

The Good News

International Magazine of The Church of God



Letters to the Editor

New GOOD NEWS Appreciated

"I just want to say 'thank you' for the new GOOD NEWS. It is beautiful. I waited anxiously for the February issue of The GOOD NEWS because I knew there would be news of the Ministerial Conference and pictures of the ministers and their wives, but I really got more than I expected.

Woman, Michigan

Skeptic Admits Error

"I must admit, my reason for sending for your literature was because I believed you were a false prophet and I wanted to prove to my husband that you were, before he ruined our children with those queer ideas. You can imagine my surprise when I was the one proven wrong. I'm so glad I was wrong because the truth is so much more wonderful than what the churches of this world teach."

Woman, North Carolina

• *Being glad to have been proven wrong is a fine and rare attitude. Now you can begin being thankful to be right!*

Recognizes False Prophets

"Our minister came up to the house one night asking why we hadn't been at church for some time. When we told him that we were listening to The WORLD TOMORROW and reading The PLAIN TRUTH, he seemed quite hostile to the whole thing and advised us not to listen any more as he thought Mr. Armstrong was a false prophet. We then told him that everything Mr. Armstrong preached about was to be found in the Bible. Anyway, we don't go to church any more as we think the

churches we've been to here are the ones having the false prophets."

Man, Canada

• *"If they speak not according to this word . . ."*

Sabbath Problem Absolved

"My ten-year-old daughter takes piano lessons. The recital was being planned for a Friday night between 7:30 and 9:00 for thirty pupils. I explained very graciously but firmly that Cindy could not participate as we observe our Sabbath from sunset Friday to sunset Saturday. The outcome—the recital is to be changed from Friday to either Tuesday or Thursday night. In fact, her teacher said she was proud of people for standing up for their beliefs."

Woman, Oklahoma

• *This is another example proving God's ability to change circumstances for us if we're willing to obey Him.*

God Works Another Miracle

"Me and my four children were able to go to Texas to the Feast of Tabernacles last year. I am still bubbling over with the joy of it all. I could never have done it without God's help. I still marvel at how He works out the impossible. I was baby-sitting and was able to save enough, with the help of two very fine people in the Church who took us down there. No one can possibly know how that strengthened me, and how wonderfully my husband changed since I returned home. Trouble and trials still come but I have a wonderful life."

Woman, Missouri

The Story Behind Our Cover . . .

This magnificent crest is the new OFFICIAL SEAL of Ambassador Colleges. For years, the colleges utilized the coat of arms of King Edward I, of whom Mr. Armstrong is a direct descendant. Upon returning from England last year, and seeing the fine workmanship the Scandinavian Arts Metals Company of Pasadena had done on a decorative wall crest for the offices of Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong, Mr. Herbert Armstrong felt they should be selected to produce the new college seal.

Picturing the *millennium*, with a scene of a little child standing between a huge lion and a little lamb, the scroll reads, "The lion shall dwell with the lamb, and a little child shall lead them,

in the world tomorrow!" (Isaiah 11:6). This is the *sense* of Isaiah's prophecy, since printing the entire verse would have made the scroll out of proportion.

Fully three and one half feet in diameter, the new seal is a rich blend of hand-beaten copper and bronze. *Three* such seals were made, with the other two identical, except for the words, "United Kingdom" or "Big Sandy" instead of Pasadena.

The seal pictured here now hangs on a wall of Mr. Armstrong's new office atop the library building on the Pasadena Campus; and the English seal will hang on a wall in stately Memorial Hall, at Bricket Wood.

The Good News

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THE CHURCH OF GOD
*ministering to its members
scattered abroad*

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BE SURE TO NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY of any
change in your address. Please inclose both old
and new address. IMPORTANT!

How IMPORTANT Is Women's Hair?

WHAT ABOUT hair, sleeves, skirt lengths, necklines and jewelry? What about men's neckties, cuff links, and monogrammed wallets? WHAT ABOUT curlers, permanents, fingernail clippers, and wedding rings? What about white bread, white sugar, and what about beer during the Days of Unleavened Bread? Do YOU KNOW the TRUTH about the way GOD looks at these things?

by Garner Ted Armstrong

CAN a BALD woman inherit God's Kingdom? Would Jesus Christ LUST, even in a NUDIST COLONY? Is it a SIN for a man to shave? Is there anything *immoral* about women's ELBOWS?

Brethren, WHAT ABOUT some of these questions? Don't *some* of them appear just a little *ridiculous*?

They surely do! And yet—many of YOU would not be really SURE about them! But you *need* to be sure. You need to come to KNOW the truth about customs, habits, practices of everyday living—and their *true perspective* in the light of God's Word!

Was Christ a "Hairsplitter"?

Just what kind of a person WAS Jesus Christ? Was He a "liberal," a "conservative," a "modernist," a "fundamentalist," or a "hairsplitter"? Emphatically, no! Members of God's Church know the real Jesus Christ of Nazareth was not, and *is not now*, ANY of these things!

It is impossible to "categorize" Christ!

But human beings insist on trying. Many "religions" of this world are merely rigorous systems of abstinence from this or that, abhorrence of this or that, and a complete system of minor, technical, petty PHYSICAL THINGS concerning a person's daily life.

Almighty God never gave such a religion!

To most professing Christians—*especially* those whose particular brand of religion is even more *devout* or *fervent* in nature—their religion is a completely private, personal, *selfish* religion! They "receive" Christ! They "take Him for their Saviour"!

This *false* kind of religion involves *getting, taking, appropriating!* It turns the professing Christian *inward!* His religion becomes a private, tiny, selfish,

PERSONAL thing—not as Jesus Christ intended it to be personal—but something that is personally of his own manufacture! His righteousness is *his own!* SELF-righteousness!

Many of you brethren of the true Church of God have had such religious backgrounds! You have come from certain environments, or religious influences which have led you to accept certain concepts concerning *just what constitutes* a true Christian!

Too many professing Christians of this world have made their religion almost EXACTLY what Jesus said the Pharisees had done during His day. "For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders" (Matt. 23:4).

The *self-righteous* Pharisees had a *very intricate* system of tiny, picayunish, technical points of "do's" and "don'ts" in which they judiciously instructed their followers. For example—to them it became a SIN to kill a flea on the SABBATH Day *unless* IT BIT YOU FIRST!

Yes—*laughable* today! But think of it, brethren. A whole CHURCH was divided here in the United States over whether or whether *not* to have a PIANO in the Church! Can you imagine it? Human beings so totally swept away with the exaggerated emphasis on the minor things of this PHYSICAL life that sober-faced men actually sat around conference tables, and VOTED over whether to DIVIDE A CHURCH because of musical instruments!

But God's TRUE Church is not divided! (Eph. 4:4). It will NEVER be divided, not over musical instruments, nor over the hair length of women, nor short-sleeved dresses, nor men's neckties!

No—Jesus Christ was not a radical, nor a hairsplitter! Rather, He was the

Son of God—the most completely and totally BALANCED human being Who ever lived in the flesh—He was absolutely PERFECT!

The WAY to Unity!

There is a definite *way* Almighty God has provided for keeping UNITY in His true Church! It is the way of the government of God—*God's own government!*

It is NOT the government of man, but the government BY and FROM God, THROUGH His human instruments!

Years ago, some of the women in God's Church became disgruntled. They saw how other women were still wearing make-up! To them it became a SIN to wear make-up! They felt *more righteous* than those wearing it, and feelings were aroused.

God's ministers, in order to maintain UNITY in the true Church of God, had to search into God's Word to find *what Jesus Christ* had decided in the matter! HOW that was done, and the exact decision *Jesus Christ made*, is available in reprint articles.

God's GOVERNMENT had to step in, and *settle* the matter. The *decision* Christ rendered became a "THUS SAITH THE LORD" and is *absolutely binding* on God's true Church (Matt. 16:19).

Whenever the ministers of God's true Church perceive differences of "opinion"—the way one member "looks at" a thing, as compared to the way another member "looks at" it—then it becomes the duty of the ministry to RULE concerning the problem!

This is the WAY Jesus Christ maintains UNITY within His true Church!

Many Differences of Opinion

During the recent Days of Unleavened Bread, when Mr. Portune and I were conducting services in the big

Tabernacle building near Big Sandy, we conducted a special Bible study. During that Bible study, we noticed MANY questions from you brethren in scattered areas who do not have a local church to attend which were just such questions as those asked at the beginning of this article. I promised those of you attending those services that I would put some of these things concerning women's hair lengths, permanents, and other physical questions *into an article* in The GOOD NEWS.

But for ALL of God's Church—scattered around the entirety of this earth—we need to come to UNDERSTAND the great PRINCIPLES covering all these minor things!

AND THEY ARE SMALLER POINTS! Let's get back to the TRUNK of the tree, brethren. Let's understand the really BASIC principles necessary for salvation.

The Trunk of the Tree

GOD EXISTS!

Almighty God is the Creator, and the Ruler of His creation. He is working out a GREAT PLAN here below! That plan is the actual RE-CREATION of Himself!

Almighty God has created the human family for the express purpose of developing in us His righteous, holy, spiritual CHARACTER! He wants to make us HIS CHILDREN—co-RULERS with Him!

He reveals in His Word that He calls only the weak, *uneducated* of the world (I Cor. 1:26). He calls these weak few out of this world (I John 2:15; Rev. 18:4) bringing us to the knowledge that we have deeply SINNED before Him (Rom. 3:23), and have *broken* His laws (I John 3:4).

Once a human being really REPENTS and "comes to himself" as Almighty God *commanded* (Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 2:38; 3:19), then he is to totally *quit living* in SIN—to be completely CHANGED (Rom. 12:1, 2).

