God who sustains, preserves in motion, guides and directs, all the forces and energies. God is not merely a creator of the long ago!

God is the sustaining, directing, living ruler over all, today! It's a simple fact that, after all, it is God's labor of original thinking and planning and creating, and of continuous sustaining and directing, that really produces all.

Therefore God's claim to ownership of all you have thought you produced or earned is valid. It is prior to yours!

God Almighty says (Ps. 24:1-2): "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein..." (Revised Standard Version throughout). These inspired words are repeated in the New Testament in I Corinthians 10:26.

God Almighty owns this earth and everything that exists or lives upon it! "Whatever is under the whole heaven is mine," claims God in Job 41:11.

Turn to Deuteronomy 10:14: "Behold, to the Lord your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it." And in Exodus 19:5, God says: "All the earth is mine."

"If I were hungry," says God (Ps. 50:12), "I would not tell you; for the world and all that is in it is mine." "For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills" (verse 10).

Yes, even the money—even the gold and silver. "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts" (Hag. 2:8). Dare any man

deny this claim of God? God's claim stands! Admit, then, your income belongs to God! It's his to do with as he wills.

How God's Law Regulates Your Income

But God is a God of love. He knows your need in this time of recession. God is concerned about you. He has your welfare in mind. Therefore God has made a law respecting that portion of his wealth which your thinking and your labor has extracted and worked upon.

Get this fixed thoroughly in your mind. Your wages, your salary, your profit, your income belongs to God, not to you. Probably you never realized this before. This may seem like a new idea to you. But it is not an idea—it is a fact!

So God, the rightful owner of your income, has made a law respecting its disposal and its use.

God's law respecting what you earn is in fact a deal he has made with you. He allows you to work on his earth, to use a part of the earth, or what is in it, or on it, to utilize its forces and energies, and to extract from it food, materials, supplies, wood, metals, oils, coal—or to work on or with that which others have extracted from the earth, in manufacturing, distributing, buying, selling, investing—whatever may be your occupation or job or profession. So, whether you have realized it or not you have been working in partnership with God.

The farmer or gardener may plant seed, plow, and expend his labor in raising food. But who supplied the soil? Who created the living process that makes the seed sprout and grow? Who sends the rain or provides water for irrigation? Who set the sun in the sky and causes it to shine and warm the earth? Who causes the plant to drink out of the soil the minerals and good elements, and to grow into the vegetable, the grain or the fruit? Did you perform this part of the business of raising the food you eat?

When we really think about it, we shall see that God supplies about nine parts of everything man makes or produces, and man's thinking, planning, and working

supplies only about one part. But God does not take nine tenths of the proceeds or the income. He doesn't take even six tenths, or even two tenths. God is generous. God has reserved for his use only *one* little tenth of what is produced out of his earth through his forces and energies!

God takes only *ONE* tenth. And after you have been honest in *PAYING* God's tenth to God's chosen representative, then—*AND NOT UNTIL THEN*—God has decreed that the other nine tenths becomes legally yours!

That's God's law!

Not a penny of what you earn, or a penny's worth of the value of what you produce, is yours—it all belongs to God to do with as he directs. God has legally directed that after you have honestly paid him the one little tenth he requires for his creative work, then the other nine tenths he gives to you. Then and not until then can you rightfully claim ownership over that nine tenths.

When we get our thinking straight—when we get understanding—when we stop to realize how much of what we have was provided by God—then we realize how loving, how generous, how solicitous for our welfare in this time of financial stress God is.

The Curses and Blessings

But that's only part of the story.

What does God want with that first tenth? How does he use it? He requires that small fraction of what is produced out of his earth for the purpose of disseminating to the people his message of the way of life that will free them from fears and worries, give them peace of mind and happiness, give them joy and success and life eternal!

Yes, even this tenth that God withholds for his use is expended for human good! For proclaiming his gospel of peace and happiness and joy and salvation! For letting people know God will heal them when they are sick—that God will deliver them from every trouble—supply their every need! Give them eternal life!

This unhappy recession-ridden world is starving for that knowledge!

This world is under a curse because it has robbed God of his money and his wealth, and thereby withheld from itself the knowledge of why it is in economic chaos—why there is no real peace—why it finds life empty and fruitless, full of suffering and unhappiness, frustration and death!

All of God's laws are for man's good!

Obedience to God's laws brings blessings! When we violate his laws, we bring curses upon ourselves!

Even the true Christians—the Spirit-begotten sons of God—need to cry out to God for help, for deliverance. In this world today, even those who turn to the ways of God suffer from the common violations of mankind as a whole. But there is help. There is deliverance! In Psalm 34:19, we read: "Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the Lord delivers him out of them all." And in the 18th verse we read: "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit."

If we want that prayer answered—if we want the blessings of God, and not the curses of transgression—the way is to forsake our ways and our thoughts and return to God's ways.

How to Have More

Throughout the Scriptures God makes it a law that the first tenth of every individual's income shall be paid to God through his own called and chosen servant for the purpose of proclaiming his gospel message!

That law has always been in force and effect. We find Abraham, 400 years before Moses, paying the tithe or the first tenth of his income to God's High Priest. Four hundred years later, when the Levitical priesthood started, we find the tithing law continued. During that period God commanded the people to pay the tithes to God's servants for that dispensation—the Levites.

And in Hebrews 7 in the New Testament, God shows us that, since the priesthood is changed to that of Jesus Christ, there is also made a change in the law

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TESTING TIME FOR WEST GERMANY

by Keith W. Stump

As troubles mount, West Germany
faces an uncertain future. Where will that future lead?

BONN, West Germany—
It is time for the world
to awaken to the far-
reaching significance of de-
velopments here!

The abrupt collapse last
autumn of the Social Demo-
cratic coalition that had gov-
erned this country for the past
13 years marked the end of an
era in West Germany's postwar
history.

West Germany is now entering
a new and potentially dangerous
period of uncertainty and crisis.

To most Germans, the road
ahead is far from clear. A foreign
visitor senses a general feeling of
unease, a mood of foreboding
among Germans.

Where is West Germany head-
ed? Will Chancellor Helmut
Kohl's coalition government be
able to give the country the strong
leadership it needs?

Dim Prospects for Slumping Economy

Shortly after taking office, the new
chancellor boldly promised "a new
start with a government that
works." Opponents were quick to
declare that "nothing will change
but the rhetoric."

What are Dr. Kohl's pros-
pects?

Much of the success of any leader
in troubled times such as these
hinges on his personal charisma and
ability to inspire and motivate the

public. But the new chancellor has
been widely described in much of
the German press as "colorless,"
"ponderous" and "uninspired."
One diplomat described his style as
"the bland leading the bland."

icy will certainly make or break his
administration.

The same economic problems
that triggered the downfall of Hel-
mut Schmidt's coalition remain to
torment his successor. West Ger-



The general feeling about Dr.
Kohl's future is one of skepticism.
Most observers believe his pros-
pects are dim at best. No major
changes are expected. Yet it may
well be that major changes are the
only way to deal with the serious
problems facing West Germany.

Chancellor Kohl's economic pol-

icy is in its worst economic crisis
since the state was founded shortly
after World War II.

West Germany today has the fast-
est-growing unemployment rate in
Europe. The jobless rate is expected
to soon reach upward of 10 percent
of the work force—more than two
million people. Stagnant growth is

another major concern. Current estimates forecast zero growth for 1983.

Bankruptcies are at an all-time high: The alarming rise in bankruptcies and business collapses was spotlighted last year by the biggest corporate failure in West German history. West Germany's giant electronics company—AEG-Telefunken—collapsed, sending shivers through the West German economy. The crash of the company—long a household name throughout Germany and Europe—dealt a severe psychological blow to West Germans and dented economic self-confidence.

Declining productivity is yet another concern, as are trade deficits, slowly rising inflation and a massive domestic budget shortfall.

This gloomy economic outlook—which some government economists say could even prove "overly optimistic"—is bad news for Chancellor Kohl. Business circles seriously question his ability to bring about an economic upturn in the near future.

There is probably no way out of the economic muddle except to cut back on over-stretched social welfare and other public spending. "We have lived beyond our means," Mr. Kohl himself has observed. "And some people, including some political leaders, have kept believing that you can live better and better while at the same time working less and less. We now have to face the most challenging economic situation since the end of the war. There has been too much public spending, and there are more debts than ever before."

Cutting public spending is not an easy program to implement. Such austerity moves encounter considerable resistance, particularly from trade unions.

Yet persuasive voices are declaring such cuts are the only way out. "Our people must learn again... to make sacrifices," asserts conservative CSU (Christian Social Union) party chief Franz Josef Strauss.

There is clearly no quick and painless way out. As Dr. Strauss has also observed, "We have no magic formulas. We only have the right principles."

But to impatient voters, are right principles enough?

New Third Force

Another major concern to Chancellor Kohl as he surveys his prospects is the emergence of a new national party known as *Die Gruenen*—the "Greens." The Greens could significantly alter the entire course of West Germany's political development.

The Greens are a militant, anti-establishment alliance of diverse groups, including pacifists, environmentalists, Marxists, anti-nuclear protest groups and the like.

The Greens seek the expulsion of foreign troops from German soil, dissolution of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the creation of a "nuclear-free zone" in Europe.

Unlikely as it might seem on the surface, the Greens are given an excellent chance of entering parliament in the next elections. They have grown into a potent political force in a relatively short period of time.

Under German electoral law, a political party must win a minimum of 5 percent of the votes to get a share of the seats. Public opinion polls indicate the Greens will almost certainly be able to meet this requirement.

The freewheeling Greens, in fact, appear to have already become the country's third political force.

The small Free Democratic Party (FDP), on the other hand, may well be eliminated from the legislature in the next balloting. (It was the FDP that precipitated last autumn's government crisis by withdrawing its support from the Social Democrats and entering a new alliance with Dr. Kohl's CDU/CSU conservatives.) In various state elections, the FDP has already fallen below the 5 percent popular vote level required by the constitution to seat a party in parliament.

Election Prospects

If the FDP is cast out of parliament in the coming general elections, the consequences could be far-reaching—especially if the Greens end up holding the balance of power. By refusing any coalition, the Greens

could make governing by either major party impossible. In the case of such a deadlock, another election might be necessary almost immediately.

Analysts, however, have not ruled out a clear conservative victory at the polls. Were the CDU/CSU alliance to win an absolute majority, they could then form a new government with a free hand, unencumbered by the liberal FDP or any other nonconservative elements.

Surprisingly, however, observers feel that Chancellor Kohl would actually *prefer* having to form a coalition with the liberal FDP to the prospect of achieving an absolute majority.

The reason?

He would like to limit the influence of the conservative right wing—spearheaded by Franz Josef Strauss—within his CDU/CSU alliance. Chancellor Kohl *needs* the center liberals if he is to keep West Germany on the type of middle-of-the-road course he envisions. Dependence on the FDP would serve to lessen right-wing pressure within the coalition.

Chancellor Kohl's concern centers around the figure of Herr Strauss, leader of the CDU's Bavarian affiliate party, the CSU. Dr. Strauss is West Germany's most controversial politician and widely held to be the strongest personality in German politics today. Though Chancellor Kohl's political ally, the CSU chief has long been at odds with Kohl's positions on a wide variety of issues.

Herr Strauss, for example, pressed for new national elections last autumn as the proper way out of the governmental crisis. He felt the CDU/CSU could easily win a clear mandate at that time. Such a victory, he observed, would make it unnecessary to have anything to do with the discredited Free Democrats. He felt the FDP was not to be trusted, in view of its "infidelity" to the SPD.

Dr. Strauss ultimately deferred to Kohl, who backed the unusual parliamentary maneuver that immediately removed Chancellor Schmidt from power and postponed elections until spring. Mr. Strauss subsequently chose not to

participate in Chancellor Kohl's interim cabinet with the FDP.

If the CDU/CSU wins an absolute majority in the coming elections and is able to govern without the Free Democrats, Herr Strauss will undoubtedly receive important cabinet positions. He would almost certainly become vice-chancellor, and possibly also foreign minister or economics minister. His influence on the government would be major.

But whatever the immediate results of the coming balloting, the signs for the longer-range future remain disturbing. Political analysts are in agreement that the months that follow the election could prove the ultimate test for West German democracy.

The economic situation could well continue to slide, aggravating the political and social situation within the country.

Since World War II, West Germany's political stability has been based largely on strong economic performance. Prolonged and worsening economic problems could lead to political paralysis.

Echoes From the Past

Such prospects are especially disturbing to observers with a sense of history.

A strikingly similar set of circumstances developed inside Germany earlier in this century—with catastrophic consequences.

Following Germany's defeat in World War I, a system of democratic government replaced the old empire in Germany. It is commonly referred to as the Weimar Republic, so called because the assembly that adopted its constitution met at the city of Weimar.

Weimar was a democracy, but that was not enough. Germans quickly discovered that it was easier to write a democratic constitution than to make it work.

The Weimar Republic was plagued almost from the start by a variety of political, economic and social concerns.

The Weimar constitution, for example, ensured the representation of small minority parties in parliament. As a result, innumerable separate parties were formed.

This meant that only by *coalition*—temporary alliances of parties—could government majorities be formed.

The fragile governments thus formed were the victims of continual disunity and bickering among "partners." Small parties often held the balance of power, becoming bottlenecks—stalling and blocking legislation. More often than not, new elections failed to break such parliamentary deadlocks.

Increasingly hard times further fueled the fires of political pandemonium. The Depression in the United States shook Europe's economic fabric, and Germany was hit hardest of all. Economic problems triggered widespread social and political turmoil. By the end of 1931, more than six million Germans were

unemployed; by 1933, more than eight million. Tensions moved inevitably toward the breaking point.

The ongoing disunity of the political parties made a drastic solution of the crisis inevitable.

The National Socialists under Adolf Hitler moved to capitalize on German discontent. The multitude of parties were unable to unite against him. This sounded the death knell of the Weimar Republic and the birth, in 1933, of the Third Reich.

A New Weimar?

Is Bonn, many observers are beginning to ask, becoming a new Weimar?

Trends within West Germany make such comparisons inevitable.

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CRACKS IN THE EASTER LEGACY



What do Easter eggs, sunrise services and Lent have to do with Jesus' resurrection? Millions of professing Christians are unaware that they keep Easter traditions that were actually part of mystery religions flourishing 2,000 years before Christ! Our free booklet *The Plain Truth About Easter* offers facts you need to know. For a copy, write to the Plain Truth office nearest you.



Recession

(Continued from page 8)

respecting tithes—not an abolition of that law, but a change. The tithes are now paid to the New Testament ministry of Jesus Christ for the great commission of proclaiming his gospel—the very gospel Christ preached—to the world today! In I Corinthians 9 the apostle Paul is inspired of God to instruct us that God has ordained that the New Testament gospel ministry of Christ shall be financed as the Levitical priesthood of the old covenant—by the tithes and freewill offerings of the people.

God's own financial system is making possible THIS VERY WORK OF GOD in proclaiming the gospel Christ preached to the world, on the *World Tomorrow* radio and television program and in *The Plain Truth* and other publications. Hundreds are writing in asking, how can we send out this powerful broadcast to the world, without publicly asking for money—how can we publish a magazine of worldwide circulation without subscription price? The plain, simple, straightforward answer is, THIS is the work of God, and it is sponsored and endowed only by God Almighty, through faith—and it is financed and conducted God's way, as God directs in his word! God has simply laid it on the hearts of enough individuals—many of them belonging to no denomination or religious organization, others belonging perhaps to many churches or denominations—to pay God's tithe and give generous offerings to God through his called and chosen servant whom he uses and through whom he speaks! This is the doing and work of God!

But now I want to show you more of the blessings for obedience and for honesty in money matters toward God, and the curses for neglect or disobedience.

When you pay tithes you are not giving God anything. They are not yours to give. The tithes belong to God. They never were yours! You pay your tithes—or rather, God's tithes. They belong to him, and he

says you are stealing when you take them.

God says to us through Malachi: "Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How are we robbing thee?'" And God answers, "In your tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me; the whole nation of you" (Mal. 3:8-9).

Understand this: All wealth is produced out of God's earth. It is God who sends the rain and the sunshine. God also has a thousand ways of making what you do pay off bigger!

When you work diligently in this partnership to produce all you can, when you are honest with your Senior Partner—God—in paying

“
All wealth is
produced out of
God's earth.
God has a
thousand ways of
making what
you do pay off
bigger!
”

him his portion of the proceeds, then God works with you, blesses your effort, causes the partnership to produce and earn more. He promises repeatedly in the Bible to prosper the tither. The tither has far more retaining his honest nine tenths than the man who cheats God and robs himself of God's blessing in this partnership. It's a blessing, or a curse, depending on you!

How You Can Prosper in Inflation

Continuing in Malachi 3, verses 10 and 11: "Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house; and thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour

down for you an overflowing blessing. I will rebuke the devourer [crop-destroying pest] for you... your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the Lord of hosts."

That's God's promise! Why don't you put God to that test? Why don't you prove him to see if he doesn't increase the value of your income in this period of recession so that your own nine tenths God gives you will be worth more than your whole income now, that your financial worries will be ended?

"But I can't afford to tithe," complains one man. God's answer is, can you afford to steal from God? Pay God his tenth—and watch God increase the value of both his tenth and your nine tenths. That's the way to get bills paid, to get out of burdensome debt, to be free from financial worries.

A Spiritual Blessing

Tithing is a financial law. Notwithstanding, the biggest blessing of all is the spiritual blessing! Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." That, too, is a law. If your treasure is in this world's amusements and pleasures—if your money—pardon me—God's money—is being spent on yourself, and your selfish desires, even including your needs, then your whole heart and interest is in this world and not in the kingdom of God.

Jesus also said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God," and all these material needs shall be added to you. Seek God and you'll prosper. The vast majority of people do not know these facts. The times of this ignorance God overlooks, but now commands all you who know this truth to repent, and to begin to pay God's tithe regularly.

The way to grow spiritually and to enjoy the glorious happiness of God's grace is to put God's tithe and your offerings—your treasure—into God's work. Seek with all your heart the kingdom of God and financial troubles will soon vanish: your life will become happy, full with assurance of life eternal through Jesus, Christ our Lord! □



WHY THE RESURRECTION?

by Roderick C. Meredith

Millions are in ignorance of the purpose of human existence. What will you do—what will you be like—after this life is finished?

FROM the beginning of time, man has yearned to understand what lies beyond the grave. Is death the end of everything? If there is to be a life after death, what will it be like?

Will we ever really be able to explore the universe, travel to other galaxies, understand the vast cosmos?

At this season when many are observing Easter, isn't it time we examine the question of the resurrection from the dead?

Think for a moment! Human beings have minds to visualize life after death and the creative capacity to travel to other planets even while mortal, material beings. Is it reasonable that creative beings such as we are should end with this present life?

