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*the*

FEBRUARY-MARCH 1985

# PLAIN TRUTH

*a magazine of understanding*

The  
Next Four  
Years-

U.S.  
LOOKS  
AHEAD



U.S. President  
Ronald Reagan

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## ARTICLES

- 2 The Truth Behind America's Moral Crisis
- 5 You Call That "Progress"?
- 7 The Changing Years—Prepare Now!
- 10 The Family—God's Plan for Mankind
- 13 Do the Dead Know What the Living Are Doing?
- 15 Canada's Troubled Economy
- 19 1985—Turning Point for World's Economy?
- 22 Where Are Russia and China Headed?
- 25 New Testament—Fact or Fiction?
- 35 The Plain Truth About Child Rearing  
Preschool Years: Preparation for Life

## FEATURES

- 1 Personal from Herbert W. Armstrong
- 29 "The World Tomorrow" Radio and TV Logs
- 31 International Desk
- 41 News Overview
- 45 Letters to the Editor

## OUR COVER

The United States is the most powerful engine pulling the world's economy. And the policy decisions that determine the effectiveness of that American economic power—and the accompanying responsiveness of consumers—rest with the President.

COVER PHOTO BY JOHN RICAP—WOODFIN CAMP

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# PERSONAL FROM

*Robert Armstrong*



## What's Wrong with Business and Industry?

**W**EAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION threaten to erase human life from the earth! What part have business and industry played in the modern society that now stands on the brink of human extinction?

Surely, when we look at modern business, industry and commerce we find the spectacle of modern development that excites enraptured admiration.

Or has this facet of civilization contributed to the CAUSE of humanity's plight today?

If a Lincoln, a Vanderbilt or an Emerson could come back to life today, he would gasp in amazed wonderment at the astonishing development of modern business and industry!

The amazing development of the telephone, motion picture in full color, radio, television, motor car, mammoth oil tankers, jet planes, spacecraft hurtling men around the earth in 90 minutes, men traveling to the moon and back, unmanned spacecraft transmitting close-up pictures of the Martian surface to earth, the incredible modern computers and almost every conceivable technical business machine, as well as modern mass industrial production and modern sales and distribution systems—all this would cause men of a short hundred years ago to gasp in awe!

**What AMAZING PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT!**

Commerce and industry is a world within a world—a fast-moving, pulsating world of high-gear activity.

Surely all these magic advancements could in no way have contributed to the EVILS that face our world today?

Seemingly not. But if we look deeper we find in this facet of society the same evils that have CAUSED humanity's debacle today. We find these vibrant, high-pressure fields of activity motivated by self-seeking competition and greed. And too often, in selling and marketing products, the sales appeal has been to vanity and wrong desires, utilizing dishonesty, misrepresentation, deception, unfair dealing. The motivating incentive is to "GET"—give less while charging more.

There are basics to life we usually do not look deeply enough to see. There are, basically, only the two broad ways of life. They travel in opposite directions. I state them very simply. The one is LOVE, meaning outflowing concern for the good of others, cooperation, serving, sharing. I term it "GIVE." The opposite way to which this world is drawn is "GET."

At an ad-club luncheon back in 1910, I heard a speaker ring out with emphasis, "Competition, NOT COOPERATION, is the life of trade today!" We all seemed to believe that then.

But later, my wise "Ben Franklin" uncle, Frank Armstrong, then leading advertising man in Iowa, explained it to me differently.

"The value of business conventions," he observed, "lies in COOPERATION. Jones has used a new idea that reduces costs. He shares his experience, and all profit—none is hurt. Smith tells how he increased sales and distribution into new markets. All profit by his experience—none is hurt."

But human nature simply doesn't see it that way. That's the way the Creator designed it—but humans differ with him who said, "It is more blessed to GIVE than to receive." Unfortunately that has been regarded as impractical idealism. Yet EVERY EVIL IN TODAY'S SICK, SICK WORLD HAS BEEN CAUSED BY THE "GET" MOTIVE—self-advantage at the cost of others, vanity, coveting, lust and greed—envy and jealousy, hostile competition, strife, violence, war, destruction. And above all, resentment of authority!

Unfortunately the basic activating motive in modern business and industry has been the "GET" philosophy. In spite of materialistic advances, humanity's problems are

(Continued on page 40)

# The Truth Behind AMERICA'S MORAL CRISIS

by Gene H. Hogberg

An all-out assault on spiritual values and the family is reaping a bitter harvest.

**T**HE ROLE of religion and morality in modern society emerged as a big issue in the 1984 election campaign in the United States.

Religion and politics—or religion *versus* politics, as some view it—threatens to become an even more explosive issue during President Ronald Reagan's second term.

During the '84 campaign, President Reagan found himself at the heart of the swirling controversy. He came out strongly against the continuance of legalized abortion, permitted under a 1973 Supreme Court decision. He also endorsed voluntary prayer in the nation's public schools. Until another Supreme Court decision, this time in 1962, opening-day prayers in American public school classrooms had been commonplace.

Mr. Reagan reacted forcefully to charges from those who worried about whether his position on these two issues undermined the guarantees provided for in the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The Constitution declares that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion,

or prohibiting the exercise thereof."

The President's response was that the issue was not one of "establishing religion" but rather one of rekindling a traditional sense of religious-based public morality.

#### Appeal to Values

In a speech before the Economic Club of Chicago, the President declared that the nation had lived through a "hedonistic heyday" of false values. In the past few decades, he said, "Many of us turned away from the enduring values, the faith, the work ethic and the central importance of the family."

During the Republican convention in Dallas, Mr. Reagan appeared before a prayer breakfast. In his speech he said: We establish no religion in this country nor will we ever. . . . But we poison our society when we remove its theological underpinnings."

In the 1960s, said the President, "We began to make great steps in secularizing our nation. . . . Without God there is no virtue. Without God we are mired in the material. . . . without God democracy will not and cannot long endure."

Many, of course, disagreed with the President's analysis. Some accused him of playing into the

hands of the "Religious Right" in an attempt to force a change of moral direction in the country.

#### Collapse of Religious Guidance

Other influential circles, however, have been echoing the President's concerns.

On March 20, 1984, *The Wall Street Journal* carried a powerful lead editorial condemning the moral decay in the country over the past two decades. Significantly, the editors placed a great deal of the blame at the doorstep of organized mainline religion for not standing up to the rising tides of immorality.

The fact that this powerful editorial appeared in a leading business daily rather than in a religious publication, says something about the state of religion in America today. The editorial said:

"Basically what happened is that the new morality of big cities such as New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco was imposed on the rest of the country by movies, TV, magazines, advertising, music, novelists, playwrights and, through default, by organized religion."

American parents, continued the *Journal* editors, especially needed counterarguments to battle the inroads of "aggressive modern secularism" in order to restore moral

THE PLAIN TRUTH



balance to their families and communities.

"But outside the evangelical and fundamentalist communities, that help never arrived. . . . Oh sure, the church doors are open every Sunday. But unhappily for those who enter, much contemporary American theology has come to be based in this period on a kind of dainty religious mush that has more in common with the sentiments of Rod McKuen and John Lennon than the precepts of Isaiah or St. John."

An insightful editorial, indeed.

One can be sure there have been, of late, precious few sermons based upon the admonitions contained in the first few chapters of the book of Isaiah.

If God's warnings contained in this prophecy had been believed and preached, there would have been, for example, thundering condemnations from the pulpits of the "new morality" of the "gay rights" movement. Instead, some denominations have chosen to justify homosexuality, overlooking that God bluntly refers to today's America and much of Western Europe as "you people of Gomorrah" and our leaders as being "rulers of Sodom" (Isa. 1:10, Revised Authorized Version throughout).

Too strong? Then think of this: The United States Conference of Mayors recently approved of a resolution recommending that "all levels of government adopt legal protections for the rights of gay, and lesbian Americans."

One very significant result of the November U.S. elections was the emergence of the first city government dominated by openly gay politicians. Three of the five councilmen of the new city of West Hollywood, California, proclaimed that their election was a victory for homosexuals across the nation.

The United States, at the moment, is experiencing an upsurge in national pride and confidence. But this is largely superficial, fueled primarily by economic optimism.

The fact is, contemporary U.S. society is fundamentally sick "from the sole of the foot even to the head [with] wounds and bruises and putrefying sores" (Isa. 1:6). But there is no one to bind up these

afflictions, which are moral and spiritual in nature (verse 7).

God takes the "shepherds of Israel"—the self-appointed modern ministers of the land—to task because "the weak you have not strengthened, nor have you healed those who were sick" (Ezek. 34:2, 4).

"Who can heal you?" God asks in Lamentations 2:13. Apparently not most of the spiritual guides of today.

"Your prophets have seen for you false and deceptive visions," God thunders. "They have not uncovered your iniquity"—exposed sinful practices to the light of God's Word (verse 14).

The false shepherds, have not done as God's true servants have done in this age: "Cry aloud, spare not; lift up your voice like a trumpet; tell My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins" (Isa. 58:1).

The result of this spiritual inat-

described as secular) have grown vocal enough and strong enough to . . . persuade the courts to conform to their view. . . .

"The net effect was to drive acknowledgment of God's existence almost totally out of the collective life of the American society—a development, as some noted, that came close to making atheism our state religion by default."

#### Lost Links to History

Americans are losing sight of their roots, as it is commonly expressed today; roots based upon spiritual and moral values, as preserved in the family unit.

Last January, an important speech was delivered at the Shavano Institute for National Leadership, at Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Michigan. It was given by Allan C. Carlson, executive vice president of the Rockford Institute. It was entitled "Our National Self-Confidence: Understanding Its De-



In the United States, homosexuals are demanding full legal recognition. They are acquiring political power and are receiving tolerance from organized religion and the media.

clination, writes William Rusher, publisher of *National Review*, is that the United States has become, in the public, collective sector, virtually an atheistic society by default. He wrote in a March 23, 1984, syndicated column:

"It is only in recent decades that atheist views (often more gently

cline and Supporting Its Renewal." Dr. Carlson's address was reprinted in the March 15, 1984, issue of *Vital Speeches of the Day*.

In his address Dr. Carlson traced the development of the nation's values and how they have been under incessant attack in recent times.

There is little question, he noted,

"that religious values motivated the broad generation of men and women who created this nation. As the great philosophers of republican liberty... understood, a free society must also be a religious society, a society where moral virtue restrains the passions and guides individuals toward the common good."

Few outside the United States, and increasingly fewer *inside* the country, understand this heritage. One who did was the late Italian author Luigi Barzini.

In his book *The Europeans*, author Barzini, in a chapter devoted to "The Baffling Americans," explained this often-overlooked fundamental factor in U.S. history: "The secret of the United States' tremendous success was in reality not merely technology, know-how, the work ethic, the urge to succeed, or plain greed. It was a spiritual wind that drove the Americans irresistibly ahead from the beginning."

"What was behind their compulsion to improve man's lot was an all-pervading religious sense of duty, the submission of a God-given imperative, to a God-given code of personal behavior, the willing acceptance of all the necessary sacrifices, including death in battle. Few foreigners understand this, even today. The United States appears to them merely as the triumph of soulless materialism."

Mr. Barzini noted that the expressions of religious fervor that were so evident a century ago are now less visible. "They are feeble," he said, "discredited by intellectuals, corroded by the doubts of these impious times, but without them, or what is left of them, America would not be what it is."

The French observer of early American society Alexis de Tocqueville maintained that "there have never been free societies without moral values." In the country's early days, he noted, these values were nurtured by America's women. A chief reason for the rising power of the Americans, he believed, was due to strong family life and especially "the superiority of their women."

Today's modern American

woman, unfortunately, all too often wants to be "liberated" from her key role of influence in the family unit, a role now propagated as being unfulfilling and inferior.

Returning to Dr. Carlson's address, he laid the blame for America's decline on the powerful institutions of the churches, the media and the social sciences—all of whom have been influenced to one degree or another by trend-setting radical views.

Regarding the social sciences, observed Dr. Carlson, they were still traditionally based into the 1950s. At that time, he said, "the field of family sociology was dominated by Harvard University's Talcott Parsons, a man who believed the American family structure to be a vital social institution resting on a solid set of historic values."

Yet, by 1970, Dr. Carlson continued, Dr. Parsons' views were wholly out of favor. This was reflected in the "Forum 14 Report" of the 1970 White House Conference on Children and Youth.

At this conference, said Dr. Carlson, "a representative sample of America's most prominent sociologists dismissed the traditional American family as outdated, denied any American identity, and welcomed the contemporary movement 'to destroy the cultural myth of a "right" or "best" way to behave, believe, work or play.'"

This group urged the adoption of a new definition of 'family' that would embrace 'single parent,' 'communal,' 'group marriage,' and 'homosexual' varieties."

By the mid-1970s, such ideas dominated the sociological profession. These views, said Dr. Carlson, "shaped the attitudes and actions of a generation of teachers, marriage-and-family counselors, clergymen, psychologists, and so-called 'sex therapists.' When released on the world, their cumulative impact, simply put, was staggering."

And what fruits were soon to be reaped from following such advocated life-styles?

In the 20 years after 1960, the number of children annually affected by divorce tripled. America's illegitimacy ratio rose threefold over the course of the 1960s and 1970s. The incidence of abor-

tion rose from less than 100,000 abortions each year in the early 1960s, to 570,000 in 1973—the first year of sanctioned abortions—and to 1.6 million in 1982.

The astute Dr. Carlson, near the end of his address, said: "I believe it is a mistake to assume that a national culture can openly flaunt hedonism and social irresponsibility as proper, even superior, ways of life and not then pay some major price. In countless ways, we are now reaping the bitter harvest."

While all of this was occurring, what were the religious shepherds of the land doing? Were they busy warning their parishioners to remember the simple truth of Galatians 6:7: "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap?"

Their message should have been the straightforward admonition in the ignored book of Isaiah, where we find, in chapter 3, verses 10 and 11:

"Say to the righteous that it shall be well with them, for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. Woe to the wicked! It shall be ill with him, for the reward of his hands shall be given him."

Interestingly enough, this passage occurs immediately after the warning in verse 9: "And they declare their sin as Sodom; they do not hide it."

The men of Sodom proudly advanced their homosexual "life-style"—until destruction rained down on them from God in heaven! And today it's fashionable for those who call themselves gay to "come out of the closet," and, with an air of pride and defiance, to push for social reforms at the moral expense of society as a whole.

But God says—even though too few ministers do—"woe to their soul! For they have brought evil upon themselves."

AIDS—Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome—is just such a "woe," despite the heated denial of many in the homosexual community.

#### Leaders Mislead

Not only to the United States, but much of the rest of the developed English-speaking world, God thunders: "O My people! Those who lead you cause you to err, and

(Continued on page 44)

# You Call That "Progress"?

by Clayton Steep

Wrappings, cans, bags, bottles, boxes—aren't we overdoing it?

Pasadena, Calif.

**T**HE 96TH annual Pasadena New Year's Tournament of Roses Parade is now history.

It is always amazing how quickly the crowds that line the streets for this event—arriving a full 24 hours or more before the parade even begins—disappear after it passes.

But left behind is a blanket of litter—tons and tons of litter. Most of it is made up of discarded wrappings and containers that once held various kinds of food or drink. How many of us take it for granted that the amount of plastic, glass, cellophane, paper, cardboard, aluminum, tin, Styrofoam and other materials a society uses to wrap or contain food is a measure of today's advancement? The greater the quantity of such materials used once and then thrown away, the more a society is presumed to be enjoying progress.

**Should It Be This Way?**

But stop and think. Is all that really progress?

February 1985



Have you ever struggled to open a little cellophane bag of peanuts? Your fingers take hold where the words say "Tear here." You pull and twist. Nothing gives. You pull and twist some more. In vain. Finally, out of desperation, you grab the top corner in your teeth and yank the bag open, spilling peanuts far and wide as you stand there with a shred of cellophane dangling from your lip.

Or what about the paper milk carton with the spout that does not open? Though you follow the instructions printed on the side to the letter, the spout remains sealed. After some effort you resort to the use of a knife or other sharp instrument and you puncture and tear an opening out of which you may dribble the milk.

And who has not had a tin can or bottle to open, but no opener available? Or tried to reseal a "resealable" carton that would not stay shut? Or purchased a package of some foodstuff only to find out once you have opened it at home that the package is only half full or, worse, that the contents are spoiled? Or, when attempting to loosen the lid on a jar, had the lid suddenly move, allowing a liberal amount of whatever is inside to spill?

Such are some of the design defects in modern food packaging. But there is more. A controversy rages in some circles as to how safe many of the man-made materials are that are used to package food. There are those who are convinced

food is dangerously tainted by contact with plastic, aluminum, Styrofoam and such. It is now widely recognized, for example, that the solder long used on tin cans has been a source of toxic lead in the diet.

So many of the containers into which food is put are not able to keep the contents from spoiling, discoloring or changing in texture. In an effort to counteract this, various chemical preservatives are added to food or the food is processed or refined, all of which procedures render it less suitable for human consumption.

In addition to substances purposely added to much containerized food, there can be found certain undesirable elements that the huge packaging industry has no practical way of keeping out. For this reason, U.S. government regulations actually allow a certain number of rodent hairs, rodent feces, insect parts and other kinds of dirt to be included in packaged food.

When you prepare food at home, you discard that which is moldy, blemished, worm-eaten or otherwise spoiled. But when it's a question of tons of tomatoes going into a batch of commercial tomato sauce, for instance, despite human supervision, there are bound to be tomatoes included that individually you would refuse to serve at your table. The same is true of any other commercially prepared food.

This subject is far more vast than commercial food packaging though. Almost everything we purchase is packaged in some way. It either comes from the factory like that or we ourselves slip it into a plastic bag in the store that in turn is put into one or more paper or plastic bags at the checkout counter. Textile fabrics may also be taped and stapled shut in an effort to discourage shoplifting.

Basic human dishonesty is one of the reasons a society becomes overpackaged. Smaller items (that otherwise have no real need to be wrapped) are enclosed in large hard-to-open plasticized containers to make them difficult to steal.

But whatever the reasons for using all the boxes, bags, wrappings, cans, bottles, strings, wires

and tapes, the problem is that they have to be disposed of eventually. True, some packaging is biodegradable, that is, once it is properly disposed of (that too often means it must be picked up from where it has been carelessly dropped or tossed and then disposed of properly), it will eventually decompose. But much in the way of wrappings and containers does not fall into this category. Such must be recycled, if that is possible and convenient, or hauled away to immense dump sites and landfills. In larger cities, massive disposal systems are required.

Consider your own garbage that you regularly put out to be collected. How much less would you have to put out if you didn't have so much unnecessary packaging to discard and if you put food scraps into a compost heap behind the house? For sure, fewer refuse collection trucks would be needed and far less refuse would have to be disposed of, to the relief of municipal budgets.

Many of our lakes, rivers, streams, beaches and highways would be in much better shape without all the packaging that is tossed into them and onto them. Also, there would be less industrial pollution and better use of resources if nonessential packaging were not manufactured in the first place. Many societies get along fine without using so many wrappings and containers. Something is wrong when an over-commercialized, over-industrialized society must struggle to keep from being overwhelmed by the excessiveness of its own rubbish.

#### A Lesson from Nature

Did you ever notice with what wisdom packaging is used in nature? Not everything in nature is packaged. Not everything needs to be packaged. But when packaging is used, it is used appropriately and well.

To illustrate, let's go back to the peanuts. Who can design a better container than the one they come in naturally—peanut shells? They keep dirt and light out, tend to maintain freshness, are easy to open, take up little space and are totally biodegradable. The same

holds true for many other edible nuts—though some may be a little harder to open.

Have you ever looked closely at a banana peel? Now there is a marvel in packaging engineering! It's as easy to open as a zipper and serves as a convenient holder so you can keep your hands clean while you're eating.

In addition to being biodegradable, as all packaging in nature is, a banana peel will never fool you, that is to say, you'll never open one and find it half empty. Nor is a banana likely to be defective if the peel—untampered with by man, of course—looks good. What you see is what you get. This is real truth in packaging.

Some of nature's packaging is edible. It is meant to be eaten along with the contents. Such is the case with berries, potatoes, tomatoes, cucumbers, string beans, figs and so forth. In these cases the packaging not only does not have to be thrown away, to the contrary, it contains valuable nutrients and is a vital contribution to roughage in the diet.

