

The Good News

International Magazine of The Church of God



TRIFID NEBULA CONSTELLATION SAGITTARIUS



More About Our Cover...

Tens of thousands of "light years" distant from earth shines this Trifid Nebula in the constellation of Sagittarius. Despite its great distance, it shares the same galaxy as the earth—the Milky Way! Our galaxy—only one of uncounted millions—is estimated by man to contain more than ONE-HUNDRED-BILLION stars like our sun!

This Trifid Nebula is a turbulent mass of rarified hydrogen gas glowing from the 10,000-degree temperatures at its center. This color photograph was taken through the 200-inch telescope at Mount Palomar Observatory.

Truly—"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork" (Ps. 19:1). Be sure you read and STUDY Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong's article concerning God's POWER as a proof of God's True Church—see page 9.

Cover Picture © 1959 California Institute of Technology

What our READERS SAY...

Wants To Re-apply

"Some time ago I wrote you and requested that you drop me from your Bible CORRESPONDENCE COURSE, also from The PLAIN TRUTH list. Since that time I have met with many strenuous difficulties and I am led to believe it is because of my disconnection from this great established Work of God. I am at this time asking if you will sincerely reconsider me, and accept me as a new applicant for both the Bible Course and The PLAIN TRUTH magazine."

Woman from Missouri

• Nothing to consider — subscriptions renewed — free — as always.

Child Rearing Success

"Mr. Armstrong's talks on child rearing are perfectly wonderful. I was brought up in a home that abided by those precepts — I have a son 27 years old who is doing a beautiful job on the San Diego Police Force. I have two tiny grandsons who are being brought up to honor mother and father and au-

thority, although they can just barely toddle. This is the third generation wherein these same precepts have been and are being taught, and every child has been a credit to their home and community. I know these two little fellows will be also. It really works."

Woman from California

Just "Belief" Not Enough

"Would you be good enough to send me the books as advertised. At the moment I don't know whether to believe in the Bible or not, and am trying hard to make up my mind. Later on I might take up your Correspondence Course, as I do think man should have something to believe in. At the moment he can only believe in one thing, and that's his possible extinction."

Reader from Wittenoom,
Western Australia

• YES, but "belief" — just to "have something to believe in" would be pretty empty. Absolute KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH is far better.

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ministering to its members
scattered abroad

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Christ's GUIDANCE Felt In Ministers' Conference

*New PLANS — new MINISTERS — new local CHURCHES
result from Ministerial Conference just completed!*

by Roderick C. Meredith

THE REAL living HEAD of God's Church—Jesus Christ—has just led His ministers through another successful *Ministerial Conference* here at Headquarters in Pasadena!

From England and Australia, from Canada and the Philippines, from all parts of the United States and even far-off South Africa, the servants of Jesus Christ gathered January 7 through 15 in the annual Conference of God's ministers. The direct presence and inspiration of Jesus Christ was asked for—and it was definitely felt.

The love, warmth and UNITY which is peculiar to God's Church *alone* was also felt in the many and varied business and social activities which took place during the Conference. For the men who are serving God's people, the men who have come through Ambassador College, the men who comprise the "team" through which Christ is directly working today—*these men LOVE each other!* And that love is so genuine, obvious and discernible that it was even commented upon by outsiders during the course of this year's Conference.

That, of course, is as it should be. For this is the "Philadelphia" era of God's Church described in Revelation 3:7-12. "Philadelphia" literally means—in the Greek language—"brotherly love." We can only be thankful and grateful to God that He has caused that attitude of *love* and *affection* to permeate the fellowship of His people and His ministers.

The Conference Agenda

Many plans for the growth of the over-all Work were discussed during the Conference, but many of these are being given you by Mr. Armstrong in Co-Worker and member letters. And

the plans regarding new churches and ministerial assignments will be discussed later in this article.

The most important discussion under our section on doctrine and Christian living centered around the "spirit in man" this year. Mr. Herbert Armstrong introduced this topic, and has been doing a great deal of research into this matter.

Suffice it to say at this time that all of us began to realize more and more deeply that man has a type of spirit essence connected with his mind which relates him directly to God—not the lower creatures of the animal kingdom! This "spirit" is undoubtedly the means by which God actually transcribes or preserves our individual *characters* and *personalities* so that they may be placed in our *spirit bodies* at the resurrection—or back in bodies composed of *matter* for those who will not come up again

until the Great White Throne Judgment.

In going through many, many questions on marriage problems, tithing problems, healing problems and other difficult situations, it became more and more apparent that one of the great things lacking in many of God's people is the WISDOM to solve these personal problems before they come to the "breaking point" in the first place.

God tells us in James 1:5 that if we *lack wisdom* we should *ask of God*. This is instruction which *every one of you needs to be applying!* For MOST of the terrible situations in which our ministers sometimes find God's people could be AVOIDED if they had used proper tact, patience and wisdom in the first place.

So TAKE HEED to any sermons from your minister on this matter—or to any articles coming in *The Good News*

Ministers enjoy evening of fellowship! Many were close friends during college days. The yearly Conference creates opportunity to renew old acquaintances.



in future numbers regarding this *most important subject*.

Because of these problems, and the over-all tremendous and growing NEED of God's people for personal help and guidance, Mr. Armstrong brought out that many more *Local Elders* are needed among the lay-members of God's Church. These should, in the main, be men who *already* have stable and permanent jobs but who can dedicate themselves to SERVE their fellow brethren in the local area by visiting and anointing on the Sabbaths and certain evenings through the week. These should be men who are truly MATURE spiritually and men who have DEDICATED their lives unreservedly into the hands of Jesus Christ. They should certainly be able to fulfill the qualifications for Local Elders found in I Timothy 3 and who would look on the office of Local Elder as an opportunity to GIVE and serve, not to TAKE or exalt the self.

Let us all PRAY for more such laborers in God's service!

Several inspiring social events were scheduled for the ministers and their wives during the Conference, but the outstanding of these was the Ministerial Banquet given by Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. Armstrong. This banquet was held in the beautiful William Davies Memorial Hall in Altadena, and was an inspiring evening of warm fellowship, delicious food and a resumé of "old times" by Mr. Armstrong toward the end of the evening.

Since there was no formal program planned because of the rush of activities, Mr. Armstrong simply began to talk to several of the ministers nearby. Soon the entire banquet hall quieted down and he was talking to everyone—well over 100 ministers and their wives gathered for this fine occasion!

Mr. Armstrong reviewed how he and Mrs. Armstrong had had to start this Work practically *alone*, how just the two of them *alone* kept the first Feast of Tabernacles, and how Christ had granted the tremendous GROWTH we now see step by step over a long and difficult period. It was certainly a memorable and inspiring way for the banquet to conclude, and many will not forget Mr. Armstrong's remarks

in the years to come when we think "we have it rough"!

Twenty-One Ministers Ordained!

One of the highlights of this year's Conference was the ordination—including raising in rank—of exactly *twenty-one* ministers of Christ! We didn't directly plan it this way, but it is certainly interesting to see how the perfect number, *seven*, or the number of organizational beginnings, *twelve*, does surely seem to follow the Work of CHRIST everywhere!

First of all, two of our most outstanding leaders in God's Church were elevated from Pastor rank to the Evangelist rank in Christ's ministry. First was Mr. Dean Blackwell—minister of Christ for about ten years now and District Superintendent over the churches in the Northern Midwest in the United States. Those who know of Mr. Blackwell's constant service and dedication first-hand will quickly understand why he has now been ordained as Evangelist in the Church of God.

Next to be made Evangelist was Mr. Charles Hunting—an outstanding member and businessman who gave up his business career to come to Ambassador College and later become a minister, professor of theology, and Business Manager of God's Work in England. The tremendous enthusiasm, dedication, and ability of Mr. Hunting made evident his selection also as one of God's Evangelists.

Next, a total of seventeen of our Preaching Elders were elevated to the rank of full *Pastor* in God's Church. All but two of these were ordained during the Conference itself, and the remaining two have since been ordained by Mr. Raymond McNair and Mr. Charles Hunting at Ambassador College in England.

Seventeen New Pastors

In alphabetical order, these new *Pastor*-rank ministers are as follows:

Mr. David Antion—Pastor over God's Churches in Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Mr. Dibar Apartian—Director of the French Work and voice of *The WORLD TOMORROW* in the French

language. Mr. Ronald Dart—ordained in England where he is professor at Ambassador College, U. K., and ministers in the nearby British Churches. Dr. Charles Dorothy—Pastor of the San Bernardino Church and professor here in Ambassador College, Pasadena. Mr. Roger Foster—Pastor of God's Churches in Wichita and Liberal, Kansas. Mr. Jimmy Friddle—Pastor of God's Churches in Seattle and Tacoma, Washington. Mr. John Hammer

—Pastor over the churches in San Antonio and Corpus Christi, Texas.

Mr. Dale Hampton—Pastor in the Eugene and Medford, Oregon, Churches.

Mr. Ronald Kelly—Administrative Assistant at Headquarters, instructor in Ambassador College. Mr. Leslie McCullough—Administrative Assistant at Headquarters, instructor in the college

and Pastor over the El Monte Church.

Mr. Bill McDowell—Pastor over the churches in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Akron, Ohio. Mr. Burk McNair—Pastor over God's Churches in Denver and Pueblo, Colorado.

Mr. Ernest Martin—Associate Professor at Ambassador College, U. K., and Pastor of the Manchester congregation. Mr. Leroy Neff—now Business Manager over our huge plant at Big Sandy, Texas, and Associate Pastor in the Gladewater Church.

Mr. Kenneth Swisher—Superintendent over the churches in the Southwest and Pastor at Gladewater, Texas, and Minden, Louisiana.

Mr. Dean Wilson—Director of the Canadian Work and Pastor over the Vancouver Church.

Dr. Clint Zimmerman—Director of the Letter Answering Department and Pastor of the Bakersfield Church.

Others Ordained

In addition to the above, Mr. Leon Walker—assistant to Dr. Benjamin Rea in the Spanish Work in England—was raised from the rank of Local Elder to *Preaching Elder* in God's Church. Also, Mr. Lowell Blackwell—brother of Mr. Dean Blackwell—was ordained to the rank of *Local Elder* for his work among the brethren in the North Hollywood and Santa Barbara church areas.

Another special event was the ordi-

February, 1964

nation to the office of *Deacon* of Mr. Trevor Higgins from God's Church in Sydney, Australia, who accompanied Mr. Wayne Cole to Pasadena for the Conference. Mr. Higgins, an outstandingly successful businessman and able leader and Spokesman Club President in the Sydney congregation, was certainly surprised to have a part in this ordination service at God's Headquarters in Pasadena!

Significantly, the total number of ministerial ordinations was *exactly* TWENTY-ONE or three times seven! Since God's number of *completion* or *perfection* is seven, and His number of organizational beginnings is twelve—



Mr. Dean Blackwell, *Evangelist*



Mr. Charles Hunting, *Evangelist*

5



Pastors

TOP ROW

Dr. Clint Zimmerman
Mr. Bill McDowell
Mr. Ron Kelly
Mr. Les McCullough
Mr. Dale Hampton
Mr. Dean Wilson
Mr. David Antion

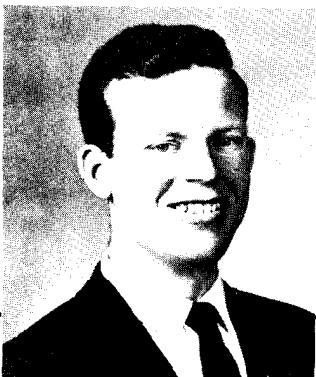
MIDDLE ROW

Mr. Roger Foster
Mr. Burk McNair
Mr. Dibar Aparian
Mr. Ken Swisher
Mr. Jim Friddle
Mr. Leroy Neff

BOTTOM ROW

Mr. Tony Hammer
Dr. Charles Dorothy

Mr. Ernest Martin, *Pastor*



Mr. Ronald Dart, *Pastor*



it does seem significant that almost *in spite of ourselves* these numbers seem to keep following God's ministers and His true Church today!