The answers to these enigmas are revealed in the Creator's revelation to humanity of essential knowledge otherwise

inaccessible to man. This revelation is called the Holy Bible. In it we read of a man of great renown; the patriarch Job, who considered the question of the resurrection. "If a man die," he asked, "shall he live again?" He answered the

knowledge of—and capacity for—space exploration. This very capacity, of course, was given man when he was created "in the image of God."

Though the human spirit is capable of envisioning and planning toward space travel—and, unfortunately, potential "star wars"—man's bodily needs are rooted in this earth. For man needs food from the earth, oxygen that is available in the right amount only in this earth's atmosphere, a climate that only this earth provides adequately.

Man is endowed with the incredible mental capacities to envision interstellar space travel but not the physical capacities to express this tremendous potential. Why? Even the very distance in light years makes it impossible for mortal man to travel to the nearest star beyond our solar system.

But will interplanetary space travel become a reality—in a life after death?

The apostle Paul begins to reveal the answer in these words: "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thess. 4:16-17).

The Lord—the once dead and now resurrected Jesus Christ—rocketing through space?

Perhaps we have not thought of the resurrection and our awesome human potential in terms of space travel before. But it is certainly there!

Our Awesome Potential

Now look at this awesome description of mankind's potential: "Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all

in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him" (Heb. 2:7-8).

Think of it! The entire UNIVERSE is to be subject to man. The translator Weymouth indeed renders the middle sentence of verse 8: "For this subjecting of the UNIVERSE to man. . . ."

Man was created to rule the earth and, later, to rule over angels and ultimately share with God in the rule of the entire universe!

"But now we see not yet all things put under him" (verse 8). Major lessons have to be learned by humanity first.

The true purpose of life—and why mankind has not yet attained it—is both exciting and awesome.

Man was made in the very image of God because *God is reproducing himself!* When Jesus, the pioneer, the *firstborn*, was born from the dead (Col. 1:18), he was born to be like his Father, God.

Yet he is also the elder brother of true Christians, the captain of our salvation (Heb. 2:10), the direct example of what we shall become.

I happen to have four sons. My sons are totally human just as I am human. They are on the human level of existence—just as I am.

What makes us think that the great God who set in motion all laws—like the law of biogenesis—causing *everything* to reproduce *after its own kind*—would suddenly vary from this principle when it comes his time to reproduce?

Notice 1 John 3:2: "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." Yes, though now, as humans, true Christians are only *begotten* of God, we shall be born of God in the resurrection and be GLORIFIED like Jesus is! We shall be able to look on the glorified faces of God and Christ. For, as John states, we *shall be like him!*

How does Jesus look now? The answer is clearly given in Revelation 1:13-16. Here the resurrected Christ is pictured as having the

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How Many Americans believe in LIFE AFTER DEATH

Nationwide	62%
Males	58%
Females	66%
Ages 18-24	59%
25-29	60%
30-49	62%
over 50	65%

question in an address to his Maker: "All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come. Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee: thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands" (Job 14:14-15).

Job knew something that is missing in this world's education—that after death God would call forth the "work" of his hands to fulfill his purpose. For God had said, as he created man: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion . . ." (Gen. 1:26). Man was created with powers unlike any animal. He was created with the ability to exercise "dominion."

But for what great purpose?

Better Than "Star Wars"

Tens of millions have seen the films *Star Wars*, *E.T.* and other Hollywood space films. These exciting films are extremely popular. Their unusual popularity stems from man's yearning to know what is going on "out there"—out in space.

Even apart from God, man is swiftly increasing in his scientific

Millions Have Never Heard WHY CHRIST ROSE FROM THE DEAD

by Clayton Steep

Why was Jesus' resurrection necessary? Many believe his "soul" remained alive between the crucifixion and the resurrection. But if his "soul" were alive, why did his body have to be resurrected for him to live again?

THINK about it. If only Jesus' body died from the rigors of his crucifixion, but the real *he* or his "soul" was still alive, why was it necessary for his body to be resurrected three days after his death and burial?

Why would he need his body if, when he died, he was already an "immortal soul"?

After Jesus fulfilled his mission in the human flesh and his lifeless body was laid in a tomb, why did it—the body—have to be brought back to *life* if the real Jesus was alive elsewhere as a "spirit" or an "immortal soul"? If one's "immortal soul" can live apart from the body, what need is there of a resurrection to life?

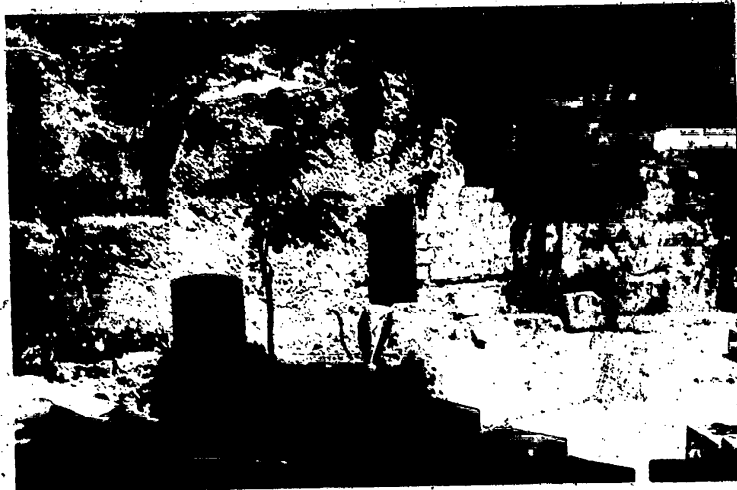
For that matter, why are Christians to be resurrected out of their graves as Jesus was if they are already alive apart from their bodies? If their "immortal souls" have already gone to heaven or paradise, when they die, why do Christians need to be resurrected in order to live again?

Why Christ Died

Before we discover why it was needful for Christ to rise from the dead, we must first understand why he

allowed himself to be put to death. When God created the first human beings he gave them a choice symbolized by two fruit-bearing trees. One tree represented

the penalty of eternal death. God didn't say Adam's body would die and that his "soul" would continue to live somewhere. Adam wasn't a body with an "immortal



obedience, its fruit leading to eternal life. The other tree represented disobedience, its fruit leading to death for all eternity.

God said to the first man, Adam, "In the day that thou eatest thereof [the tree that symbolized selfishness and disobedience] thou shalt surely die" (Gen. 2:17). In other words, the day man sinned, he came under

"soul" inside. Adam—the living, physical being—was a soul. When God breathed the breath of life into his nostrils, "man became a living soul" (Gen. 2:7). As a result of Adam's sin, Adam—a soul—received the death sentence. Of course, for the Bible declares elsewhere, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezek. 18:4). This impor-

tant truth is repeated in verse 20. How can the Bible be any clearer than that?

Adam sinned and came under the death penalty. But where does that leave the rest of us? We are in the same boat as Adam, because we all—every human being who has ever lived—have also sinned—transgressed God's law (1 John 3:4). "Wherefore, as by one man [Adam] sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men. . . . Why did death pass upon all men? Continue, "for that all have sinned" (Rom. 5:12).

All human beings are consequently under the sentence of death.

God will not compromise with his law. How then could God fulfill his purpose for human beings?

To work out his plan, God had to provide some way to redeem, to forgive, to save people from sin. Someone had to bear the penalty of sin—to die—in their stead so they could be forgiven. It would have to be someone who was without sin so that his death would substitute for everyone else's sins. It would have to be someone whose life was worth more than the lives of all human beings put together.

Only a member of the God kingdom could satisfy those requirements.

And so it was that the one we know as Jesus Christ became a flesh and blood mortal so he could die in our stead (John 1:14; Heb. 2:14). If we repent of our sins (that means to stop sinning and begin to obey God's laws), if we ask for forgiveness, we can receive the gift of eternal life rather than the penalty of eternal death. That is, not this first physical death we all die, but the second death from which there will never be a resurrection (Rev. 20:6, 14, 15).

This is explained so well in John 3:16. Perhaps no other verse in the New Testament is quoted as often and understood so little. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Jesus did not say everyone *already* has everlasting life—an "immortal soul"—and faces either spending that everlasting life in hell fire, or in heaven.

That's not what this verse says at all!

Jesus was talking about one's ultimate spirit nature, not one's location. It's a question of either acquiring immortality or not having it; of either living forever as God's gift, or of dying—perishing. There is nothing said here about an "immortal soul."

We should have read in Romans 6:23 that "the wages of sin is death." Notice, however, the rest of the verse: "*but* [on the other hand, by contrast to death] the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Eternal life is not something we already have. We do not possess immortality. It is a gift of God to those who repent. "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

“
The penalty of sin is
death—the
cessation of life. That
is the penalty
Jesus paid when he
“poured out his
soul unto death.”

declared Jesus (Luke 13:3, 5). If the penalty for sin were eternal life in hell fire, that penalty has never been paid in our stead! For Jesus would have had to spend eternity in hell fire—which he has not done.

The penalty of sin is death—the cessation of life. That is the penalty Jesus paid when he "poured out his soul [his physical, mortal life sustained by his blood] unto death [not unto eternal life in hell fire]" (Isa. 53:12).

Was Jesus in "Hell"?

In the Bible, the word translated "soul" usually refers to a living physical body. But in a few instances it actually refers to a physical body whose life has ceased. Thus the words *dead body*

in Leviticus 21:11, for example, are an English translation of the same Hebrew word translated elsewhere in the Bible by the word *soul*.

The death and resurrection of Jesus was foretold in Old Testament prophecies centuries beforehand. In one of those prophecies are reflected the words of Jesus to his Father concerning the ordeal of his crucifixion: "My flesh," said Jesus, talking about his fleshly body; "shall rest in hope: [why would his *flesh* rest in hope?] because thou wilt not leave my *soul* [his *fleshly body*!] in hell" (Acts 2:26-27).

The use of the English word *hell* in the King James Bible has caused some misunderstanding. The Greek word here translated "hell" merely means the grave—a hole in the ground. It has nothing whatsoever to do with what is described elsewhere in the Bible as the "lake of fire."

Even the old English word *hell* originally meant no more than a hole or place of hiding. Farmers used to speak of putting their potatoes in "hell" for the winter!

Jesus' "soul"—his fleshly body—was placed in a hole in the ground, more precisely, a tomb hewn out of the rocky side of a hill. Jesus himself foretold where he would spend the time between his crucifixion and resurrection. He stated that he would be "three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" (Matt. 12:40). Not up in heaven, not off somewhere else. In an earthly grave, a hole in the ground. So said Jesus. He ought to know.

The idea some have espoused—based on a wrong interpretation of a single scripture—is that Jesus spent the time between his death and resurrection preaching somewhere to disobedient spirits. Through the power of the Holy Spirit Jesus did at one time preach to demonic spirits—"the spirits in prison" (1 Pet. 3:19). But *when*? While he was dead in the grave? No! It happened long before that, "in the days of Noah," as the next verse plainly states.

The Human "Spirit"

There is no mistaking that the Bible differentiates between a per-

(Continued on page 43)

A MOST ALL human beings either have or have had a "best friend," or a "closest buddy"—someone with whom they have shared a side of themselves seldom seen by others.

Though Jesus loved all men, he was especially close to his disciple John. The apostle himself revealed this warm relationship in his own gospel.

John is a bit hesitant about mentioning himself in the first person—although he wasn't at all hesitant about mentioning the other disciples by name.

He is the only one of the gospel writers who was bold enough to point out Simon Peter as the man who severed the servant's ear during Jesus' arrest in the garden (John 18:10). Yet he never mentions *himself* by name in his entire book; when he writes of "John," he refers to John the Baptist.

"The Disciple Whom Jesus Loved"

At his last Passover, "Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, 'I tell you the truth, one of you is going to betray me.' His disciples stared at one another, at a loss to know which of them he meant. One of them, *the disciple whom Jesus loved*, was reclining next to him.

Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, 'Ask him which one he means.'" (John 13:21-24, The New International Version).

Who was this "disciple whom Jesus loved"?

Some days after Jesus' resurrection from the dead, Peter engaged in an extended discourse with the risen Christ. Concluding the conversation, "Peter turned and saw following them the disciple whom

Jesus loved, who had lain close to his breast at the supper and had said, 'Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?' When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, 'Lord, what about this man?'

"Jesus said to him, 'If it is my will that he remain [alive] until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!' " (John 21:20-22, RSV—throughout, unless otherwise stated).

Verse 24 then reveals the identity

thought that, although imprisoned, he was allowed to live out his last days in relative peace on the Isle of Patmos.

John was also favored to be among the small inner circle of disciples who witnessed a foretaste of the kingdom of God in vision. "And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain *apart*" (Matt. 17:1).

There they saw Jesus transfigured before them, with Moses and Elijah.

It was also John who was the first disciple to believe Christ had risen from the dead. Shortly after Christ's resurrection, Mary Magdalene came and saw that the tomb was empty. "So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and *the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved* . . ." (John 20:2).

John outran Simon Peter to the tomb, but the impetuous Peter went in first (verses 3-7). "Then *the other disciple*, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and *he saw and believed*" (verse 8).

John's Deep Understanding

Perhaps in part because of his special closeness to Jesus, John was granted a deep and broad understanding of his Savior. Matthew, Mark and Luke each begin their "mini-biographies" of Jesus with accounts of events occurring broadly within the (human) lifetime of Christ.

But John's account of the beginning predates even the events in the Old Testament. It is the real beginning of the Bible, describing events that occurred before even Genesis 1:1. It reads: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and *the Word was God*. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything

WHO WAS JESUS?

by John Ross Schroeder

Was Jesus man, God
or what?
Where did he come from?
Was he really
divine? Here, from the
book of John, are the answers.

of this disciple and future apostle: "This is the disciple who is bearing witness to these things, and who has written these things; and we know that his testimony is true." This could be none other than the author of "the gospel according to John." John remained alive to write the book of Revelation long after Peter's martyrdom. Apparently John was the only apostle whose life did not end in martyrdom. It is generally

made that was made" (John 1:1-3). Verse 14 explains who this "Word" was: "*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we [the disciples] have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.*" Jesus Christ is the only heavenly being who ever became a fleshly human being and lived in this world.

These very few verses tell us a great deal about the nature of Jesus Christ: 1) He was God; 2) He was with another being called God from the very beginning; 3) He was the "Word" (Greek: *Logos*) or Spokesman for the Father. The Father is referred to in verse 18: "No one [no human] has ever seen God," meaning the other being called God.

John's first letter and two of Paul's epistles provide us with an excellent commentary on these beginning scriptures in the fourth gospel. As if by habit, John begins his first epistle: "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of life—the life was made manifest, and we saw it, and testify to it, and proclaim to you the eternal life which

was with the Father and was made manifest to us—that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us; and our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ" (1 John 1:1-3).

This letter, like the first verses of John's gospel, makes it plain that the being with whom they had lived, worked, played, swam and fished was none other than a member of the Godhead—with, and like, God the Father.

The apostle Paul wrote: "He [the Father] has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and trans-

ferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son [Jesus Christ], in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He [Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation; for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things..." (Col. 1:13-17; compare with Phil. 2:5-11, NIV). Paul here

the world, then he *preceded* the creation! Yet when he came in the human flesh, the vast majority of those who had the opportunity to know him rejected their own Creator.

John the Baptist picked up this same theme and is quoted by John the apostle. "John bore witness to him, and cried, 'This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me"'" (John 1:15). Was John indulging in some kind of

spiritual doubletalk here? (No! John the Baptist was begotten and born into the human flesh *before* Jesus was (Luke 1:35-36, 57-60). But *Jesus* was God long before John was ever conceived. The Baptist repeats it in chapter one, verse 30: "... After me comes a man who ranks before me, for he was before me."

Jesus' Supernatural Knowledge

John revealed that Christ possessed powers that no normal human being had, although he was certainly subject to the pulls and temptations of the flesh (Heb. 4:15).

When Christ called 'Nathanael' to a discipleship (and future apostleship), "Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, 'Behold,

an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile.' Nathanael said to him, 'How do you know me?' Jesus answered him, 'Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.' Nathanael answered him, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God!...' Jesus answered him, 'Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things [miracles] than these'" (John 1:47-50).

Notice also the last three verses of John, chapter two. "Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs which he

“
Jesus was God
before his human birth;
he was God
in the flesh while
a human
being here on earth; and he
is now very God
at the right hand of the
Father in heaven
(John 16:28).
”

points out the broad and massive extent of the work and authority of the pre-human Christ.

John's Theme—the Godship of Christ

John emphasized over and over again, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the preexistence of Jesus Christ as God before his human birth. It is a prominent theme running throughout his entire gospel. Notice it again in the very first chapter. "He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not" (John 1:10). If he made

did; but Jesus did not trust himself to them, *because he knew all men* and needed no one to bear witness of man; for he himself knew what was in man" (verses 23-25). Christ the Creator had made mankind and he knew all about people's human weaknesses.

Jesus—From Heaven

John knew Jesus' true origin. Quoting Christ himself, John 3:13 declares: "No one has ascended into heaven but *he who descended* from heaven, the Son of man."

John continues this theme in the second half of the chapter: "He who comes *from above* is above all; he who is of the earth belongs to the earth, and of the earth he speaks; he who comes from heaven is above all. He bears witness to what he has seen and heard, yet no one [the vast majority] receives his testimony; he [only a few] who receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. For *he whom God has sent* utters the words of God, for it is not by measure that he gives the Spirit" (verses 31-34).

While Jesus Christ was yet in heaven (*before* his human birth), he saw and heard beforehand the message that he later spoke on earth.

In a conversation with the religious leaders of his generation, he said: "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from [heaven] and where I am going [to God's throne in heaven]" (John 8:14, NIV).

He continued in verses 23 and 28 (back to RSV): "You are from below, I am *from above*; you are of this world, I am not of this world. . . . When you have lifted up [crucified] the Son of man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority but speak thus as the Father taught me."

Backtracking to verse 26, "... but *he who sent me* is true, and I declare to the world what I have heard from him."

Verse 38: "I speak of what I have seen with my Father. . . ."

Verse 42: "... I came not of my own accord, but *he sent me*."

Jesus—The Lord of the Old Testament

In this very long dialogue of Jesus, the Pharisees brought up the subject of Abraham (the greatest of

Jesus Christ was the same God who walked and talked with Moses in the wilderness—the same "I AM" (see Ex. 3:14) who brought the children of Israel out of Egypt. Paul makes this plain. "I want you to know, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the [Red] sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. . . . For they drank from the supernatural Rock which followed them, and *the [that, AV] Rock was Christ*" (I Cor. 10:1-2, 4).

This same personage in the Godhead presided over the Flood in Noah's day. Peter gives us the facts: "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit; by which also he [Christ] went and preached unto the spirits [demons] in prison; which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water." (I Pet. 3:18-20, AV).

