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PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding



Halley's Comet

A GALACTIC OMEN?

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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OUR COVER

In this humorous cover illustration, a group of astrologers, wizards and others look fearfully skyward as Comet Halley streaks overhead. Artist Kim Passey, who has captured a moment in pseudoscience, is a highly regarded commercial illustrator residing in South Pasadena.

COVER ILLUSTRATION BY KIM PASSEY

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PERSONAL FROM



Why Does God Allow Wars?

MORE people have asked me this question than any other: Why, if there be a God, does God allow wars and all this human suffering and anguish? Why such terrifying world conditions as we face now?

People put it to me this way: If God is good, if God is love, if God is merciful, he wouldn't want people to suffer like they do on this earth, would he? And, if God is Almighty, if he has all power, he could stop it. He could prevent it. Then, why doesn't he?

I want to make plain to you what you may never have heard or thought of before.

The God I believe in—the God that I know exists, because I can prove it!—is the God who created all things. He is the Creator not only of matter, but also of force, of energy, of all the laws that exist: the laws of chemistry, the laws of physics—spiritual laws as well as physical laws to regulate man's life and man's happiness.

God created man in his image, and for a purpose that almost no one seems to understand. Did you ever stop to think and wonder why you were born?

What is this purpose that God is working out?

In Genesis 1, beginning with the 24th verse, God said: "Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind. . . ."

That is, the little puppy grows up in the image of its parent dogs, same form, same shape.

And now, the next verse: "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. . . ." In other words, after our form, our shape, our image. God is reproducing himself!

God has endowed man with powers that no animal possesses.

An animal can't design, originate, plan and execute, using free volition, and then carry out or execute what it has thought out and designed and planned. A bird builds a nest. Gophers dig holes. Beavers build dams. But did you ever realize that one beaver dam is like another? And that they have been the same from the beginning? Every bird builds the same kind of nest that its kind of birds have always built.

We have been given some of the powers of God. Thank God, he limited our powers. Look at how we've misused what God has given us, and think what we might have done if God had given us more power.

The next point that I want you to realize is this: The first chapter of Genesis is telling us only of a material, a physical creation, not of a spiritual creation. Man is the clay model. God merely made the clay model to begin fashioning something greater than he has in mind.

In Genesis 2:7 we learn out of what God made man. God is Spirit. But he didn't make man out of spirit. Rather, "The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life [the word *breath* comes from the same Hebrew word that refers to the breath in the nostrils of animals]; and man became a living soul." It doesn't say that man has a soul, but man is a soul.

We're the clay model. God is the Great Potter. So we read in Isaiah 64:8: "But now, O Lord, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand."

Not so long ago, I was in one of the great potteries in England, where very fine bone china is made. I noticed a potter making vases with his hands. I talked with him for a while.

He said that it took him 30 years to learn how to do it. He is a master craftsman. The clay, I

noticed, had to be of just a certain thickness. It had to be plastic, too, so he could move it and bend it. It had to give and to move in his hands. If it was too stiff, he couldn't use it, if it was too thin, he couldn't do anything with it. It had to be just right. That's the way we have to be: plastic!—yielding in the hands of God, just as that clay yielded in this man's hands.

God made us free moral agents. And God made us so that we can resist—we can stiffen up and harden up against him—or we can accept him and we can yield. God made us so that we must choose on that point. God is not going to do anything with us if we resist.

So, then, what are we? We are an unfinished piece of God's workmanship!

Creation was not completed in the time of the garden of Eden and the creation of Adam and Eve. It was only begun there. That was the material, the physical creation. God was, then, only beginning his real creation—which is a spiritual creation—of creating something spiritual out of man who has been made mortal, out of the dust of the ground.

We were born, all of us, from Adam. Adam was not in the spiritual image of God, as most people seem to think he was. He lacked God's perfect spiritual character. He was not made of the same substance as God. Adam was made of the dust of the ground but God is Spirit.

So far as composition is concerned, we have only been bearing the physical image, not the spiritual. But we are in the form and shape of God. We can receive his spirit, his character and bear his image, spiritually. God is reproducing himself! I wonder if you can begin to realize that wonderful truth.

And so, now, what is God? God is perfect, spiritual character. That's what he is. God has all power, but what God is, is perfect, spiritual character. Character cannot be automatically created by fiat. Neither can character be inherited from father or mother to child.

What is perfect character? Character, perfect character, is the ability of a separate entity to come, **FIRST**, to the knowledge of the truth, and of the right as opposed to the wrong; and **SECOND**, to make the decision to choose the right instead of the wrong; and **THIRD**, to exercise the will and the self-discipline to do the right instead of the wrong.

God is the perfect character. God has all knowledge. God always chooses the right. God never does wrong. We were put here to build character until we become like God. Animals have instinct, but animals do not develop righteous character.

Character involves such characteristics as love and patience, humility, tolerance, mercy, wisdom, initiative and right doing through free choice. So, God of necessity made man the clay model. He made man a free moral agent, so that man must make his own decision. God has decreed that we must decide. He doesn't force us to obey him or

come under his government.

There could be no character any other way. And to do that God had to allow man to do wrong. Now, get that! To fulfill his purpose, God had to allow man to be able to do wrong.

Character must be developed by experience. It can't be created automatically. Experience requires time; and so God set apart a total of 7,000 years to carry out his purpose.

The first 6,000 years—as there were six days of material creation—are for man's way of going contrary to God. Then there is going to be a 1,000-year day of spiritual rest, when Jesus Christ is coming to rule this earth God's way and rule it with a rod of iron. The whole world will be full of the knowledge of the Eternal God.

God's law or way is love. Love is always away from self—not toward self. Never lust or anything of that sort. The opposite way is lust and greed, that's all toward self—vanity! And it leads to the system in this world—competition and strife—yes, the getting way, the accumulating, the taking way.

And that is the cause of wars. Why does God allow war and human suffering?

We have competition. Everything is competition in this world. Everything is carried along on the selfish, the getting, basis—greed and vanity. To prevent the evils of competition and wars today God would have to cram his religion down our throats. Our way, the violation of the law of God, the law of love, is causing war, human anguish and human suffering. God had to allow it (to let us have our own way) in order to fulfill his purpose of creating holy character.

The only way that God could stop war would be to stop the cause. He would have, in effect, to cram his religion down our throats—down the throats of all humanity.

There wouldn't be any free moral agency; there wouldn't be any character and God's purpose could never be fulfilled. That's why God allows wars, and that's why God allows suffering. To prevent it would be to prevent the very purpose that God is working out here below.

Do you know that man learns by suffering? Did you ever hear of anyone learning that the stove was hot by putting his finger on it? We do learn by experience. And do you know that Jesus Christ learned by experience?

Turn to Hebrew 5:8-9. "Though he were a Son, yet learned he [Christ] obedience by the things which he suffered; and being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him."

Experience develops character—either good or bad. If we're going to have good character it comes through experience. If we develop bad character—and man has done that, of course—God provided for that too, because "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son" that we can repent. We can come to him and have all of the sin forgiven. We can (Continued on page 44)

COMET HALLEY

A Galactic Omen?

by Michael A. Snyder

What does the approach of Comet Halley portend for humanity?

IT WAS a battle that forever changed the course of history. The year: A.D. 1066.

On September 28 William of Normandy landed on English soil. With him were troops bent on wasting the English army.

Fresh from defending the motherland from northern invaders, King Harold hurried south to meet this challenge. As he gathered his forces, a strange visitor emblazoned the evening sky.

This "bearded star" stirred awe and wonderment among the foot soldiers of both sides. Many puzzled over the meaning of the apparition.

As tension grew, William held his hand aloft and pointed out the blazing star as a sign of divine favor. The heavenly sign, he declared, foretold that the Normans

would soon vanquish the English.

On October 14, the forces of William and Harold clashed. In what has been described as "one of those battles which at rare intervals, have decided the fate of nations," King Harold was felled by a random arrow and the battle swung in favor of the invading Normans. William of Normandy would soon assume the legendary title of William the Conqueror.

Harold's "Death Star"?

And what of the star that emblazoned the dark sky? It continued silently on its way toward the edge of the solar system.

But it was not forgotten.

Indeed, those who viewed it thought the comet's appearance significant enough to embroider a facsimile into the Bayeux Tapestry, the 231-foot-long linen history of the English conquest. On the ancient cloth, the comet soars over the head of hapless King Harold

while onlookers gaze in awe. The inscription "*Istimirant Stella*" ("They wonder at the star") follows its blazing tail.

But did the comet actually signify the impending defeat of the English? What power of prophecy—if any—does this celestial visitor hold?

This is the question many ask for 1986, since that same "bearded star" is now back for one of its infrequent visits. Of course, instead of calling it "a wonderful sign from Heaven," as it was known in 1066 to the Normans, people refer to it as Halley's comet. (The comet received its surname from Edmund Halley, the English astronomer who calculated the comet's elliptical orbit. Scientists refer to it as Comet Halley.)

Does Comet Halley possess remarkable omen-like powers?

The famous comet allegedly portended the death of the Seleucid king Antiochus Epiphanes in 164 B.C., the destruction of Jerusalem during its ap-



pearance in A.D. 66, the attack on the Ostrogoths by the Huns in 373, Attila's invasion of Gaul in 451 and even the English colonization of America, beginning 1607!

Genghis Khan claimed the heavenly traveler as his own special star, and during its spectacular appearance in 1222, he pushed his Mongol hordes across southeast Europe, massacring hundreds of thousands.

Some accounts even record Pope Calixtus III asking for God's protection from "the devil, the Turks and the comet" in 1456. The Turks had captured Constantinople and were closing in on Belgrade. Comet Halley appeared and the Turks captured Belgrade by the Danube.

Mere coincidence?

In 1910 *The New York Times* reported that cities around the world lay in terror of the approaching comet, which contains cyanogen, a colorless, inflammable, poisonous gas. In Chicago, people sealed their windows, hoping to keep out the gas. Comet pills were sold everywhere as an antidote.

Then shortly before the comet reached its closest point to earth, King Edward VII died. Some newspapers reported that a ball of red fire subsequently appeared in the comet's head and tail.

When the earth finally did pass through the comet's tail on May 18, 1910, mass hysteria seized crowds. Thousands spent the time praying in churches.

When the hysteria finally subsided, people sheepishly found that no one had died from the gas. They had survived.

This time around, the comet is hailed by commercial interests. Retail stores bulge with official Comet Halley shirts and telescopes. Comet cruises to the Southern Hemisphere, where viewing is best, are booked solid.

But the aura of mystery remains.

A Single Lifetime

Much has transpired since Halley's last visit in 1910. Herbert W. Armstrong, *Plain Truth* editor in

chief, was then a young man of 18. Looking through his eyes, we see a world that has suffered two global wars, the advent of the nuclear sword of Damocles and the dawn of the technological age—all within the span of a single lifetime.

And now, Comet Halley returns—to pass by a dramatically changed world, a world now poised on the brink of nuclear-fueled destruction! Does the comet offer a hint of soon-coming events? Will humans survive this scientific age?

There is *One* for whom the future is no mystery! "I am God," thunders the Supreme Creator, "and there is none like Me, *declaring the end from the beginning.*"



Conquering sign? Comet Halley in the 900-year-old Bayeux Tapestry, a linen history of the conquest.

and from ancient times things that *are not yet done*. . . . Indeed I have spoken it; *I will also bring it to pass*. . . ." (Isa. 46:9-11, RAV throughout).

And what does this Being say of natural phenomena, such as Comet Halley? "Thus says the Lord: . . . Do not be dismayed at the signs of heaven" (Jer. 10:2)!

It is time we looked at the real source of knowledge of future events, the Bible—for God *alone* accurately reveals the future to humans (II Pet. 1:19-21).

Foretelling the Future

About three decades before the comet's appearance in A.D. 66, a group of men privately asked Jesus, "What will be the sign of . . . the end of the age?" (Matt. 24:3).

Did Jesus answer, "Look in the skies for a comet"? Of course not! Read here his surprising answer: ". . . this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as

a witness to all the nations, and *then the end will come*" (Matt. 24:14).

That message—the gospel or good news of the kingdom of God—is now being thundered to the world on scores of television and radio stations carrying the *World Tomorrow* program worldwide and through the pages of the magazine you hold at this moment in your hand!

This message is one of hope, of the reestablishment over the earth of the government of God with authority to bring world peace.

What Value Comets?

Comets and other natural phenomena are NOT the criterion by which to judge matters. Where was Comet Halley, for example, when millions perished in Hitler's concentration camps during World War II? Scientists point out that the comet was at the opposite end of its orbit—well beyond the planet Neptune! Where was Comet Halley during the tragic American Civil War of 1861-1865? Where was the comet when the Great October Revolution of 1917 changed the face of Mother

Russia?

It seems that a few opportunistic men as William the Conqueror did successfully use the comet as a psychological boost, but little more. We can surmise that the Chinese emperors were correct: The less the general public hears or sees of comets, the better.

Indeed, far from being a galactic omen, Comet Halley is merely a celestial snowball that attracts unusual attention every 76 years.

For those who *are* interested in learning about the future, we offer as a public service, without cost or obligation, a free, full-length book that authoritatively explains what *is* to come. If you're interested—and you ought to be—in learning the *real* how and why of world events, write for your free personal copy of *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. You will be surprised at what the true harbinger of events—the Bible—reveals! □

A NEW DANGER

Cultural Terrorism

by John Halford

IN THE last five years the American entertainment industry—which has never been saintly—has taken a particularly nasty turn.

Instead of being merely suggestive, films and pop songs—with a few exceptions—now openly wallow in themes such as rape, drug abuse, satanism and perverted sex.

No subject is off limits. Nothing is too outrageous, revolting or disgusting for a lyric or a screenplay, and half of all movies now produced in the U.S.A. are for a "mature audience." The greatest tragedy is that most of this appalling material is aimed to appeal to the young. The damage that has been done—and is being done—to the morals of a whole generation is incalculable.

But it doesn't just affect the United States. American media provide the most persuasive cultural influences the world has ever seen. This flood of violence, pornography and perversion is seeping into nearly every country on earth. It is playing havoc with the sometimes fragile cultures of the developing countries. Educators and intellectuals have criticized this invasion, calling it "cultural colonialism." Well, maybe. Sometimes it seems more like "cultural terrorism!"

A terrorist who hijacks an airplane or plants a bomb in a crowded airport lounge apparently doesn't care who gets hurt, as long as he achieves his aim. That innocent people are blown to pieces or maimed for life is not his concern. Is the cultural terrorist any different? His aim is to make money. His weapons are anything that makes him money—a movie, a video tape or a new song. And he is apparently little concerned how violent, how perverted, how degenerate, how much his material appeals to the very lowest of emotions, or how much it twists and pollutes fresh young minds and further warps those already in trouble. If it makes money it achieves the cultural terrorist's aim and he will use it.

Thankfully, not all producers, songwriters and artists have become cultural terrorists.

But developing nations are often helpless in the face of cultural terrorism. They need the contact, even at the risk of exposing themselves to a contagious subculture that threatens their societies as surely as it is subverting the younger generation of "advanced" countries.

Death of Tradition

Any modernization can pose a threat, but sometimes the trauma is worth it, when it brings a genuine improvement to human minds and in the standard of living. But

when poorer nations must confront the *worst* aspects of Western culture, they stand to lose more than they gain.

Typical is this story from India. A village elder was lamenting the passing of a form of dance that had long been performed in his district. He complained that young people were now able to afford tape players and radios, which opened to them the world of canned culture. Now they were no longer interested in learning the old dances. The intricate movements and slow rhythm could not compete with the unchallenging beat of the latest pop songs. The older people felt thwarted and hurt because of the youngsters' lack of interest in preserving the cultural heritage. The traditional dances were about to die out, which was indeed sad.

But they would lose more than their dances. When this alien culture and technology tore into the village it opened up a generation gap that had not existed before. The young had always looked to the old to teach them, and they had valued what the old people knew. They eagerly anticipated the time when they too could be trusted with the traditions of the elders. They may have been poor, but there was a decency and stability in their way of life.

They lost a link with centuries of tradition with its emphasis on respect for the elderly, charity, close family ties and other "old-

fashioned" ideals. Almost overnight all that was swept away as the youngsters became addicted to an instant, no-thought-required, counterfeit culture. Parents found they were unable to pass anything on, for they had no point of reference with the new set of values that their children were absorbing. And of course, these children will have nothing to pass on to *their* children when the time comes, for in the ever-changing world of pop culture, nothing lasts long enough to become a heritage.

This story is repeated many times over throughout Asia, Africa, South America and the islands of the South Pacific. Some countries, like Burma, have tried to protect themselves by hiding their faces from the 20th century. Iran opened up the floodgates for a while, then made a desperate leap backward into the 12th century.

Helping Without Hurting

The Chinese are opening their door more cautiously. At first, some purists worried that the country was going too far down the "capitalist" road, but so far the economic experiments have met with success.

"Who cares what color the cat is as long as it catches mice?" China's pragmatic leader Deng Xiaoping has said. But even a good mouse catcher can have fleas, and the Chinese realize that they must be very careful, if the open-door policy is not also to let in the less desirable traits of the Western world. China is learning that its people can still be infected by the "capitalist sins" of greed, dishonesty and exploitation, and that their youths are not immune from the erosion of decent values.

Last year, for example, the Chinese agreed to allow a tour by a British rock group. To the utter astonishment of officials and audience alike, the performers incited the concertgoers to disobey the instructions of the police. The Chinese tolerated the misbehavior of

the touring group, but breathed a collective sigh of relief when the musicians finally left the country. A similar tour by an Australian group has been "postponed."

Stemming the Tide?

Third World readers may derive some comfort from knowing that there *is* a debate going on in the United States over whether the government should step in to legislate against the swelling tide of explicit violence and perversion. "I don't believe that our founding fa-

cas to Calcutta, people watch American television and movies, listen to American music, read American magazines, covet American goods and follow American fashions. No other nation ever wielded this kind of cultural clout.

A Day of Reckoning

It is no accident that the Anglo-Saxon people have held a preeminent position in the world. Many have realized that America and once-great Britain have been unusually favored. The chorus of the

robust old anthem "America the Beautiful" trumpets "God shed His grace on thee." He certainly did, on America and Britain both.

But with that blessing should have come a sense of responsibility. The third verse continues, "Confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law." Today the outpourings of some American and British souls are not tempered with self-control, and the much vaunted "liberty" is permitting the production of spiritual pollutants, the like of which may not have been seen since the days of Sodom or Imperial Rome.



A mixed blessing: As prosperity grows in the new China, a younger generation begins to feel the influences of the modern world.

thers ever intended... the rights of pornographers [to] take precedence over the rights of parents, and the violent and malevolent be given free rein to prey upon our children," President Ronald Reagan has said.

It isn't quite as easy as that, though.

In a country that prides itself on its respect for freedom, *any* legislation can be labeled unconstitutional if it looks like it might infringe on the "rights" of an individual—even when what that individual is doing is undermining society.

Certainly the United States and Britain are not the only culprits. Scandinavia, West Germany and other European countries must share the guilt. But it is *American* culture that is the dominant influence in the world today. From Copenhagen to Cape Town, Cara-

How can these great nations, which have so much *good* to offer, allow themselves to be represented so badly?

We may place elaborate safeguards at airports to separate would-be hijackers from their weapons. But *cultural* terrorists are free to distribute their soul-destroying weapons without fear of prosecution!

If ever a people are asking for it, it is the United States and Britain, when far too many of their actors and actresses portray fornication, murder and rape across the screens of the world, and their entertainers scream in song obscenities from countless millions of radios and cassette players.

They are compounding the national sins of a people who are already in very deep trouble with God. □

Every one of us would like to be able to choose the best course of action every time! Here's practical advice on how we can.

by Norman L. Shoaf

"THERE is no more miserable human being," wrote William James, "than one in whom nothing is habitual but indecision."

You don't need to tell that to Louis Jones! He's always had trouble deciding what to do, and he's having trouble now.

Louis, 36, has a wife, two small children and a not-so-well-paying factory job in a town hit by recession. Louis doesn't see much future in his present job—or in his town, for that matter.

A buddy with whom Louis occasionally has a drink has enthusiastically told him that a lot of higher-salaried positions are opening up in a major city to the south, in an area with a nicer climate and cheaper housing (Louis would dearly like to purchase a home for his family).

Louis is wrestling with himself over what to do. He and his wife grew up in the area where they live now, and if he moved his children would have to change schools. He may not have enough skills to get one of those jobs in the other city. And it would cost a lot to move.

Still, the potential income at the other jobs sounds good, and Louis is growing tired of the hard winters in his part of the country. And he might be able to buy a house. Maybe a change of scenery right now is just what he needs to get going and do something with his life.

"Oh," Louis moans to himself, "what should I do?!"

Which Way to Go?

"Louis Jones" could be any of us! He could be black, white, Chicano, Oriental—it doesn't matter. Each of us is prone, more or less frequently, to make decisions that need to

WE CAN Make Better Decisions!



be reconsidered! How many of us are befuddled—perhaps held back from seizing opportunities—by inability to make wise decisions and carry them out? How often have we regretted it when the proverbial ship came in for somebody else? If only we could be in

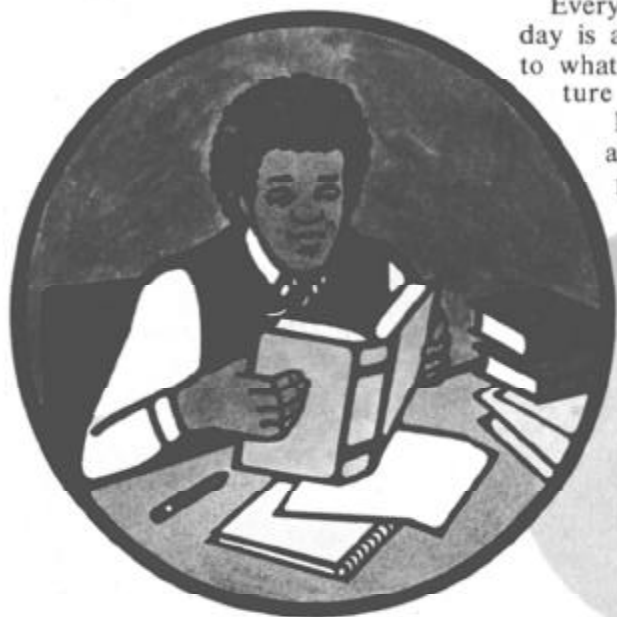
right thing every time. Should you get married? Should you pursue higher education? Do you have grounds to sue someone over that disagreement? How should you respond to that accusation? Can you make that green light before it changes? Is this purchase really a good idea?

Every move we make during the day is a decision that determines, to whatever degree, what our future life is going to be like.

Making wise decisions is not a matter of chance. Some people are not just “lucky”

Get all the facts.

Make sure you have all the vital information needed before you decide anything.



the right place at the right time!

The inability to make right decisions is the major cause of personal problems. But not only personal problems. The frightening world perils that now threaten human life with extinction are also caused by inability to make right decisions! Momentous matters are placed in the hands of national leaders!

Former U.S. President Warren Harding described the pressure when he reportedly burst out to a friend: “I listen to one side and they seem right, and then . . . I talk to the other side and they seem just as right, and there I am where I started . . . what a job!”

What would you do, after all, if you were the head of a country—perhaps one of the major nations—knowing that a small move on your part could upset your country’s economy, infringe on one or another group’s rights as citizens, touch off demonstrations, start a local war with a neighboring nation—or serve as a catalyst to plunge the world into thermonuclear World War III?

Everyone needs the wisdom to make better decisions—to move toward the goal of saying and doing the

while others are “unlucky.” Success in choices depends on basic, identifiable factors, and successful people are either accidentally or intentionally using the right principles in making their choices.

If we know the right principles and apply them, we eliminate most of the elements of chance. Success is assured because we have eliminated the risks.

Where can we learn the principles of good decision-making?

How Modern Thinking Fails

Wouldn’t it be great to have a view of every situation from much higher up? What if we could be God, or like God, the One who created the entire cosmos and who can see everything that happens?

God sees every sparrow that falls. He knows the names of all the stars in the heavens. He can number every hair of our heads—he is aware of even the thoughts and intents of our hearts.

If only humans had that kind of vision! But this type of overview is exactly what we lack.

Much of our inability to make better decisions stems from not be-

ing able to see the bigger picture—not remembering that for every effect there is a cause. Often we don’t think clearly and see the probable end results of actions that may at the moment seem right.