In some cases we eat the packaging and only part of the contents (as apples, peaches, plums, apricots). The part we don't eat, the seed or stone, is discarded—often into the ground where it can spring forth into a new generation of fruit-bearing tree. Nothing is wasted in nature.

Anyone who has drunk orange juice from a plastic bottle and detected a plastic taste, and wondered what to do with the bottle afterward, or who has drunk it from a can and noticed a tiny stale taste, should consider the orange juice container designed by God.

An orange is, after all, mostly a ball of juice. But you can't spill it, and air does not get to the juice to rob it of its vitamin value, for it is packaged in a marvelous way.

Once you remove the attractive outer skin that so well preserves the freshness of the contents, you will find that what is inside can be divided into sections—thin-skinned sacks full of golden juice.

But don't worry if you puncture one of these sacks. The juice will not come gushing out. You can

(Continued on page 44)

# The Changing Years

## PREPARE NOW!

by Ronald D. Kelly.

It's time we all understand our natural life cycles.

**T**HOSE of you who are women face far more today than was expected of your mothers and grandmothers.

Not only must you be an up-to-date homemaker, wife and mother, you must also cope with the mounting pressures of financial responsibility and keep up with knowledge of a rapidly changing world.

Yet when you reach those middle years of life, the same physical, hormonal, mental and emotional changes will go on just as women have experienced for thousands of years. For many, it's a devastating combination.

Some have hoped, even thought, today's active, fulfilled women aren't supposed to experience irrational anxieties. It seems so out of style.

Instead of looking at this stage of life as a time of reassessment—a time to grow and develop some of those interests put aside in earlier years—some look into their mirrors one day and see a vaguely familiar face and a figure they don't like very well.

There is a noticeable tint of gray in the hair. There are wrinkles in the corners of the eyes. A few pounds of extra weight. A listless feeling, frequent depressions, occasional hot flashes and night sweats and their nerves are frayed.

February 1985.

It all adds up to the "change of life"—menopause as it is more technically called. There is in the life of every God-designed woman that time when the body will no longer bear children. A physical and emotional change is under way.

For too many it becomes a crisis.

### Battling Fluctuating Hormones

Women entering the middle years, whether they admit it or not, have the battle of fluctuating hormones to fight. Many find it hardly a skirmish. But for some, it's an all-out war. It's up to you whether you will enter the battle prepared and armed or whether you will face this challenge unprepared both physically and mentally.

It is an important time in life. The happiness of the remaining one third of your life is at stake. How to pass through menopause and plan for the future is often one of the most overlooked and least considered times of life.

Everyone has to realize the middle years are very real. I have a good friend, a male, who until

recently believed these sort of changes were all mental and psychological.

One night he and his wife were guests in our home for dinner. As we sat by the fireplace after the meal, the subject of menopause



came up. He and my wife engaged in quite a discussion on whether the change of life was hormonal and physical or just in one's head.

After some time, my friend's wife finally presented the best case

to convince him he was wrong. She said to him, "Honey, please don't make it so I have to go through terrible turmoil during menopause just to prove you are wrong."

You see, my friend had also thought morning sickness during the early stages of pregnancy was just in the head. They have three lovely children. The first pregnancy was practically perfect. No morning sickness. No complications. A relatively easy delivery. A healthy and happy baby.

So, my friend thought they were all supposed to be this way. Easy. Trouble free. And if they weren't, he reasoned, it was because people didn't think right.

A couple of years later, they were expecting their second child. He fully anticipated the same care-free nine months as before.

That was not to be. During the first few weeks, the expectant mother began to experience nausea—extreme morning sickness. Actually it was morning, noon and nighttime sickness. Not just a few weeks, but most of the rest of the pregnancy.

That's why she said, "Honey, please don't make me go through a terrible menopause just to prove you are wrong."

I think he was now convinced there was a biological and hormonal change that does take place.

#### Education, the First Step

Knowledge is one of the most important ingredients to any phase of life—but perhaps more important at menopause than any other.

Menopause has been described as adolescence in reverse. A young woman enters into puberty at about age 12 or 13. That is an exciting time of life—and it's important parents educate their children about this new phase.

A girl matures into a young woman and her body begins its preparations to make motherhood possible. During the next four decades the fallopian tubes will release more than 400 ova.

In those years marriage will usually take place in the early 20s. Many families will have children. Conception can occur on a monthly basis. During a month when conception does not occur, the unfertil-

ized egg does not become attached to the uterus and the menstrual period results.

But usually in the mid to late 40s, this all begins to change. The childbearing years over, God designed the body to cease the possibilities of conception. But not suddenly. This marvelous change usually takes a few years.

Ancient and superstitious societies believed something was wrong. Some thought a woman's hair turns white during menopause. Many times women were suspected of losing their mental facilities.

What a tragedy. Generations of women have lived with untruths and unneeded fears because of improper knowledge.

Menopause is a natural and normal part of the life's processes. About 85 percent of women will pass through the change in life with relatively minor symptoms of discomfort. The remaining 15 percent may experience greater difficulty, but can seek proper medical help and guidance to proceed through the few years menopause may take.

Menopause is not something to fear. It is a passing stage of life that may offer some discomfort and concern. But it will pass.

Women can find the remaining years some of the most personally rewarding, gratifying and joyful years of their lives.

#### An Understanding Husband

For married women going through the menopause, an understanding husband can be one of the best helps of all. Many men simply are not educated concerning the importance of this time in a woman's life, and do not offer proper support.

Some of you readers may wonder why a man would be writing this article on the subject of female menopause. One important reason is that many men have not taken the time to understand their wives in this sometimes crucial phase of

life. And I hope all our male readers are reading this article.

My wife and I are now going through this marvelous time of life. I pray this gives me not only understanding, but feeling and empathy for others. My wife expresses to me almost daily how much she appreciates me taking the time to learn about and help her through the rough spots that will come in even the best of circumstances.

Perhaps more than at any other time in the marriage, a woman during menopause requires love, atten-



tion, appreciation and UNDERSTANDING.

Without a doubt there is a hormonal change taking place. To a lesser or greater degree there will be changing emotional reactions, depression, hot flashes and lack of energy.

Husbands must never let this time in life lead to casting a wandering eye toward another woman or lead to neglect. It is a time for husbands and wives to spend even more time together. It is a time for a husband to reassure his wife she is even more beautiful than ever.

Remember you are both growing older together. And if the wife has a few gray hairs, some wrinkles in the brow and has gained a pound or two, so probably has the husband.

So in addition to education, the

THE FLAME TRUTH

love and support of a husband, children and friends are vital ingredients to help a woman through this changing time of life.

#### What to Expect

Most women can expect menopause to begin in the late 40s. The average age is 47. Research has shown heredity is a strong factor—a daughter can anticipate beginning menopause at about the same age her mother did.

At the onset of menopause the menstrual cycle may change slightly. Monthly periods will perhaps not be as regular as before. The number of days of menstrual flow may change, over a period of years decreasing in days till finally the process stops entirely.

As menstruation slows down, the woman's body will usually produce fewer hormones.

This, along with other adjustments, stresses and strains of the middle years, may produce in-

simply may not be able to maintain that pace.

This does not mean the home should be filled with statements like: "Vacuum the house, Suzie, Mommy's very tired. She's in that time of life, you know." Yes, Mother may well appreciate a little extra help around the house, but she doesn't need those sideswiping comments.

If there are still children at home, they should certainly do their fair share of keeping the house clean and other normal household duties. (Fact is, they ought to have been doing that all along.)

And it wouldn't be the worst idea in the world if the husband picked up some of the duties of the home and together they would do the dishes once in a while. He can vacuum the upstairs or prepare an occasional meal.

And if the family had not been able to afford it before, but can now, hire domestic help to clean the home once or twice a month.

Most of all, you can be sure menopause is a passing phase of life. It will end, but it may last a few years. There may be some discomfort. A few women will have more severe than normal symptoms. But it will come to an end.

The best years of one's life can be just around the corner.

#### What to Do

Once again, education or knowledge is most important. Read books and articles on the subject of menopause. Understand the variety of possible symptoms. Your family doctor can often be helpful in giving advice and, when necessary, recommendations on what to do.

Then face that wonderful changing time of life positively. Dr. Marion Hilliard in her book *A Woman Doctor Looks at Love and Life* describes her reaction to women patients who come to her office with the whispered statement, "Doctor, I think I'm in the change."

Dr. Hilliard whoops with delight. "The change! Well, you're in for an interesting time. I can promise you that the best years of your life are ahead of you."

I'm sure most of her patients are

momentarily shocked beyond belief. Somehow, many think menopause is an illness to be treated by drugs and even hospitalization. While that might be recommended in the few cases of extreme difficulty, it is not what a majority of women need.

Another important consideration in successfully enjoying the changing years is nutrition and diet. (Not that this should not be, an important consideration throughout one's life.) Because of all the chemical and emotional changes being made, a woman *must* eat a balanced diet, and maintain proper nutrition.

Wisdom and balance in this area are essential. Most doctors know that chancy and excessive hormonal drugs are not the answer.

Yet many women automatically assume estrogen replacement is the thing to do. More often, it is *not* the thing to do. Why chance chemical side effects that could shorten your life to escape a few years of discomfort?

There really is no aid, natural or chemical, to combat growing older. We all will go through the aging process marking the various stages of life as they come.

When we were younger we could disregard (but shouldn't have) the laws of good health and not suffer immediate repercussions. But during these middle and later years of life our bad habits take noticeable toll.

As we grow older and often less active, our metabolic rates begin to change. We can gain weight on the same diet that formerly left us trimmer. Muscles begin to lose their tone and body alignment is affected. Many suffer resultant back pain.

A common complaint of many women in the menopausal years is the loss of calcium and a condition of bone loss called osteoporosis. At this stage in life regular exercise is vital. Coupled with proper calcium intake, the only known way to stimulate bone growth is exercise.

Here's where husbands can again be of help. Begin an exercise plan by taking long walks together three or four times a week. Start with a half mile and work up to four or five miles. Almost everyone can

(Continued on page 40)

**Perhaps more than at any other time in the marriage, a woman during menopause requires love, attention, appreciation and understanding.**

creased nervousness and feelings of depression (often for no apparent reason). There may also be weight gain without additional food intake and at times an inability to sleep as well as usual.

Sometimes there will be a tingling feeling in the hands and feet. And there may be occasional itching and a feeling of heat in certain portions of the body—most people call these "hot flashes."

These conditions should be no cause for alarm. They are brought about by irregular contraction and expansion of many blood vessels in the body. These irregularities, too, will pass in time.

Most women will experience a noticeable decrease in energy. The energy level may drop by as much as one third at this time of life. Some women who have maintained a hectic schedule, whirled through the housework and were always ready to go at a moment's notice, February 1966



# The Family- God's Plan for Mankind

by Herbert W. Armstrong

**S**OMETHING caused the Creator God to decide to create MAN on this planet.

Few indeed know what it was and what the PURPOSE for humanity's presence really is. WHERE are we going, and what is the way?

These are the most vital questions. Yet, I repeat still again, science cannot give the answers. No religion has the explanation. No university teaches this most important of all knowledge.

## God Is Ruler and Educator

Most people know almost nothing about God. To understand ourselves, WHY we are, where we are going and how, we need to know more about our Creator.

Our present life is like going on a journey. Suppose you had just won a prize—an all-expense-paid trip to some other country. Wouldn't you want to know where you are going, how to get there and as many things as possible about this trip? Should we not, then, be even more filled with eager anticipation to know as much as possible about this one great trip of life? And to know that, you need to know some things about the God who is sending you and providing the way.

It is vital at this point, then, to know this, as revealed in the Bible: The Eternal God not only is Creator of all that is, but is the RULER over all he creates and also the

EDUCATOR, the revealer of basic knowledge. He reveals through the Bible vital knowledge otherwise inaccessible to man. Yet mankind—generally—has rejected this revelation as a source of basic knowledge.

The Bible is far, far from the sum-total of knowledge. It is the BASIS, the FOUNDATION, the starting point and the foundational approach to the acquisition of discoverable knowledge!

God, through his instruction book, reveals what man cannot otherwise learn! FULL TRUTH comes from the biblical revelation, PLUS acquired and discoverable knowledge approached through the CONCEPT revealed in the Bible.

Today educators, scientists, psychologists, doctors and those who set the moral standards, rely on the evolutionary concept as their assumed and erroneous basic premise and approach to knowledge. They do not know, for example, how, why or when the family originated.

But the Bible reveals this knowledge otherwise unacquirable!

So once again, let us go to that SOURCE of knowledge!

## God Ordained Marriage

Jesus Christ said: "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife...'?"... *Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate*" (Matt. 19:4-6, Re-

vised Authorized Version throughout).

Marriage is a physical union but a divine institution. Almighty God ordained it! It did not evolve! It is not of MAN'S devising.

Notice, in the scripture quoted above, Jesus said to the Pharisees, "Have you not read...?" He quoted an already written passage of Scripture. He said the Pharisees should have read it! Where is that scripture found? It is found in the second chapter of Genesis. It is part of the brief SUMMARY record of the ETERNAL'S original instruction to the newly created Adam and Eve. The creation of Eve had just been described, and God then said: "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife..." (Gen. 2:24).

So the Almighty revealed the sacred MARRIAGE institution to the first man and woman.

## Why Marriage?

Now stop and think for a moment. Why did God ordain the human relationship of MARRIAGE?

Animals reproduce. But animals do not marry! Animals are born with instinct. They need little or no teaching. As soon as a calf is born, it will begin to stagger to its feet, while the cow just stands waiting. She does not need to teach her calf how to walk, how to take its food, how to do anything. A little wobbly and unsteady the first minutes, the calf is soon up and walking.

But with humans all this is different. The newborn human does

The PLAIN TRUTH



not get up and walk immediately to its food. The tiny baby is helpless. It has mind—but at birth there is NO KNOWLEDGE as yet in its mind. It must be taught! It needs parents to teach it! It matures so very much more slowly than other creatures! Yet its potentiality is infinitely higher! And for this higher purpose, parental guidance and FAMILY LIFE are NECESSARY!

God made cattle "according to its kind." He made "every winged bird according to its kind." But he made MAN after the God kind!

#### Man's Destiny

Now, incredible as it may sound to those who do not UNDERSTAND the revelation of God's TRUTH—and only an infinitesimal minority do—GOD is a FAMILY!

Let me make this most wonderful truth of all time PLAIN!

First, go back once again to the very first words in God's revelation of knowledge to us: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

God inspired Moses to write those words in Hebrew, not in the English words above. The Hebrew name here translated "God" is *Elohim*. It is a plural form used with a singular meaning like the words *family*, *group*, *team*. One family, but composed of more than one person. One group, but unless composed of more than one person, it would not be a group. One athletic team, composed of two or more players besides a number of substitutes.

Almost no one today knows that God is, actually, a divine FAMILY. One family. That family is ONE GOD.

A clever Satan has deceived people into almost every other belief about God. Most have been deceived into believing God is only THREE persons—LIMITING God to three persons and misrepresenting the HOLY SPIRIT, which flows from God and from Christ, to be a single person.

Others think of God as ONE PERSON ONLY.

But notice, again, in the New Testament, John 1:1-5, 14: "In the beginning was the Word." Sounds similar to Genesis 1:1, doesn't it? In Genesis 1:1, it is "In the beginning GOD . . .," meaning more

than one person forming ONE God. In John 1, the English word *Word* is translated from the original Greek word *logos*, which means "word," "spokesman," "revelatory thought," as a being or person.

The next words in John 1 are "... 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 nothing was made, that was made" (verses 1-3).

This "Logos" was a separate personage. He existed "from the beginning" the same as God. He ALWAYS self-existed. He existed with God. And he, also, was God. They both coexisted forever. "All things" (words elsewhere translated, "the universe") were made by

**Marriage is a physical union but a divine institution. Almighty God ordained it! It did not evolve! It is not of man's devising.**

him—the Word—the divine Spokesman.

But now notice verse 14: "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." This, of course, is speaking of Jesus Christ. In the human flesh, he was begotten of God the Father, the only one ever so begotten before human birth.

At the time of this begetting and human birth "the Word" became the Son of God.

The Father, from heaven, said of Jesus, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matt. 17:5). Jesus, praying, called God "Father"—Father and Son, a FAMILY relationship. The Church, at the resurrection to immortal SPIRIT life, is to MARRY the resurrected and glorified Christ (Eph. 5:25-28). So we have here a FAMILY relationship—father, son, husband and wife. And the wife is to be com-

posed of born children of God.

In MAN, God is reproducing himself. Man has the supreme potentiality of being actually born into the divine God family!

Do you realize what that means? Of course, God is composed of immortal SPIRIT. Man, like animals, is composed in this life of material FLESH—matter! But the transcendent essential factor is that God is PERFECT SPIRITUAL CHARACTER! It is the supreme intelligence, combined with holy and righteous CHARACTER OF MIND, that most importantly distinguishes God from every other living creature. No animal has this potential, but it is the true destiny of MAN. Of course God, too, possesses supreme, ALL-MIGHTY POWER. But without right CHARACTER, this power would be destructive and dangerous!

What is this righteous spiritual character?

It is that controlled ability, in a separate independent entity, to come to a knowledge of the true and right from the false and, further, to use the self-discipline to will and to actually do the right. And how define right? By the spiritual law of God!

This necessitates that each individual human be an independent entity, with a mind of his or her own—with freedom of choice (free moral agency). It requires MIND to absorb KNOWLEDGE, to reason, to think, to plan, devise, to draw conclusions, to will and to act.

Inanimate objects have no mind, make no decisions, have no character. Animals have instinct, but they do not possess human-level consciousness of self, do not absorb knowledge from which to reason abstractly. Animals do not create, question or decide whether to obey moral codes.

Humans are born with MINDS. Humans must be taught and learn. The human mind can absorb knowledge and reason from it—think creatively, formulate plans, make decisions, render judgments and exercise self-discipline.

Man has the capacity to develop righteous CHARACTER. This character is not created instantaneously. It develops through experience, and experience requires TIME. A human

baby is born without knowledge, but with capacity for acquiring it and of developing righteous CHARACTER. The human has the supreme potential of receiving God's own HOLY SPIRIT that imparts the divine nature, to equip the MIND to comprehend revealed spiritual knowledge!

Human babies—born helpless—need the tender care, the loving instruction, the patient training and discipline and the warm affection and love of a mother and father. They need the warmth and protection and security of family and of home life. And they are of supreme importance—for they are the potential HEIRS of God!

Animals have never been given FAMILY relationship as humans experience it. Angels have never enjoyed FAMILY status. The family relationship is a God-PLANE relationship—not an angel-plane relationship. And God bestowed it on MAN! Because MAN is to be born INTO THE GOD FAMILY.

Of all life forms—whether plant, animal or angel—in all God's creation, MAN ALONE was created for MARRIAGE—for HOME and FAMILY LIFE!

Man is, now, composed of matter. Yet in man, and in MAN ONLY, is God's CREATION still going on! Humans, by repentance, surrender to God and acceptance of Christ, may be in mind and attitude converted—may receive God's Holy Spirit. Thus, they are actually begotten as God's children. They may have direct contact with God and call him FATHER! They are brought into a FATHER-AND-SON relationship with God!

This is possible for no other creature—not even angels! Angels were not, never can be, begotten and BORN of God! Each angel is a separate creation. No angel can ever become a part of the DIVINE FAMILY OR KINGDOM OF GOD!

Notice! God says: "For to which of the angels did He ever say: 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You'? And again: 'I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son'?" (Heb. 1:5).

Neither animal, nor angel, nor any other being, except MAN, can be literally begotten by spiritual reproductive process, and then

actually BORN into the divine GOD FAMILY!

Humans are, if converted through Jesus Christ, the heirs of the GOD FAMILY. They are to enter the divine FAMILY. They are, even now, the begotten children of God. Therefore God ordained the family relationship for human beings.

Family relationships demand MARRIAGES!

The FAMILY relationship demands the HUSBAND-AND-WIFE relationship! And that demands MARRIAGE and faithfulness to that matrimonial bond! The CHURCH of God is merely that BODY composed of the begotten children of God. And the church, as a BODY, is the affianced BRIDE OF CHRIST, to MARRY Christ at the time of the resurrection and his Second Coming!

Now UNDERSTAND! The husband-and-wife relationship, and the family relationship, are God-plane relationships!