From Creator to Son

But we find the most emphatic statements about the preexistence of Jesus Christ in the

book of John. The book's major emphasis is on the undeniable fact that *Jesus Christ was God* before his human birth. Even the Pharisee Nicodemus said to Jesus: "Rabbi, we know that you are a *teacher come from God* . . ." (John 3:2).

Jesus had told the leaders of the Pharisees: "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work. Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself *equal with God*" (John 5:17-18, AV).

If you have any sons or daughters,
(Continued on page 44)

Christ in the Book of John

John had an unusually close, friendly relationship with Jesus. He seemed especially to understand where Jesus came from, where he was going, and what he was all about. Below are references from John's gospel on the nature of Christ.

Christ created the world:

1:1-3; 1:10.

He was the Lord of the Old Testament:

1:15; 30; 5:46; 8:56-58.

He is one with God the

Father and equal to him:

5:17-18; 10:30, 33, 38;

12:44-45; 15:23; 17:11.

21-26; 19:7.

He rules over everything:

3:34-35; 5:19-23, 26-27; 16:15.

He became a man:

1:14.

He came down from heaven:

3:13, 31; 6:30, 41, 51, 58, 62; 8:14, 21-23.

He was sent by God the Father:

3:16-17, 34; 4:34; 5:30;

6:29, 44, 57; 7:28-29, 33;

8:42; 9:4; 11:42; 16:27-28;

17:7; 20:21.

His authority was from God the Father:

7:16-18; 8:16, 26-29;

12:44, 49-50; 14:24; 15:15.

He went back to heaven:

6:62; 7:33-34; 8:21;

13:1-3, 33; 14:1-3, 12;

16:27-28; 20:17.

He will come again:

5:25-29; 14:3; 21:22-23.

the Jews' national heroes). Jesus explained to them: "Your father Abraham rejoiced that he was to *see my day*; he saw it and was glad" (verse 56). The one who became Christ actually walked and talked with the patriarch Abraham (Gen. 12:1-4; 13:14-18; 17:1-22; 18:1-33; 22:1-2).

Of course, these religionists simply didn't grasp what Jesus was saying. "The Jews then said to him, 'You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?' Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, *before Abraham was, I am*.'" (verses 57-58).

The Lesson From Hitler's Mountain

by John Halford

Berchtesgaden, West Germany:

I PARKED my car in what was once Hitler's driveway, and tried to find the house. It wasn't easy. Not much remains of the mansion that Hitler built for himself on Obersalzberg Mountain, overlooking the town of Berchtesgaden.

The driveway is completely blocked and overgrown with trees. By climbing a steep bank, I was able to get to the only part of the house that remains—a corner of the garage. The concrete was moldering and the bricks had crumbled. Anything portable had long ago been carried off by souvenir hunters. Of the once magnificent house nothing is left except a few concrete blocks, and one or two iron ventilation shafts.

No "echoes of the past" were there. There was none of the feeling of past grandeur that one gets when visiting an old castle or palace. It was a dead, dead place!

This mountain was once a nerve center for the Third Reich. It was here that Hitler finished writing *Mein Kampf*, and came to love the area. Quite understandable—not many places in the world can rival Berchtesgaden for sheer grandeur of scenery.

When they came to power, the top Nazis took over the entire mountain, evicting the former residents and building for themselves a mountain fortress resort. Martin Borman built himself a house here, as did Hermann Goering.

A barracks was built to house the elite S.S. regiments that were assigned to permanent guard duty. A small hotel was enlarged to provide accommodation for visitors, and a guest house was requisitioned for the Gestapo. And later, when the tide of war turned against the Nazis, they excavated a remarkable complex of tunnels—a virtual city underground—to protect themselves in case of air raids. The raids came in 1945, a month before the end of the war. The buildings on the Obersalzberg were badly damaged.

The victorious Allied armies and the German people themselves demolished the rest after the ending of hostilities. Of Borman's and Goering's houses, not a trace remains—not so much as a pebble. The S.S. barracks are now a soccer field. The hotel built for top Nazis was slated for destruction, but at the last

moment the American army decided to remodel it as a recreation center for the U.S. forces stationed in Europe—a function it still serves. The Gestapo headquarters became once again a comfortable guest house. The underground tunnel system is still there, of course, and can be visited, if you know where to go and whom to ask. But that information is not always easy to get. Very little effort has been made by the German government to turn the Nazi past of Obersalzberg into a tourist attraction.

It is the same at Dachau, the little town outside of Munich where the first concentration camp was established in 1933. The camp is still there, on the outskirts of the town—preserved as a museum. But the local people are very reluctant to give directions. "Why," a mayor of Dachau has asked, "when our town has been a center for music, art and painting for several centuries, are we only remembered for what went on here between 1933 and 1945?" Many residents in Dachau would like to see the camp torn down.

One can understand their point. The war ended nearly 40 years ago. Most Germans alive today played no active part in the Nazi years. Indeed, the majority of West Germans were not even born when Hitler died as his "thousand year Reich" crashed around him. Older Germans know the terrible price their country paid for following him. In the last months of war, Allied bombers pounded German cities to rubble. And when surrender came, the Allies decided that Germany would never again be a threat to anyone.

Any German industry that survived the bombing was systematically dismantled. Whole factories were shipped to the Soviet Union, France and other nations that had suffered from Nazi aggression. What couldn't be moved was blown up. It was decided the Germany henceforth would be a third-rate, agricultural nation, closely guarded by her conquerors. Never again would German military and industrial power threaten anyone. The once proud Reich was split into four zones—ruled respectively by the American, Russians, French and British. The economy collapsed, and starvation and deprivation were the way of life for the shattered land. For three years after the war, life was misery for the demoralized and defeated Germans.

Then came the Cold War, the falling out of the wartime allies, the Berlin blockade and the Korean War. Suddenly America, France and Britain realized that they needed their now prostrate former enemy—

as an ally. And so, following currency reform in 1948, and with the help of the Marshall Plan, Germany began the climb out of the abyss.

Never had the world seen anything quite like the *Wirtschaftswunder* (economic miracle) of the next few years. Some had predicted that it would take 150 years for the broken nation to recover even a semblance of prosperity. Yet in just one astonishing generation, West Germany once again became the leading industrial power in Europe, with one of the best-equipped and well-trained armies in the world. And for the last two decades, the Germans have proven to be firm and capable partners in the NATO alliance.

The Fuehrer would indeed be astonished if he could now see the land that he once bequeathed to ruin. What a nation it is! The great cities have been rebuilt, and today are linked with magnificent highways and some of the best railroads in the world. Great bridges span the mighty rivers crammed with barges and ships carrying the fruit of the German industrial machine to the world.

Never in their history have the German people been so prosperous, well fed, well housed—or, one suspects, so content. The new Germany holds no grudges. It seeks to regain no "lost territories." To many young Germans, even "reunification with East Germany" is no longer an issue. As for Nazism—except for a few—that is firmly in the past. So why not tear down the last few remaining relics of Germany's darkest hour?

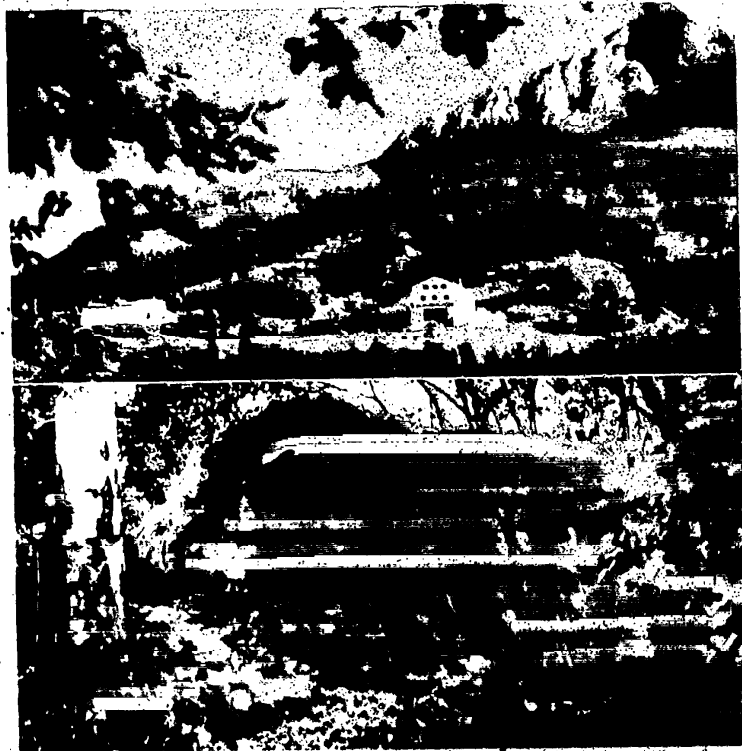
But perhaps those ruins on Obersalzberg, the camp at Dachau and the battered old review stand on the parade ground at Nuremberg should be left there for just a little longer. For they stand as a reminder. They show how a nation—even a great and talented nation—can make a mistake. If that mistake would never be made again, then by all means consign the Nazi ruins to the trash can of history. But such is not the case. Not just Germany but all of Europe needs to be reminded that 50 years ago, a great people were seduced by a lie. Adolf Hitler had promised his people a Reich or kingdom that would last for a thousand years.

Older Germans admit that (providing you went along with the system) there were some good years under Hitler. The man and his policies did solve some of the problems that plagued the Germany of the 1920s—such as unemployment, inflation and lack of direction in the young. Then came the war, and the myth of the "thousand year Reich" finally fell apart.

West Germany, since 1948, has shown that the way

to power and national greatness need not be by conquest and aggression. Far more has been achieved by hard work, inventiveness and productivity. The Germany of today shows the greatness and potential of her people far better than did the pomp, vanity and brutality of the Nazi years.

All European nations should have learned this lesson. Not just Germany, but all Western Europe is a remarkable achievement, considering how it was wrecked and ruined less than 40 years ago. Since the war ended, the various nations have lived at peace with one another for the longest period in history. Their



Common Market has not always been sweetness and light, but at least former enemies have tried to tear down economic barriers rather than put up military ones. Europe today is more prosperous than ever before.

And most Europeans want nothing more than that prosperity to continue. They don't want war. They don't want nuclear weapons on their soil. They don't want to fight and die for their country, or anybody else's. These have been good times—let the good times continue.

But unfortunately, for many in Europe the good times are fading fast. Inflation has eroded even the strongest currencies. Unemployment is reaching chronic levels. And no remedies are in sight. It has been suggested, especially in Holland, that some

(Continued on page 30)

JERUSALEM

Yesterday, Today and Forever,

by Ronald Kelly

Jerusalem - one of the most historically interesting cities of the past - one of the most fascinating cities today. Here also revealed is Jerusalem's future!

FROM the Mount of Olives, the panorama of Jerusalem is one of earth's most inspiring skylines.

Picture the sun setting over the modern city structures with the golden Dome of the Rock slowly fading into the foreground darkness.

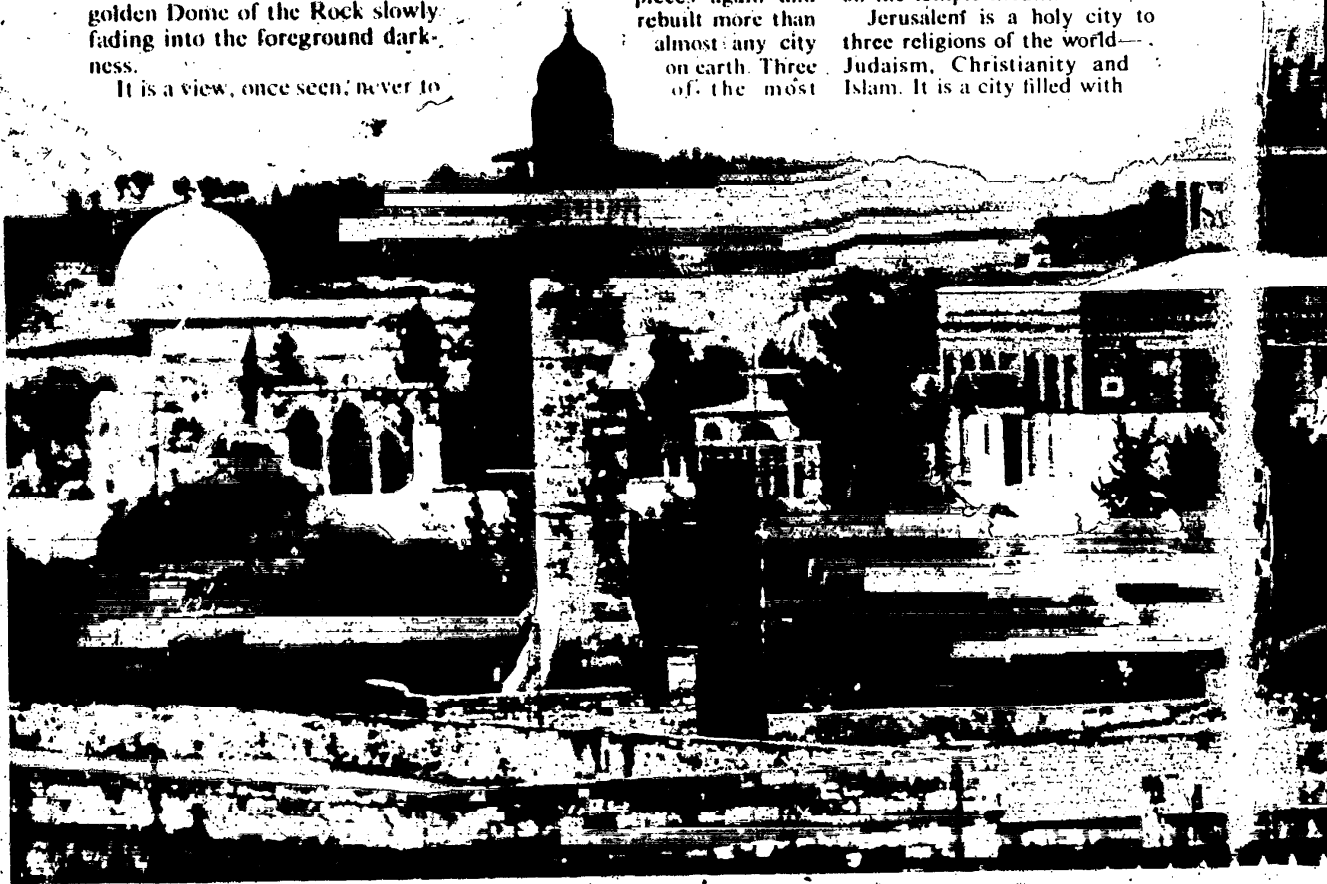
It is a view, once seen, never to

be forgotten. One can barely imagine the jam-packed events of history that took place in this ancient city.

Since its establishment, Jerusalem has been ravaged by war, rebuilt, burned, rebuilt, ransacked, rebuilt, torn to pieces again and rebuilt more than almost any city on earth. Three of the most

beautiful buildings that have ever been constructed have glistened in the sunlight of Jerusalem: the temple of Solomon, the temple built by Herod that stood in the days of Jesus, and the nearly 1,300-year-old Dome of the Rock that stands on the temple mount.

Jerusalem is a holy city to three religions of the world—Judaism, Christianity and Islam. It is a city filled with



shrines, monuments and historic sites.

The Early Beginnings

Jerusalem was not always the city it appears to be today. There was a time when the hillsides were merely pastures for herds and flocks of nomadic tribesmen.

To discover the beginnings of Jerusalem as a city and to catch a glimpse into the future that God had in mind for Jerusalem, we must go back in time all the way to Abraham—1,900 years before the birth of Jesus. Abraham had lived in Ur, a city of the Chaldeans in Mesopotamia.

Through Abraham, God set out to build a great nation. He instructed Abraham to leave Ur for a land he would yet show him (Gen. 12:9).

On faith, he journeyed to settle a land he had not seen. God promised Abraham when he arrived in the land of Canaan that *this land would one day be-*

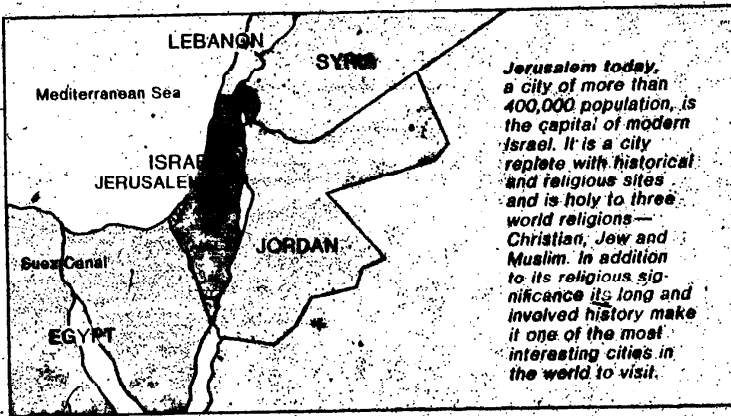
come the possession of his descendants. So Abraham knew two things: 1) God would give him children and 2) this land would be theirs.

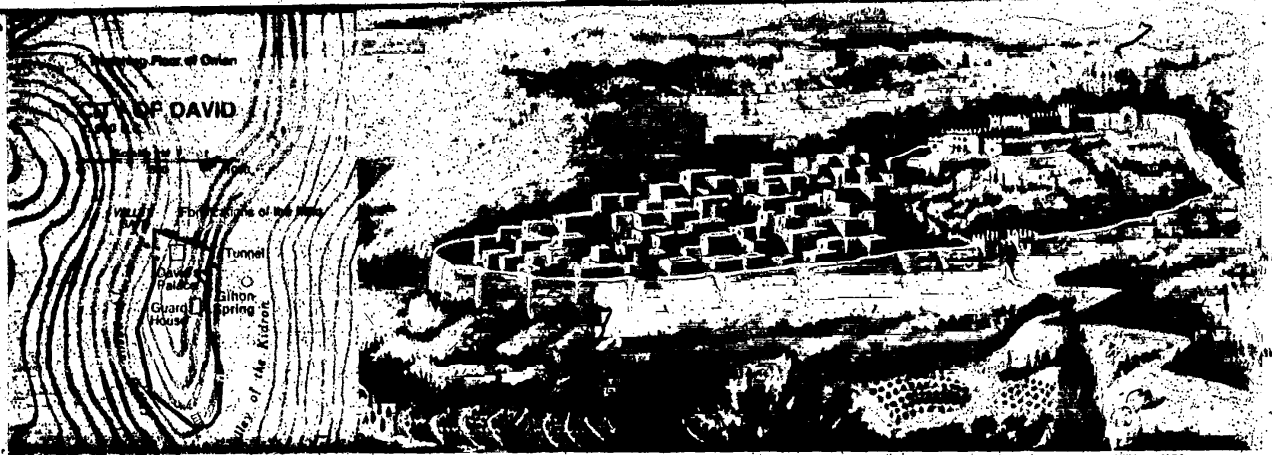
Then a great famine set in upon the land. Abraham, and all those who accompanied him, had to migrate southward to Egypt. After the famine, Abraham and his nephew Lot came back into the land of Canaan. There Lot selected the lower Jordan valley and the Dead Sea region for his homeland. Abraham settled in what would later be called the Judean hills.