The ancient prophet Jeremiah intoned, “I know the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps” (Jer. 10:23, Revised Authorized Version, except where noted).

Elsewhere, the book of Proverbs notes, “Where there is no vision, the people perish” (Prov. 29:18, Authorized Version). Another proverb goes so far as to say, “There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death” (Prov. 14:12)! The painful truth is that many of the decisions we humans arrive at result in calamity.

Could it be that the Bible contains more practical information about everyday living in the 20th century than we may have previously thought?

This ancient book records that the entire world, with all its evils, was founded on a wrong decision, when the first humans took of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the garden of Eden (Gen. 3:1-6).

Adam and Eve, by that decision, *determined to choose for themselves* what was right and wrong rather than heed the revelation of their Creator, God. Humanity has been following that same tragic way ever since. (If you haven’t already learned how this whole world started off-track, write for our free booklet *Never Before Understood—Why Humanity Cannot Solve Its Evils.*)

Perhaps you personally are right now facing a major decision, but you are paralyzed, unsure of which road to take. Maybe you feel what poet Annie Johnson Flint expressed in “At the Place of the Sea”:

*Have you come to the Red Sea place in your life,
Where, in spite of all you can do,*

There is no way out, there is no way back,

There is no other way but through?

You know you’ve got to do something, but what should you do? Are there principles you can apply? What should Louis Jones

decide about his potential move and job change?

Let's look at some important considerations in decision-making.

Making Wise Decisions

The Bible, as longtime readers of *The Plain Truth* know, contains much helpful advice on how to live successfully. If we read this book carefully, we can gain the wisdom to make right decisions.

• *Ask God for overall direction and wisdom.* The Bible tells us not to trust in ourselves, but rather to trust in the God who stands back of his promises.

Even King Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived, admitted to God, "I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in" (1 Kings 3:7).

James 1:5 says, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

So God's help in making wise decisions is based on one's willingness to trust what the Bible says and do what God commands.

There are other important steps to good decision-making, but this one is the most important of all. Unless we follow it, we continue to trust in our own wisdom, just as we may have throughout our lives. And we will continue to lack all the vision necessary to steer a completely successful course through life. Only God has that vision.

• *Get all the facts.* Are you sure you understand the entire situation correctly? Make sure you have all the vital information needed before you decide anything.

For instance, Louis Jones needs to evaluate his own town and the area to which he is thinking of moving. Perhaps better jobs are also available in his own town. Has he asked anyone in authority at his own company about more training, or expressed the desire to take on more responsibility and become a more valuable employee? Maybe with certain night schooling Louis could qualify for promotions or raises or better positions.

How do Louis' wife and children feel about the move? Is the job situation really any better in the new city? How much higher are

salaries? How much cheaper is housing? How much will the move cost? Can he afford it? Is the new city suffering from or beginning to suffer from recession, just like his town? What are schools for his children like in the new area?

Until you have answered as many of the legitimate questions about your situation as possible, you don't have all the information you need to make the best decision.

• *Consider the long-range impact of the decision.* Look at the possible consequences from every angle. You may discover an important consideration you have overlooked.

If Louis moves, he and his wife will be leaving many family members and lifelong friends behind. Are they willing to do that? They will also be leaving familiar scenery and climate. Some people who move to milder climates even find that they miss the harsher winters. On the other hand, new challenges and new responsibilities may help Louis break out of a personal rut and recharge him with new enthusiasm.

It helps to make a written list of pros and cons

Get wise counsel.

For example, before changing jobs, check with chambers of commerce and state employment departments in the area.

applying to any decision. This forces you to take the time necessary to consider the entire decision in detail. It keeps you from treating lightly any unpleasant effects that could result. Do the positive benefits outweigh the negative possibilities?

• *Decide what your personal goals are.* Identify your most important priorities in any situation. Goal-setting is the very first law to life success. Perhaps you have

never set real goals, or you have trouble deciding what goals to shoot for. For more information on goal-setting, send for our helpful booklet *The Seven Laws of Success*. It details the all-important process of goal-setting and the other basic principles that lead to success in life.

Make sure the long-range results of any decision you are contemplating are in line with your overall life goals.

• *Be willing to change.* One of the hardest things for any of us to do is admit that we might be wrong. But admitting error is the first step to positive change.

How many of us, for example, have held to preconceived notions that we later—sometimes too late—learn to be false? How many of us have lamented, "If only I'd known then what I know now"?

Since you are looking to God for overall guidance, ask him to bring to your attention any influencing



factors of which you are not aware.

I know a certain person who spent several years working at unsatisfying, unprofitable clerical jobs, assuming that clerical and secretarial work was all she could do. Later, events pushed her to explore a previously unrecognized creative talent in a completely different field, the florist business.

The change was a revelation to her! She made the right decision—to follow what she now realized she

(Continued on page 35)

And Now...

The Plain Truth Enters Its 53rd Year

NEW READERS may not realize that with this February issue *The Plain Truth* enters its 53rd year of publication.

Its modest first edition in 1934—the depth of the Great Depression—totaled about 250 copies. It was an eight-page, mimeographed issue.

Today, *The Plain Truth* has a monthly circulation of more than seven million copies and, in addition, is translated into six languages.

The World in 1934

The whole world then was in great economic stress. Small, isolated "hot wars" were occurring regularly.

Imperial Japan had occupied Manchuria. Mussolini was carefully planning the invasion of Ethiopia. Late in 1934 French Foreign Minister Louis Barthou would be assassinated. And in Germany, Adolf Hitler had proclaimed himself dictator of the Third Reich.

The United States was hard hit that year by drought and lack of soil conservation measures. In the midwestern United States, farm after farm was literally blown away by the winds of the "Dust Bowl."

It was in those tumultuous times that *The Plain Truth* made its humble appearance. Here are two headlines with drop heads from

those early issues of *The Plain Truth*:

Is a World Dictator About to Appear?

Everybody senses that something is wrong with the world...that some mighty event is about to occur. What is it? Bible prophecy tells! Here is a solemn warning...and it is the plain truth!

What Is Going to Happen?

When will the next war come? Which will be first, the war precipitated by Russia...or the revival of the Roman Empire?

A Look at 1986

Today our world faces severe debt problems. Internal conflicts beset many nations in Southeast Asia, Southern Africa and Central America. Nuclear destruction looms on the horizon like some foreboding cloud. Yet, *The Plain Truth* has a message of hope. It continues not only to inform its readership of what is happening, but why events are happening—the true causes of the problems facing mankind today. In this sense, the *Plain Truth* magazine is unique.

The world has changed considerably since 1934. And while *The Plain Truth* remains "a magazine of understanding," it has undergone significant changes too. In November 1958, circulation had

reached 175,000. By July 1967, the one million mark was passed. This figure was doubled by August, 1969. In 1973 worldwide circulation stood at more than three million copies. And by September 1982, *The Plain Truth's* circulation passed five million, including more than two million newsstand copies.

Besides the growth in circulation, the magazine itself has undergone significant physical changes. From 1934 to 1957, *The Plain Truth* remained a black and white magazine with a gradual increase in the number of pages over the years, from eight to 24. In February 1957, the magazine received a new look with the addition of color, giving the magazine a duotone appearance. Later, in February of 1965, a color cover was added to a now 32-page magazine.

Finally, in February of 1966, *The Plain Truth* became a full-color magazine.

When he began publishing *The Plain Truth*, Herbert W. Armstrong and his wife, Loma, were the complete staff. Mr. Armstrong wrote the entire magazine, typed the stencils and ran the copies off on a Neostyle printer while his wife kept up the subscription list.

Today, there are over 100 men and women employed in Publishing and Editorial Services alone. These people write for, edit, design, typeset and do all prepress work on *The Plain Truth*, as well as other liter-

ature printed by the Worldwide Church of God.

The subscription list and literature requests are handled by the more than 600 full- and part-time employees of the Mail Processing Center and Postal Services.

But this is a global work and would not be possible without the more than 150 men and women who work in various offices scattered around the world. These are the people who have helped make the various international editions of *The Plain Truth* a reality.

Now in Seven Languages

Let's start with Europe. Far from being confined to Central Europe's more than 100 million German-speaking peoples, the German *Plain Truth*—*Klar & Wahr*—finds its way into more than 100 countries and associated states. *Klar & Wahr* is the second oldest language edition of *The Plain Truth* family, and its 90,000 circulation plays an important part in reaching the economic heartland of Europe.

The 250,000 circulation French-language edition has enabled *The Plain Truth* to get into the hands of Frenchmen in their homeland, as well as in such linguistically diverse areas as Belgium, Canada, French Africa and Switzerland. In fact, *La Pure Vérité* is distributed in nearly 150 countries and associated states.

La Pure Verdad—the Spanish-language *Plain Truth*—opened a door to the fourth largest language group in the world. Many, sometimes trying, obstacles have had to be overcome, especially the numerous differing postal systems. The Spanish-language *Plain Truth* has steadily grown in scope (it is now the third largest language edition, with a circulation of 188,000). It serves the vast Spanish-speaking area, including the country that has the fifth largest Spanish-speaking population in the world: the United States.

Though there are only 20 million Dutch-speaking peoples, *De Echte Waarheid* has enabled the message of *The Plain Truth* to reach people in more than 60 different nations and associated states. Our Dutch office has experienced a consider-

able increase in the Dutch subscription list, now at 52,000.

Introduced in July of 1982, *La Pura Verità*—the Italian branch of the *Plain Truth* family—has been an amazing success story. The response has been excellent, with circulation above 80,000 in 92 countries. The three countries having the largest circulations are Italy, Switzerland and Argentina.

The newest language added to the *Plain Truth* family is Norwegian, *Den Enkle Sannhet*, beginning 1984. Its 25,000 copies circulate throughout Scandinavia.

The oldest and by far largest language edition is the English-language *Plain Truth*. It is an enormous task to reach the second largest language group in the

In its 53rd year, *The Plain Truth* continues not only to inform its readership of what is happening, but why events are happening.

world. Today, the *Plain Truth* English edition goes into just over 200 nations and associated states around the world. Significantly, all the various language editions are printed in English-speaking nations. The bulk of the English-language *Plain Truths* are printed at the huge R.R. Donnelley & Sons, Co., press in Glasgow, Kentucky, one of the largest printing establishments in the world.

Newsstand Circulation

Another significant achievement for *The Plain Truth* has been the success of the newsstand distribution program originally pioneered in the United Kingdom in July 1971. Similar programs quickly followed in France, the Netherlands and West Germany in 1972. In January 1976, the Spanish-language *Plain Truth* also began a newsstand distribution program. A little more than seven months later, in July 1976, newsstand distribu-

tion was begun in the United States and Canada.

Today, newsstand distribution accounts for more than 30 percent of the new subscribers each year and a similar percent of the total circulation of *The Plain Truth*.

The Latest Technology

The newest innovation to come to *The Plain Truth* is the acquisition of a state-of-the-art real time composition computer system. In much the same way as an aircraft flight simulator's computer responds immediately to an operator's manipulation of the controls, this new system enables the staff at Publishing Services to make any changes in text composition almost instantly.

In addition, this system's messaging feature will allow writers in Pasadena, California, to send completed texts of their articles to the various overseas offices' new terminals overnight for translation to begin the next day. When the translation is completed, the translated texts will be transmitted back to Pasadena in the same manner as originally sent. If everything goes according to plan, all seven language editions of *The Plain Truth* will be able, ultimately, to produce the magazine for same-time distribution.

Much has changed in the past 52 years of *The Plain Truth*. From those very early lean years in the '30s this work has grown in much the same way as the "mustard seed" Christ mentioned in Matthew 13:31-32. Today, *The Plain Truth* is a modern, mass circulation magazine with a worldwide audience.

Yet, the original basic guidelines for *The Plain Truth* remain the same. In fact, it is this perspective that makes *The Plain Truth* unique. It can be summed up in the words that are etched in the wall over the southwest entrance of Ambassador Hall on the campus of Ambassador College in Pasadena: "The Word of God Is the Foundation of Knowledge."

These words guide all writers and editors of this magazine today even as they have Mr. Armstrong these 52 years. And they will continue to guide the entire organization as it enters its 53rd year. □

the DEBT BOMB

When Will It Explode?

by Dan C. Taylor

Here's the bad news—and the good news!

LATIN America's and Africa's ledger sheets are soaked in red ink.

Gone are the heady days when banks in Europe and North America, bloated with oil money, readily lined up thousands of millions for Southern Hemisphere nations.

A nightmare of debt, huge interest payments and shattered dreams have descended on the economically struggling Third World, especially the Latin world from Mexico to Chile.

Ahead—The Good News!

In spite of the economic morass and gloomy projections for the future, *The Plain Truth* announces good news is ahead for the Third World! Better times do lie ahead for this very generation.

There is indeed hope for all future generations.

A time is coming, sooner than bankers, politicians and economists think, when nations will be freed from today's burdensome international debts and live with one another in a world at peace, in joy and prosperity.

For Now—A Message from Garcia

In the late 1960s and 1970s, the leading debtor nations paid less than 6 percent of their export earnings to service their external debts. Today, some nations' debt servicing payments would require more

than one third of their export earnings . . . if they could afford to pay that much.

Peru's President-elect, Alan Garcia Perez, told foreign banking concerns last August that his nation would allocate only 10 percent of its export earnings to make interest payments. The financial world took a deep breath and quickly tried to analyze the situation.

Peru's interest accumulated on its foreign debt for 1985 amounted to US\$1,100,000,000 or one third of its total export income. But the 10 percent figure would really change nothing since Peru had not been paying more than 10 percent of its export earnings before the outspoken President Garcia's announcement.

President Garcia, on the other hand, had nothing to lose. Peru needs an infusion of investment for its economy to grow. The Western industrial world banks, however, have only recently begun to examine seriously the possibility of making further loans to Mr. Garcia's and other capital-poor nations.

The Peruvian president's real threat is that other Latin American nations might create a debtor cartel through which a bargain could be struck with creditors of Latin America.

In addition to Mr. Garcia's proposal, Cuba's Fidel Castro offered up a more drastic solution to delegates from more than 30 Latin American and Caribbean nations in

Havana: simply cancel the debts—don't pay them back. Fidel Castro called Latin America's debt "mathematically, economically, politically and morally unpayable." Yet even Cuba is careful to pay the interest payments on its US\$3,400,000,000 debt to foreign concerns.

The mounting debt crisis is setting off alarms that require immediate attention, domestically and internationally.

Seoul: Searching for Solutions

New rays of hope for debtor nations seemed to appear at the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank at Seoul, South Korea, in October of last year.

The United States proposed a greater involvement by the World Bank in helping debtor nations finance healthy economic expansion. U.S. banks, as well as foreign banks, were urged to make new loans to Third World debtor nations rather than simply rolling over old debts.

Few of the parties involved with the burgeoning Third World debt problem were satisfied with the results.

Debtor nations felt the scheme wasn't far-reaching enough to spur the growth of exports—growth that is necessary to enable them to cope with staggering interest payments. Yet U.S., Japanese and other Western bankers are not en-

tirely enthusiastic about pouring even more money into, at best, leaky economic vessels—more probably sinking ships.

Latin America's staggering debt seems to defy solution—tough or easy. But there was sound advice available that, had it been heeded, would have avoided the present depressing situation.

Advice on Lending and Borrowing

The growth of debt is caused by living a way of "get." Depositors, bankers and borrowers all wanted to see good times ahead when they took out loans in the '60s and '70s. Few involved showed selfless concern for the other parties. And certainly none of the parties were concerned with what God thought. After all, this was a matter of finance, not religion. And God doesn't have anything to say about high finance, right?

Wrong!

The Bible has much to say about how we should conduct ourselves in financial matters.

Consider this: The guiding

principle behind God's law, his statutes and his judgments is to show respect for God and outgoing concern for our fellowman. And God's revealed laws and principles governing financial matters reflect that same love and concern that, if they were followed, would liberate us from the bonds of indebtedness.

In Proverbs 22:7 God warns a borrower that he will be subject to the conditions imposed upon him by the lender. How many nations or individuals really consider the consequences of those regulations before they sign on the dotted line of a loan contract?

But what about the motives of the lender? God told ancient Israel not to charge the poor among them interest and not to impose harsh conditions on them for a loan (Ex. 22:25-27). Rather, one who is able to loan was to be sensibly generous and to lend to the genuinely needy for his needs—not wants—and without thought of the ability to repay (Deut. 15:7-11).

God says he will repay the lender if the poor borrower is unable to do so (Prov. 19:17). This teaches the lender to be prudent in what he lends—to lend no more than he could afford to give, and to be merciful.

Jesus Christ taught the right way to give: "And if you lend to

those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Highest. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful" (Luke 6:34-36, Revised Authorized Version).

This did not relieve the borrower of his responsibility to do his utmost to repay. "The wicked borrows and does not repay, but the righteous shows mercy and gives" (Ps. 37:21, RAV).

An Ancient Example

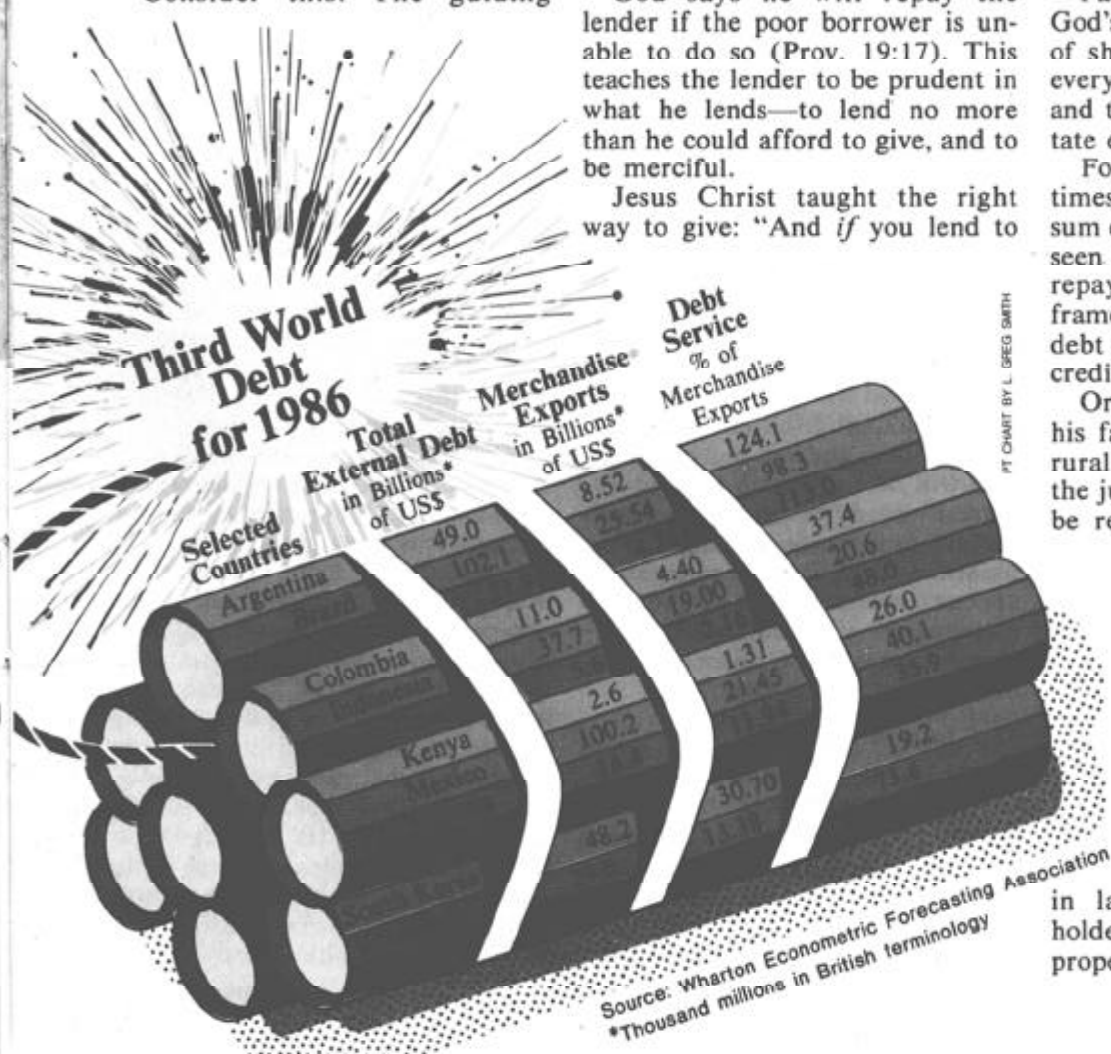
Ancient Israel was to have been God's model nation. A nation whose laws and life-style would have reflected such a positive example that other peoples would have sought to emulate them in order to reap the same benefits (Deut. 4:5-8).

Part of the rewards of living God's way of life was the canceling of short-term debts at the end of every seven years (Deut. 15:1-11) and the return of forfeited real estate every 50 years (Lev. 25:8-17).

For example, if through hard times one had to borrow a small sum of money and, through unforeseen circumstances, was unable to repay the sum within the time frame of a seven-year cycle, his debt was to be forgiven him by his creditor.

Or if an Israelite mismanaged his family property (farmland and rural or suburban residence), on the jubilee year his property was to be returned to him or his family (Lev. 25:8-10) if relatives had not already been able to redeem the land (see verse 25). Generational poverty—and the feminization of poverty—was not to be allowed to exist among the people God had chosen for his model nation.

God did make provision for invested capital in large cities. A former title holder could only redeem urban property, which he had sold, within



PT CHART BY L. GREG SMITH

a year from its date of sale. If neither he nor his relatives were able to redeem the property within a year, then the new owner, who may have made significant property improvements, had permanent

Peru's President-elect, Alan Garcia Perez, told foreign banking concerns last August that his nation would allocate only 10 percent of its export earnings to make interest payments. The financial world took a deep breath and quickly tried to analyze the situation.

possession of the property (Lev. 25:29-31).

The Price of Disobedience

God offered the ancient nation of Israel an economic system that eliminated the financial upheavals of depression, of runaway inflation, of skyrocketing interest rates and ever expanding debt. Sadly, neither ancient Israel *nor any modern nation* has applied God's laws. And, as a result, we have suffered tumultuous economic upheaval in near 50-year cycles. Witness the economic crises of the 1780s, leading to the rise of Napoleon; the 1830s; the 1880s; and the Great Depression of the 1930s that led to the rise of Hitler and World War II.

God's law is almost totally unknown among the nations of this world. Today, it is secular government that determines rights to inheritance, property and transfer of property—rights, that, in reality, God reserved to himself as the owner and Creator of the earth and all that is in it. Jesus Christ, of course, recognized the temporary authority, for good or evil, of this world's governments, when he refused to become involved in a prop-

erty dispute in his day (Luke 12:13-14).

God's government has not yet been restored over the earth. Instead, God has allowed the nations free choice—just as he has allowed



us free choice as individuals—in order that humans might learn the lessons of going their own ways. One need only look at the world economic scene today to see what kind of choices humanity has made.

This generation, your Bible reveals, will live to see the financial world run out of last-minute loan packages for Latin American debtor nations drowning in a sea of interest payments.

The world will be rocked by consequent unparalleled economic, social, political and religious turmoil.

It will take just such an unprecedented tragedy to bring this world, wallowing in violence and greed, to its senses. It will be a catastrophe of our own making—the consequences of disobedience to immutable laws the Creator God set in motion.

The Jubilee Year

God's jubilee offers humans what they have needed—and what no man-devised system of economics has ever been able to give us—a financial clean slate: the chance men have only dreamed of, to begin anew and learn from past mistakes.

The jubilee year will be a cornerstone in the reestablishment of God's government on earth (Luke 4:16-19). The "acceptable year of the Lord" that Jesus quoted out of Isaiah 61 is the restoration of the jubilee year. The term "family farm" will once again have meaning in regions we now call the industrial world (Zech. 3:10).

It should be noted that God gave ancient (and unconverted) Israel the right to charge foreign nations reasonable interest on short-term loans (Deut. 23:20) and the right to require repayment without having to release the debt at the end of seven years (Deut. 15:3). But under the coming government of God, salvation will be opened to the entire world, and all will begin to live by the revealed Word of God. All will have debt forgiven.

God will create fair and equitable borders and place all peoples in their rightful inheritances (Acts 17:26). God's laws will be *enforced* with equity throughout all nations (Isa. 11).

No more will nations be trapped in a web of debts and painful choices. Instead, the peoples of the *new* Latin America and of the whole *new* world tomorrow will prosper and fulfill the national roles the Creator God has set out for them, without being weighed down by burdensome debts.