Then, this newly begotten creature is to GROW in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ (II Pet. 3:18) into a spiritually MATURE, *balanced* individual (Eph. 4:13). Finally, after living through trials and errors, through years of *experience*, and after having *grown spiritually* (Acts 14:22), the converted Christian is to be BORN of God (John 3:5), by a RESURRECTION (I Cor. 15:20) or else by being changed *instantaneously* from flesh to spirit (I Cor. 15:51, 52) at the second coming of Christ.

Brethren, *that's just it!* God is training RULERS, *kings* and *priests*—not

manicurists, hair stylists, clothiers and tailors, or minor, petty officials to have charge over the issuing of jewelry and the milling of flour!

What is our life? Our life is a span of TIME, a very fleeting, *short* span—according to the Apostle James (Jas. 4:14). During that short life span, we are to grow in *godly character*—to grow more and more BALANCED, more truly PURE in heart, more and more LIKE GOD! "Be ye therefore PERFECT, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect!" said Jesus Christ (Matt. 5:48).

What *real place* in this short physical life of ours DO these customs, habits, methods of dress, practices—these smaller, PHYSICAL things have? Just HOW IMPORTANT are they—after all?

WHAT Is Really Important!

Brethren—a great spiritual principle *you should never forget* is: It is not the THING that is important, but the ATTITUDE TOWARD it!

The *attitude* of one person actually JUDGING another, CONDEMNING the practices of another human being, perhaps a brother in God's own Church, is FAR more serious than the minor point which seemed to justify the condemnation!

Let's notice the inspired examples given in the Word of God. The Apostle Paul was inspired to write, "For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that COMMEND THEMSELVES: but they measuring themselves BY THEMSELVES, and comparing themselves *among themselves*, are not wise!" (II Cor. 10:12).

Jesus Christ commanded, "CONDEMN NOT (margin) that ye be not CONDEMNED!" (Matt. 7:1).

What is *your own attitude* if you see a newcomer to the faith with make-up on? What do you think, and *feel* inside when you observe a woman with a dress that is too tight? When you see a low neckline, or short hair, or a man drinking a can of beer—WHAT GOES ON IN YOUR OWN MIND AND HEART??

Brethren—DO YOU REALIZE EVEN IF THE PERSON ACTUALLY IS COMMITTING A SIN (which in MOST cases he probably isn't) that YOU HAVE NO EXCUSE TO CONDEMN HIM??

Search your own hearts! When you ask a question about hair lengths—is it to find out what YOU should be doing—or did you ask the question because you don't like the length of hair ANOTHER person is wearing?

When you ask a question about a man's necktie, is it because you are a *man*, and sincerely *want to know*—or is it because you are a *woman*, and you're disgruntled at realizing make-up is a sin?

When you ask about women's dress lengths, sleeve lengths and styles, is it so YOU may have the spiritual counsel you need—or so YOU CAN CONDEMN a sister who, according to YOUR standards, is wearing the wrong thing?

Brethren—let's get these BIG things cleared up FIRST! Let's be of *right hearts* and clean attitudes FIRST—and THEN we can go on to understand the smaller things!

Paul wrote, "Charity . . . seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, *thinketh no evil*; REJOICETH NOT IN INIQUITY, but rejoiceth in the truth!" (I Cor. 13:4-6).

Is Style and Custom Important at All?

"Well, then—" some might say, "should we just pay no attention to clothing, hair, style, and custom AT ALL—and just each one make up his *own mind*?"

NOT AT ALL! These things, when understood in the *proper spiritual* perspective, ARE important! But remember they will ALL perish in just a few more years! You won't be worried about these MINOR points when you are a SPIRIT BEING!

The Apostle Paul said, "Him that is WEAK in the faith receive ye, but not to doubtful disputations!" (Romans 14:1).

Some in God's Church are WEAK, brethren. They simply do not know as yet where they really stand concerning some of these minor customs and habits. They want to know—and they *need* to know!

The Apostle Paul then went on to explain how some during *that* time were arguing over which day ought to be best for *fasting*, or for *partial* fasts—and that each member could be "fully persuaded" in his own mind concerning the day he decided to fast!

He said, "But why dost thou JUDGE thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall ALL stand before the judgment seat of Christ" (Rom. 14:10).

Paul said JUDGING (condemning) was the important thing—DON'T DO it!

Then, in explaining how some had come to believe they should NOT EAT MEAT if it had been used in a pagan idolatrous ceremony, Paul was inspired

(Please continue on page 14)

Baptizing Tours Outlined-- New Churches Established!

Here is more news of GROWTH in the Body of Christ. And here is an "introduction" to servants of God who may soon be serving YOU.

by Roderick C. Meredith

“AND THE WORD of God increased; and the number of disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly. . . .” (Acts 6:7).

The above scripture shows what happened when newly ordained deacons were put into service in the early Church of God. In God's Work *this coming summer*—with nation-wide baptizing tours going out and new ministers and ministerial assistants being sent to churches—once again, the Word of God should certainly INCREASE in its effect on the lives of hundreds of new individuals brought into God's Church through His Spirit and power. For summertime seems to be “harvest season” for God's ministers and servants!

New Churches and Bible Studies To Be Established

Plans are already underway for a new church to begin soon in Grand Rapids, Michigan! This new church should start out with around 150 in attendance from the very first, and will be pastored by Mr. Les McColm—who is already ministering to many of these brethren as they drive down to our South Bend Church when possible. Mr. Blackwell, Area Superintendent, and Mr. McColm both report tremendous *potential* in this area—so the Grand Rapids Church should be the beginning of something BIG in future years.

The weekly Bible study which Mr. Raymond Cole recently established in Boise, Idaho, is now to be converted into a *full-fledged church* with regular Sabbath services! For the time being, Mr. Dale Hampton—pastor of the Portland and Salem Churches—will fly over to Boise most of the time and will be relieved in each of the three churches occasionally by Mr. Carl O'Beirn, recently ordained Local Elder. Although it is not a large city, Boise is a promising area for God's Work and we are blessed by being on the finest radio station available in that city.

In the Southeast, Mr. Arthur Craig plans to move the Opp, Alabama Church over to Mobile and this move promises even *larger attendance* and more *potential growth* in the future. We now hope that the Southern Alabama Church has at last found a permanent home!

Perhaps as the nucleus of future churches, three new Bible studies are being planned! Mr. Bryce Clark plans a monthly study to begin soon in Omaha, Nebraska. Mr. Burk McNair plans to begin a new study soon in Rapid City, South Dakota. And Mr. Roger Foster, pastor of the Wichita and Liberal Churches, plans to hold a monthly study in Amarillo, Texas, for the brethren in the “panhandle,” many of whom often drive up to attend Liberal when possible.

And now, word comes from South Africa that Mr. Gerald Waterhouse has begun holding *full Sabbath services* for the brethren in the Johannesburg area! This is certainly a BLESSING for them, and adds another Church of God in a far-flung overseas area.

So in the *seven* new areas we have just mentioned, real GROWTH lies ahead!

New Ministers To Reap the Harvest

Plans are now finalized to send Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mocarow and their family back to take over the Toledo, Ohio Church of God and—*very soon we hope*—to raise up another additional *new church* in Detroit, Michigan! This will certainly be a relief for Mr. Bill McDowell, who is already under-staffed and overworked in his area. And it will be a wonderful thing for the Toledo brethren to have a local minister able to spend time in their area and help with their problems.

Mr. Mocarow came to Ambassador as a thoroughly established church member of some years' standing already, and was bringing sermonettes

and doing some visiting in the Chicago area even before entering college. He is an *able* and *mature* family man. Before coming to Ambassador, he was outstandingly successful as an insurance sales supervisor—training other men for the insurance business. Now he and his wife have dedicated their talents and abilities to GOD'S Work and the brethren in the Toledo-Detroit area can feel *blessed indeed* that Mr. Mocarow is being sent to their area.

After graduation, Mr. John Portune and his family will be going to the Oakland-Sacramento church area in Central California. Mr. Portune will become acting pastor of these churches and will be assisted by Mr. Dennis Luker as associate pastor.

Mr. John Portune is the brother of Mr. Albert J. Portune—now one of God's Evangelists and Business Manager of the entire Work of God here at Headquarters. In many ways, he seems to be following in his older brother's footsteps and is a very able and dedicated servant of God—already well-acquainted with and loved by the Oakland-Sacramento brethren because of his work in those areas last summer and during the Spring Festival.

Mr. and by then Mrs. Dennis Luker

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mocarow





Mr. and Mrs. John Portune

will be able and effective assistants in this area as they are already top servants in God's Work here at Ambassador. Mr. Luker is Senior Class President and one of the Campus leaders. He had the privilege of going on a full baptizing tour last summer under the guidance of Mr. Carn Catherwood. The future Mrs. Luker is one of Ambassador's top coeds and is now the private secretary of Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong.

Other Ministerial Assistants

Other ministerial assignments include Mr. Gary Antion traveling to New York after graduation from Ambassador College in England. Mr. Gary Antion will be married by then to the present Miss Barbara Ochs—daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ochs of the Milwaukee Church, and sister of the present Mrs. Carl McNair, wife of our pastor over the churches in Memphis and Little Rock. Mr. Antion has already proved himself a most *zealous* servant of Christ by his able assistance to Mr. Hal Baird in the St. Louis-Bloomington areas last year.

Also from England, Mr. Gary Arvidson will be returning to the States—also perhaps married—to assist Mr. David Antion in the churches in Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Mr. Arvidson is one of the student leaders at Ambassador College in England, and one of the leaders on the Visiting Program in the London area.

After graduation from Pasadena, Mr. Roy Holladay and his wife-to-be—the present Miss Norma Cowan—daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Cowan of the Memphis Church—will journey to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to assist Mr. Bill McDowell. Mr. Holladay went on a full summer's baptizing tour last summer conducted by Mr. Hal Baird, and is one of the leaders in God's Work

here in Ambassador College this year.