Since humans were put on earth for the very PURPOSE of being begotten, and then BORN into the God FAMILY—which is the KINGDOM OF GOD—the ETERNAL has endowed this GOD-PLANE relationship for HUMANS and for humans only! What a wonderful privilege to be humans—to be given the marriage relationship now, to marry Christ and become part of the God family!

#### The Affianced Bride

Here is another reason for the institution of marriage in the human family. It is to teach us—to constantly remind us—of our sacred relationship to Jesus Christ!

Here is the vital teaching: "Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it, that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word [the Word, if obeyed, washes away error], that He might present it to Himself a glorious church [glori-

fied—deified], not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish.

"So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies. . . . For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church" (Eph. 5:22-28, 30-32).

Notice! For this reason—because of the coming marriage (spiritually) between Christ and the church—because the church is, now, the affianced bride, engaged to marry Christ—FOR THIS REASON, God ordained the MARRIAGE institution for humans! But not for animals! Not for angels!

Notice Revelation 19:7, speaking of the Second Coming of Christ in glory: "... the marriage of the Lamb [Christ] has come, and His wife has made herself ready." Only those made ready in righteous character will be presented to him then!

#### Why Home and Family

So, in addition to the family relationship, there is also the divine marriage relationship.

So understand! The husband-and-wife relationship and the family relationship are God-plane relationships!

Humans are free moral agents. God never forces one to be truly converted—to become his very begotten son. Yet the purpose God is working out here below is to reproduce himself—to bring, through Christ, "many sons to glory" (Heb. 2:10) in the divine KINGDOM OF GOD!

Since humans were put on earth for the very purpose of being begotten, and then born into the God family, the Eternal has endowed this God-plane family status for humans, now—and for humans only!

What a wonderful privilege to be given the MARRIAGE and FAMILY relationships that we may be prepared for the spiritual marriage to CHRIST and the divine family status, for eternity, in THE KINGDOM OF GOD! □

# DO THE DEAD KNOW

## What the Living Are Doing?

by Patrick A. Parnell

What happens to loved ones at death? Is there hope of life after death?

**"I** M IN deep trouble," said Chuck as he entered my office.

I had often helped him solve various difficulties relating to his family operated business.

But this morning was different. Chuck entered my office and told me about a serious problem he had, one beyond my ability to help him solve. Though the type never to be sick a day in his life, now he had lung cancer.

The cancer was spreading throughout his body. He explained all about a recent hospital stay and series of medical tests. He would have to go back to the hospital for more tests in a few days, he told me.

Chuck died two weeks later.

Last month in our town Michael and Ricki, both only 24, were instantly killed. A sports car, running a red light, said the report, traveling at an estimated 100 mph, smashed into their van. The tragedy left their two young sons, Andrew, 5, and Scott, 3, orphans. "Why, why? It was so senseless," lamented the grandparents of the now orphaned boys.

For Chuck, and for the two unfortunate young parents, death is real. Death, of course, is a fact of all our lives, something each of us must come to face, sooner or later.

### Everybody Is Terminal

"We are all terminal and we are all going to die sometime," said Jacob J. Javits, former U.S. senator from

February 1985

New York, active lawyer, army officer and onetime state attorney general. He is now suffering a terminal illness, popularly known as Lou Gehrig's disease. "Everybody is terminal," he emphasizes in his article "When Should Doctors Let a Patient Die?" in *Discover*, August 1984.

Proper health measures, including a healthful diet and the avoidance of contagious diseases, may prolong life substantially. But the natural aging processes do not stop.

Beauty techniques such as plastic surgery, skin stretching, the lavish use of cosmetics and hair dyes may give a more youthful appearance for a time, but they are merely temporary. The inner process of aging, leading to certain death, relentlessly continues.

All of man's technology and scientific research, coupled with all the money in the world, can't stop humans from dying. "It is appointed unto men once to die," we read in the Bible (Heb. 9:27).

### The Desire to Know

Almost everybody has an opinion about death. There are about as many ideas about death and what happens afterward as people to give them.

Said one young man, when asked if he believed in an afterlife, "I believe my inner being will be transmitted to different planes of existence as I approach perfection."

A Latin mother's quick response

when asked the same question was: "Of course there's an afterlife. It's in heaven—otherwise what's the sense of living?"

Commented a young black man in his early 20s, "I don't think there is any life after death because you don't really die—your body dies, but your soul lives on."

Said another man: "I believe in a spiritual afterlife, that you have a soul and that the soul goes to a hereafter. But as to where the hereafter is, I'm not sure."

Why are there so many different and varied opinions about such an important question? Where is the source that can make plain the answer to what really happens after death?

Isn't it time to understand the truth about this vital subject? There is only one revealed source of knowledge available for discovering the truth about what happens after death. That source is the Creator's revelation to man of essential knowledge without which we cannot know why we are here, or where we are going. We call that revelation of spiritual knowledge the Holy Bible.

### Truth versus Error

Without revealed truth we could not know what man is or why we humans are here on earth.

Did you know that man is a soul?

The Bible clearly reveals that man is a living soul: "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nos-

trills the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Gen. 2:7). Read that again: man became "a living soul."

Nowhere does the Bible say man has a soul inside him. The Bible reveals that man is a soul. The Hebrew word used for "soul" is *nephesh*. It is the same word used for lower life forms, beasts and creeping things. It's even used in connection with a dead body—a dead *nephesh* or soul.

The Bible says a soul can die! Notice Ezekiel 18:4, 20: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." It doesn't say "live after death." It says "die." Man is a soul. Man sins. So man, a living soul, dies.

The idea of an immortal soul did not come from the Bible. It came out of ancient Egypt and Babylon and was enshrined in philosophy by Greek thought, particularly by Plato.

Notice what the *Jewish Encyclopedia* says: "The belief that the soul continues its existence after the dissolution of the body is . . . speculation . . . nowhere expressly taught in Holy Scripture. . . . The belief in the immortality of the soul came to the Jews from contact with Greek thought and chiefly through the philosophy of Plato, its principal exponent, who was led to it through Orphic and Eleusinian mysteries in which Babylonian and Egyptian views were strangely blended" (art. "Immortality of the Soul," vol. VI, pages 564-566).

#### Death Means Death!

Scripture plainly reveals that when you die you are dead. According to the Bible, the dead don't hear anything, see anything, think anything or know anything. The dead have absolutely no awareness of any kind; "For the living know that they shall die; but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished. . . ." (Eccl. 9:5-6).

The Bible's message is clear on this point. Death is death beyond any shadow of doubt. The apostle Paul wrote that "the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). Death, by def-

inition, is the absence of life—not just separation from God.

Scripture even warns us to make the most of life now while we have the opportunity: "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going" (Eccl. 9:10, Revised Authorized Version).

It couldn't be more plain. But what about those who want to cling to the cherished belief in floating off to heaven after death if good, or sinking to hell if bad?

Listen to the apostle Peter's

**All of man's technology  
and scientific research,  
coupled with all  
the money in the world,  
can't stop  
humans from dying.**

response. If anyone deserved to go to heaven, it would certainly be someone after God's own heart, wouldn't it? David was such a person (Acts 13:22). But Peter was inspired by God to say, David is "both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day" (Acts 2:29, RAV), and further, "David did not ascend into the heavens" (Acts 2:34).

Jesus himself also said that "no man hath ascended up to heaven," where God's throne is (John 3:13).

#### Will We Each Live Again?

But there is more to this life than living for the agnostic's *now*. The great God put humans here on this earth for a marvelous, eternal purpose, not even understood by this world's humanly devised religions.

We are on this earth for a wonderful reason. It involves the answer to why we humans were made mortal and suffer through the gamut of emotions and troubles, or

experience the good times of human life.

Even though when we die we are dead, we will not remain dead forever. The dead in their graves will live again! Read what Jesus says: "Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation" [better translated "judgment"] (John 5:28-29, RAV).

There is an accounting for our behavior in this life! Every human being who has ever lived will ultimately give an accounting and be in a resurrection! There are three different kinds of resurrections revealed in the Bible.

#### The First Resurrection

The first resurrection will occur when God sends Jesus Christ to restore the government of God over the whole earth. This event is described in 1 Thessalonians 4:16: "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."

"This is the first resurrection" (Rev. 20:5, last sentence). "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection," says God, "on such the second death hath no power" (Rev. 20:6). That is, those in the first resurrection will not ever die again. They are raised from the dead as immortal beings, composed of spirit.

Those who will be in this first resurrection are described in Revelation 14:12: "...they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." They are few in number. Why? Because most people do what *they* think is right; they do not do what God says is right. They do not keep God's Ten Commandments!

Those resurrected when God restores his government to this earth will never again have to face death. They will rise out of their graves as immortal *sons* of God. And those who have the Spirit of God and who are still alive will be changed from flesh and blood mor-

(Continued on page 34)

The PLAIN TRUTH

# Canada's Troubled Economy

by Neil Earle

Why do unemployment, high deficits and a lagging sense of confidence plague the nation once regarded as a "solution looking for a problem"?

**W**HAT IS happening in the country once prized as a beckoning treasure trove of almost limitless opportunity, especially for youth?

Why is Canada still experiencing the effects of the Great Recession of 1982?

How will the United States be affected by the economic conditions of its neighbor to the north?

## A New Government

Canada's new Conservative government has made the economy its number one priority. And as Prime Minister Brian Mulroney picked up the reins of power, he received some good news.

Ontario—the province that is Canada's economic engine—is showing renewed signs of vigor and confidence. The provincial growth rate could hit 5 percent this year. Moreover, the spillover effects of the booming U.S. economy are finally being felt.

Many segments of the private sector are still concerned about how solid the recovery will be. For instance, the construction, engineering and finance industries are not yet, at least, sharing in the boom. And it could be quite a while before a serious dent is made in Canada's high—more than 11 percent—rate of unemployment.

February 1985

But why the lingering doubts about Canada's future?

Finance Minister Michael Wilson recently observed: "One hundred years Canada lived on its resources. For the past 10 years it has lived on credit. Now it must live on its wits and its intelligence."

Let's see how it all happened.

## A Sudden Change

At the end of World War II Canada found herself temporarily the world's *third most important country!*

With European and Japanese industry devastated, Canada's ample reserves of wheat and minerals—especially the strategic reserves of oil, iron ore, uranium, aluminum and hydroelectricity—not to mention her booming population, propelled Canada to a peak of world influence exceeded only by the United States and Soviet Russia.

Those were heady days. Population soared from 11,500,000 in 1941 to 17,000,000 by 1958. The value of Canadian wheat exports more than doubled. Mineral production jumped nearly fourfold. Manufacturing output tripled! Imperial Oil's "blow in" of a new well at Leduc, Alberta, in 1947 kept pace with one of the world's largest iron-ore finds near the Quebec-Labrador border in 1948.

Ontario hummed with news of

rich uranium strikes in her ancient treasure chest, the Canadian Shield, while Kitimat, British Columbia, was host to one of the world's largest hydroelectric plants for the aluminum industry.



Brian Mulroney became Canada's Prime Minister in landslide vote last year.

Even the mild post-Korean War recession of 1953-54 couldn't halt the seeming headlong rush of the Canadian economy.

Yet, by 1958, a full-scale recession raged.

What was happening?

## An Interdependent World

Part of the problem, of course, was the familiar *boom-bust cycle* of the free-enterprise system.

Canada's remarkable growth in the 1950s concealed basic structural flaws. Her resource boom pushed

men and equipment north. Canada's harsh winters are proverbial. This makes resource extraction and processing, not to mention transportation, an expensive venture.

Then too, was the matter of dependency on foreign capital

with the help of Marshall Plan dollars, formed the European Economic Community. It worked. Volkswagen sales in North America signaled a new economic era—a shrinking global market for Canada as aggressive multinational corporations vied frenetically for a larger slice of a world economy where demand seemed to outstrip production.

Yet Canada enjoyed a mild boom from 1964 to 1966. U.S. President Lyndon Johnson's step-up of the Vietnam War was a stimulus. Asia's industrial spurt in the 1960s boosted Canadian trade just as Japanese investment in Canada began its steady climb. Cold War pressures also rebounded

to Canada's advantage. Cuba and the People's Republic of China "bought Canadian" during the decade. Unemployment averaged only 4 percent. Inflation was held to 3 percent. Near stability.

But the Canadian economy was living on borrowed time. The inflationary impact of the Vietnam War grew. An industrial slowdown in 1967 pointed to troubled times ahead.

Twenty years of general prosperity, the "bigger and better" mentality, had set the stage for the harrowing inflation battles of the 1970s. Everyone expected more, not less, from the marketplace.

Global trends deeply affected

Canada, with her comparatively small domestic market. By 1970, the very pillars of the postwar monetary and trading system were shaking. West Germany *revalued* the mark in October 1969. This helped intensify the American slump as the leveling-out effects of the Vietnamese war boom took hold.

America's nose dive played



"Canada has always been heavily dependent upon foreign capital to finance her economic expansion. In 1900 Britain supplied 85 percent of the foreign capital invested... by 1926, 54 percent of imported capital came from the United States... In 1959 investment from the United States was 76 percent of the total" (Ricker, Saywell, Rose, *The Modern Era*, pages 307-308).

The truth is, a nation like Canada, with a small domestic market, is vitally dependent upon *foreign trade* and especially trade with her best customer, the United States.

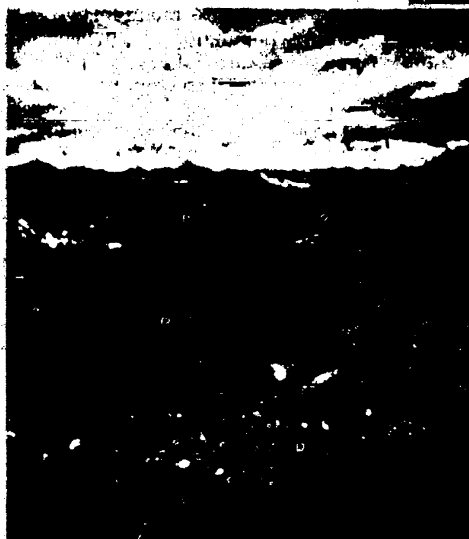
Economic nationalists led by Finance Minister Walter Gordon (1963-65) pointed out legitimate concerns about the scope of American industrial projects in Canada, but the bottom line was painfully clear: The Canadian economy is at the mercy of American policy to an uneasy extent. And by the early 1960s the United States itself was encountering economic headwinds.

#### How and Why?

"Trade or Tade," U.S. President John F. Kennedy warned his fellow-countrymen in 1962.

What was happening?

In June 1957 six of the war-ravaged nations of Western Europe, rebuilt in part



Canadian-manufactured deploying arm of NASA space shuttle (upper left). Clockwise from lower left: Open pit asbestos mine in British Columbia. Drilling for oil in the Beaufort Sea. Computer panel at an oil refinery in Alberta. Timber operation in Shawinigan, Quebec. Sulphur mine in Alberta. Unloading the day's catch of fish in Newfoundland.

havoc with Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's "War on Inflation" of 1969. Canada cut back as America declined. The money supply was reined in sharply, but the inflation psychology was not broken. Prices continued to rise.

Worse still, continued inflation kept interest rates in Canada high, as lenders hoped to ensure themselves against the declining value of money. Speculators and foreign capital invaded Canada to reap the higher rates. Worried about the confusing situation, the federal

government took the fateful step to float the Canadian dollar on the currency markets in May 1970. Over a year later, in August 1971, U.S. President Richard Nixon closed the gold window. He devalued the U.S. dollar twice in 1973.

The day of reckoning was here at last. In neither country could government

fine tune or bail out economies exposed to the crosswinds raging in the interconnected world economy. The OPEC oil embargo of 1973-74 from the short Arab-Israeli war exposed Canada's hidden economic weaknesses to the full gales. These weaknesses were rooted in geography and culture, politics and resources, all intertwined within the very structure of the Canadian nation-state.

#### The Gathering Clouds

Canada was still, by the 1970s, too much a branch-plant economy, based on the United States. The nation was content to live off high foreign investment and resource sales. The motivation to capitalize on scientific research and development was lacking.

"To get it marketed I've got to go south of the border!" many Canadian entrepreneurs declared in frustration. There have been notable exceptions, but Canadian talent has tended to move to the United States with its vast market and investment potential. Also, in spite of federal grants for technical education, there was still a chronic shortage of skilled workers.

Another problem: The provinces are supreme in educational policy, a reflection of the multiculturalism and diversity Canadians prize.

Regionalism, the

vast geographic divisions of Canada, has played its part. The spectacular opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway system in 1959, for example, permitted foreign vessels to carry goods up and down through the heartland of North America. Yet it helped decimate once-thriving Atlantic ports and terminals like Halifax, Nova Scotia, and Saint John, New Brunswick.

**Federal-provincial bickering**, spurred by regionalism, also helped sap the vitality of Canadian business. Resource wars broke out in the 1970s between Ottawa and the energy-producing provinces out West. To protect manufacturing plants in Ontario and Quebec, traditional locomotives of the Canadian economy, the Westerners were forced to sell oil at federally controlled domestic prices.

"Sell us your gold at \$35 an ounce," snapped irate Western Canadians, "and we'll hold down the price of oil!"

The federal government retaliated with the National Energy Program of 1980, a revenue-sharing pressure move sweetened by a belated attempt to "Canadianize" the oil industry. The Westerners' resource boom—after ducking high interest rates, the world oil glut and the recession—finally ground to a halt.

A chronic farm crisis accounts for a little-publicized part of Canada's economic disorders. In a truly balanced economy, industry and agriculture are compatible. The Canadian climate, however, often militates against the continued success of small farmers. The U.S.-inspired world wheat glut of the 1960s didn't help.

Wheat prices were actually lower in 1970 than they had been in 1949! Worse, tariffs to protect Canadian manufacturing usually mean higher costs for the farmer—tractors, combines, fertilizers and fuel. Attempts to stabilize the price of grain favored the automated, mechanized farm operators. Thus, agribusiness tended to squeeze out the small



PHOTO TOP BY AP/WIDE WORLD; BOTTOM LEFT BY AP/WIDE WORLD; BOTTOM RIGHT BY AP/WIDE WORLD



farmer. The latter incurred costly debts just to stay in operation.

Worst of all undoubtedly, the decades of generalized prosperity spawned a "we want more" mentality on the part of the Canadian work force.

Wage settlements above production increases helped fuel inflation. And, most critically, during the 1960s and '70s, Canadian federal and provincial governments greatly expanded welfare programs.

To pay for this, there was a massive increase in deficit spending. The defense budget was also slashed. Canada's once proud armed forces now rank on a par with those of Ecuador and the Philippines, according to one Canadian defense expert.

Canadian and American businessmen and bankers now peer nervously over their shoulders at huge federal deficits. Shockingly, though the size of the U.S. deficit makes the headlines continually, Canada's budget deficit is twice that of America's, on a per capita basis.

As in Washington, heavy government borrowings in Ottawa just to pay the interest on debts lead to continued pressure on interest rates. This chokes out incentives for business to invest.

The new government, moreover, has indicated it will not likely make serious cuts in the costly social programs upon which Canadians have come to depend.

#### Technology to the Rescue?

But what of the new "Information Economy" we hear so much about? Will computer-aided manufacturing and robotics pull Canada and other industrial nations out of economic doldrums?

Alert Canadians were among the first pioneers of the technological breakthroughs of the 1970s. Devolon Electronics of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, marketed as early as 1974 a device that can make 20,000 connections to a central computer. Toronto's Spar Aerospace gave the Columbia space shuttle the famous Canadarm. Then there is the \$3 billion giant Northern Telecom, a world leader in innovative telecommunications.

High tech. An age when computerized robots visually scan pizzas

to check on pepperoni ingredients. Surely technology can open up new jobs for the ailing economy? Yet even here, basic principles apply:

"If new technology is developed outside the borders of the country, and if equipment embodying the new technology (industrial robots say), is imported, the country misses the beneficial effects on the first round. If, however, the technology is embodied in finished, imported consumer goods, the national economy misses out on both the first- and a good part of the second-round benefits" (*Saturday Night*, July 1984, page 26).

Canada's record so far? "We're heavy net importers," says Ken Jones, President of the Ontario Center for Advanced Manufacturing. "We're using somebody else's equipment. We're behind by three or four years."