The young people of Latin America and of the whole world can look to a future of promise, not of pain. No longer will people be living a way of "get" and selfishness. Selflessness, generosity and cooperation will be the normal way of conducting business.

For an additional in-depth look at the refreshingly new society that will soon be enforced on our now troubled planet, why not write for our book *The Wonderful World Tomorrow: What It Will Be Like* if you have not already read it. It is free of charge and without any obligation to you. You have never read anything quite like it! □

DID you know that there is a sin so great, so devastating in its awfulness, that even the great mercy of God cannot overlook it, and the shed blood of Jesus Christ cannot wash it away? *A sin that can never be forgiven.*

Jesus warned that it could happen. "Assuredly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they may utter; but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation" (Mark 3:28-29, RAV throughout except as noted).

Who could commit such a dreadful sin, and subject themselves to such an appalling fate—to lose all hope of forgiveness and salvation?

Jesus addressed these stern words to self-righteous religious leaders of first century Jerusalem. They had developed an implacable contempt for Jesus. During his ministry, Jesus occasionally clashed with them, and several times he warned them of the dire consequences of their attitude. Finally, they trumped up charges against him and occasioned his crucifixion by the Romans.

But was this the unpardonable sin?

An unpardonable sin is by no means the special province of bigots. Have you ever noticed this scripture in the epistles of John, whose writings usually epitomize love, tolerance and forgiveness? "If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin which does not lead to death, he will ask, and He will give him life for those who commit sin not leading to death. *There is sin leading to death. I do not say that he should pray about that*" (1 John 5:16).

So there it is again, but this time it pertains to one who had truly believed on Christ and whose sin is such that his friends should not

even pray for his forgiveness. What can such a sin be?

Many theologians, with fuzzy ideas of what sin is, become very vague when confronting these statements. One can certainly understand that. An unpardonable sin is not a pleasant subject to dwell on. There is a real temptation to read quickly over these scriptures,

adversaries" (Hebrews 10:26).

Ah—now there's a clue—"if we sin *willfully*." The Pharisees' opposition to Jesus was not a spur of the moment, hotheaded fit of pique. These men knew what they were doing.

A leading Pharisee, Nicodemus, once confided to Jesus: "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him" (John 3:2). Many of them knew better, but unlike Nicodemus they still plotted to destroy him and his work.

But wait—you sin when you know better, too, don't you? Unless you are a very unusual person (unusually self-righteous, that is), not a day goes by but that you do something you know is wrong, and of which you know God would disapprove. Even as you do it, you know it is sinning, but you do it anyway. Does this mean that you have also committed the unpardonable sin?

Many torture themselves with doubt and anxiety over this question. They want to do the right thing, but time after time they slip and stumble, victims once again of weakness and human nature.

Even the great apostle Paul once wrote. "For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do" (Romans 7:19, RSV). He wrote this nearly 20 years after he had been converted! But Paul knew that he had not committed unpardonable sins. He understood the difference between sinning *willingly* and sinning *willfully*.

You need to understand too!

We have a booklet *What Do You Mean... the Unpardonable Sin?* that thoroughly explains this subject. It is one of the most helpful and reassuring pieces of literature that we have to offer. Anyone who takes life seriously needs to read it. We will be pleased to send you a copy free of charge, and without any obligation. Just write to the office nearest you. You will find the address listed on the inside cover of this magazine. □

There Is a Fate Worse Than Death!

by John Halford

What is the most terrible thing that could happen to a human being?

shudder, and hurry on to something more positive, hoping that whatever it *does* mean, the unpardonable sin doesn't mean you.

But the scriptures *are* there, the sin *does* exist, and it *could* just conceivably strike you.

A passage in the book of Hebrews sheds more light on this sin that can never be forgiven. "For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the

MYSTERY OF THE AGES

CHAPTER FOUR

Mystery of Civilization

We continue, with this *sixth* installment, the serial publication of Herbert W. Armstrong's latest book *Mystery of the Ages*.

FEW stop to think about it, but when you do, could anything be wrapped in more mystery than this world's civilization? How explain the astonishing paradox, a world of human minds that can send astronauts to the moon and back, produce the marvels of science and technology, transplant human hearts—yet cannot solve simple human problems of family life and group relationships, or peace between nations?

The developed nations have made awesome progress. They have produced a highly mechanized world providing every luxury, modern convenience and means of pleasure. Yet they are cursed with crime, violence, injustice, sickness and disease, broken homes and families. At the same time more than one-half the world is living in illiteracy, abject poverty, filth and squalor. Violence and destruction are rapidly multiplying. Many ask, "Why, if God exists, does he allow so much violence and human suffering?"

We were born into this 20th-century world as it is. We take it for granted. But we can't explain it. It's like viewing a movie at a point already near the end. We see what is occurring at that point, but, not having seen it from the beginning and not knowing how events developed to the point of viewing, we simply cannot understand what we are seeing. A fiction writer wrote about a time machine that could transport one back to some time in history. If we had such a time machine, we should now transport ourselves backward 6,000 years where we could actually see what was transpiring in that original Garden of Eden, at the foundation of the world. That's where this civilization started. Then we may better understand why there is now talk of the imminent end of the world.

How did our civilization develop to our 20th-century state? What a mystery that is to thinking people! Of course most are not thinking people and never ask themselves that question. But if one does, he finds the question enveloped in mystery. So let us understand.

It has been explained in this volume how God created man for the supreme purpose of reproducing himself. But this supreme purpose necessitated the creation in us with our own assent, diligence, effort and joy, the supreme spiritual

character of God. But in so doing, why did God place man on the earth? Why this particular planet?

The Unfinished Earth

God placed man here to restore the government of God to the earth. Lucifer and his angels had been placed here originally. God had put them here on an unfinished earth. Remember, God creates in dual stages. Like a woman baking a cake, she bakes first the body of the cake, but it is not finished until she puts on the icing. The substance and body of the earth had been created before the angels were placed here. But God intended for the angels to develop the surface of the earth, to beautify and improve it. For this purpose he gave them his government to regulate their conduct and performance together in so doing.

But Lucifer, on the throne to administer the government in cooperation and harmony for their world, rebelled. He turned cooperation and harmonious activity into competition, evil, rebellion and destruction. Light on earth was turned to darkness. Wasteness, decay and ruin came to the surface of the earth.

Then in six days (Ps. 104:30) God sent forth his Spirit and renewed the face of the earth for man.

But still "the icing on the cake"

had not been added. God placed man here to do that which sinning angels had not done.

Man was to finish the beautification of the earth. God is not the author of confusion, ugliness or decay, but of beauty, perfection, character, the best in quality.

Look at the description of God's heaven—the seat of God's throne—where, we might say, God lives as described in the fourth chapter of Revelation. God sits on a throne surrounded by brilliant splendor, quality and beauty and character. More dazzlingly and gloriously beautiful than anything human eyes have ever seen.

God intended man to work this earth, improve it, beautify it, give it glorious character—and in so doing to build into his own life the "beauty of holiness" (I Chron. 16:29). God never intended humans to live in poverty, filth and squalor or ugliness. Man should have beautified the earth, and developed man's character in so doing. His civilization should have been a "heaven on earth."

What Man Has Done

But what has man done on the earth where God placed him? Man has made ugly, polluted, defiled, profaned everything his hands have touched. He has polluted the air, befouled the water in the rivers, lakes and seas. He has deteriorated the land, denuded the forests, thus altering rainfall and causing the expansion of deserts. He has worn out the soil by neglecting to give it its sabbaths of rest every seven years. Man has built cities and allowed them to deteriorate into slums, filth and squalor.

All because the very first human rejected and turned from God, relying solely on himself—and all Adam's children have done likewise.

Thus man has built a man-made and Satan-influenced civilization. Man not only has ruined the earth he should have developed and improved, he has destroyed his own health by wrong living, and degraded and perverted his own spiritual character. Now, at last, as we near the end of the 6,000 years God has allowed him this free rein, man has created the Frankenstein

of weapons of mass destruction that can destroy all mankind utterly—unless a merciful God intervenes to save us from ourselves.

A Modest Foretaste

We now live in the era biblical prophecy calls the last days—the last generation before the coming of Christ to rule and accomplish on earth what mankind should have done. In these last days, according to biblical prophecy, knowledge, spiritual as well as material, was to be increased. The true Church of God was to be set back on the track, restoring the glorious knowledge of the faith once delivered to the saints in the days of the original apostles.

Jesus Christ, through the Church, built three colleges—two in the United States and one in England. The three campuses, in material beauty, have mutually excelled each other, as a high character physical setting for the development of God's righteous character in students. The beauty of godly character in these students has excelled the physical beauty of the campuses. A royal Queen on a six-day visit to the headquarters campus in Pasadena, California, on touring the campus, exclaimed, "I have just been in heaven."

Three times this campus has won the award of being the most beautiful, best landscaped, and best maintained campus in the United States. These campuses are an example of what mankind should have done, and a modest foretaste of the beauty that will blossom forth over the whole earth after Christ and his saints in his kingdom are ruling the earth in the wonderful world tomorrow.

Deteriorated, former millionaire mansions have been restored. An area behind them that had deteriorated into Pasadena's slum has been cleaned out and been built into the most beautiful area in Pasadena.

What If Adam Had Taken the Tree of Life?

How did this material and human

character degradation start?

Had Adam taken of the profaned tree of life the whole course of civilization would have been entirely different. Peace, happiness, joy, health and abundance would have spread over the earth.

But what did result?

Adam took to himself the knowledge of good as well as evil. But it was only human good, no higher than the carnal human level of the human spirit within him. He rejected reliance on God and relied on himself for knowledge, ability and power—all limited to the fleshly human plane, deceived and led by the perverted Satan.

Had he taken of the tree of life, he himself undoubtedly would have succeeded Satan on the throne of the earth, restoring the government of God, empowered, influenced and led by the Eternal God. But he allowed Satan to enter within his mind. He was, as it were, kidnapped and held captive by Satan.

Thus the first created human disbelieved God, disobeyed God, chose to go HIS OWN WAY, do his own thing. Adam did it willingly, but not apparently willfully or with malicious intent.

Willingly, Adam was led into captivity by Satan. He had willingly gone along with Satan, the archkidnapper of all time.

We were born into this 20th-century world as it is. We take it for granted. But we can't explain it.

A World Held Captive

Adam had been created with the potential to be born a son of GOD. Even though not as yet even a begotten son of the GOD FAMILY, he had been created as potentially just that. Once he succumbed to Satan's WAY of choosing to "do his own thing," in rebellion against a deliberate command of God, he became spiritually the property of Sa-

tan. He actually had succumbed to the GOVERNMENT of Satan, choosing the LAW of that government—the law of vanity, self-centeredness—leading automatically into attitudes of self-glory, coveting, competition, desire to GET rather than God's way of GIVE.

All humanity came out of Adam and Eve. The present world was FOUNDED in them. The WORLD has ever since been HELD CAPTIVE! The world had thus chosen THE WAY of the kidnapper, rather than of the potential Parent!

But God the Father was to pay the ransom price and even yet bring his potential spiritual children back to him. God did not choose to redeem, correct and restore humanity to him at that time.

At the Foundation of the World

Upon Adam's sin, God closed off the tree of life to the world as a whole until the second Adam, Jesus Christ, shall have deposed Satan and taken over the throne of the earth.

There cannot be a law without a penalty. The penalty of human sin is DEATH.

The penalty of death had passed on Adam and all his children. That penalty had to be paid. There was no escaping it. Satan must have gloated, believing he had totally defeated God's purpose of restoring God's government and unseating Satan on earth's throne. Truly all Adam's children would come under the penalty of death, for all would sin.

But what even Satan probably did not realize, God's plan was yet to save humanity, and remove Satan from earth's throne.

At this very foundation of the world, it was determined that Jesus Christ, as the "Lamb of God," should be slain in payment of the penalty for all human sin (Rev. 13:8), which substitute sacrifice is effective only upon repentance and faith. It was also determined by God at that time that all Adam's children should die, but after dying be resurrected to judgment (Heb. 9:27). But as in Adam all must die, so in Christ the same ALL shall be made alive by a resurrection from the dead to be judged (I Cor. 15:22).

But still, none could ever be born of God until God's holy and perfect spiritual character had been instilled within, by individual choice and proof by performance.

God set apart a 7,000-year period to complete his original SUPREME PURPOSE of reproducing himself through man. It was a masterminded MASTER PLAN for working out the PURPOSE here below.

For almost 6,000 years a civilization has developed, which we call the world. But it has been a world held captive. It has become SATAN'S WORLD though millions have been deceived into believing it is God's world. To this day Satan is still on that throne of the earth.

Meanwhile Satan has worked IN all humans. He has injected into the world enormous EVILS.

But how has Satan injected those evils into the minds of all humans, even of the most scholarly and advanced in education, science, government and areas of awesome human accomplishment? Even that question is a mystery understood by almost no one.

Satan—the Master Broadcaster

In Ephesians 2:2, Satan is called the prince of the power of the air, working in—inside the minds of—people. I could never have understood this until: 1) I had understood how radio and television sounds and pictures are transmitted through the air; and 2) I had learned the truth about the human spirit in the human brain. If your radio is set on the proper radio wavelength, or television set is tuned to the proper channel, the broadcaster's message comes through clearly. Satan as prince of the power of the air broadcasts—not in words, sounds or pictures, but in attitudes, moods, impulses.

For example, we read in Ezra 1:1, when King Cyrus of Persia issued a proclamation to send a colony of Jews back to Jerusalem to build the second Temple, he was moved to do so because God stirred up his human spirit—in other words, put the suggestion and im-

pulse in his mind, and the king acted on it. In the same manner Satan moves on the human spirit within people to move them in attitudes of envy, jealousy, resentment, impatience, anger, bitterness and strife. People have no realization of the tremendous power of Satan. The human spirit within each human is automatically tuned

The whole world of humankind has been deceived into preferring the "getting," self-centered way of life.

to Satan's wavelength. It seems as if Satan has surcharged the air over the entire earth with his attitude of self-centeredness and vanity.

And so a world—a civilization—developed from the original Adam and Eve. When God shut off the tree of life, that act marked the foundation of the world. It was founded on rejection of God, on disobedience to God's law, which defines God's way of life. And all the evils, sorrows, pain and suffering in 6,000 years of human civilization have resulted.

God had designed a 7,000-year master plan for accomplishing his tremendous purpose. The first 6,000 years were allotted to allow Satan to remain on earth's throne, and for humanity to learn the bitter lesson, through experience, that Satan's way of self-centeredness in opposition to God's law leads only to pain, suffering, anguish and death.

The whole world of humankind has been deceived into preferring this "getting," self-centered way of life.

At this point, remember, the world had never known of the existence of God the Father until Jesus came and revealed the Father (Matt. 11:27).

The world, from its foundation, was cut off from God the Father. Jesus came to reconcile repentant believers to the Father (Rom. 5:10).

The Beginning of Civilization

But notice briefly how human civilization developed.

God created the first humans, perfect specimens physically and mentally. Physically this perfectly created pair had no chronic ailments or tendencies toward diseases or illnesses. That is testified in part by the fact that Adam lived to be 930 years old. And for nearly 2,000 years the human life span from Adam to Noah averaged close to 900 years.

Think of it! The first man lived nearly one sixth of all the time from human creation until now!

Adam and Eve had two sons, Cain and Abel. When they were grown, perhaps still in their teens, Cain became envious and hostile against his brother Abel. Even though by the closing off of the tree of life they were cut off from God the Father, the "Word" (the "Lord" or the "Eternal" in English) spoke to Cain and warned him. But Cain was being led by Satan. This prince of the power of the air stirred Cain to an attitude of resentment, anger and hostility. Cain slew his younger brother, and when the Eternal asked him about his brother, he lied to God about it. The very first human ever born was moved by Satan to become a murderer and a liar.

God sentenced him to become a vagabond and a fugitive.

But even though the human family had rejected God, chosen to rely on self even as swayed by Satan, the human mind was capable of working with material substance. In a few generations a son of Cain was making harps and organs and musical instruments (Gen. 4:21) and another, an artificer in brass and iron.

Mankind was making progress in material development, even though growing further from God spiritually. But remember at this point, that "except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it" (Ps. 127:1). Also, as in Matthew 7:24-27, a house built on a faulty foundation is bound to fall. Civilization as we know it was built, not on the foundation of God and his direction, but on man's

self-reliance under the deception and sway of Satan.

The Bible tells us little of human development prior to Noah, but after 1,500 to 1,600 years human civilization had become so evil that only one man, Noah, remained righteous. There was a population explosion, but humanity had turned to evil continually. After 100 years of warning by Noah, God sent the Flood to drown all living except Noah, his wife, three sons and their wives—eight people.

The Extent of Evil

Notice to what extent humanity had been turned by Satan to evil. In Genesis 6:5, "God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." The earth was filled with violence. Man's thoughts, contemplations and plans were continually on self-centered, lustful and evil objectives.

This violence had become so universal that God determined to spare humanity from suffering longer in mounting misery and anguish.

God took away their miserable lives, by the earthwide Flood, *to be resurrected in the next second of their consciousness* in the "Great White Throne" resurrection (Rev. 20:11-12). They will be brought back to life in a time when Christ is ruling the earth in righteousness, peace and happiness. Satan will be gone. Their minds then will be opened to God's TRUTH, and eternal salvation will be opened to them.

But God intended to preserve human life—to give humanity a new and fresh start.

God found only one man, of all the millions, who was walking with God. Two can't walk together except they be agreed. Noah alone agreed with God and God's way of life. God used Noah as a preacher of righteousness (II Pet. 2:5). For 100 years Noah warned the unheeding world, from age 500 until he was 600 years old.

Noah was "perfect" in his generations. That is, his heredity, ancestry (Gen. 6:9)

Proof of this lies in the meaning

of the Hebrew word translated "perfect." It may refer either to spiritual character (Gen. 17:1) or to *physical characteristics* (Lev. 22:21). Therefore Genesis 6:9 allows the translation that Noah was either "blameless" or of "pure strain."

The context (Gen. 6:2) clearly indicates the latter is the intended meaning of the Hebrew word translated "perfect." So a good rendering of Genesis 6:9 is that Noah was the only "just" man (in spiritual character), and also of "pure strain" (in his genetic heritage) among his contemporaries.

End of the Antediluvian World

The subject matter of the chapter is the generations ancestry of Noah. Exceeding wickedness had developed through those generations, by Noah's generation reaching a climactic crisis that *ended* that world.

What was this universal evil and corruption? Jesus described that universal, corrupt evil as "eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage" (Matt. 24:38). Eating food and drinking is not evil. Marrying is not evil in itself. There had to be *wrong use* and *excess* in eating, drinking and marrying—the evil was *in the manner*, and in *the extent* of eating, drinking and marrying.

It could only be eating improper food, drinking excessively of alcoholic drinks, revelings (Gal. 5:21), rioting, violence. Marrying, to be evil, had to be as in Genesis 6:2, when men "took them wives of all which they chose." There was interracial marriage—so universal that *Noah, only*, among males, was unmixed or of pure strain in his generations—his ancestry.

It is amply evident that by the time of Noah there were at least the three primary or major racial strains on earth, the white, yellow and black, and in addition interracial marriage produced many racial mixtures much as we have in today's world.

God does not reveal in the Bible the precise origin of the different races. But it is a fair conjecture that in mother Eve were created ovaries containing the yellow and black genes, as well as white, so

that some of the children of Adam and Eve gave rise to black, yellow as well as white.

The one man God chose to PRESERVE the human race alive after the Flood was *unmixed in his generations*—all his ancestry back to Adam was of the one strain.

If you are a livestock breeder, planning to enter your prize animals in a livestock show—perhaps at a state or county fair—you will be sure to enter only thoroughbred or pedigreed stock! Mixing the breed alters the inheritable characteristics.

God originally *set the bounds* of national borders, intending nations to be SEPARATED to prevent interracial marriage. Notice, "When the most High divided to the nations their inheritance [speaking of land or geographical boundaries], when he *separated* [notice—he *separated*] the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people..." (Deut. 32:8).

But people wanted to intermarry—thinking they would become only ONE RACE!

That desire seems still inherent in human nature today!

Noah was of unmixed lineage in his generations and undoubtedly that happened to be white—not that white is in any sense superior. His wife and three sons were of that same white strain. But Japheth evidently had married an Oriental woman, and Ham a black. That is how God chose to preserve the primary races through the catastrophe of the Flood.

We know little more than stated above about civilized development prior to the Flood.

Mankind should have learned its lesson by the Flood, but man cut off from God, and swayed by Satan had not, and has not to this present day. But once again, "as it was in the days of Noah," Jesus said in a prophecy, there is a population explosion, and evils are multiplying. This time worldwide nuclear war will threaten to erase all humanity from the earth. But, for the sake of the "elect" of God's true Church (Matt. 24:21-22), God will cut the destruction short—and this time send Jesus Christ as King of kings to replace Satan and sit on earth's throne.

Origin of Cities

It was only the second generation after the Flood until a man named Nimrod organized people into cities. First was the tower of Babel and the city of Babylon. Then Nineveh and other cities, which became city-states.

God had set the bounds of the nations, intending geographical segregation of the races.

At this point I quote from *Satan's Great Deception*, a thesis by C. Paul Meredith (pages 14-16):

Everyone on earth after the Flood knew of God and why he had drowned the wicked. They feared to do evil—at first... Men lived... without cities and without laws, and all speaking one language...

This group, composed of the *only people on the earth* (for the others had all been destroyed by the great Flood), began migrating from the mountains of Ararat (Gen. 8:4) where the ark had landed: "And the whole earth was of *one language*, and of one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there" (Gen. 11:1-2). These people, now known as Sumerians (Miller's *Ancient History in Bible Light*, page 51), pushing through the mountains of the east, came upon a prodigiously fertile plain built up by the deposits of the Euphrates and the Tigris rivers. This land of Shinar is now known as ancient Babylonia (J. H. Breasted's *Ancient Times*, page 107). Here was a land that would produce all they desired in abundance...

These people, like Adam and Eve, disobeyed God and brought trouble upon themselves. The land was productive, but the wild animals were multiplying faster than the people due to the destruction of the former civilization by the great Flood. Because of their primitive weapons, there was a great danger to life and possessions (Ex. 23:28-29). What could be done about it?

Nimrod, the son of Cush, was a large, powerfully built man who developed into a great hunter. It was he who *gathered* the people together and *organized* them to fight the wild ferocious beasts. "He was a mighty hunter

before the Lord" (Gen. 10:8-9). In other words, the name of Nimrod was known everywhere for his might. He emancipated the people of the earth after the Flood from their fear of the wild animals. His prestige grew. He became the leader in worldly affairs. He was ambitious.

First City—Babylon

There was a better way to protect the people from the wild animals that roamed the earth than by constantly fighting them. Nimrod built a city of houses and surrounded this city with a high wall and gathered the people therein. Thus the people were protected and Nimrod was able to *rule* over them. This arrangement was agreeable to the people for "They said... let us build us a city and... make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad" (Gen. 11:4).

The people not only protected themselves from the wild animals by building a walled city but also established authority of *their own*—"let us make us a name." This was to be a central place of *mankind's* authority—the *necessity of their obedience to God was not going to be recognized!* Nimrod was their leader. Also they built a tower whose top was to "reach unto heaven." With a tower this high they could do as they wished—disobey God and still be safe from his *punishment* which had drowned the inhabitants of the earth before. This was mankind's first act of open rebellion against God after the Flood—they thought they had placed themselves out of God's reach if they wished to *disobey him*. They, like Satan, thought that if they could "ascend above the heights of the clouds," they could "be like the most High" (Isa. 14:14). Cush, Nimrod's father, also had much to do with the building of this tower and city (*The Two Babylons*, by Alexander Hislop, page 26).

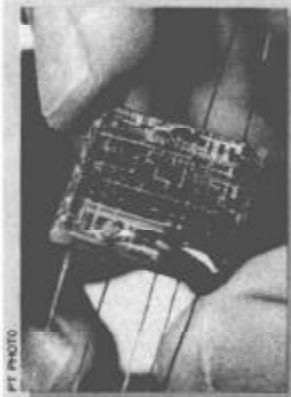
These people were not only of one language, they were of three races or families—white, yellow and black. Just as God created varieties in many species of flowers and of animals—for example, many varieties and colors of roses—for greater beauty, so God created the three races and colors of human skin.

(Continued on page 39)

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS THIS CENTURY.

