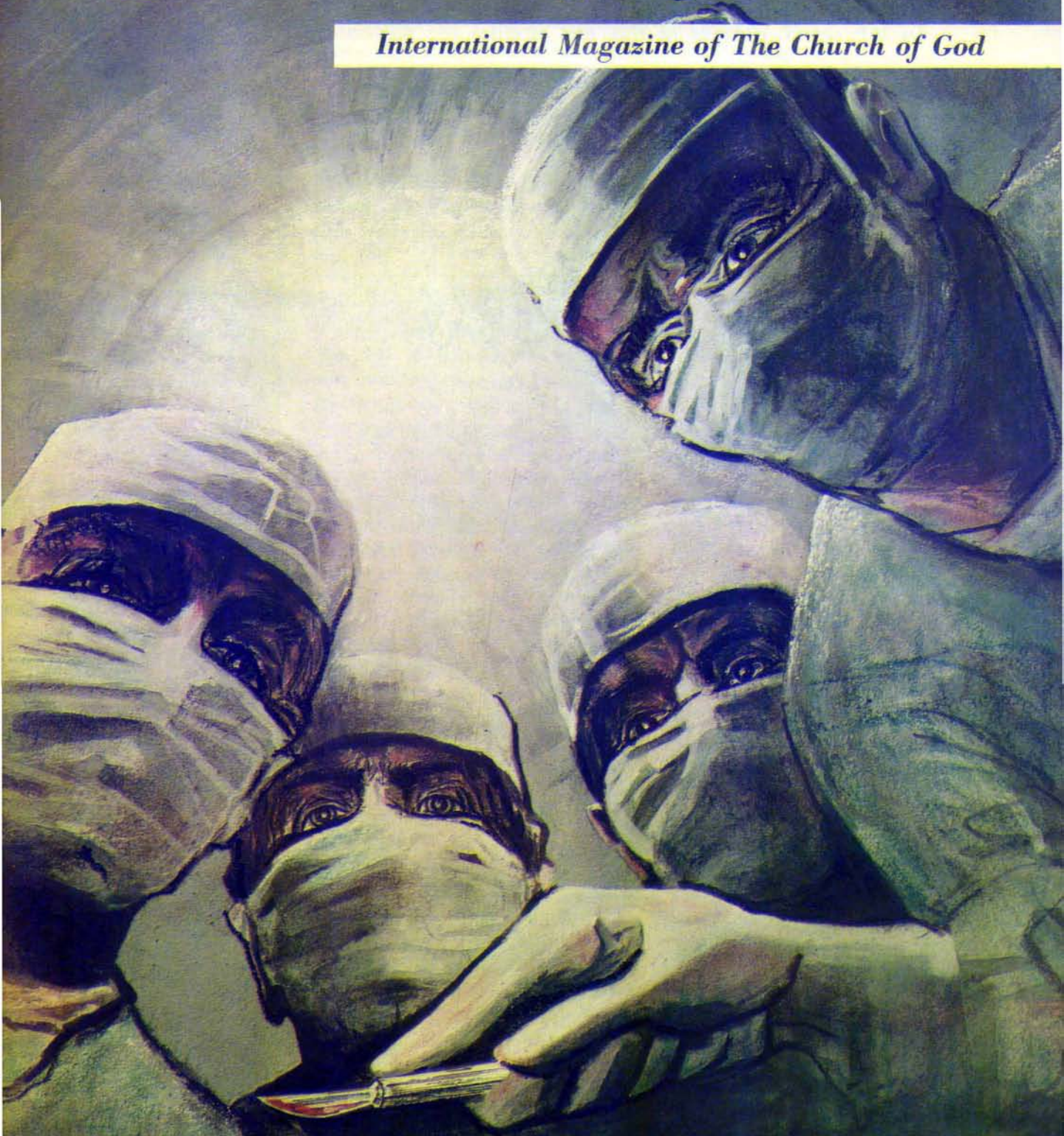


The

# Good News

*International Magazine of The Church of God*



*IS THIS THE WAY TO HEALTH?*

DL. XIII, NUMBER 6

JUNE, 1964





## More About Our Cover...

This unusual scene is an artist's conception of the view you would see if you were on the operating table. Many articles in recent magazines—LIFE, LOOK—have had actual color photos, even showing the throbbing hearts of patients with their chests cut open.