#### It Is Prophesied

Canadians, like most people in the Western world, want to save the economic system now unraveling before their eyes. It is reminiscent of those in the prophet Isaiah's day who wanted to ignore the evidence of continued national decline. "The Lord sent a word against Jacob, and it has fallen on Israel... who say in pride and arrogance of heart: 'The bricks have fallen down, but we will rebuild with hewn stones' " (Isa. 9:8-10, Revised Authorized Version throughout).

Longtime readers of this magazine know the national identity of Canada, the United States and Britain in Bible prophecy. Our original English-speaking people are lineal descendants of the "lost sheep of the ancient house of Israel," the 10 tribes that disappeared from secular history in the late eighth century B.C., 130 years before the two tribes of the house of Judah went into their national captivity (II Kings 17; Matt. 10:6).

An amazing book, *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, available to you free upon request, reveals the difference between the ancient house of Israel, and Jews who form the modern state of Israel; and it makes clear the real causes of our once-soaring standard of living. It also uncovers why things have gone so badly for us in recent years.

Anciently, almighty God promised our forefathers: "The Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth... You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow" (Deut. 28:1, 12).

Isn't this a perfect description of the United States and Canada in 1945?

That same all-knowing God warned emphatically of the penalties to surely fall if our nations pursued a selfish "me-first" materialistic way of life. One of the penalties is economic decline:

"A nation whom you have not known shall eat the fruit of your land and the produce of your labor... He shall be the head, and you shall be the tail" (Deut. 28:33, 44).

"Trade or fade" we were warned in the 1960s. Strikes, blame-placing, voting in new leaders, hoping to go back to business as usual—none of this will work. We must recognize the real enemy—"Your ways and your doings have procured these things for you. This is your wickedness... because it reaches to your heart" (Jer. 4:18).

Robert Blair of the Calgary-based Nova Corporation put it well: "We demanded and our institutions encouraged us to become a high-borrowing society." The enemy is all of us!

Canadians are paying the price of more than two generations of materialism, comfort-seeking and self-indulgence! Other nations taking that course throughout history have either perished or had to make radical course changes to avoid the loss of national vigor such a life-style engenders.

God is pleading with all Canadians—and all North America—through the pages of this article. He has a message to deliver before further distresses overtake the breathtakingly beautiful land of Canada. It is this: "Change the way you are going! Think about where these trends are leading!"

"I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live" (Deut. 30:19).

Which way will we choose? □



# 1985 Turning Point for World's Economy?

by Michael A. Snyder

What does this decisive year hold? Read here the surprising answers!

**T**HE WESTERN INDUSTRIALIZED nations are coming off 1984 from a welcome year of moderate to amazing economic growth.

But what will 1985 bring?

These nations have ridden out an 18-month upward cycle since the deep recession. Some economists now look for economic downturn. Others expect 1985 to continue economic growth, though not at the explosive levels in the Gross National Product (GNP) seen in 1984.

Why conflicting predictions?

Because economists and financiers do not understand the real causes of today's financial troubles. They are looking to material explanations only—and often to the wrong material sources for their decision making.

This year harbors both potential ills and explosive progress. Will the worldwide economy lustily expand? Or will we see crippling recession begin again in the last two fiscal quarters?

Nineteen eighty-five will also

mark the time when the United States once again becomes a *debtor* nation, owing more to other nations than is owed to it. Since 1914, U.S. banks have stoked the financial boilers of Europe and Asia with hefty loans. What will happen now to the United States with twin towers of massive national deficits and negative balance of trade payments hovering ominously overhead?

As Paul Volcker, chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve, declared last May, "The net [positive] investment of the United States overseas, built up gradually over the entire postwar period, will in the space of only three years—1983, 1984 and 1985—be reversed. The richest economy in the world is on the verge of becoming a net debtor."

To help us understand the confusing financial times we live in, let us first look at 1984—a year of stunning financial growth.

**What Happened in 1984?**

Embarrassed economists quietly put doom-saying predictions in the trash. U.S. consumers, contrary to the same projections, led a surging economy that rippled throughout

the world. U.S. production soared, housing orders kept construction crews busy and consumers enjoyed a real rise in income.

However, outside U.S. borders things were not so rosy as many nations enjoyed only moderate growth.

The Germans watched the deutsche mark shrink to record lows against an interest-fueled U.S. dollar. Britons sighed as the pound—once the world's economic standard of exchange—bottomed out at a mere fraction of its former worth against the same U.S. dollar.

Europeans watched America continue its economic turn toward the Pacific nations of Japan, Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand.

The Socialist COMECON nations—the Soviet counterpart of the European Community—enjoyed modest economic growth, but the Soviet Union in particular continued to worry about its agricultural ability to provide food for more than 268 million people. Weather has brought a mixed blessing for Soviet crops in recent years.

Even the Latin American debt crisis seemed to take a needed

breather. In the words of William E. Brock, President Ronald Reagan's chief trade adviser, "The international financial community can assess its management of the international 'debt' crisis of 1982-83 with a certain sense of satisfaction."

But Ambassador Brock qualified his compliment to international financiers with this warning: "Many of us in international trade view the current situation [near the end of 1984] with lingering misgivings. For the moment, the most critical stage of the crisis appears to have passed, although any fluctuations in interest rates would have a dramatic effect on debt levels."

#### Two Key Factors to Watch

Western industrialized societies generally are blessed with an educated labor force, access to adequate natural resources, modern factories and developed markets for goods and services. But two important factors must be present also for a free-market economy to grow. They are the oil that reduces economic friction and allows a national economy to produce at high volume.

The two factors? *Cooperation and confidence.*

There must be confidence in the economic system if a nation with a free-market system is to have a strong economy. Banks in particular must earn the trust of depositors. Bank customers must feel confident that their banks are sound, that their deposited money will continue to earn a profit and that bank officials will continue to correctly discern acceptable risks.

Banks provide much of the needed cooperation in this competitive world. They organize loan syndicates that provide vast amounts of capital for growing industries, provide advice and help bring people together for further financial growth.

Though industry may possess adequate capital, a trained and cooperative labor force is needed to produce quality goods and services. When labor strikes against industry, the economy begins to suffer. And public confidence starts to waver. If enough people begin to believe the economy is headed for a downturn, a snowballing effect may occur. Subsequent investments and risk-taking

ventures suddenly dry up. As people hold their money instead of spending and investing it, the economy begins to contract instead of grow, and the nation enters a recession.

Of course, this is a simplified sketch of complex economic events. But it *does* happen, and many economists are now looking at this phenomenon.

#### What Will 1985 Bring?

As a gauge to measure the necessary cooperation and confidence, or the lack of it, what financial institution should you watch?

The international banking system!

In this competitive human age, political and economic forces are closely intertwined. No individual institution is as influential as the bank.

Despite the image of the non-emotional, intellectually cold banker, the banking business is actually the most personal and subjective of all businesses.

Anthony Sampson, author of *The Money Lenders*, points out: "However complex and mathematical the [banking] business has become, it still depends on the assessment of trust with very human failings."

Want to start a new business or finance an expansion of your existing industry? You must first convince a loan officer or bank board of directors that you are a worthy risk.

These officers use both objective and subjective factors to reach their decision, regardless of whether the loan is for a used car or a new hydroelectric dam in South America!

Why are banks so concerned with risk? In addition to profitable interest, the loans (considered assets in the banking system) they make affect the general *trust* their depositors have in their institution.

#### How Banks Create Money

John Kenneth Galbraith once declared: "The process by which banks create money is so simple that the mind is repelled."

Too few realize how banks create money to loan. Most of the money that a bank loans exists only on paper—no currency is printed or precious metals purchased to back it up.

Consider this simple example:

You deposit \$1,000 in a U.S. bank. The Federal Reserve sets a limit (which changes from time to time) on how much of that money can be loaned out. For this example, say it's 90 percent. This means the bank must keep at least \$100 in the bank to protect you.

The bank, over a period of time, loans out the other \$900 in the belief that most of the time they will have enough money on hand from other depositors to pay you back your \$1,000 should you come in and demand it.

As your money passes from bank to bank, financial institutions may continue to legally reloan your money until almost \$9,000 is levied against your original deposit!

As long as banks are held high in overall public confidence, this type of financial behavior continues smoothly.

But, as in the case of the Continental Bank of Illinois, this can quickly collapse into crisis if public confidence wanes in the ability of banks to make quality loans.

#### The Continuing Crisis

As 1985 dawns, an incredible amount of money is still owed to governments and private banks by nations in Latin America. Even though the financial system doesn't generally accept the concept of national bankruptcy, Latin American nations could be forced by circumstances to repudiate part or all of their enormous debts.

The unsettling element in this is that nations in this world have a long history of doing this very thing!

Who remembers that King Edward III bankrupted two major banking houses in Italy in 1327 when he repudiated English debts? Or that even the United States was considered a terrible risk in the mid-1800s in the Civil War period?

Less than half a century later, the United States found itself a *creditor* nation to the same European countries after the First World War.

#### Birth of the Eurodollar

As American economic might continued its unprecedented growth after the Second World War, European nations and private firms began hoarding U.S. dollars for their exceptional value. International

THE PLAIN TRUTH

banks held increasingly larger amounts of U.S. currency. The U.S. dollar slowly became an accepted international medium of exchange.

In the late 1950s, the phenomenon known today as the Eurodollar was born. Today, about \$200 billion Eurodollars slosh around the world, beyond the control of the United States, but directly affecting it.

Eurodollar expansion reflects the unfulfilled need for an official international currency. The Europeans pooled their resources in the late 1970s to create the ECU, or European Currency Unit. This was done to facilitate easier exchanges between Continental banks.

But even though the Eurodollar reached stratospheric heights against other European and Asian currencies, it remains threatened by the mammoth U.S. deficit and negative balance of trade.

Some officials and economists are comparing U.S. financial decisions and conditions with the events that led to the decline of the British Empire. U.S. Senator Lawton Chiles of Florida said in 1984: "We've seen these [economic] turning points happen to other nations. The beginning of this century saw it happen to England, which although its power seemed to have never been greater, was already paying the price for its far flung empire."

Economist Charles Schultze compared the impact of the U.S. deficit to the decline of British power: The British Empire "didn't go downhill by falling off a cliff. They went slowly... the deficit is like a slow poison. It will not show up as a cyclical concept, but in the long-term capacity and dynamism of the economy."

What is the price of being a debtor nation? Senator Chiles explains: "With huge uncertainty in the Persian Gulf, we are vulnerable to a big upturn in the price of oil. And we are just as exposed to decisions by foreign nations to put their investments elsewhere. If oil goes up, if foreign investments in our economy decline sharply, [then] every debtor nation in the world will face a crisis."

#### One World Economy?

Many economists call for the official recognition that today's world

February 1985

economy is more closely bound than many would care to admit. These same prominent economists assert that nations must eschew their individual national interests in favor of what's best for the bigger world economy.

"The crux of the problem is whether leaders in both industrial and developing countries have adjusted intellectually and emotionally to this being one interdependent world," says Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew.

Adds Walter Wriston, former chairman of Citibank: "Whether we like it or not, mankind now has a completely integrated, international financial and informational marketplace capable of moving money and ideas to any place on this planet in minutes."

Dr. Albert Bressand (deputy director of the Institut Francais des Relations Internationales—IFRI) warns that nations must recognize the *de facto* existence of intertwined global economy and make appropriate changes.

Will the world ultimately be forced to embrace the reality of a global economy to save itself from the fear of international debt collapse?

Indeed! The source of this foreknowledge is available in a book widely translated in dozens of languages, but rarely, if ever, consulted in economic matters.

#### A Look into the Future

The terrible irony is that this book explains the underlying laws of economics—the means to avoid fiscal disaster—but economists have not generally realized it. We call it the Holy Bible.

This book explains the cause of inflation (Hag. 1:6-11), the biblical rules governing interest rates (Ex. 22:25), the only fully effective way to adjust for long-term economic growth (Lev. 25), and a truly equitable welfare and social security system (Deut. 26:12-15).

You see, these laws explained in the Bible are just that—*laws*. But they differ from the laws that human legislators enact. God's laws cannot be defied without incurring a visible setback. If they are defied, the adverse effects *accumulate*.

You, perhaps have read in the

pages of *The Plain Truth* that actions based on greed cause much of this world's economic evils. Yet the Bible *forbids* these very actions. Can you imagine what the fiscal outlook would be like today if that *single* precept was widely followed?

"These are principles that no one could follow in today's business world," some may respond.

There are only two basic ways of life. Economics and politics know little, if anything, about these.

Humanity has but two choices: to embrace a way of life summarized as the way of *giving*, of outflowing love; or a way of *get*, of competitively taking with no concern for others. The latter way of life is sadly in operation in virtually every nation today.

What if the nations were to follow the way of give and concern in economic planning? God himself would intervene to bring prosperity and full employment!

"Prove Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it" (Mal. 3:10, Revised Authorized Version).

These are not lightly made statements—they are authoritative promises that God fulfills to those—individuals and nations—who seek to obey his way of life.

God is not against people profiting by their labor, as long as they're *honest* profits. God wants us to "prosper in all things" (III John 2, RAV).

We announce in the pages of this magazine a way of life that economically and spiritually benefits both yourself and your neighbor.

If you want to understand the economic, political and spiritual events to transpire during 1985 and beyond, we have two free booklets to offer you.

Write for your free copies of *Never Before Understood—Why Humanity Cannot Solve Its Evils* and *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. These eye-opening booklets carry no further obligation—they are presented free in the public interest.

God's ways are simple, yet profound. God help the people—the economists, politicians and common folk alike—to understand and apply them! ☐

# What's Prophesied for RUSSIA & CHINA

By Keith W. Stump

Statesmen, it seems, have not thought to look into what Bible prophecy reveals about the future of Asia's biggest powers:

**A** NEW chilly period has developed in relations between the Soviet Union and China.

What does it mean?

The split between Asia's two communist giants is one of the most crucial variables in world power politics today. Strategic planners well understand that a settlement of their dispute would radically transform the entire global balance of power. A major war—presently unthinkable—between these two nuclear powers would have equally grave international repercussions.

What's behind the Sino-Soviet quarrels? What lies ahead for the Soviet Union and China—yes, and even India, Japan and Southeast Asia?

Newsmen and diplomats do not know.

## War of Words

It was February 1950, in the midst of a freezing Russian winter. Mao Tse-tung (Mao Zedong) stood beaming in a Moscow railway station at the conclusion of a two-month stay in the Soviet Union.

Bundled in a heavy fur coat and wearing a woolen cap, the Chairman of the Chinese People's Republic paused briefly before boarding his train to speak to the onlooking crowd.

Having just concluded a mutual

defense treaty with the Kremlin and having received his new nation's first foreign loan for \$300 million, he confidently declared that Chinese-Soviet friendship would be "everlasting, indestructible and inalienable."

It turned out to be one of history's unfulfilled predictions. By 1963, the



friendship lay in ruins. Since then, Sino-Soviet relations have been on ice.

Over the past two decades, the Kremlin has openly criticized aspects of Chinese policy as being "divisive" and at variance with socialist principles and standards. For their part, the Chinese have been equally critical of the Soviet model of socialism, labeling Moscow "a renegade capitalist regime."

At its simplest, the central issue of the Sino-Soviet quarrel is *who is going to be in charge* in the communist world.

The Soviet Union—the world's largest country in land area—claims ultimate supremacy within the whole communist world. China—the world's most populous country—challenges this alleged Soviet hegemony over the world communist movement by offering an alternative mother party.

This ideological struggle continues throughout the world to this day. On both sides, the former days of communist

solidarity are now but a dim memory.

#### Deep Roots

Let's first look at the quarrel through Soviet eyes.

Russia's "Chinaphobia" is by no means a recent phenomenon, nor solely a concoction of modern Kremlin thinkers. The roots of modern-day Sino-Soviet hostility extend deep into the past.

Russians have never forgotten Genghis Khan's Golden Horde, and the Tatar-Mongol occupation of Russia that lasted for some 300 years. Those black years of Mongol domination are deeply rooted in Russia's historical memory. (The Mongols, of course, were not Chinese, but Russians make little distinction between the varied peoples of the East.)

Diplomats in Moscow observe that the Russians are *obsessed* with a fear of the East.

China's staggering population of *one thousand million* people is more than *three times* that of the Soviet Union! One Soviet academi-

cian once observed that, from Russia's viewpoint, their situation vis-a-vis China would be analogous to the United States having a thousand million Mexican neighbors—with nuclear weapons capacity!

This demographic fear of China is indelibly ingrained in the Russian national consciousness. It is instinctive and possibly exaggerated—but to Russians, it is very *real*.

The Chinese suffer from the counterpart of Russia's Sinophobia—namely, Russophobia.

Invoking images of centuries past, Peking writers graphically picture the Russians as a restless people, brooding just outside the Great Wall.

For years, the Chinese feared that their country might be subjected to a Czechoslovak-type invasion by the U.S.S.R. China consequently developed a civil defense system of immense scope. The Chinese citizenry was encouraged to "dig tunnels deep, store grain everywhere and prepare for war."

The heated battle of words continues, with varying intensity, across the long Sino-Soviet border. Historic enmities are not easily shaken off.

#### Border Controversy

Today's Sino-Soviet tensions are partly an outgrowth of a long-standing Chinese claim to vast stretches of territory now in Soviet hands in the Far East and Central Asia.

These territories were ceded to Czar Alexander II of Russia by China's weak Manchu emperors more than a century ago. Peking maintains that the 19th-century territorial agreements were "unequal treaties" imposed on China by a stronger Czarist Russia.

The Kremlin strongly rejects this claim, declaring that "the territories which Peking qualifies as so-called Chinese lands" were "actually never part of the Chinese state nor was their population Chinese." The history of the demarcation of the Sino-Soviet border, Moscow asserts, was "a long and complex one," and "the fact remains that Russia never seized any Chinese territory."

Even the extent of China's terri-



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torial claim is not entirely clear. Over the years, figures for the size of the disputed area have ranged from 33,000 square kilometers (13,000 square miles) to 1.5 million square kilometers (577,000 square miles)—a vast area more than twice the size of Texas.

Included in the disputed area are the strategic city of Vladivostok and much of the immense Soviet republic of Kazakhstan.

Concern over the Sino-Soviet border dispute reached its high point in March 1969. In that

two nations have entered a classic prewar situation.

#### Major Arms Buildup

The Sino-Soviet borderlands are heavily fortified on both sides.

It is estimated that the Soviet Union has nearly a third of its entire 3.7-million-man army positioned on or near the Russian-Chinese frontier. These Soviet troops are armed with the latest weapons and nuclear missiles. Also, the Soviet Union now has nearly 2,000 advanced aircraft in defensive position should a crisis occur with either China or Japan.

China's military preparations are numerically impressive. China has the world's largest armed force—the 4.2-million-man People's Liberation Army. Much of its strength is concentrated near the sensitive border with the Soviet Union. And China now has missiles capable of hitting Moscow, Leningrad and other major centers in European Russia.

Some military analysts believe that the preparations on the Sino-Soviet border represent the biggest arms buildup the world has ever seen!

#### Soviet Nuclear Blitz?

Just more than a decade ago, the Soviet Union could have attacked China with reasonable expectation of destroying her fledgling nuclear bases while running only a small risk of Chinese nuclear retaliation. A preemptive Soviet nuclear blitz against China was widely expected by military analysts at that time.

But Western defense officials say today that the Soviet Union, under warning from the United States, missed its chance to destroy China's nuclear program while it was still safe to do so. China, as one observer put it, has long since "grown out of its atomic diapers."

In view of Russia's diminishing nuclear advantage, diplomatic sources in Europe and Asia today virtually dismiss the possibility of a Russian preemptive strike against China. The Kremlin, they say,

would not risk such a dangerous policy in the face of the present odds.

True, Russia still has both qualitative and quantitative nuclear superiority. But China, apart from her nuclear factor, also has *manpower*!

Kremlin planners realize that a vigorous Chinese counterattack would be *certain*—a nuclear counterattack if still possible, but unquestionably a massive land attack!

The chances are high that the Soviets would quickly find themselves embroiled in a protracted "Vietnam-type" situation in China—a long conventional land war fueled by the tenaciousness and determination of the Chinese people to defend the motherland.

The Chinese have publicly vowed to fight a 100-year war, if necessary, to achieve victory in any Sino-Soviet conflict that might erupt. The enemy, Peking has declared, would ultimately be "drowned in the ocean of a people's war."