Another permanent assignment is being given Mr. Virgil Cox who is also graduating from Ambassador this spring. Mr. Cox will be sent to Birmingham, Alabama to assist Mr. Arthur Craig in the Birmingham and Mobile and Atlanta areas.

Mr. Jack Pyle, who is graduating from Bricket Wood this June, will go to Indianapolis, Indiana to assist Mr. Carn Catherwood in that burgeoning area. Mr. Pyle is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Norvell Pyle of Gladewater, Texas.

In addition to these *permanent* assignments, summer assignments are being given to Mr. George Kemnitz who will go to Kansas City to assist Mr. Bryce Clark; to Mr. Paul Zapf who will travel to South Bend to assist Mr. Les McCole in that area; and to Mr. Fred Kellers, who will go to Portland to assist Mr. Dale Hampton there during the summer.

In addition to these assignments here in the United States, Mr. Ernest Williams—soon to graduate here at Ambassador in Pasadena—has been assigned to go to Johannesburg, South Africa, to assist Mr. Gerald Waterhouse in the church and office responsibilities there. Since Mr. Williams is a native South African, this will be a real help in many ways to enable us to become firmly *established* in South Africa where we have had some difficulties at times because of local immigration and visa requirements.

In thinking over these assignments, brethren, let us both REJOICE and PRAY earnestly that God will bless and guide in all these circumstances and use these men powerfully to feed His flock in the most effective manner!

Four Full Baptismal Tours To Cover the United States

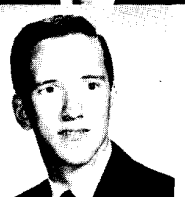
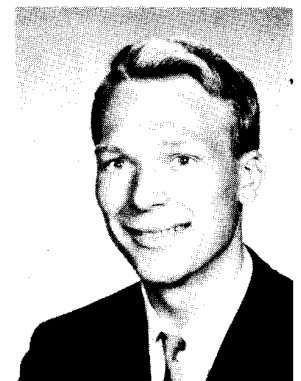
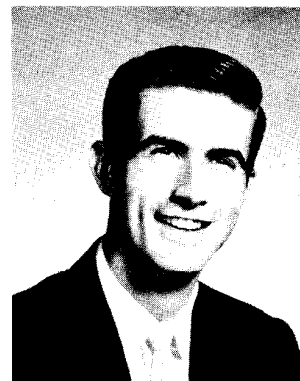
In spite of the increase in the number of local churches and the areas which they cover, we have had *so many hundreds* of baptismal requests this year we are planning to send out FOUR full summer baptizing tours this year. These men will travel from coast to coast, and from Mexico up into Canada—counseling with and baptizing those who have personally requested it. They will drive long hard hours, lose sleep, and have to skimp on meals quite often to keep up a tight schedule. Your PRAYERS are needed for their guidance and safety!

Tour No. 1 will be conducted by Mr. Frank McCrady—present pastor over the churches in Oakland and Sacramento—with Mr. Paul Flatt, assisting, from Ambassador College. Mr. Flatt is one of our most able and dedicated junior students, and he and Mr. McCrady will make a fine team in visiting with and helping the people whom God is calling.

Tour No. 2 will be led by Mr. Sherwin McMichael—presently assisting Mr. McCrady in the Oakland-Sacramento area—and he will be joined by Mr. Roy Page, one of our transfer students from Ambassador College in England. Mr. McMichael was president of the Ambassador College student body last year, and has already been on a full summer's tour assisting Mr. Frank McCrady. With his experience in the field and wisdom, and with the loving, joyous, *sparkling personality* of Mr. Roy Page, they should make a wonderful team to help God's people.

Tour No. 3 will be led by Mr. Dave (Please continue on page 13)

TOUR ONE (left), with Messrs. McCrady and Flatt, is planned for the Southeast states. **TOUR TWO** (center), with Messrs. McMichael and Page, is scheduled to cover the populous Northeast. **TOUR THREE** (right), with Messrs. Albert and Sharp, will cover the Northwest. Remember each tour in your prayers!



"CHURCH FATHERS"-- *Catholic and Protestant--* CONDEMN ALL WARFARE!

Consistent quotes from historic records prove irrevocably that even early Catholic doctrine forbade bloodshed. This doctrine was still preached and practiced as late as the fourth century. Read this startling proof from the pens of professing Christians' own authorities!

by L. Leroy Neff

MOST CHURCHES today take for granted the belief that *good Christians should fight* for their country!

Today's Teaching

A leading Roman Catholic priest and former dean of Catholic University, Washington, D.C., summarized this common belief in a speech delivered in Baltimore, Maryland, April 17, 1961. "A soldier may kill in time of war, but for him to kill in the spirit of hatred is not the proper Christian attitude." He further stated that: "Catholics MAY NOT justifiably become *pacifists* or *conscientious objectors*."

A pacifist is a person who believes in establishing or maintaining peace among nations *without* recourse to war. A conscientious objector is a person who *cannot* for the sake of conscience fight for his country.

Is it really *wrong*, as this theologian states, for a Christian to become a pacifist or a conscientious objector? We have seen in the Bible by the *practices* and *teachings* of Christ and the Apostles that it would be **WRONG** to be *anything else!* But, *the churches today teach differently!*

This minister continued: "*War is not intrinsically evil*, according to *Catholic doctrine*, but for a nation to embark on a course of war *certain conditions* must be met."

What Are Conditions for War?

"The first condition," he said, "requires that there be *sufficient REASON* for a country to engage in war."

What reasons justify WAR?

"*The only just war is one of DEFENSE* and there is never sufficient moral reason for *aggression*. Other con-

ditions demand that those who declare war must be *morally certain* they are *right* and that the *results expected* overbalance the *evil caused by the conflict!* Before a nation enters a war it must have exhausted all avenues leading to a possible peaceful solution. A soldier also must comply with a condition—that he *does not bear hatred* for the enemy in his heart. '*No man may take another's life without authorization from GOD,*' Connell said, '*and every government receives its authority from Him.*'"

This church spokesman states that God gives *each country* the *authority* to make war on another country. If so, then God also gives the *same* right to the enemy nation. This *right* is then given to the soldier who goes out to kill the enemy soldier who also has the same "God-given" right to *kill*.

Such *false reasoning* gives men the idea today that *God approves* all the slaughter and killing in modern war. This is representative of the teachings of *most churches today*—as will be *proved* in a later installment.

Did the church *start* this way? Has this always been the teaching of the church? Let's see the *historical record* of what church leaders taught during the first few centuries.

In the last chapter we saw *time after time* how Jesus Christ and the original true Apostles taught *exactly opposite* to the clergyman just quoted. The Apostles practiced the very same things that Christ practiced. The true Church followed *His* personal instructions, and escaped to safety prior to the terrible siege and destruction of A.D. 70.

How Can Man Kill in Love?

Pastor Connell stated that a soldier

must **NOT** *kill in hatred!* How can a soldier **KILL IN LOVE?**

Jesus said: "*Love your enemies*" (Matt. 5:44). To love is to *give* of the self, in service and in devotion to others, *not* to **KILL!**

Killing is not *giving*, it is *taking*. It is not showing love to neighbor. If killing is an expression of love, then the soldier ought to let the enemy *kill him* instead of killing the enemy!

This same minister states that it is **WRONG** to become a *pacifist*, or a *conscientious objector*. *Is it wrong to be PEACEFUL?* (that is what pacifism means). Paul said, "Let us therefore follow after the things which *make for peace*, and things wherewith one may edify another" (Rom. 14:19). This man says that it is wrong to have a *conscience* which will *not* permit you to kill other human beings in *mortal combat*.

These teachings *are NOT* the same as those of Jesus Christ in the Sermon on the Mount, and throughout *your* New Testament!

Pastor Connell states that *defensive* war is permissible. Jesus and the *true* Apostles *did NOT* defend themselves! They *did not* teach **ANYONE**, nor *any* country, to defend itself! Nor did they teach Christians to take vengeance on invaders. They said that we are *not* to take *vengeance*, because *God will take vengeance* for us (Rom. 12:19)!

Is the STATE Licensed to Sin?

God says the natural heart—"the conscience"—will *deceive* us and lead us to eternal death! (Jer. 17:9 and Prov. 14:12; 16:25).

The false teaching of many religious leaders is that nations have been given the *authorization* from God to *wage war*. The nation in turn has *authority*

from God to *force* a citizen to take up arms against a citizen of another country. The citizen may then be *hired to kill* other human beings.

Has Almighty God given nations authority to cause Christians in one country to *slay Christians* in another country?—Christian against Christian, brother against brother, race against race? *This is confusion. It is BABYLON.*

IT IS WRONG!

It did not come from the Bible. It did not come from the teachings of Jesus Christ. *It did not even come from the original leaders of the Catholic Church!*

What has led to this "ABOUT FACE" from the *simple and plain teaching of Christ*. What did happen, when did it happen, and who did it?

The last installment closed with events leading up to and including the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70. But, the Bible was not completely written by that year. Some books were not finished until about the year A.D. 96. In order to continue the *historical account* we must first look in the Bible, to the Scriptures which were written *after* A.D. 70.

History Continues in the Bible

The book of Revelation was inspired by the same Jesus Christ who *personally* gave teachings *against* fighting and killing. It is HIS revelation (Rev. 1:1). It tells us some of the things that *were* taking place then, and those things which were going to happen very quickly.

Did Jesus Christ preach the same message through John in this book as He personally taught His disciples many years earlier?

The things prophesied to "shortly come to pass" begin in chapters two and three. Here is an account of the *seven eras* of God's Church from A.D. 31 to Christ's return. The first period was the Ephesian era. This era was one which would require much *patience* because of the terrible times of deception and trial.