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION

- 1900 Radio in infancy.
- 1929 First transmission of color TV.
- 1944 First digital computer, Mark I (5 tons, 8 ft. high, 51 ft. long, 500 miles of wiring), in operation, Harvard University.
- 1952 Japanese introduce pocket-size transistor radios.
- 1962 Era of transatlantic TV begins as communications satellite Telstar is launched by U.S.
- 1971 The microprocessor (microchip) is introduced.



PI PHOTO

MEDICINE AND HEALTH

- 1901 Pioneering work in serums intensifies.
- 1914 England uses first biological and safe treatment of public sewage.
- 1941 Penicillin enters clinical use, thereafter development of other antibiotics grows.
- 1950s Open heart surgery becomes possible and human organ transplants begin. Kidneys, 1954; heart, 1967.
- 1953 Double-helix model of DNA molecule explains how genetic information can be stored and how chromosomes duplicate and divide.
- 1970s Genetic engineering by fusion of genetic characteristics of different living things promises human benefits and dangers.

AVIATION AND SPACE

- 1903 First powered flight by Wright brothers.
- 1927 Lindbergh flies the Atlantic.
- 1933 Radio astronomy allows deep probe of space.
- 1939 Jet age begins with German gas turbine jet engine.
- 1957 Sputnik I is launched by Soviets.
- 1969 American astronauts land on moon.
- 1976 Concord becomes first supersonic airliner.
- 1970s Space frontier exploited by rockets, satellites, space stations; space probes to Mars, Jupiter, other planets; development of reusable Space Shuttle.



COURTESY NASA

TRANSPORT, TRADE AND TRAVEL

- 1903 Ford begins car production.
- 1914 Opening of Panama Canal.
- 1916 Electronic beacons on coastlines allow ships to make all-weather bearings.
- 1959 Saint Lawrence Seaway allows seagoing vessels to sail to Lake Superior, heart of U.S.
- 1965 Prepacked truck-train containers for seaborne container ships booms.
- 1981 France's Train Grande Vitesse becomes world's fastest train, achieving a speed of 235 mph (380 km/h), supplanting the previous record-holding Japanese Bullet trains.

ENERGY, INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

- 1903 First fully automatic bottle-making machine. By 1920 most bottles in U.S.A. so made.
- 1904 Stainless and high-speed steels developed.
- 1905 Albert Einstein proposes his Special Theory of Relativity, expressed in the equation $E=mc^2$.
- 1907 Tower refiner for continuous gasoline and petrol production developed.
- 1909 Age of plastic begins with Bakelite.
- 1910 Air pollution from factory chimneys first reduced by electrostatic precipitators.
- 1913 High quality sheet glass starts to be produced by continuous process machines.
- 1920s High voltage electricity developed to meet increasing power demands.
- 1930s Hoover Dam and many other huge dams constructed or begun; gas turbines, geothermal and solar powered electrical generating sources later developed.
- 1931 The Empire State Building, 1,248 ft. (380.4m) high, is completed.
- 1947 Offshore oil drilling pioneered.
- 1970s Deep offshore oil exploitation developed; nuclear energy becomes significant source of electrical power in many nations.
- 1980s New super-strong plastics and ceramics are introduced, revolutionizing material production.



WIDE WORLD

...BUT INCREASINGLY SERIOUS PROBLEMS DEFY

ECONOMIC INSTABILITY AND UNEMPLOYMENT

During this century, in the lifetime of many older persons, the Industrial Revolution has transformed the workplace from agricultural production to mass industrialism, and changed again toward communications industries and social services.

Economic booms and depressions every few years or decades, along with serious inflation, have created massive insecurity and unemployment. New technologies throw many out of work, skilled workers find themselves unemployable. Job protectionism sparks threats of trade wars. In many nations, economic stagnation does not create enough new jobs for labor entrants.

In numerous nations, massive government and private debt, along with rapid currency-value swings and high interest rates, undermines economic growth.

Welfare roles are overburdened. Labor strikes and conflict cripple industrial efficiency and produce rippling damages to other workers and consumers. Many unemployed in economically disadvantaged nations migrate, producing intensified racial hostilities and strained feelings.

MALNUTRITION AND MASS HUNGER

Until 1950, apart from periodic famines, developing nations were virtually self-sufficient in food supplies, were even food exporters. Between 1900 and 1985 world population tripled.

Today, more than 100 of the world's 150 or so nations are importers of sizable or major portions of their food needs. Ninety percent of earth's annual population increase are in food-short developing nations. Around 500 million of earth's inhabitants are seriously malnourished.

In the 1980s, many African nations produce less food than a decade earlier. Millions malnourished and starving due not only to bad weather, but also civil war, tribal conflict, political corruption, and instability and lack of emphasis on domestic agricultural needs; instead overemphasis on export of cash crops to repay foreign bank loans for industrial development.

At a time of unsurpassed scientific and technological progress, mankind's latest knowledge has only increased the confusion in social values. Man has added complexity, as well as new problems, to an increasingly insecure, unsafe world of deteriorating human relationships and physical environment.



SEXUAL IMMORALITY

Under the erosion of traditional religious values, family breakdown and purely secular education blossomed together with permissiveness in moral and sexual behavior.

Extramarital and homosexual sex are widely tolerated and accepted. Pornography, X-rated movies, video tapes and books abound in public places.

Millions believe it is acceptable to kill infants in abortions. Several sexually transmitted diseases have become the top reportable communicable diseases.

FAMILY BREAKDOWN

Divorce has spiraled in many nations. Between 1900 and 1985 in the U.S., the divorce rate (per 1,000 pop.) increased 700%. Today, one out of three marriages (1 out of 2 in many large U.S. cities) is destined to end in divorce or separation.

Illegitimate births among certain segments of society are over 50% of births. Single-parent families by the scores of millions are struggling to cope.

Many children are neglected. Runaways a big problem. Child sex abuse a scandal. Youth suicide is growing.

DRUG ABUSE

Until the end of World War II, major drug problems were opium and heroin addiction in Asia and scattered use elsewhere. After World War II, particularly in the 1970s, a virtual explosion in drug abuse—both legal and illicit—occurred.

Alcohol abuse and alcoholism are rampant in many nations. There is growing acceptance and use of marijuana, heroin, cocaine, hallucinogens, barbiturates, pep pills, tranquilizers, and in recent years, extremely dangerous "designer drugs" are in use. Large areas of several nations are controlled by drug lords.



HUMAN SOLUTION!

WARFARE

- 1909 U.S. Army adopts first military biplane.
- 1914-18 World War I involves 28 countries and 6 continents; kills 10 million soldiers, 10 million civilians; 20 more million die due to war-related famine, disease, political unrest.
- 1918 First purposely built aircraft carrier, built by Britain.
- 1935 Heavy bombers developed.
- 1939 German rocket development proceeds.
- 1939-45 World War II: virtually every nation involved; 17 million military dead, 43 million civilian dead.
- 1945 Nuclear weapons age begins with Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
- 1952 First U.S. hydrogen bomb exploded.
- 1950s Biological and chemical warfare agents developed, stockpiles begin.
- 1958 U.S.S.R. launches world's first intercontinental ballistic missile, the SS-6.
- 1971 U.S. Minuteman III is first to carry multiple independently-targeted reentry vehicles (MIRV).
- 1985 More than 50,000 nuclear weapons exist in world, with an estimated yield of 13,000 million tons of TNT. "Nuclear winter" theory postulates that most of humanity, living in Northern Hemisphere, would die in massive nuclear exchange.



COURTESY LOS ALAMOS SCIENTIFIC LAB

DISEASE

Since 1900, infectious diseases and diseases due to lack of sanitation have been greatly reduced in most, but not all, nations.

In their place, new scourges of degenerative diseases have plagued humanity: heart disease, cancer, emphysema, nervous system diseases, new viral diseases.

The limitations of "wonder drugs" have become well-known as resistant strains of infectious organisms and side effects grow.



PT PHOTO



PT PHOTO

CRIME AND CORRUPTION

Crime and violence has increased as a major worry in many cities and rural areas.

Juvenile crime has soared since World War II—in the U.S., in 1950, 1 out of 8 serious crimes were committed by youths under age 18; in recent years, 1 out of 4.

Law enforcement and judicial officials admit they fail to deter criminals, in fact, allow many to be set free. Drug dealing and syndicate crime have penetrated deeply into businesses and social life in many areas.

In many nations corruption is rife among officials.

POLLUTION

At the turn of the century, localized conditions involving improperly disposed garbage and filth and industrial soot were the major pollution problems. Today pollution has become global after decades of dumping multiple thousands of dangerous chemicals into air, water, land and ocean dumps.

As many as 1,000 new chemical formulas come on the market every year. Around 35,000 of the over 50,000 chemicals now available have been classified by government agencies as either definitely or potentially hazardous to human health.

Agricultural and farm chemicals pollute soil and food. Other suspect chemicals are used to preserve or enhance food or product salability.

Acid rain has become a major killer of the world's forests and lakes. Environmental pollution and degradation endanger many species of animal life as well as humans.

The ancient prophet graphically foretold this day: "The earth is drooping, withering . . . for earth has been polluted by the dwellers on its face . . . mortals are dying off, till few are left" (Isa. 24:4-6, Moffatt translation).

The Bible SUPERSTITION OR AUTHORITY?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

The Bible purports to be the infallible, divine revelation of truth, revealed by the very Creator and Ruler of the universe. But can you prove it?

PROPHECY is a proof of God, a proof of the divine revelation of the Bible.

Prophecy is a taunting challenge that the skeptic dares not accept!

In this second and concluding installment I want to give you a prophecy from the book of Daniel, which, in itself, is one of the strongest proofs of the inspiration of the Bible.

This prophecy was written some 500 years before the birth of Christ. Could any man have written this prophecy and made it come to pass? Could any man foresee in advance that the events in this prophecy were going to happen? This prophecy, the longest in all the Bible, begins 500 years before Christ and carries up to our time and into the immediate future. So let us continue with the prophecy.

Daniel was one of four extraordinary, intelligent and brilliant Jewish lads in the Judean captivity. These four men were stationed in the palace of King Nebuchadnezzar of the Chaldean Empire, in training for special responsibilities in the Babylonian government. Daniel was a prophet who had been given special understanding in vi-

sions and dreams (Dan. 1:17).

Nebuchadnezzar was the first real world ruler. He had conquered a vast empire, including the nation Judah. This king had a dream so impressive it troubled him—moved him to tremendous concern. He demanded that his magicians, astrologers and sorcerers tell him both *what* he had dreamed and what it meant. They could not. They were baffled. Then Daniel was brought before the king.

Daniel disclaimed any more human ability to interpret dreams than the Chaldean magicians, "BUT," he said, "there is a GOD in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days" (Dan. 2:28).

First, God's purpose was to reveal to this world-ruling human king that there is a GOD in heaven—that GOD IS SUPREME RULER over all nations, governments and kings—that God RULES THE UNIVERSE! It was God who placed the cherub Lucifer on the throne of the earth and Lucifer, who has become Satan the devil, remains on earth's throne only because God allows it, and only until God sends Jesus Christ to sit on that throne when he removes Satan. This Chaldean king knew only about the many pagan demon gods.

He knew nothing of the true *living* ALMIGHTY God. Like people and rulers, even today, he did not know that God is the living, REAL, active, RULING and GOVERNING PERSON-AGE who actually and literally *governs* not only what is on earth, but the UNIVERSE ENTIRELY!

The whole purpose of this DREAM was to *reveal* GOD'S GOVERNMENT—the *fact* that God RULES—the truth of THE KINGDOM OF GOD—the very thing that is the one and *only* true GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST! And, secondly, to reveal—preserved in writing for us TODAY—what is to happen "*in the latter days*"—actually within the next two decades—THIS LAST QUARTER OF THE 20TH CENTURY.

For US, Today!

This is no dry, dull, dead writing for a people of 2,500 years ago. This is LIVING, TREMENDOUS, *BIG NEWS* for *OUR DAY*! It is *advance news* for us, *NOW*. News before it happens—of the most colossal event of all earth's history certain to occur *in your lifetime*—during the very next few years!

This is THE TRUE GOSPEL! It is the very gospel Christ preached! It is intended for you and me TODAY! It is vital that you UNDERSTAND!

Read, in your own Bible, Daniel 2, verses 28 through 35. In his

dream, this king had seen a vast statue—larger than any image ever built by man—so colossal it was terrifying, even in a dream. Its head was of fine gold, its breast and arms of silver, the belly and thighs of brass, legs of solid iron, feet a mixture of iron and clay.

There was a time element. Nebuchadnezzar had viewed it *until* a supernatural STONE came from heaven, smashing the statue on its feet. Then the whole of the statue broke into small pieces, and was actually blown away by the wind—it disappeared! Then this STONE expanded miraculously and quickly became a great MOUNTAIN—so great it filled the whole earth!

What did it mean? *Did* it have meaning? Yes, because this was God's doing. Unlike ordinary dreams, this one was caused by God to convey the message of God's sovereignty to Nebuchadnezzar—and, because it is part of the written Word of God, to us today—to reveal important facts of the TRUE GOSPEL!

"This is the dream," said Daniel (verse 36), "and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king."

This, then, is GOD'S interpretation. It is decidedly *not* Herbert W. Armstrong's interpretation. Men ought never to *interpret* the Bible. The Bible gives us GOD'S OWN INTERPRETATION! Here it is:

"Thou, O king, art a king of kings"—he was the first real WORLD RULER over a world empire! "...for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory." God was revealing himself to this human world-dictator as the MOST HIGH Ruler over all.

People today, like this Chaldean king, seem not to think of God as a RULER—as the Supreme One who GOVERNS—as the Head of GOVERNMENT. The Eternal was revealing himself through Daniel to Nebuchadnezzar—and through the Bible to you and to me TODAY—as a SOVEREIGN, ALL POWERFUL, GOVERNING GOD who is to be obeyed!

"Thou," continued Daniel to this human emperor, "art this head of gold. And after thee shall arise another KINGDOM inferior to thee,

and another third KINGDOM of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth" (verses 37-39).

What IS a Kingdom?

Notice! This is speaking of KINGDOMS. It is referring to kingdoms that bear rule over the people on earth. It is speaking of GOVERNMENTS! It is not speaking of ethereal sentiments "set up in the hearts of men." It is not speaking of churches. It is speaking of the kind of GOVERNMENTS that bear RULE and AUTHORITY over nations of PEOPLE here on earth. It is literal. It is specific. There is no misunderstanding, here, as to what is meant by the word *kingdom*.

There is no misunderstanding the interpretation. GOD gives his own interpretation through the prophet Daniel. The great metallic

was to be *strong*, even as iron is strong—stronger militarily than its predecessors. Yet, as silver is less valuable than gold, brass than silver, iron than brass, though each metal was harder and stronger, the succession would deteriorate morally and spiritually. The two legs meant the fourth empire would be divided.

After the Chaldean Empire came the still larger Persian Empire, then Greece or the Greco-Macedonian Empire, and fourth, the Roman Empire. It was divided, with capitals at Rome and Constantinople.

Now—verse 44! Read it! Get your Bible. See it with your own eyes in your own Bible. Here, in PLAIN LANGUAGE, is God's explanation of what the KINGDOM OF GOD IS:

"And in the days of these



Artist's view of Daniel in Nebuchadnezzar's court.

image represented national and international GOVERNMENTS—real, literal KINGDOMS.

It represented a *succession* of world-ruling governments. First was the head of gold. That represented Nebuchadnezzar and his kingdom—the Chaldean Empire. After him—later, in time sequence—was to come a second, then a third KINGDOM "which shall bear rule over all the earth"—*world empire!*

Then, verse 40, the legs of iron represent a *fourth* world empire. It

was to be *strong*, even as iron is strong—stronger militarily than its predecessors. Yet, as silver is less valuable than gold, brass than silver, iron than brass, though each metal was harder and stronger, the succession would deteriorate morally and spiritually. The two legs meant the fourth empire would be divided.

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"And in the days of these

... kings..."—it is here speaking of the ten toes, part of iron and part of brittle clay. This, by connecting the prophecy with Daniel 7, and Revelation 13 and 17, is referring to the new UNITED STATES OF EUROPE that is *now forming*, out of the European Common Market, before your very eyes! Revelation 17:12 makes plain the detail that it shall be a union of TEN KINGS OR KINGDOMS that (Rev. 17:8) shall resurrect the old ROMAN EMPIRE.

So, mark carefully the *time element!* "In the days of these

kings"—in the days of these ten nations or groups of nations that shall, *IN OUR TIME*, resurrect briefly the Roman Empire—notice what shall happen:

“... shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed... but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever”!

Yes, in OUR TIME!

Now here we have described **FOUR** universal world empires—the *only* four that ever existed! Revelation 13 and 17 show that, after the fall of the original Roman Empire, there would be 10 revivals—**SEVEN** of which would be ruled over by a gentile **CHURCH**—the “daughter” of ancient **BABYLON**—a church claiming to be Christian, but actually named by God “**MYSTERY, BABYLON the great**”—or, more plainly, **BABYLONIAN MYSTERIES!**

Six of those have come and gone. The seventh is now forming—the last, final *brief* resurrection of the Roman Empire by ten European groups or nations. These are revealed in Daniel 2 as the ten toes of iron and clay mixed.

In their days—and they shall last but a *very* short space, possibly no more than two to three-and-a-half years—shall the **GOD OF HEAVEN SET UP A KINGDOM** that shall never be destroyed.

This, then, shall be **THE KINGDOM OF GOD!**

That prophecy of Daniel 2, combined with those of Revelation 13 and 17, alone are a convincing **PROOF** of the existence of God and the authenticity and authority of the Holy Bible.

But there is much more constituting incontrovertible proof.

Longest, Most Detailed Prophecy in the Bible

Next we come to the detailed prophecy of the 11th chapter of Daniel.

It is one of the most amazing prophecies in the Bible. It is most specific, describing historical events, up to the present, in more detail than any other prophecy. It is the longest prophecy in the Bible.

The prelude is found in the 10th chapter of the book of Daniel. The

prophecy came to Daniel in the third year of the reign of Cyrus, king of the Persian Empire (Dan. 10:1). A “man,” apparently the archangel Gabriel (Dan. 9:21), appears before Daniel, to make him understand what shall befall God’s people in these present “latter days” (10:14).

The first verse of the 11th chapter is a continuation from the last verse of the 10th chapter. The angel says to Daniel: “Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all; and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia. And a mighty king shall stand up, that shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will” (Dan. 11:2-3).

Actually there were 12 more kings in the Persian Empire, but only the first four following Cyrus were of importance for the purpose of this prophecy. They were Cambyses, pseudo-Smerdis, Darius and Xerxes. It was the last, or Xerxes, who was the richest of all and stirred up war with Greece.

Then King Philip of Macedonia planned a great war to conquer the Persian Empire, with an army made up mostly of Grecians. He died before the plans were completed. But his son, Alexander the Great, took over his plans, and invaded Persia. He met the Persian army at the Battle of Issus, 333 B.C. (Dan. 8:2, 5-6). Then he swept down into Egypt, and then to a final crushing defeat of the Persian Empire at the Battle of Arbella, 331 B.C., after which Alexander marched on a conquest clear to India, sweeping all before him.

Notice now verse 4 of the prophecy: “And when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled: for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside those.”

How marvelously—how accurately—that came to pass. We quote from one of the authoritative English-language histories published in the last century, *A Manual of Ancient History* (Student Series) by Rawlinson: “Cut off un-

expectedly in the vigor of early manhood [the 33rd year of his age, June, 323 B.C.], he [Alexander] left no inheritor, either of his power or of his projects” (p. 237). The Empire was left leaderless and in confusion, but out of this emerged, by the year 301 B.C., four divisions, just as prophesied, as a result of a division of the Empire into four divisions by Alexander’s generals. They were:

1. Ptolemy (Soter), ruling Egypt, part of Syria and Judea.
2. Seleucus (Nicator), ruling Syria, Babylonia and territory east to India.
3. Lysimachus, ruling Asia Minor.
4. Cassander, ruling Greece and Macedonia.

Thus was the prophecy of verse 4 fulfilled to the letter.

The “King of the North” and the “King of the South”

Now notice what follows. From here the prophecy foretells the activities only of two of these four divisions: Egypt, called “king of the south,” because it is south of Jerusalem; and the Syrian kingdom, the king of the north, just north of Judea. It is because the Holy Land passed back and forth between those two divisions, and because their different wars were principally over possession of Judea, that the prophecy is concerned with them. Here is verse 5:

“And the king of the south [Egypt] shall be strong, and one of his princes; and he shall be strong above him, and have dominion; his dominion shall be a great dominion.” In history, we learn that the original Ptolemy I, called Soter, became strong and powerful, developing Egypt beyond the greatest dreams of Alexander. One of his princes, or generals, Seleucus Nicator, also became strong and powerful. And, in 312 B.C., taking advantage of Ptolemy’s being tied up in a war, he established himself in Syria, and assumed the diadem as king.

Verse 6 says, “And in the end of years they shall join themselves together; for the king’s daughter of the south shall come to the king of the north to make an agreement [margin, “rights” or “equitable

conditions," or "marriage union"); but she shall not retain the power of the arm; neither shall he stand, nor his arm; but she shall be given up, and they that brought her, and he that begat her, and he that strengthened her in these times."

Fulfilled to the Letter!

At the end of 50 years, this occurred exactly as described!

Syria's ruler, the king of the north, at this time was Antiochus II, called Theos. His wife was named Laodice. And, says Rawlinson's *Ancient History*, page 251, "Her influence . . . engaged him in a war with Ptolemy Philadelphus [king of the south], B.C. 260, which is terminated, B.C. 252, by a marriage between Antiochus and Bernice, Ptolemy's daughter."

The prophecy says "he that begat her" shall be given up. Also that she shall not retain the power of the arm, neither shall the king of the north, whom she married, stand. All three are to come to their end. Notice how accurately this came to pass.

Says Rawlinson's *History*, pages 251 and 252: "On the death of Philadelphus [he that begat her], B.C. 247, Antiochus repudiated Bernice, and took back his former wife, Laodice, who, however, doubtful of his constancy, murdered him to secure the throne for her son Seleucus (II) B.C. 246. . . Bernice . . . had been put to death by Laodice."

Nowhere in all the Bible is there so literal a prophecy, giving so many details of future history. And to read an ancient history of these kingdoms is simply to see unfolded before your eyes, step by step, verse by verse, this marvelous prophecy. There can be no doubt of its right application!

The Holy Land Changes Hands

Next let us notice verse 7: "But out of a branch of her roots shall one stand up in his estate [margin, "in his office"], which shall come with an army, and shall enter into the fortress of the king of the north, and shall deal against them, and shall prevail."

"Out of a branch," or "shoot," of her roots. Her parents were her

roots. Hence, this must be her brother, who next should occupy the throne of king of the south and fulfill this prophecy. Now listen to this accurate fulfillment, quoted word for word from the same page of Rawlinson's work (p. 252):

"Ptolemy Euergetes [the III, eldest son of Philadelphus (p. 272) and therefore Bernice's brother, a branch of her roots] invaded Syria, B.C. 245, to avenge the murder of his sister, Bernice. . . In the war which followed, he carried everything before him."

The eighth verse of Daniel 11 says this king of the south would carry captives and vessels of silver and gold into Egypt, and continue to reign more years than the king of the north, who at that time was Seleucus II, and verse 9 says he (Seleucus II) shall come into Egypt. As verse 7 said he should "enter into the fortress of the king of the north," Ptolemy III did seize the fortress of Syria, Seleucia, the port of Antioch, capital of the kingdom! Then he carried back to Egypt immense booty and 2,500 molten images and idolatrous vessels that, in 526 B.C., Cambyses had carried away from Egypt. He continued to rule until 222 B.C., while the king of the north, Seleucus II, died in 226 B.C.

When he died, his two sons took over the kingdom of the north; first Seleucus III, 226-223 B.C., who ruled only three years, and then his brother Antiochus III, called "the Great," 223-187 B.C. Both of the sons of Seleucus II assembled immense forces to war against Egypt, avenge their father, and recover their port and fortress, Seleucia.

And this was accurately prophesied in verse 10: "But his sons shall be stirred up, and shall assemble a multitude of great forces: and one shall certainly come, and overflow, and pass through: then shall he return, and be stirred up [margin, "be stirred up again"], even to his fortress."

"And," continues verse 11, "the king of the south shall be moved with choler, and shall come forth and fight with him, even with the king of the north: and he shall set forth a great multitude; but the multitude shall be given into his hand."