The specter of multiple millions of Chinese flooding across the border in a mammoth guerrilla campaign fills Kremlin strategists' nights with dread. Such a scenario is too horrible for the average Russian to contemplate.

As one Western military expert observed a few years ago: "If Russia went into China, she may never come out."

In his "Letter to the Soviet Leaders," Alexander Solzhenitsyn said that a war with China would last 10 to 15 years and would cost Russia at least 60 million dead.

The risks of a Soviet strike against China are clearly prohibitive. Such a war would be futile and counterproductive for all concerned.

An unwanted accidental conflict—sparked by unforeseen causes and escalating quickly out of control—always remains a possibility. Such a conflict could conceivably remain nonnuclear and be limited to action in border regions. But even limited fighting of this sort is generally considered unlikely.

#### Sino-Soviet Détente?

If war has indeed become unthinkable between the two communist

(Continued on page 30)



month, the controversy erupted into armed fighting on a disputed island in the ice-bound Ussuri River north of Vladivostok.

The clash in the bleak snow-swept wilderness of eastern Asia involved at least a battalion of men on each side. It resulted in the deaths of more than 30 Soviet border guards and an unknown number of Chinese. The two nations appeared to be on a collision course, hovering close to full-scale war!

In November 1972, came another border clash, this time thousands of miles to the west. It took the lives of at least five Soviet soldiers and several shepherds near the historic Dzungarian Gate. This "gate," used by Genghis Khan when he led his army into the West, is a natural mountain pass joining Soviet Kazakhstan and China's strategic Sinkiang (Xinjiang) province.

In subsequent years, literally dozens of armed skirmishes have taken place in these remote disputed areas. The last round of border talks was broken off seven years ago.

Some experts believe that the

# NEW TESTAMENT

## Fact or Fiction?

by John Ross Schroeder

A 1984 British television series called *Jesus: The Evidence* left viewers to question how much of the New Testament is fact, how much fantasy.

**C**AN WE trust the written records of the early church?

Did its members distinguish between legend and fact? Did they leave us an authoritative record of what Jesus both said and did?

Before we answer these questions, we need to understand something of the early church itself.

### What Sources?

The main source of information is, of course, the New Testament documents themselves. They are the earliest records of Christianity. Nothing written about them is nearly as old—or as substantive.

When people talk about the early church, including its either inventing or distorting the gospel record, what they really mean is the Jerusalem church.

Who originally formed this church? Jesus said: "I will build my church." But how and through whom did he accomplish this task? How and why would they eventually be equal to the job of preserving for posterity the written record of Jesus' message—the good news of the coming kingdom of God?

From the outset Jerusalem marked the spot for the church's initial location. The disciples were told to remain in Jerusalem until

they were imbued "with power from on high" (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:7, Revised Authorized Version throughout, except where noted). Jesus had said "repentance and remission of sins should be preached . . . to all nations, *beginning at Jerusalem*" (Luke 24:47).

"Luke's mid first-century history says: 'Now when the Day of Pentecost had fully come [this annual festival celebrated the close of the early agricultural harvest], they were all with one accord in one place' (Acts 2:1). But exactly who were these people gathered together in unity?"

About 120 Jewish disciples mainly of Galilean origin (Acts 1:15). Also, "there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven"—that is, the known civilized world (Acts 2:5).

### Why a Jewish Church?

Why would God begin the church exclusively with Jews? Was this by accident, or design? And why with Jews only in Jerusalem?

Roughly a third of the Greek New Testament is composed of quotations from the Hebrew Bible. Would it not make sense to start the church with people already conversant with what Christians call the Old Testament? Notice what Paul wrote: "What advantage then

has the Jew . . . ? Much in every way! *Chiefly* because to them were committed the oracles of God" (Rom. 3:1-2). The Jewish community was responsible for the preservation of the Hebrew Scriptures.

About 3,000 Jews repented and were converted at the behest of Peter's first sermon. Notice Luke's documentation: "Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them" (Acts 2:41). These new converts were *not* like today's nominal Christians. Notice it, "And they *continued steadfastly* in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread [eating meals together], and in prayers" (verse 42). In the days following Peter's first sermon, conversions took place on a *daily* basis (verse 47).

Following Peter's second major sermon, the number of Jews added to the church brought the total to about 5,000 converts (Acts 4:4). The church population in Jerusalem exploded. Notice what Luke wrote: "And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, *multitudes* of both men and women" (Acts 5:14). Also: "And the word of God spread, and the number of disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith" (Acts 6:7).

These were all Jews. The first



gentile had not yet been converted. All were familiar with Hebrew scriptures. All learned both what Jesus said and did.

But the authorities, both religious and secular, wanted this message of the kingdom of God stopped. Notice what the apostles said in response to their demands: "For we cannot but speak the things which we have *seen and heard*" (Acts 4:20). What things?

Why, the things Jesus both spoke and did! The things that became the basis for the written records of Jesus' life and teachings in the New Testament.

But did the apostles forget the gospel in part as some modern critics surmise? Consider two things. First, the apostles both discussed it among themselves and taught it to others, *daily*. Second, they were promised supernatural help in remembering correctly. Notice what Jesus had said to the disciples: "But the Comforter, which is the Holy [Spirit], whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you" (John 14:26, AV).

#### Not the Apostles Only

Notice what Peter said about the other nearly 110 disciples: "Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us [the 11 remaining apostles] all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection" (Acts 1:21-22). That is, an additional apostle to replace the betrayer and thief, Judas Iscariot.

In his first letter to the Corinthian church, Paul reviews the events surrounding the resurrection of Jesus in briefest summary form: "For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins . . . and that He was buried, and that He rose

again the third day . . . and that He was seen by Cephas [Peter], then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present [more than 20 years after Jesus' resurrection], but some have fallen asleep [have died]" (1 Cor. 15:3-6, excerpts).

Paul calls these 500 "brethren." At the time the resurrected Christ appeared to them they were not converted and could not truly be called spiritual brethren. This can only mean that they became con-

sion, the common property of the early Christian Churches, and was not limited to the 'recollections' of a few individuals. . . . The significance of this view is obvious. The memories of a few individuals might be mistaken—since human recollection is notoriously fallible—but the testimony of a group, even if anonymous, is more likely to have been verified, criticized, supported, culled and selected during the course of the first generation of early Church evangelism. The possibility of fabrication by one or two

## Seven Who Shaped Destiny

**T**he New Testament is basically made up of the testimony of seven persons. Who were these individuals?

**Peter:** The chief apostle and the one mainly responsible for getting the gospel to the Jewish people. He wrote his two general epistles and had a great influence on Mark's gospel. (Jude wrote a short one-chapter letter, but much of its content is strikingly similar to II Peter.)

**Paul:** The apostle to the gentiles who wrote 14 epistles. Only the book of Hebrews does not bear his name. He is responsible for

about one quarter of the New Testament.

**James:** Jesus' half brother, and later the presiding pastor of the Jerusalem church. He had a reputation for rock-solid loyalty. He wrote the general epistle bearing his name.

**Matthew:** A tax-collector trained to record information accurately. His gospel was directed to the Hebrew people. His business gave him a particular knowledge of human nature.

**Mark:** John Mark was one of the gospel writers. His family was influential in the early Jerusalem church. He

was close to both Peter and Paul. Mark assisted these two pillar apostles in their work.

**Luke:** A learned physician who wrote the third gospel account. Luke accompanied the apostle Paul on several of his journeys. He wrote the New Testament's only formal history—the book of Acts.

**John:** The apostle closest to Jesus Christ as a human being. In addition to writing the fourth gospel and three general letters, he completed the apostolic testimony with the book of Revelation.

verted either on or shortly after the day of Pentecost, A.D. 31. They discussed what they had seen for themselves, learned what they did not yet know from the apostles, and continued to spread this spiritual knowledge to new converts brought into the Jerusalem church.

The gospel record—the message of Jesus Christ—was at first an accurate *oral* record preserved in many minds. Many would know the truth accurately. Many would repeatedly discuss the life and teachings of Jesus Christ not only among themselves, but also with new converts as they were added to the church. Jesus' message was not a secret message!

Here is the sage conclusion drawn by theologian F.C. Grant: "The tradition was a social posses-

individuals is completely ruled out. . . . Basic trustworthiness is beyond doubt; for it [the tradition] rests, not upon one man's recollections—say Peter's—or those of two or three persons but upon the whole group of the earliest disciples" (*The Gospels*, page 1).

The apostles continued their public work at Jerusalem for a decade. The immediate focus of the gospel was the message God sent by Jesus of Nazareth and the crucifixion and the resurrection. Peter said, "This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are *all witnesses*" (Acts 2:32; cf. 3:15). The apostles spoke with temerity. "They spoke the word of God with boldness" (Acts 4:31). "And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 4:33). As



their enemies put it: "You have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine" (Acts 5:28). Practically everyone knew something of the truth—even the opposition! The apostles' message was not done in a corner. All Jerusalem knew of this new way of life. There was no forgetting the things Jesus had said and done.

Later Peter took Christianity to the first gentile family. In his private sermon to the Italian Cornelius, he said: "And we are witnesses of all things which He [Jesus] did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem . . ." (Acts 10:39). So it was not just the knowledge of the resurrection, but *the whole* of what Jesus did and said that was public knowledge.

#### The Gospel Writers

What was the relationship to the Jerusalem church of the individual gospel writers?

We begin this study with a physician named Luke. Luke was responsible for writing more than a quarter of the New Testament. We know that he was well-educated because he used polished Greek—including 800 words that are not used elsewhere in the New Testament.

But how was the Jerusalem church significant to Luke's writings? Luke was acquainted with key members of that church. Says *The New Bible Dictionary*: "Through intimate contact over many years with . . . Christian leaders (e.g., Philip, Timothy, Silas, Mark, Barnabas, James, the brother of Jesus, etc.) and as . . . he was in Jerusalem, Caesarea and other places intimately associated with Jesus and his first apostles, Luke had the very best opportunity to obtain first-hand knowledge."

That he definitely and purposefully made full use of these opportunities is claimed by him in Luke 1:1-4, and is corroborated by the sterling quality and *historical accuracy* of both Luke and Acts? (page 756). Note that Mark and James were both members of the Jerusalem church. Now we turn to yet another important biblical writer.

#### Paul and the Jerusalem Church

Paul is known for the fact that his

February 1985

calling and training was *not* under the aegis of the original apostles. Yet even he was not unconnected from the Jerusalem church. Three years after his dramatic conversion to Christianity, Paul went up to Jerusalem and stayed with Peter for 15 days (Gal. 1:18). What do you suppose Peter and Paul discussed? Matters totally unrelated to the life and teaching of Jesus of Nazareth? Or did they compare notes on how they were called to be apostles and discuss all that Jesus had said and done?

Fourteen years after that, the apostle Paul returned to Jerusalem (Gal. 2:1). He communicated to the Jerusalem church the gospel he had preached among the gentiles. He even expounded it to a private audience of Peter and the leading apostles (verse 2). They compared notes.

Because Paul was forced to defend his apostleship to the Galatian churches, some have gotten a false impression of his attitude toward the Jerusalem church. In fact he had great respect for that church and pointed the churches under his care and supervision in the direction of Jerusalem. Explains *The New Bible Dictionary*: "Indeed, throughout the first generation, it was the church *par excellence*. . . This is noticeable in the attitude of Paul who impressed it on his churches (Rom. 15:27). His final visit to Jerusalem was in recognition of this spiritual primacy" (page 230).

So we see that the two men who wrote about half of the New Testament—Luke and Paul—were intimately connected to the Jerusalem church. Luke had access to eyewitness accounts of the gospel. Paul explained to Peter and the other leading apostles what he had been preaching to the gentiles—and received their blessing. Any human error was rooted out. Luke wrote to Theophilus so that he would "*know the certainty of those things*" that "Jesus began both to do and teach" (Luke 1:4; Acts 1:1).

#### The Witness of James

Peter was chosen to take the gospel to the first gentile family. He had concluded his private sermon

to Cornelius with an account of the resurrection. Simon Peter said: "Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly; not to all the people, but *unto witnesses chosen before of God*, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead" (Acts 10:40-41, AV). One of these special witnesses was James, the brother of Jesus (1 Cor. 15:7).

Eventually James became a pillar apostle in the Jerusalem church (Gal. 2:9). When Peter had miraculously escaped jail, he told the brethren at Mark's mother's house, "Go tell these things to James and to the brethren" (Acts 12:17). Paul refers to James as one of the three pillar apostles based at Jerusalem along with Peter and John (Gal. 2:9).

Years later Paul visits Jerusalem for the final time. Luke records: "And when we had come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly. On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present" (Acts 21:17-18).

Both the Bible and later tradition show that the apostle Peter traveled all over Judea and Samaria with the gospel message. Someone had to mind the Jerusalem church while he was away. James, in effect, became the presiding pastor.

Who better than James? He had lived with Jesus from the very first. He saw his Savior's manner of life in every situation—both in the family and on the job. Though he was not a part of the original apostolic band, James knew what Jesus would have said and not said. Anyone trying to distort the gospel tradition (oral or written) would have run right squarely into James.

Clearly both Peter and Paul had respect for James. The gospel tradition was safe with him.

#### Peter as Preserver of the Gospel

One cannot write about the New Testament without confronting Peter. Already we have met him a number of times in this article.

Peter was the chief apostle. He is put *first* in all four New Testament lists. His name is mentioned 210 times in the New Testament. It was to him that the gospel to the cir-

cumcision—the Jews—was committed.

Simon Peter wrote two general epistles as well as most probably being the prime mover in the gospel of Mark. He had a great role in preserving and protecting the gospel. He never forgot the things Jesus said and did.

Take the transfiguration. Peter and the two brothers, James and John, were the only disciples privileged to witness an actual foretaste of the kingdom of God (see Matthew 17; Mark 9; Luke 9). Did Peter forget it?

By no means. He alludes to it in both of his epistles. Notice I Peter 5:1: "The elders who are among you, I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed." Peter saw in vision the glory of the kingdom of God.

Much later, just before his martyrdom, Peter penned his final message to the churches. He wrote: "For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty... when we were with Him on the holy mountain" (II Pet. 1:16, 18). This is a clear reference to the transfiguration. Peter had preserved the true gospel tradition—in writing! He did not follow fables to tarnish the gospel.

Now we look at another witness to the transfiguration.

#### The Apostle John

John knew Jesus as few people did. Almost 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 John. This warm relationship is revealed in his own gospel account.

John was "the disciple whom Jesus loved." He was part of a small inner circle. Jesus took only Peter, James and John with him to pray just before his arrest by the Jewish authorities. He was like a member of Jesus' family. Christ committed the care of his mother to John.

John spent more time with Jesus than most of the others. He was fully aware of both Jesus' deeds and his teachings. He recorded information essential to Christian belief. "And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ [the Messiah or Apointed One], the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:30-31).

The books of the Bible were written for a purpose. God does nothing in vain.

John's gospel is his *personal testimony* to the life and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth. He wrote: "This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true" (John 21:24).

Why would it be false? John knew Jesus as no one else did. He spent much time with Christ. He was in on every important occurrence. Truly he was a privileged disciple, but for a vital purpose. (God is no respecter of persons.) John was to write later in the first century than most. He was to complete the apostolic testimony. The final gospel was his. The final book of the New Testament would come from his pen. He needed special tutoring.

#### Not a Secret Gospel

Just as the other apostles, John continued the work of Jesus' public preaching and teaching. For the most part, Jesus' teaching was not something done in a corner. John records what Jesus had said to the High Priest: "I spoke openly to the world. I always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where the Jews always meet, and in secret I have said nothing. Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them. Indeed they know what I said" (John 18:20-21).

But in some circles today the myth persists that "we cannot know either what Jesus said or did. He taught a secret gospel. The gospels are mere inventions of the early church." *What ignorance!*

Even in the early hours and days of the Jerusalem church

people knew what had happened. *It was public knowledge!* Notice what Peter said in the very first sermon on the day of Pentecost, A.D. 31. "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know" (Acts 2:22). Did they contradict Peter's words? No, 3,000 of them repented on that very day. Read the whole chapter.

Well more than 20 years later Paul was before King Herod Agrippa the II. He said in his defense: "For the king, before whom I also speak freely, knows these things; for I am convinced that none of these things escapes his attention, since this thing was not done in a corner" (Acts 26:26).

#### Why the Gospel Record is True!

Here's our point! Confident appeal could be made to the knowledge of the hearers. Distortions of the facts would have been challenged. Wrote Professor F.F. Bruce in his book *The New Testament Documents*: "And it was not only friendly eyewitnesses that the early preachers had to reckon with; there were also others less well disposed who were also conversant with the main facts of the ministry and death of Jesus. The disciples could not afford to risk inaccuracies (not to speak of willful manipulation of the facts), which would at once be exposed by those who would be only too glad to do so... Had there been any tendency to depart from the facts in any material respect, the possible presence of hostile witnesses in the audience would have served as a further corrective" (page 16).

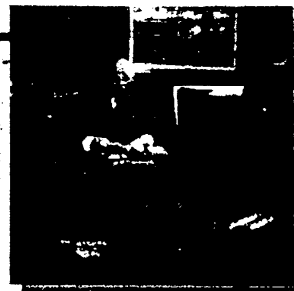
Returning to the testimony of John. He wrote the following many decades after the church began: "That which we have seen and heard we declare to you..." (I John 1:3). And again in his gospel: "And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe" (John 19:35).

This was firsthand knowledge. This was—and is—truth! And it has been preserved for us today. □

THE PLAIN TRUTH

# "THE WORLD TOMORROW"

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of *The World Tomorrow* on TELEVISION and RADIO.



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CHNC, New Carlisle (Fr) — 610, 6:00 p.m., Tues., Thurs.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

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CKLD, Thetford Mines (Fr) — 1330, 8:15 a.m., Sun.

### NEW BRUNSWICK

CKBC, Bathurst — 1360, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.  
CJVA, Caraquet (Fr) — 810, 10:15 a.m., Sun.; 9:00 p.m., Tues., Thurs.  
CJEM, Edmundston (Fr) — 570, 8:35 a.m., Sun.; 9:00 p.m., Tues., Thurs.  
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Radio Caraibes (Fr), Guadeloupe — 1240 & Martinique — 840, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

Radio Caribbean (Eng), St. Lucia — 840, 2:10 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

BBS, St. Michael, Barbados — FM 90.7, 6:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:00 a.m., Sat., Sun.

Radio Antilles (Eng), Montserrat, Eastern Caribbean — 930, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

Radio Antilles (Fr), Montserrat, Antilles — 1450, 740, 6:00 a.m., Mon., Thurs., Sat.

NBS, Trinidad — 610, 10:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

### NEW ZEALAND

IXP, Radio Pacific, Auckland — 1593, 6:00 p.m., Sun.  
1XX, Radio Bay of Plenty, Whakatane — 1242, 9:30 p.m., Sun.  
2XS, Radio Manawatu, Palmerston No. — 828, 10:15 p.m., Sun.  
4XO, Radio Otago, Dunedin — 1286, 9:30 p.m., Sun.  
4XA, Radio Central, Alexandra — 531, 9:30 p.m., Sun.  
4XC, Radio Central, Queenstown — 1359, 9:30 p.m., Sun.  
4XE, Radio Central, Wanaka — 1359, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

### OTHER AREAS

A3Z, Tonga Radio (Eng), Nuku'alofa — 1020, 6:30 p.m., Sun.  
CZAM, Radio Nauru — 1323, 9:00 a.m., Sun.  
Hong Kong Radio, Kowloon — 1044, 6:30 a.m., 12:00 a.m., Sat.  
Radio Ceylon — 7100, 9720, 15475, 9:00 p.m., Sun., Tues., Thurs., Sat.  
Honduras, San Pedro Sula, Radio Norte (Sp) — 780, 8:45 a.m., Sun.  
Panama — HOA 1510, HORS 1410, HOI-23 FM 105.7, 7:00 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.  
Radio Luxembourg (Fr) — 5:15 a.m., Mon.; 5:00 a.m., Tues., Thurs.  
France, Radio SUD (Fr), Toulouse — 1161, 5:45 a.m., Tues., Fri.

See next issue for TV log

## RUSSIA & CHINA

(Continued from page 24)

superpowers, what are the prospects for reconciliation?