Melchizedek, King of Salem

During the time of Abraham there were no large nations. Instead, there were small cities where families lived or around which a tribe of nomadic people settled. The population of these cities was probably not more than a few hundred—at most one or two thousand.

Each city was presided over by a king. Often, these city-states were at war with one another. Sometimes cities would form





alliances with other cities and form large armies that would then make war upon yet another city or alliance of cities. Such became the case in the lower Jordan where Lot and his family settled. An alliance of Mesopotamian cities drove Abraham's nephew, Lot, out of the Canaanite city of Sodom where he lived and took him captive.

When Abraham heard of Lot's capture, he rallied his forces to pursue Lot's captors and was victorious.

Upon his return to Canaan, a most unusual event occurred. Melchizedek, king of Salem, brought bread and wine and refreshed Abraham and his people (Gen. 14:18).

Who was Melchizedek?

At the time of Abraham, he was king of Salem. Josephus, the Jewish historian of the late first century A.D., tells us, "That name signifies the *righteous king* and such he was without dispute, in so much that, on this account, he was made the Priest of God; however, they afterward called Salem, *Jerusalem*" (*Antiquities of the Jews*, 1, x, 2).

This righteous king was also the priest of the most high God (Gen. 14:18). Abraham knew he was the priest of God and so gave Melchizedek his tithes (Gen. 14:20).

The apostle Paul tells us further of

Melchizedek: he was "without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually" (Heb. 7:3). This could be said of no human being. Melchizedek, therefore, must have been the *Logos* (John 1:1) who was the second member of the very Godhead who later was to give up his divinity (Phil. 2:7) to become God in the flesh—Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

For a brief period of time in the days of Abraham, a member of the God kingdom appeared on earth as king of the city of Salem (Jerusalem)—and a priest of God. Those obedient to God's way could bring tithes to Melchizedek.

Could it be God was showing long in advance where he planned to establish his headquarters once his government was reestablished upon the earth?

A 500-Year Gap

Strangely enough, we know little about the city of Salem (to become Jerusalem) for nearly 500 years. We do know Canaanites lived in the land.

During the years between Abraham and the settling of the children of Israel in the Promised Land, we have only one other brief encounter

that directs our attention to the city of Jerusalem.

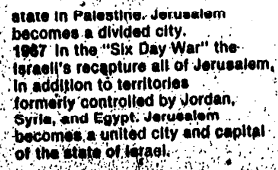
One of the best known episodes in the Bible was God's instruction for Abraham to take his only son, Isaac, to Mount Moriah and there to sacrifice him. Through this tremendous example of faith, we once again have a hint of God's future plans for Jerusalem. Bible scholars have concluded that Mount Moriah, where Abraham came to offer Isaac, may have been the very spot in Jerusalem upon which the Temple of God was constructed.

The willingness of Abraham to bring Isaac to Mount Moriah to be sacrificed has a spiritual parallel. God was to offer his only Son for the sins of the world. When Jesus Christ came into the world and was crucified, that great event took place in the environs of Jerusalem. It was a spiritual parallel that Abraham brought his son to Jerusalem as a type of what would happen later.

In the course of time, the descendants of Abraham came to live in Lower Egypt. Jacob and his 12 sons and their families found relief from a great famine and were to remain there about 240 years. During the first 100 years in Egypt the Israelites made a significant contribution to the prosperity of the land:

A pharaoh from Upper Egypt

1800 B.C.	1000 B.C.	600 B.C.	400 B.C.	167 B.C. 40 B.C.
1800 B.C. The first mention of Jerusalem in the Bible is during the time of Abraham. Melchizedek is God's priest and king of Salem—later Jerusalem.	most of the next 400 years. 1000 B.C. After David becomes king, he captures Jerusalem and establishes it as the capital of Judah and, later, all Israel. After David's death, Solomon builds a temple in Jerusalem. 600 B.C. King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, after a series of raids,	takes Jerusalem. The temple is destroyed, the city burned and the people are taken to Babylon in captivity. 400 B.C. Under Ezra and Nehemiah, the Jews, previously permitted to return to their homeland, rebuild Jerusalem. Zerubbabel built the Second	Temple two generations earlier. 167 B.C. Antiochus Epiphanes seizes Jerusalem in anger. The city once again is punished, the temple degraded and thousands of people killed. 40 B.C. The Romans appoint Herod king. He seizes Jerusalem and in 19 B.C. rebuilds the Second Temple.	A.D. 70



the Israelites desired a government like the nations round about. They wanted a human king whom they could see. They had rejected God's prophet Samuel which in reality was rejecting God as their king (1 Sam. 8:7). God let them have Saul. But Saul would not follow God's orders. God rejected him, yet again delayed choosing Jerusalem as the capital city.

King David

As the reign of Saul became more corrupt, God began to prepare his choice for king over Israel—David, a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22). Notice the story in II Samuel 5:4-5, "David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned for forty years. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three years over all Israel and Judah."

At last, some 900 years after Abraham brought Isaac to Mount Moriah and nearly 400 years after Israel took possession of the Promised Land, Jerusalem became the nation's capital city. This was the real beginning of what probably became the most loved, most beautiful, most controversial, most war-torn city in the history of man.

It is ironic that the name *Jerusalem* means "City of Peace." Jerusalem has not been able to symbolize peace for most of its troubled history. In the near future Jerusalem will yet become the world center of peace. More about that later.

Small Beginnings

Jerusalem certainly did not have a pretentious beginning. Jebusi (Jerusalem) began as a small walled city—only a fraction the size of modern Jerusalem. After David established his residence inside the walled city and built a palace, the territory became known as the City of David. The entire area encompassed only about 12 acres of ground. Probably fewer than 2,000 people lived there.

But why did David choose Jerusalem? Did he know Melchizedek had been there? Did he think Mount Moriah was the spot Abraham came to so long ago? Did he plan originally that the threshing

floor of Ornan the Jebusite, north of the City of David, would become the site of the temple? Did he have a concept that Jerusalem would some day become the very center of the government of God on earth?

In all probability, David did not clearly realize the full significance of these threads of history.

God was choosing Jerusalem for the future.

David probably had a variety of reasons for choosing this site. It was centrally located. It was a neutral city, that is none of the 12 tribes had really occupied it. Jerusalem had a beautiful climate (remember David grew up in nearby Bethlehem, only a few miles south of Jerusalem). Jerusalem had an abundant supply of water from the Gihon spring—water was the life of any city-state.

The two most forceful reasons for the selection of Jerusalem as the capital city were that it was a fortified city that had been able to withstand most sieges for some 400 years and it had a bountiful water supply. The Jebusites had constructed a vertical shaft from the hilltop down to the spring. The shaft was protected by the city walls. Water could be drawn from within the walls while soldiers atop them held off enemy troops.

Later, king Hezekiah of Judah engineered a tunnel built more than 1,700 feet through bedrock underneath the city of Jerusalem from the Gihon spring to the pool of Siloam. In Hezekiah's day this tunnel was largely responsible for the Jews being able to hold off the invading armies of the Assyrians under king Sennacherib. Hezekiah, who had turned to God for protection, witnessed angels of the Lord smite the Assyrians. One hundred eighty-five thousand troops were slain without the nation having to lift a sword (II Kings 19:35). The Jews were safely inside the walls of Jerusalem with the newly constructed water supply.

It is still possible today to walk through Hezekiah's tunnel if one has the opportunity to visit Jerusalem. The walk takes about 20 or 25 minutes in knee-deep water. The perspective of history one envisions in the mind's eye while walking through the tunnel gives a glimpse

into the engineering capacities and importance of water to the peoples who lived there so long ago.

For the three past summers, Ambassador College has joined Hebrew University and other interested groups in excavations at the City of David. Under the direction of archaeologist Yigal Shiloh, more and more information is coming to light about the character of Jerusalem in the time of David and in succeeding centuries.

Once David was established in Jerusalem, God began to give a glimpse of what kind of ultimate future the city would have. David had in mind building a temple for the ark of God. But, even though David was a man after God's own heart and is to become the permanent king over all Israel in the resurrection, he was a human being with the faults and flaws and human weaknesses men possess. Because of his warlike activity God did not permit David to expand the city of Jerusalem or to build the temple.

David did build a fine palace in the northern extremity of the city and Jerusalem became alternately known as the City of David, Mount Zion and Jerusalem.

It is interesting that when the government of God is established on the earth, the Bible says the Messiah will rule from the throne of his father David—so we know in advance the center of government is going to be in that area of Jerusalem (Isa. 9:6-7).

Solomon's Temple and Palace

After David's death, Solomon took the throne of Israel and Jerusalem

IN CHRISTIAN QUARTER, top left, Orthodox priest lights candles in a chapel of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, shared by the Orthodox, the Franciscans and the Armenian Church. Top right, Arab women in typical clothing ascend one of eight stairways leading to the Dome of the Rock mosque, built in A.D. 691. The 45,000 mosaic tiles were added in the mid 16th century; the gold-plated aluminum dome in 1958. Lower left, a priest of the Armenian Church. Lower right, the Western Wall of the temple mount, reconstructed by Herod, is holiest site for Jews throughout the world. It is the only remaining part of the temple area. Here an Orthodox Jew meditates and recites prayers.

THE PLAIN TRUTH



became a leading city in the world of that day. Solomon built the Temple of God on Mount Moriah—probably the finest and most expensive building for its size and character in human history. Walls of the building were overlaid with gold and jewels. The finest workmanship and materials available were put into this building.

In addition to the temple, Solomon built his own magnificent palace. With this and many other construction projects of homes, stables and landscaping, Jerusalem became a showplace. The fame of Solomon and Jerusalem spread throughout the Middle East and the world that then was. When the Queen of Sheba came to Jerusalem to see for herself she said, "It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thy acts and of thy wisdom. Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it, and, behold, the half was not told me: thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard" (1 Kings 10:6-7).

However, Jerusalem's prosperity and peace did not last. They were conditional—based on Israel's obedience. By the end of the reign of Solomon, Israel had wandered far from God's ways.

After the death of Solomon, the kingdom split in two. The northern 10 tribes revolted against Solomon's son Rehoboam and established their own nation—the House of Israel—with the capital later at Samaria. The House of

Judah kept Jerusalem as its capital.

The northern 10 tribes of Israel were defeated by the Assyrians and carried into captivity—they have not returned to this very day.

The House of Judah, with some remnants of the northern tribes who had fled earlier into Judea, was taken captive by the Chaldeans. Jerusalem's inhabitants were slain by the thousands—the city burned to rubble and the magnificent temple torn down. The gold and precious jewels and accoutrements of the temple were carried to Babylon by the conquering Babylonians. The glorious city of Jerusalem was totally destroyed.

The Restoration

After the Medes and Persians conquered the Babylonians, the Persian kings permitted the Jews to return to Jerusalem. A temple was rebuilt by Zerubbabel. Under the direction of Ezra and Nehemiah the city walls eventually were reconstructed. The second temple had little of the glory of Solomon's temple. But the Jews had reestablished themselves in their homeland and had a temple.

Within another 250 years Jerusalem was once again torn to pieces by war.

In 167 B.C. Antiochus Epiphanes destroyed large segments of the city and polluted the sanctuary by sacrificing swine's blood on the holy altar. Thousands of Jews were

killed in the onslaught. But in the end they prevailed.

During the first century B.C., the war machines of Rome began to absorb the world. Jerusalem fell to the Roman general Pompey in 63 B.C. Thus, Judea became a Roman protectorate.

The Romans appointed Herod the Great as king of the region. Under his rule Jerusalem was rebuilt into a showplace for the Roman world. Herod restored the second temple, which, by this time, had existed longer than Solomon's temple. It was in this temple that Jesus Christ of Nazareth would appear and teach during a brief 3½-year ministry.

Jesus didn't really spend a great deal of time in Jerusalem. As his custom was, he went up for the annual festivals (Luke 2:42). But he loved Jerusalem. Of course, he had known its tumultuous history, and he knew the glory that was prophesied for the future. He knew it would one day be his very headquarters and that the resurrected David would be there, too. He knew his 12 apostles would each rule over one of the 12 tribes of Israel and that he would become King over the entire earth. But that was not to be accomplished during Christ's first appearing—it would be centuries later at his Second Coming, when the government of God would be reestablished over the earth.

In the meantime, Jerusalem's painful history would continue.

When Jesus looked upon Jerusa-



lem he longingly sighed, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate" (Matt. 23:37-38).

In A.D. 70 the Roman armies under General Titus marched into Jerusalem and once again that great city was destroyed. The temple that Herod had constructed was torn to the foundations till finally, as Jesus had foretold, not one stone was left upon another (Matt. 24:2). The Jewish people were scattered throughout the known world and, until comparatively modern times, Jerusalem was not a predominately Jewish city.

Jerusalem Since the Time of Christ

In the 300s A.D., the Roman Emperor, Constantine, professed himself a Christian and Christianity became a dominant influence in the Empire.

In the 600s A.D., the Moslem Arabs gained control of Jerusalem. A magnificent structure called the Dome of the Rock built by Abd el Malek ibn Marwan was constructed in the existing temple mount. The temple mount to Moslems is the sight from which their prophet Mohammed traditionally ascended to heaven.

By A.D. 1100 the European Crusader-Christians had taken Jerusalem—but lost it once again to

the Moslems less than a century later.

Early in the 1500s the Ottoman Turks captured Jerusalem. Under the administration of the Turks, additional Jews, many of whom were being persecuted in other nations, were permitted to emigrate to Jerusalem once again. By the late 1800s Jews formed the largest ethnic population in Jerusalem—but it was still under Turkish government.

Turkey chose to ally with Imperial Germany during World War I. In that war British forces fought in the Middle East. In 1917 under General Edmund Allenby, the British took control of what was then called Palestine. For a period of time, the British ruled Palestine under a mandate.

In 1947 the United Nations approved the establishment of a Jewish state. The modern nation Israel was born. Following the decision, war broke out between Arabs and Jews and Jerusalem became a divided city. Jordan controlled the east portion—Old Jerusalem—and the territories on the West Bank of the Jordan River. The Israelis controlled modern Jerusalem in addition to its original territory.

In 1967 war once again broke out between Israelis and Arabs. During this Six Day War the Israelis recaptured all of East Jerusalem, the West Bank territories, the Golan Heights, the Gaza Strip and the Sinai. Jerusalem was united and the entire city thus became the capital of the state of Israel.

Jerusalem—the Future

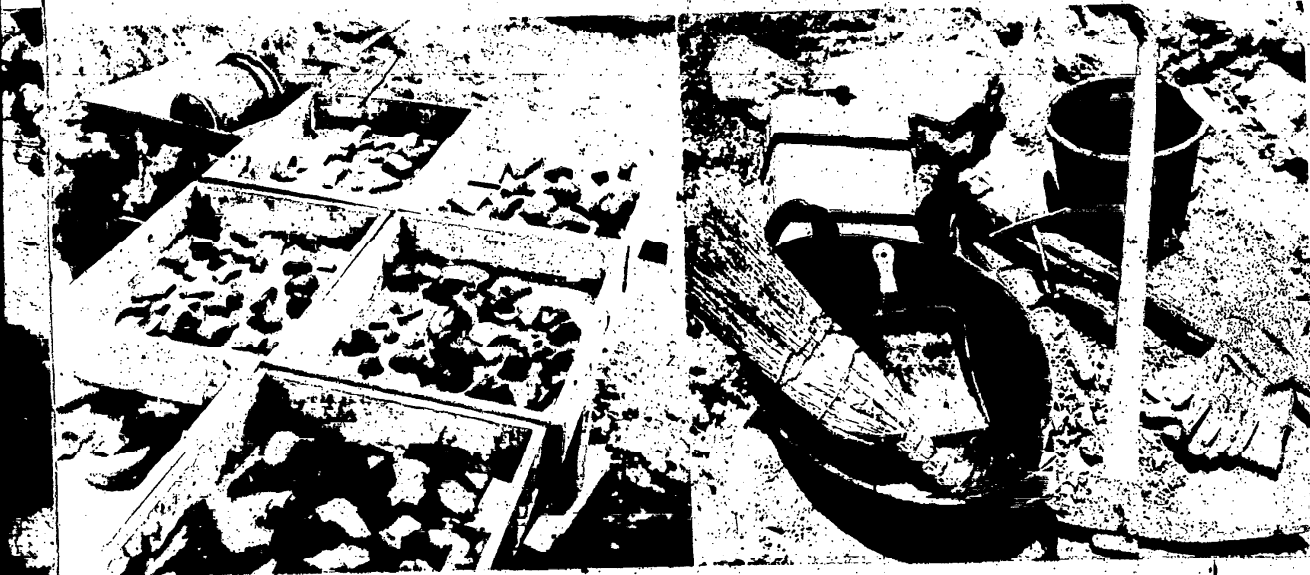
More important than the 4,000-year history of Jerusalem is the future of this great city in relation to the world.

When the ancient nation of Judah went astray from God, God said, "I will remove Judah also out of my sight, as I have removed Israel, and will cast off this city Jerusalem which I have chosen, and the house of which I have said, My name shall be there" (II Kings 23:27).

Through the prophet Zechariah, God has promised, "Cry yet, saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; My cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad; and the Lord shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem" (Zech. 1:17).

God did not cast off Jerusalem forever. Jerusalem shall become this time the world capital never to

EXCAVATED RUINS, far left, from the temple mount excavations that began in 1968. Now completed, the excavated area is being made into a historical park. Middle left, Ambassador College students, among others, in excavations at the City of David. Archaeologists have found remains as far back as the Jebusite period before the time of David. Boxes of broken pottery and other small finds, middle right, are the result of painstaking hours of work. Analyzing these finds enable archaeologists to date uncovered areas. Far right, the tools of the archaeologist include pick, shovel, whisk broom, buckets and a water jug. Work can be tedious and slow but very rewarding.



be cast off again—permanently and forever the headquarters of the government of God.

Isaiah prophesied, "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins. Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young" (Isa. 40:1-2, 10-11).

Yet another of God's prophets foretold the wonders to come, "But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow into it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem" (Mic. 4:1-2).