The Smyrna period of God's Church was one of *extreme tribulation*. It was one in which *true Christians* were *imprisoned*, and *many died*. They were exhorted to be *faithful even unto death* (verse 10). Here is an example of where God's people were persecuted to death. *They did not love their lives, even unto death. THEY DID NOT TAKE UP ARMS*—arms were taken up against them—they were *SLAUGHTERED for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ*. They did not believe nor practice participation in war and fighting, *even to save their own lives!*

Christ knew that there would be an increasing number of wars, the climax would come at the close of this age, with *world wars* (Rev. 6:4). These many martyred Christians of all times are symbolically *seen* under the altar (Rev. 6:9).

Conditions in this end time are prophesied to become so bad that God's Church will have to flee into an uninhabited wilderness or desert for 1260 literal days (Rev. 12:13-17).

These scriptures, *inspired* by the living Christ, and written by John, have shown TRUE CHRISTIANS *not to fight* in any of the wars of the past 2000 years!

The *false church system* described in Revelation 17 and 18 is pictured as one which is *drunk on the blood of the saints* (Rev. 17:6). Here is a *false church* which takes advantage of, and *kills* those who OBEY God. For these crimes against God's people, *in the name of religion*, God will bring *terrible judgment and vengeance* on this *counterfeit and deceitful system!* (Rev. 18:20-24).

These scriptures in Revelation are plain in showing that these false "Christians" would take advantage of the *true Christians* in EVERY *possible way*. The real Christians would be like Christ, as *LAMBS led to the slaughter*, and as *sheep* in the midst of *WOLVES*. Not having natural or physical protection, they can rely *only* on God for His help and ultimate escape from evil men who desire to *kill and exterminate* them in any way possible.

The teachings of the book of Revelation are not contrary to the other teachings of Jesus Christ. He did not speak differently in the book of Revelation, 96 A.D., from 65 years earlier when He was in the flesh.

He did not speak differently during this same time *through* the Apostle Jude. Jude exhorted those who were falling away to *get back to the faith ONCE DELIVERED to the saints* (Jude 3). Getting back to the original faith *includes* Christ's teaching about war!

Secular History Shows Changes

When did the "about face" in teaching occur? We have now seen that *it did not occur prior to A.D. 96*. And yet, there was a *great change* shortly after this time. Two historical writers have particularly noted a *remarkable, unmistakable, and definite change*.

"For fifty years after St. Paul's life a curtain hangs over the Church, through which we strive vainly to look; and when at last it rises, about 120 A.D. with the writing of the earliest church fathers, we find a church in

many aspects very different from that in the days of St. Peter and St. Paul" (*The Story of the Christian Church*, Hurlbut, page 41).

This same period is called by some scholars the "*Age of Shadows*." Others have aptly called it the "*Lost Century*."

The famed historian Edward Gibbon also referred to this period in his *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. "The *scanty and suspicious* materials of ecclesiastical history seldom enable us to dispel the *dark cloud* that hangs over the *first age* of the Church" (Chapter XV).

When this cloud over the first age of the Church is removed, what will we find being taught in regard to Christian participation in warfare? Will it be drastically changed as other doctrines were, or will it continue the same as under the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Apostles?

WARFARE Teaching Didn't Change

To find the answer we must examine the writings of the *Catholic Church leaders* of the period.

Justin Martyr is known as one of the first and most important church leaders and writers. He is acknowledged as one of the "*church fathers*" by Catholic and Protestant alike. This famous man lived in the period of 100 to 167 A.D. He has been termed "*one of the ablest men of his time*" (*Halley's Bible Handbook*, page 674). He died a *martyr* at Rome. This church leader left considerable writings which have been preserved. Here is his personal comment about Christians and warfare.

"And we who formerly used to murder do not only *refrain from making war upon our enemies*, but also, that we may not lie nor deceive our examiners, *willingly die* confessing Christ" (from *Apology I*, page 39).

He spoke for those of his religion, who in his day *did not participate in warfare* of any kind. Instead of persecuting those of contrary religious or political belief, *these people WERE the PERSECUTED*. They would NOT take part in war and even in the case of "examination" — *torture* — they would not lie, nor would they even cause *harm* to come to others.

Here is just one source of proof that shows the people who professed Christ in His day were STILL FOLLOWING the teachings about fighting as given by Christ and continued by the Apostles. There is no great change here from the beliefs and practices of the Church of God during the time of the Apostles. The great change in belief regarding participating in war had *not yet come!*

More Proof From History

The second writer of this era whom we wish to examine is *Irenaeus*, who lived from about 130 to 200 A.D. He was a teacher of the Church in the school of Asia Minor. He traveled widely, wrote several books, and later became bishop of Lyons, France. Here are his comments about Christians of his day, taken from the books, *Irenaeus Against Heresies*, Book IV, Chapter XXXIV, section 4:

"These [Christians] did form the swords and war lances into ploughshares, and changed them into pruning-hooks for reaping the corn [that is], into instruments used for peaceful purposes, and that they are now *unaccustomed to fighting*, but when smitten, offer also the other cheek."

Certainly these teachings are *plain and to the point!* They are not at all like the common Protestant and Catholic teachings of today.

Tertullian was another prominent leader who lived about this time. He was one of the two *most noted* men of the famed church school at Carthage in North Africa. As a result *he did much to shape theological thought in Europe*. He is called the "Father of Latin Christianity," and lived from about 160 to 220 A.D. He was very explicit in his teachings and writings on this subject:

"Shall it be held lawful to make an *occupation of the sword* when the Lord proclaims that *he who uses the sword shall perish by the sword?* And shall the *son of peace* take part in the battle when it does not become him to *sue at law?* And shall he apply the *chain*, and the *prison* and the *torture*, and the *punishment*, who is *not the avenger even of his own wrongs?*" (from *De Corona*, Chapter XI).

He uses similar words in another book to show that the *COMMON teaching* of this time prohibited Christians from taking any part in war.

"But how will a Christian man *war*, nay, how will he serve even in peace, *without a sword, which the Lord has taken away?*" (from *De Idolatria*, Chapter XIX).

The statement of Jesus in Matthew 26:52 was *well-understood* by these men who *knew* that warfare and fighting was strictly and completely forbidden by the *plain words* of Christ and the Apostles.

Here is an even more remarkable excerpt from his teachings. Certainly such shocking teaching would be completely unacceptable in most of the *popular and large churches today!*

"If we are enjoined, then, to love our enemies, as I have remarked above, whom have we to *bate?* If *injured*, we

are forbidden to retaliate, lest we become as bad ourselves: who can suffer injury at our hands . . . For what *wars* should we not be fit, not eager, even with unequal forces, *we who so willingly yield ourselves to the sword*, if in our religion it were not counted *better to be slain than to slay*. Without arms even, and raising no insurrectionary banner . . ." (from *Apology*, Chapter XXXVII).

Multitudes of Christians Would Not Fight

These teachings were not limited to just a few Christian converts, or to a small portion of those who considered themselves to be Christians. These instructions came from the *most prominent* church leaders and clergymen of that day. They were *accepted and practiced* by the whole Catholic Church at that time! There is no need to be in doubt! To make it *very clear* how widespread this teaching was and how it was then accepted by the *whole Church* it is necessary to continue from the text last quoted:

"For if such *multitudes* of men were to break away from you (Caesar), and betake themselves to some remote corner of the world, why, the very loss of *so many citizens*, whatever sort they were, would cover the empire with shame; nay in the very forsaking, vengeance would be inflicted . . . *you would have more enemies than citizens remaining*. For it is the *immense number* of Christians which makes your enemies so few—almost all the inhabitants of your various cities being followers of Christ" (from *Apology*, Chapter XXXVII).

The people of the Church accepted and practiced these teachings in such great numbers that if they would leave the Roman Empire, Caesar would have few citizens left. The Christians were not his enemies. They did not take up arms *against him* or *for him*. He would have *everything to gain and nothing to lose*, to keep this *VAST number* of people from leaving the empire, *even though they would not fight* or support him in his wars.

These Facts Available to Everyone

How *different* are the beliefs and practices today! Most who now profess the name of Christ *almost TOTALLY* accept the perverted teachings that a Christian *should fight* for his country. In the beginning ages of the Church, the people would not fight. *They knew without a doubt that it was totally wrong!*

These teachings were not done in a

corner. *Everyone* embracing the faith knew about it. We have seen the proof of history. Most good public libraries have these *very same* comments recorded in such volumes as the *Ante-Nicene Fathers*, from which these quotations have been taken.

Another very famous scholar and church leader of this period was *Origen*. Here is a brief summary from *Halley's Bible Handbook* about this man:

"ORIGEN. 185-254. The *most LEARNED* man of the *ancient Church*. A great traveler; and a voluminous writer, employing at times as many as twenty copyists. *Two thirds* of the New Testament is quoted in his writings. He lived in *Alexandria*, where his father, Leonidas, suffered martyrdom; later, in Palestine, where he died as a result of imprisonment and torture under Decius" (page 675).

Here is what he wrote and taught concerning the question of a Christian fighting. Notice the kind of *fighting* he did:

"And none fight better for the king than we do. We do not indeed fight under him, *although* he requires it; but *we fight on his behalf*, forming a special army—an *army of piety*—by offering our prayers to God" (*Contra Celsum*, Chapter VIII, page 73).

Origen explains this subject more fully in this same work as follows:

"We are come, agreeably to the counsels of Jesus to 'cut down our hostile and insolent wordy *swords* into *plowshares*, and to convert into *pruninghooks* the *spears* formerly employed in war.' For we *NO LONGER take up 'sword against nation,' nor do we 'learn war anymore,'* having become *children of peace*, for the sake of Jesus, who is our leader, instead of those whom our fathers followed among whom we were 'strangers to the covenant'" (*Contra Celsum*, Chapter V, page 33).