Can the Sino-Soviet split be patched up?

Twenty years of quarreling over frontiers and other issues will not quickly be put aside. But the Sino-Soviet dispute is not necessarily fixed in concrete. Indeed, both sides are well aware of the enormous advantages that could be realized by reconciliation.

For both the Chinese and the Soviets, détente would allow a reduction of their crushingly burdensome military expenditures. It would also greatly bolster their leverage in the international political arena.

Will it happen? And in what circumstances?

A renewal of negotiations could yet eliminate the nettlesome boundary issue. The ideological issue—that of who will dominate world communism—would prove a thornier problem, though some sort of compromise or accommodation might be hammered out if sufficient motivation were present on both sides.

It should be remembered that neither side has sought to sever diplomatic relations during their two-decades-long feud. Even Sino-Soviet trade has continued, totaling more than \$1 billion last year.

No attitude of reconciliation and understanding is apparent, however, at the moment. The rhetoric remains hot on both sides.

Last July, China's Vice Foreign Minister Qian Qichen—Peking's top Kremlin specialist and chief negotiator in talks to normalize Sino-Soviet relations—returned from a fruitless trip to Moscow declaring that there had been no progress in improving ties.

Shortly afterward, the official Xinhua News Agency accused the Soviet Union of increasing military tensions along its borders and of "distorting and attacking China's foreign policy." The Soviet Union was also sternly rebuked for failing to withdraw its occupation force from Afghanistan.

Earlier, in May, the Soviet Union had abruptly postponed a

long-planned visit to China by First Deputy Premier Ivan V. Arkhipov, the Kremlin's top economist. He was to have signed a far-reaching agreement on trade and economic cooperation with China.

The Chinese were dumbfounded by the last-minute postponement. The Soviets reportedly felt that "the atmosphere was not proper" for what would have been the highest-ranking Soviet visitor to China in 15 years.

In recent months, both sides have toughened their stance on numerous issues, and have engaged in furious press campaigns against each other.

Many Kremlinologists and China-watchers, however, feel that both sides are privately interested in a cautious normalization of relations over the long term.

### Eurasian Colossus?

What does Bible prophecy reveal for the future of Asian relations?

In numerous prophecies, the Bible points to the development of a giant Eurasian world power, linked with populous neighbors by military and/or political alliances.

Almost 2,000 years ago, the aged apostle John saw in vision armies totaling 200 million men—armies that will sweep across Europe and critical battlefronts elsewhere, devastating the final restoration of the old Roman Empire that will have emerged just before the end of this age (Rev. 9:16). (Request *The Book of Revelation Unveiled at Last* for more information.)

These great armies—which could be mustered only by combining the forces of the Soviet Union and Asian allies—are also alluded to by the prophet Daniel (Dan. 11:44). He recorded that a sphere of power to the east and north of Palestine (where Soviet Russia is today) would become involved in a struggle, with the revived Roman Empire in Europe, for control of the Eastern Mediterranean. (It is explained in detail in our free booklet *The Middle East in Prophecy*.)

The role of the Soviet Union and potential allies is also mentioned by the prophet Ezekiel, in chapters 38 and 39. Here is a lengthy prophecy that will not be fulfilled until shortly after the returning Jesus Christ

restores the kingdom of God to this earth, with its new world capital at Jerusalem.

Consider, now, how political alliances in Eurasia might come into being.

The Soviet Union has a long-standing fear of one day being caught up in a two-front war—a simultaneous conflict with both Europe and China. Kremlin planners will do virtually anything to prevent that dire prospect.

Worsening relations with China on her eastern flank, coupled with Eastern Europe's severe drain on Soviet economic and military resources, could eventually make it necessary for the Soviet Union to loosen its hold on Eastern Europe.

The Kremlin may have to strike a political deal that would bring about the withdrawal of its military forces from Eastern Europe, for duty in Asia, and allow countries from Eastern Europe to associate themselves with the evolving West European union. This would create the circumstances necessary for the final emergence of a United Europe—the final restoration of the Roman Empire—as a major world power.

Already, Moscow's buildup of military forces along the Chinese border has weakened her strategic position in Europe and undermined her control over Eastern Europe.

But any such Russo-European "accommodation" would not last.

Ultimately, as the prophesied United Europe rises to global superpowerdom, a fearful Kremlin would be forced to settle its differences with China—to be free to deal with rising European religious, political and military leadership.

However it happens, Russia and Asian neighbors will ultimately find themselves in some degree joining forces out of necessity to confront a power they perceive as threatening the survival of world communism.

Future developments in Soviet-Chinese and Sino-Indian relations will have profound and far-reaching repercussions for the entire world. Their relationships will play a large part in molding the shape of world events as the final years of this age draw near. □

The PLAIN TRUTH

## INTERNATIONAL DESK

### Good News for Black Africa

**"I** WOULD like to write an article about black Africa," I told a friend from West Africa. "Any suggestions?" "Be encouraging," he said without hesitation. "We get *enough* bad news." He explained that he knew most *Plain Truth* readers live in the more affluent parts of the world and need to be reminded that there are some difficult times ahead.

But many readers in black Africa, he said, already have to cope with difficult times. In their part of the world poverty has become a fact of life.

The threat of famine looms constantly on the African horizon. There is no need to tell black Africans that they are suffering through the "drought of the century." Every trip to the market is a reminder that even the basic foods are becoming scarce and expensive, and that minor luxuries have drifted forever out of reach. They know that their continent is wracked with civil strife and revolution, and that even the best-intentioned leaders have to fight constantly against incompetence and corruption within their ranks.

They understand—possibly from firsthand experience—that there is a good chance their children will not survive their first year, and those that do live face an uncertain future, with unemployment, illiteracy and poverty.

The affluent world's bad news for tomorrow is reality in much of Africa today. For many of our African readers, life has already become a grim

struggle for existence. They need some good news.

Regular readers all over the world know that a fundamental purpose of the *Plain Truth* magazine is to announce the restoration of the government of God to this earth by the returning Jesus Christ who will lead all mankind into 1,000 years of peace, sometimes called the Millennium. What that means to our African readers is that in their lifetime they will begin to see the solution to their continent's tragic problems.

God has revealed in the Bible his plans for the future. Those plans are going to have a great impact on Africa. The roadblocks that have thwarted progress and prevented the African people from fulfilling their dreams will be removed forever.

#### A New Africa

In the 19th century, Africa was carved up and divided among the European powers. A line arbitrarily drawn on a map in London; Paris, Brussels or Berlin became a national boundary. No consideration was given to the impact this would have on local populations.



Typical outdoor elementary school class in session at Serowe, north of Botswana's capital of Gaborone.

For example, one East African tribe was divided because it was decided that it would be nice if both the Kaiser and Queen Victoria should each have a snowcapped mountain in their African domains.

When the black African states became independent, they inherited the boundaries set for them by the old colonial empires. Peoples with the same culture and language were divided, while

ancient rivals were lumped together. Colonies and territories received nationhood with little thought to natural resources, transportation links or natural frontiers.

The guidebooks to certain African countries today casually inform the visitor that "most of the country is useless desert." Hardly an incentive to visit—and a tragic condition for those who must live there.

Educated Africans, however nationalistic they may be, recognize that these problems are an almost insurmountable barrier to nation building today. But that is going to change.

When the Messiah Jesus the Christ returns he will begin a process that the Bible calls the "restoration of all things" (Acts 3:21, Revised Authorized Version throughout). One important aspect of this restoration will be the reestablishment of just national boundaries for all peoples of the earth. Although many have long lost sight of this fact, it is God who "has made from one blood every nation of men . . . and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their habitation" (Acts 17:26).

God does know best. He will redraw the map with the best interests of every people. It may mean some readjustment—but no nation will be shortchanged, and no people will be condemned to struggle to survive in tracts of "useless desert."

#### Paradise Restored

Not that there are going to be any useless deserts anyway. Significant African wastelands today are man-made, devastated through generations of ignorance and poor management.

Africa is potentially a fertile continent. No one need ever have starved there. But millions of acres of productive land through centuries have been ruined through erosion, worn out or so infested with pests and parasites that neither man nor beast can live there. This, too, will change.

Read what God's plans are for today's useless deserts: "For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert. The parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water; in the habitation of jackals . . . there shall be grass with reeds and rushes" (Isa. 35:6-7).

It will not happen overnight, of course. No doubt it will take hard work and careful planning to undo all the damage done by generations of misuse. But with the firm and fair hand of the kingdom of God guiding local leaders, those now useless deserts will become some of the most desirable areas of the earth.

Some of the most spectacular examples of God's creative handiwork are found in Africa—breathtaking scenery, magnificent lakes and rivers and a wonderful array of animals, birds and every kind of wildlife.

Even they are threatened in today's wretched world. Some of the most majestic of God's

creatures have become endangered species, and only careful protection in game reserves is saving them from extinction.

But in the coming restoration of all things, God's magnificent African creation will thrive again. Elephants, lions, leopards and rhinoceroses will once again find place in the land. Exotic birds will fill the air, and the lakes and rivers will teem with a rich variety of fish. In the Millennium wild animals will lose their fear and hostility toward man (Isa. 11:6-9). What a place Africa will be then—



showplace of God's finest natural handiwork.

#### Storehouse of Treasure

But the new Africa will not just be a tourist attraction. God has also blessed this continent with abundant mineral resources and agricultural potential. Today the economies of many African nations are a shambles, and their industrial potential has collapsed in ruins. In the Millennium this, also will change. And all the world will benefit from the storehouse of Africa's treasure.

Before this can happen, there will have to be a new economic order, to close forever the gap that has opened between the rich and the poor. It is not accurate for the Third World to point the finger at rich developed nations and say, "It's all your fault"—but *some* of it is.

*Something* is drastically wrong with the way this selfish world does business. Some nations are so deep in debt that they can't even afford the interest payments on their loans.

Third World leaders have called for a redistribution of wealth. The richer countries resist this, realizing that in present circumstances, this would in effect mean a distribution of poverty. They pity the misery of the Third World, but they have their own problems to contend with.

The world economic system, based on greed, competition and selfishness, is prophesied to collapse. It will be replaced with a new economy that will en-



sure just wages for everyone, no exploitation and a fair value put on all commodities. Every laborer will be worthy of his hire when God rules.

As all nations feel the benefit of capable, consistent government, prices will stabilize, so that nations can plan their economics with confidence.

Aid will be readily available in the world tomorrow to help development—but with no unfair strings attached. The aid will be competently administered, and based on real needs. In an economic system based on love and cooperation, nations will help each other because they *want* to—not because they are afraid of losing influence to a rival power.

#### The Human Potential

Africa's greatest resource is her people. They have been greatly underrated. This region was in

living the wrong way. Africans have simply borne the brunt of it. Sometimes it is by the greed and thoughtlessness of outsiders. Often they have brought it on themselves.

Under the kind and thoughtful rulership of Jesus Christ, Africans will find a new confidence and self-respect. That may be hard for some to accept, for in the Third World many have become disillusioned with Christianity (or rather what they have been taught as Christianity).

The late Kenyan leader, Jomo Kenyatta, once observed: "When the white man came he had the Bible and we had the land. He taught us to pray with our eyes closed. When we opened them, we had the Bible, and he had the land." There is, unfortunately, a great deal of truth in that. "Spreading the gospel" has often been the entering wedge for later exploitation of weaker populations, not only in Africa, but around the world.

Initially, some may have trouble trusting God's appointed ruler Jesus Christ. But they will learn fast, as he leads them into a new era of peace and prosperity (Matt. 12:21).

#### A Continent Restored

What a difference a millennium of stable government will make. Never again will African fathers have to see their sons grow up without education or opportunity. Never again will African mothers watch helplessly as their babies become ill or starve. All children will grow up into strong adulthood, their eyes bright and their minds filled with ideas, ready to begin a life of success that will be a credit to their parents and their nation.

I could go on, for the Bible gives many more details of God's new society. There is a plan to unite all men with one common language. Also a redistribution of land, banishing forever the hopelessness of the landless poor.

There is the assurance that war and armies will be outlawed, and the weapons of destruction turned to peaceful use. There is even the outline of a fantastic plan that will, later, give life back to the millions who have died through starvation, misery, war and disease through the ages.

But let this suffice. Perhaps most of our readers will have trouble believing even this much. Most people today do not believe God. Fortunately, it is going to happen whether they believe it or not.

This unhappy world must continue for a while longer. But not *much* longer. We are heading for a great final conflict centering on the Middle East.

There is not much that the smaller countries can do to prevent this—there is *nothing* they can do to avoid its consequences. Only God's intervention will prevent the destruction of all life. But he will intervene, and *this* age, with its frustration, humiliation and despair, will end.

Look past the bad news of today, for just beyond it is the bright hope of the wonderful new Africa of the world tomorrow.

—John Hallford

A pair of impala feed in a game preserve in Tanzania (left); elephants cross stream in the preserve (middle); a lilac-breasted roller bird in Botswana (right).

recent centuries considered a reservoir of cheap labor and slaves. Then it became a quarry, a mine and a plantation for each of the colonial powers.

This was a mixed blessing. The Europeans brought some benefits of modern civilization, but left their colonies pitifully ill prepared for nationhood. It could be argued that African nations often asked for trouble by demanding independence before they were ready. Be that as it may, many of those new nations now teeter on the edge of collapse. Is it any wonder that some African peoples have begun to lose confidence in themselves?

"What's wrong with us?" a West African businessman once asked me. "Why do we always mess things up?"

The answer, of course, is that the whole world is

## DEAD

(Continued from page 14)

tality to eternal immortal spirit life. They are those who, in this life, believed God and received the promise of eternal life through the Holy Spirit, which imparts the divine nature (II Pet. 1:4) and impregnates repentant humans with the beginning of eternal life (I Pet. 1:23).

What about the multitudes of people who never really knew God, or the Bible, or realized the need to obey God's revealed teaching in the Bible? What about the hundreds of millions who live in areas of the world where no access to the Bible and to the knowledge of the true God is possible? What about those deliberately kept from the knowledge of God in this atheistic, secular, deceived world?

God is fair. They will be given their opportunity to live life to the full in a second resurrection.

### Why the Second Resurrection?

God is all merciful. He is full of outgoing love and concern. His great plan encompasses giving every human being who has ever lived, and ever will live, opportunity to obtain eternal life. The hundreds of millions of people who once lived, but never knew God, will have their eyes opened! Their time will come to live again in the second resurrection, a thousand years after God's government is restored to this earth.

Once humans, beginning sooner than you may think, learn to live God's way for 1,000 years, those who lived and died in the past will have their first opportunity to understand God's way in the second resurrection. They will compare, after 1,000 years of God's government, what it was like to live man's way, in their first life, with God's way.

These are those mentioned in Revelation 20:5, called "the rest of the dead": "But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished."

Comprehend that! Every person now living without the true revealed knowledge of God or who has lived and died, will have a time of judgment in which either to

accept or reject the way of life God reveals in the Bible.

Notice John's description of the second resurrection in Revelation 20:12: "And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books" (RAV).

There would be no reason for a book of life to be opened if none were to receive eternal life. It will be a time when humanity, come to mortal life again, as a whole will know God and be offered his Holy Spirit. God's Spirit imparts a new, spiritual life in mortal humans once

**There is only one revealed source of knowledge available for discovering the truth about what happens after death. . . . That revelation of spiritual knowledge is the Holy Bible.**

again living in the flesh. Read Ezekiel 37:11-14 for the full details.

### The Third Resurrection

Sadly, and tragically, there will be those few who knowingly reject God and God's way of life. These will be in a third resurrection to final judgment and condemnation.

Again, God is all merciful! God will mercifully and quickly eliminate those who have made themselves unhappy with their own way of living.

All who spurn God's way of life, which is for our own good and which brings joy and happiness and abundance, will suffer eternal death. This is called the second death, from whence there will never be another resurrection: "The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades [the grave] delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged,

each one according to his works.

"Then Death and Hades ['hell' in the Authorized Version] were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life [at the time of the second resurrection] was cast into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:13-15, RAV). They "shall be ashes" (Mal. 4:3), not immortal souls tormented by fire and worms and the devil.

(If you want a fuller explanation, write for our booklet *Lazarus and the Rich Man*. It is free upon request.)

The message should be clear for everybody. It is time to take thought. Ask yourself, Where do I stand before God?

Each of us will have to answer personally to God for what we do in this life. We will each have to give an account for our actions: "For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written: 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God.' So then each of us shall give account of himself to God" (Rom. 14:10-12, RAV).

Each of us has made mistakes. All of us have sinned and fallen short of God's expectations: "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23, RAV). But we can stop the pattern of sin, breaking God's commandments. We can begin keeping God's law, the way to peace and inner happiness now, and ultimately eternal life. "If thou wilt enter into life," said Jesus, "keep the commandments" (Matt. 19:17).

If you are willing, if you sincerely seek God and change from living a life contrary to God and his revealed truth as found in the Bible, God will work with you and in you. He will give you opportunity to be counted among those in the first resurrection, an event to take place sooner than most people imagine.

"Come now, and let us reason together," says the Lord, "though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If you are willing and obedient. . . ." (Isa. 1:18-19, RAV).

Take this revealed knowledge seriously. Seek God's way of life while God gives you time. □

**The PLAIN TRUTH**



## Part Four: THE PLAIN TRUTH ABOUT CHILD REARING

# Preschool Years: Preparation for Life

We've covered the importance of the family, healthy babies, good parenting. Now we take you through the real-life experiences of childhood.

**P**ARENTING begins with that wonderful moment you first hold your baby in your arms.

It is then that the educational process starts that molds and shapes the child into what he or she will be in later life.

Make no mistake about it—the early months and years are the most critical in guiding and rearing of children. Here is how you can make the most of this vital period of time.

### Talk to Your Child

Beginning right after birth, talk to your baby. As much as possible avoid baby talk. Use clear speech. Talk while caressing him, bathing him, dressing him, changing him. Hearing the sound of your voice and the language you speak is necessary to his development.

Changing the position of the baby's crib from time to time is important, too, as he begins to distinguish differences in seeing as well as hearing. He begins to become familiar with different colors and shapes.

By the time your child is 8 or 9 months old you will notice that he has more of an understanding of what you are saying. When you see this spark of enlightenment, fuel it!

Use carefully selected words and phrases—but speak normally.

Don't use baby talk that will only have to be unlearned later. Remember, a child will revert to early learnings, and any faulty constructions you have instilled will come out later—to the child's embarrassment in front of classmates.

**Children should be learning cleanliness from the home environment.**

Work on your own grammar. You are your child's first teacher and you are transmitting the language with which your child will think and express his ideas. You surely want to transmit it as thoroughly and as correctly as you

can. It is wise also to avoid the other extreme—once the child can comprehend. Some parents talk above the child's level of understanding. If this happens the child may "switch off," later



impairing concentration in school.

### Encourage Curiosity

Don't confine your baby to a playpen for overlong periods. It may be more convenient, but it can curtail

interest and curiosity—and curiosity is essential to learning.

As your child is crawling, he learns by feeling the surroundings. Muscles and coordination are being developed. Coordinated movements early in life have a

parents who are truly interested and excited about their accomplishments.

Parents must show the child how to give and share. The child must not be allowed to snatch toys away from others. He must learn not to

tive eagerness toward new opportunities, rather than a withdrawing, doubtful, discouraged inferiority complex.

Children should be learning *cleanliness* from the home environment. They should be learning *friendliness* by social contacts and events—from group outings to home entertaining to dining out. They should be building confidence, enthusiasm, a happy, positive approach. By their actions, they should be displaying a deep honoring of parents and respect for all elders.

They should be learning to follow instructions by completing household chores and tasks. At their level, they should be learning to *work* for results, staying with a task until it is completed successfully.

Children should be taught to *accept criticism*. Your child will need your comfort when criticized, but he or she must learn to make necessary correction when wrong and forget the sting of criticism. Your love will help.

If parents let down in these areas, the child will become unresponsive both to his parents and his teachers at school. He'll become an expert at tuning out—he'll ignore directions and adjust poorly to situations.

#### Be Highly Interested

Parents should be highly interested in their child and all his interests. This shouldn't be just a casual display—young minds quickly discern the difference: When "Daddy, will you play with me?" is asked, the response, too often, is usually a weary, "Not now, I'm too tired." Or "In a minute, son," hoping some other interest will soon occupy him.