Also, with these new ordinations and elevations in rank, we now have one Pastor General under Christ over the entire Church, exactly *twelve* Evangelists, exactly *twenty-one* Pastors,

twenty-six Preaching Elders, and thirty-seven Local Elders. Mr. Herbert Armstrong was especially pleased that at last the number of top-ranking ministers, or Evangelists, under him total exactly *twelve*—as did Jesus' Apostles.

CONGRATULATIONS, ministers of God!

And brethren everywhere, let us all unite in giving God great THANKS and PRAISE for increasing in both numbers and power the servants in His true Church today!

Three New Churches Being Established

During and just after the Ministerial Conferences, a total of THREE new churches are being established! This includes the new church in Glasgow, Scotland, raised up by Mr. Raymond McNair—Director over God's Work in the British Isles. The first service was held on the Sabbath of January 11, 1964, with a total of sixty-two in attendance. Thus, the Glasgow Church started out larger than any of our other churches in the British Isles.

This makes the *seventh church* in Britain. We now have congregations in Northern Ireland, Scotland and England with over *seven hundred fifty* in attendance at these *seven* locations each Sabbath! So God's Work in England is certainly GROWING—even though local radio time is still unobtainable.

The other two churches are soon to begin in the Northern Midwest in Danville, Illinois, and in Lexington, Kentucky. The new Danville Church will be pastored by Mr. John Bald—currently Co-Pastor at Indianapolis—

who will now become full Pastor over both Indianapolis and Danville. The new church in Lexington, Kentucky, will be pastored by Mr. Carn Catherwood—who will continue also as Pastor of God's Church in Cincinnati, Ohio. Both these new churches should start off with well over one hundred in attendance and should prove to be a real BLESSING to the members in these areas!

Twelve New Bible Studies

In addition, exactly TWELVE new Bible studies are soon to begin! In all but one case, these studies will only be held *once a month* at first but may, of course, be converted into regular studies or possibly churches in future months and years.

These new *regular* monthly Bible studies will soon be starting in Spokane, Washington; in Kearney, Nebraska; in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; in Poplar Bluff, Missouri; in Bismarck, North Dakota; in Richland Center, Wisconsin; in Asheville, North Carolina; in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; in Columbus, Ohio; in Wheeling, West Virginia; in Austin, Texas; and a bimonthly or weekly Bible study in Lufkin, Texas.

If you brethren will notice the location of these areas on a map you will see that most of them are located on the perimeter of various church areas and are far enough away in each case that the brethren there may not be able to attend *any* church regularly. Thus, these new Bible studies represent an opportunity for literally HUNDREDS of God's people to meet regularly for the first time in their lives!

Mr. Leon Walker, Preaching Elder



Mr. Lowell Blackwell, Local Elder



Again, let's be THANKFUL for what CHRIST is making possible!

The THEME of the Visiting Ministers' Sermons

One of the most inspiring events during each Ministerial Conference is the weekly Sabbath when we can have *all-day services* and hear from the visiting ministers. This year, as usual, particularly *inspiring* messages were given by these men of God to His Headquarters Church.

Mr. Charles Hunting—now elevated to Evangelist rank—led the way since he arrived early and spoke on the Friday night previous to the all-day Sabbath services during the regular Conference period. Mr. Hunting gave a very moving and powerful sermon showing how down through history God's *glory* and *POWER* was revealed directly to Lucifer who *turned aside*; to Adam who *turned aside*; and to *millions* of people in the ages of Enoch, Noah, Moses, and the latter prophets—yet they all TURNED ASIDE without fully *grasping* and *respecting* the *POWER* God revealed through His earthly Headquarters and chosen servants in each age! We must *take heed* and *RESPECT* what God is doing through His servants *today*!

Following the same theme—although he arrived several days after Mr. Hunting's sermon was given—Mr. Wayne Cole from Australia reviewed again how the outlying brethren must be taught to "LOOK TO HEADQUARTERS" because that is where CHRIST is working! We must all learn to *respect* and *believe* in the great work which Christ is doing through His Church today.

In his sermon, Mr. Dean Blackwell brought out striking examples of the DRIVE and ZEAL displayed by President Johnson during his life as a leader of our nation. He pointed out that the real PEAK of man's worth and happiness is achieved only through *unselfish SERVICE* to God and fellow man. He reminded us that this is a Work of GIVING the most precious thing in existence to all the world as a witness, and preparing to *directly teach* even the natives of Africa and Asia these pre-

(Please continue on page 15)

What Is the *Father's NAME?*

Is "Jehovah" the Father's NAME? In whose NAME are we to pray? Must we use only Hebrew names—instead of English names of God? Here is the TRUTH on this misunderstood subject!

by Herman L. Hoeh

THREE is only one NAME "under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

What is this NAME? Without it *you cannot be saved!*

The Son bears that name. The Apostle John was inspired to write, "Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father" (I John 2:23). You deny the Son if you reject His NAME!

The Son came in His Father's name. *But what is His Father's name?* Unless you bear your heavenly Father's name, YOU cannot be His son! And you will never be BORN AGAIN! It is vital that you know the NAME of the Son and of the Father—your eternal salvation depends on it!

Modern Confusion

Some claim that "Jehovah" is the Father's name. They claim that we ought to use the word "Jehovah" instead of "Lord."

Is "Jehovah" the Father's name?

Others claim that when we speak of, or pray to, the heavenly Father and the Son, we should only use the Hebrew names of deity. They claim that it is a sin to use the words "God," "Lord," "Jesus," "Christ," "Word," and "Christian." They insist that we should always use the Hebrew words for Deity. They claim that it is a sin to pray "in the name of Jesus." A sin to be called a "Christian"!

Though they claim that "Jehovah" is not the name, they cannot agree among themselves as to what the Hebrew name should be! Some claim the name should be pronounced "Yahvah," others that it should be "Yahweh." They vehemently insist that it is a sin to translate the names of God into English! They contend that it is the sound of the name, NOT ITS MEANING,

that is important! Yet, Paul was inspired to write: "Except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken?" In Verse 19 Paul continued, "Yet in the Church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue"—to the Greeks, Hebrew was an unknown tongue (I Cor. 14:9, 19).

In the Bible, names have meaning. Names are given for a purpose.

The first man was called in the Hebrew tongue *Adam* because he was made of "red earth." *Adam* in Hebrew MEANS "red earth." *Abram*'s name in Hebrew was changed to *Abraham* because the promise was made to Abraham that he should become "a father of many nations" (Gen. 17:5). *Abraham* means "a father of many nations."

Jacob's name in Hebrew was changed to *Israel*. The word *Jacob* in Hebrew means "supplanter," but the word *Israel* means "prevailer with God." *Jacob* prevailed with God and obtained His blessing.

All these Biblical names convey meaning. Notice that these names are usually not greatly changed in any foreign tongue because their meanings are already given in the Bible. They do not have to be translated!

But other important Hebrew Biblical names mentioned in the New Testament ARE TRANSLATED from Hebrew into Greek! Notice Acts 9:36, "Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas"—in Greek. Her name means "doe" in English. Again in Acts 13:8, the Aramaic name "Elymas" is translated as "sorcerer" in English, or

as "Magos" in the inspired Greek New Testament. From these examples we see that personal names are often translated in the Bible!!

THE NAMES OF THE CREATOR also have great meaning. Now let's notice how He wants the English-speaking world to understand the meaning of HIS NAMES. Here they are!

The Meaning of God's NAMES

In the Old Testament the English word "God" comes from the Hebrew word *Elohim*, meaning "mighty ones." It is a uniplural word showing that there are NUMEROUS MEMBERS IN THE ONE DIVINE FAMILY. Sometimes the English word "God" comes from another word *El*. It signifies in Hebrew "a mighty one."

Often the word *El* is combined with other Hebrew words to give new names to the Creator. Thus "El-Shaddai" means the "Almighty God" (Gen. 17:5).

Now turn to Exodus 3:13 and 14 for another surprising NAME of the Almighty. "And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is His name? what shall I say unto them? And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and He said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you."

Notice! Here is one of the many names of the Creator—"I AM THAT I AM." There is real meaning to this name! It may also be translated from the Hebrew as "I will be what I will be." This name—I AM—means that there is no one under heaven superior to, no one who exercises lordship over, the ONE who appeared to Moses. The One who appeared to Moses is above

all creation—Lord of all! That is what His name means. He is the *One who is*, the *Self-Existent One*.

He Is "The ETERNAL"

Now turn to Exodus 6:1-3. Here the Creator reveals yet another name. "And God spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am the Lord" (Verse 2). The Hebrew word which is here translated "LORD" is YHWH. This Hebrew name YHWH—translated "LORD" in Verse 2, and mistranslated "Jehovah" in Verse 3—comes from the Hebrew root word meaning "to be," or "to exist." The name YHWH means the "Eternal," the "Ever-living," and as the Creator of all and superior to all, this name signifies that He is eternally Ruler and LORD!

Now notice especially Verse 3. "And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name Jehovah was I not known to them"—that is, "I did not reveal Myself by that name unto them."

The name "Jehovah" in the King James Version is admittedly a woeful mistranslation. It comes from the Hebrew word YHWH. Notice that the One who was worshipped by Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob appeared under the name "God Almighty"—in Hebrew *El Shaddai*. He did not make Himself known by the name YHWH, though it was known and used as a name of the Creator.

When Moses compiled the book of Genesis, he introduced the name YHWH beginning with Chapter 2 of the book of Genesis. But the Creator did not choose to use it when addressing the Patriarchs! He did not use that name again until the days of Moses.

If one cannot be saved unless he pronounces YHWH in Hebrew, then Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were lost forever—for this name was not used in their day. How plain that the Creator thought it more important to reveal His *Word* than even this name—YHWH—to Abraham. Notice Psalm 138:2, ". . . for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name."

But what about the word "Jehovah" in Exodus 6:3?

Tens of thousands are being led today to believe that the Creator's name

is "Jehovah." Where did the name "Jehovah" come from? Notice what the *Jewish Encyclopedia* has to say:

"'Jehovah' is generally held to have been the invention of Pope Leo X's Confessor, Peter Galatin . . . who was followed in the use of this hybrid form by Fagius . . . But it seems that even before Galatin, the name 'Jehovah' had been in common use . . . It is found in Raymond Martin's 'Pugio Fidei,' written in 1270" (from *Jewish Encyclopedia*, article "Jehovah," volume VII, page 88).

The word "Jehovah" has come down to the modern world through the Catholic Church! Even the "Jehovah's Witnesses," in the preface to their translation of the Bible, state: "While inclining to view the pronunciation 'Yahweh' as the more correct way, we have retained the form 'Jehovah' because of people's familiarity with it since the 14th century" (page 25).

"Jehovah" is not the name! It is a corrupt mispronunciation.

Since "Jehovah" is not the proper pronunciation of the Hebrew word YHWH, what then is its proper pronunciation? Some "Hebrew Name" sects say "Yahvah," others say "Yahweh," still others believe it should be "Yehweh," etc.

Why this confusion?

The answer is—the true pronunciation of the Hebrew word YHWH has been lost!!

Here is how it happened.

The Hebrew language uses consonants and semi-consonants, not vowels. Moses was inspired to write this name for the Creator with the four Hebrew letters YHWH. This Hebrew word, which the Israelites originally knew how to pronounce, comes from another Hebrew word HWH, an old form of the root HYH, which means "to be" or "to become."

In the centuries since Jeremiah's day, the Jews became superstitious and made an *idol* out of this name! They treated it with such superstitious reverence that they decided never to pronounce it! Instead, whenever they found this word in the Old Testament, they read *Adonai* in its place. *Adonai* is a Hebrew word meaning "Lord" or "Master." Hence the proper pronunciation of YHWH became lost!