In this world, a scene of this sort glorifies the medical profession as the saviors of mankind. As you can see from the expression on these men's faces, they are dedicated, sincere, they believe they are doing right—but the laws of health revealed by the Creator God prove them to be in GROSS ERROR.

Read in this issue how important this knowledge of the true health laws is—knowledge only God's True Church has! See opposite page.

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## What our READERS SAY...

### Isolated Member Comments

"I received my GOOD NEWS yesterday. In the article about the Visiting Program I can't see how any member could treat God's servants in such a way. How I wish they could visit me often! If a baptizing team comes through, please let me know so I can meet with them. I have been baptized and have finished my 31st Bible lesson. I can meet them anywhere in Jamestown, Tennessee." Ruby J., Tennessee

• Familiarity sometimes breeds contempt, Ruby, and sometimes those who HAVE the opportunity of being visited regularly don't appreciate the blessing you so quickly recognize because you are one of the "scattered brethren."

### Appreciates April GOOD NEWS

"How beautiful the cover on the April GOOD NEWS! And it is good news the way God is caring for the true church members and prospering the new building program. The article on church organization is very informative; also, "What Can Widows Do?" It is so helpful and corrective for me. Lately the papers have a lot about "witches" and how good they've gotten. That and other godless acts are enough to make my hair stand on end."

Lucy H., Oregon

### Joy Over Ordination

"I received a letter from one of the sisters telling that Mr. Crim had been ordained. This was really a joy to me for we are some of the scattered Negro brethren here in the South. I hope that soon we can have a colored minister near by. We do not have a minister to counsel with here now. The tension is too high to allow white ministers to come, but we are praying that God will soon open up a way for us out here."

Negro member from Louisiana

• Remember to KEEP praying for more laborers—for all races!

### Follow The Directions

"To find my place coming north on Number 50 hiway to Harry Cook's Store and go west 4 mile and you are in Alonsa. Now go north from the east end about 3 mile, and the road turns sharply east down off a ridge; do not make this turn, but continue north you are in the bush and for one-half mile there is barbed wire on each side of you, then a house with no windows or doors, and you keep coming north on this narrow and not much used road, till you come up on another little ridge; from here look west and you will see some buildings, and a little old gravel pit

(Please continue on page 19)

## The Good News

International magazine of  
**THE CHURCH OF GOD**  
ministering to its members  
scattered abroad

VOL. XIII

NO. 6

Published monthly at Pasadena, California  
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### EDITOR

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

### EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Garner Ted Armstrong

### MANAGING EDITOR

David Jon Hill

### SENIOR EDITORS

Roderick C. Meredith

Herman L. Hoeh

### Associate Editors

Albert J. Portune

Ronald Kelly

### Contributing Editors

W. A. Berg Leslie L. McCullough  
Robert C. Boraker Raymond F. McNair  
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Ernest L. Martin Clint C. Zimmerman

### Foods Consultants

Velma Van der Veer

Mary E. Hegvold

Isabell F. Hoeh

Rose McDowell

### Editorial and Production Assistants

Paul W. Kroll

James W. Robinson

Donald G. McDonald

### BUSINESS MANAGER

Albert J. Portune

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS to the Editor,  
Box 111, Pasadena, California 91109.

Canadian members should address Post Office Box  
44, Station A, Vancouver 1, B. C., Canada.

Our members in United Kingdom, Europe, and  
Africa should address the Editor, Ambassador Col-  
lege, Bricket Wood, St. Albans, Herts., England.

Members in Australia and Southeast Asia should  
address the Editor, Box 345, North Sydney,  
N. S. W., Australia.

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change in your address. Please inclose both old  
and new address. IMPORTANT!

# SEVEN PROOFS Of God's True Church

*God's True Church knows the TRUTH about diet, exercise and "food fads." It's another major PROOF of the TRUE Church. Do YOU know the real laws of health?*

by Garner Ted Armstrong

**Y**ou *can't* become a superman, and live *forever*, by gulping pills, swallowing supplements, and avoiding white sugar like the black death of London!

God's True Church KNOWS it.

You CANNOT get into God's Kingdom by judiciously drinking apple juice, taking a shot of rose-hip tea, avoiding white crackers at all cost, or chewing twenty times before swallowing!