Take time to play with your child. It shows your child that you love him and accept his world. Also, you can see the progress he's making—on a regular basis.

Children should be allowed to play near you when you are working, even though this leads to interruptions. Our job as parents is to train our children. Answering their questions is a necessary part of this responsibility.

When the questions come at a moment that you cannot answer, have the child wait. This is valuable training for school and later life. It develops patience and control. It is

Children should be allowed to play near you when you are working, even though this leads to interruptions.

take anything that isn't his. He must not shade stories to his own advantage.

Above all else is the parental model for these traits. This will determine the child's character. And character is the real key to later success in school and life. Character and good study habits are what every parent first needs to be teaching his children at home.

A child needs to be learning order and organization. No boy or girl should be brought up in household confusion. A neat, ordered home with regular mealtimes will help develop order, trust and confidence in a child.

*Praise* builds confidence in your children. Don't talk demeaningly to others about your children's faults and inner feelings. If a child knows that what he or she reveals to you from the heart goes out to others, the child will stop being open with you. Don't lay the foundation for a generation gap. Begin building family loyalty now.

*Activities*—not necessarily expensive activities—when done together are the concrete, personal experiences that draw parent and child to each other. Such shared experiences will also develop right self-confidence in children—a posi-

critical role in the development of the brain.

All dangerous things should be put out of baby's reach, but allow for a certain amount of minor mishap. Don't be overprotective.

Limits in certain areas should be set for the child's own good. Refrain from saying "no" continually, but set definite limits to establish self-discipline early.

Remember that children will test their parents and will push to the limits they can go. But they will accept authority if parents are firm.

#### Character Development

The child's character traits, personal values and personality are decided basically by the home environment. Parents are the prime teachers—or should be! But often the development of character is left to the school in hopes that teachers will impart to the child the discipline and respect the parents couldn't.

A parent should realize he or she has a host of advantages with which to succeed. Young children will unquestionably believe a parent. They have a strong desire to please

good, too, because the child has to remember the question, which is excellent preparation for school. If, however, these questions are left unanswered we have let valuable learning experiences go by.

Children of all ages benefit by being included in the day's regular activities. Shopping, painting the fence, visiting friends, planting the backyard garden are all helpful educational experiences.

#### Personality and Language Development

As time goes on you will notice your child's personality developing. At age 2, some children are capable of using expressive language. Building compound and complex sentences can be hampered at this age, though some youngsters do take a bit longer. At age 2, a child has a speaking vocabulary of about 200 words, but during the next three years it can reach 2,000. This shows the steady, rapid progress that can be made during these crucial preschool years.

Help your child put immature responses into words. Don't let him get away with nodding or pointing. Have your toddler speak in correct, full sentences.

In all teaching, remember: A child will strive to live up to our expectations. If we have a low standard, the child will settle for that. If it's a high one, he will reach for it.

Teach and train in a positive, happy, warm, loving way. You shouldn't allow yourself to get so overburdened with other tasks that impatience sets in. Have time for laughter and fun. Make family life enjoyable.

#### Your Child's Play

Play is the child's work! It is important in his or her life and development. Far from being an extra, it is vital to growth. From the earliest days, play experiences help develop coordination, tastes, maturity and personality. Character is largely formed in early play experiences.

Through play a child rehearses patterns of living. Play doesn't always have to include toys. Teaching your child to perform household chores can be equally fun and constructive. If proper play experiences are offered, a child is likely to

transfer much of the pleasure of play into what adults call work.

Toys are important, though. They are a child's tools for learning. They can be used to develop a strong, healthy body and an alert mind. They can help form a child's personality and creative skills.

When purchasing toys, parents should select those suitable for the child's age, sex and temperament.

Up to one year children enjoy and profit from toys they can look at, feel, safely chew on, hold in their hands and drop. They should be washable and unbreakable and have no sharp edges.

One-to-two-year-olds often like toys they can take apart and put together again, and toys they can push and pull around. Balls, blocks, little airplanes, cars and dolls would generally interest them.

For toddlers and younger children, toys that can be assembled, that give children the chance to learn different colors, and help them learn to count, are good.

As a child grows older, he likes to turn pages (teach him how) and

changed. Boys, too, should be familiar with the procedure.

The manipulative skills of 4- and 5-year-olds need toys that stimulate their coordination and mental abilities, speed and accuracy. Trains, hobby materials in arts and crafts, construction or model sets, tricycles, real carpenters' tools and games that can be played out of doors are appropriate here.

Outdoor play is excellent for health and coordination. A swing, jungle gym, outdoor tub (under your supervision) are good, as is a sandbox, replete with shovel, bucket and sieve.

Good educational experiences and toys should involve active personal participation. This is essential to the whole pattern of development.

Be sure the toys are safe and durable. Some suggestions of the U.S. National Commission of Product Safety include:

Test doll heads. Twist and turn the head, as well as the arms and

**The manipulative skills of 4- and 5-year-olds need toys that stimulate their coordination and mental abilities.**



experiment with newly discovered abilities. Nontoxic modeling clay, safe vegetable dye paints, various balls (which help coordination, timing and agility) and construction sets are good, depending on the child. If a child has difficulty catching balls, toss things to your offspring, such as soiled laundry to put in the hamper.

Girls enjoy dolls that can be dressed and have underclothes

legs, as a child might. Look for sharp edges.

Make sure the eyes and ears of toy animals are firm.

If a toy comes only in a package, ask the retailer for a sample you can examine.

Be wary of electrical toys.

Get assurance that paint on toys is nonpoisonous.

Above all, use good common

sense! Remember—children are your priceless gifts from God. Make their playtime safe.

Toys do not have to be the purchased variety exclusively. Some can be made from wood or cans with plastic tops. Children enjoy cardboard boxes too—they make fine trains and buses. Creative toys provide the child the excitement and satisfaction of learning. They challenge the child to use his imagination in a constructive and creative way.

Scissors should be round ended, but really-cut. This is the time to teach proper use of sharp objects, and your child should soon be quite safe with them. (If giving pencils you should observe how the child is holding the pencil and forming letters.)

From your cloth remnants have your child cut odd bits of material and match the pieces, feeling as well as seeing the differences.

Don't expect perfect results from your child's craft activities. It is the activity that counts at this time, not the result.

Be sure to have your child clean up and put toys away. That is each child's responsibility—in having toys one must learn to take care of them! Failure to do so is allowing a breakdown of character.

In games with others, a child should be taught the importance of sharing and that winning is not as important as being a good sport. Games teach good sportsmanship and how to face disappointment gracefully. A child should be taught to always put forth his best effort and to cheerfully cooperate with others. These points should be learned early!

#### Television

Many preschoolers are practically weaned on television, in some cases spending more than half of their waking time with eyes glued to their "teacher."

In the United States, before reaching age 5, a child may have

already spent more time in front of a television set than the average student in a liberal arts program spends in the classroom throughout the entire four years of college attendance!

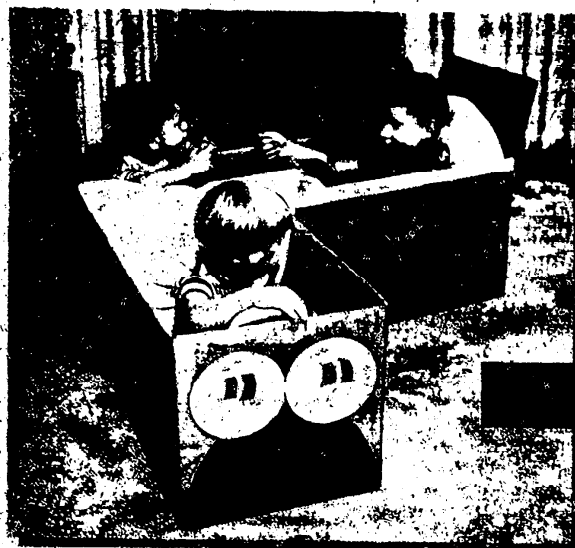
Quickly changing scenes and the rapid-fire delivery of television shorten the attention span of children.

Many children who watch television extensively tend to lose their powers of imagination. The electronic video thinks for them so often, they become unable to think for

then comment on any fallacies or wrong actions that can creep into "good" programs.

#### The Importance of Listening

Children need to come to school with the habit of giving their undivided attention to the teacher—or any elder who is speaking. This is far too often not the case because of the impact of television, and because parents themselves are failing to set the example. The child's future is *already* at a very sad disadvantage.



**Children enjoy cardboard boxes too—they make fine trains and buses.**

Listening is a vital key to learning. Start developing this skill early. It will take work, diligence and self-discipline, but your child's future success depends on it.

Have your child sit still and be quiet at certain times of the day. Start by having him or her listen to you for a minute or two at a time. Make sure the child's eyes are on you. Then ask a question concerning what you had just covered. Praise the child with: "What a good boy (or girl) you are! Those ears just catch every one of Mommy's (or Daddy's) words!" A big hug will be in order.

You will develop by experience the ability to know how much your child is able to take in and reiterate in answer form. Add information when you feel it's too easy for him, always expanding your offspring's knowledge and understanding. Extend his listening time to several

themselves. (The simplest of toys and a vivid imagination entertained before television was available.)

Upon entering school, children reared on television find their "training" catching up with them! With the children accustomed to being entertained, teachers find it difficult to hold their pupils' attention for any length of time. Add to this possible weakened eyes from staring at one point (sometimes without blinking for long periods, whereas the normal eye movement is from side to side).

Television should not fill the vacuum created by a parent's neglect. It should not be a baby-sitter. Children need to be talked to and listened to in their formative years. The television set itself, however, is not the problem—if control is exercised. Watch good programs *together*. Parents can

THE PLAIN TRUTH

minutes by the time he's about 5 years old.

#### Literature for Reading

In teaching to listen, read to your child! Take your child to the library even by age 2. A love of books will begin to develop by so doing.

Choose books that have proper information. Avoid too many talking animals and fairy tales. Keep to subjects relevant to your children's experiences and interest.

Through books your child's vocabulary will increase and he will learn the flow and rhythm of words. Synonyms and antonyms will enter his ears. Nouns and adjectives will parade before his mind.

Poetry is important for the rhythmic pattern children enjoy, and for speech development (by repeating words that may initially be difficult to pronounce). Have your child learn several from memory. Memory work aids in the proper development of mental organization. Be sure the selections cover a wide spectrum of facts and experiences. Introduce your child to the rhythm of language with all its richness and beauty.

Show your child how you read. As you read, use expression—make the story or poem exciting, interesting. Use inflection and vocal color—but be balanced! Don't be over dramatic.

Don't continue reading something in which your child has no apparent interest at the time. He has so many of his own interests going, build on these. His knowledge in these subjects will rapidly increase and other areas will open from this.

Open the world to your child—teach, instruct, nourish, add to the ideas and interests he or she has.

Try to look at the world through a child's eyes. View the folded rosebud, the billowing clouds, the tiny twigs of trees. Appreciate and enjoy God's creation with your child, and you will be teaching him, "while you're walking by the way."

#### Don't Rush Reading

Don't be a parent who is over anxious to get his child reading! Parents often like to put great emphasis on this while leaving other more

valuable preschool work undone. Children often can "read" before they go to school, but have poor comprehension and eyesight and can do little else. They have learned to identify words, but without the depth of meaning that takes added maturity and life experience to comprehend.

To some parents, other areas are not so obvious or readily tangible as reading, and therefore are overlooked. These are the important attitude areas covered earlier. This is the foundation upon which all else will rest.

Reading at a very early age can be accomplished, but it is not necessary. If your child does show interest in reading before his first year at school, expose him to familiar words all around us—"STOP," "TELEPHONE." In a natural way, have your child point out signs as you walk and ride. He or she will have such pleasure in recognition! Select books to read that contain these words. It is much easier for a child to understand ideas that are familiar than a book in which there is little interest.

Have your child tell you a brief story. Using large dark letters, print what he or she has said. You can make up a book this way, using large sheets of paper. Praise your child for each word recognized.

If you choose to buy your child books, make book buying a real event. Buy one at a time. With this incentive, a child will not only experience joy in reading, but may want to try out writing.

#### Preschool Writing Development

Again, remember it takes tremendous coordination to write. This can be developed by picking berries, folding napkins, sorting out Daddy's nails and bolts, working with clay or kneading pastry with Mother.

Encourage your child to do much cutting and pasting. Cut out pictures and paste them by topic in a scrapbook.

Use cardboard upon which to paste a picture and cut into shapes—an endless supply of jigsaws!

These activities develop strength in hands and fingers. Good penmanship begins here.

If your child strongly favors use of his left hand, make no issue of it.

Be sure to teach your child not to write in books that should not be written in.

#### Mathematics

Preschool years offer a made-to-order situation for teaching elementary mathematics. Have your child measure how many times a certain toy will fit on a chair, how many steps it is to certain objects. Have your child set the table and count out the spoons, forks, knives and plates needed.

Make a clock using numbers found in magazines. Have your child gather acorns, stones, pebbles, sand, shells, and weigh them against each other on a scale.

On shopping trips, have your child find round and oval fruits and vegetables, rectangular packages. Let him or her have experience with proper handling of money, especially pennies, nickels, dimes.

#### Music

Acquaint your child with music. From earliest days let him hear a rich variety of music in the home.

Play recordings, both classical and children's, along with a rich selection of other types, including ethnic compositions from around the world. Include music that is majestically inspiring, peaceful, pleasurable, joyous—and even sad. Have background music at special meals.

Point out the instruments of the orchestra.

Let your child participate in making music and keeping time to it. Let him or her sing, dance, skip, jump, march and learn left and right by so doing. Through rhythmic activities a child gains coordination, confidence, social skills and knowledge. Music helps in discipline and development of creative skills.

Be careful not to ridicule or in any way put down the musical attempts of your child. Encourage, and help instead. Make music fun. Enjoy it as God intends.

#### The Important First Day at School

As your child gets closer to school age, prepare for that important first

day. See that he or she has been playing with other children, is having contact with other adults who have authority—and responds to them.

Talk positively about your child's school. Problems of excessive shyness can be avoided if the child is allowed to stay with relatives and later a close friend or two for the odd morning or afternoon during toddlerhood or soon after.

Some experience of a well-supervised and structured playgroup for a morning or two (avoid more than this) can help prepare the child for the school setting. Build it up as a joyous experience—a place where he or she will meet new friends, new challenges and have a lovely time. Take your child to visit the school before enrolling.

As your child enters on the first day, and all succeeding days, he or

she should enter without you, have a cheery "Good morning" for the teacher, put the lunch pail neatly in the space provided, walk in an orderly manner to the desk and sit quietly, waiting for the class to begin.

When the teacher speaks, a child should respond instantly, not when he's ready to! He should not wave his hand frantically when asking or answering a question. He should be trained in finishing lunch within a half hour and sit properly during it. He should have been independently toilet-trained and not embarrassed to ask a teacher for permission to use the toilet in emergencies.

Any questions or misunderstandings you have should be directed to the teacher directly, not through your child. You will be laying groundwork for an effective future relationship with the school.

Uphold the teacher in your child's eyes. If you don't, you are undoing principles you have already taught. When school and home work together, progress is steadily and rapidly made.

To help reassure your child, be sure to be prompt in picking up him or her at dismissal time.

Putting God's principles as the basis of knowledge, your child will now have the start of a giant blessing that will grow day by day. He or she will please all who come in contact with your family, reflecting your training and, by extension, God's truth, for "even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right" (Prov. 20:11).

Our next installment, "Pre-adolescent Years," will carry us up to the beginning of the teen years. □

## Changing Years

(Continued from page 9)

exercise in this manner, and the talks you share while walking can strengthen your marriage as well.

In addition to physical symptoms and the ability to take care of those, physical aspects of menopause; it is most urgent we understand the emotional changes that will also occur.

Fluctuating feelings of depression and irritability are not symptoms of encroaching mental illness. They simply, to one degree or another, are emotions one must cope with at this time of life.

There will be good days and there will be bad days. There will be times a woman will forget even

her best friend's name. She will notice extreme fluctuations in her feelings of anger and love.

While hormonal imbalance plays a significant role in the emotional makeup, outside factors can also play a part. A woman overly subjected to stress is much more likely to have fluctuating emotions than a woman who lives and works in an environment of love and understanding.

This brings us to the conclusion of the matter. Every woman must accept that she will enter into *and pass through* menopause. It is not a sickness or disease, but a normal, to-be-anticipated time of life.

It is a time when a husband must offer more love, understanding and time to his wife than ever before.

Children, relatives and friends must also pitch in to create a stable and loving environment.

Then, it is a time to look forward to about one third of a life span of accomplishment and joy.

If you have entered or are about to enter menopause, relax. You are going to go through some changes, yes. You will some days be hard to live with. You will have some bad days. But they will get fewer and further between. One day they will stop.

Stay active and busy. Maintain a good exercise program. Eat a wholesome and balanced diet.

Then you may find, as one woman wrote, "The change begins at age 45 but, believe me, life begins at 50!" □

## PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

spiritual—and the spiritual incentive has been "GET"—"ME FIRST!"

Result? In spite of materialistic advances there has been spiritual retrogression. Trouble, evils, suffering and anguish engulf the world.

"Is honesty the best policy?" A magazine survey put this question to 103 business executives, all high in their lines. An overwhelming majority doubted whether a strictly honest policy would enable one to rise to the top in the business

world. Only two answered yes, and one of these said he knew he was being naive.

Looking more deeply past the materialistic advances in the business world, there has been selfish motivation, dishonesty, dog-cat-dog competition, disregard for the good of others, sharp practices.

This facet of modern civilization, like modern education, government, science and technology, has moved in the direction opposite from the foundational spiritual law of our Maker. It has contributed to bringing man's world to an appar-

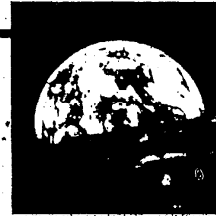
ent state of hopelessness, and a soon future of utter destruction.

But that super-strong "unseen hand from someplace" is now about to intervene. He sends a voice crying out with the world's only and sure hope! That intervention will save humanity from itself. A new and different world of PEACE, HAPPINESS and ABUNDANCE for all is that sure hope. Mankind won't bring it about. It will have to be done to humanity—and our motivation shall be changed from "GET" to "GIVE!" Agree or not—IT IS SURE! □

The PLAIN TRUTH



# NEWS OVERVIEW



## Understanding World Events and Trends

### Forty Years Later, Europe's War Wounds Still Hurt

It has been four decades since Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin met at Yalta to shape Europe's future.

In that seven-day conference at the Soviet Black Sea resort in February 1945, the Allied leaders agreed to accept only unconditional surrender from the Axis powers to end World War II, and to divide conquered Germany into four zones of occupation. They also consented to meet in San Francisco, California, to finalize plans for the United Nations. The Soviets also agreed to enter the war against Japan.

The conference's "Declaration on Liberated Europe" was to guarantee the "right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live." The situation that has since developed in postwar Europe left many feeling that both the spirit and the letter of the agreement have been violated.

The late French President Charles de Gaulle argued that the United States and the Soviet Union merely used the Yalta agreement to divide a shattered Europe.

More recently, former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt stated that the Allied powers "decided in a meeting in Yalta to practically divide Europe into spheres of influence."

U.S. President Ronald Reagan has disputed these

views, noting that the Yalta agreement does not recognize any legal division of Europe. U.S. Vice President George Bush stated, "We recognize no lawful division of Europe."

Recent stirrings in both Western and Eastern Europe

have brought new meaning to the U.S. leaders' remarks. The Dutch refuse to allow U.S. nuclear missiles on their soil. West Europeans continue to channel U.S. technology to Iron Curtain countries. The Romanians, against Soviet wishes, participated in the 1984 Olympics. Poland's labor movement is growing more vocal and demonstrative. And, perhaps most importantly, dialogue between the two Germanys has revived hopes for a people divided.

Instead of a Europe divided East against West, many envision a Europe united, independent of both the Soviet Union and the United States. And as Europe grows more restless, the fuse that was lit at Yalta continues to burn shorter and shorter.



Imperfect harmony: Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin met at Yalta in February 1945 to chart Europe's postwar course.

### Malaria Makes a Comeback

Malaria, a disease once thought to be virtually conquered, is making a dramatic resurgence despite medical advances.

Malaria endangers more than half of the world's population, according to the World Health Organization. Each year an estimated 250 million contract the disease. More than one million, mostly children, die annually.