Notice what Zechariah saw for the near future, "And his [Jesus Christ's] feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. . . . And the Lord my God shall come, and all the saints with thee. . . . And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be. And the Lord shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one Lord, and his name one" (Zech. 14:4-5, 8-9).

God speed the day when Jerusalem really is THE CITY OF PEACE and the whole world will enjoy the peace and prosperity of the world tomorrow. □

30

INTERNATIONAL DESK

(Continued from page 21)

young people now leaving school will never have a job!

There are disturbing parallels between the situation today and the chain of events that swept Hitler to power in the 1930s. Only this time, it is not just one nation that is involved. The nations of Western Europe collectively are in trouble. And it is collectively that they will look for a way out.

For centuries, visionary statesmen have seen the logic of the individual European nations uniting to become one giant superstate. The idea looks good on paper, but has proven much harder to put into practice. It isn't the same situation as a United States of America. In the 18th century, the 13 American colonies, with a short history and a common language, found it relatively easy to unite—in the face of a common threat. But the histories of European nations go back millennia. Individual linguistic, cultural and religious roots run deep.

The prophecies of the Bible show that a brief period of unity is coming. In the face of a common (economic) threat major nations in Europe will give up their sovereignty to become that most unlikely of unions—a United States of Europe. It won't be an easy marriage, for individual traditions and aspirations die hard.

The Bible calls it "iron mixed with miry clay." But under dynamic and charismatic political and religious leaders (yet to emerge), a shaky union will be forged.

When it happens, it will seem like a good idea. It may well come into being with best of intentions. Many will rejoice, for they will see in this union a solution to the problems that are plaguing the Continent. And as with the Third Reich, there may well be some "good years" for those who go along with the system.

But the United States of Europe will end as a terrible mistake. In giving up their sovereignty to a supranational power, these nations will eventually plunge themselves, and the rest of the world, into a crisis more terrible than anything

that has ever been seen before. Tragically, the pulsating, energetic, dynamic powerhouse that is Europe, with its modern buildings, its state-of-the-art communications networks, its millions of educated and talented people that have so much to offer, is once again to be left in ruins.

The *Plain Truth* magazine has been saying that for nearly 50 years! Even as Allied bombers pounded German cities into rubble, editor in chief Herbert W. Armstrong was writing about the rise and fall of a new Europe. He isn't clairvoyant. He understood a source of information on European history—past, present and future—that is ignored by most writers, be they journalists or historical scholars. Yes—it is the Bible. And this magazine was founded to make the truth of the Bible plain. Never before have our readers in Europe needed it more.

Keep reading it—whether you receive *The Plain Truth*, *Klar und Wahr*, *La Pure Vérité*, *Echte Waarheid* or *La Pura Verdad*—the message is the same in all languages. You need this magazine to enhance your thinking for the years that lie ahead. For we will all face big decisions, nationally and as individuals. *The Plain Truth* has a vital message.

It also has some very good news beyond the coming crisis for Europe. For with the same certainty that the Bible predicts a United Europe that will soon rise and fall, it also tells of a new age—beyond the turmoil of the next few years.

From the rubble of this coming destruction will rise a world that will last for a thousand years. The nations of Europe and the whole world will join in lending their incredible talents and awesome potential to the building of a society that will be at last fit for all mankind. We call it the world tomorrow.

And when we finally learn to beat the swords into plowshares and the spears into pruninghooks, then also we can afford to erase the last remaining evidence of Dachau and Hitler's mountain resort. For only then can the world be sure that the mad will never again guide the destiny of a great nation. □

THE PLAIN TRUTH

Coming Soon

A GLOBAL SOLUTION TO OUR POLLUTED PLANET!

by Donald D. Schroeder

It will happen—the seemingly impossible task of halting pollution and cleansing life-sustaining air, water and land!

HOW IS IT possible that this magazine could be so audacious as to announce a solution to the earth's enormous pollution problems? Scientists and technologists admit they are baffled. Educators say there is no simple technological fix.

To the contrary, leaders lament that every modern technological "solution" to some environmental crisis generates one or more problems as serious as or more serious than the problem it was designed to cure.

Today there isn't even a universal will, let alone the economic resources, to solve these complex environmental problems.

How, then, can the curse of seriously polluted air, water and land be stopped? How can it happen that nuclear wastes and toxic chemicals can be neutralized or cleansed from the environment?

The good news is, it will happen! It will happen, but only after a revolution occurs in our entire way of living. It will occur only after a revolution in our thinking, our values and our attitudes. It will happen because there will be one uni-

versal authority with power to FORCE it to happen!

This is the only way global pollution can be stopped. Leading edu-

cators and environmentalists admit. a moratorium on business as usual," said one. But he's wrong. There will be a wonderful and total change in life-styles. A revolution



cators and environmentalists admit. it. When they are asked, "Will we do it?" they invariably answer with a resounding NO!

"We cannot bear the thought of

in thinking, morality, ethics and applied technology is coming! There will be—again—clean and healthful air, pure water and unpolluted land—for everyone! There

will be a solution to man's pollution problems because humanity, at last, will learn to deal with the causes of his pollution problems.

Why Man Dumped the Track

There is a reason why man is such a great polluter. Why human nature is filled with so much selfishness, narrow-mindedness, shortsightedness and greed. These are the attitudes that lead to pollution and degradation of the environment. Where did they come from? Isn't it time we found the causes?

Humans could have possessed the knowledge needed to comprehend when tools, machines and technology would produce serious damage to themselves and the environment. We humans could have discerned in advance damaging inventions or technologies and stopped them before they became widely disseminated.

But man has cut himself off from the source of this essential knowledge—the Creator.

Humanity has chosen instead to follow the "get" way of life. "Success" under this "get" way is gaining as much power, riches, material wealth for self as quickly as possible. But who originated the "get" way?

First Environmental Destroyer

Before the creation of the material universe, God created spirit beings to assist him in all his great purpose. One of the most powerful, wise and beautiful beings God created was an archangel whom we call Lucifer. This is a Latin name meaning Light-bringer. He was later sent to bring God's laws to the angels under him and to administer God's government over the earth.

When God originally created the earth and the heavenly bodies (Gen. 1:1), all the angels of God shouted for joy. The earth at its creation was immensely beautiful (Job 38:7).

But Lucifer allowed a spirit or attitude of competition, which is contrary to God's way, to enter his mind. He chose to rebel against his Maker. He wanted to exalt his throne to supreme ruler over the universe. He and the host of angels swayed with his evil attitudes

attempted to knock God off his throne. But they were flung back to earth. These events are revealed in Isaiah 14:12-15, in Ezekiel 28:12-15, in Luke 10:18 and Revelation 12:4. Lucifer's name was changed to Satan, meaning the Adversary. His fallen angels became demons, spirits with deceitful, twisted attitudes.

The earth became a ruin. But God renewed the surface of the earth and made it habitable for man. He created flora and fauna suitable for the needs of man (Gen. 1 and 2).

Man was created with awesome powers of intellect, reasoning and creativity no animal possessed. God had said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness" (Gen. 1:26). When God created Adam and Eve he commanded them to multiply, to subdue and to rule over all on earth. He placed them in the choicest spot on earth, the Garden of Eden, "to dress it and to keep it" (Gen. 2:15).

Note, God did not instruct the man to ravage and despoil the environment over which he ruled. Man was to have dominion, rulership and "dress"—maintain and beautify—the earth. God's purpose was to allow Adam and his progeny the opportunity to develop character like God has and to learn to rule and to be ruled through being a proper caretaker, or steward, over his immediate physical domain.

God had set in motion physical and spiritual laws that would automatically bring every right and beautiful result man could want. God created wholesome and nutritious food, a beautiful and clean environment and revealed a way that would maintain contact and peace with God and peace with neighbor. But the first humans were also free moral agents. They could choose God's way or choose to go ways of their own devising.

Genesis, chapter 3, reveals Satan, in the guise of a serpent, injected into the first man and woman rebellion and doubt about God's authority. They chose to experiment for themselves and to decide what was right and wrong. They became filled with Satan's attitude of "get" and rebellion.

God drove them from the Garden of Eden and cut off human access to his Spirit, typified by the "tree of life." Cain, in the very first generations born, soon rose up and killed his brother Abel, because he—Cain—was "of that wicked one" (1 John 3:12). Cain's attitude was, "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Gen. 4:9).

That attitude that was in Cain has filled humanity ever since. It has led to every evil: competition, war, violence, greed, and environmental degradation.

The apostle Paul explained to early New Testament Christians that Satan is the unseen "god of this world" (II Cor. 4:4). That all humans in one way or another have walked "according to the prince of the power of the air"—Satan (Eph. 2:2).

Twentieth century humanity is repeating the same tragic attitudes and mistakes of past generations. Only today, misguided humanity—in both developed and undeveloped nations—possesses vastly more powerful technology to rapidly destroy the earth's life-giving habitat—the narrow band of air, water and soil that sustains all physical life.

Mankind as a whole still doesn't believe his ways are evil. Many people don't yet recognize, much more hate, the evil consequences of their selfish attitudes. These consequences will yet bring much greater environmental pollution. The book of Revelation in particular graphically depicts this awesome environmental crisis.

Yet there is great hope for those who truly want to understand. Millions do not know that the true gospel—the good news Jesus Christ preached—included a message about saving the environment! It is summed up in the expression "the times of restitution of all things" (Acts 3:21).

Jesus Christ is returning again to earth, this time as the all-powerful King of kings. He will set up the government of God over the whole earth. Those who now overcome their selfishness and fulfill the law of God will share Christ's power and authority over the nations. Here, at last, is the *only* hope man-

kind has to solve horrendous global pollution problems.

"Say to them that are of a fearful heart, [and who doesn't get a little fearful when reading about today's pollution problems?], Be strong, fear not: behold your God will come . . . he will come and save you" (Isa. 35:4).

The First Step

What will be the first step Christ will take to halt destruction of the earth's environment?

He will remove the primary source causing world problems, the wrong attitudes and ideas in humans that result in damaging ways of living. Christ will first dethrone and chain Satan and his evil host of demons. They will cease to deceive and sway the nations any more (Rev. 20:1-2). No one but the great God can bind and chain this evil "Destroyer." Without this step, stopping degradation of the environment is not possible. No human government even knows that.

God will then put a stop to another great cause of human pollution and environmental degradation. The nations will be forced to stop warring and fighting. They will be forced to stop destroying and polluting the earth's environment with nuclear, chemical or other means of destruction. Mankind, at last, will be forced to stop the vast appropriation for war of limited economic and material resources. Instead resources will begin to go for constructive purposes.

"And he [Christ] shall judge among the nations, and *shall rebuke many people*: and they shall beat their swords [military hardware] into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more" (Isa. 2:4).

Healing Waters

But how, you may ask, are all the vast quantities of pollution from nuclear and chemical warfare and other toxic wastes polluting air, land, water, even deep ocean beds, going to be gotten rid of or cleansed? The process will begin

immediately after the return of Jesus Christ.

Note this wonderful prophecy. "And his [Christ's] feet shall stand in that day [of Christ's return] upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem . . . and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof . . . and there shall be a very great valley . . . and it shall be in that day, that living [life-giving] waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea [Dead Sea] and half of them toward the hinder sea [Mediterranean]: in summer and in winter shall it be" (Zech. 14:4, 8).

Note the miraculous healing power of this water from Christ's throne upon everything it touches.

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Ezekiel, chapter 47, fills in details: "These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea: which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed [of the horrendous pollution wrought because of human warfare and sin].

"And it shall come to pass, that every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters come thither: for they shall be healed: and every thing shall live whither the river cometh" (verses 8, 9).

The whole world is going to realize that all true good, and all true healing—whether of body, mind,

spirit or of the environment—issues from God and from him alone!

But there is much more!

Livelihoods on Track

Christ can start totally afresh in rebuilding communities and nations with environmentally sound ways of living. Note the new economic focus in the world tomorrow. It will be based on agriculture, on the right care of the soil and on producing abundant food and building materials, not on machines for war and conquest (Isa. 2:4).

What is a major cause of today's rush into pollution? It is nations rushing headlong into industrial production—in fierce competition for survival with other industrial nations.

That means more and more production is geared to making more, making it faster and making it cheap. It means relatively few people growing a limited variety of grain crops for masses in urban areas. Those who do produce food are encouraged to plunder the soil to force it to produce by any means. More and more, industrial and farming competitiveness means cutting corners and ignoring proper measures to protect workers, the soil, the environment and one another's health.

Some modern cost-cutting measures are good and helpful. But too often in the process of creating some new technology or goods in competition for markets, more dangerous forms of pollution are generated.

Modern economic competition does not allow either industries or farmers to apply the essential anti-pollution equipment or conservation methods they should. If one person does and others do not, the one seldom can compete and survive economically.

In God's kingdom there will be a proper place for certain kinds of industry and right technology. Note first, however, God's plan of putting priorities aright.

Right Priorities

Remember, God's paramount purpose is building godly character in human beings. To do that God

ordained the *family unit* to teach God's way to each generation. That means fathers and mothers will teach sons, daughters and grandchildren by example and by instruction, with discipline. Families—fathers and mothers—will not be forced to engage in separate jobs to earn a decent livelihood as often is true today.

Families will be given inheritances in property, in productive land. This is land that a person or family can live upon, or always fall back upon, to provide the basic essentials of life. Humans under God's government will not be the slaves to a taxing state or to some industry or job that totally divorces them from the productivity of their own land.

Notice the prophecy of Zechariah 3:10. "In that day [after God's government is established on earth], says the Lord . . . every one of you will invite his neighbor under *his* vine and under *his* fig tree" (RSV).

Pollution will automatically be cut way down because of this focus on right agriculture.

Unlike today, there will be enough good and fertile land for all. How? It will be produced by the power of the great God. "The wilderness and the solitary place . . . and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. . . in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water . . ." (Isa. 35:1, 6-7).

Nations will reap the blessings of resting their land every seventh year (Lev. 25:1-7). They will be guaranteed right amounts of precious rainfall (Deut. 28:2, 12).

Notice the bountiful results that right agricultural practices will reap. "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed . . ." (Amos 9:13-14).

There won't be vast corporations (agribusinesses) or a few selfish landowners with all the good land and hordes of landless peasants wondering if they'll have food or jobs tomorrow.

Crops won't be planted in vast

acres of monoculture—single crops over hundreds or thousands of acres—year after year. That type of farming encourages depletion of the soil. It demands vast quantities of powerful fertilizers, and deadly pesticides, herbicides and fungicides.

In the world tomorrow, families will be working together on their own smaller yet sizable acreages. They will be able to build up, improve and conserve their precious heritage with proper conservation methods. They will recycle natural fertilizers and composts to build up the soil—obeying the law of return—"giving" back to the soil what they take out.

Cattle will not be fed on giant feedlots, which create huge mounds of wastes that run off with rains and pollute land and water supplies. Farm animals will live on fields or pasturage rotated with crop production.

Humans will learn to cultivate disease-resistant seeds. They will produce quality foods with optimum nutrients for good health. They will not, as is so often true today, feel forced to produce great quantities of food as cheaply as possible as their first priority. And yet there will be an abundance of wholesome food.

You may wonder, how will farmers be able to avoid using poisonous pesticides to rid their crops of destructive insects and diseases?

By obeying natural and spiritual laws! First, they will plant proper crops for their area. They will use crop rotation to maintain soil fertility. They will practice soil conservation. They will design their acreage for the encouragement of balanced bird, insect and plant life. These practices will not only fill the air with pleasing songs and sights but will go a long way to naturally controlling pests.

But there will be another wonderful way to protect crops. How many today know that whole nations are cursed (Mal 3:8-9) with agricultural woes because they are robbing God? Note this promise from God:

"Bring ye all the tithes [of crop or monetary increase] into the storehouse . . . and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if

I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

"And I will rebuke the devourer [animal plague, disease or infestation] for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time—in the field, saith the Lord of hosts" (see Malachi 3:10-11).

God is Lord over all his creation. That is something most people forget today.

Right Industry, Travel Too

In the wonderful age to come, there will be a need for various kinds of industrial goods. Man will need machines and engines for power and transport to assist him in constructive activities. In tomorrow's world, machines using predominantly nonpolluting energy and engines will be required.

Humans have already conceived and designed certain basic nonpolluting energy technology—solar power, steam and biogas for instance.

Some industrial activities—such as steel-making and critical metals—require the use of high-heat energy sources. Coal will probably be used for this purpose in many areas. But that will mean great care must be taken to control pollutants that arise. If potentially environmentally dangerous agents are produced by any industry, that industry will have to install maximum antipollution devices to capture, neutralize or recycle such wastes—or such industries won't be permitted to exist.

Scriptures reveal there will be major highways for transportation and travel (Isa. 11:16; 35:8; 40:3). Whatever modes of transportation will exist won't be allowed to pollute or endanger the health of man as happens today. Much pollution from transportation vehicles could already have been cut down with properly designed systems. The field of inventions is wide open for new developments in a world that is not devoted to greed, selfishness and gain!

Home—Where the Action Begins

In tomorrow's world, one won't

have to travel great distances to do exciting or necessary things. One won't want to "get away from it all." It will be exciting where you are!

There will be towns and cities in the world tomorrow, bustling with creative activity. But they will be vastly different from today's towering canyons of steel, glass and concrete that blot out sun and inspiring natural beauty. Communities will be related to supporting food and livestock production.

Agricultural areas will not be cultural wastelands. There will be beautiful cultural centers, magnets to draw families and communities together to enjoy the best in music and other human achievements.

Of today's world, where city and field are more and more often separated, God says, "Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place..." (Isa. 5:8).

Families and relatives will tend to live close by and support one another. That's where the fun will really begin—with families, friends and neighbors helping each other to grow and develop.

And it will be safe to let children enjoy their environment (Isa. 11:6). "Violence shall no more be heard in thy land, [nor] wasting nor destruction within thy borders..." (Isa. 60:18).

But you may ask, what if someone comes up with some idea or plan to produce something actually dangerous to human life or the environment? Or to be corrupt or deceitful in his dealings? Note the way such thoughts and actions will be dealt with before they come to fruition:

"...yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers [spirit members of the God family, born of God, now manifested in human form]; 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'" (Isa. 30:20-21).

What will humans do when they run into some technological snag, or have some difficulty or uncertainty about whether to pro-

ceed on a new development, whether it will be environmentally safe in the long run? Here's unbelievable news! They can go to members of the God family, even to Jesus Christ himself if necessary, who is the creator of all law and matter and ask! "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you," promised Christ (Matt. 7:7). What an age to come!

Home Conservation and Recycling

What about nonpolluting home utilities and heating? Today, so much energy is wasted from cheaply or improperly designed homes and inefficient heating equipment. Homes in the world

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Modern economic competition does not allow either industries or farmers to apply the essential antipollution equipment or conservation methods they should.

tomorrow, will be designed from the start to take advantage of nonpolluting and renewable sources of energy. Again, this energy may be solar power, efficiently burned wood, biomass gases, natural gases or other fuel.