Before conversion the people of this time did believe in fighting. Afterwards, they *knew* it was wrong and contrary to their religion. They sought peace without warring and fighting.

Cyprian was another very *famous church leader* of this same period and time. He was the other leader of the famous school at Carthage, North Africa, who was mentioned earlier in connection with Tertullian. He was a bishop at this church school, and has been referred to as "one of the *great writers* and *church leaders* of the period" (*Story of the Christian Church*, Hurlbut, page 56). He was martyred in 257 by the Roman Emperor Valerian. Here are his comments about warfare:

"The whole world is wet with mu-

LATEST AFRICA REPORT

by Gerald D. Waterhouse

tual blood, and murder, which *in the case of an individual is admitted to be a crime, is called a virtue when it is committed wholesale*. Impunity is claimed for the wicked deeds, not on the plea that they are guiltless, but because *the cruelty is perpetrated on a grand scale*" (*Epistles*, Chapter I, page 6).

The last writer to be mentioned from this period is *Lactantius*. He lived until the time of Constantine. His writings show very plainly that the church was still teaching that Christians were *not to fight*—at least *until* the time of Constantine:

"But we on the contrary do not require that anyone should be *compelled*, whether he is willing or unwilling, to worship our God, who is the God of all men; nor are we angry if anyone does not worship Him. For *we trust in the majesty of Him who has power to avenge contempt shown towards Himself* as, also *he has power to avenge the calamities and injuries inflicted on His servants*, and therefore, when we suffer such impious things, WE DO NOT RESIST even in word; *but we remit vengeance to God*" (*The Divine Institutes*, Book V, Chapter 21).

This same author covers the subject of military service and killing more specifically in the following excerpt from *The Divine Institutes*, Book VI, Chapter 20:

"For when *God forbids us to kill*, he not only *prohibits us from open violence*, which is not even allowed by the public laws, but he warns us against the commission of those things which are esteemed lawful among men. Thus it will be *neither lawful for a just man to engage in warfare . . .*"

The belief of the Church during this time was so ingrained that: "Maximilian and a number of others in the second century actually *suffered martyrdom for refusing, on Gospel principles to BEAR ARMS*" (*War Inconsistent With the Religion of Jesus Christ*, by David Low Dodge, page 117).

How different this is from the teachings of the *present generation* of churches!

Protestant and Catholics alike trace their churches *through these very writers and church leaders*. These are written teachings of that time, preserved for the present. They show plainly that something has happened *to cause professing "Christians" TODAY to have exactly opposite teachings*.

A *startling TRANSFORMATION* has occurred since that time! The next installment will show *how* that remarkable change came, and *who caused it!*
(To be continued)

SINCE GOD EXHORTS us to be concerned with every member of the Body of Jesus Christ, I know you brethren will be interested to hear how He has made possible more activity in South Africa. Much has been done by Christ, the living HEAD of God's Church, in effecting this during the six weeks I have been here.

I arrived from Perth, Western Australia, on March 13th. By the morning of the 14th, Christ had, through a series of fast-moving events, led me to just the *right place* in which Sabbath services, weekly Bible studies, the Passover and all of the Days of Unleavened Bread could be observed by God's people in this part of the world.

One would have to understand the conditions here and the scarcity of auditoriums suitable for our needs to really appreciate the way all of this came about. It certainly thrilled and encouraged me to see how Christ began to work things out so *speedily!*

Brethren in South Africa were notified *immediately* of the wonderful opportunity God was extending to us to observe *annual* Festivals together for the *first time*—and of the *special privilege* those in the Johannesburg area were to receive for convoking on the Sabbath, as well as a weekly Bible study!

Such news was enthusiastically received. *Hurried* arrangements were made by those who found it possible to come in for the Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread—and *most did!* Remember, brethren, they had *less than three weeks* to make such arrangements! Up to the time my letter was received, the members here DIDN'T KNOW of my presence in South Africa.

The *zeal and enthusiasm* manifested by the brethren in taking advantage of this opportunity was very encouraging.

Our first Sabbath service was conducted on March 23rd with thirty-three in attendance, mainly adults. The following day, twenty-six gathered for our first weekly Bible study. Two weeks later, on April 6th, Sabbath attendance had swollen to fifty-six with the influx of scattered brethren for the Passover.

On April 7th, *forty-two* begotten children of God solemnly assembled to observe the sacred memorial of our Lord's death. With Christ's special help, this service turned out to be the *most inspiring and smoothly conducted* Pass-

over service I have ever conducted. It greatly enlarged the brethren's understanding of the supreme price Jesus Christ of Nazareth paid not only to become our Savior but eventually, the Savior of the whole world!

Seventy-three of us gathered on the "night to be much observed unto the Eternal" and kept the FEAST. This was another very uplifting experience. In spite of the fact no one other than myself had ever observed this in congregation, it turned out exceptionally well. It was gratifying to witness how Christ promoted such system and organization, *in spite* of our lack of experience!

Later, I mentioned to the brethren that it seemed as though Christ caused all of our *stumbleings* to be in the *right direction*. Yet, Christ was truly letting us know He was in charge and had unlimited help to extend—it was just up to us to take advantage of it!

Through the daylight part of this first Holyday, *seventy-eight* assembled for two services. A "pot-luck" meal was served in between the services. From sixty to seventy attended the meetings during the following six days. Even though the number fell somewhat, the zeal and enthusiasm of the people *continued to increase* right to the very END! Most found it very difficult to leave, especially those from outlying areas who could not attend the local church.

Members came to Johannesburg from Chingola, Northern Rhodesia (just a few miles south of Elizabethville, the Congo), Bechuanaland Protectorate, Swaziland and Basutoland. All of the families from Durban, in Natal, came up and *remained* for the entire eight days.

There were *fourteen* services, including the Passover, and all-day meetings on Monday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Much TRUTH was revealed during these services. Also the people were able to fellowship with brethren of like-understanding. I am confident that Christ laid the beginnings of a very *solid* and STABLE *foundation* here in Johannesburg, not only for a local church but also for the many festivals which will follow.

Let us REJOICE in all that God is doing for His people in South Africa! And PRAY that He will see fit to raise up churches in other areas of the world!

OVERCOME DAYDREAMING!

The real dangers of letting your thoughts drift are clearly outlined in this article—and a practical solution shown that YOU can apply in your daily Christian living.

by John Edward Portune

“**H**EAR, O EARTH: behold, I will bring *evil* upon this people, even the **FRUIT OF THEIR THOUGHTS**, because they have not *bearkened* unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it.” (Jer. 6:19).

Daydreaming is a common, ordinary activity—something very human. But do you realize that it is very dangerous to a Christian. It will stop the growth you so desperately need. You need to know now how serious it is.

There are *three basic dangers* to daydreaming. So get them down—*write* them in your mind—and *avoid* them!

Daydreaming Causes Discouragement

How does daydreaming discourage you? Stop and think!

What do *you* think about most of the time? Do you ever think about anything that is *not* SELF-elevating?

You *housewives*—do you ever picture yourself as the wife of an unskilled laborer of low income with a shabby two-bedroom house, six noisy children and in debt up to your neck? Or don't your daydreams usually place you in the new, modern three-bedroom, double-oven home in an exclusive part of town? A successful husband, social prestige, two cars and long vacations seem far nicer to dream about. Your daydreams *never* put you in a bad light in your *own eyes*.

How about you *men* on the job? When you are driving nails into the framework of a new house, shifting gears on your truck, or whatever you are doing as a profession, do you think about yourself as the lowest, most humble, submissive worker?

No you don't!

You think about yourself as the foreman. You think about yourself as the president of the corporation. This is the kind of thing you daydream about. You always *picture yourself* in big places, never in real-life situations. This is not drive and *ambition*, but unreal and fanciful—this is the substance of your random thoughts.

Have you ever *realized the ends* of your daydreaming? *Is* yours the fabulous new home of your daydreams? *Are* you the foreman or the head of a giant corporation? Actually, *very few* in

God's Church are really rich, influential, or successful. You never do reach the fulfillment of your daydreams, and when you come back to *reality*, you find yourselves in the old humdrum of *daily REAL LIFE!*

So, *point number one*: If you daydream, you are going to be *discouraged*. You are going to do a poor job. You are going to feel *inferior*.

Spiritual Influence

The one time in our daily lives when we are *wide open* for real trouble is when we are daydreaming. Satan is like a roaring lion—constantly trying to devour us—to discourage us. When your mind is drifting, when it is wandering, when it is *elevating itself*, when you have big thoughts of “what I ought to be,” that is the best time for Satan to do his work. He knows that. He and his demons are crafty. He will get hold of you when you are least expecting it.

Matthew 12:43 clearly illustrates this point. “When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he (the evil spirit) walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it *empty, swept, and garnished.*”

The empty, swept and garnished house is the *human mind* full of *empty thoughts*—thoughts that are not worthwhile—a *daydreaming mind!* Such thoughts leave you **WIDE OPEN for demon influence**—almost as if you had a funnel in your head where Satan can pour in bad thoughts, doubts, questions, discouragement.

So remember *point number two*: Demon influence, *even possession*, can be a *direct by-product of daydreaming*. **FIGHT AGAINST IT!**

Daydreaming Keeps God's Truth Out

Have you ever noticed that in the morning—right when you wake up—is an easy time to *start* daydreaming. Little things start jumping into your mind, and right away *God's Truth is crammed out*.

Such thoughts *quench* God's Holy Spirit that dwells in you. *You can*

wreck an entire day by what you think in the first five minutes—if the pattern is *started* wrongly. Every one of you has experienced this. The thoughts you think can be deadly. Daydreaming keeps God's Truth out. It is *dangerous* whenever you do it.