Dr. Alan Meltzer of Canada's International Development Research Center summarized a growing concern. "Malaria is increasing rapidly. We are not winning. The mosquito is way ahead of us."

The disease has been encouraged by increased international travel. And yesterday's miracle drugs are losing ground as certain malaria strains develop immunity.

DDT, a pesticide once considered effective for killing carrier mosquitoes, is now useless in about one

third of the spraying programs worldwide.

Chloroquine has been used since the 1940s to cure and prevent malaria. Its use, along with DDT, reduced the





spread of malaria. The number of areas where chloroquine-resistant strains of the disease exist, however, has grown steadily. South America, Asia, Africa, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands all have resistant areas.

The female *Anopheles* mosquito transmits the malaria virus by biting someone who already has it, then biting someone else. Once in the human body, the malaria parasite propagates itself in a three-stage cycle, making it difficult to subdue.

Scientists are now working to develop a vaccine effective against each stage. They have already isolated

and synthesized a protein that could produce immunity to the first stage of the malaria life cycle. Research teams at New York University Medical Center, the U.S. National Institute of Health and the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, anticipate making enough of the vaccine to begin animal tests this year.

If all goes well, a malaria vaccine could be marketed in five years. Yet the scientists fear that a new vaccine may not be enough. Colonel Franklin Top of Walter Reed warned, "If we don't put out a good malaria control drug every five to seven years, we will be in trouble." ■

## Niger's Uranium to Iran?

How to make ends meet in face of drought and economic instability—that is the question troubling Niger, in West Africa.

The advancing Sahara is swallowing more of the



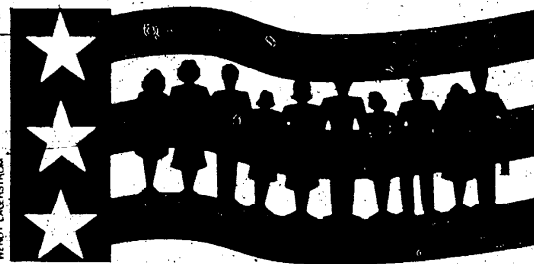
Niger's Seyni Kountché

country's precious arable land because of a second drought within 10 years. Niger's corruption, southern border with its major African trading partner, Nigeria, is shut because of that country's own economic difficulties. Niger's

commodity earnings in U.S. dollars plunged from \$124.4 million in 1979 to about \$19.8 million in 1983.

Since Colonel Kountché seized power in a 1974 coup, he has become one of the most listened-to leaders in West Africa. He reoriented Niger's agricultural production from export crops of cotton and peanuts to providing food for the nation's burgeoning population of six million, and has effectively cracked down on political corruption. Colonel Kountché has made self-sufficiency in food production a prime goal, saying that to save dignity is to first of all feed, lodge and care for the population.

Niger possesses the world's fourth-largest reserves of easily accessible uranium, and is fifth in uranium production after the United States, Canada, South Africa and Namibia. Revenues from uranium sales have been used until now for development in Niger and to pay for emergency food provisions and health care. But what if economic troubles continue? Part of



## Dramatic Shifts in U.S. Work Force

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that for the first time in history, white male workers are a minority of the U.S. labor force. Women are entering the job market in record numbers.

The shortage of manpower during World War II moved more than 6.5 million women into the U.S. work place from 1941-45, and the trend did not reverse. Since 1940, the percentage of the U.S. work force that is female grew from 24.6 percent to 43.5 percent in 1983. By 1984, 54 percent of the adult female population were holding full-time jobs outside the home. Now, the perceived need for larger family income and the women's movement encourage even more women to seek employment outside the home.

Also, blacks and other minorities, notes the report, grew from 10.7 percent in

1954 to 13 percent of the work force in 1983. White males during the same period decreased from 62.5 percent to 49.3 percent.

Statistics such as those reported by the National Commission on Working Women indicate that 45 percent of women in the work force are either unmarried, widowed, divorced or separated.

**Nearly two thirds of new employees in the United States during the next 10 years will be women.**

—U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

About 21 percent of women workers are married to spouses whose income is less than \$15,000 a year.

Indications point to a steady feminization of the work force. According to the Bureau, women will constitute nearly two thirds of all new employees in the United States during the next 10 years. ■

the solution may be to strike a major deal with another nation, possibly Iran, for Niger's rich uranium reserves.

Colonel Kountché told *Jeune Afrique* magazine that he would be ready to sell his uranium to the devil, and quickly, too, if the devil would buy Niger's annual production of 4,300 metric tons at an agreed price.

Iran established an embassy in Niger and is

negotiating with Niger on a sale of uranium. The negotiations between Iran and Niger haven't been fruitful yet because Niger, as a member of the International Agency for Atomic Energy, is required to sell uranium only to buyers using it for a peaceful purpose. But as Colonel Kountché remarked, the issue could, in a continuing crisis, boil down to a question of price. ■

## Ethiopia's Grim Plight

A massive famine relief operation is under way in drought-stricken Ethiopia.

The East African nation is one of 17 countries on the continent in the grip of continuing or worsening food crises.

Will the emergency action prove successful? Or will the early estimates of 1,800,000 Ethiopians dying of famine by some time in 1985 prove closer to actuality?

The obstacles—geographical and political—to getting food aid to the starving millions of Ethiopians, largely in the country's northern highlands, have proven to

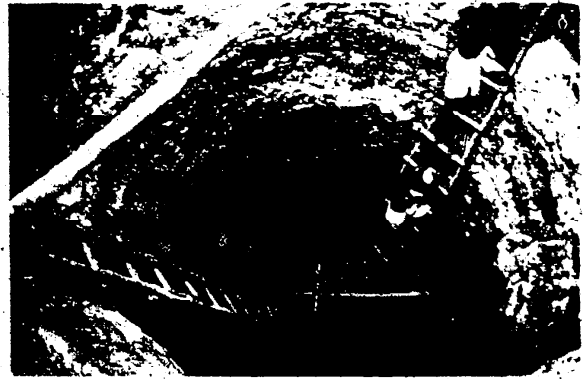
be formidable and frustrating to national relief agencies.

Overland transport inland from Ethiopia's Red Sea ports initially proved to be ineffective because of lack of passable roads. Finally, an "air bridge" was established linking the ports and inland food depots with drop-off points in the drought-stricken regions.

The famine is further complicated by the various wars between the central government of Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam and several—at least six—rebel armies who are in pitched battle against Colonel Mengistu's rule. As many as two thirds of the starving people are caught in the contested areas, especially

in the north. Because of this conflict, until very recently the central government army had been reluctant to divert any personnel and vehicles

to publicly admit the building crisis. It took international pressure and the sudden blaze of worldwide publicity to finally move the government to



from its task of battling the insurrections.

Ethiopia's central government was reluctant

Water tables plummeted during Ethiopian drought.

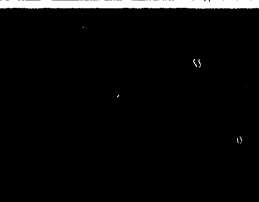
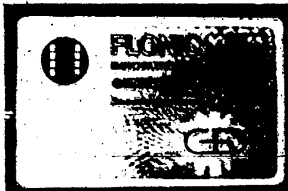
action in cooperating with international famine-relief organizations.

All during last September, Colonel Mengistu and his Marxist government were busy preparing, not for famine relief, but for the nation's 10th anniversary celebration. An estimated 200 to 250 million dollars were spent on the festivities. The government refused to permit journalists attending the celebrations to visit drought-affected areas.

Ethiopia's famine conditions are expected to be even worse in 1985 because of the poor domestic harvests this year. The current government plan calls for the incorporation of half of the nation's peasants and land by 1994 into state farms and producers' cooperatives. This government restructuring of agricultural production, with traditional Marxist central planning, will likely assure that future harvests will also be poor.

## Coming: The Smart Card

A new computerized bank card will soon revolutionize the way the world makes its financial transactions. Such a card, the *carte a memoire* (commonly referred to as the Smart Card), was created in 1974 by Roland Moreno, a French journalist.



Computerized bank card: solution to unsafe times?

What makes Smart Cards so intriguing is that they are almost impossible to forge and can only be used with a personal identification number (PIN). A computer brain replaces the strip of magnetic tape found on ordinary credit or automatic-teller cards, making possible expanded uses.

For instance, the microcomputer in each card has three sections. One contains the manufacturer's codes and is inaccessible, one is confidential and can be accessed only by the PIN of the card carrier, and one can be accessed by anyone.

The latter section could hold vital information such as medical history, emergency contact numbers and, somewhat ominously, other personal information in which authorities might be interested.

Despite the cost, the cards are on their way. Experiments in France—the leader in Smart Card technology—Norway and the

United States have already begun. Residents in selected areas in those nations use the cards just like they would cash, checks, credit cards or even identity cards. When a person wants to buy something, the merchant places the card into a special reader and enters the amount of the purchase. The owner of the card then enters his Personal Identification Number to complete the transaction.

Unlike credit cards, the Smart Card immediately debits the purchaser's account and credits the merchant's. In the long run, use of the cards could eliminate a great deal of paperwork and expense. The cards could carry information now carried on credit cards, bank cards, social security cards and library cards, for example.

Smart Cards are not available for general use yet, but many see them as an intelligent solution to the unsafe times in which we live.

## MORAL CRISIS

(Continued from page 4)

destroy the way of your paths" (Isaiah 3:12).

Leadership today encompasses far more than politics. It includes those in the fields of religion and education. And perhaps the most influential segment of society is the opinion-molding industry—the news and entertainment media.

Not long ago, a survey was taken of leading journalists, broadcasters and news executives in the United States. According to the poll, the "media elite" are strong supporters of sexual permissiveness, 90 percent agreeing that abortion should be legal, 54 percent believing that adultery is not wrong. More than three fourths of those interviewed believed that homosexuality is not wrong.

Shortly afterward, a like survey was taken of top television entertainment executives and producers. Similar percentages, generally even more liberal, were obtained. Reported the Associated Press on February 15, 1983, concerning this second survey: "Top Hollywood creators of the entertainment fare on television are predominantly secular in outlook, politically liberal and shun religion, a new study finds. It also finds that they seek to reform society toward their views. . . .

"Their value orientation is fundamentally different from that of the general public," says the report published in *Public Opinion*, a magazine of the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research in Washington. "On such issues as abortion, homosexual rights and extramarital sex their views diverge sharply from traditional values."

## "Progress"?

(Continued from page 6)

enjoy this treat with your best clothes on. Why? Because inside each of these juice sacks are smaller sub-sacks, the thin membranes of which envelop and protect small portions of the delicious liquid sunshine. And the sacks themselves are all edible!

Watermelon packaging is equally designed to be spill proof. The content is mostly liquid, yet you

Since President Reagan's landslide victory this past November, certain segments of America have expressed a hope that fundamental changes in the nation's directions were at last under way. Columnist M. Stanton Evans is not so sure. "The power of the media and academic elites," he says, "the entrenched influence of economic and ideological interest groups, the very structure of the government system itself, are all arrayed on the other side, intent on stopping change and well-equipped to do so."

### Lack of Right Knowledge

How far down America has come since its humble beginnings, since the days when a man or woman was not even considered educated unless he or she had read the Bible, and could display a fair degree of competence in understanding it.

Today, as President Reagan enters his second term, it is not considered any mark of ignorance to be unable to recite more than two or three of the Ten Commandments.

Our English-speaking nations indeed are being destroyed—from within—"for lack of knowledge" (Hos. 4:6). Not physical, material knowledge, but God's revealed knowledge on the right way to live.

In the book *The Story of America*, published by the Reader's Digest Association (1975), the editors wrote in the foreword entitled "Why It Happened Here":

"Puritan historian Edward Johnson wrote in the 1650s that the Lord had 'sifted a whole Nation to plant his choice grain' in America's rich soil. Two centuries later this

strain was still being played. Novelist Herman Melville believed that 'we Americans are the peculiar chosen people, the Israel of our time' . . ."

It was easy for the forefathers of today's Americans to become believers, noted the *Reader's Digest* editors. "One had only to look around for full evidence of the Lord's bounty. Here was some of the best agricultural soil on the face of the globe. Vast forests spread out for hundreds of miles, filled with deer, beaver, and wild-fowl. . . . There were mountains of coal and iron ore, reservoirs of oil, and rich veins of gold and silver. This was truly a chosen land for a chosen people."

Americans have lost sight of these roots. And its religious leaders have never understood the deeper roots of the American people—that indeed, they were not only "the Israel of our time" but, in the main, the descendants of the ancient lost House of Israel.

These immigrants to North America were destined, in this end time of human civilization, because of the obedience of the patriarch Abraham, the grandfather of Israel, to become the greatest single nation in world history. Very few have understood the depth of these roots, and why America flourished and why she is on the way down to oblivion unless there is a drastic course correction.

For the true understanding of the heritage—and destiny—of the United States, Britain and the developed English-speaking world, write for the book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. It will open your eyes to today's world conditions as nothing else. □

can slice a watermelon in half and lose no more than a few drops of juice. Try that with a liquid-filled plastic bottle!

And how about an ear of corn? The layer upon layer of overlapping husks may seem excessive. Yet they are not. They serve to keep the kernels fresh, clean and cool under the hot summer sun.

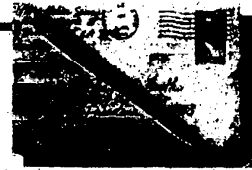
Then there is the coconut. After the milk it contains is drunk and the meat is removed, the shell has utilitarian or artistic value, as has

the large fibrous husk that once surrounded it. Or they can be discarded, eventually returning to the earth without leaving a trace. Who can improve on that?

Other examples of unique packaging include the pomegranate, the grape, garlic, the artichoke, the eggplant and the egg itself. The more deeply one analyzes it, the more inescapable is the conclusion that in food packaging, as in any other field you can name, God had a better idea! □

The PLAIN TRUTH

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



## Sure Way to End Fear of Nuclear War

I just read your terrific article "The Sure Way to End the Fear of Nuclear War Now!" It was a fantastic article for several reasons. First, it accurately points out where the U.S. is today. We depend on expensive tools of war that may not do the job. These tools presuppose that God doesn't exist and, that even if he does exist, his power is insufficient to protect us. That only man's ideas and weapons can protect us. And yet, we claim to be a Christian nation!

J. Eric La Rue  
Salem, Kentucky

## Seven Laws of Success

I have been reading your magazine now for some time, and it is both informative and extremely pleasurable and interesting to read. I look forward to reading it each month, and to distributing it amongst my family and staff. My children aged 15 and 13 enjoy reading your magazine and finding out what is happening in the world that they will soon inherit.

A member of my staff asked me to write to you in relation to an advertisement he saw for a book called *The Seven Laws of Success*. All my employees seemed very interested in this book, and I wonder if it is possible to get a few copies for their office desks. I am sure that this book will provide great motivation and encouragement to my family and business employees, and I would be delighted if you could forward a few copies.

Jeff Klein  
Elsternwick

## Drugs

I pick up your magazine wherever I see it displayed.

Today I subscribed.

I was wondering if you could print an article on the effect of drugs in a relationship.

I am 19 years old and finally drug free and proud of it. My fiancé is 25 years old and feels if he gives up marijuana, drinking, etc. he will lose his friends. I've searched for an explanation of why he (and I, too) would be happier without drugs, but I can't find a reason that he understands. Could you help?

Many of our friends have this same problem of drugs running their friendships.

Susan T.  
Santa Maria, California

## New Subscribers

Many thanks for sending *Plain Truth* so regularly and gratis! How on earth do you do it—with no advertising and apparently no source of revenue?

All the best to you and your organization, though I, as a retired journalist, now 78, am far from being a religious man.

Robin C. Slessor  
Buderim, Queensland

I would like to thank you for sending me a copy of *The Plain Truth* each month and to express my appreciation for this great magazine.

Your articles on current events and how they relate to Bible prophecies are truly remarkable. Even more remarkable is the very wide circulation of this magazine and the many eyes that are being opened to the truth.

Mrs. N.M. Juggan  
London

As a pensioner I was delighted to receive a copy of *Plain Truth* handed to me from a friend after she had read it herself. I was more

delighted to find on reading it what worthwhile reading it made. Your articles deal with a great many issues especially how to live to God's law, something that interests me greatly, especially in today's world. I feel sure *The Plain Truth* will give clear, straightforward, understandable reading of the truth and it will be up to me to be frank with myself and to be honest about what I read and digest. The magazine I have already read has prepared me a little for what to expect.

Mrs. E. Finnegan  
Bristol, Avon

Having received the past five issues of *The Plain Truth* I must comment on the fine standard of this magazine. I enjoy reading the reasoned arguments and I feel enlightened to many important issues which tend to remain oblivious to the public eye. I am studying for a B.Sc. Hons. degree in Economics and Politics, and I find some articles interesting and useful.

A. Higgins  
Manchester

My son, Ian Bailey, was receiving your monthly magazines, but unfortunately he was drowned in the river on 5th May, and therefore I would appreciate it if you could cancel his subscription. However, since his death, I have become interested in your literature, and would like to continue receiving them in my own name. I would also like a copy of *Why Were You Born?* and *United States and Britain in Prophecy* and any literature you may have available on the resurrection. My son was almost 19, and had many problems, which I couldn't seem to help him with, one of which was covered in your July issue. Regrettably, it was two

months too late to help Ian, but I hope it helps others who find themselves in a similar situation.

Mrs. B. McKenna  
Co. Waterford

## New Wrapping for Australian Edition

The changing of the *Plain Truth* packaging means that I receive *The Plain Truth* without rabbit's ears and creases as before.

Goffin Buchanan  
Bulimba, Queensland

## Malta—The Little Country That Could

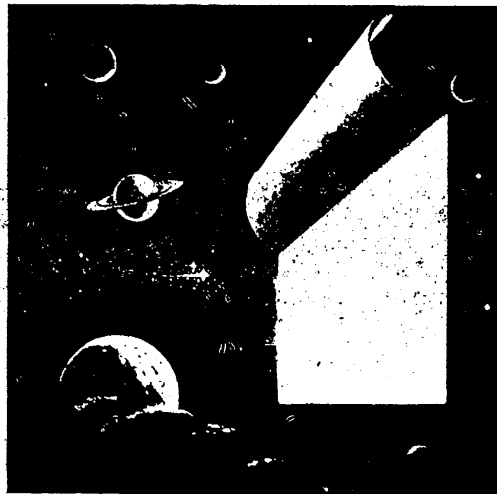
I am nearly 17 and until the time I began reading your wonderful magazine I was quite a pessimist because I did not find anyone to explain all my problems to me. Not until my brother brought me one of your magazines and told me to subscribe in it. Your articles have taught me how to look at the world and myself from a better point of view and they always fill me with hope. I liked especially your article about Malta, my homeland. What you wrote stands in contrast with what others have been saying about this nation. I hope that the former helps the somewhat tarnished image of our group of little islands.

The magazine has helped me improve spiritually, too. I was searching for a way to pray in a better and more fruitful way. Then I read the article "Is There Anybody Up There?" and it was all that I wanted.

You may not believe it but this magazine has even helped me in the essays I am assigned to do at home from my teachers at school. I also recommend it to my friends. If they do not start to subscribe it's because they already receive it.

Anne Farrugia  
Victoria, Gozo

# DOES GOD EXIST?



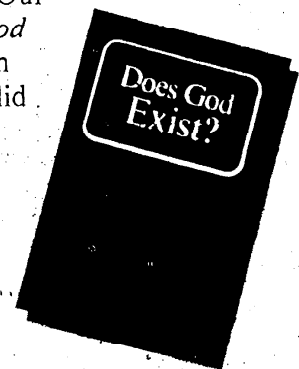
**S**keptics are doubtful. Scientists say it can't be proven—at least by any means known to science, that is.

Yet, no question is more fundamental to human existence—and to the future of all humanity!

Can the existence of a great Creator God be demonstrated to the rational mind? Is there tangible evidence that a Supreme Being sits at the controls of the universe?

You can know the answers—and they

are so clear that a child can understand! If God does indeed exist, then you need to know who he is and what he is like, what he is doing right now and how your life is affected by all this. Our free booklet *Does God Exist?* provides, with reasoned proof, a solid answer. For a copy, mail the card in this issue or write to our office nearest you.



## FREE Booklet Offer!

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