Home builders will be encouraged to use efficient home, tree and shrubbery placement to maximize heating and cooling during the various seasons. Homes will be solidly built from the foundations up. And well insulated where necessary. That saves energy. Quality homes that meet the needs of the environment may cost more initially. But they will be cheaper, longer lasting and more satisfying in the long run.

Today's vast sewer systems,

overwhelmed with human, animal and toxic chemical wastes that dump into rivers, lakes, waterways and oceans, won't be permitted. Such technology spreads disease and ugly stench.

The Bible reveals the proper means of human waste disposal—turned back into the soil for proper sanitary breakdown (Deut. 23:13).

Proper waste disposal systems will return biodegradable waste back into the soil through proper septic or composting systems. Some nations are already learning how. Communities and villages will be smaller. Individual home or community waste disposal systems can be designed to recycle water and wastes safely. Great quantities of water will not be necessary to flush them away.

Recycling of metals, glass and paper products will be encouraged. That also will conserve resources and energy.

Time to Be Creative

As well as being burdened down with lack of critical necessities of life, much of humanity also feels deprived of sufficient time to develop and improve themselves, or to travel.

But when humanity gets its priorities right, there will be time to enjoy other activities.

Here is a wonderful way humans will find such time: Every seventh year the land will be rested (Lev. 25:1-7) and debts due will be released (Deut. 15). Here's a whole year humans can devote to special creativity, innovation, special education and travel. It will be a time to improve technology to assist others around the world.

But don't misunderstand. Pollution will not be conquered—even under Christ's reign—all over the earth at once. It will take time and education. God's government will gradually permeate the hearts of human beings like leaven in dough (Matt. 13:33).

But the marvelous thing is that humanity, at last, will have the divine help and power needed to overcome every obstacle to a wholesome environment. □

"THE WORLD TOMORROW" RADIO AND TV LOGS

Herbert W. Armstrong analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of *The World Tomorrow*

TELEVISION LOG

Listed by state or province are the station's call letters, location, channel number and time when program is aired.

U.S.

ALABAMA

WBRC, Birmingham — 6:30 a.m. Sun
WOWL, Florence — 15:30 a.m. Sun
WAFF, Huntsville — 48:30 a.m. Sun
WCOV, Montgomery — 20:10:30 a.m. Sun

ALASKA

KTVB, Anchorage — 11:30 a.m. Sun
KTVF, Fairbanks — 11:30 a.m. Sun

ARIZONA

KNAZ, Flagstaff — 2:30 a.m. Sun
KTVK, Phoenix — 3:00 a.m. Sun
KVOA, Tucson — 4:00 a.m. Sun

ARKANSAS

KFPW, Ft. Smith — 40:10:30 a.m. Sun
KARK, Little Rock — 4:10:00 a.m. Sun

CALIFORNIA

KBAK, Bakersfield — 29:00 a.m. Sun
KSEE, Fresno — 14:30 a.m. Sun
KHJ, Los Angeles — 9:30 a.m. Sun
KTTV, Los Angeles — 11:30 a.m. Sun
KTVU, Oakland — 2:30 a.m. Sat
KQVR, Sacramento — 11:30 a.m. Sun
KSBW, Salinas — 12:30 a.m. Sun
KCST, San Diego — 14:10:30 a.m. Sun
KSBY, San Luis Obispo — 6:30 a.m. Sun

COLORADO

KRTV, Colorado Spgs. — 11:30 a.m. Sun
KOA, Denver — 4:00 a.m. Sun
KTVS, Sterling — 3:10:00 a.m. Sun

CONNECTICUT

WVIT, W. Hartford — 30:7:00 p.m. Sun

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WTTG, Washington — 5:30 a.m. Sun

FLORIDA

WBSB, Ft. Myers — 20:30 a.m. Sun
WTLV, Jacksonville — 12:30 a.m. Sun
WCIX, Miami — 6:00 a.m. Sun
WTVJ, Miami — 4:30 a.m. Sun
WEAR, Pensacola — 3:12:30 noon, Sun
WECA, Tallahassee — 27:00 a.m. Sun
WFTS, Tampa — 28:00 a.m. Sun
WESH, Winter Park — 2:00 a.m. Sun

GEORGIA

WTSG, Albany — 31:7:30 a.m. Sun
WATL, Atlanta — 36:7:30 a.m. Sun
WAGT, Augusta — 26:10:30 a.m. Sun
WWSL, Columbus — 3:30 a.m. Sun
WGXA, Macon — 24:11:00 a.m. Sun
WTOG, Savannah — 11:10:30 a.m. Sun
WVGA, Valdosta — 44:10:30 a.m. Sun

HAWAII

KIKU, Honolulu — 13:30 a.m. Sun

IDAH0

KBCI, Boise — 2:10:00 a.m. Sun

ILLINOIS

WCBD, Champaign — 15:6:30 a.m. Sun
WCIU, Chicago — 26:10:30 p.m. Sat
WFLD, Chicago — 32:7:00 a.m. Sun
WGN, Chicago — 9:7:30 a.m. Sat
WSM, Harrisburg — 3:9:30 a.m. Sun
WEEK, Peoria — 25:6:30 p.m. Sun
KHQA, Quincy — 7:30 a.m. Sun
WQNF, Rockford — 39:7:30 a.m. Sun
WHSF, Rock Island — 4:6:30 a.m. Sun
WICS, Springfield — 20:6:30 a.m. Sun

INDIANA

WTVW, Evansville — 7:00 a.m. Sun
WKUG, Ft. Wayne — 33:9:30 a.m. Sun
WTHR, Indianapolis — 13:8:30 a.m. Sun
WSBT, South Bend — 22:11:00 a.m. Sun

IOWA

WOI, Des Moines — 5:6:30 a.m. Sun
KMT, Mason City — 3:10:00 a.m. Sun
KWVL, Waterloo — 7:10:00 a.m. Sun

KANSAS

KSMG, Garden City — 11:7:00 a.m. Sun
KSHC, Great Bend — 2:7:00 a.m. Sun
KCMO, Kansas City — 5:9:30 a.m. Sun
KSNW, Wichita — 1:7:00 a.m. Sun

KENTUCKY

WLEX, Lexington — 18:9:30 a.m. Sun
WDNB, Louisville — 41:10:00 a.m. Sun

LOUISIANA

WAFB, Baton Rouge — 9:11:30 p.m. Sun
KATC, Lafayette — 3:8:30 a.m. Sun
WWL, New Orleans — 4:7:00 a.m. Sun
KTAL, Shreveport — 6:10:00 a.m. Sun

MAINE

WVN, Bangor — 7:10:30 a.m. Sun
WGAN, Portland — 13:6:30 a.m. Sun

MARYLAND

WBFF, Baltimore — 45:10:30 a.m. Sun
WMAQ, Hagerstown — 25:7:30 a.m. Sat

MASSACHUSETTS

WCDC, Adams — 19:8:30 a.m. Sun
WBBK, Boston — 38:9:30 a.m. Sun
WGBS, Springfield — 40:9:00 a.m. Sun
WBAW, Worcester — 27:7:30 a.m. Sun

MICHIGAN

WJRT, Flint — 12:8:30 a.m. Sun
WZZM, Grand Rapids — 13:12:00 noon, Sun
WILX, Lansing — 10:10:30 a.m. Sun
WJMK, Southfield — 2:7:00 a.m. Sun

MINNESOTA

KDLM, Duluth — 3:10:00 a.m. Sun
KMSP, Minneapolis — 9:7:00 a.m. Sat
KSTP, St. Paul — 5:7:00 a.m. Sun

MISSISSIPPI

WAPT, Jackson — 16:7:00 a.m. Sun

MISSOURI

KODE, Joplin — 12:7:30 a.m. Sun
KPOB, Poplar Bluff — 15:9:30 a.m. Sun
KOLR, Springfield — 10:10:00 a.m. Sun
KOML, St. Louis — 30:9:30 a.m. Sun

NEBRASKA

KCNA, Albion — 8:8:00 a.m. Sun
KWWB, Mayas Center — 6:8:00 a.m. Sun
KHGI, Kearney — 13:8:00 a.m. Sun
KSNK, McCook — 8:7:00 a.m. Sun
KMTV, Omaha — 3:7:00 a.m. Sun
KSTP, Scottsbluff — 10:10:00 a.m. Sun
KSNB, Superior — 4:8:00 a.m. Sun

NEVADA

KVCB, Las Vegas — 3:7:00 a.m. Sun
KCNL, Reno — 4:7:30 a.m. Sun

NEW HAMPSHIRE

WMUR, Manchester — 9:10:30 a.m. Sun

NEW JERSEY

WAAT, Linwood — 40:10:30 a.m. Sun

NEW MEXICO

KQGM, Albuquerque — 13:6:30 a.m. Sun
KWSW, Roswell — 8:9:30 a.m. Sun

NEW YORK

WTEW, Albany — 10:8:30 a.m. Sun
WBNB, Binghamton — 12:11:00 a.m. Sun
WGR, Buffalo — 2:8:30 a.m. Sun
WENY, Elmira — 36:9:30 a.m. Sun
WNEW, New York — 5:7:00 a.m. Sat
Wop, New York — 0:9:30 p.m. Sun
WHEC, Rochester — 10:8:00 a.m. Sun
WXTV, Syracuse — 9:6:30 a.m. Sun

NORTH CAROLINA

WPCO, Charlotte — 36:8:00 a.m. Sun
WRAL, Raleigh — 5:7:00 a.m. Sun
WITN, Washington — 7:11:30 a.m. Sun
WXII, Winston-Salem — 12:10:30 a.m. Sun

NORTH DAKOTA

KTHN, Fargo — 11:9:00 a.m. Sun

OHIO

WAKR, Akron — 23:11:15 p.m. Sun
WLWT, Cincinnati — 5:11:00 a.m. Sun
WUAB, Cleveland — 43:9:00 a.m. Sun
WTVM, Columbus — 6:6:30 a.m. Sun
WKEF, Dayton — 22:6:30 a.m. Sun
WDHO, Toledo — 24:9:00 a.m. Sun
WYTV, Youngstown — 33:11:00 a.m. Sun

OKLAHOMA

KTEN, Ada — 10:10:00 a.m. Sun
KOKH, Oklahoma City — 25:8:00 a.m. Sun
KOKI, Tulsa — 23:11:00 p.m. Sun

OREGON

KON, Portland — 6:6:30 a.m. Sun

PENNSYLVANIA

WTAJ, Altoona — 10:11:30 a.m. Sun
WSEE, Erie — 35:10:30 a.m. Sun
WLYN, Lebanon — 15:8:00 a.m. Sun
WPHL, Philadelphia — 17:7:30 a.m. Sun
WPIR, Pittsburgh — 11:9:00 a.m. Sun
WHEP, Wilkes-Barre — 16:8:30 a.m. Sun

RHODE ISLAND

WPM, Providence — 12:11:30 a.m. Sun

SOUTH CAROLINA

WCBD, Charleston — 2:10:00 a.m. Sun
WIS, Columbia — 10:7:30 a.m. Sun
WPDE, Florence — 15:10:00 a.m. Sun
WFBC, Greenville — 4:6:30 a.m. Sun

SOUTH DAKOTA

KDLT, Sioux Falls — 5:9:30 a.m. Sun

TENNESSEE

WDEF, Chattanooga — 12:10:30 a.m. Sun
WKPT, Kingsport — 19:12:00 noon, Sun
WTVK, Knoxville — 26:9:30 a.m. Sun
WPTY, Memphis — 24:9:30 p.m. Sun
WNGE, Nashville — 2:7:00 a.m. Sun

TEXAS

KAMR, Amarillo — 4:9:00 a.m. Sun
KTIA, Arlington — 21:7:00 a.m. Sun
KTVV, Austin — 36:9:30 a.m. Sun
KPRC, Houston — 2:7:00 a.m. Sun
KCBQ, Lubbock — 11:9:30 a.m. Sun
KJAC, Port Arthur — 4:10:00 a.m. Sun
KENS, San Antonio — 5:7:00 a.m. Sun
KLTV, Tyler — 7:6:30 a.m. Sun

UTAH

KUTV, Salt Lake — 2:9:00 a.m. Sun

VERMONT

WEZF, Burlington — 22:10:00 a.m. Sun

VIRGINIA

WUPV, Charlottesville — 20:10:00 a.m. Sun
WVEC, Norfolk — 13:10:00 a.m. Sun
WXII, Richmond — 8:10:30 a.m. Sun
WBLB, Roanoke — 10:7:00 a.m. Sun

WASHINGTON

KIRO, Seattle — 7:7:00 a.m. Sun
KXLY, Spokane — 4:11:00 a.m. Sun
KCPD, Tacoma — 13:9:30 a.m. Sun
KHOO, Yakima — 23:7:30 a.m. Sat

WEST VIRGINIA

WOWK, Huntington — 13:9:00 a.m. Sun

WISCONSIN

WOOW, Eau Claire — 18:6:30 a.m. Sun
WLWK, Green Bay — 11:8:30 a.m. Sun
WXOW, La Crosse — 19:6:30 a.m. Sun
WKOW, Madison — 27:6:30 a.m. Sun
WITI, Milwaukee — 6:10:30 a.m. Sun
WVTV, Milwaukee — 18:6:30 a.m. Sun

WYOMING

KCKY, Casper — 14:9:00 a.m. Sun
KVCU, Cheyenne — 5:10:00 a.m. Sun

CANADA

BRITISH COLUMBIA

CJOC-TV, Dawson Creek — 5:11:30 a.m. Sat
CFJC, Kamloops — 4:9:00 a.m. Sat
CHBC, Kelowna — 12:9:00 a.m. Sat
CKPG, Prince George — 2:10:00 a.m. Sat
CFTK, Terrace-Klondike — 3:10:00 a.m. Sat
BCTV, Vancouver — 8:10:30 a.m. Sun
CHEK, Vancouver-Victoria — 6:7:30 a.m. Sat
CHEK, Victoria — 12:12:00 noon, Sun

ALBERTA

CKSA, Lloydminster — 2:9:30 a.m. Sun
CHAT, Medicine Hat — 6:11:00 a.m. Sun
CHRD, Red Deer — 6:10:00 a.m. Sun
KXLY, Spokane — 4:11 a.m. Sun

SASKATCHEWAN

CKTV, Regina — 12:9:30 a.m. Sun
CFQC, Saskatoon — 8:10:00 a.m. Sun
CJFS, Swift Current — 5:10:30 a.m. Sat
CKOS, Yorkton — 5:11:30 a.m. Sun.

MANITOBA

CKX, Brandon — 5:12:00 noon, Sun
CKND, Winnipeg — 9:7:00 a.m. Sun

ONTARIO

CKVR, Barrie — 3:11:30 a.m. Sun
WGR, Buffalo — 2:4:30 a.m. Sun
CKNC, North Bay — 9:10:30 a.m. Sun
CHNS, Ottawa — 4:10:30 a.m. Sun
CJON, Ottawa — 13:10:30 a.m. Sun
CJAC, St. Catharines — 5:11:30 a.m. Sat.
GLOBAL, Southern Ontario — 8:30 a.m. Sat.
9:00 a.m. Sun

CCI, Sudbury — 5:10:30 a.m. Sun
CKPR, Thunder Bay — 2:10:30 a.m. Sun
CFCL, Timmins — 6:10:30 a.m. Sun
CKNL, Wingham — 8:12:00 noon, Sun

QUEBEC

CFCF, Montreal — 12:7:00 a.m. Sun



Herbert W. Armstrong, from our Pasadena, California television studio, analyzes world conditions and announces incredibly good news about the world tomorrow!

ATLANTIC CANADA
 WVH, Bangor — 7, 10 30 a.m., Sun
 CJCW, Halifax, N.S. — 5, 11 30 a.m., Sun
 CKCW, Moncton, N.B. — 2, 11 30 a.m., Sun
 CHSJ, St. John, N.B. — 4, 12 00 noon, Sun
 CKLT, St. John, N.B. — 9, 11 30 a.m., Sun
 CJOW, St. John's, Nfld. — 6, 10 30 a.m., Sun
 CJC8, Sydney, N.S. — 4, 11 30 a.m., Sun

AUSTRALIA
A.C.T.
 CTC7, Canberra — 7 30 a.m., every 2nd Sun
NEW SOUTH WALES
 AMV4, Albany — 9 50 a.m., Sun
 TEN 10, Sydney — 6 30 a.m., Sun
 RVN2, Wagga Wagga — 11 30 a.m., Sun
NORTHERN TERRITORY
 NTDS, Darwin — 10 00 a.m., Sun
QUEENSLAND
 QTC9, Brisbane — 6 00 a.m., Wed
 DDD10, Darling Downs — 11 30 a.m., Sun
 DDD5, Toowoomba — 11 50 a.m., Sun
 SDD4, Warwick — 11 30 a.m., Sun
SOUTH AUSTRALIA
 SAS10, Adelaide — 8 00 a.m., Sun
TASMANIA
 TVT6, Hobart — 9 30 a.m., Sun

TNT9, Launceston — 9 00 a.m., Sun
VICTORIA
 BTW6, Ballarat — 8 00 a.m., Sun
 GMY6, Shepparton — 8 00 a.m., Sun
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
 GSW6, Albany — 11 30 a.m., Sun
 BTW3, Bunbury — 11 30 a.m., Sun
 VEW6, Kalgoorlie — 5 00 p.m., Sun
 STW6, Perth — 6 30 a.m., Sun

PHILIPPINES
 Antique — RPN Chan 6, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Bacolod — RPN Chan 8, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Baguio — RPN Chan 4, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Baguio — RPN Chan 12, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Bayombong — RPN Chan 7, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Butuan — RPN Chan 12, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Cagayan de Oro — RPN Chan 5, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 — GMA Chan 12, 9 00 a.m., Sun
 Cebu — RPN Chan 9, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 — GMA Chan 7, 8 30 a.m., Sun
 Cotabato — RPN Chan 9, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Davao — RPN Chan 4, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 — GMA Chan 7, 8 00 a.m., Sun
 Dumaguete — RPN Chan 5, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Gen. Santos — RPN Chan 9, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Iloilo — GMA Chan 2, 9 00 a.m., Sun
 Iloilo — RPN Chan 10, 7 30 a.m., Sat

Jolo — RPN Chan 9, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Legazpi — RPN Chan 2, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 — GMA Chan 12, 9 00 a.m., Sun
 Marbel — RPN Chan 9, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Metro-Manila — RPN Chan 9, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 — GMA Chan 7, 9 00 a.m., Sun
 Oroquieta — RPN Chan 13, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Ozamis — RPN Chan 13, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Pagadian — RPN Chan 9, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Palawan — RPN Chan 5, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Surigao — RPN Chan 13, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Tacloban — RPN Chan 5, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 Zamboanga — RPN Chan 9, 7 30 a.m., Sat
 — GMA Chan 3, 7 30 a.m., Sun

OTHER AREAS
 Bermuda, ZFB-TV (Eng) Hamilton — 8, 7 00 p.m., Wed
 Guam, KUAM, Agaña — 8, 9 30 a.m., Sun
 Luxembourg, RTL Radio Television — 4:05 p.m., Fri
 Monaco, TMC, Monte-Carlo — 10, 5:15 p.m., Sun
 Puerto Rico — San Juan Cable TV (carries WGN, Chicago and WOR, New York)
 Sri Lanka Television — both channels, 9:00 p.m., Sun
 See next issue for radio log.