In fulfillment of the latter part of verse 10, Antiochus the Great, after 27 years, recovered his fortress, Seleucia, and he also conquered the territory of Syria, as far as Gaza, including Judea. But the young Egyptian king, now Ptolemy IV (Philopator), was roused, and with an army of 20,000 inflicted severe defeat on Antiochus the Great; and fulfilling verse 12, he killed tens of thousands and again annexed Judea to Egypt. But he was not strengthened, for he made a rash and speedy peace with Antiochus, and returned to dissipation, throwing away the fruits of victory. Says verse 12, "And when he hath taken away the multitude, his heart shall be lifted up; and he shall cast down many ten thousands: but he shall not be strengthened by it ["prevail"—RAV, RSV]."

"For," as verse 13 continues, "the king of the north shall return, and shall set forth a multitude greater than the former, and shall certainly come after certain years with a great army and with much riches." It was "after certain years," or 12 years later, 205 B.C., that Ptolemy Philopator died, leaving his throne to an infant son, Ptolemy Epiphanes. Then Antiochus assembled a greater army, and won great victories.

He then made a treaty allying Philip of Macedonia with him, and others, against Egypt, and they wrested Phoenicia and southern Syria from the king of the south. In this they were assisted by some of the Jews. Josephus' Jewish history says many Jews helped Antiochus. But notice how accurately Almighty God had foretold this, hundreds of years before it happened!—

"And in those times there shall many stand up against the king of the south: also the robbers of thy people shall exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they shall fall" (verse 14).

Read It in Your Own Bible!

To save space, the reader is asked from this point to read each verse of the prophecy from his own Bible, thus saving us reprinting the prophecy in full here. We give here only the facts in history.

Verses 15-16—"the glorious

land," of course, refers to Judea, the Holy Land. Antiochus the Great besieged and took Sidon from Egypt, ruined the interests of Egypt in Judea at the Battle of Mount Panium, 198 B.C., and then Antiochus took possession of Judea.

Verse 17—"upright ones" (see margin) in Hebrew means "equal conditions, or marriage," but the one he marries will not stand on his side. In 198 B.C., Antiochus arranged a marriage between his daughter, Cleopatra (not the Cleopatra of 31 B.C. in Egypt) and young Ptolemy Epiphanes, king of the south, by which he hoped subtly to gain complete possession of Egypt; but the plan failed.

Says Rawlinson, page 254, "Coele-Syria and Palestine promised as a dowry, but not delivered." Cleopatra did not truly stand on the side of Antiochus, for it was only a trick to gain possession of Egypt.

Verse 18—and so Antiochus turned his attention in another direction and tried to conquer, 197 to 196 B.C., the islands and coasts of Asia Minor. But the Roman general, Lucius Cornelius Scipio Asiaticus, utterly defeated him at the Battle of Magnesia, 190 B.C.

Verse 19—Antiochus next turned his attention to the fortresses of his own land, in the east and west. But, attempting to recruit his dissipated wealth by the plunder of the Oriental Temple of Belus, in Elymais, he was killed, 187 B.C.

Verse 20—Seleucus IV Philopator (187-176), his son, in an effort to raise money, sent a tax collector, Heliodorus, through Judea. But he reigned only 11 years, when Heliodorus poisoned him.

Verse 21—he left no heir. But his brother, a younger son of Antiochus the Great, named Epiphanes (Antiochus IV), a contemptible reprobate, came by surprise and through flattery took the kingdom. To his aid came his assistant, Eumenes. Rawlinson says, page 255, "Antiochus [Epiphanes], assisted by Eumenes, drives out Heliodorus, and obtains the throne, B.C. 176. He astonishes his subjects by an affectation of Roman manners" and "good-

natured profuseness [flattery]."

Antiochus Epiphanes

Verse 22—"the prince of the covenant" does not refer to Christ. This was the attempt of Antiochus to replace the Jewish high priest by another who would be subservient to him.

Verses 23-24—although only a few were with him at first, yet by this "Roman manner," by deceit and flattery, he crept into power and prospered. He also invaded Galilee and Lower Egypt. His fathers, the former kings of Syria, had favored the Jews, but says Rawlinson, page 255, they "were driven to desperation by the mad project of this self-willed monarch."

Verse 25—Rawlinson, pages 255-256, says, "Threatened with war by the ministers of Ptolemy Philometor [now king of the south], who claim Coele-Syria and Palestine as the dowry of Cleopatra, the late queen-mother, Antiochus marches against Egypt... B.C. 171" (pp. 227-278). But he was met by his nephew, Ptolemy Philometor, king of the south, with another immense army. But the Egyptian king was defeated through the treachery of his own officers and was outwitted by Antiochus.

Verses 26-27—continuing in Rawlinson, page 278: "After his victory at Pelusium, Antiochus advanced to Memphis, and having obtained possession of the young king's person [Ptolemy Philometor, king of the south], endeavored to use him as a tool for effecting the entire reduction of the country." In 174 B.C., the uncle of the king of the south sat at a banquet. Antiochus pretended to ally himself with the young Ptolemy, against his brother, Euergetes II, but each was trying to deceive the other.

The Abomination of Desolation

Verse 28—in 168 B.C., returning from Egypt with great plunder, Antiochus set himself against the Jews, massacred many, and then returned to Antioch with golden vessels from the Temple at Jerusalem.

Verse 29—the same year, he again invaded Egypt, but with none

of his former success, because Philometor, king of the south, got help from Rome.

Verse 30—the Roman fleet came against Antiochus, he was forced to surrender to the terms of Popilius, commander of the Roman fleet, and retire from Egypt and restore Cyprus to Egypt. Returning through Judea, smarting under the defeat, he vented his exasperation against the Jews, and extended special favors to those Jews who would turn from their religion.

Verse 31—then, 167 B.C., the next year, came the climax of the horror. Antiochus sent troops to the Holy Land, who desecrated the Temple and sanctuary, abolished the daily sacrifice (see also Daniel 8:11, 24) and (Kislev 15, Hebrew calendar) placed the abomination—an image—on the altar in the Temple precincts, making it desolate (Rawlinson, page 255). Many who claim to teach the Bible try to apply the prophecy of this verse to Moslems in the seventh century A.D., building the Dome of the Rock on the supposed site of the ancient Temple at Jerusalem! But every verse of this prophecy, step by step, verse by verse, unfolded in actual history, just as here recounted, so there can be not the slightest shadow of doubt as to this abomination that "maketh desolate"—it was an idol set up in 167 B.C., by Antiochus Epiphanes.

The Prophecy Comes to Christ and the Apostles

Verse 32—Antiochus tried to end the religion of the Jews. He took away the daily sacrifice, forbade the ministrations at the Temple. He perverted by flatteries the Jews who were willing to forsake their religion.

But—right here, the prophecy cuts off from the continuation of events in the history of those ancient north and south kingdoms. Up to this point, the prophecy was unfolded, step by step, in the actual history of the northern kingdom of the Seleucidae, or Syria, and the southern kingdom of Egypt. But, say most commentaries, all accurate details seem suddenly to stop short with this verse.

Now let us notice verse 32 in

detail, particularly the last part:

"And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries." This, Antiochus Epiphanes did do. But now notice the last part of the verse: "but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits."

So our question now is, when, beginning with, and following, 167 B.C., did people begin to know God, and to be spiritually strong, and to do exploits in the Lord's service? The answer is, at the time of the Maccabees, beginning in 166 B.C., and, two centuries later, at the first appearing of Jesus Christ and in the days of the apostles!

Verse 33—"And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days."

Jesus and the apostles did instruct many. But Jesus was put to death, and history indicates that all the early apostles were martyred, except John. And this continued, many days, even into the Middle Ages, when millions were martyred for their faith.

Verse 34—"Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries. And [verse 35] some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed."

Here is described in general the whole course of God's people, from the days of Christ to the present. Compare with such passages as Revelation 12:6, 11, 13-17. And notice the vision carries on down to this present time of the end.

Verse 36—the king of the north—who is he, now, in the early and middle New Testament times, to which our prophecy has come? In 65 B.C., Syria was swallowed up by the Roman Empire, and became a Roman province. The Roman emperor now controlled Judea, and the king of the north, here referred to, is, at this time, the emperor of the Roman Empire. This verse says he should do according to his will, and he did—exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and he did; for the Roman emperors required all to worship them

and sacrifice to them, as a god. He was as a god. He was to speak against the true God, and he did and persecuted all Christians.

Verse 37—his fathers had worshiped idols, but the Roman emperors set themselves up as gods.

Verse 38—the Roman emperors honored the god of forces, or (margin) munitions, and developed the



Benito Mussolini reviews Italian troops in 1940, four months after he declares war on France and Britain.

greatest war-making power the world ever knew. "And a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things." After setting themselves up as gods, before A.D. 476, the emperors who followed, beginning with Justinian, A.D. 554, began to honor with gold, silver and power a god in a high religious office never known to their fathers. (Compare this prophecy of Daniel with Revelation 17:4, 5 and 18:3, 16.)

Verse 39—the emperors did acknowledge the supremacy of religion, increased it with material glory and caused it to rule over many.

Prophecy Skips to Present

Now we come to this century.

Verse 40—"And at the time of

the end shall the king of the south push at him...." Who is today the "king of the south"?

It cannot be the king of Egypt, for in 31 B.C. Egypt became a province of the Roman Empire, swallowed up by the king of the north. Today Egypt is a republic ruled by native Arabs. It has no king of its own.

But, in the reign of Ptolemy III Euergetes (verse 7), 247-222 B.C., Egypt annexed part of Ethiopia, immediately south of Egypt (Rawlinson, pp. 272, 273). Since that time, the 11th edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* says (article "Ethiopia"). Egypt and Ethiopia were two or three times under the same government. Thus, the two were as one land. And the only portion of that land of the "king of the south" that remained independent until the 20th century is Ethiopia!

Ethiopia, the King of the South

Ethiopia was the only country in all East Africa that continued independent, and had a government and kingdom dating back before the Roman Empire. It was the southern part of the kingdom of the south. So it is the only possible government that could be the king of the south.

At the time of the end—our time—this king of the south was to push at the king of the north, now at Rome!

In 1895 King Menelik, of Ethiopia, sent an army of 9,000 to 10,000 men against General Baratieri's Italian army.

North of Ethiopia was Eritrea, belonging to Italy. And southeast was Italian Somaliland.

In 1896 General Baratieri with 13,000 men tried to defend Eritrea against the Ethiopians. They lost 4,600 whites and 3,000 native troops, and more than 3,500 were taken prisoner.

In a later engagement the Italians were cut to pieces because of their inexperience in fighting in mountainous country and because they were greatly outnumbered. This defeat was disastrous to Italian expansion in Africa.

Italy demanded revenge! In 1927 Mussolini set the time, at just 40 years from that defeat, or 1935,

when he would be ready "finally to make our voice heard, and see our rights recognized!"

1935 came. The hour struck! Mussolini attacked! Notice verse 40: "and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over."

A whirlwind comes in the air, sweeping all before it. Mussolini did send a great air force into Africa! Also many modern "chariots"—trucks, tanks, etc.—and ships, loaded with soldiers. More than 100,000 sailed to Ethiopia.

And, notice it, Mussolini's forces were to pass over—in the air! It is at this precise point in this astounding prophecy that Mussolini's struggle in Ethiopia and in World War II ended. Mussolini did not finish the prophecy. There is yet another leader to arise in Europe! Notice what will next happen!

Verse 41—"He shall enter also into the glorious land..."—the Holy Land. This is soon to be fulfilled.

When the coming revival of the Roman Empire takes the Holy Land, then the nations will be plunged into the initial phase of the great, last and final crisis at the close of this age! Other prophecies reveal that this revival of the Roman Empire will bring into subjection the U.S. and Britain! (Request our free book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.)

"And," continues verse 41, "many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon"—the modern land of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The coming dictator will unite many others with him—10 in all (Rev. 17:12)—reviving the ancient Roman Empire.

Verse 42 says Egypt shall not escape, proving Egypt is not now the "king of the south."

Verse 43 says the Libyans and Ethiopians (observe that after its conquest by Mussolini, Ethiopia is not again referred to as the king of the south) shall be at his steps—and he will then control them. Italy lost control of Libya

and Ethiopia at the end of the war.

Verse 44—but news out of the east and out of the north—Russia and the Orient—shall trouble the revived Roman Empire. Russia will enter the war!

Verse 45—the coming Roman Empire shall establish its palace, as capital of the revived Roman Empire, and eventually its religious headquarters, at Jerusalem! Zechariah 14:2 says the city shall be taken! "Yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him"! This language signifies the end of the "beast" and the "false prophet" at the hand of God! You will find this end described in Revelation 19:19-20 and Zechariah 14:12. Write also for our free booklet *Who or What Is the Prophetic Beast?*

And now what is the time of this end, at the close of this marvelous prophecy? The next verse, Daniel 12:1, says at the time of the resurrection of the just—at the Second Coming of Jesus Christ!

This prophecy begins with the kingdoms of Syria and Egypt, soon after the death of Alexander the Great—2,300 years ago. But it ends at the time of the resurrection and the Second Coming of Christ to bring peace at last to the region—and to the entire world! It is so plain, there can be no doubt of its right application!

A Present Day Proof

There is a present day PROOF of the existence of God and the authenticity of the Bible. It concerns this very article before your eyes this minute, and the work that produced it.

The central prophecy given by Jesus Christ himself is found in Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21. These are three accounts by three inspired writers writing on the same theme.

I refer to Matthew 24:14: "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Jesus was speaking.

He was replying to a question by the apostles, "What shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" (verse 3). This is the only place in the Bible where the words "end of the world" appear.

Jesus was speaking to his disciples atop the Mount of Olives, facing Jerusalem from the east. The gospel of Christ, the only gospel he proclaimed and taught, was the kingdom of God. In verse 11 of this same speech Jesus warned them that many false prophets would arise. In verse 4 Jesus warned these apostles: "Take heed that no man deceive you." He was speaking to them. He had preached to and taught them the good news of the kingdom of God. In verse 5 Jesus said to his disciples, "For many shall come in my name,"—every place in the Bible when people came in the name of Christ they were appearing as his representatives or ministers—"saying, I [Jesus] am Christ; and shall deceive many."

That happened. Within a short period after the Church was founded on the day of Pentecost, A.D. 31, a violent controversy arose concerning whether the gospel to be proclaimed was the gospel OF Christ—Jesus' own gospel that he proclaimed and taught, or a gospel ABOUT Christ. Jesus had come as a messenger bearing a message from God about the kingdom of God. That message was his gospel. But soon many were ignoring Jesus' gospel—the kingdom of God—and preaching merely that Jesus was the Christ, preaching about the messenger, ignoring his message or gospel. That is still continuing today.

In Galatians 1:5-6 we learn they were, only 20 years after the Church was founded, turning to another gospel than that which Jesus taught.

For 1,900 years this went on. Then, beginning 1934, the true Church of God started the present *World Tomorrow* program, for the first time in 1,900 years proclaiming the gospel OF THE KINGDOM to the world! Meanwhile, during the years we have been proclaiming this gospel, the weapons of mass destruction have been produced that can erase all humanity. The END OF THE WORLD—OF THIS AGE—IS NEAR! Write for our booklet *Are We in the Last Days?*

That very fact is another proof of the authority of the Bible!

Yes, IT TRULY IS TIME YOU KNEW THE TRUTH! □

It's About MONEY

by Herman L. Hoeh

There is a way to s-t-r-e-t-c-h your money.
Discover how it's possible to have more left over from each paycheck.

RIGHT NOW there is a worldwide crisis in money. Inflation is down. Interest rates are down. But nations and individuals who owe money are finding repayment of debts next to impossible.

The Cause

There is a cause for every problem—and a cure.

But what do we see today? Instead of getting at the cause of their problems, people want to treat the penalties! Medical doctors, for example, generally treat the sickness, have little time for the cause of the sickness.

When it comes to money, people don't seek the cause of their problems. They attempt to treat the effect. If they are too heavily in debt, or their monthly payments are eating up their salary checks, they look for an "easy payment plan," or open up a revolving charge account, a credit checking account, or step to a bank offering "insured ready cash."

Is it any wonder that those who are in debt usually remain in debt?

These varied easy credit arrangements do not solve the financial problems of most people. They per-

petuate them. They keep people in the habit of overspending, of stretching out payments—with heavy hidden interest rates.

Families already in debt are persuaded to think there is an easy way to *get* more and pay later. The emphasis is on *getting*, not giving.

The fundamental cause of financial problems is going the way of human nature. Human nature wants to get, wants to satisfy and please the self. It wants to satiate the five senses. If we see some object especially appealing, the senses immediately exert a pull on the mind. We suddenly find ourselves wanting to have it. Instead of asking ourselves whether we can afford it, we seek an easy out through some financing plan.

It's time we looked at human nature for what it is. Human nature exemplifies the way of getting. It is the way of lust, of covetousness, of greed, of vanity. Uncontrolled, it leads to ruin—including financial ruin.

Human nature is the opposite of God's basic law—the Ten Commandments. The law of God was given to man to teach him the way of giving, of helping, of loving neighbor as much as self. It was given, if you please, to teach us how to keep out of debt—how to rightly use our income. Yet how

many people today have been misled into believing that the law of God is evil, harsh, cruel, and bad for us? Is it any wonder that so many religious people are poor, debt ridden, financially insecure? It ought to be just the opposite!

Financial Law Regulates Income

The reason for financial problems is *broken law!* It is time we recognized that God set laws in motion to govern everything in the universe. There are laws of physics and chemistry, laws of health and success, and financial laws. But how many people follow them today?

You probably did not know there is a fundamental law God set in motion to teach you how to handle your income. If you break that law you suffer financial penalties. Most poor people stay poor because they are breaking that law. Prosperous people would be free of worries and even more prosperous if they would keep it.

Those who do keep it find the solution to their financial worries. It provides them the feeling of security they never had before.

That law is based on the fact that God created all that is. What you think is yours is not really yours—that is, not until you have paid God his part. Then God gives

you the rest as your own, for the work you have exerted. Perhaps you never looked at your income that way before. But you could not produce anything if God had not first created the materials with which you work.

To teach us this lesson God reserves a certain portion for himself—then gives you all the rest. Most people never pay God what's his. They keep it themselves. They in effect steal it.

Now the portion God reserves for himself is a tiny fraction of the whole of our income. It is only one tenth. The tenth that God reserves for himself is called a *tithe*. It is an old English word meaning "tenth."

Cannot Afford to Tithe?

Of course you have heard of the man who couldn't afford to tithe.

That is the very reason he needed to! If he had begun to tithe, he would soon have been able to afford to! He would have begun to prosper. Here's how.

The tenth that God reserves for himself is only a small part of the total income. The 90 percent that is left God gives to you—and at the same time becomes your Partner. He in a sense enters into your work or business with you to see that you prosper.

But at the same time the tenth that he reserves for himself is just big enough to make people think! To make them become conscious of their money—to make them budget and plan for the future.

Tithing teaches you to think and plan how to spend your money. You will soon find you are so much more careful that now your 90 percent goes further than the previous 100 percent you were keeping for yourself.

But that's not all. When you have paid God what is his, he in turn puts it to work and lavishes it back upon you in spiritual as well as physical blessings. He keeps none of it for himself. He also sends it back to the world in the form of broadcasting and publishing the truth—the good news of the happy world tomorrow.

Tithing not Jewish!

Almost no one, it seems, understands HOW tithing began, WHO instituted it, and WHY.

It is often assumed today that tithing was first instituted at Mt. Sinai. That it was a form of national taxation. Therefore, it is reasoned, tithing must be "Jewish."

Nothing could be further from the truth! Understand *why*!

Did you know your Bible reveals tithes were being paid to the Creator God long before the first Jew was born?

That tithing was, in fact, a divine institution centuries prior to the making of the Covenant at Mt. Sinai? And, after the Covenant

Far more, probably, than you realize.

First, Paul explains that Jesus Christ, our High Priest, holds the rank—office, or order—of Melchizedek (Heb. 5:5-6). Who this Melchizedek is, very few understand.

Briefly, Melchizedek is called "priest of the most high God" in Hebrews 7:1. One of his names is "King of peace" (Heb. 7:2). Is it coincidence that Christ is also a priest, and that the prophet Isaiah names the Messiah "Prince of



was broken, and after everything that was nailed to the cross was ended, tithing continued a living principle under the *New Testament*?

The proof has been in the Bible all these years! You will find it in the book of Hebrews, the seventh chapter. In it Paul expounds the *New Testament* teaching on tithing.

What Paul Taught

Paul wrote the book of Hebrews to make plain to Christians the office and present duties of Jesus Christ as High Priest in heaven.

But what does Christ's office as High Priest in heaven today have to do with tithing?

Peace"? (See Isaiah 9:6.) The priestly rank or office of Jesus Christ and Melchizedek is therefore the same.

Furthermore, *Melchizedek*, High Priest in Abraham's day, is *alive today*—"having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually" (Heb. 7:3). Christ, too, is alive today!

Melchizedek—note—was "made like unto the Son of God." Could anything be plainer? Melchizedek and Christ are one. That One became the human Jesus. As a human being—God in the flesh—he was also the Messiah or Christ—the Anointed. And he is

now, as he was before, High Priest. He has the same office or rank he had in Abraham's day, when he was known as Melchizedek—meaning "King of Righteousness."

Received Tithes Before Moses

Consider, now, what Melchizedek or Christ, in his office as High Priest, received from the patriarch Abraham.

"For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings

Varied easy credit arrangements do not solve the financial problems of most people. They perpetuate them. They keep people in the habit of overspending, of stretching out payments—with heavy hidden interest rates.

[see Genesis 14:18-20], and blessed him; to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all. . . ."—a tenth, remember, is a *tithe*.

Continuing: "Now consider how great this man was"—Melchizedek—"unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth"—a *tithe*—"of the spoils" (Heb. 7:1-2 and 4).

Melchizedek—who later became the human Jesus—collected from Abraham *God's* tenth—the *tithe*. That is one of the functions of Christ's priesthood that continues today.

But how did Abraham know to *tithe*? Because "Abraham," says God, "obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments,

my statutes, and my laws" (Gen. 26:5). This was centuries before the law of Moses and before the Old Covenant!

God's laws are eternal principles. They have existed *from the beginning*. They are living, active principles today!

So tithing was a law centuries before the Covenant made at Sinai. Abraham was paying tithes about 140 years before Judah, the father of the Jews, and Abraham's great-grandson, was born.

Tithing is not "Jewish"!

Tithing, of course, was included in the laws revealed to the Hebrew ex-slaves at Sinai. It had to be. Tithing is a living financial law. It did not begin with Moses, and it did not end when the law of Moses ceased. The law of Moses could not end what it did not bring into existence!

Later we find Jacob, Abraham's grandson, promising God he would pay him the *tithe*. "And of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth"—the *tithe*—"unto thee," said Jacob (Gen. 28:22). Not to impostors!

What Christ Does with the Tithe

What is the purpose of the *tithe*? How did Melchizedek use the *tithes* he received in Abraham's day? To what use does Christ put *tithes* today?

There is a great PURPOSE being worked out here below. Man could know nothing of that purpose unless it be revealed to him. *That* takes a Revelator. Christ is that Revelator. He reveals the Father's will. It is one of his duties as High Priest.

Now understand what the priesthood of Christ has to do with *tithing*.

God the Father works through Christ. But how does Christ work? On occasion he works in person on earth. He worked from time to time with the patriarchs. He worked continuously in the flesh for 3½ years with the apostles. Most often—and for the past 1,900 years—he works *from heaven* through his chosen human instruments whom the world has persecuted over the centuries.

But *what* is Christ's WORK? What WORK has Christ been carry-

ing out through human instruments on earth these near six thousand years?

The work of preaching the good news—the gospel—of the kingdom of God.

When on earth with the apostles, "Jesus went . . . preaching the gospel of the kingdom" (Matt. 4:23). His commission *today* is: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). He carried on the same WORK nearly 4,000 years ago. As Melchizedek, he preached "the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed" (Gal. 3:8).

It cost money for the apostles to travel from city to city, to rent halls in which to speak, to have letters laboriously handwritten. Even in Abraham's day it cost to carry out the WORK of God. Abraham had at least three hundred men in his employ (Gen. 14:14). Including wives and children there must have been between 1,500 and 2,000 who traveled with him. To preach the gospel to them, facilities had to be provided in which to meet for special occasions and for weekly services.

Today, to teach the whole world the good news of the kingdom of God on the superpower facilities of television, radio and via the printing press costs very large sums of money.