True Pronunciation Prophesied To Be Lost!

The Bible even prophesied that the pronunciation of this name should be lost to us today! Notice Jeremiah 23:25-27:

"I have heard what the prophets said, that prophesy lies in my name, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed . . . Which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbor, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal."

The Jews in Jeremiah's day knew how to pronounce the word YHWH. But through the dreams of their false teachers they were misled into believing that the word YHWH should not be pronounced—that it is too holy a word to be uttered! And so the true pronunciation of the word became lost!

No one knows absolutely today how it should be pronounced. This is exactly what Jeremiah prophesied in these verses over 2500 years ago!

Here is what Rotherham says about this name in his *Emphasized Bible*, page 25: "The true pronunciation seems to have been Yahwè . . . The accent should be on the final syllable." *The Jewish Encyclopedia* says of this name: ". . . the original pronunciation must have been Yahweh, or Yahaweh" (Article "Names of God," Volume IX, page 161).

So the pronunciation YHWH is definitely not Jehovah. Nor do any means today exist of knowing exactly how it is to be pronounced—**YET THE MEANING OF THIS NAME IS PRESERVED FOR US TODAY.** It means the "Eternal," the "Everliving," the "Eternal LORD." The meaning of the Almighty's name is far more important than its mere sound.

Now let us notice definite scriptural PROOF THAT IT IS PROPER TO TRANSLATE THE NAMES OF GOD so that we may understand what they mean in the language we speak today!

Part of Old Testament Not Written in Hebrew!

In the Old Testament the English word "God" is often translated from the Hebrew words "El," "Eloah," and

(Please continue on page 20)

SEVEN PROOFS of God's True Church

Are you following MEN? Are YOU an "Armstrongite" as some might accuse? Or are you a grounded and solid MEMBER of the ONE true Church on earth, and a PART of the very Body of Jesus Christ? Have you really PROVED it?

by Garner Ted Armstrong

WITH a throaty ROAR, like the deep rumble of several locomotives, the giant 707 Boeing jet thundered down the runway. I felt a surge of POWER as I was literally PUSHED back into the seat by the full force of those four huge fan-jet engines turned up to maximum power! Almost instantaneously, it seemed, the giant metal bird was thundering into the skies over Los Angeles!

THAT'S POWER!

Many times in MANY parts of the world, I've experienced the thrill of take-off of a giant jet airplane. I'm still not so blasé about air travel that the take-off of a giant jet fails to impress me!

When I witnessed, over television, the blast-off of Astronaut John Glenn in his epic flight, and the later launching of Astronaut Gordon Cooper, I

couldn't help but be awed by the surging POWER of those huge rockets as they soared straight up into the blue sky like gargantuan bullets!

That's real POWER!

My brother, Richard D. Armstrong, went to Las Vegas several years ago, while still a student at Ambassador College, and was able to witness, with his own eyes (though through heavy, special dark glasses) the explosion of an atomic bomb. He described it to me. With a brilliant flash, brighter than the morning sun, an awesome, mushrooming cloud began to form, instantly rising several thousands of feet above the Nevada desert floor. Then, moments later, a huge rumbling, ear-splitting SHOCK struck the onlookers with actual physical FORCE, just like a blow from some superhuman hand! This atom bomb blast was only a TINY

bomb, a mere "pip" compared to the giant MULTI-MEGATON HYDROGEN BOMBS of today. Actually, it takes the explosive force of an ATOM bomb to set off a hydrogen bomb!

Think of it! An atom bomb is just the "match" to IGNITE A HYDROGEN BOMB!

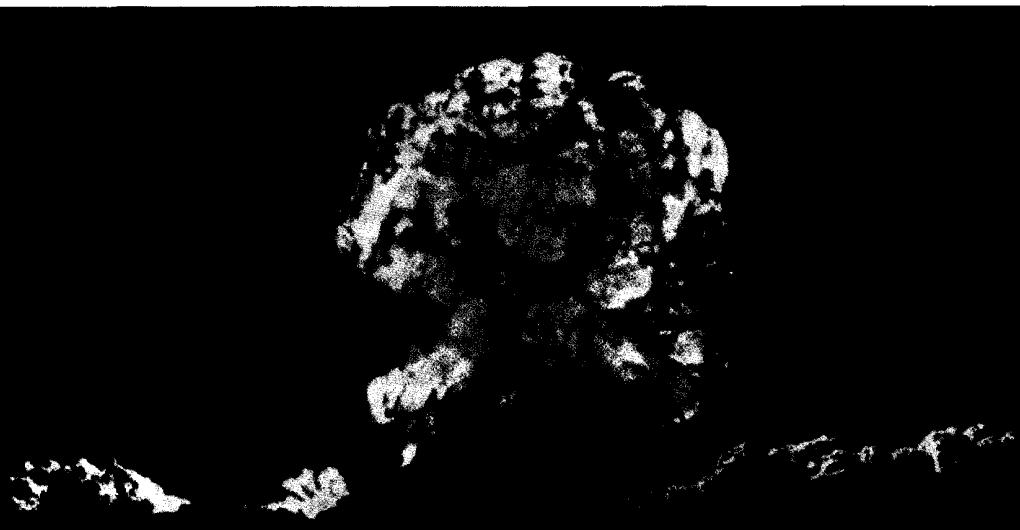
Today, Air Force planners consider developing a "Trillion-ton" H-bomb, named for being equivalent in destructive force to one trillion tons of TNT.

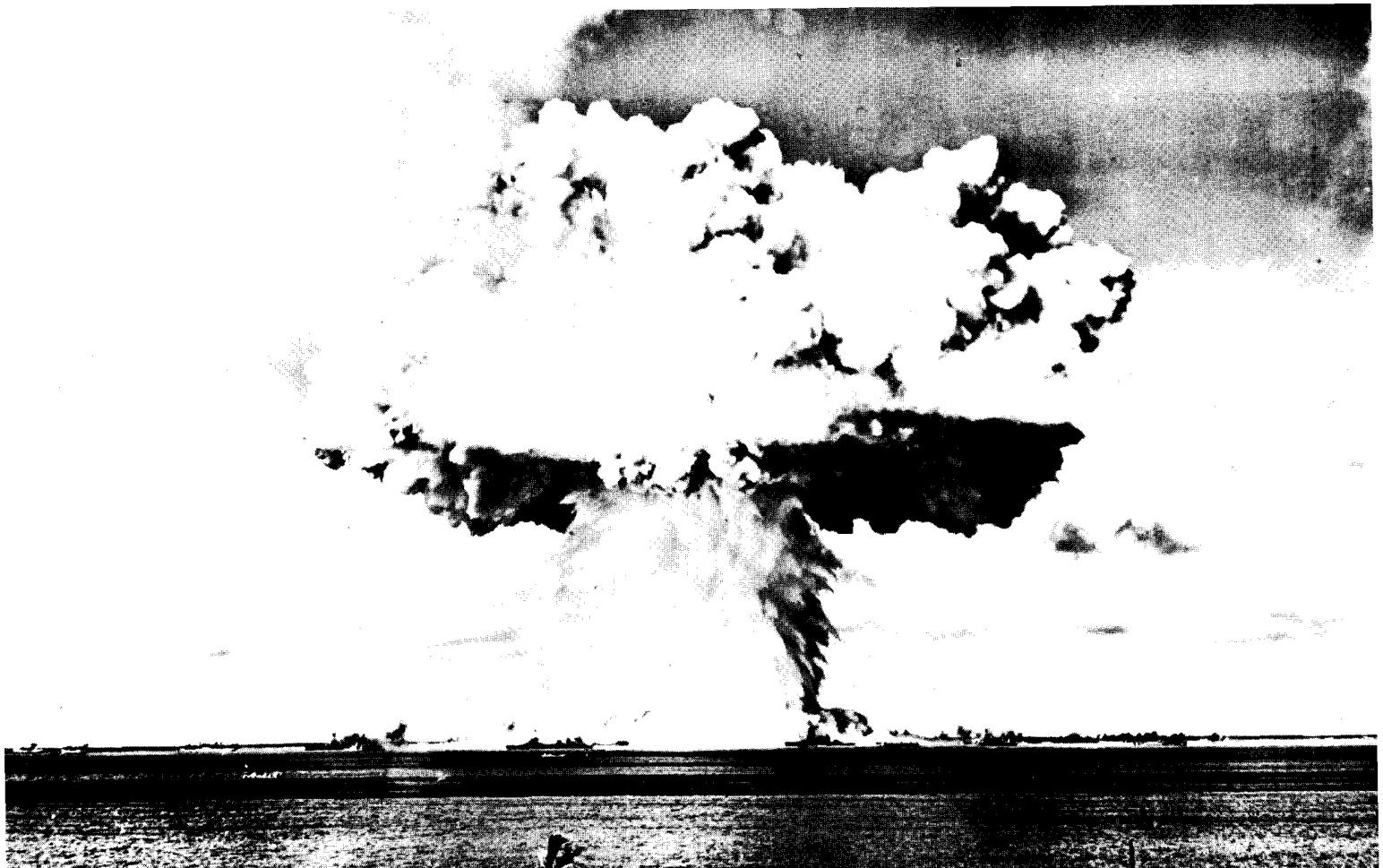
Do you grasp what a trillion tons of TNT really is? One MILLION is a thousand thousand. But it takes ONE THOUSAND MILLION to make a BILLION. A trillion is ONE THOUSAND BILLION!

If one hundred ten-ton trucks had been laboring mightily, dumping their maximum load of TNT ONCE EACH MINUTE SINCE THE TIME OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST, there would STILL

This photograph of the awesome mushroom fireball of an exploded atomic bomb was taken TEN MILES from the firing point!

Wide World Photo





Wide World Photo

Man's power—hydrogen bomb explosion at Bikini in the Pacific Ocean. It takes the explosive force of an atomic bomb—which you saw on the previous page—to merely SET OFF this hydrogen bomb! But it is a piker

compared to gaseous explosions on the sun—which can reach 150,000 miles in height!

not be a pile of TNT BIG enough to represent the destructive force contained in just this one bomb!

If all the tractors, trucks, loaders and earth-movers on earth were to labor together for the next CENTURY, they couldn't amass a pile of earth big enough to represent a mound of TNT weighing a TRILLION tons!

But that's just the beginning! Compared to even smaller, unnoticed "storms" on the surface of our sun—even *this* destructive form is almost NOTHING in comparison!

And *our sun* is but a DWARF when compared to other great "suns" or stars in the great universe!

THAT'S REAL POWER!

But all this man-made power is NOTHING compared to the awesome giant, all-encompassing, unlimited, irresistible, magnitudinous, gargantuan, overwhelming, SUPREME, ABSOLUTE POWER OF GOD! . . . *Our God!* The God who RULES this Church, who sustains it, who listens to YOUR personal, private prayers!

Think of it! What a fantastic amount of POWER God has! In the first of these seven great PROOFS of the true Church of God, we saw how God is the great RULER of all!

And God maintains and guards His great position of RULER by means of His great POWER!

Ridiculous Pagan Substitutes

What a wry, ironic and hideous joke it would be if a thundering jet were suddenly reduced from the throaty roar of POWER of those great engines to a little puff of smoke about the size of a small firecracker!

What irony, if the huge Atlas missile carrying Gordon Cooper had "fizzled out" on the launching pad, with a small, still sigh!

And what BLASPHEMOUS and RIDICULOUS claims some demon-inspired, perspiring, *little*, raspy-voiced human MEN have made about having some of the POWER of GOD!

Is the POWER OF GOD behind claims

of "double portion night"? or "green smoke in the top of the tent"? Does it really show the POWER OF GOD for "holy oil" (*you'd sweat too*, in such an atmosphere!) to be found in the clammy palms of a screaming, shouting, self-styled "evangelist"?

Brethren of God's true Church! When the small, darkened peepings and mutterings of human throats—when the circus freaks cause "goiters" to disappear at will in a side-show atmosphere designed to DECEIVE—when hucksters and shysters pretend to have some of the power of God, *it is just as ironic!*

Listen!