The Apostle Paul saw this very thing working in his life. “I see another law in my members, *warring against* the law of my mind (Christ's Spirit in him), and bringing me into **CAPTIVITY** to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the *mind* I myself serve the law of God” (Rom. 7:23, 24, 25).

By fixing your mind on God you *can* resist. You can overcome your mind. God will give you the help *if you want it*. “(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the *pulling down* of strongholds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and *bringing into captivity every thought* to the obedience of Christ” (II Cor. 10:4, 5).

If you will stop and face the problem squarely you *should* realize that a true Christian *does not even have the time* to daydream. If you are doing the job Christ has given you to your utmost, your mind will be too full to think empty thoughts. Only Christ's Mind in you can keep out your natural thoughts. “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 2:5).

Daydreaming Is Carnal

Daydreaming is nothing but *carnal thinking*. “For they that are after the flesh do *mind* (daydream about) the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit” (Rom. 8:5). If you are carnal, if you are physically minded, if you are not *deeply converted*, your daydreams are going to be about physical things.

If you would like a test of just *how spiritual* you are, just ask yourself, “When I am not concentrating on my job, *what DO I think about?*”

Daydreaming is the surest sign that

you are off the track. When you begin to concentrate on the same things as your carnal neighbors, when you find it difficult to pray because of your mind wandering—STOP! You are in hot water. You have let God's Mind run out of you. You have nothing with which to fight your human nature.

Remember *point number three*: Daydreaming crowds out GODLY THOUGHTS!

Now the question is—*what can you DO about it?*

What You Can Do!

First of all, learn to *recognize daydreaming*. Ask God to help you to keep a sharp watch on your thoughts. It will not be easy—you have been used to thinking *almost anything* for years. Your mind will not be used to being scrutinized—it is naturally carnal. But once you learn to recognize the habit and learn to hate it, you are well on the road to overcoming it.

Next, when you find your thoughts wandering, FIGHT BACK IMMEDIATELY! Do as David did. "His delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he MEDITATE day and night" (Ps. 1:2).

Read the Psalms and other thought-rich sections of the Bible often. *Learn* particularly inspiring verses *by heart*. Remember thought-provoking principles from your personal Bible study. *Keep abreast* of important world happenings. Then THINK ON THESE THINGS when your mind begins to wander. ". . . whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, THINK ON THESE THINGS" (Phil. 4:8).

If your mind is so SATURATED, you will have ammunition to fight empty thoughts. When they come you can immediately push them out by *concentrating your mind* on wholesome thoughts.

Jesus Christ left us the best example of conquering bad thoughts with good ones. Even on the very day He was crucified, after being scourged, cursed and spit upon, He kept His mind on right thoughts. Through all of it He had thoughts of compassion even for the people who were taking Him out to kill Him. Read the account in Luke 23:27-31.

Finally, let the Bible *fill your mind* with GOD'S THOUGHTS! The more you *soak up* Bible truth the more God's Mind will flow into you.

Your mind is like an *empty* milk bottle! The only way to get the air out

is to put milk in. And the only way to get *carnal thoughts* OUT of your mind, is to put *God's Mind* IN!

You must spend as much time in Bible study and prayer AS IS NECESSARY for you to have Christ's Mind RULING in you.

It does not matter how much time you have set to study and pray, you have to do *whatever amount* it takes to get Christ's Mind in you. This may mean a lot more time some days than you normally pray. You will have to pray and study earnestly *until* you get the necessary spiritual nourishment—until you get Christ's Mind. There is no set time—*no secret formula*.

You will shrivel up and die if you don't eat enough, and you will shrivel up *spiritually* and DIE—unless you *pray and study* UNTIL YOU ARE FULL! It is plain and simple. You just need to *apply* it.

When you become deeply converted by the Mind of Christ living in you, you will hate *empty* thinking. You will have no time for it.

Daydreaming is *very* dangerous. It will *discourage* you, it will open you up for *demon trouble*, and it will *keep out God's Truth*. So eliminate it—eliminate it by *positive effort*—NOW!

Stop daydreaming and start living!

MANY THANKS!

by Selmer Hegvold

AS IN THE days of Israel, so in the Body of Christ today! The parallel is amazing in many instances. As then, so today, many have been truly zealous in answering the appeal by Mr. Portune in the November, 1962, issue of the GOOD NEWS for used clothing.

Some of you have indeed heaped up blessings in heaven, "It is more blessed to *give* than to *receive*!" (Acts 20:35).

Moses' appeal went out to the people of God nearly 3500 years ago, "Take from among you an offering unto the Lord: whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, . . . And they came every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and . . . as many as were willing hearted, . . . the children of Israel brought a willing offering unto the Lord . . ." (Ex. 35:5, 21, 22, 29).

So great was Israel's response that Moses was forced to make still another appeal: "And all the wise men, that wrought all the work . . . came every man . . . saying, 'The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, . . .'" (Ex. 36:4-5). So then, the word went out from Moses to cease and desist! This to keep the workmen from becoming swamped with goods!

Brethren, we stand in like circumstance in regard to good, used clothing! One old building here on the campus is given over entirely to house the used items many of you have lovingly mended, laundered, dry cleaned and sent in. Several of our local men and women have voluntarily labored many hours to sort these out into styles and size. The shelves and racks are full! Many, many unsorted boxes are stacked up ready to be sorted—but we have no more room.

Unlike Moses, we *are not* asking you to stop! The *need* is still great! We know many of you brethren have had an extremely difficult winter to weather. We are praying for your protection and welfare. We know that many of you, your wives and your children are short on good clothing for the weeks and months ahead. We need to know *who you are!* The cost of shipping is quite low—nowhere nearly what it would cost to buy the clothing we have on hand ready to send.

If you have a need, jot down the *types* and *sizes* needed to adequately clothe your loved ones, and we will probably be able to fill your need, as well as relieve the pressure on storage space here.

So the answer is two-fold: continue to send worthwhile, good, used clothing (those of you who have *extra*) no longer useful to you—AND those of you who *need* good quality clothing, send us a list of your needs.

A Final Thought

Paul, under inspiration, wrote, "So let him give . . . for God loveth a cheerful giver!" (II Cor. 9:7). You who have given have the blessing and the love of God to reward you.

You who will receive will find you will be better clothed, and consequently better able to send in that little extra for the Work of God in proclaiming the truth to the world. Let me emphasize that these articles of clothing, suits, shirts, dresses, blouses, shoes, etc., *are all in good condition*—these are *not* worn-out cast-offs, but *good, serviceable articles of clothing*.

Many thanks again to all of you brethren everywhere for your past performance of love in this regard.

Summer Tours--New Churches--Ministerial Assignments

(Continued From Page 6)

Albert—vice-president of the Ambassador student body this year. Mr. Albert assisted Mr. McCrady on a full summer's baptizing tour last summer, and is now one of the top student leaders in Ambassador College—visiting in the Pasadena area and bringing sermons in the local churches here. He will be assisted by Mr. Walter Sharp—present Junior Class President here on the Pasadena Campus and one of the coming leaders in God's Work.

Tour No. 4 will be led by Mr. Harold Jackson—our only colored minister, recently ordained as a *full Preaching Elder* in God's Church. He will be assisted by Mr. Elbert Atlas for at least part of the tour, and by one of our leading New York colored brethren for the other half. Mr. Atlas—as many of our colored brethren already know—assisted Mr. Jackson on a similar tour last summer, and has now moved from Los Angeles to Chicago to be of more direct assistance in the colored ministry in that area.

Remember YOUR PART!

As these servants of God go out into the field to "reap the harvest," remem-

ber *your part* is to back them up *constantly* with your earnest prevailing PRAYERS!

Quite often, more serious *trials* and often TRAGEDIES have struck at God's Work during the summer than any other time of the year. Perhaps this is because Satan is unusually *angered* at this particular time because such a HARVEST is being reaped and so many former sinners are being rescued from his clutches.

So *pray* for these baptizing tours—for their *safety, success and guidance!* Pray for the men going out to churches and for all of God's ministers and churches everywhere.

Especially this summer, remember to PRAY that God will call the *right* students to apply for Ambassador College and that He will *guide and inspire* those of us here on the Admissions Committee to make the correct decisions as to who may be admitted to GOD'S college for training for His Work! This year, more than ever, we are going to have to turn down a large percentage of those who apply because there *just is not room* for too many additional

students. So remember to *pray* about this situation.

Also, even as I write this, God seems to be opening up an additional site for the Feast of Tabernacles here in the United States back on the East Coast. Be sure to PRAY that God will show us HIS will in this matter—that He will grant us grace and favor in the sight of those with whom we have to deal—and that He will guide *all circumstances* for good that we may glorify Him in where and how we observe His Feast in this nation.

Remember always to *pray earnestly* for your scattered brethren everywhere. We seem to need it *even more* during the hot, humid summer months when many get into the spiritual doldrums. DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU!

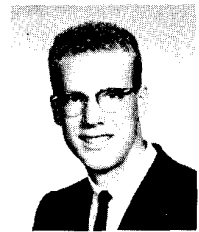
Keep PRAYING — STUDYING — GROWING! And remember not only to pray for all these situations and for one another, but *always* for God's WORK and those in it as we labor to warn Israel of what lies ahead, to *feed the flock* of God, and to *prepare the way* for the second coming of our Lord and Savior!