To pay for his WORK God ordained from the beginning a definite financial plan—*tithing*. God does not come down on earth today and ask owners of radio stations and printing presses for their facilities free. God believes in justly paying human beings for the facilities he entrusts to them.

What the Creator does is to reserve for himself, out of all that is produced out of the earth he created, only 10 percent. The remaining 90 percent he willingly releases to man for his puny efforts *after* man *first* renders the first 10 percent to his Maker. He commissioned Christ, as High Priest, to collect that 10 percent—the *tithe*—from those who voluntarily want to become co-workers with him. As Melchizedek, he received it personally in Abraham's day. Today—and ever since his ascen-

sion in A.D. 31—Christ, as High Priest, authorized his servants, whom he has chosen as his ministers, to receive it for him and to disperse it, as he directs, for the WORK of the gospel of the kingdom of God.

How many of you knew *that* is one of the functions of Christ, who is High Priest today? It's time we understood why tithing is included in the one book in all the New Testament that specifically explains Christ's priesthood.

"But," some will ask, "what about the Levitical priesthood? Didn't the Levites receive tithes?"

That is just the point Paul makes. If the Levites—a priesthood of merely human rank—received tithes under the Mosaic dispensation, how much more worthy to receive tithes is Christ, who, since his resurrection, has again the rank of Melchizedek—the "King of Righteousness"!

Why the Levitical Priesthood?

The Mosaic dispensation was purely materialistic, fleshly, with physical rituals and sacrifices. In Hebrews 4:2 we read: "For unto us was the gospel preached"—in New Testament times—"as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it."

The Holy Spirit was not promised under the Covenant made at Sinai. The Mosaic ceremonies did not impart the gift of faith. That was not the time God was trying to save all Israel. It was not the time for the gospel to go to all the world. God was only calling a very few, primarily the prophets, who were used in Christ's work to write the Hebrew Scriptures for us.

The nation Israel formed a flesh-born congregation, not a Spirit-begotten church. During those years a priesthood of *lower rank* was in office—of mere human rank. It was vastly inferior to the spiritual and divine rank of Melchizedek. The priests were of the tribe of Levi. It was called the "Levitical priesthood." It administered physical rituals—called "the works of the law" in the New Testament.

Yet this lesser priesthood had to be financed. Once again God used the tithing system. "And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, *have a commandment to take TITHES of the people according to the LAW*" (Heb. 7:5).

Since tithing is God's permanent, continuous financing system, it *continued* through the Mosaic dispensation. During that period, when the Levites were the ministers, their physical work had to be financed.

But when Christ came and the priesthood was changed, God did not change his financing system. Christians in Paul's day did not need to be instructed that tithing is an obligatory and permanent law of God. They *did* need to have it made clear that the Levitical priesthood was superseded by that of Jesus Christ—the *Melchizedek priesthood restored!* The only question was to *which* priesthood tithes were now to be paid.

To make this point plain, Paul explains the superiority of the Melchizedek priesthood.

"Now consider *how great* this man was, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils. And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, *have a commandment to take tithes of the people* according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham.

"But he whose descent is not counted from them [the Levites], *received tithes* of Abraham, and blessed him [Abraham] that had the promises. And without all contradiction the *less* [Abraham] is blessed of the *better* [Melchizedek]" (Heb 7:4-7).

Continuing the comparison of the two priesthoods, verses 8-10: "Here men [the Levites] that die receive tithes: but there he [Melchizedek] receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth"—as he does today, in heaven, as our High Priest.

"And as I may so say," continues Paul, "Levi also, who receiveth tithes, payed tithes in Abraham. For he was yet in the loins of his

father, when Melchizedec met him."

Figuratively, even Levi paid tithes to Melchizedek—that is, the One who became Christ. Similarly, Judah, the father of the Jews, and the brother of Levi, paid tithes "in Abraham"—hundreds of years before Sinai!

The Melchizedek priesthood is far superior. It has precedence. It is again in force under Christ.

Christ is now carrying out the WORK of God. It, too, has to be financed. So we read:

"*For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the LAW*" (Heb. 7:12).

New Testament LAW

Paul does not say the law was abolished. The change in priesthoods makes necessary a *change* in the law. What law was thus changed? The very law this chapter is instructing New Testament Christians about—the law governing the priesthood and its right to receive tithes. "The sons of Levi . . . have a *commandment* to take TITHES . . . according to the law" (verse 5).

Tithing, far from being abolished, is NEW TESTAMENT LAW! Actually, the law is merely restored *as it was from the beginning*.

How plain. Tithing is God's law—his system for financing his work today. It's commanded, *now!* People today, says Malachi in a prophecy for our day and for all time, are under a divine curse because they disregard that law. Every individual who breaks it is under a curse! Notice it—Malachi 3:8: "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee?"—Don't we own everything? The answer is NO!—"In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation."

Let each one ask, "Does that mean *me*?"

God has now set before you the way of life and prosperity, and the way of poverty, suffering and death. He commands you to choose.

Which way will you take? □

Better Decisions!

(Continued from page 9)

was good at and wanted to do. She pursued the training she needed and today happily serves both her family and her community, providing floral designs to customers from her home.

She is my wife!

Louis Jones, if he evaluates his situation, may learn that he has underestimated his talents and is capable of doing more challenging work. Perhaps he will realize that he has just been waiting for something to drop from the sky and change his circumstances, without much effort on his part. Successful people create their own opportunities! Maybe Louis will conclude that he has simply been afraid to change—his situation, though not the best he could create if he tried, has grown comfortable. Maybe he procrastinates.

King David of ancient Israel prayed to God: "Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults" (Ps. 19:12). He admitted he could be wrong. We should do the same—and then be willing to change when God shows us errors in our thinking.

• *Get wise counsel.* "Where there is no counsel, the people fall," intimates Proverbs 11:14, "but in the multitude of counselors there is safety." Learning all you can about the factors affecting a decision includes talking to people who have sound understanding and accurate information.

Louis's buddy—the one with whom he occasionally has a drink—may not be the best authority on the employment situation in other areas of the country. Louis might do far better to check with chambers of commerce, government reports, state employment departments and people living in the area who have firsthand experience in his field (such as trade unions). He should also talk to people who really know him well.

The wisest counsel of all, of course, comes from God (Jas. 1:5). Louis should study the Bible to see what God says about his situation and, about the kind of work he is seeking. You'll be amazed how often the Bible offers pointed advice

applying to the exact issues you are trying to decide.

• *Don't rush into anything.* Have you ever been pressured by a salesperson into buying something? A sales technique is to make you think you must purchase now because the deal won't be available later.

That may be true in some cases, but more often than not the same item will be for sale later. The best strategy is to "sleep on it," as the old saying goes. Don't leap into something—a purchase or any other decision—without having a chance to think about it first.

Maybe our friend Louis, after he has followed all the previous steps, should just wait a few days—or a few weeks. It never pays to make hasty decisions. Other considerations may come to his attention that he still hadn't thought of before. He should certainly talk the problem out completely with his family.

On the other hand, perhaps Louis tends to put off action. Maybe he lets life blow him where it will. In that case, he needs to take the following step sooner.

• *Make a definite decision.* Once you have followed the previous steps, you can confidently arrive at a definite course of action. You can make the choice. You've asked God for wisdom. You've checked all the facts and looked at the problem from every angle. You've talked to authorities and you know you're not just making a snap judgment. Now you—and Louis—can make a firm commitment.

• *Stick to your decision.* Another law of success is perseverance. Once you've made your decision, stand by it and work diligently for the desired end. If you have acted in accord with God's laws and followed all the other steps, you can have faith in the decision. God will help things work out for your good!

Whichever course of action Louis decides upon, if he has employed all the other principles, he can expect God to fulfill the promise of Psalm 37:4-5: "Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass."

By determining to put into practice God's laws as they apply to any situation, you have actually made God your partner! He himself will see that your endeavor succeeds. Trust your decision. Trust God. Proverbs 3:5-6 promises: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

Every day you face major and minor decisions. Perhaps right now you are even struggling with gigantic decisions that will affect the entire course of the rest of your life: whether to propose or accept a proposal for marriage, whether to start a business of your own, whether to move across your country or even to another country, whether to join a certain faith and alter your basic beliefs.

By relying on God and applying the steps in this article, you can make sound decisions—this time and every time in the future. □

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"THE WORLD TOMORROW"

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of the world tomorrow on TELEVISION and RADIO.



TELEVISION LOG

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

U.S.

Nationwide Cable

Lifetime Cable Network (LIF) New York — 10:30 pm ET, Sat
 Nashville Network (TNN/NSH) Nashville — 7:00 am CT, Sat
 Satellite Program Network (SPN) Tulsa — 12:00 pm CT, Wed
 WOR, New York — 11:30 am ET and 11:00 pm ET, Sun
 WGN, Chicago — 10:00 am CT, Sat
 WTBS, Atlanta — 6:30 am ET, Sun; 1:05 am, Mon

ALABAMA

WBMG, Birmingham — 42, 10:00 am, Sun
 WBRC, Birmingham — 6, 11:30 am, Sun
 WTVY, Dothan — 4, 7:00 am, Sun
 WOWL, Florence — 15, 10:30 am, Sun
 WHNT, Huntsville — 19, 7:30 am, Sun
 WCOV, Montgomery — 20, 9:30 am, Sun

ALASKA

KIMO, Anchorage — 13, 10:00 am, Sun
 KTVF, Fairbanks — 11, 6:30 am, and 11:30 pm, Sun

ARIZONA

KNAZ, Flagstaff — 2, 9:00 am, Sun
 KNXV, Phoenix — 15, 8:30 am, Sun
 KTVK, Phoenix — 3, 7:00 am, Sun
 KUSK, Prescott — 7, 10:30 am, Sun
 KVOA, Tucson — 4, 9:00 am, Sun
 KYEL, Yuma — 13, 8:30 am, Sun

ARKANSAS

KTVE, El Dorado — 10, 7:00 am, Sun
 KPOM, Ft. Smith — 24, 9:00 am, Sun
 KAIT, Jonesboro — 8, 10:00 am, Sun
 KATV, Little Rock — 7, 9:30 am, Sun

CALIFORNIA

KBAK, Bakersfield — 29, 9:00 am, Sun
 KIEM, Eureka — 3, 9:00 am, Sun
 KMPH, Fresno — 20, 9:30 pm, Sun
 KCOP, Los Angeles — 13, 12:00 midnight, Sun
 KHJ, Los Angeles — 9, 12:30 pm, Sun
 KTTV, Los Angeles — 11, 7:00 am, Sun
 KTVU, Oakland — 2, 8:00 am, Sat; 6:30 am, Sun
 KESQ, Palm Springs — 42, 10:30 am, Sun
 KRCR, Redding — 7, 7:30 am, Sun
 KOVR, Sacramento — 13, 8:30 am, Sun
 KRBB, Sacramento — 31, 8:30 am, Sat
 KSBW, Salinas — 8, 7:30 am, Sun
 KFMB, San Diego — 8, 7:00 am, Sun
 XETV, San Diego — 6, 10:30 am, Sun
 KBHK, San Francisco — 44, 11:30 pm, Sun
 KSBY, San Luis Obispo — 6, 8:30 am, Sun

COLORADO

KRDO, Colorado Springs — 13, 10:30 am, Sun
 KWGN, Denver — 2, 7:00 am, Sat
 KUSA, Denver — 9, 7:30 am, Sun
 KTVS, Sterling — 3, 10:00 am, Sun

CONNECTICUT

WVIT, Hartford — 30, 11:30 am, Sun
 WTXX, Waterbury — 20, 7:30 am, Sun

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WDVM, Washington — 9, 7:00 am, Sun
 WJLA, Washington — 7, 11:00 am, Sun

FLORIDA

WBBH, Ft. Myers — 20, 9:30 am, Sun
 WTVX, Ft. Pierce — 34, 7:00 am, Sun
 WCJB, Gainesville — 20, 9:00 am, Sun
 WTLV, Jacksonville — 12, 9:30 am, Sun
 WCIX, Miami — 6, 9:30 am, Sat
 WTVJ, Miami — 4, 8:00 am, Sun
 WCPX, Orlando — 6, 8:00 am, Sun
 WESH, Orlando — 2, 9:00 am, Sun
 WEAR, Pensacola — 3, 11:30 am, Sun
 WXLT, Sarasota — 40, 7:00 am, Sun
 WCTV, Tallahassee — 6, 12:00 noon, Sun
 WXFL, Tampa — 8, 11:30 am, Sun
 WPEC, W. Palm Beach — 12, 9:00 am, Sun

GEORGIA

WTSG, Albany — 31, 8:00 am, Sun
 WAGA, Atlanta — 5, 11:30 am, Sun
 WTBS, Atlanta — 17, 6:30 am, Sun; 1:05 am, Mon
 WRDWT, Augusta — 12, 10:30 am, Sun
 WRBL, Columbus — 3, 8:30 am, Sun
 WGXA, Macon — 24, 11:30 am, Sun
 WTOG, Savannah — 11, 10:30 am, Sun
 WVGA, Valdosta — 44, 10:30 am, Sun

HAWAII

KHVO, Hilo — 13, 11:00 am, Sun
 KITV, Honolulu — 4, 11:00 am, Sun
 KMAU, Wailuku — 12, 11:00 am, Sun

IDAHO

KBCI, Boise — 2, 9:00 am, Sun
 KPVI, Pocatello — 6, 7:30 am, Sun

ILLINOIS

WCIU, Chicago — 26, 10:00 pm, Sat; 12:30 pm, Sun
 WGN, Chicago — 9, 10:00 am, Sat
 WAND, Decatur — 17, 7:00 am, Sun
 WQAD, Moline — 8, 8:30 am, Sun
 WMBD, Peoria — 31, 10:30 am, Sun
 KHQA, Quincy — 7, 8:30 am, Sun
 WTVQ, Rockford — 17, 9:00 am, Sun

INDIANA

WTWV, Evansville — 7, 7:30 am, Sun
 WKJG, Ft. Wayne — 33, 9:30 am, Sun
 WRTV, Indianapolis — 6, 7:00 am, Sun
 WTHR, Indianapolis — 13, 8:30 am, Sun
 WLFI, Lafayette — 18, 8:30 am, Sun
 WSBT, South Bend — 22, 10:00 am, Sun
 WTWO, Terre Haute — 2, 10:30 am, Sun

IOWA

WOI, Des Moines — 5, 10:00 am, Sun
 KIMT, Mason City — 3, 10:00 am, Sun
 KTVO, Ottumwa — 3, 10:00 am, Sun
 KCAU, Sioux City — 9, 8:00 am, Sun
 KWWL, Waterloo — 7, 10:00 am, Sun

KANSAS

KUPK, Garden City — 13, 10:00 am, Sun
 KLOE, Goodland — 10, 10:00 am, Sun
 KAYS, Hays — 7, 10:00 am, Sun
 KCTV, Kansas City — 5, 10:30 am, Sun
 KSNT, Topeka — 27, 10:30 am, Sun
 KAKE, Wichita — 10, 10:00 am, Sun

KENTUCKY

WBKO, Bowling Green — 13, 10:30 am, Sun
 WLEX, Lexington — 18, 9:30 am, Sun
 WAVE, Louisville — 3, 9:30 am, Sun
 WPSD, Paducah — 6, 10:00 am, Sun

LOUISIANA

KLAX, Alexandria — 31, 9:00 am, Sun
 WAFF, Baton Rouge — 9, 11:30 pm, Sat
 KLFY, Lafayette — 10, 9:30 am, Sun
 WDSU, New Orleans — 6, 10:00 am, Sun
 WGNO, New Orleans — 26, 7:30 am, Sat
 KTBS, Shreveport — 3, 8:30 am, Sun

MAINE

WVIL, Bangor — 7, 9:00 am, Sun
 WMTW, Poland Spring — 8, 9:00 am, Sun

MARYLAND

WBFF, Baltimore — 45, 10:30 am, Sun
 WHAG, Hagerstown — 25, 7:30 am, Sat
 WMDT, Salisbury — 47, 11:00 am, Sun

MASSACHUSETTS

WCVB, Boston — 5, 7:00 am, Sun
 WSBK, Boston — 38, 8:00 am, Sun
 WLNE, New Bedford — 6, 7:30 am, Sun
 WGGW, Springfield — 40, 9:00 am, Sun

MICHIGAN

WUHQ, Battle Creek — 41, 11:30 am, Sun
 WTOM, Cheboygan — 4, 10:00 am, Sun
 WXON, Detroit — 20, 8:00 am, Sat
 WJMN, Escanaba — 8, 10:00 am, Sun
 WJRT, Flint — 12, 8:00 am, Sun
 WZZM, Grand Rapids — 13, 12:00 noon, Sun
 WILX, Lansing — 10, 10:30 am, Sun
 WJBK, Southfield — 2, 6:30 am, Sun
 WPBN, Traverse City — 7, 10:00 am, Sun

MINNESOTA

KCMT, Alexandria — 7, 9:30 am, Sun
 KDLH, Duluth — 3, 10:00 am, Sun
 KEYC, N. Mankato — 12, 8:30 am, Sun
 KMSP, Minneapolis — 9, 7:00 am, Sat
 WUSA, Minneapolis — 11, 8:30 am, Sun
 KNMT, Walker — 12, 9:30 am, Sun

MISSISSIPPI

WLOX, Biloxi — 13, 8:30 am, Sun
 WCBI, Columbus — 4, 10:30 am, Sun
 WABG, Greenwood — 6, 8:00 am, Sun
 WLBT, Jackson — 3, 9:30 am, Sun
 WTOK, Meridian — 11, 10:30 am, Sun

MISSOURI

KRCG, Jefferson City — 13, 10:30 am, Sun
 KODE, Joplin — 12, 9:30 am, Sun
 KSHB, Kansas City — 41, 7:30 am, Sun
 KOLR, Springfield — 10, 10:00 am, Sun
 KPLR, St. Louis — 11, 10:30 pm, Sun
 KSDK, St. Louis — 5, 9:00 am, Sun

MONTANA

KULR, Billings — 8, 11:00 am, Sun
 KTVM, Butte — 6, 4:00 pm, Sat
 KFBB, Great Falls — 5, 8:30 am, Sun
 KCFW, Kalispell — 9, 4:00 pm, Sat
 KECT, Missoula — 15, 4:00 pm, Sat

NEBRASKA

KWNB, Hayes Center — 6, 9:30 am, Sun
 KHGI, Kearney — 13, 9:30 am, Sun
 KBGT, Lincoln — 8, 8:00 am, Sun
 KMTV, Omaha — 3, 9:30 am, Sun
 KDUH, Scottsbluff — 4, 8:00 am, Sun
 KSTF, Scottsbluff — 10, 10:00 am, Sun
 KSNB, Superior — 4, 9:30 am, Sun

NEVADA

KVBC, Las Vegas — 3, 7:30 am, Sun
 KOLO, Reno — 8, 10:30 am, Sun

NEW HAMPSHIRE

WMUR, Manchester — 9, 10:30 am, Sun

NEW MEXICO

KGSW, Albuquerque — 14, 11:00 am, Sun

NEW YORK

WNYT, Albany — 13, 7:00 am, Sun
 WBNG, Binghamton — 12, 11:00 am, Sun
 WGRZ, Buffalo — 2, 8:30 am, Sun
 WIVB, Buffalo — 4, 11:30 am, Sun
 WENY, Elmira — 36, 11:00 am, Sun
 Lifetime Cable Network (LIF) New York
 (on cable stations throughout the U.S.) — 10:30
 pm ET, Sat
 WNEW, New York — 5, 6:30 am, Sat
 WOR, New York — 9, 11:30 am, Sun; 11:00 pm,
 Sun
 WROC, Rochester — 8, 11:30 am, Sun
 WIXT, Syracuse — 9, 7:00 am, Sun
 WUTR, Utica — 20, 8:30 am, Sun
 WWNV, Watertown — 7, 11:30 am, Sun

NORTH CAROLINA

WHNS, Asheville — 21, 10:00 am, Sun
 WPCQ, Charlotte — 36, 8:00 am, Sun
 WGHP, High Point — 8, 11:00 am, Sun
 WPTF, Raleigh — 28, 11:00 am, Sun
 WRAL, Raleigh — 5, 6:00 am, Sun
 WITN, Washington — 7, 11:30 am, Sun
 WWAY, Wilmington — 3, 9:30 am, Sun
 WXII, Winston-Salem — 12, 10:30 am, Sun

NORTH DAKOTA

WDAZ, Devil's Lake — 8, 10:00 am, Sun
 WDAY, Fargo — 6, 10:00 am, Sun

OHIO

WAKR, Akron — 23, 11:30 pm, Sun
 WKRC, Cincinnati — 12, 9:30 am, Sun
 WLWT, Cincinnati — 5, 11:00 am, Sun
 WJKW, Cleveland — 8, 7:30 am, Sun
 WUAB, Cleveland — 43, 10:30 am, Sun
 WBNS, Columbus — 10, 7:00 am, Sun
 WTVN, Columbus — 6, 9:00 am, Sun

WDTN, Dayton — 2, 7:00 am, Sun
 WKEF, Dayton — 22, 11:00 am, Sun
 WLIO, Lima — 35, 8:30 am, Sun
 WTOV, Steubenville — 9, 9:00 am, Sun
 WDHO, Toledo — 24, 9:00 am, Sun
 WYTV, Youngstown — 33, 11:00 am, Sun
 WHIZ, Zanesville — 18, 9:30 am, Sun

OKLAHOMA

KTEN, Ada — 10, 10:00 am, Sun
 KAUT, Oklahoma City — 43, 9:30 pm, Sun
 KOCO, Oklahoma City — 5, 7:30 am, Sun
 KTUL, Tulsa — 8, 10:30 am, Sun
 Satellite Program Network (SPN) Tulsa (on
 cable stations throughout the U.S.) — 12:00 noon
 CT, Wed

OREGON

KCBY, Coos Bay — 11, 6:30 am, Sun
 KVAL, Eugene — 13, 6:30 am, Sun
 KDRV, Medford — 12, 8:00 am, Sun
 KOIN, Portland — 6, 6:30 am, Sun; 1:00 am, Mon
 KPIC, Roseburg — 4, 6:30 am, Sun

PENNSYLVANIA

WTAJ, Altoona — 10, 11:30 am, Sun
 WSEE, Erie — 35, 11:00 am, Sun
 WLYH, Harrisburg — 15, 8:00 am, Sun
 WPHL, Philadelphia — 17, 7:30 am, Sun
 WTAJ, Philadelphia — 29, 7:30 am, Sat
 WPGH, Pittsburgh — 53, 9:30 am, Sat
 WPXI, Pittsburgh — 11, 7:30 am, Sun
 WTVE, Reading — 51, 10:30 am, Sun
 WNEP, Wilkes Barre — 16, 8:30 am, Sun

RHODE ISLAND

WPRI, Providence — 12, 10:30 am, Sun

SOUTH CAROLINA

WCBD, Charleston — 2, 9:00 am, Sun
 WOLO, Columbia — 25, 10:00 am, Sun
 WPDE, Florence — 15, 9:30 am, Sun
 WYFF, Greenville — 4, 6:30 am, Sun

SOUTH DAKOTA

KHSD, Lead — 11, 8:00 am, Sun
 KOTA, Rapid City — 3, 8:00 am, Sun
 KDLT, Sioux Falls — 5, 9:30 am, Sun

TENNESSEE

WDEF, Chattanooga — 12, 10:30 am, Sun
 WBBJ, Jackson — 7, 12:00 noon, Sun
 WKPT, Kingsport — 19, 11:30 am, Sun
 WATE, Knoxville — 6, 11:00 am, Sun
 WPTV, Memphis — 24, 8:00 am and 9:30 pm, Sun
 WKRN, Nashville — 2, 7:00 am, Sun
 WSMV, Nashville — 4, 11:00 am, Sun
 Nashville Network (TNN/NSH) Nashville (on
 cable stations throughout the U.S.) — 7:00 am
 CT, Sat