God's TRUE Church KNOWS it.

**It's a SICK, SICK, SICK,  
SICK WORLD!**

Ever wonder why it is the hangers-on around health food stores are so sick? Did you ever wonder why health-food fanatics appear so *weak*, so *sickly*, and are usually *mentally* unbalanced?

It's a terribly SICK world you're living in!

Today, more than NINETY-TWO MILLION people in the United States alone are suffering with one or another of the terrible chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, tuberculosis or polio.

It is a RARE thing to see a *really* HEALTHY person, today.

Look at a few of the shocking facts.

*Sickness is a gigantic financial burden!* Several years ago, the *average* American—meaning every man, woman and child in the nation—actually paid \$137 a year for hospital and doctors' bills. This was a monstrous sum of more than 25 BILLION dollars for the whole nation. This was DOUBLE the amount paid as recently as 1950.

It was proved, by the statistics of a

major insurance company, that half a million American families had medical bills larger than their total incomes for that year!

And, while the *cost* of getting sick has tripled in the past decade, the average American family is spending *five times as much!* It was found that the average family of four in the United States spends about \$400 a year on medical expenses alone. Said one 69-year-old, receiving \$33 per month from Social Security, "I could get along fairly well on my savings and Social Security but the cost of medicine is so great that I can barely make ends meet. Sometimes I think I must stop taking the medicine and just die." A fantastic crowd of more than 60,000 Americans enters into our clinics and hospitals every day!

And, remember—these figures represent what is occurring within the United States *alone*, the "healthiest" nation on the face of the earth. Yes, brethren, our peoples are SICK!

*Sickness is a terrible drain on the strength and vitality of our peoples, and is a fulfillment of one of the major prophetic CURSES God pronounced upon our peoples for breaking His laws.*

Dr. W. Coda Martin, former chief of Geriatrics Clinic Metropolitan Hospital, New York, says that only 6.5 per cent of Americans are free from physical defect.

More than a third of the nation is suffering from one of the 18 main illnesses and handicapping conditions, and MENTAL DISORDERS are right at the top of the list!

Currently, it is estimated that one out of ten Americans is suffering from a mental disorder. The statistics are endless, brethren. I will not take further space in this article to quote the monstrous statistics available from our Ambassador College News Bureau.

The point can best be illustrated by having YOU look at YOURSELF! What about your own health? Do you feel full of zest, vitality, zip and drive? Are you the *picture* of radiant health? Does your hair shine, do your cheeks glow with a robust vitality? Does your body feel full of life and *energy*? Do you feel physically STRONG, mentally *alert*, vibrantly ALIVE?

I hope and pray *many* of our brethren DO—but let's face it, most probably DON'T!

Then, look around you. What about your own loved ones, your friends and relatives? Undoubtedly you know *personally* of MANY—perhaps *in your own family*—who have died of one or another of the major chronic diseases afflicting such vast segments of our population.

Yes, it truly is a *sick* world.

**Broken Laws Result in  
Broken Lives**

God's True Church knows the reason WHY the world's most "advanced" civilizations are suffering from such hideous curses! We have been shown the TRUTH that God Almighty is our HEALER. *God* is the great Lawgiver and Judge. And God has also laid down certain *physical laws* involving our physical well-being and good health.

mental fear, anxiety, tension and worry. He promised we would have *healthy children!*

Today, a God-rejecting world seeks to the god of *flies, Baalzebub*, for deliverance from its physical and mental afflictions.

But God reveals He will not only *bless* us by giving us good health, through obedience to His laws—but IF we make mistakes and commit a physical *sin* against our own bodies, HE is our Healer!

God's True Church *recognizes how the world got this way*—knows the exact *reason* for the staggering amount of physical affliction in our nation, and understands what God intends to do about it in the future!

Do you realize, brethren, how vitally IMPORTANT to you, and to your loved ones, it is to understand even this ONE of the SEVEN major proofs of God's True Church? Think of the MARVELOUS blessing of knowing our Heavenly Father is also our HEALER!

The churches of this world simply do not KNOW the real cause of sickness and disease—nor do they know how to be *healed* of their infirmities.