The POWER OF GOD is NOT a tingling, sensuous HUMAN EMOTION! It is NOT a prickly feeling on your scalp, or down the back of your neck! It is NOT found in the husky voice of a screaming fanatic who makes an abominable SHAM of religion!

The POWER OF GOD is the force by which God made ALL THINGS! It is the POWER by which He MADE THE UNIVERSE! It is the force, the energy, the

unlimited power by which He sustains and upholds all things!

"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by a [margin] Son, whom He hath appointed Heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds; Who, being the brightness of His GLORY, and the express image of His person, and upholding ALL THINGS by the Word of His POWER, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high . . ." (Heb. 1:1-3).

THAT is a glimpse of the POWER OF GOD!

And that power is available to YOU. That power is IN THIS CHURCH! THAT power is another of the great PROOFS of the True Church of God!

Many "Fakes" Prophesied!

Don't be deceived! Do the fake claims of supposed "wonders" and "miracles" even begin to COMPARE to the majesty of the Alps, or the Andes? Do the claims of sweating or bleeding statues, of warts and bunions being healed, of "speaking with 'other' tongues" even BEGIN to supplant the MAJESTY of the mighty seas, the roar of a hurricane, the crash and reverberating roll of thunder?

Ridiculous!

Yet—people want a "sign"! They desire a piquant "wonder." They want some tiny, interesting, "quaint" little "miracle" of some type to satiate their desire for the unusual!

Jesus said, "A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a SIGN; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas" (Matt. 16:4).

Yes—the WORLD seeks a sign.

God says, "When thou art come into the land which the Eternal thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.

For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Eternal: and because of these abominations the Eternal thy God doth drive them out from before thee!" (Deut. 18: 9-12).

And LOOK at the practices of so-called "religious" people today!

Some, who have even fancied themselves members of the True Church of God have practiced "water witching," or "plumb bobbing" their food!

But in the world, deceived human beings look on a weird "oddity" or "curiosity" as being something of real POWER!

Charlatans parade before deceived people, claiming great "healing" powers, or claiming power to produce "special signs." These "signs," however, are always in the realm of WITCHERY, or DIVINATION, of FAMILIAR SPIRITS!

THIS IS NOT THE POWER OF GOD!

Your Bible predicted there would be MANY false prophets, and that they would "shew great signs and WONDERS; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the VERY ELECT!" (Matt. 24:24).

Simon Magus was reputed to be the "great POWER OF GOD"! (Acts 8:10). Yet, his was the power of the Devil and his demons. Simon kept his followers deceived by thrilling piquant "signs" and "wonders." "And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries" (Acts 8:11).

Make no mistake! The false claims about the POWER of God are going to be some of the GREATEST events to yet affect your life! The false MIRACLES—the false SIGNS and WONDERS of the future—and some of them in the very NEAR future—would deceive even the VERY ELECT, if God would permit it!

That means if you are one who is merely "going along" with certain Church doctrine; attending Church; paying tithes; and consider yourself a "member," but are not really CONVERTED—are not one of the VERY ELECT—YOU could well be deceived by these false miracles—simply because you do not understand this great PROOF of God's true Church—the real POWER of God!

Brethren of God's Church! Don't be

deceived! This great proof of the True Church of God is NOT by any means a "minor" point you can afford to take lightly! Rather, it is VITALLY important—whether or not you really, deeply, and thoroughly understand it could affect YOUR ETERNITY!

What IS God's POWER?

Being human—we are impressed with human power. We see the swelling muscles of a weight-lifter, the straining efforts of a pole vaulter, the terrific dexterity of a gymnast, or the smashing right of a boxer—and we're impressed!

Passers-by stop to gawk at a giant crane swinging a huge steel ball to smash buildings, or a huge bulldozer shoving tons of material, or the giant bites of earth a huge scoop shovel devours as it excavates for a new building. Seeing these man-made machines, humans are impressed!

At a religious meeting, berserk preachers scream, wheeze, gasp, shout, rant, or chant in the same tone, endlessly and meaninglessly, and ignorant, deceived on-lookers are impressed!

But what really should be impressive is the manifestation of GOD'S POWER!

Compare, in your own mind, the soaring might of a giant Sequoia or Redwood tree to a tiny man! Compare, for a moment, the thundering roar of Niagara, or Victoria on the Zambezi, to the petty screeching of a hoarse-voiced fake in a tent-camp riot called a religious meeting!

Compare the majesty of mighty mountains—the sweep and scope of this vast earth—the surging, tossing expanse of the ageless sea—yes, COMPARE!

And then realize that this WHOLE EARTH is but a tiny speck when compared to our sun, and to other stars in the "milky way," or our own galaxy!

But that's only the remotest beginning! Our sun, the only star of our solar system, is but a "white dwarf" star in comparison to some of the other huge stars of awesome proportions! Betelgeuse, the super giant of "Orion's" belt (as the pagans dubbed some of the distant constellations) is fully five hundred and thirty times larger than our sun—and yet our sun is so gigantic in comparison to the

earth so as to defy our powers of comprehension.

For example, of the total *composition* of the entire solar system; that is, the sun, all the nine planets, their thirty-one moons, thousands of asteroids, billions of comets and all other *matter in the solar system*, the sun comprises nearly 99.9 per cent!

Our sun, which, remember, is but a "dwarf" in comparison to many stars in *many* galaxies, is 864,000 miles in diameter! "Sunspots," or solar storms and eruptions, appear as dark, sculptured "holes" in the "skin" of the sun—and are from five hundred to as much as FIFTY THOUSAND MILES WIDE!

Other disturbances on the sun's surface take the form of huge, spiraling LOOPS, or solar prominences and arches. Often these arches reach to a height of THIRTY THOUSAND MILES, and bridge a span of more than ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND miles—half the distance separating the earth from the moon!

Leaping, fiery tornadoes—tongues of fiery hydrogen—shoot up as far as one hundred thousand miles into space! An eruptive arch, one of the largest solar explosions ever recorded, was actually photographed in June of 1946. It remained visible for over two hours—and stretched more than a MILLION MILES into space before it disappeared!

But to your *human* eye—these unusual features of the sun's surface remain obscured behind superbrilliance you can't look at without special, HEAVY dark lenses. These prominences must be photographed by the means of huge, specially constructed solar telescopes.

Think of it! Our sun, operating on the *exact* same principle of the hydrogen bomb, is fantastically HUGE beside our earth!

Yet, the *sun* is but a DWARF star in comparison to others.

Look at the fathomless, limitless universe! THAT'S POWER!

THAT'S REAL POWER!

The POWER of Christ

Jesus Christ was the Word (John 1:1) who DID wield all this vast POWER of creation! "God . . . hath in these last days spoken unto us by His [a] Son,

whom He hath appointed Heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds; Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His POWER, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high . . ." (Heb. 1:1-3).

Jesus MADE Betelgeuse, the spiral andromeda, the vastness of the limitless universe, with the billions upon billions of blazing suns and stars! He MADE this earth, with the huge mountains, the surging seas, the vast prairies and deserts.

But, even possessing this awesome power, He EMPTIED Himself of EVERY BIT of it—and came down to this earth—to be born as a totally HELPLESS little child! "Who, being in the form of God, [counted not equality with God a thing to be grasped at (clung to, or jealously and tenaciously held)]: But made Himself of no reputation [emptied Himself] and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men . . ." (Phil. 2:6, 7).

Then, as a HUMAN being, Jesus Christ showed us how utterly and TOTALLY POWERLESS He was!

He said, "I can of mine own self do NOTHING!" (John 5:30). He was utterly UNABLE, so far as any physical strength or ability is concerned, to accomplish the great Work God had sent Him to do.

He was powerless.

He said, "The Son can DO NOTHING of Himself . . ." (John 5:19). Yet Jesus had TREMENDOUS power! He conquered Satan the Devil—He turned the water into wine, healed thousands, cast out demons, fed the thousands, withered the fig tree, paid taxes with a coin from the mouth of a fish.

He walked on water, calmed storms, performed hundreds and hundreds of miracles.

But these *signs* Jesus performed were only a PART of the great WORKS to which He pointed! Notice! "Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, And said unto Him, Art thou He that should come, or do we look for another? Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John

again those things which ye do HEAR and SEE: The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the GOSPEL preached to them" (Matt. 11:2-5).

Notice—Jesus said the GOSPEL was being preached! The preaching of the MESSAGE He brought, to even a few hundred, or a few thousand, was one of the great WORKS which Christ said directly PROVED His Messiahship!

But He did NOTHING BY HIMSELF!

"Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, HE doeth the works" (John 14:10).

There was the source of Jesus' great POWER! The Father in heaven WORKED THROUGH Jesus as a HUMAN INSTRUMENT!

Jesus GAVE POWER—But WHY?

Jesus Christ not only demonstrated the tremendous POWER source He had, but also GAVE that power to others! "Then He called His twelve disciples together, and gave them POWER AND AUTHORITY over all demons, and to cure diseases" (Luke 9:1).

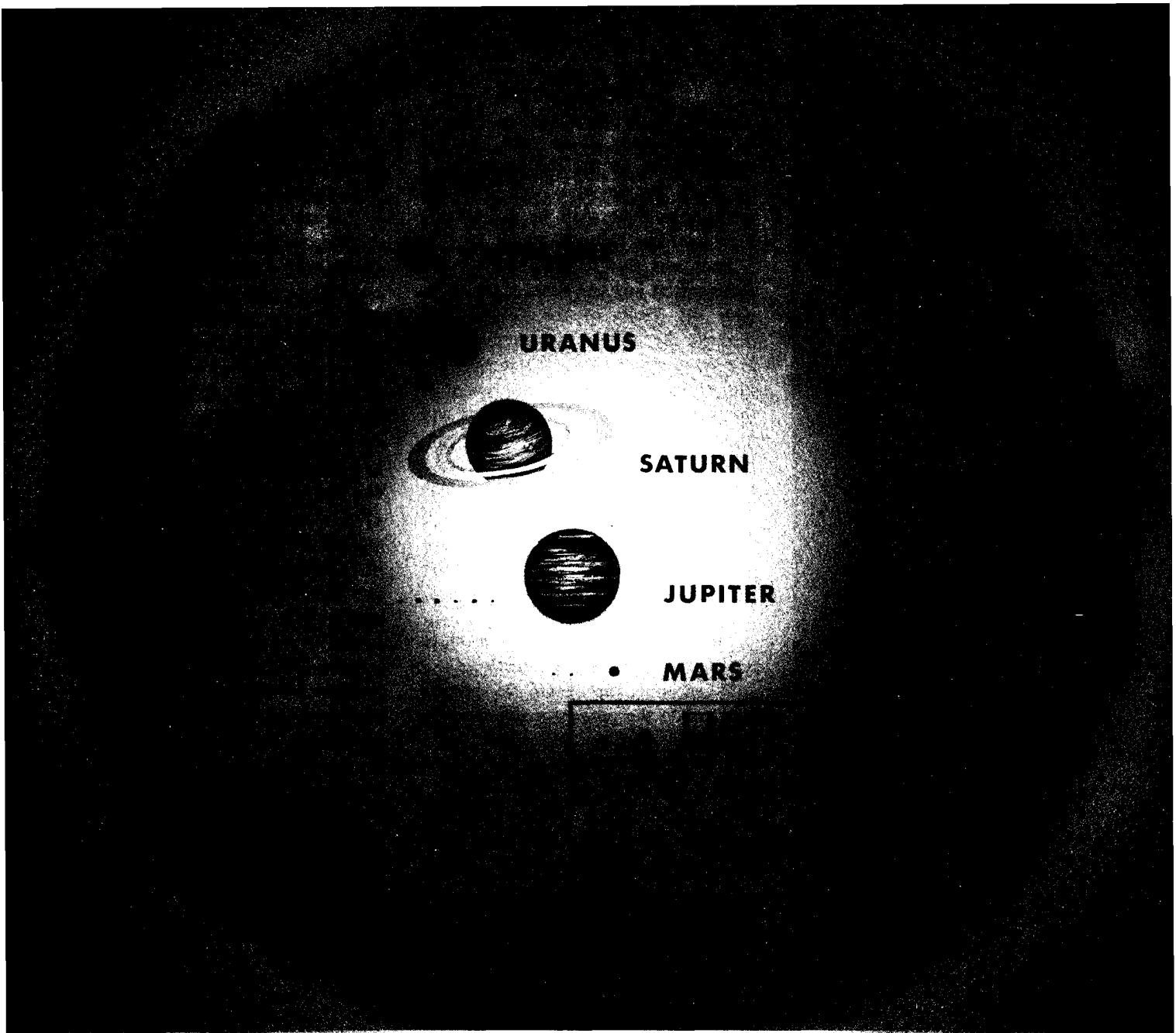
But was this power *only* for healing—and for casting out of demons?