TEXAS

KRBC, Abilene — 9, 10:00 am, Sun
 KAMR, Amarillo — 4, 9:00 am, Sun
 KVUE, Austin — 24, 7:30 am, Sun
 KZTV, Corpus Christi — 10, 9:00 am, Sun
 KTVT, Dallas — 11, 7:00 am, Sun
 WFAA, Dallas — 8, 12:00 noon, Sun
 KTSM, El Paso — 9, 7:30 am, Sun
 KGBT, Hartlingen — 4, 7:30 am, Sun
 KPRC, Houston — 2, 7:00 am, Sun
 KHTV, Houston — 39, 7:30 am, Sat
 KGNS, Laredo — 8, 7:30 am, Sun
 KCBD, Lubbock — 11, 9:30 am, Sun
 KTRE, Lufkin — 9, 6:30 am, Sun
 KMID, Midland — 2, 8:30 am, Sun
 KJAC, Port Arthur — 4, 10:00 am, Sun
 KACB, San Angelo — 3, 10:00 am, Sun
 KLST, San Angelo — 8, 10:00 am, Sun
 KENS, San Antonio — 5, 7:30 am, Sun
 KSAT, San Antonio — 12, 8:30 am, Sun
 KCEN, Temple — 6, 11:30 am, Sun
 KLTV, Tyler — 7, 6:30 am, Sun
 KFDX, Wichita Falls — 3, 9:30 am, Sun

UTAH

KSL, Salt Lake — 5, 7:30 am, Sun
 KUTV, Salt Lake — 2, 8:30 am, Sun

VERMONT

WVNY, Burlington — 22, 10:00 am, Sun

VIRGINIA

WYIR, Charlottesville — 29, 10:00 am, Sun
 WSET, Lynchburg — 13, 7:30 am, Sun
 WVEC, Norfolk — 13, 10:00 am, Sun
 WXEX, Richmond — 8, 10:30 am, Sun

WASHINGTON

KVOS, Bellingham — 12, 10:30 am, Sun
 KVEW, Kennewick — 42, 11:00 am, Sun
 KIRO, Seattle — 7, 7:00 am, Sun
 KNLY, Spokane — 4, 9:30 am, Sun
 KSTW, Tacoma — 11, 10:00 am, Sun
 KAPP, Yakima — 35, 11:00 am, Sun

WEST VIRGINIA

WOWK, Huntington — 13, 9:00 am, Sun
 WSAZ, Huntington — 3, 10:00 am, Sun
 WOAY, Oak Hill — 4, 10:00 am, Sun
 WTAP, Parkersburg — 15, 11:00 am, Sun

WISCONSIN

WQOW, Eau Claire — 18, 9:00 am, Sun
 WFRV, Green Bay — 5, 9:00 am, Sun
 WXOW, La Crosse — 19, 9:00 am, Sun
 WMTV, Madison — 15, 6:30 am, Sun
 WITI, Milwaukee — 6, 10:00 am, Sun
 WTMJ, Milwaukee — 4, 8:00 am, Sun
 WAEO, Rhinelander — 12, 10:30 am, Sun

WYOMING

KCWY, Casper — 14, 10:00 am, Sun
 KYCU, Cheyenne — 5, 10:00 am, Sun
 KOWY, Lander — 5, 10:00 am, Sun
 KWWY, Rock Springs — 13, 10:00 am, Sun
 KSCW, Sheridan — 12, 8:00 am, Sun

CANADA**BRITISH COLUMBIA**

KVOS, Vancouver — 12, 10:30 am, Sun
 CJDC, Dawson Creek — 5, 11:30 am, Sun
 CFJC, Kamloops — 4, 8:30 am, Sat
 CHBC, Kelowna — 2, 8:30 am, Sat
 CKFG, Prince George — 2, 9:30 am, Sat
 CFTK, Terrace-Kitimat — 3, 8:30 am, Sun
 CHAN, Vancouver — 8, 8:00 am, Sun
 CHEK, Victoria — 6, 7:30 am, Sat

ALBERTA

CFCN, Calgary — 4, 11:00 am, Sun
 CFRN, Edmonton — 3, 5:30 am, Mon
 CHAT, Medicine Hat — 6, 11:00 am, Sun
 CKRD, Red Deer — 6, 10:00 am, Sun
 KXLY, Spokane — 4, 9:30 am, Sun

SASKATCHEWAN

CKSA, Lloydminster — 2, 9:30 am, Sun
 CKBI, Prince Albert — 5, 7:00 am, Sun
 CFQC, Saskatoon — 8, 10:00 am, Sun
 CJFB, Swift Current — 5, 11:00 am, Sun
 CICC, Yorkton — 10, 6:30 pm, Sun
 CKOS, Yorkton — 5, 11:30 am, Sun

MANITOBA

CKX, Brandon — 5, 10:00 am, Sun
 CKND, Winnipeg — 9, 7:00 am, Sun

ONTARIO

CKVR, Barrie — 3, 11:30 am, Sun
 WGRZ, Buffalo — 2, 8:30 am, Sun
 CJBN, Kenora — 13, 8:00 am, Sat; 5:30 pm, Sun
 CKWS, Kingston — 11, 12:30 pm, Sun
 CKNY, North Bay (Fr) — 9, 10:30 am, Sun
 CJOH, Ottawa — 13, 10:30 am, Sun
 CHRO, Ottawa — 9, 8:00 am, Sun
 CHEX, Peterborough — 12, 12:30 pm, Sun
 CHBX, Sault Ste. Marie — 2, 11:30 am, Sat
 Global, CIII, Southern Ontario — 8:30 am, Sat;
 9:30 am, Sun
 CICI, Sudbury (Fr) — 3, 10:30 am, Sun
 CKNC, Sudbury — 9, 8:00 am, Sun

CKPR, Thunder Bay — 2, 10:30 am, Sun
CITO, Timmins (Fr) — 6, 10:30 am, Sun
CFMT, Toronto (Ital) — 47, 12:00 noon, Fri
CFTO, Toronto — 9, 9:00 am, Sun

QUEBEC

CFCF, Montreal — 12, 7:00 am and 9:30 am, Sun
CKMI, Quebec City (Fr) — 5, 12:00 noon, Sun
CFEM, Rouyn-Noranda (Fr) — 10/13, 8:30 am, Sun
CKRN, Rouyn-Noranda (Fr) — 4, 8:00 am, Sun

ATLANTIC CANADA

WVH, Bangor, Maine — 7, 9:00 am, Sun
CJCH, Halifax, N.S. — 5, 11:00 am, Sun
CKCW, Moncton, N.B. — 2, 11:00 am, Sun
CHSJ, St. John, N.B. — 4, 12:00 noon, Sun
CKLT, St. John, N.B. — 9, 11:00 am, Sun
NIV, CJUN, St. John's, Nfld. — 6, 10:30 am, Sun
CJCB, Sydney, N.S. — 4, 11:00 am, Sun

AUSTRALIA

ACT

CTC7, Canberra — 7:30 am, every second Sun

NEW SOUTH WALES

AMV4, Albury — 8:30 am, Sun
WIN11, Bateman's Bay — 8:30 am, Sun
CBN11, Bathurst — 8:30 am, Sun
WIN6, Bega — 8:30 am, Sun
BKN7, Broken Hill — 8:30 am, Sun
CWN10, Cobar — 8:30 am, Sun
CTC10, Cooma — 7:30 am, every second Sun
CMV10, Dooligoon — 7:30 am, Sun
CWN6, Dubbo — 8:30 am, Sun
CTC10, Goulburn — 7:30 am, every second Sun
MTN9, Griffith — 8:30 am, Sun
GMV6, Jerilderie — 7:30 am, Sun
AMV4, Khancoban — 8:30 am, Sun
NBN10, Merriwa — 8:30 am, Sun
CWN9, Mudgee — 8:30 am, Sun
NBN1, Murrumbidgee — 8:30 am, Sun
NBN3, Newcastle — 8:30 am, Sun
CBN8, Orange — 8:30 am, Sun
TEN10, Sydney — 6:30 am, Sun
RVN2, Wagga Wagga — 8:30 am, Sun
WIN4, Wollongong — 8:30 am, Sun
RVN6, Young — 8:30 am, Sun

NORTHERN TERRITORY

NTD8, Darwin — 10:00 am, Sun

QUEENSLAND

QTQ9, Brisbane — 6:05 am, Wed and Thurs
MVQ11, Collinsville — 11:00 am, Sun
UHF42, Gold Coast — 6:00 am, Wed
ITQ10, Gunpowder — 2:00 pm, Sun
SEQ1, Cympie — 7:00 am, Sun
DDQ10, Kingaroy — 11:00 am, Sun
MVQ6, Mackay — 11:00 am, Sun
SEQ8, Maryborough — 7:00 am, Sun
ITQ8, Mt. Isa — 2:00 pm, Sun
SEQ10, Namboor — 7:00 am, Sun
DDQ5A, Toowoomba — 11:00 am, Sun
SDQ4, Warwick — 11:00 am, Sun

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

SAS10, Adelaide — 6:00 am, Wed
SES8, Mt. Gambier — 8:30 am, Sun
GTS5, Pt. Lincoln — 8:30 am, Sun
GTS4, Pt. Pirie — 8:30 am, Sun
RTS5, Riverland — 11:30 am, Sun

TASMANIA

TNT10, Burnie — 8:00 am, Sun
TNT48, Devonport — 8:00 am, Sun
TVT6, Hobart — 8:00 am, Sun
TNT9, Launceston — 8:00 am, Sun
TVT8, Queenstown — 8:00 am, Sun
TNT11, St. Marys — 8:00 am, Sun

TNT7, Savage River — 8:00 am, Sun
TVT8, Strathgordon — 8:00 am, Sun
TVT8, Swansea — 8:00 am, Sun

VICTORIA

GMV10, Alexandra — 7:30 am, Sun
BTV6, Ballarat — 7:30 am, Sun
AMV11, Bright — 8:00 am, Sun
ATV10, Melbourne — 6:00 am, Sun
BTV7, Nhill — 7:30 am, Sun
BTV11, Portland — 7:30 am, Sun
GMV6, Shepparton — 7:30 am, Sun

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

GSW9, Albany — 7:30 am, Sun
BTW3, Bunbury — 7:30 am, Sun
GTW11, Geraldton — 11:30 am, Wed
VEW8, Kalgoorlie — 11:00 am, Sun
BTW10, Katanning — 7:30 am, Sun
VEW6, Merredin — 11:00 am, Sun
BTW6, Narrogin — 7:30 am, Sun
STW9, Perth — 7:00 am, Sun
BTW6, Quairading — 7:30 am, Sun
VEW63, Tammin — 11:00 am, Sun
VEW47, York — 11:00 am, Sun

PHILIPPINES

LUZON

Metro Manila — GMA Chan. 7, 9:00 am, Sat; 9:30 am, Sun

VISAYAS

Cebu — GMA Chan. 7, 8:30 am, Sat and 9:30 am, Sun

MINDANAO

Cagayan de Oro — GMA Chan. 12, 7:00 am, Sat; 8:30 am, Sun
Davao — GMA Chan. 7, 7:30 am, Sat; 8:00 am, Sun
Iligan — GMA Chan. 12, 8:00 am, Sat; 9:30 am, Sun
Zamboanga — GMA Chan. 3, 8:30 am, Sat; 9:30 am, Sun

CARIBBEAN

St. Lucia, HTS, Castries — 4, 6:30 pm, Wed
Bermuda, ZBM, Hamilton — 10, 3:00 pm, Sun
Bahamas, ZNS, Nassau — 52, 10:30 am, Sun
Puerto Rico, WSJU, Carolina — 18 and Cable 12, 7:00 am, Sun
Puerto Rico — San Juan Cable TV:
WTBS, Atlanta — 13, 6:30 am Sun and 1:05 am Mon, ET
WGN, Chicago — 5, 10:00 am Sat, CT
LIF (Lifetime Cable Network), New York — 10:30 pm Sat, ET
WOR, New York — 9, 11:30 am and 11:00 pm Sun, ET
SPN (Satellite Program Network), Tulsa — 12:00 pm Wed, CT
Virgin Is. (U.S.A.), WSVL, Christiansted, St. Croix — 8, 8:00 am, Sun
St. Maarten, LBC, Philipsburg — 7, 4:00 pm, Sun
Antigua, ABS, St. John's — 10, 9:00 am, Sun
Trinidad and Tobago TV — 9 and 14, 6:00 pm, Sun; 2 and 13, 9:00 am, Sun
Aruba, Telearuba, Oranjestad — 13, 7:00 pm, Sun

EUROPE

Italy, Retequattro (Ital) — 8:00 am, Sun
Italy, Tele-Monte-Carlo (Ital) — 4:30 pm, Sun
Luxembourg, RTL-TV (Fr) — 10:45 pm, Thurs
Monaco, Tele-Monte-Carlo (Fr) — 11:30 pm, Mon
Norway, Oslo, Janco-TV — 10:30 am, Sun

OTHER AREAS

Belize, Central America, TVTV — 7, 9:00 am, Sun
Guam, KUAM, Agaña — 8, 9:30 am, Sun
Japan, JCTV, Tokyo — 5:00 pm, Sun
Sri Lanka, ITN11, Colombo — 7:30 pm, Sun
Tonga, ASTL, Nuku'alofa — 7:30 pm, Sun

RADIO LOG

Listed by state or province are the station's call letters, location, frequency and time when the *World Tomorrow* program is aired.

UNITED STATES

KSL, Salt Lake City, Utah — 1160, 5:30 am, Sun

CANADA

BRITISH COLUMBIA

CJVI, Victoria — 900, 10:30 pm, Sun-Fri

ALBERTA

CFCW, Camrose — 790, 10:00 pm, Mon-Fri

QUEBEC

Radio Nord, CHAD, Amos (Fr) — 1340, 8:45 am, Sun
Radio Nord, CKLS, La Sarre (Fr) — 1240, 8:45 am, Sun
CJMS, Montreal (Fr) — 1280, 6:15 am, Sun
CKVL, Montreal (Fr) — 850, 6:00 am, Sun
CJRP, Quebec City (Fr) — 1060, 6:45 am, Sun
Radio Nord, CKRN, Rouyn (Fr) — 1400, 8:45 am, Sun
Radio Nord, CKVD, Val d'Or (Fr) — 900, 8:45 am, Sun

CARIBBEAN

ZNS-3, Freeport (Eng), Bahamas — 810, 6:00 am, Mon-Fri; 9:00 am, Sun
FAME-FM, Christiana, Jamaica — 101.3, 5:30 am, Mon, Wed, Fri; 6:00 am, Tues, Thurs; 6:30 am, Sun
SUPREME SOUND, Kingston, Jamaica — 720, 4:00 am, Sun-Wed; 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat
FAME-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 92.7, 5:30 am, Mon, Wed, Fri; 6:00 am, Tues, Thurs; 6:30 am, Sun
FAME-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 94.7, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat
FAME-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 95.7, 5:30 am, Mon, Wed, Fri; 6:00 am, Tues, Thurs; 6:30 am, Sun
FAME-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 104.5, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat
SUPREME SOUND, Mandeville, Jamaica — 770, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat; 4:00 am, Sun-Wed
FAME-FM, Montego Bay, Jamaica — 92.9, 5:30 am, Mon, Wed, Fri; 6:00 am, Tues, Thurs; 6:30 am, Sun
SUPREME SOUND, Port Maria, Jamaica — 580, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat; 4:00 am, Sun-Wed
FAME-FM, Spur Tree, Jamaica — 90.5, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat
MBC Radio (Fr), Port au Prince, Haiti — 1430, 10:30 am, Sun
VOB, Bridgetown, Barbados — 790, 7:30 pm, Sun-Sat
NBS, Trinidad — 610, 10:30 pm, Sun-Fri

NEW ZEALAND

IXP, Radio Pacific, Auckland — 1503, 6:00 pm, Sun

OTHER AREAS

Radio Ceylon — 7190, 9720, 15425, 9:00 pm, Sun, Tues, Thurs, Sat
Fiji, Radio FM96, Suva — 6:30 am, Sun
Honduras, San Pedro Sula, Radio Norte (Sp) — 780, 8:45 am, Sun
Hong Kong Radio, Kowloon — 1044, 6:30 am, 12:00 am, Sat
Radio Luxembourg (Fr) — 5:15 am, Mon, 5:00 am, Tues, Thurs
C2AM, Radio Nauru — 1323, 9:00 am, Sun
ASZ, Tonga Radio (Eng), Nuku'alofa — 1020, 6:30 pm, Sun
Radio SUD (Fr), Toulouse — 1161, 5:45 am, Tues, Fri

Civilization

(Continued from page 20)

They wanted to become amalgamated through intermarriage of races.

As mentioned before, God had set the bounds of the races, providing for geographical segregation, in peace and harmony but without discrimination. But the people thought they had found a better way. One purpose for the tower of Babel was to unite them, and to prevent them from being scattered in racial geographical segregation.

They built the tower, "lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth" in geographical segregation (Gen. 11:4). But God looked upon their building of the tower and said, "Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they *begin* to do; and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do" (Gen. 11:6).

What has mankind "imagined to do"? By this 20th century man has gone into outer space, flown to the moon and back, invented and produced the most intricate machines, computerized instruments, transplanted hearts, and even attempted to produce life from dead matter. The human mind's capacity for material accomplishment seems unlimited. But his problems are not material, but spiritual. And before them he is still helpless without God.

So God confounded their languages and "scattered them abroad . . . upon the face of all the earth" (Gen. 11:8).

Continuing from C. Paul Meredith's thesis, now out of print (pages 16-17, 25-29):

Then it was that Nimrod "began to be a *mighty* one" and a "mighty hunter before the Lord" [Gen. 10:8-9] in a *ruling* sense (the Hebrew word for "mighty" is *gibbor*, which means "tyrant," *Strong's Concordance of the Bible*). Nimrod became a tyrant over the people. He made the laws. Not only that but he was "mighty . . . before" the Eternal. (The Hebrew word *paniyim* translated "before" here, should be translated "against"—*Strong's Concordance of the Bible*.) The Bible says Nimrod was against God! . . .

Nimrod kept growing in power but the inborn desire of the people to worship must be satisfied. Nimrod and his followers had turned against the true God. They wanted to glorify God in their own way! They "changed the glory of the *uncorruptible* God into an *image* made like . . . *creeping things*" Romans 1:23—the snake, and other things God had created. (They should have worshiped God in spirit and in truth and not through idols—John 4:24 and Ex. 20:4-5.) With the civil power he wielded, Nimrod set himself up as the priest of the things worshiped by the people, to obtain a still stronger hold on them and gradually put himself in place of the true God. . . .

[But] Noah, the preacher of righteousness (II Pet. 2:5), did stand fast and gained a staunch supporter in his son Shem. While Nimrod was expanding his kingdom so rapidly, there was opposition to Shem, the representative of Noah. . . . Nimrod became the representative for the forces of evil in opposing Shem. . . .

Shem, a very eloquent person, is said to have obtained the aid of a group of Egyptians who overcame Nimrod.

The death of Nimrod seemingly halted the counterfeit pagan worship which he started.

Semiramis . . .

[If] Nimrod had been a man of unbounded ambition, the ambition of . . . Semiramis—the future "Queen of Heaven" (Jer. 7:18)—exceeded even his. Nimrod . . . had become the greatest and most powerful figure in the world. He was dead. She clearly saw that if she were to . . . have the great position and power . . . of the most powerful man on earth, something must be done to assure . . . her power.

Nimrod's kingdom, which consisted of most of the populated world of that time, had fallen to her. *Much of Nimrod's power had come from his setting himself up as the human representative of the Sun-God*. She must retain this world rule by any and all means. The *religious control* which had given so much power to [Nimrod] must be used by her also if she were to retain the maximum hold on her subjects. . . . In life [Nimrod] had

been honored as a hero; in death she will have him worshiped as a god. . . .

Semiramis was actually the founder of much of the world's pagan religions, worshiping false gods. Even such so-called Christian observances as Christmas, New Year's and Easter emerged from the false religious system she developed. For details of this the reader is referred to *The Two Babels*, by Alexander Hislop.

Today, the English language is fast becoming the chief international language. Men are starting to get back to one worldwide language.

Present Evil World Develops

The only survivors of the great Flood on earth composed the one family, that of Noah. It consisted of Noah, his wife, their three sons Shem, Ham and Japheth and their wives. The whole human population came from that one family.

The Bible speaks of three worlds—the world that then was being overflowed with water, this present evil world, and the world to come.

As the flood waters evaporated the whole earth consisted of the one family of Noah. But Shem, who was white and married to a white woman, started his own family. Ham, married to a black woman, had children and began his own family. Japheth, married to a yellow or Oriental woman, started his own family, which inherited yellow extraction. The early history recorded in the Bible speaks of "families," rather than "races."

At the incident of the tower of Babel, God divided the speech of the people so that they were able to communicate each one only in his new and different language. As time passed, the families grew, each family speaking its own language in its own local geographic area.

Nimrod built a number of cities—Babylon, Erech, Accad, Calneh, Nineveh, etc. There developed city-states, each with its own local government. As time passed, nations arose with national governments. Among these were Babylon (which became known as Chaldea), Egypt, Assyria. The religion

started by Semiramis was carried into the different nations in the language of each. Semiramis and Nimrod were also identified with the names Isis and Osiris in Egypt. Each nation had its own names for its gods. But the whole labyrinth of pagan religions developed from that which originated with Semiramis.

As the generations of humanity continued, this world's civilization developed. It started with a government system started by Nimrod, through a religious system that stemmed from Nimrod and Semi-

Humanity was created on earth for a glorious and wonderful purpose. God was reproducing himself.

ramis. The modern system of academic educations was started by Plato, taught by Socrates. Systems of commerce, industry, finance and banking developed—but none of these Satan-influenced and humanly devised systems originated with God. All laws were made by humans—either decrees by kings and despots, or human lawmaking groups, such as city councils, state legislatures, national congresses, parliaments, diets, or whatever. Social customs developed and all facets of civilization up to the chaotic present.

In such a world God called out a special nation of his own, not a favorite nation for special favors, but a nation chosen for a special purpose that the nation failed to perform.

After the Flood profane history implies that Shem continued more or less in the knowledge and way of God. But no man really walked with God until Abraham. To Abraham, God made all the promises on which ultimate human salvation depends, as well as the material and economic prosperity that has come to the United States and the British.

Summation of Human Civilization

Humanity was created on earth for

a glorious and wonderful purpose. God was reproducing himself. Stated another way, God's purpose was to create humanity to become supremely happy and joyful in peace and perfect comfort, to become productive, creative, joyfully successful with eternal life.

This meant the supreme perfect spiritual character of God—perfect utopia. This purpose shall be accomplished.

But to accomplish it, humanity must make its own decision. The former cherub Lucifer had chosen a course of action and being that led in the diametrically opposite direction. The first man had to choose either to accept and live the way of God's purpose, or Satan's way of self-reliance in the opposite direction. The first man Adam chose to take to himself the knowledge of good and evil. He started his human family relying on self for good

on the human level, mixed with evil, and relying on human self not only for knowledge of the way, but for the solution of all problems that might arise. He rejected spiritual knowledge from God and reliance on God for power to live the way of utopia.

Man built his world on self-sufficiency without God.

God set in motion a master plan for accomplishment of his purpose, consisting of a duration of 7,000 years. Satan was allowed to remain on earth's throne for the first 6,000 years. God purposed that man must learn his lesson, and come voluntarily to accept God's way and character.

For nearly 6,000 years mankind has been writing that lesson. But even at this late hour he has not yet learned it. He has not yet given up on his own self-centered way and come to accept God's way to his ultimate happiness. God is letting the law of cause and effect take full toll. Man's society, deceived and misled by Satan, has not even yet brought man to admit failure of his course of self-sufficiency.

Today man's world is reeling on its last legs. Wars, violence, destruction, terrorism engulf the entire

world. Half the world exists in ignorance, illiteracy, poverty, living in filth and squalor. The developed half is sick with ill health, disease, mental stress, fear, frustration, wracked with crime, alcoholism, drug abuse, perverted and misused sex, broken homes, hopelessness in frustration.

Mankind is nearing the end of his rope. But even now, God will not intervene to save this defiant humanity from itself until man is finally brought to the point where, if God delayed longer in intervention, man would annihilate himself. God will not intervene and usher in the next world under the kingdom of God until the remnant of mankind has been brought to fully realize human inability to solve problems or bring worldwide peace in happiness and joy. Man must be brought to realize his helplessness and futility without God.

At last the weapons of mass destruction have been invented and produced that can erase all life from this planet earth. In these last days of mankind's last gasping of breath, Jesus foretold how it would all end. After Jesus' gospel had been suppressed, replaced with a false gospel of men about a different Jesus, he said, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end [of this world] come."