#### KNOWLEDGE, Not Nonsense

But, brethren of God's True Church—some of YOU, KNOWING this precious truth—have gone to *extremes* in matters of health.

God's Church is NOT a Church of bug-eyed food fadists, plumb bobbors and pill swallows. God's Church should NOT be made up of those who search through other's cupboards trying to spy white bread or white sugar! God's Church should NOT be composed of those who must ladle wheat germ, bone meal, cod liver oil or compressed alfalfa onto every meal!

God's Church should not be a collection of *food fanatics* who dearly LOVE to pass on the proverbial "old wives' tales" about how to get rid of this or that childhood rash, fever, or disease—about how to eat this or that during pregnancy—about how to diagnose and treat *anything* from bunions to bruises!

And yet, brethren, some of YOU absolutely DO fall into these categories!

There literally HAVE BEEN, in times

past, those who "plumb bobbed" their food. I mean—they actually pulled out a little weight and a ball of string, held the weight suspended by the string over their plate of food—and tried to "determine" (or should I say "divine"?) whether or not the food was good and fit to eat by the direction in which the plumb bob swung back and forth!

Others have thought the excrement from ducks was an excellent salve for the removal of corns! Still others have become convinced you should drink gallons of grape juice during pregnancy; eat yogurt religiously; cook all meat until it is roughly the consistency of last year's shoe leather; and above all things, never use anything but *sea salt!*

But WHY, brethren?

Try as you may—whether you find a formula for diet never heard of in the remotest reaches of the nether valleys of Nepal—YOU SIMPLY CANNOT FIND A SHORT CUT TO HEALTH!

MEMBERS OF GOD'S TRUE CHURCH KNOW IT!

The True Church of God KNOWS the most *basic* of *all* laws of health—the *revealed* laws about clean and unclean foods!

One of the *most important* proofs of ALL is the right knowledge about HEALTH, and about HEALING! Here's the vital reason.

God is our Healer. That's one of His very NAMES!

And God reveals plainly, in His Word, that healing is the forgiveness of physical *sin*. Only GOD can forgive sin! *ONLY GOD CAN HEAL!*

The FIRST of the Ten Commandments says, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me!" This great law, together with the FOURTH commandment, comprises the great TEST commandment God laid before our ancient forefathers.

The Sabbath law is the identifying SIGN of every true Christian! And, equally, the SECOND commandment—against IDOLATRY—points out WHERE ARE THE TRUE PEOPLE OF GOD.

To rely on ANY foods, supplements, medicines, drugs, knives, OR EVEN ON FASTING, for HEALING (AND NONE OF THESE CAN, EVER HAVE, OR EVER WILL HEAL!) IS TO BREAK  
(Please continue on page 22)



Wide World Photo

This pictures mankind's pitiful state as he continues to live contrary to the laws of health the Creator set in motion.

However, these *physical* laws, though applying basically to our diet and how we act when we are sick, are also very definitely SPIRITUAL in principle.

When God laid a choice before our forefathers, He promised wonderful *blessings* for obeying His laws! He promised we would be a people FREE from the botch and blight of Egypt, from the "childhood" diseases, from

# Fifteen Men Ordained -- And God's Work Grows!

*A joyous PENTECOST was recently observed. And more ordinations and GROWTH follow in its wake!*

by Roderick C. Meredith

**“W**E DO hear them speak in our tongues the *wonderful works of God*” (Acts 2:11).

Certainly the THOUSANDS of brethren meeting around the world on this recent Pentecost could say the same! From everywhere, reports come of *powerful preaching, inspired sermons and record attendances* this Pentecost, 1964.

Over *three thousand* met in the beautiful Pasadena Civic Auditorium with God's Headquarters Church. Over *twenty-one hundred* met at Chicago, *eighteen hundred* at Big Sandy and *three hundred three* in far-off Australia. Even down in South Africa, the Feast attendance record was broken when *one hundred fifty-eight* brethren were present there for Pentecost.

## Fifteen Ministers and Elders Ordained!

Jesus commands us: “Pray ye there-

fore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest” (Matt. 9:38).

*Have YOU been praying for more ministers?*

If you have, your prayers are *being answered!* For *many more* servants of Jesus Christ are qualifying for ordination at each Festival season.

While Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong was in New York on his way to England, he was joined by Mr. Raymond Cole in ordaining two Preaching Elders. Mr. Guy Engelbart, already a *Local Elder*, was elevated to *Preaching Elder*; and Mr. Gary Antion was also ordained to that rank.

This year, *three* men were ordained on the Day of Pentecost itself. They were: Mr. Roy Holladay—Ambassador graduate ordained as *Local Elder* by Mr. Jon Hill and Mr. Bill McDowell at Pittsburgh. Mr. Jim Lichtenstein—an Ambassador graduate ordained also as a

*Local Elder* by Mr. Les McCullough and Mr. Carlton Smith at Portland.

Then, Mr. Gary Arvidson—an American graduate of Ambassador College in England was ordained as a full *Preaching Elder* in God's Church. Mr. Ken Swisher and I had the privilege of performing this ordination on the Day of Pentecost at Big Sandy.

## Ordinations at Graduation Time

The other ten ordinations took place on the Sabbath before the Ambassador graduation exercises in Pasadena. This is often done in the case of advanced ministerial students who have proved themselves in Christ's service.

The following men were ordained to the office of *Local Elder* at the Pasadena Headquarters Church on the Sabbath of May 30, 1964: Mr. Elbert Atlas, Mr. Paul Flatt, Mr. Roy Page, Mr. Paul Royer, Mr. Walter Sharp, Mr.

From left to right: Mr. Antion, Mr. Arvidson, Mr. Engelbart—all recently ordained to the rank of Preaching Elder in the Church of God.





Ordained at graduation as Local Elders, left to right: Messrs. Kemnitz, White, Flatt, Sharp, and Page.

Robert Spence, and Mr. Glen White. Then, to the added rejoicing of everyone, Mr. Howard Clark was ordained as a full *Preaching Elder* in God's Church.

Meanwhile, in El Monte, Mr. Les McCullough ordained Mr. Bill Rapp as a *Local Elder* there. And on Monday following, after he returned from his honeymoon over the weekend, the Evangelists at Pasadena joined in Mr. Ted Armstrong's office to ordain Mr. George Kemnitz as a *Local Elder* along with the other leading Ambassador graduates.

So now, Christ has placed in His Church a total of *one hundred fifteen* ordained ministers and elders to serve His people!

This may not sound like many to some of you newer brethren, but it means a great deal to many of us "older" ministers and brethren—and to me personally. For I well remember that there were far less than 115

*brethren*—not to speak of ministers—in attendance even at the Feast of Tabernacles when I first started attending in 1949! So let us give God THANKS for providing these ministers—and *remember to pray for each of them* and their responsibilities in His service!

#### Deacons and Deaconesses Ordained

Although you brethren can all appreciate the impossibility—in God's growing Church—of describing the ordinations of all the Deacons and Deaconesses in every local church, I would like to mention two such ordinations here because they are "firsts" in far-flung areas of the earth.

First of all, then, I would like to report the ordination of Mrs. Howard Silcox as the *first Deaconess* to be ordained in the British Isles. Mr. Silcox is already a Deacon, and he and his wife were among the early pioneer members of the London Church and

have been attending and assisting zealously since early in 1957.

In addition to all of our brethren in Britain, many of us from here in the States know and love Mrs. Silcox and we can all say to her: "*Congratulations*, and Godspeed in your new office of service in Christ's body!"

Mr. Bill Winner, pastor of God's Church in Melbourne, Australia, reports on the ordination of the first Deacon in this church on the Day of Pentecost: "An additional, *wonderful* blessing the Melbourne Church was able to experience this Feast was the ordination of its *first Deacon*, Mr. David Neil. The blessing of beautiful weather for God's Holy Day was also appreciated. A total of 195 attended the all-day services and rejoiced in the multiple blessings God poured out upon us this Pentecost season.

"A word about Mr. Neil, recently ordained Deacon: Prior to being added to God's Church in 1960, Mr. Neil

served as a Troop Commander (holding office of Lieutenant) in the C.M.F. (Citizen Military Forces) here in Melbourne. He was the first from Melbourne to be baptized and he and his wife were among those observing the first Passover, Pentecost and Feast of Tabernacles in Australia.

"Since coming into God's Church, Mr. Neil has developed into a strong leader among his fellow brethren in Melbourne and has gained their love and respect. We thank God for now ordaining him a Deacon in His Church."