RESURRECTION

(Continued from page 14)

very GLORY of God: "... his eyes were as a flame of fire ... his voice as the sound of many waters. ... his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength."

That is the way we will look in the resurrection—IF we truly humble ourselves to be forgiven our transgressions and begin to do God's will and *believe* his Word and *obey* his commands! That is why you were *born*!

A Job to Perform

An old-time religious song talks about "rolling around heaven all day."

But Jesus said: "My Father WORKETH hitherto, and I WORK" (John 5:17). God is the creator, the builder, the sustainer of all his creation. He is busy—not only with matters on earth, but throughout the vastness of the entire universe. God may even now have absolutely stupendous projects under way in various parts of the cosmos that he will bring us in on *after* we are resurrected and born into his family.

For the next thousand years, though, those whom God is now calling to lifetimes of service already know what their primary duties will be.

Notice: "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 first job will be to *restore order to this planet!* Under Christ, the resurrected king, David will once again be placed over all 12 tribes of Israel (Ezek. 37:24). The 12 apostles, resurrected, will each be given authority over one tribe of the reunited House of Israel (Luke 22:30).

And all those in the Church of God that Jesus founded—and through which God is now working to warn this world—all those who have overcome and remained faithful to the end, are to be given "authority over TEN CITIES" or "over five cities" depending on *how much* they have grown spiritually and overcome (Luke 19:16-

19) There will be no empty boredom and frustration with nothing to do! Rather, God will share with his newly born sons the challenge of finally bringing infinite peace, prosperity and JOY to the peoples of this earth!

Our ultimate challenge and responsibility extends even beyond this earth and its peoples. "Know ye not that we shall judge ANGELS? how much more things that pertain to this life?" (1 Cor. 6:3.)

And Isaiah was inspired to write: "Of the increase of *his* government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this" (Isa. 9:7).

And all this is to be accomplished with and through those of us who now are willing to BELIEVE what God reveals about our "reason for being," and who now are willing to SURRENDER our will to his. With and through humans finally born again as immortal beings, by a resurrection, into the kingdom of the great God, the Creator will expand his government and direct the programs and projects of his divine family to the far corners of the universe!

Even the word *awesome* seems inadequate to describe the opportunities and challenges our Maker has in store for us.

Totality of God's Love

The incredible future that awaits those who overcome will be the product of the outflowing LOVE that God the Father and his Son, Jesus, have had and do continually have for the human family. "For God so LOVED the world, that he GAVE his only begotten Son ..." (John 3:16).

God is the one who *loves* and who *GIVES*. God's desire is to SHARE eternity in a *family relationship*—a divine family composed of the humans who would surrender themselves to God's will, be literally *begotten* of God through reception of the Holy Spirit, and finally be BORN of God—*composed of the Holy Spirit*—IF

they continue yielding to God and growing in the divine nature through a life of prayer, study and spiritual overcoming.

Few realize it, but the *real* Lord's prayer—Jesus' *only* complete prayer in the Bible—was directly concerned with this very awesome human potential.

Here is Jesus' request: "And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was" (John 17:5). Before his human conception, Jesus had shared eternity with the Father. Now he requested that his total divine GLORY be returned to him!

Then he prayed for his disciples (verses 9-11), and for others who would come to believe through their teaching (verse 20). He asked: "Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, *that they may be ONE, as we are*" (verse 11).

Again, he prayed: "That they all may be one; *as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me*" (verses 21-23).

Jesus asked that the exact *same* GLORY that he was to receive be given to his followers!

What will *you* be like in the resurrection? *If* you grasp this fantastic calling, *if* you overcome and make it, *your* face will SHINE like the sun in full strength, *your* voice will BOOM like rolling thunder (Ps. 18:13), and you will possess the awesome POWER that the Father has determined to share with *all* the members of his family.

God has left NOTHING in the entire universe that will not be subject to the ultimate authority and power of God and his spirit-born sons!

That is why you and I were born! That is why the resurrection. □

THE PLAIN TRUTH

WHY PLANET EARTH IS UNIQUE

by John Ross Schroeder

What makes the earth so special in our solar system? Why is life here unique?

OUR GOOD green earth sits rather near the far edge of a vast galaxy we call the Milky Way. And our sun is just a small to average star in the Milky Way.

Planet earth is one of nine known to revolve around the sun. Yet the earth is the only planet in our solar system blessed with organic life. Why don't the other planets support living organisms?

More has been learned about our sister planets in the last decade than in the previous two millennia. Our era has been termed "The Golden Age of Astronomy." Ultramodern space technology has permitted this generation to probe our solar system in a way that our forebears never dreamed of. Unmanned spacecraft have actually examined the surfaces of Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn. Men from earth have actually walked on the moon.

Atmospheric physicist Garry Hunt of University College, London, finds that the study of the other planets inevitably turns his thoughts back to our earth. Indeed there is much to be learned about the earth itself from the study of our planetary system.

If only learned men knew the

vital significance of the vast amounts of knowledge they are gathering from the heavens. The spiritual implications are enormous. Locked up in this new knowledge is the very reason for man's existence in the universe. But back, now, to the earth.

Man is of the earth, earthy. So let's start with some essential physical knowledge about the planets.

Lessons from Venus

Since Venus is the most visible of all the planets to the human eye, we will begin our brief planetary excursion with the "evening star." Venus gets as close as 25 million miles from the earth. Nearer to the sun than the earth, Venus has been called the earth's twin because it is about the same in size and mass. The similarity ends there.

If somehow you could travel to Venus, three things would happen if you dared step outside your spacecraft. Simultaneously you would be poisoned, boiled and squashed. The atmosphere is positively hostile to human life, containing an enormous percentage of carbon dioxide and a fair portion of sulphuric acid. Russian space probes reveal that this planet's surface temperature is in excess of 900° F. It's hard to imagine anything quite that hot.

And what about walking on Venus? American astronauts were

able to walk on the surface of the moon with the aid of some highly sophisticated space suits. But so dense is the Venusian atmosphere that walking on Venus would be like trying to take a stroll at the bottom of the deepest part of the ocean.

Contrast the earth's ideal temperature and atmospheric conditions. One could call the earth a peculiar phenomenon in the solar system. Unlike Venus it has far less carbon dioxide and 20 percent life-supporting oxygen instead. Venus has no measurable oxygen and consequently no life forms. There are many elements in our atmosphere that fit the exact requirements for living organisms. Venus is acidic and acid is a powerful destroyer of proteins—the very stuff of which life, as we know it, is made. In contrast the mild basicity of the earth is ideally conducive for the existence of life.

What would we do without water? Fortunately the earth has been blessed with a superabundance of water covering about three quarters of its surface. There is almost no water vapor in the atmosphere of Venus. According to Lincoln Barnett, "In the universe as a whole, liquid water of any kind—sweet or salt—is an exotic rarity" ("The Miracle of the Sea," *Life* magazine).

Scientists and astronomers have

speculated as to why the Venusian atmosphere is so utterly unlike the earth's. One suggested cause is its lesser distance from the sun. Dr. Michael Hart of the Systems and Applied Sciences Corporation in Maryland made this astute observation. "Were our planet five percent closer to the sun, it would be a pressure cooker like Venus" (*The Christian Science Monitor*).

But we are neither the victims of an overheated pressure cooker like that of Venus or cold waste like Mars. The earth's orbit is in just the right relationship for the sustenance of physical life.

Venus is too hot; the earth is just right; Mars is too cold.

The Red Planet

Mars comes within 35 million miles of the earth, but it is farther away from the sun than we are. Its atmosphere is far too thin to sustain life as we know it even if it contained the correct atmospheric elements, which it doesn't. Like Venus, Mars' atmosphere is made up of far too much carbon dioxide, distinctly forbidding any organic

life. Again there is little or no oxygen to breathe. And water is a scarce commodity. The polar caps are composed mainly of dry ice or frozen carbon dioxide. Temperatures at the equator range from + 82.4°F in the daytime to -48°F at night.

Life on Mars? The atmospheric conditions are far too hostile. Listen to the assessment of famous French astronomer, Gerard de Vaucouleurs: "Take a desert on earth, shift it to the polar regions, and lift it to stratospheric levels—that's what it is like on Mars."

Only the earth satisfies all the complex conditions necessary for physical life in this solar system. The realism of the cosmos demands the conclusion that man's environment was designed and planned for him. If we are at all sensitive to the universe around us, we cannot ignore the fact that organic life is not the result of freak chance, spawned from mindless matter. It is the unique creation of a greater intelligence than man's.

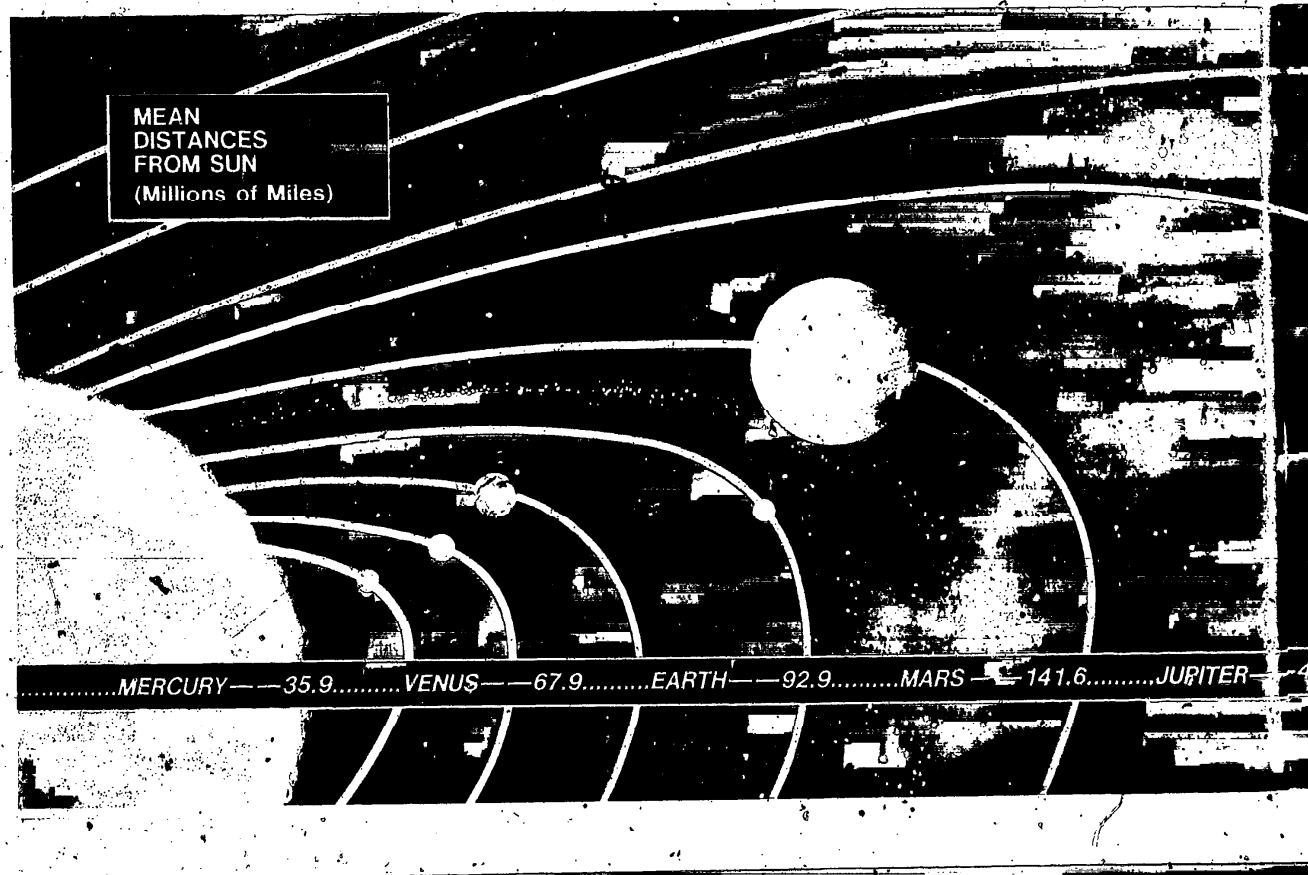
The Outer Planets

Astronomers divide the nine known

planets in our solar system into the inner planets and the outer planets. The earth, Venus, Mars and Mercury constitute the four major planetary bodies closest to our sun—hence the name, the inner planets. (Mercury, though nearest to the sun of all the planets, is omitted from consideration here as an abode for life since its atmosphere is virtually nonexistent.)

There is a giant gap in our solar system between Mars and what are known as the outer planets. The nearest outer planet beyond Mars is Jupiter—a gargantuan spacebody about 10 times the diameter of the earth. From Jupiter on outward, the gaps get ever wider (see accompanying planetary table). Undiscovered until 1930, Pluto is so small it can hardly be seen in its distant orbit.

Astronauts or cosmonauts would have great difficulty landing on Jupiter since its visible surface is composed entirely of gas. There is no evidence that this giant among planets has any solid surface at all. Interestingly enough Saturn, Uranus and Neptune also have gaseous surfaces and there is serious doubt



as to whether these three planets have any solid surface whatsoever. Life as we know it on these outer planetary bodies, is beyond the realm of possibility.

Planet number nine is Pluto, even though at the moment and for a number of decades its orbit carries it closer to the sun than Neptune. Nearly the size of our moon, Pluto is so very cold as to negate any possibility of life. There are those who even question its status as a full planet. One noted astronomer dubbed it a "cosmical lightweight."

Astronomers have good reason to believe that a 10th planet exists among the outer planetary bodies. The search continues unabated.

And Now—Back to Earth

It is in the human heart to search out the mysteries of the heavens. The wisest man of the ancient world once observed: "It is the glory of God to conceal a thing; but the honour of kings is to search out a matter. *The heaven for height, and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings is unsearchable.*" Many of man's newest astronomi-

cal discoveries bring as many questions as answers. Yet man goes on relentlessly pursuing knowledge about the universe. It would be odd if he did not do so.

Centuries later a learned man wrote about certain people "who are ever learning, but are never able to come to a knowledge of the truth." Man seeks the mystery of origins in outer space when the basic answers are right back here on earth.

Today, man seeks evidence of intelligent life in outer space, hoping not only for answers to the basic mystery of life, but also for keys to resolving our complex behavioral muddles. Maybe intelligent life from outer space has already visited this planet and brought to earth the answers both to the basic mystery of life and our stubborn human problems. Maybe we've just never used our tools of recognition properly.

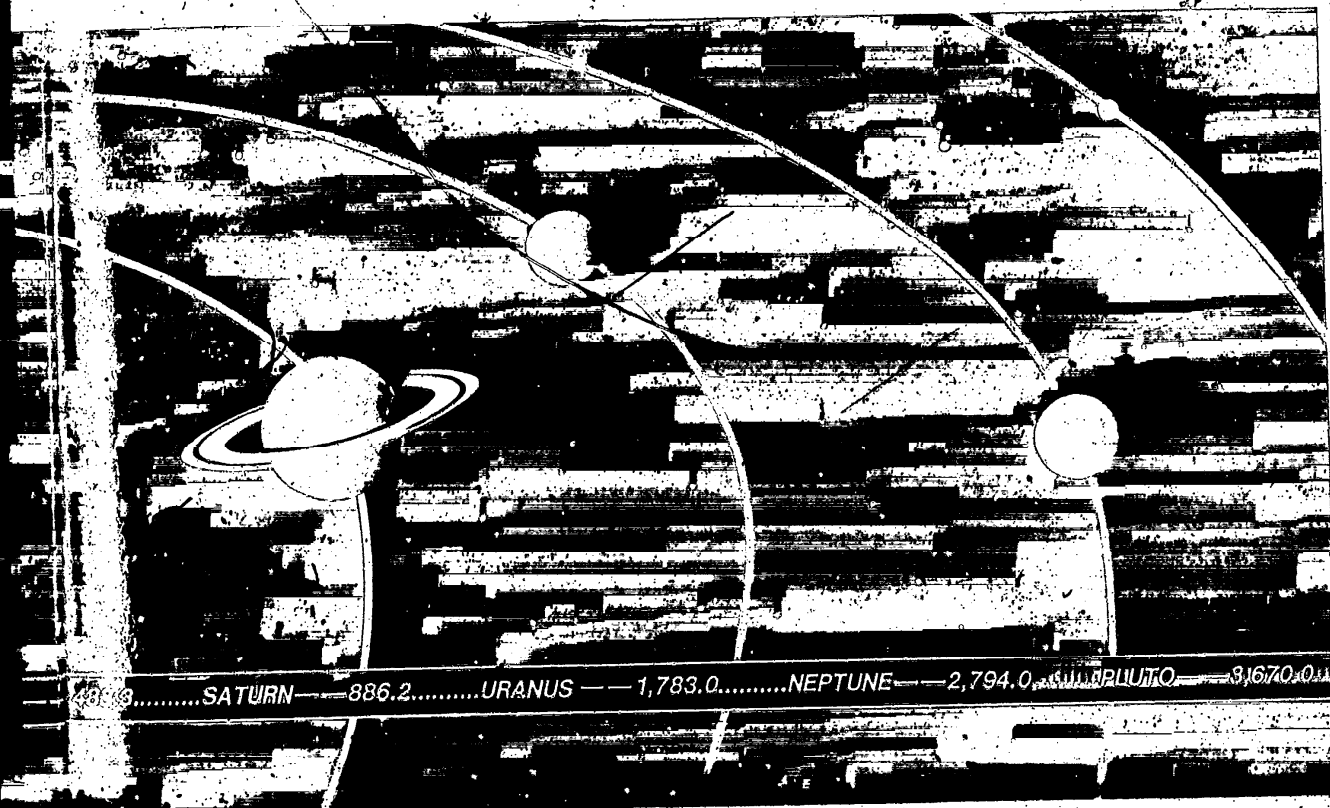
One noted author wrote "of the earth visitor who paradoxically came of us, lived with us, and invited us to learn of him—something we have never yet done." You know who this writer was talking

about. Jesus of Nazareth—the man from space who visited this earth about 2,000 years ago.