This gospel now has been preached into every nation. During its 50 years of proclamation, nuclear energy has developed with capacity for the first time in history to destroy every human alive on earth. Next, Jesus foretold the great tribulation—a time of trouble so great that, unless God does intervene, no human being would be saved alive. But, for the sake of his Church, God will intervene supernaturally before total destruction of humanity. Mankind will be brought to acknowledge human insufficiency without God. Immediately after, Christ will come in the clouds in supreme power and glory to unseat Satan, and start God's own new civilization toward utopia (Matt. 24:14, 31-41).

These are the very last days of Satan's evil world. God's utopian civilization will be started with the present generation. □



Understanding World Events and Trends



A European Olympic Team

One month before the 1984 Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles, California, began, the idea of a combined European team was advanced at a European Community summit in Fontainebleau, France. Had that idea been a reality in 1984, the results of the Games would have been dramatically different. Athletes from the 10 nations of the European Community won 181 medals, compared to 174 for the United States.

To be sure, the creation of a European Olympic team would be difficult, given national boundaries in Europe and International Olympic Committee rules.

On the other hand, a team combining the talents of athletes from West

Germany, the United Kingdom, France, Italy and the other Western European states would be formidable.

A European team could benefit from cooperation in the area of training. It would be cheaper to train one team instead of 12. The separate training centers in

Risks of Abdominal Obesity

Abdominal obesity carries a three- to fivefold increase in the risk of heart attack or stroke over obesity in the thighs, hips and buttocks, according to Swedish studies.

Says Dr. Ulf Smith, chairman of medicine at the University of Göteborg: "The point is that if fat is distributed on the abdomen, the chances are considerably greater that the

each country could be replaced by fewer but better facilities. Improved training might cause some athletes to stay in Europe to train instead of going to the U.S. However, fewer athletes would be able to participate if all qualified athletes from Western Europe had to compete for positions on a single team.

The formation of a European Olympic team will wait until several hurdles are cleared, chief among them the borders separating the nations of Western Europe. But what if an even greater barrier—the one separating Eastern Europe from Western Europe—disappears? A team combining the talents of both Eastern and Western Europeans would seem unbeatable. ■

individual will have a heart attack than if the fat is distributed over the thighs, the hips or the back."

Dr. Smith's comments were made at an American Heart Association forum for science writers and were based on a 13-year study of 1,500 Swedish men and a 12-year study of about as many Swedish women.

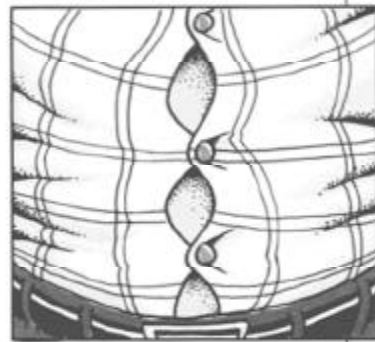
Dr. Smith pointed out that men are more prone to abdominal obesity than are women, who tend to accumulate fat on the thighs and hips. Thus more men are at risk to heart disease.

Other studies indicate that

The Endangered Family

The number of married-couple families with children under age 18 declined to 29 percent of all U.S. households in 1984. That is down from 40 percent in 1970, according to a U.S. Census Bureau report. In contrast, the number of one-parent families doubled to 26 percent in 1984. That is up from 13 percent in 1970. Divorce, separation and premarital births are the main contributing factors in the growth of single-parent homes in the U.S. ■

fat stored in the abdomen is more quickly released into the bloodstream than fat stored in cells elsewhere, thereby elevating blood fat levels. This is why individuals with abdominal obesity are also more susceptible to other ailments such as high blood pressure and diabetes. ■





DEJAN—STOMA

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini leads Iran's Shiite Muslims.

Husain—Muhammad's grandson—and 72 of his relatives were massacred by foes of Ali's family at Karbala (in modern Iraq). The bloody incident caused an uproar in the Muslim world.

It was a black day for the Shiites—but they now had a martyr. Nurtured by Husain's blood, the Shiite sect grew in number and resolve, laying up a store of bitterness that would be drawn upon time and again in succeeding centuries.

Since that time, numerous political, theological, philosophical, legal and ritual differences have further widened the breach between Sunni and Shiite. Of the 800

million Muslims in the world today, some 15 percent—120 million—are Shiites. Shiism, in turn, has split into an array of subsects and offshoots.

Shiite communities are sprinkled throughout the Muslim world. Shiites are most heavily concentrated in Iran (where they are led by the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini) and in the southern portion of Iraq. In multifaith Lebanon, the Shiites—with a million members—constitute the largest religious community.

Though known for their fiery enthusiasm, the majority of the world's Shiites are not terrorists. Ruthless, religiously motivated violence is limited to a frustrated minority and is repudiated by most Shiites. ■

What Is a Shiite?

The 1979 Islamic revolution in Iran was engineered by Shiite fundamentalists. TWA flight 847 was hijacked in 1985 by Shiites. The conflict in war-torn Lebanon involves Shiite militiamen.

Just what is a Shiite?

Following the death of Muhammad, the prophet of the Islamic faith, in A.D. 632, a conflict arose among his followers over who should assume the leadership of the Muslim Empire. (The word *Islam* means "submission [to God]." A *Muslim* is "one who submits.")

Some Muslims maintained that the leadership had to remain within the family of Muhammad. They asserted that a man named Ali—the husband of Muhammad's only surviving child, Fatima—should be *caliph*, or successor, to Muhammad. These supporters of Ali and his descendants were called the *Shiat Ali* ("party of Ali"), or Shiites for short.

The majority of Muslims, however, believed that a leader could be chosen from among all qualified candidates, regardless of family heritage. These became known as Sunni Muslims, or Sunnis (a reference to the *sunna*, the

orthodox code of Islamic practice).

The more powerful Sunnis won out, and the Shiites grudgingly endured the rule of caliphs who were not of Muhammad's bloodline through Ali and Fatima. But the Shiites did not abandon belief in the preeminence of Ali's family.

Then, in 680, Ali's son

The Birth Revolution—Who Pays?

Someday a child may be born with five parents.

Science fiction? Not at all. The medical technology now exists whereby an ovum (from parent No. 1) can be fertilized by sperm (from parent No. 2) and implanted in the womb of a hired surrogate (parent No. 3). After birth, the baby would be given to the couple (parents No. 4 and No. 5) who would rear the child.

If those parents later divorce and remarry, the situation would become even more confusing!

Modern birth techniques in this confused world have made it easier for infertile couples to acquire children. But with these new methods have come a wave of legal, moral and ethical dilemmas.

Artificial insemination has been responsible for the birth of about 250,000

people worldwide. When donated sperm is used, the wife necessarily gives birth to a child not fathered by her husband.

If the wife is infertile, a donated ovum can be fertilized and implanted in her womb. If her body is unable to sustain a pregnancy, a surrogate can be paid to bear a child for her. In such cases, the surrogate is either artificially inseminated or the embryo itself is implanted in her womb.

However, some surrogates have breached their contracts by choosing to keep their babies, in spite of the father being another woman's husband.

In one case, a surrogate mother gave birth to a child with microcephaly. Neither the surrogate nor the father who commissioned her would claim responsibility. The state became guardian.

When one or the other spouse is not the biological parent, trauma and guilt can result. One husband, after

agreeing to let his wife be artificially inseminated with donor sperm, later changed his mind and convinced his wife to have an abortion.



As new thresholds in birth technology continue to be broken, new questions continue to be raised: Who are these children's legal parents? Do children have a right to be the biological offspring of the parents who rear them? And should human life be bought, sold and traded? ■



WERY LAGRISTON

Drugs in Sports

“Win at any cost”—that’s the philosophy in many areas of sports competition today. But the phrase has acquired a new, deadlier meaning that goes beyond the traditional desire for victory.

More and more athletes, both amateur and professional, feel they cannot compete on a world-class scale without the aid of dangerous drugs.

No athletic pursuit is unaffected. Anabolic steroids, cocaine, amphetamines—to date, more than 90 substances have been banned by the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

Certain athletes claim that steroids, injected or taken orally, build up muscle, give strength and improve performance. “Steroids work and every athlete knows it,” said Ken Passariello, 1981 Mr. Universe.

Trainers and some sports physicians believe Human Growth Hormone (HGH) is even more effective than steroids in enhancing muscle power. Its clandestine use is virtually impossible to detect.

Other athletes snort cocaine to mask fatigue and give themselves the illusion of improved performance during a game.

Athletes’ use of drugs and banned substances became widely known after the 1983 Pan-American Games in Venezuela, where use of steroids and HGH rocked the sports world.

According to estimates, 60 percent of British athletes competing at international levels use drugs. Early this year, six of 10 Greek athletes set to compete in the 16th European Indoor Athletics Championships in Athens failed drug tests, were expelled from participation and could face a permanent ban from competition.

Though many substances are prohibited from the Olympics, Pan-American Games and national collegiate championships, most substances are permitted in general competition.

To avoid detection by sophisticated drug-testing equipment, athletes mix their performance-enhancing concoctions with other drugs that mask the concoctions in urine tests.

The risks? In male users, steroids and growth hormones may cause kidney and liver damage, heart disease, shrinking of the testicles, increased aggressiveness, loss of sexual desire and even growth of breasts.

For women the side effects, including growth of facial and chest hair and deepening of the voice, are irreversible. “Women essentially trade in their femininity,” said J. Michael Walsh of the National Institute on Drug Abuse in Maryland.

John Anderson, head trainer of the Los Angeles

Rams football team, told *The Plain Truth*:

“Probably the biggest reason steroids have been used in the past is because no one knew the side effects. Now studies definitely show their detrimental effect on bodies, and you’ll see a lot of athletes quit using them.”

The chairman of Britain’s International Athletes Club says the decline in the number of British shot-putters over the past five years may be because youngsters fear they will have to take drugs to succeed.

Only the athlete knows how much he or she will foolishly risk when a few inches of height or a few pounds of muscle can mean the difference between international fame and failure. ■

Murder in the U.S.

The Miami-Dade County, Florida, area was America’s murder capital in 1984, according to statistics from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The county’s

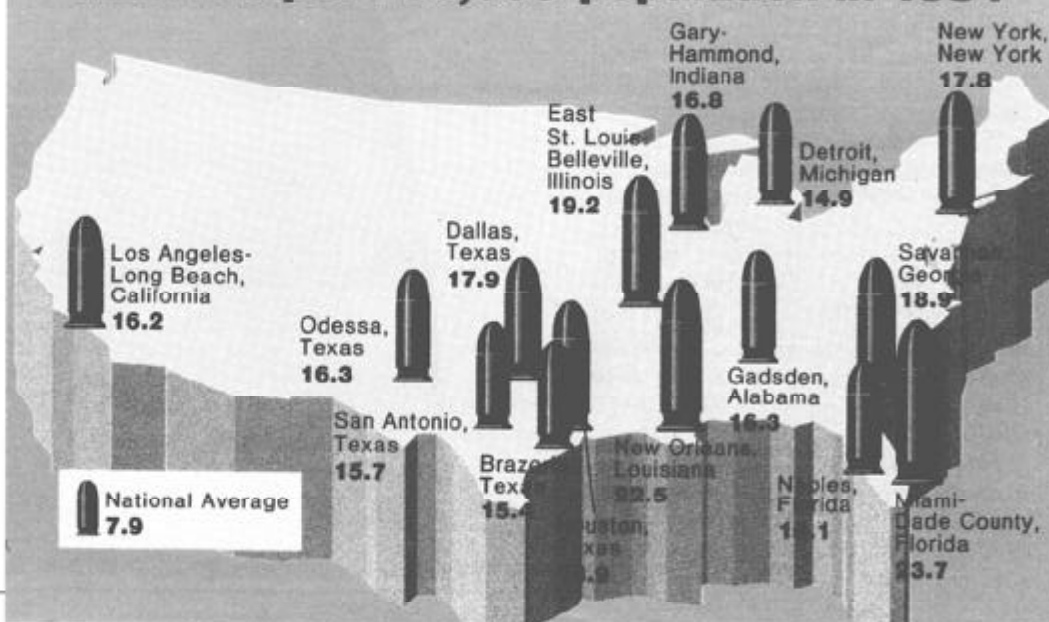
homicide rate, at 23.7 per 100,000 population, was three times the national average.

Miami and Dade County police blame the area’s surge of murders in the past few years on drug trafficking and on the concentration of large numbers who left

Cuban prisons in the 1980 Mariel Freedom Flotilla boatlift.

Overall, U.S. crime was down 2 percent in 1984. But violent crime—including murder, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault—increased 1 percent. ■

Murders per 100,000 population in 1984



PERSONAL

(Continued from page 2)

be given a new and a clean start, receive God's Spirit, and let the power of God come into us and clean us up and make us what we ought to be.

Job understood this. Turn to Job 14:14: "If a man die, shall he live again? all the days [answered Job] of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come." He was speaking of a resurrection when he was going to be changed. "Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee..." And, do you know that Jesus said, "The hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good unto the resurrection of life..." (John 5:28-29).

Job said: "Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee..." Here is the point I want you to notice, "... thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands"—the last part of verse 15. In calling him from the grave in a resurrection, Job said, God will have a desire to the work of his hands. Job knew that he was an unfinished piece of God's workmanship. Yes, man is the work of God's hands.

I want you now to notice Ephesians 2:10: "For we are his workmanship..."—we, of course, means Christians in New Testament language. "We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works [not very many people believe that today], which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." Yes, in good works. That's in the New Testament.

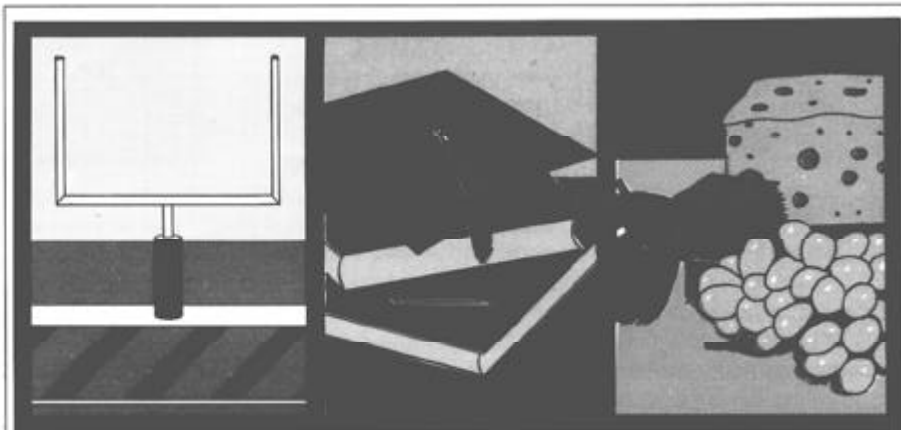
The spiritual creation is still going on today. That's the purpose of your life—to learn that very lesson. To repent of your wrong ways, your sins, to accept Christ as your Savior; and to start on the way that is the way of character, the way of good, righteous, holy, spiritual character—the way of God. And that you can become the very born son of God.

Only those who overcome and grow in this life—after we do repent, and after we are reconciled to God through Jesus Christ, and after we have received his Holy

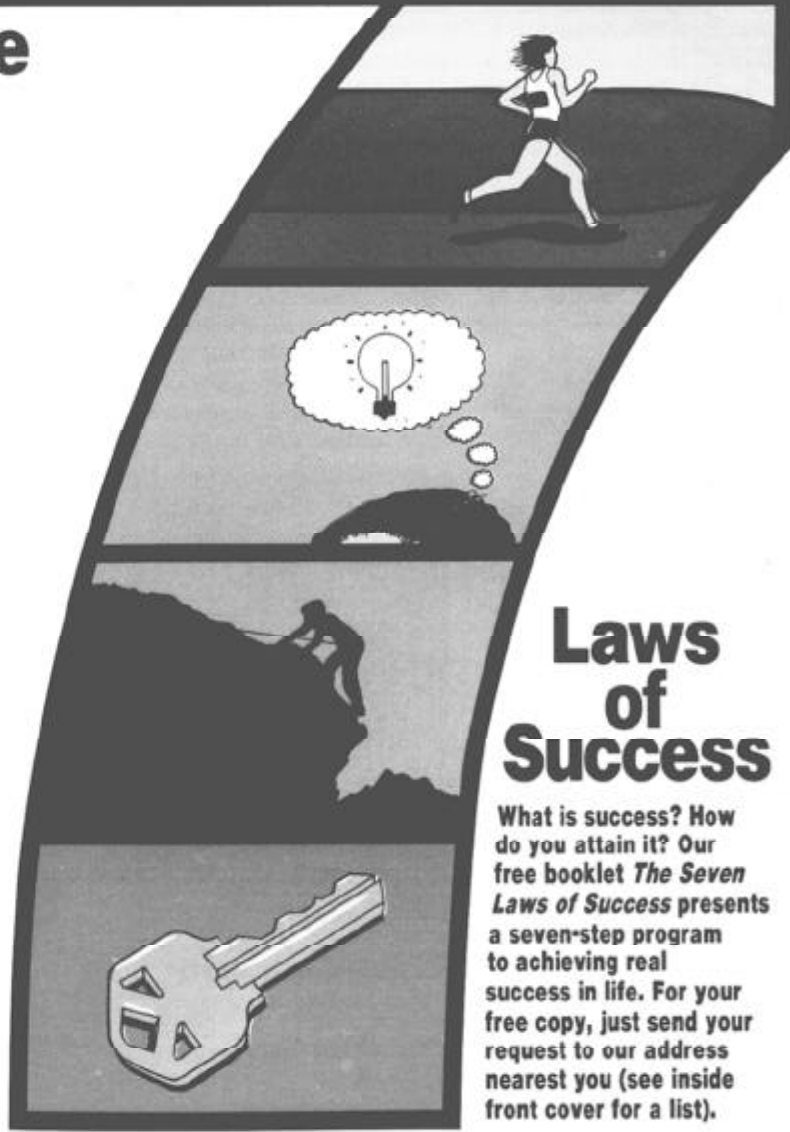
Spirit and are walking by his Spirit, will reign with Christ over the nations. "He that overcometh [said Jesus], and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations; and he shall rule them [the nations] with a rod of iron" (Rev. 2:26-27).

And then again in Revelation

3:21: "To him that overcometh [Jesus said] will I grant to sit with me in my throne." He is going to rule the entire world; and we, if we qualify, are going to rule with him. We're going to be kings and priests with him. He was the firstborn of many brethren. You can be one of those brethren! □



The



Laws of Success

What is success? How do you attain it? Our free booklet *The Seven Laws of Success* presents a seven-step program to achieving real success in life. For your free copy, just send your request to our address nearest you (see inside front cover for a list).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Why So Much Injustice?

How enjoyable it was to read D. Schroeder's in-depth article "Why So Much Injustice?" which covered aspects of the legal systems appertaining in the United States and most English speaking countries, clearly exposing the various methods used by which criminals are released from police custody, the courts or prison, to freely walk the streets. . . . England still cherishes the objective of an unarmed police force, although it is doubtful if this can be maintained much longer, as crowd violence and racial riots are increasing.

Whilst condemning all forms of corruption which alas! exists in all professions, let us give thanks to those police officers who carry out their duties courteously and effectively, whatever the provocation.

Let us also give thought to a jury system which is so often influenced by the local environment. For example, in the East End of London, the chance of a jury convicting a driver for being incapable, through drink, of having proper control of a vehicle, would more often than not, be remote, whereas an innocent person charged with an indecent assault upon a child, would have the greatest difficulty in establishing innocence. In the former case, drinking to excess is acceptable or at least excusable, whereas child abuse is unacceptable.

Even the medical profession is subjected to certain influences, depending upon whether or not the doctor is representing the prosecution or the defence, both doctors possibly arriving at completely opposing opinions, following a medical examination of a prisoner.

As Mr. Schroeder rightly states, there are the sharp lawyers who use every trick to acquit a prisoner whom they very well know to be guilty.

Even the act of God in destroying mankind except for Noah and his family, has not resulted in a better world. What is needed is someone with the wisdom of Solomon, pending a just and caring World Government and not until then will justice be seen to be done.

F.E. Wilson
Dorset, England

We live in and with a legal jungle unfortunately and *The Plain Truth* is to be especially commended for focusing on the evil inequities of our double-standard justice system in its accurate article "Why So Much Injustice?" in the October issue.

According to a recent report by the University of Maryland's Philosophy Department by legal researcher and author David Luban, "lawyers' fees deny, delay, and deprive people of the recognized rights and protections that cannot be resolved by any other alternative means of resolving disputes. The self-aggrandizing fees also obstruct justice, abuse court-users and courts' processes, cause unfair unilateral judge's decisions with the individual unrepresented, institutionalize segregationism and intensify the pariah status on the economically disadvantaged."

In 1939, Yale Professor of Law Fred Rodell warned us in his book *Woe Unto You Lawyers* (the title taken from Luke 11:52) that our inherited organic law on which our Constitution and Bill of Rights are based does not permit the selling of

justice. The tyrannical and oppressive selling of justice is denounced throughout the Bible (Psalm 58:1-4, etc.).

With enlightened documented candor, Michael Ledeen judiciously writes in his new book *Grave New World* that "lawyers are not culturally, philosophically or politically fit to make domestic (or foreign) policy decisions."

V.M. Corsetti
San Mateo, California

Mystery of the Ages

Thank you very much for the book *Mystery of the Ages*. I appreciate its plainness of speech and clarity of thought.

In the "Author's Statement" in the book, you claim to have lived 8½ years in the previous century. Yet, in your autobiography your birthday is given as July 1892. Doesn't this mean that you have in fact lived 7½ years, not 8½ years, in the 19th century?

Henry Penna
West Babylon, New York

- The 20th century began on January 1, 1901, not on January 1, 1900. That is made clear by the fact that the first century of our era began on January 1, A.D. 1 and ended December 31, A.D. 100. So the 20th century is not exactly equivalent to the 1900s.

Minerals Crisis

I enjoyed your article on minerals.

America is in sorry condition with respect to its mineral production. Not only are our mines closing, but our experienced geologists and mining personnel are being forced out of their professions.

My exploration experience

spans twenty years. Still, when the local mine closed I could find no employment whatever for three years. I'm working now as a computer programmer for a dollar over minimum wage. We are officially in "poverty."

My home area has several major exploration targets for the cobalt- and platinum-group metals which your article mentions, as well as for gold, lead and other metals. These targets remain untested for lack of money and interest among the mining companies. If any of these targets holds ore-grade mineralization it could make an important contribution to national defense.

The mineral leases have lapsed and the companies have left. Exploration has stopped. The people are gone. The ore may well be in the ground but it's beyond reach without a mine and mill.

And if we need the metals [of the kind] under these hills we'll have to buy them from Russia.

William F. Jud
Exploration Geologist
Fredericktown, Missouri

Rich Little Poor Land

I am overwhelmed by John Halford's contribution on Bhutan, and especially for its one revealing sentence: "This simple tool is manufactured entirely in Bhutan, and sold at cost (about US\$10) to the farmers."

In my judgment, within that sentence is a message which implies the reason for the social intelligence practised by these people, and which can be emulated anywhere on earth. In a marginal note to this sentence, I wrote, "no profit," as that message's keyword.

Robert Skalak Smith
Yajalon, Chiapas
Mexico

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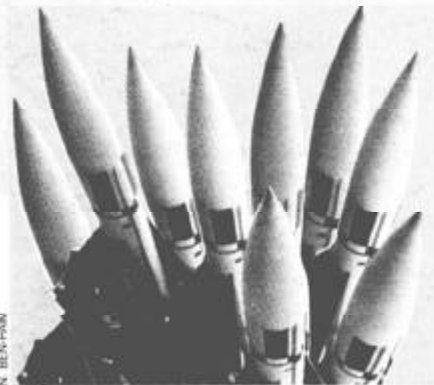


A NEW DANGER— CULTURAL TERRORISM

The entertainment industry is the most persuasive cultural influence the world has ever seen. Its flood of graphic violence is seeping into nearly every country on earth.

THERE IS A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH!

What is the most terrible thing that could happen to a human being? Could it happen to you?



WHY DOES GOD ALLOW WARS?

Why, if there be a God, does he allow all this human suffering and anguish that our generation is living through?

WE CAN MAKE BETTER DECISIONS!

How would you like to be able to choose the best course of action every time? Here's practical advice on how you can make better decisions.



DRUGS IN SPORTS

More and more athletes, both amateur and professional, feel they cannot compete on a world-class scale without the aid of dangerous drugs.

THE DEBT BOMB— WHEN WILL IT EXPLODE?

Think of it! A time is soon coming when nations will be freed from burdensome international debts and live with one another in a world at peace, in joy and prosperity.

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N. BEN-HAN

MENNY LAGERSTROM