Mr. Luker, Oakland, California

Mr. Williams, Johannesburg, So. Africa



Mr. Kennitz
Kansas City, Missouri



Mr. Zapf
South Bend, Indiana

Mr. Antion
New York City, New York

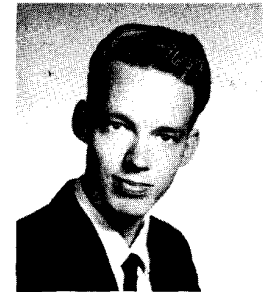
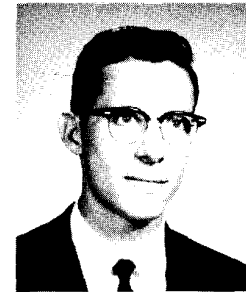
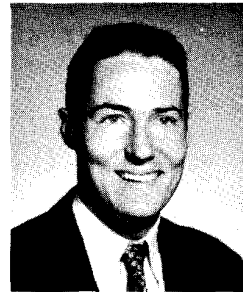
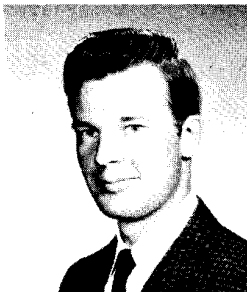
Mr. Arvidson
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Mr. Cox
Birmingham, Alabama

Mr. Holladay
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Mr. Kellers
Portland, Oregon

Mr. Pyle
Indianapolis, Indiana



Women's Hair

(Continued from page 4)

to write, "But if thy brother be grieved with thy *meat*, now walkest thou not charitably. Destroy NOT him with thy MEAT, for whom Christ died" (verse 15). Paul said eating meat was GOOD, that it was LAWFUL, but said, "Let not then your GOOD (your MEAT-eating) be evil spoken of: FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NOT MEAT AND DRINK; but *righteousness*, and PEACE, and joy in the Holy Spirit!" (verses 16, 17).

But this was between *individual brethren*, showing them how to be solicitous of a NEWCOMER into the faith, how to be CAREFUL not to offend until a *new* member HAD learned more and had become more GROUNDED in the truth of God—had become more BALANCED!

Christ is *not* telling us, for example, that during the Feast of Tabernacles when He orders us to kill of our herds and flocks, and TO EAT of them, REJOICING before Him in a great Festival, to CANCEL THE FEAST, to ABSTAIN FROM ALL REJOICING, because a new brother believes we should all be vegetarians! No, not at all!

Christ did NOT tell us to ENFORCE that women always wear long-sleeved dresses, and knot their hair into a severe roll, to avoid causing a CRITIC, who is NOT EVEN A MEMBER, to "stumble."

It is only those who have, spiritually, gotten up and begun to WALK who can actually stumble! Those still crawling on the ground—still carnal—still OF THIS WORLD—EVEN THIS "RELIGIOUS" AND "BIBLE-BELT" WORLD—can hardly "stumble."

But Christ *is* ordering us to ABSTAIN from exercising our privileges within His laws, such as partaking of an alcoholic beverage in moderation, IF partaking of it *at that time*, and in *that place*, would cause a newcomer, a BROTHER, to stumble!

We are to "avoid every FORM [margin] of evil!" (I Thes. 5:22).

The *principle* of avoiding even that which may *appear* evil to others is also covered in this verse—even though the original actually meant FORM, rather than "appearance."

But *is* it a form of EVIL for women to wear short sleeves, or to wear round necklines?

Women's Clothing

Point by point, let's come to really UNDERSTAND some of these minor, physical things.

There is absolutely NOTHING sen-

suous, sexy, seductive, suggestive, evil, nasty, or voluptuous, about the arms and the elbows of women! Brethren, let's be MATURE! Let's be *balanced*. Let's be *sound-minded* (II Tim. 1:7).

Any man who would actually be incited to LUST after a woman, *just because she wore a sleeveless dress*, just doesn't understand the spiritual principles of what it IS to lust! LUST is an inordinate desire of the MIND! A man could *lust* for a woman, even if he NEVER SAW ONE!

Think about it for a moment! WOULD Jesus Christ LUST—EVEN IN A NUDIST COLONY??

No! He certainly would not! But, of course, neither would Christ ever GO to a nudist colony! The POINT is, brethren, that there is absolutely NOTHING sensuous about a woman's arms—and any man who tries to MAKE something "evil" or sensuous out of them is a rare specimen, indeed.

What about round or "V" necklines? Again—what is the principle? If a woman DELIBERATELY wears low-cut necklines, trying to expose the swelling of her breasts in order to attract the attention of men—SHE KNOWS it! Let's not "kid" ourselves! Are women UNCONSCIOUS of when their necklines are TOO LOW? OF COURSE not! No sincere, conscientious, and really *converted* women of God's true Church *would* wear such attire. But brethren—*women* are *women*! (And aren't we more than THANKFUL?) A woman is DIFFERENT from a man! And again, aren't we THANKFUL she is? It would be a dull world indeed without the BALANCE God has given it in creating the opposite sexes.

When you look at a man—do you NOTICE what KIND of a man he is? That is, when you think of a man you know—regardless of whether *you* are a man OR a woman, do you think of the WHOLE man? Do you think of him as being slight, or stocky, or portly, or short, or tall?

Of COURSE you do! And you think the SAME thing about any woman! You KNOW whether she has a pleasing figure, or is too fat, or too thin, or is this or that physical fleshy shape, don't you? IS THIS A SIN? Brethren, let's CLEAN UP OUR MINDS, and let's QUIT "KIDDING" ourselves!

Are men supposed to RUN IN TERROR whenever they see a low, round neckline? Is such a neckline a SIN? Think! Such a neckline COULD be a *sin*—but the SIN would not be in the neckline, but perhaps in the WOMAN who was *deliberately* trying to attract a man in the WRONG way, or in the MAN, who LET HIS THOUGHTS BECOME SIN!

Many of the women in God's Church *need* help in knowing the proper clothes styles—styles that are becoming and pretty, yet not gaudy or overdone.

The women of Christ's time wore various types of gowns, which in many cases, clung to the body much more than the modern types of dresses do. That does not mean Christ APPROVED of such styles, but neither do you read of Him shrieking in terror—running out into the desert to hide because He thought even LOOKING at a woman passing by was a SIN!

Notice His own words. "Ye have heard that it was said of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, that whosoever looketh on a woman TO LUST after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart!"

Jesus DID NOT SAY, brethren, that whoever LOOKED ON A WOMAN had sinned! He DID say, however, that whoever looked on a woman, and went on to LUST after her, had sinned!

The *sin* was not LOOKING ON a woman—since fully half the human race *are* women—but in looking on a woman IN A LUSTFUL WAY! The sin Jesus referred to had to do with the state of MAN'S MIND, *not* the dress of women!

Women ARE commanded to dress in MODEST apparel (I Pet. 3:1-6; I Tim. 2:9,10). Turn to this second passage of God's Word, and read it! God says, "In like manner also, that women ADORN themselves in *modest* apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided [elaborately overdone hair styles, such as the interweaving of pearls or strands of gold in the hair], or gold, or pearls, or costly array. . . ."

Notice it! God commands women to ADORN themselves! Adorn means to DECORATE, to "DRESS UP," to make look *fit*, and *nice*—it means to enhance, to "set off"—and most decidedly DOES NOT mean to COMPLETELY COVER!

Some pagan religions force their women to wear veils, completely covering the faces of the women, in the mistaken belief there is something SHAMEFUL about beautiful faces of their women! Brethren of God's Church, let's be SOUND—let's be BALANCED! Our women SHOULD be ADORNED with the right clothing styles, the *right* selection of modest jewelry without excessive use, or costly extravagance! The wearing of short-sleeved dresses for women is PERFECTLY ALL RIGHT, and there is NOT ONE SINGLE SCRIPTURE to infer otherwise!

Most of you women of God's Church

need more *teaching* on HOW to be truly *modestly* dressed, yet with the right selection of fit, style and color, so as to look *neat, clean, graceful* and *pleasing*—to look *feminine* without going to either extreme of gaudiness or such severe plainness so as to look like an eyesore, and attract attention because of sheer Puritan-like severity!

What About Men's Clothes and Decoration?

What *about* men's neckties, jewelry, wallets and wedding rings?? Some few women, in carnal HOSTILITY toward God's commands concerning the RIGHT and the BALANCED attire and decoration for women, have felt justified in condemning the dress of *men*.

But *men* (at least, so far as I know) DO NOT WEAR MAKE-UP! They do not seek to *change* the appearance of the *eyes*, or the *mouth*! Our men, at least in *most* nations today, are clean-shaven! That is just as it was in Christ's day, when the Hellenistic culture had pervaded the entirety of the Mediterranean world, and men were CLEAN-SHAVEN! It is not a SIN for a man to wear a mustache, or a beard (although IT CAN EASILY BECOME a sin, if done out of VANITY, and just wanting to attract attention!), but it is NOT THE CUSTOM today! Wherever *custom* does NOT directly violate God's LAW, then God says, "Render therefore to all their dues—tribute to whom tribute is due, *custom* to whom *custom*, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor . . ." (Rom 13:7).

Men's neckties are exactly as women's purses, hats or gloves. They are on an *exact* par with women's scarfs, or decorative handkerchiefs, worn as many do, by pinning them on the blouse, or the lapel!

Jesus wore a cloak of FINE QUALITY! It was an OUTSTANDING garment, one which men could *recognize* as being of really fine workmanship and quality, or it would not have been mentioned in the Gospels. John the Baptist wore a *fine* garment of camel's hair—a *very* expensive piece of cloth today. Joseph, a *type* of Christ, wore a coat of *many colors*—an unusually *fine* garment. God wants His ministers, His *men* in His Church to be the RIGHT example—to wear clothes that *uphold* the Church of God.

Here again, it is the BALANCE that is important! To wear LOUD ties, with glaring colors, or LOUD sport coats, or the EXTREME styles so popular today would be WRONG for the men of God!

There is NOTHING wrong with a ring! God speaks of rings in the Bible, and talks of how He, *symbolically*, and SPIRITUALLY speaking, DECKED Israel with jewelry! Notice it, "I clothed thee also with brodered work, and shod thee with badgers' skin, and I girded thee about with fine linen, and I covered thee with silk.