The God-life of another dimension (a spiritual one)—the traveler in outer space—was changed into a tiny spark of life. He then became a babe in his mother's arms. And in due time he grew up to become a man. His disciples wrote down the essence of his message for mankind. He called it the Good News. It's all written down for you in four small books termed the gospel according to Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. You possibly have never taken the trouble to seriously read their contents.

Thirty minutes a day would get you through those four books in less than two weeks. This is reading material well worth your time. Your television can't beat it.

Why is planet earth unique in our solar system? You should know by the time you finish reading the four gospel accounts. If not, you may need to write for our attractively printed booklet entitled *Why Were You Born?* It will give you help in understanding what you've just read.



JAPAN

(Continued from page 6)

how reliable the U.S. shield really is.

The growing pressure for a nuclear freeze in the United States—it would be unilateral since the Soviets would have little incentive to respond—is bound to be highly disturbing in Tokyo.

Nuclear freeze advocates claim their proposals, if adopted, would ensure a safer world. The truth is, nothing could be more destabilizing—forcing both Western Europe as well as Japan to eventually become nuclear powers in order to defend themselves. The "nuclear genie" would be out of the bottle for good.

Japan, like Germany, was on the way to developing the atomic bomb during the last war. Japanese television recently revealed that Tora-nosuke Kawashima, a retired colonel in the Imperial Army, had been ordered by Prime Minister Hideki Tojo to develop the atomic bomb for Japan.

The prime minister had heard about the U.S. atomic bomb project from reports funneled via a secret Spanish spy network operating in America. (The existence of this spy network was revealed for the first time in the 15-minute documentary.)

Nuclear scientists were assembled for the project but the lack of uranium slowed its progress. A call went out to Axis ally Nazi Germany.

"Hitler agreed to help," said Mr. Kawashima, "but the German U-boat carrying two tons of uranium was sunk by Allied naval vessels during its voyage to Japan."

America was "lucky." Atomic bombs fell on Hiroshima and Nagasaki rather than on Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Bible prophecy thunders that a decadent America and Britain won't be so fortunate the next time as the world races ahead into the final end-time period of great international destabilization and upheaval. If you have not done so, write for our free book, *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. It lays bare future calamities—and how you can escape them! □

GERMANY

(Continued from page 11)

West Germans are not blind to the striking similarities between these two periods of time. Many are dissatisfied with a political situation under which the smaller parties exercise disproportionate power. The prospect of the Greens winding up as the power brokers in the formation of a new coalition government appalls the average voter.

West Germans would like to see the emergence of a new, more dynamic leadership, a leadership that will make a difference—that will be able to get a grip on the drift and provide challenging new concepts and goals.

Regardless of their present political affiliations, growing numbers of West Germans admit—though often reluctantly—that the dynamic, no-nonsense style of leadership exhibited by Franz Josef Strauss may ultimately be required to deal with a situation that has become intolerable. (It was Mr. Strauss who, as finance minister, brought West Germany out of deep economic trouble in 1967-69.)

Though he has never made a secret of his desire to occupy the chancellor's office, Mr. Strauss once remarked that he hoped conditions within his country never became so bad that the people would have no choice but to elect him chancellor!

Such a time, however, may be just around the corner.

Supranational Goals

Unlike leaders in other nations facing similar difficulties, West German officials cannot pursue an active program of appealing to public feelings of "patriotic duty" and "national mission." Though appeals of this type can be very effective in galvanizing public support, the burden of recent German history renders such an approach impossible. Were West German leaders to invoke such ideals, the shock waves would rock the sensibilities of history-conscious neighbors.

Is, then, this potentially crucial resource of nationalistic fervor to go to waste?

Some German leaders have sug-

gested that rather than abandoning such a valuable instrument of motivation, these patriotic feelings might be transferred to *supranational goals*—specifically, toward the building of a strong, united Europe!

In this vein, Franz Josef Strauss has declared: "Whoever wishes to be a German must see to it that he becomes a European while there is still time. We must have patriotism in an entirely new understanding of the word."

Since World War II, one fact has become increasingly clear: West Germany's concerns are intimately bound up with the concerns of Europe as a whole. Many are beginning to realize that the solution to a divided German nation can be properly found only in a European context.

Germany's fate—and destiny—is irrevocably tied to that of Europe! And in many ways, the German nation—at the center of Europe's peoples—is the key to Europe's destiny.

As Franz Josef Strauss observed in the postscript to his book *Challenge and Response* (1970):

"If Europeans do not grasp before long that they must find a common response, equal to the historic occasion, to the challenge with which they are confronted, Europe will finally miss what chance it has of being allowed to embark upon the future as a more or less independent unit."

West Germany has much to offer Europe. Despite its serious troubles, it remains the Continent's strongest economy and possesses Western Europe's largest conventional army. It cannot fail to play a leadership role in the Continent's search for solutions to the burgeoning East-West crisis.

Bible prophecy—explained in the pages of this magazine—reveals that Germany and Europe are heading toward a time of great crisis—and great opportunity.

It is one of the functions of *The Plain Truth* to announce in advance the unfolding of fast-paced events in Europe. Far-reaching developments lie just ahead—and they will astound the world and totally change the course of history! □

CHRIST ROSE

(Continued from page 16)

son's "soul"—physical life and body—and his "spirit" (Heb. 4:12). Jesus said at his death, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit" (Luke 23:46). While the pagan idea of a conscious "immortal soul" within man is not biblical, nevertheless the Bible here and elsewhere reveals "there is a spirit in man" (Job 32:8). This "spirit" is not conscious by itself, but joined with the physical brain it forms the human mind and intellect.

This spirit essence bears the imprint of a person's character, personality and memory. It functions not unlike a computer tape or disk. The tape or disk may contain millions of bits of information. Combined with the computer it makes possible the "intellect" of the computer. But separated from the computer, it is inactive and silent. It does nothing but store information. Likewise does a person's "spirit" function while it is within the person. Separated it is unconscious and inactive. "His spirit departs, he returns to his earth; in that very day his plans perish" (Ps. 146:4, RAV). Still it contains information about all the things that make a person a unique individual.

When a person dies, "then shall the dust [the physical body, the soul] return to the earth as it was; and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it" (Eccl. 12:7). This spirit is kept by God and serves as a kind of blueprint by which God will one day resurrect each individual even though that person's body may long ago have disintegrated and returned to dust.

Jesus referred to this important truth when, just before he expired, he cried: "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit; and having said thus, he gave up the ghost [spirit]" (Luke 23:46). That it was not a conscious, living spirit that Jesus committed to the Father is proved by John 20:17, where, after his resurrection, Jesus said that he—the conscious Jesus—had not yet ascended to the Father!

Once dead, Jesus' soul—his lifeless body—was put in the grave where it remained for three days and

nights. The second member of the God family had ceased to exist in order to pay the penalty for our sins. He was "cut off out of the land of the living" (Isa. 53:8). All life and conscious thought stopped, for "the dead know not any thing" (Eccl. 9:5). He was asleep, as are all those who have died (Dan. 12:2). His resurrection made him the "firstfruits [the first to be resurrected immortal, to eternal life] of them that slept" (1 Cor. 15:20).

Why Jesus Had to Rise FROM THE DEAD

Why was Jesus brought back to life in a resurrection out of that stone sepulchre? For two reasons. One, Jesus was not worthy of death. He had never sinned. Two, if Jesus were not brought back to life as a glorified, immortal spirit being all

the dead in Christ would remain dead forever. They could never live again. "And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep [they are not alive up in heaven, or somewhere else—they are asleep in their graves] in Christ are perished"—never to be brought back to life (1 Cor. 15:17-18).

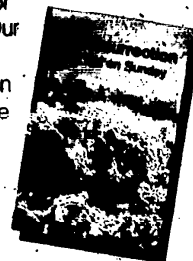
But the fact is, Christ was raised from the dead. He now lives to minister to those who are being called to salvation. Because he lives we have the glorious "hope [not yet the reality] of eternal life" (Titus 3:7). "For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality" (1 Cor. 15:53). When? At the resurrection and not before (verses 42, 50-54).

That is the plain teaching of the Bible! □

The Resurrection: simple as 1,2,3.



The pictures above show the garden tomb, which a tradition says was the site of Jesus' burial. Can you figure three days and three nights between sunset Good Friday and sunrise Easter Sunday? No? Then you have a problem. Because in Matthew 12:40 Jesus said he would be "three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." He also said, in verse 39, that this was the only sign he would give that he was the Messiah. Now either Jesus was in error or the Good Friday-Easter tradition is in error. Our enlightening and controversial booklet *The Resurrection Was Not on Sunday* makes plain the biblical truth. For a free copy, write to the Plain Truth office nearest you.



WHO WAS JESUS?

(Continued from page 19)

they are on the same plane and level of existence as yourself. They are *not* inferior beings like animals. Jesus was equal with God in the sense that he existed on the same God-plane that the Father does. True, the one whom we know as the Father was and is greater in authority—"my Father is greater than I" (John 14:28, KJV).

Continuing his discussion with the Pharisees, Christ drove home the point that he was indeed God's Son: "Truly, truly, I say to you, *the Son* can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the *Father* doing; for whatever he does, that the *Father* does likewise. For the *Father* loves the *Son*, and shows him all that he himself is doing; and greater works than these will he show him, that you may marvel. For as the *Father* raises the dead and gives them life, so also the *Son* gives life to whom he will" (John 5:19-21). Jesus possesses the same powers that the Father does, because he too is God.

Jesus Christ said: "I and the Father are one" (John 10:30). Not that they are the same being, but they are one in purpose, one in plan and, most of all, one in the sense that they are members of the same God family.

If anyone in that generation saw Jesus, they saw how one in the God family would act if he were here on earth—and specifically the Father. "And Jesus cried out and said, 'He who believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. And he who sees me sees him who sent me'" (John 12:44-45).

Jesus Resumed Glorified Godship

We have firmly established the fact that Jesus was God before his human birth. Notice just one more verse to that effect: "And now, Father, glorify thou me in thy own presence *with the glory which I had with thee before the world was made*" (John 17:5). Jesus was a glorified God-being before there ever was an angel or man on earth. In fact, Jesus has eternally existed as God.

But he divested himself of his former glory and came down to this

earth as a human being to (among many other things) die for the sins of all mankind.

Paul wrote to the Philippian brethren: "Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And, being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross" (Phil. 2:5-8).

Paul then brings out the fact that Jesus is *now* restored to his former glory: "Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow [God does not allow human beings to worship other human beings or even angels—only members of the God family], in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (verses 9-11).

John also wrote of Jesus' resuming his Godship. Notice Christ's words in the true Lord's prayer: "And now I am no more in the world . . . and I come to thee" (John 17:11, KJV).

Earlier Jesus had said to his disciples: "What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before?" (John 6:62, KJV.) Later they did see just that (Acts 1:9). Notice John 7:33 (KJV): "Then said Jesus unto them, Yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that sent me."

Concerning the occasion of Christ's last Passover, John begins: "Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was [very soon to] come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father . . ." (John 13:1, KJV).

John repeats this vital theme over and over again. "I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world; again, I leave the world, and go to the Father" (John 16:28, KJV).

Incredible Destiny of Man

Jesus was God before his human birth; he was God in the flesh

while a human being here on earth; and he is *now* very God at the right hand of the Father in heaven. But must we stop there in our knowledge?

Jesus said to Mary Magdalene: "Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father; but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God" (John 20:17, KJV).

In this verse, Jesus was equating himself (though he was their Lord and Master—John 13:13) with his disciples and future apostles. What is the real significance of this statement? Jesus himself gives us the true answer in John 10: "The Jews took up stones again to stone him. Jesus answered them, 'I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of these do you stone me?' The Jews answered him, 'It is not for a good work that we stone you but for blasphemy; because you, being a man, make yourself God.' Jesus answered them, 'Is it not written in your law, 'I said, you are gods'? [see Psalm 82:6] If he called them gods to whom the word of God came (and scripture cannot be broken), do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?''" (verses 31-36).

This very vital passage of Scripture reveals, believe it or not, that man's ultimate destiny is to *become* a part of the God family.

Notice John's first letter once again: "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that, when he [Christ] shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2, KJV). Can you grasp what John is saying here? Even as God became man, so man may become God *under certain conditions*.

Man is to become just as much a God as Christ is God. That in a nutshell is the transcendent purpose of human life!

What can one do to ensure that this wonderful event does indeed happen to him? Verse 3: "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he [Christ] is pure." □

THE PLAIN TRUTH

L E T T E R S

What Our Readers Say

Jordan's King Hussein

Omitted from discussion of the West Bank Palestinian problem in the article "Jordan's King Hussein Searching for Peace" are Jordan's rejection, in 1948, of the U.N.-mandated Palestinian state on the West Bank and its subsequent annexation and occupation, until 1967, during which time the Jordanians refused to extend self-rule, in any form, to the West Bank Palestinians, and Jordan's refusal to enter into the Camp David process in this, the twenty-third hour, adjourning the Palestinian question, once again, to the vagaries of the future.

Leonard Fink
Director of Information
American Zionist Federation
New York City, New York

What is a Christian?

Most Christians today do not want to know too much about the Bible since it will increase their Christian obligations, and they want to hold on to Christ

with their left, or weaker hand, and the world with the right hand.

Victor E. Viau
Essex, Missouri

Where in the World

Your article "Where in the World..." really had something important to point out. In school, geography was lumped in with social studies. About a year ago I put up a large map on the wall in the dining area by the table where my husband and I can see it. We frequently get into discussions about something on that map. It is absolutely true what you have stated about the knowledge of "geography making current events come alive."

Julie Wilkins
Branscomb, California

I wish to commend you on the article on geographical illiteracy ("Where in the World...?"). Not only did it address an alarming problem which I confront daily as a high school social studies teacher,

but it also presented me with a valuable teaching device. I intend to use the "error-filled" world map to test the geographical knowledge of students. It might prove quite interesting to test my fellow colleagues. My only regret is that your map is not available as a wall-size map which could be displayed prominently in the classroom. It might be something for you to consider.

Paul Rorvig
Social Studies Teacher
Carrollton, Missouri

Correspondence Course

I have been receiving and reading *The Plain Truth* since January of this year, and must confess that I am deeply impressed by the message which it seeks to convey to the world. I would like to know much more about the prophecy element in the Bible. Would you please enroll me in the Correspondence Bible Study Course.

F.W. Briddes
Gaborone, Botswana

It was with great excitement that I completed the first lesson, and I'm already looking forward to the others that may follow. On studying my first lesson, I learned amongst other things how important it is to refer to each scripture in the Bible, and I never knew it. I wish to thank you very much for all the literature I've received and above all the Bible Course first-lesson.

Celia De Castro
Johannesburg, R.S.A.

New Readers

I never go to church or read the Bible, the latter being rather difficult to understand. But the way you explain it in modern language is most fascinating and a far cry from the wishy-washy sentimentality one finds so often. Even my son (still at school and we are German speaking on top of it), took to *The Plain Truth* like a duck to water. Please renew my subscription.

Mrs. A. Schleiff
Maltahohe
S.W.A./Namibia

Nakasone

(Continued from page 5)

majority in parliament. The new prime minister faces enormous difficulties and challenges. As a supporter of a stronger Japanese defense program, he will have to confront serious opposition by antimilitary elements. Defense spending has long been a contentious issue in Japan.

On the day of his inauguration, the new prime minister reiterated his pledge to beef up his country's

defense and said that Japan's no-war constitution—which bans the maintenance of armed forces—needs to be rewritten. He believes his nation's defense efforts have been inadequate, and says Japan must gain the capability to defend its own air space and sea lanes.

"I believe," he has declared, "that true independence is impossible as long as a nation chooses to depend in large measure on the military power of another country for its own security." This does not

imply a desire for a go-it-alone military policy for Japan—just a greater degree of Japanese involvement.

Prime Minister Nakasone will undoubtedly bring a new style of leadership to the nation's top office—higher profile, plus lessened reliance on the traditional policy of consensus-making, whereby decisions are reached through overall agreement by a large circle of leaders. He has written that "the traditional tools of consensus politics cannot cope with the many

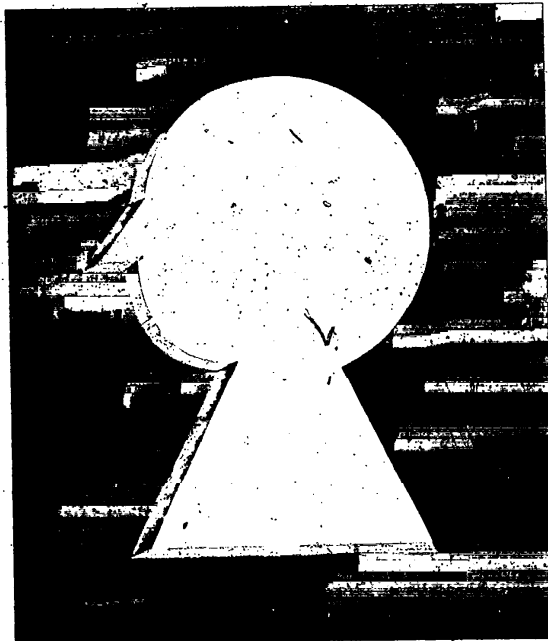
challenges of our complicated age. [Consensus-making] can slow down decision-making until, on many occasions, the final decision comes too late."

A government led by Mr. Nakasone will unquestionably display a new, more clear-cut type of personal leadership. No one doubts that he will actively pursue Japan's national interest as he sees it, bringing his strong personality to bear on the many issues confronting the nation.

— Keith W. Stump

THE MISSING KEY TO MAN'S MIND

NEW BOOKLET

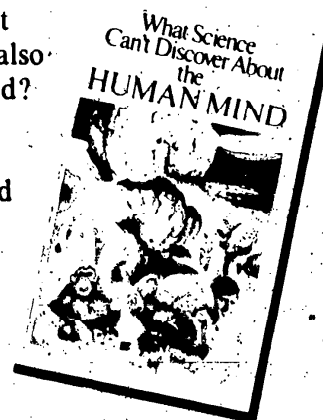


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The answer lies with the human mind. Scientists have said, "Given sufficient knowledge, we shall cure all human evils." Just since 1960 the world's fund of knowledge has more than doubled. But humanity's evils also

have doubled. Why? Is something wrong with the human mind? Is something missing?

There most certainly is a missing dimension in human knowledge—a missing key that, when placed in man's mind and operating in conjunction with it, unlocks the way to a fantastic potential of which most people have never dreamed. Our NEW booklet *What Science Can't Discover About the Human Mind* explains what that key is. You may have a free copy by mailing the card or writing our nearest office.



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