Notice, "And He sent them to preach the KINGDOM OF GOD, and to heal the sick!" (Verse 2).

When Jesus said the WORKS He performed bore witness of Him, He emphasized the GOSPEL He brought—the TRUTH of God.

After His crucifixion and resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples. "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, ALL POWER is given unto me in heaven and in earth." (Matt. 28:18). He told them that GREAT POWER He had possessed was now His to wield.

Now He was NO LONGER human—weak, physically unable to do *nothing* of Himself—now He was a VERITABLE POWER SOURCE—A DYNAMO OF SPIRITUAL POWER! Now He had the same POWER that molded the fantastic sun, that compacted the awesome FORCES into the universe—the power that



The nine planets of our solar system in comparison to the size of the sun. Our earth's diameter is almost 8,000 miles. It is a dwarf compared to Jupiter's (another planet) 89,000 mile diameter. But compared to the sun, the earth pales into insignificance. The sun's diameter is 100 times that of the earth's. You would have to make almost ONE HUNDRED

AND FIFTY ROUND trips between Los Angeles and New York (6,000 miles per trip) to cover the distance of the sun's diameter. No wonder David said, "What is man that thou art mindful of him!" Yet, we will inherit ALL OF THIS UNIVERSE!

hurled the giant stars into the blackness of endless trillions of miles of space! Now Jesus WAS POWER PERSONIFIED!

What was the BIG JOB He intended to accomplish through this fantastic power?

"Go ye therefore [in the light of this tremendous POWER I now have], and TEACH . . ." His FIRST command was to TEACH, to PREACH (Mark 16:15) the Gospel of the Kingdom of God!

He said, "TEACH ALL NATIONS, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have com-

manded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the age [margin]" (Matt. 28:19-20).

Jesus said His great power would ALWAYS be there—DEPENDABLE power, CONSTANT power, SANE, SAFE, GUIDED, DIRECTED power—to accomplish the great commision He was giving His true Church!

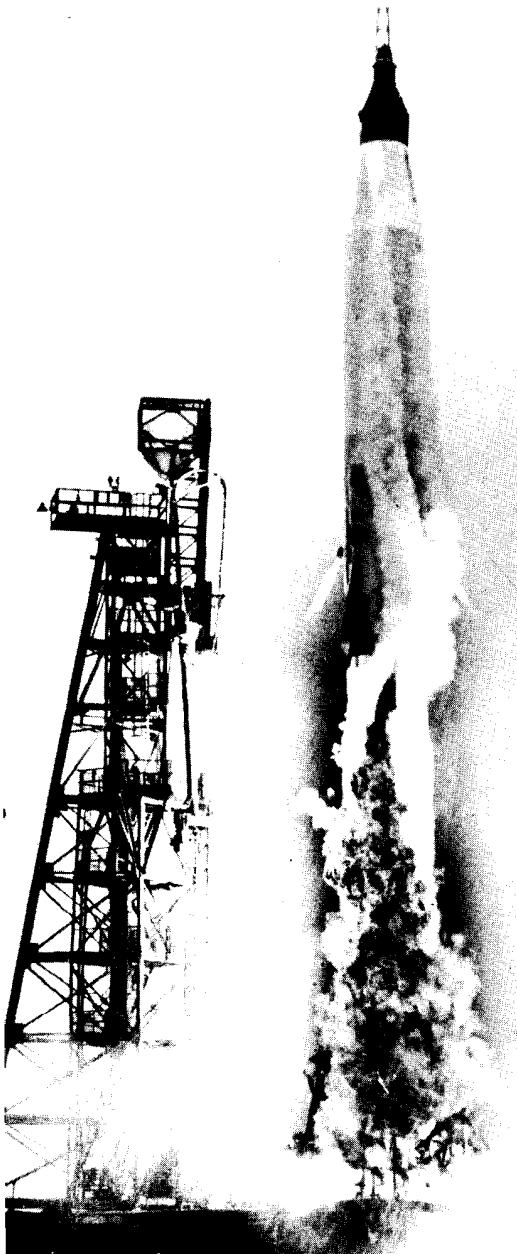
You can DEPEND on the rising of the sun—and you know you can! You can depend on the vastness of the power of this gargantuan universe—just as the common, everyday FORCES, the ENERGIES we take for granted are dependable! You DEPEND on inertia, on the

law of gravity, on heat, light, and the myriad laws that Christ upholds by the Word of His POWER!

He said HIS CHURCH would be imbued with this same POWER! We can depend on it!

"And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith He, ye have heard of me . . . And He said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in His own power. But ye shall receive POWER [NOT an empty, meaningless, emotional

Wide World Photo



Wide World Photo

Thousands stand in Times Square, New York City (Right), watching John Glenn's blast-off from Cape Canaveral, Florida (Top). Again, this is man's power! But God created the atmosphere—the earth—and the moon man is so desperately trying to reach!

"sensation," or some SATANIC counterfeit, designed to CONCEAL the great meaning of the *real* power of God!], after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth!" (Acts 1:4-8).

Notice—the POWER was so they could carry His MESSAGE to the uttermost parts of the EARTH—not as a sensual thrill to decorate their own persons!

Jesus said *we, today*, would be accomplishing EVEN GREATER WORKS than HE accomplished through that great POWER He supplies!

The GOOD NEWS

February, 1964

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and GREATER works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father!" (John 14:12).

Jesus was able to reach only a few thousands at any one time, at the most, with the Truth of the Gospel. But through the POWER He supplies—and HE DOES SUPPLY IT—IT DEPENDS ON HIS POWER—the miraculous power of the transmission of electrical FORCE and ENERGY, BOUNCING electrical impulses off the mantle of the ionosphere, Christ uses TWENTY-TWO MILLION WATTS OF POWER to preach His Gospel to the world today!

But *that* power is only the beginning!

YOU Are To Inherit POWER

The reason you live is to learn to use POWER—and use it rightly!

When you first begin to become educated to the powers of this modern, electronic, machine, jet, space age—you learn the dangers of misguided power!

There are SAFETY precautions to be observed. Every child must be taught the DANGERS of fire, of gas, of moving

potential POWER OF ALL—the HUMAN MIND!

You are a POTENTIAL DYNAMO!

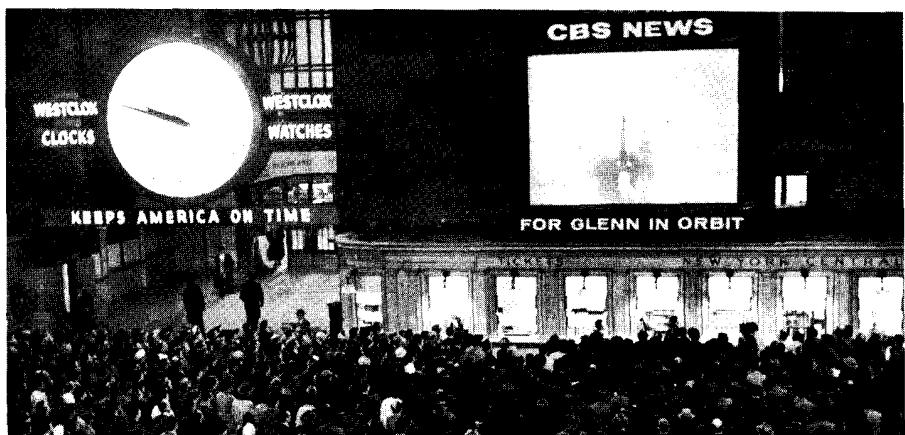
You are a potential POWER!

You can come to be sheer FORCE COMPACTED TOGETHER INTO HUGE, LIMITLESS, DRIVING, SURGING, ENERGIZING, IRRESISTIBLE, IMMOVABLE, OMNIPOTENT POWER !!!

You can become God.

The four living creatures around the throne of God said, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive POWER, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing" (Rev. 5:12). John said he heard every creature in earth and in heaven saying in unison, "Blessing, and honor, and glory, and POWER, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever" (Rev. 5:13).

Jesus Christ is going to SHARE this limitless power with us! "And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I GIVE POWER over the nations: And he shall RULE them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father" (Rev. 2: 26-27).



automobiles, of falling, or of colliding with objects.

Much of all scientific endeavor—and, as a matter of fact, PRACTICALLY ALL of it, is either a study of, or learning how to HARNESS POWER, FORCE, ENERGY!

Science knows how to store power in a battery, to convert atomic energy to useful purposes—to employ the power of explosive force for constructive purposes—but science does NOT know how to control the greatest

THE UNIVERSE belongs to God! He is going to GIVE it to His children—when they qualify to control its powers!

Think of it, brethren! It defies our limited minds to comprehend the height, the length, the breadth, the scope of God's power! We can only understand but a small fraction of the immensity of God. And yet, that very power is in THIS CHURCH!

Thousands of lives are being changed. Families are being restored—children's hearts turned to their parents.

Thousands are being healed! Many write of CANCERS disappearing; of total BLINDNESS being healed; of DEAFNESS being cured; of demons being cast out!

But the GREATEST evidence of God's power in His Church today is that multiple MILLIONS are hearing the very same Gospel Jesus preached!

Think of the veritable sea of humanity hearing every WORLD TOMORROW program! Of the more than ONE MILLION reading *The PLAIN TRUTH*! Truly, GREATER works are being done! This really IS the ONE True Church of the great, living GOD!

God says, to each of you, "For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest [even though it would have FRIGHTENED and AWED you, had you seen it!], And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words . . . But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto

the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem [The Church], and to an INNUMERABLE COMPANY OF ANGELS, To the general assembly and church of the FIRSTborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the JUDGE OF ALL, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, And to JESUS the Mediator of the new covenant . . . Whose voice then SHOOK THE EARTH: but now He hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

Wherefore WE RECEIVING A KINGDOM WHICH CANNOT BE MOVED, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire!" (Heb. 12:18-29).

And THAT, brethren of God's TRUE Church is POWER!!!

and teaching the SYSTEM of God to the people of the earth at the beginning of the Millennium who will have just lived through *this modern world* in which WE have grown up and understand.

Thus, Christ has established the Ambasador Colleges whose motto is "*Recapture True Values.*" We in God's Church today—and particularly its leaders through the colleges on a day-to-day basis—are able to *recapture* and **APPLY** those values in the field of marriage, child rearing, correct social life, sports and **EVERY** phase and facet of the full and abundant life which Christ wants all the world to someday enjoy (John 10:10).

Once again, God has established a temporary, earthly "Headquarters"—this time in Pasadena, California—to properly sort out, assimilate and **REVEAL** in many details this PATTERN of God's way of life to His Church today. Thus, if all of us can learn to RESPOND to Christ working through His Headquarters and servants today and learn fully this "*way of life*"—we can indeed become fit to be the "pillars" at God's Headquarters at Jerusalem to help set the PATTERN for *re-educating the entire earth!*

For God says of the Philadelphia Church *particularly*: "Him that overcometh will I make a PILLAR in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name" (Rev. 3:12).