"I decked thee also with ornaments, and I put bracelets *upon thy hands* [RINGS, worn upon the HANDS, not just bracelets on the wrists, though the same principle applies], and a chain on thy neck. And I put a jewel on thy forehead, and earrings in thine ears, and a beautiful crown upon thy head . . ." (Ezek. 16:10-12).

This is a picture of God's relationship with ancient Israel, and a *direct* type of the love of Christ toward the Church! God *would not use* such an example to show the *perfect* and the HOLY love He has for His Church if certain jewelry was WRONG!

There is nothing pagan in a wedding ring, except as *men*, with their perverse minds, have tried to infer! A lily is a BEAUTIFUL flower, mentioned in the Sermon on the Mount. GOD made the lily—but pagan MAN tried to see something EVIL, something FILTHY in the lily, and so *perverted* a thing of beauty, and made it a thing of EVIL!

No, brethren, modest use of accessories, jewelry or a monogrammed wallet is *not* a sin.

What About LENGTH of Women's Hair?

"But what about hair length?" some would ask. And here is another important principle: HAIR LENGTH, as specified in the Bible, has nothing directly to do with HAIR STYLE! That is; LONG hair could be worn piled on the head, and the neck showing, just as *short* hair would expose the neck. But your Creator DOES specify HAIR LENGTH for women!

Turn to I Corinthians the 11th chapter. Here, the Apostle Paul is inspired to show how HAIR (which IS the "covering" being spoken of, NOT a HAT, or something foreign to the head) is the crowning glory of women, the added something that makes her FEMININE, and BEAUTIFUL.

Here again, brethren, many people—giving heed to *seducing spirits* and *doctrines of demons*, swallowing the belief that God's truth is a system of "do without this" or "go without that" have begun to believe there is something SACRED about bodily hair!

There is nothing SACRED about *cellulose*! If there *were*, God would never have allowed the trimming of

hair, beards, or the trimming or removal of ANY bodily hair, at ANY TIME!

It is NOT wrong to shave, or to remove bodily hair which is excessive—even *for women*! MOST women shave their legs. This is NOT WRONG—any more than a man shaving his FACE! Some women who tend to have *excessive* bodily hair actually NEED to remove such excessive hair where it becomes unsightly and ugly!

Here, in I Corinthians, there are actually FOUR lengths of women's hair mentioned! First (and you should study through this on your own), the Apostle Paul speaks of a woman being "covered." To be COVERED means something MORE than the *same* amount of covering in a *man*. My head is covered on the top, back and sides. If the only "covering" that a woman was to have would be exactly the same as a man, then it would be *all right* for her to wear her hair in exactly the same length as MEN! But this was NOT what God intended.

The parts of a woman's head which are *covered* which sets her apart from and makes her different from a man are the back of the neck, and the ears.

The second hair length that is mentioned is "uncovered." In other words, *any* hair length which exposes or uncovers *those portions* of a woman's head. Remember, however, we are still speaking of hair LENGTH—not *hair styles*!

The third length spoken of is "shorn." A woman who was shorn might as well go on to be shaven! The fourth "length" is really not a "length" at all—but the *complete absence* of all hair—SHAVED BALD!

There are the *four lengths* of hair mentioned in I Corinthians II! Women who went to *excess*, TRIMMING their hair by the usage of razors (as was the custom of the day) into various shapes and styles, trying to look like a MAN were becoming "UNCOVERED!"

The Apostle Paul showed it was a great SHAME for a woman to be shaved on the *top of her head* (verse 6), and that her *hair* was given her for a COVERING—and was a GLORY to her! (verse 15).

There is a deeper spiritual principle here than many of you women may realize! When a woman begins to cut her hair shorter, wearing it in more masculine-type styles, she begins to FEEL more "masculine," more aggressive, more presumptuous, more forward. Any woman who denies this is perhaps ALREADY so masculine, so forward, and so presumptuous, that she does not really KNOW what it *feels*

like to be truly feminine and retiring!

Another deeper spiritual principle than even the psychological feeling of femininity in women is that mentioned in verse 10! God says, "For this cause ought the woman to have a sign that she is under the authority of her husband because of the angels!" This is the truest sense of the Greek language of this verse. It means that a woman's long tresses, which are a glory to her, are also a sign to God and to God's righteous angels that she IS a woman of femininity, a woman who is in subjection to her husband, a woman who knows and keeps her proper place in the home, and therefore is under the PROTECTION, not only of her husband, but of God's unseen angels!

This plainly means, brethren, that any woman who crops short her hair, following some of the modern "Italian-cut" styles and other ridiculous extremes of our day, is simply putting herself completely OUTSIDE of the protection of God's angels, and disobeying a direct command of Scripture! She will not only experience increasing problems in her own nature, taking away from herself a valuable asset in growing toward the righteous CHARACTER God requires, but will be disobeying a great spiritual principle!

But, let's suppose a woman has a certain disease or a problem with her hair—and she LOSES all her hair! What then? Is she DOOMED to Gehenna fire because she is a BALD woman? Absolutely, positively and irrevocably NOT!

I have read that there are tremendous numbers of bald women in the United States! The wig business in the United States, I know for a fact, is a multi-million dollar business each year!

The wearing of a wig for a woman to cover her baldness would NOT be wrong—but the wearing of a wig by a woman who HAS enough of her own hair so as to be really covered would very obviously be a sin, and an attempt to CHANGE her natural appearance!

Brethren, there is nothing SACRED about women's hair! But there IS a requirement in God's Word that women's hair be kept at a certain prescribed length, just as described in I Corinthians 11. Let's nail that down further. The length described in I Corinthians 11 MEANS falling down to shoulder length! The very word "veil" used in some translations, or "covering" has the Greek prefix "kata" which means "falling down." Women's hair SHOULD be long enough to touch the shoulders! It SHOULD be long enough to cover the back of the neck and the ears!

But let's cover another essential

point! Is there anything SEXY about women's ears? Is there something lewd, suggestive, or sensual about the back of a woman's neck?

CERTAINLY NOT! The Apostle Paul was not here attempting to describe the manner in which a woman would WEAR her hair of shoulder length, but telling the women of God HOW LONG their hair should BE!

It could be worn swept over to one side, piled up on the top, turned under in a "page boy" or softly falling down the shoulders! There are any number of HUNDREDS of different hair styles for women which would be perfectly all right and acceptable in God's sight! Each woman needs to KNOW what style she should choose for her own hair in order to properly set off the shape of her own face.

I have known of women who thought EVER cutting their hair was a SIN! One woman I think of was simply FILLED with spiritual PRIDE and VANITY over her great long tresses of reddish hair! She tried to be so "spiritual" in little things, she was carnal!

What About Permanents?

Is it wrong to ARRANGE the hair? Is it wrong to CURL the hair, when it may not necessarily be naturally curly? Is it a SIN to artificially arrange the hair into a certain shape?

Again, brethren, what is the principle? Human hair has a certain WILDNESS to it! MY HAIR LOOKS TERRIBLE when I wake up in the morning—and the chances are, SO DOES YOURS! IS IT WRONG TO COMB IT?

Of course not! Then is it wrong to ARRANGE a woman's hair? Of COURSE not!

God placed Adam in a beautiful garden. He told Adam to DRESS it, and to KEEP it! Adam was given charge to CHANGE what could have been the NATURAL appearance of the garden, and to WORK with it.

Below me, as I write, stretches the beautifully landscaped lawn of Ambassador College, with the finely-manicured hedges, trees and shrubs. These same trees and shrubs, and that same grass would look TERRIBLE if we had the same notion some of you members get about anything that grows! But our gardeners SHAPE these hedges and shrubs.

At Bricket Wood, there is an arbor made from bending FRUIT trees into an unusually beautiful shape—forcing the limbs to grow into an arbor, instead of the way they would naturally grow

—and they still produce abundantly!

Permanents are NOT wrong—though SOME TYPES may be injurious to the hair!

A short article in the next issue will cover thoroughly the subject of permanents and hair care.

What About All the Rest of It?

Brethren, can we begin to really see? Vanity can lurk anywhere. Women could be vain in a sack! Men could be vain covered with sackcloth and ashes!

The great PRINCIPLES of God's Word concern VANITY which is at the root of all sin!

To make the Truth of God a religion of minor, technical, intricate, picayunish "little things" such as poking around looking for some minor little bit of decoration on the human person, and labeling THAT a sin is missing the entirety of the great, OVERALL principles of God's Word!

What about these other things I mentioned at the beginning of this article? White sugar is not a SIN, though it is not as good for you as the raw, brown sugar! White bread, probably filled with preservatives, and being of refined flour with many special "additives" is definitely harmful—but would not be a physical SIN if you ate it once in a great while! It is simply a matter of quality, and not a spiritual sin. Beer during the Days of Unleavened Bread is perfectly all right, and so is GRAPE JUICE! There is nothing "puffed up" about liquid!

The rest of it should all be quite obvious—if you apply the PRINCIPLES covered in this article!

What a joy and a thrill to know the real TRUTH of God's Word, the TRUTH which makes us truly FREE! Yes, FREE—free from narrow-minded superstitions, a rigorous system of "do's and don'ts," and a type of religion which the Pharisees invented, when they "bound" heavy burdens and grievous to be borne upon their members!

Bald women can and WILL inherit God's Kingdom! Jesus Christ wouldn't lust, even in a nudist colony—though He would NEVER knowingly go to one! It is not a SIN for men to shave their faces, or women to shave their legs! There is nothing IMMORAL about women's elbows, shoulders, necks or ears! As a matter of fact—there is nothing IMMORAL about ANY part of ANY human body!

May God give us all the right wisdom and BALANCE to leave these smaller principles, and go on toward true spiritual perfection!