With the modern communication facilities which He has now opened to our use, Christ is now *more than at any time before* using a HEADQUARTERS CHURCH through which to reveal in many details an entire PATTERN of life which we must ALL learn in order to be able to fulfill *our future job!*

All of us who make up the very BODY of Jesus Christ in this age must learn to be RESPONSIVE to the articles emanating from God's Headquarters on child rearing, marriage, foods, and the entire WAY OF LIFE which Christ wants us to UNDERSTAND and LIVE. Thus,

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 6)

cious truths in a few years in Christ's Kingdom.

Mr. Raymond Cole then brought out how we must master the SELF before we are able to go on and serve others. And Mr. David Antion followed on with a sermon showing how we must *keep our eyes on the GOAL!* We must not be *distracted* or *discouraged* by our problems, but give our attention to God and to the POWER and GLORY which lie ahead.

In the closing sermon, Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong powerfully exhorted us that we must learn to YIELD ourselves as plastic clay in God's hands so that we may be *assimilated* by the body of Christ just as physical food must be of the right consistency to be absorbed by our physical bodies. We must learn to look to CHRIST and to HIS HEADQUARTERS WORK in order to be fashioned properly as part of the body which HE is building today! We must RID OURSELVES of *presumptuousness, self-will* and *rebellion* or we will have to be SPEWED OUT as Christ warned the Laodicean Church (Rev. 3:16).

The Work CHRIST is Leading Us to Perform

Going back a bit in time now, I want briefly to review Mr. Waterhouse's sermon given on the Friday night during the Conference which continued on and expanded the theme which Mr. Hunting started the previous Friday night and which Mr. Wayne Cole also spoke upon. For this theme seemed to be particularly predominant during this year's Ministerial Conference—and was expanded even further by Mr. Gerald Waterhouse speaking in a student Forum after the Conference had closed.

Mr. Waterhouse brought out in a most striking manner how Jesus Christ is developing *through us* the SYSTEM and *way of life* which will soon be taught the ENTIRE EARTH during the Millennium. Although Enoch will be particularly helpful in dealing with the people of his age when they are resurrected, Noah with those of his age, and so on, the Church of God in THIS AGE is *particularly responsible* for learning

we may be fully qualified to function as a "team" from God's Headquarters in Jerusalem in a few years and teach with UNITY this right and wonderful WAY to all the peoples of the earth!

Ask God in heaven to help you, personally, to GRASP this awesome responsibility which you will be shouldering in a few years! And ask Him to help you APPRECIATE the glorified spirit body you will then have and the wonderful opportunity you will have to

SERVE all humanity from "World Headquarters," Jerusalem, Palestine!

Since this THEME seemed to predominate through so much of the Conference and the days which immediately followed, I felt compelled to share it with all of you brethren around the world. May God help all of you to WORK, to PRAY—and to give God THANKS—for this tremendous and inspiring GOAL which He is now setting before every single one of us!

and he smote him, BECAUSE HE PUT HIS HAND to the ark: and there he died before God" (I Chron. 13:9-10).

This was the CLIMAX to a series of disobedient acts. An attitude was beginning—which if not halted—would have quickly led to a complete casting aside of other laws.

In I Chronicles 15, we receive more of the background. It becomes quite clear why God had to forcibly intervene.

Beginning with Verse 2 in Chapter 15, we read:

"Then David said, NONE ought to carry the ark of God but the Levites: for them hath the Lord chosen TO CARRY the ark of God, and to minister unto him for ever!"

As we have seen the ark was to be carried—not hauled by a cart. Also, the Levites were to attend to this business—not individuals of other tribes.

Now continue reading in Verse 11: "And David called for Zadok and Abiathar the priests, and for the Levites . . . And said unto them . . . sanctify yourselves . . . that ye may bring up the ark of the Lord God of Israel . . .

"For because ye DID IT NOT AT THE FIRST, the Lord our God made a breach [by killing Uzza] upon us, for that we sought him not after the DUE ORDER!"

There had been rank disobedience. The ark was not transported according to "due order"—or according to the laws set down in the book of Numbers.

God made it quite clear to the Levites, the people and to David that He would not tolerate disobedience. God knew what the end of those things would have been.

He stamped out disobedience before it spread.

God said in I Corinthians 10:11 that, "All these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for OUR ADMONITION, upon whom the ends of the world are come."

This example should teach us to live our life in accordance with the laws of God. It should teach us that God backs up His laws with force and power! He MEANS what He says—and SAYS WHAT HE MEANS!

The Bible Answers Your Questions

Please address any questions YOU would like answered in this column to the Editor.

In I Chronicles 13:9, we read, "Uzza put forth his hand to hold the ark; for the oxen stumbled. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzza, and he smote him . . . and there he died before God." WHY did God kill a man for the simple act of trying to steady the ark—when it was about to fall over? On the surface, it would appear to be a very innocent act.

God had instructed those responsible for carrying the ark—that they should CARRY IT ON THEIR SHOULDERS! Notice, Numbers 7:1-9, "Unto the sons of Kohath he gave none [oxen and carts]: because the service of the sanctuary belonging unto them was that they should bear it ON THEIR SHOULDERS!"

This was the first disobedient act.

Notice! David had consulted with the people and had done the thing which "was right in the eyes of all the people" (I Chron. 13:1-4). He did not consult God's law on this matter—which was clear and explicit.

Instead of having the Levites carry the ark, David had the ark put in a CART! "And they carried the ark [made the ark to ride, margin] in a new cart . . . and Uzza and Ahio drove the cart" (I Chron. 13:7).

SECONDLY, the descendants of the family of Kohath (son of Levi) were

to have the responsibility of transporting the ark on their shoulders.

Read Numbers 4:15. "And when Aaron and his sons have made an end of covering the sanctuary . . . the SONS OF KOHATH shall come to bear it."

This was the second act of disobedience.

From the parallel account in II Samuel 6, it is quite clear that Abinadab's sons—Uzza and Ahio—were of the TRIBE OF JUDAH. They were NOT AUTHORIZED BY GOD to transport the ark. This was another breach of a very explicit command.

The responsibility of carrying the most holy articles—which included the ark—was the SOLE RESPONSIBILITY of the sons of Kohath. See Numbers 4!

THIRDLY, no person—besides Aaron and his sons—were to touch the ark, or any of the holy things. The penalty for disobedience was CLEARLY STATED in Numbers 4:15.

"And when Aaron and his sons have made an end of covering the sanctuary, and all the vessels of the sanctuary, as the camp is to set forward; after that, the SONS OF KOHATH shall come to bear it: but they shall not touch any holy thing, LEST THEY DIE!!"

But Uzza disobeyed this clear command. "And when they came unto the threshingfloor of Chidon, Uzza put forth his hand to HOLD THE ARK; for the oxen stumbled. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzza,

CHRIST'S RETURN WILL BRING WORLD PEACE

In this concluding installment you find out what will happen to this world's war-making machines! WORLD GOVERNMENT and universal peace are just around the corner! Read how Christ will STAMP OUT all opposition and bring happiness to humanity at last!

by L. Leroy Neff

ONLY A FEW of the ministers of these churches have from time to time seen the evils and complete idiocy of war and have spoken out against war. One rare example was Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick who spoke before the League of Nations prior to World War II. He chose as a subject for his address, Christ's statement: "All they that take the sword shall perish by the sword." Here is a part of his sermon:

"We cannot reconcile Jesus Christ and war—that is the essence of the matter. That is the challenge which today should stir the conscience of Christendom. *War is the most colossal and ruinous social sin that afflicts mankind; it is utterly and irremediably unchristian; in its total method and effect it means everything that Jesus did not mean and it means nothing that he did mean;* it is a more blatant denial of every Christian doctrine about God and man than all the theoretical atheists on earth ever could devise. It would be worthwhile, would it not, to see the Christian Church claim as her own this greatest moral issue of our time, to see her lift once more as in our fathers' days, a clear standard against the paganism of this present world and, refusing to hold her conscience at the beck and call of belligerent states, put the kingdom of God above nationalism and call the world to peace? That would not be the denial of patriotism but its apotheosis."

This theologian, as well as a few others, recognize that war is *totally contrary* to Christ's teachings. The above statement clearly shows that some

in the Protestant world DO UNDERSTAND the *utter* and *total* PAGANISM of war!

This very knowledge condemns them.

For God inspired the Apostle James to write: "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, *to him it is SIN*" (Jas. 4:19). Yes, many ministers and professing Christians who know better are soon going to be condemned for FAILING TO ACT on the knowledge available to them concerning war!

When war comes, these few voices are usually stilled or go unheeded. It becomes expedient and easier to go with the crowd, to become engulfed in the tide of public opinion against an opposing nation and to participate in warfare against other human beings. The few voices against war have not

H. E. Fosdick proclaimed, "War . . . is unchristian!" and thereby condemned all who try to achieve peace through war!

Wide World Photo



detected this great false church system from her terrible sins.

In addition to killing in war she has also killed the saints down through the ages. Because of her temporary victory over the saints she is drunken with self-satisfaction and power (Rev. 17:6).

To further identify her, the Bible shows that she sits on seven mountains (Verse 9). The capital of this church system is the Vatican at Rome and is situated on *seven* hills or mountains—beside the seven prophetic "mountains" or kingdoms over which this church system has dominated.

Babylon To Be Burned

Because of her sins and her iniquity she is going to receive *double payment* in retribution for her gross sins against God's Church and against humanity. She has burned and killed the saints, so *she too will be burned with fire* (Verse 16).

The literal churches and building of this false church system are going to be burned to the ground. Many of her "daughters" and those who espouse her doctrines, and who have persecuted God's people will also be burned.

She has dealt in all kinds of merchandise including the slaves of men (Chapter 18:13), and has even sold the dead bodies of men.

"And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth" (Rev. 18:24).

While often speaking about "peace" she has actually practiced and taught the ways of war. With her great power

and influence she could have taught the world real peace and right ways instead of the perverse ways of the old Babylonian mysteries.

In the Old Testament are also many other prophecies referring to this same false church system. She is pictured as ruling over the nations of the world. She is an antitype of the ancient Babylon since she is following the same false system and *has the same sins!* In Jeremiah, Chapters 50 and 51, this same church system is described. She is told of her terrible sins and the punishment that will result because of her crimes.

False System Put To Sword

She is accused of destroying God's heritage. As a result, she will be compensated according to her own sins. *Her men of war, her soldiers* (Jer. 50:30) *will not be so strong and fearless when they face the destruction of the Almighty God.* The sword will come upon these mighty men and princes (Verse 35-38). Her princes (ecclesiastical rulers) will not be so high and mighty when God brings her *swift* punishment.

Jesus said that they who take the sword *will perish with the sword.* The Apostle John wrote: "He that leadeth into *captivity* shall go into captivity: he that *killeth* with the sword must be killed with the sword" (Rev. 13:10). This is a prophecy for the endtime, for our day today!

The religionists who have taken the sword are going to perish by the terrible sword of war. Those who take others into captivity will be taken captive. None will be able to help them in that day.

Her mighty men will not fight then (Jer. 51:30). God will bring judgment on her *graven images*, in all her churches (Verse 47). Men will no longer bow down to the images of modern Babylon.

God will not only bring this terrible retribution upon her but also upon all her daughters who have come out of her (Rev. 2:23). Then all of the churches (the True Churches) will know that truly God does give unto every man *according to his works.*

Man has failed to find the way to peace. History has proved this in the continual chronicle of war.

Except for God's intervention, peace is further away from man today than it was almost 6000 years ago when man was put on the earth.

Will man ever find peace? *Is man always doomed to live under the threat of war?* Is he doomed to live in times of increasing violence and bloodshed?

Right Way Rejected

Man has sought peace in every conceivable way possible, *except the right way*—the only way to peace. He has tried every form of government, every kind of political ideology, every imaginable philosophy. He has tried all kinds of laws, pacts, leagues and the uniting of nations. ALL have failed to bring peace.

Education and science have not shown man the way to this much-needed peace. Even the religions of the world have not brought peace, but rather have *caused more war.* All of these factors have not brought peace, they have all increased the number and severity of wars.

This world is getting to be a very unsafe place in which to live. It is so bad that in most cities of the United States it is now hazardous for a person, *either man or woman*, to walk the streets alone at night.

Even here in the United States with every conceivable precaution taken, our President was shot down in broad daylight in cold blood by the assassin's bullet. And then, to add to the crime, the accused murderer was in like manner killed inside a police station!

In the few short years since World War II, crime in the United States has doubled. *There is no end of crime in sight!*

Man is running headlong AWAY FROM peace as fast as he can. While still hoping that peace will miraculously come, he goes his own way in defiance of God and His laws.

The only way for mankind to find peace is for the nations to turn to God with all their hearts and obey Him! Man is unwilling to do this. Therefore

the only way that peace can come is for God to intervene directly in the affairs of man.

Man's flagrant disregard for God and His laws will lead to a time of trouble such as has never been on this earth before. The prophecies of the Bible show that during this time of trouble the population of this earth may be reduced by *nine-tenths.*

A terrible blood bath is shortly ahead. Except for God's intervention, man would completely *destroy himself* (Matt. 24:22). Thank God there is a way of escape for those who are really *faithful.*

What will happen then concerning warfare, and fighting, when God does put a stop to man's self-destruction?

He will not permit the nations to spit upon Him and crucify Him again.

How Christ Will Bring Peace

When He returns to this earth, how can He bring the world peace. If He sent prophets or ministers, would the people heed them, repent and become peaceable? No! That is just what Christ has been doing for almost 6000 years and the world has not heeded. Instead, the world persecuted them and killed many of them.

Could Christ bring peace by supernatural signs, disasters, floods, or earthquakes? He has already used these same signs to warn and instruct man. But man has *not repented* (Rev. 9:20-21).

Christ will do the only thing that will bring peace. THERE IS NO OTHER WAY.

That way is to crush the nations, and then rule them with a "rod of iron." Christ will have to *fight* with the nations, to FORCE THEM to repent of their ways. He will purge out the rebellious, *in order* to bring peace.

Is it "morally" wrong for Christ to fight and kill these unrighteous people? Christ has created all things, *including life.* Since He gave man *life*, He has the inherent right to take that same life away if He so decides.

Christ Returns in Power

Christ will return as the conquering King of kings and Lord of lords. He will then wreak vengeance on all



Wide World Photo

Innocent Yugoslavian citizens—victims of Nazi hangings; they wanted peace, happiness—a family, a home! But there was no peace! There

was no one to put down the oppression. Christ is coming soon—and everyone will have his own fig tree and vineyard—plus lasting peace.

the wicked, and against any who will no longer obey Him and His Holy Law.

When the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ (Rev. 11:15), the earth will still be engaged in the terrible bloodbath of war. The nations have been angry with each other and with God. His divine intervention in nature will by this time have brought terrible havoc and fear on the disobedient!

Yet, most will still not repent and change.

The nations have been angry—now Christ will be angry with the nations (Rev. 11:18)—for their sins and their crimes against each other and against the saints. He will destroy those wicked men who are at that time seeking to destroy the earth. The designs of Satan against God's creation will come to naught.

Armies Assemble at Armageddon

All nations of the world will have armies assembled at the place known as Armageddon (Rev. 16:16). With

them will be the ruler of the great Beast Power and the religious leader of Babylon, the false prophet. All of these armies will make war against Christ (Rev. 17:14).

God is not fighting against the nations of the world today, but He will then, in the *day of the Lord*. "Then shall the Lord go forth, and *fight* against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle" (Zech. 14:3).

God will not wage war unrighteously. But He will make war in righteousness, bring retribution and vengeance on those that *fully deserve* such severe punishment.

"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war" (Rev. 19:11).

God is waiting now. The sins of man have not yet come to "the full."

Christ will bring the Kingdom of God (God's government) to this earth.

Then Jesus Kingdom will be a Kingdom of *this world*. Then He and His servants will supernaturally intervene to put an end to war! (John 18:36). At that time, true Christians will be changed from *mortal* to *immortal* beings. They will no longer be flesh and blood. They will be like God—divine, perfect. They will have the prerogative to give and to take life. Though Christians do not participate in wars between nations now, they will participate with Christ in *stamping out war* at that time.

"Let the saints be joyful in *glory*: let them sing aloud upon their beds. Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a *twoedged sword in their hand*; To execute vengeance upon the heathen, and punishments upon the people; To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron; To execute upon them the judgment written: this honor have all his saints. Praise ye the Lord" (Ps. 149:5-9).

Armies of Spirit beings will follow

Christ (Rev. 14). When He wages war against all of these nations, He will not use bows and arrows and He will not use atomic and hydrogen weapons. He will use His *supernatural power* in ways that will make the puny modern weapons of man appear ridiculous!

Swords Into Plows

In His fury He will then go to various nations and tread down the wicked into a "winepress." Those who will not submit to His rule will be no more (Isa. 63; Rev. 14:20).

His indignation will be against the nations (Isa. 34) and He will utterly destroy their armies.

"For it is the day of the Lord's vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion" (Isa. 34:8).

As a result of this DIVINE WAR all rebellion and disobedience will be put down. But, rebellion will soon rise again. Ezekiel prophesies (Chapters 38 and 39) that the Russian and Oriental nations will soon come against Christ at Jerusalem.

Christ will again supernaturally fight against them and *destroy them utterly*.

"I will summon every kind of terror against Gog, says the Lord God; *every man's sword will be against his brother*. With pestilence and bloodshed I will enter into judgment with him; and I will rain upon him and his hordes and the many peoples that are with him, torrential rains and hailstones, fire and

brimstone. So I will show my greatness and my holiness and make myself known in the eyes of many nations. Then they will know that I am the Lord" (Ezek. 38:21-23, R.S.V.).

This is the ONLY way that peace will come to this war-torn world. "And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and *they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more*" (Mic. 4:3).

Mankind Enjoys Peace

No longer will it be necessary for the world to spend \$330 million a day—\$14 MILLION AN HOUR—on arms and armies as they are doing today during "peace-time." It will no longer cost mankind \$120 billion dollars annually to try to bring the peace that NEVER COMES!

All of this tremendous expenditure will then go for *peaceful production*. Then, all mankind can enjoy the fruit of their labors. Peace, happiness, and joy will then cover the earth. All people will know God's ways and will be following them.

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

What Is the Father's Name

(Continued from page 8)

"Elohim." When Babylon conquered the Kingdom of Judah, Hebrew gradually ceased to be the language of common speech of the Jews. Hebrew was replaced by Aramaic, spoken throughout the Babylonian Empire. Daniel wrote five whole chapters of his prophetic book in Aramaic—Chapters 2 through 6. And Ezra wrote four whole chapters of his work in Aramaic—Chapters 4 through 7.

When Daniel and Ezra referred to the Creator in these chapters, did they use the Hebrew words, or Aramaic

translations of these particular words?

The surprising answer is that God inspired Daniel and Ezra to TRANSLATE the Hebrew words for God into the Aramaic word *ELAH*! In 78 different places in these 9 chapters, the Aramaic word *ELAH* is used to translate the Hebrew word for "God"!

If the Almighty intended that His Name should be pronounced only in Hebrew, then Daniel and Ezra were false prophets! But Daniel and Ezra were not false prophets! They were inspired men! *God inspired them to*

*translate the Hebrew word for God into the Aramaic word *ELAH* which means God!* Every word—every letter—which Ezra and Daniel were inspired to write has been preserved for us today! Jesus said that not one jot or tittle—the least letters or marks of the alphabet—in the Old Testament would be lost (Matt. 5:18; Luke 16:17).

Since God inspired His Prophets to translate the Hebrew word for God into the Aramaic *ELAH*, which means "God" in Aramaic, *then it is fitting and proper that the Hebrew word ELOHIM should be translated "God" into the English translations of the Old Testament!*

"God" Is NOT a Pagan Name

Some "Hebrew Name" sects contend that it is a sin to use the word "God"! They reason that because the word God was used by our ancestors to refer to their idols, it is improper to use it to refer to the Creator. But notice what the Bible reveals about this very question in Romans 1:21: "When they [the Gentile nations] knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things." And notice Verse 28, ". . . they did not like to retain God in their knowledge."

The nations once knew God, but they changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into images—idols! They attached the name of their Creator to their idols.

Notice the astounding proof of this in the Old Testament!

In the inspired Hebrew of the Old Testament the Hebrew word *ELOHIM*—which means "the God Kingdom," or "the God Family"—is used 240 times to refer to PAGAN, HEATHEN "gods"! In two places this word is also translated "goddess" in the Old Testament. Again, the Hebrew word *EL* is once translated "idol" and 15 times translated "god"—and refers to the heathen gods. The Hebrew word *Eloah*

is five times used in the Old Testament to refer to heathen "gods." In 16 different places Ezra and Nehemiah were inspired to use the Aramaic word *ELAH* to refer to the heathen "gods" of the Aramaic-speaking people!

Thus, if it is a sin to use the English word "God" to refer to the Creator—merely because our pagan ancestors used it to refer to their idols—then it is also a sin to use the Hebrew words *Elohim*, *Eloah*, *El* or the Aramaic *Elas* to refer to the Creator because these words were also used by our pagan ancestors to refer to their pagan idols in Old Testament times!

Since God did inspire His Prophets in the Old Testament to use the very words also describing pagan idols for His Name, then it is right and proper for us to use the English word "God" today when referring to the Creator!

Now let us notice how God inspired the Apostles to write His name in the inspired Greek New Testament.

The Name in the New Testament

The words of your Saviour are given to us in the New Testament. Before He ascended to heaven, He promised His disciples, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matt. 24:35).

Heaven and earth have not passed away! Neither have the words of the Savior! They are found inspired in the New Testament today! How were the names of Deity rendered in the New Testament for the Greek-speaking converts? Notice!

Paul was sent to the Gentiles—particularly the Greek-speaking Gentiles. His ministry covered the whole Greek-speaking world. The Greeks did not know Hebrew or Aramaic. Since they knew Greek, Paul spoke to them as a Greek! (I Cor. 9:20-22).

How did Paul explain to those Greek converts who the Father and who the Son were? What names did he use for the Greeks when referring to the Creator?

The answer is—he used the Greek words for "God," "Lord," "Christ," the "Word," and "Jesus." God inspired him to translate the Hebrew word *El*, meaning "God," into the Greek word

Theos. God inspired Paul in the New Testament to translate the Hebrew word YHWH into the Greek word *Kyrios*, meaning "Lord."

In 665 different places in the New Testament the Apostles were inspired to translate the Hebrew word YHWH into the Greek word *Kyrios*, meaning the eternal "Lord." And 1,345 times the Apostles were inspired to translate the Hebrew word for God into the Greek word *Theos*—which means "God" in the Greek language! These two Greek words—*Kyrios* and *Theos*—meaning "Lord" or "God" in Greek, are found hundreds of times in the Gospels, in the very words of Jesus Himself! And Jesus said His words would not pass away—Matthew 24:35. Either these are the inspired words of Jesus, or He lied—and if He lied, you have no Saviour! He did not lie. These are His words. He inspired His Apostles to translate the names of God from the Hebrew into the Greek when writing to the Greek converts; and He has seen to it that not one word has perished or been lost!

There is not one New Testament manuscript with the names of God written in Hebrew! There is not one New Testament manuscript which supports the idea that the Apostles used Hebrew names for God when speaking to the Greek people.

New Testament Inspired in Greek

Some sects are unwilling to admit what the inspired New Testament plainly says! They falsely claim that the New Testament was not written originally in Greek. They assume that the Jewish Christians could not understand Greek. They would have us believe that Paul wrote to the Greek converts in Greece, and Asia Minor, and Rome in Aramaic instead of Greek! This is not true!

Greek was the one universal language which united the common people in the Roman Empire in New Testament times. The Jewish historian Josephus himself testified to Greek as the language which the Jews everywhere understood in New Testament days! Not only did the Jews who lived in the Greek world speak Greek, but even the Jews who lived in Palestine, he declares,

were well acquainted with Greek! Greek-speaking Jews were so prevalent in Palestine that synagogues for them had to be built (Acts 6:9). Jewish law for Palestine permitted that the Scripture "may be read in a foreign tongue to them that speak a foreign tongue" (Megillah 2 § 1). And it was further permitted "that the Books [of the Bible] may be written in any language," but that at the time of Christ the books were "only permitted to be written in Greek" (Megillah 1 § 8). (From *The Mishnah*, by Herbert Danby, Oxford University Press.)

Though the native-born Jews in Palestine in the days of the Apostles generally used Aramaic as their common language, yet Greek was the next in importance even to them.

Josephus tells us why the Greek language, after Aramaic, was so common with the Jews in Palestine:

"I have also taken a great deal of pains to obtain the learning of the Greeks, and understand the elements of the Greek language, although I have so long accustomed myself to speak our own tongue, that I cannot pronounce Greek with such an exactness"—Josephus spoke Greek with an Aramaic accent—"for our nation does not encourage those who learn the languages of other nations, and so adorn their discourses with the smoothness of their periods; because they look upon this sort of accomplishment [learning Greek!] AS COMMON, not only to all sorts of freemen, but to as many of the servants as pleased to learn them. But they give him the testimony of being a wise man who is fully acquainted with our laws, [which was rare among the Jews!] and is able to interpret their meaning" (*Antiquities of the Jews*, Book xx, chapter xi, Section 2).

Notice that it was the rare Jewish scholar who learned Hebrew. It was common for the people—freeman and even servants—to learn Greek! It was more difficult to learn the Hebrew!

Now let us notice the testimony of history as to the language in which the books of the New Testament were inspired. From the Church History of Eusebius, Book vi, chapter 14, we read: ". . . the epistle to the Hebrews is the

work of Paul, and . . . it was written to the Hebrews in the Hebrew language; but . . . Luke TRANSLATED it carefully and published it for the Greeks, and hence the same style of expression is found in this epistle and in the Acts."

Notice that to the Jews Paul "became a Jew." In order to gain the audience of the Jews, after being made a prisoner in A.D. 56, Paul spoke "in the Hebrew tongue" (Acts 21:40). Continuing with Acts 22:2: "And when they heard that he spoke in the Hebrew tongue to them, THEY KEPT THE MORE SILENCE." Hebrew, in the days of the Apostles, had become a language difficult to understand because Aramaic was the common tongue of the people and Greek was next most often spoken, followed by Hebrew.

So history tells us that, in order to influence the religiously sensitive Jews, Paul wrote his "Epistle to the Hebrews" in the Hebrew language. But notice, the letter to the Hebrews was inspired to be translated by Luke and published for the Greeks in the Greek language. It is Luke's inspired translation which God intended to be preserved for us.

Notice what the church historian Eusebius, in chapter 25 of book vi, tells us about the first gospel: "Among the four gospels, which are the only disputable ones in the Church of God under heaven," he wrote, "the first was published by Matthew, who was once a publican, but afterwards an apostle of Jesus Christ, and it was prepared for the converts from Judaism, and published in the Hebrew language." Jerome tells us, in his "Lives of Illustrious Men" chapter 3, that Matthew's gospel was translated into the Greek language for the whole Church. It is Matthew's inspired Greek gospel which God has preserved.

Proof That Aramaic Is Not Original

These two are the ONLY books of the New Testament which were ever asserted to have been written in Hebrew or Aramaic!

The Aramaic version of the Bible which we have today is admittedly a translation from the Greek despite what Dr. Lamsa falsely claims.

Open your Bibles to Mark 15:34. The English rendering of this verse reads: "And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, 'Eloï, Eloï, lama sabachthani?' which is, being interpreted, 'My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?'"

Notice this! The last half of Verse 34 proves that Mark was writing his gospel account, including these final words of Christ, in a language different from the one in which Jesus spoke! Jesus' own words are quoted from the Aramaic, but translated into Greek.

Now consider the Aramaic Version. If Aramaic were the original language of the New Testament, there would be no reason to insert in the Aramaic Version the words "which is, being interpreted, 'My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?'" because every Aramean would have understood Jesus' words without translation. Yet the Aramaic New Testament repeats the exact Greek original word-for-word! This proves Aramaic NOT to have been the original language of the New Testament, but merely a translation from the Greek.

There are at least a dozen places in the New Testament where Aramaic words are quoted and are translated into the Greek for the Greek-speaking people—and in most cases the Aramaic New Testament retranslates the original Greek word-for-word!

Another example is John 1: 41: "He [Andrew] first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ." The word *Messias* is a Greek spelling of the Hebrew word *Messiah*, which means "the Anointed." But the Greek-speaking people were not generally acquainted with the meaning of the word *Messias*; hence John translates it for them into the Greek word *Christos* which means "the Anointed One."

Some sects today claim that we should use only the word "MESSIAH" and never the word "CHRIST." Their assumption is that the word "Christ" comes from the name of the Hindu god Krishna! "Christ" does not come from the name of the Hindu god Krishna! *Christos* is a common Greek word which means "to anoint."

The New Testament was inspired to read that Jesus is "the Christ." Even the enemies of the early true Church called the disciples "Christians" (Acts 11:26).

The disciples would not have been called "Christians" in the city of Antioch if they had not been followers of Christ! They would have been called the "Messians"! Now turn to I Peter 4:14: "If ye be reproached for the name of Christ [*Christos* in Greek], happy are ye." The Scripture does not use some unknown Hebrew name; it uses the "name of Christ." And now Verse 16—"Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God on this behalf." The disciples in the New Testament Church could not have suffered as "Christians" unless they were the followers of Christ!

False Churches Use True Name

Notice Jesus' startling prophecy in Matthew 24:4-5: "And Jesus answered and said unto them, take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name [using His Name], saying I am Christ, and shall deceive many." In whose name are the many coming? Are they coming in some "Hebrew names"? No! They are coming in the name of "Christ"—in the name of "Jesus." And Jesus said these would be using HIS NAME.

Now turn to Acts 4:10. What is the only name given among men whereby we may be saved? "Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of JESUS CHRIST of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by Him doth this man stand here before you whole"—the man who had just been healed. Verse 12: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

Notice! According to the inspired Greek New Testament, there is no other name given among men whereby we must be saved than the name of Jesus Christ!

The English word "Jesus" is an anglicized spelling of the Greek word *Iesous*. The Greek word for "Jesus" is but the common Greek name used to

translate the Hebrew name Joshua. The meaning of the Hebrew word for "Joshua" is "the Eternal is the Saviour." Over 910 places in the New Testament God inspired the New Testament writers to use the Greek word *Iesous* as the personal name of Christ, the Messiah! EITHER YOU WILL HAVE TO ACCEPT THE NAME OF JESUS AS YOUR SAVIOUR—or you will have to throw away the entire New Testament!

But—reason these "Hebrew Name" sects—doesn't the Greek word "Jesus" come from the pagan Greek god *Zeus*? This is absolutely untrue! In fact, the Greek word *Zeus* and the Roman word *Jove* are both ultimately derived from the Hebrew *YHWH*—or *JHVH*. But the Greeks—and other heathen—did not like to retain God in their knowledge. So they took the names of God and attached them to their idols! The ancient Hebrew-speaking people did the same thing by calling their idols *El* or *Elohim*, meaning "God" in Hebrew.

So the name "Jesus" is actually derived from *YHWH*!

Jesus said to any who would deny Him—which means deny His Name—before men, "Him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 10:33). If you deny the name Jesus, He will deny your name before the Father in the Judgment!

What Is the Father's "Family Name"?

Notice Psalm 83:18: ". . . that men may know that Thou, whose name alone is *YHWH*, art the Most High over all the earth." This verse does NOT say, as some assume, that the Creator has only one name—it plainly declares that the *Creating Family* alone of all whom men worship is *YHWH* or eternal.

But did you know that the Father in Heaven has also a Family Name?

In Ephesians 3:14-15 we read: "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is NAMED." Jesus Christ is the Father's Son. Every son bears his father's last name.

Jesus said in John 5:43, "I am come in my Father's name, and ye received me not." What was Jesus' last name?

Notice the surprising answer in John 10:36: ". . . say [ye] of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, thou blasphemeth; because I said, I am the SON OF GOD?" Jesus claimed to be "GOD'S Son." We, too, may be called GOD'S Sons (I John 3:1). The Supreme, Divine, All-ruling Family is the GOD Family! It is the Family or Kingdom OF GOD! Jesus' Gospel—His entire Message—was about the Kingdom or Family of *God* and how you may be born into it! His whole Message was about the DIVINE NAME—"GOD"!

Just before Jesus was crucified, He prayed that His Church would be kept "in the Father's Name." Notice John 17:11-12, "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through Thine own Name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy Name."

What is the Father's NAME in which the New Testament Church is to be kept? The name of "God"! In 12 passages in the New Testament, the name of the church is called "The Church of God." Paul wrote, "unto the Church of *God*, which is at Corinth" (I Cor. 1:2). Paul wrote to the Gentile Thessalonian converts: "For ye, brethren, became followers of the Churches of *God* which in Judea are in Christ Jesus" (I Thess. 2:14).

Either your entire New Testament is a fraud and must be rejected or the true name of the true Church is "the Church of *God*!" "God" is the "Family Name" of the Divine Creative Kingdom.

The Hebrew name *YHWH*—the Greek *Kyrios*, the "Eternal" or "Lord" in English—is but one of God the Father's numerous given personal names. It is also one of the personal names of the Son, because both are eternal. But the whole message of Jesus Christ, the Gospel, was the message about the Family NAME—the "GOD" Family. Jesus Christ came in the name of God, His Father. He called Himself the "Son of God" numerous times.

Read John 9:35, "Dost thou believe on the Son of God?"

See also Matthew 16:16-17 and especially Mark 1:1, "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God"! Jesus came bearing His Father's name "God's Son"—the "Son of God."

Jesus' whole message—which He spoke "in the name of the Lord"—or "by His authority"—was to explain that the name "God"—the Hebrew *Elohim*—is a family NAME! His Gospel, or good news, is the message that we may also bear the name God—that we may be called the sons of God and be "born again."

Notice that even the Church today bears the Father's Name—God. The Church today—before which Jesus Christ is opening the doors of radio and the printing press to preach His Gospel, His message, to all the world—this Church has "kept my name," said Jesus, and has "not denied my name" (Rev. 3:8). God's Church today is called the *Church of God*.

Jesus Called the "Word"

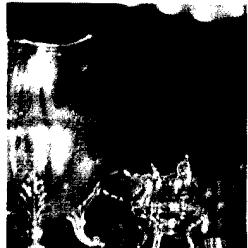
The true Church is even promised to have forever the name of God (verse 12) and Jesus' "new name." Jesus' new name is again mentioned in Revelation 19:12. "His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His NAME is called The WORD of God." Jesus not only is going to receive a new name, but He even now—and from the beginning—is called "the Word of God." And, in verse 16, He has "on His thigh a name written, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords" (verse 16).

In Amos 4:13 and 5:27 another one of the names of the Divine Family is "the God of Hosts." Jeremiah 46:18 and 48:15 call Him "the Lord of Hosts." Another of His names is "Zealous" in Exodus 34:14.

Yes, "God" is the Father's Family Name! And "Jesus" is the name of His Son! But they both have many other names! It is time we called on GOD for His mercy in the name of Jesus Christ! It is time we believe the Bible—and come to recognize that God IS God!

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