### Overseas Baptizing Tours

This March, a most rewarding and inspiring baptizing tour in New Zealand was conducted by Mr. Frank Simpkins and Mr. Dexter Faulkner. A total of eighty-two contacts was made, including visits to interested persons and members. Fifty of these met the team for baptism counseling and a final total of exactly *twenty-one* were baptized and added to the body of Christ!

The team covered a major portion of both North and South Islands, and were able to counsel and encourage many scattered listeners who will undoubtedly be baptized later.

In addition, Mr. Bill Winner—God's minister in charge of the Melbourne Church—recently conducted the *first* known baptizing tour by one of God's ministers to the island of Tasmania.

Mr. Winner reports: "God now has a handful of His own people in Tasmania. The addition of *six* people to the body of Christ was made possible by a recent tour of the island by my wife and me.

"Leaving the evening of March 9, we boarded the Princess of Tasmania bound for Devonport. After a very rough night crossing Bass Strait we were indeed happy to set our feet on stable land once again.

"Probably never before in the history of God's Church has God had a small group of His begotten children in this area of the world. Just as the Scriptures say, God is calling only a little flock to be heirs of His Kingdom during this present age. Six is not a very impressive number, but thinking in terms of six potential Gods, it staggers

the imagination. Let us all thank God for our new brethren in Tasmania."

### German Baptizing Tour

From the other side of the world, in Europe, Mr. Ronald Kelly reports on a *German* baptizing tour he is taking accompanied by Mr. Frank Schnee—Manager of our German office in Dueseldorf: "Herr Schnee and I have had a very fine trip so far. Everything has gone exceptionally well. We have been in Switzerland today driving into parts the tourists never see. It is really beautiful here—I wonder if America is like this now in the spring. Where we've traveled today reminded me much of Colorado.

"Here are the statistics so far—for the first week. Only one person did not meet us—she had gone to the hospital just a few days before we came. We met twenty-four people, three were baptized. But we could only count fourteen or fifteen of those people as having actually asked for baptism. The others did not want to be baptized, just to ask questions. So three out of fifteen were baptized and we visited nine who wanted help.

"We feel a great deal has been accomplished in many ways this week. Many were helped and we hope a few of these will be baptized in the future.

"One thing you really see here is the *deception* of the churches. It is so much more than in America. Almost every visit we make they ask what the Catholic Church or Lutheran Church will think if they leave. And did you know members of the Lutheran Church **HAVE TO PAY TO GET OUT OF THE CHURCH?** They charge two hundred Deutsche marks (over fifty dollars!) to let someone go. And some people we met have been afraid to leave—though still others have paid the amount to get out. **ASTONISHING!**

"That is the biggest problem we face—these people are really deceived and they need a leader to guide them very badly. They believe the truth, but the worldly churches have scared them into not obeying the truth. The big question is: 'Who will bury us if we leave the church?' The ministers say they will not, and that we have no

ministers for the funeral. The people are not smart enough in most cases to know that when they are dead *it makes no difference!* It sure makes one realize even more than ever why God *must intervene* and why Christ *must set this world straight!*"

Brethren, I enclosed as much of Mr. Kelly's direct report as I did so that you may understand the problem faced by many of our new converts in Europe and remember to **PRAY FOR THEM**—and for the German baptizing tour and the French baptizing tour soon to begin!

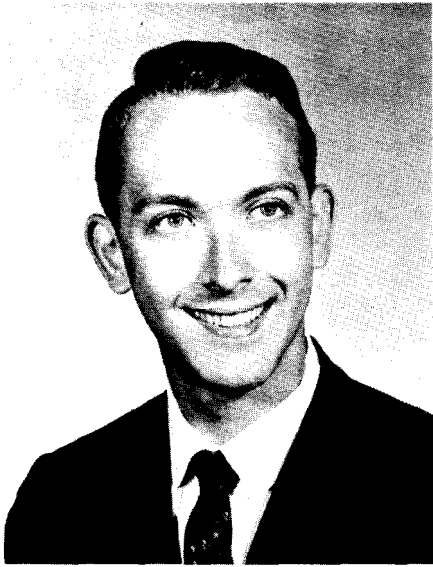
### FIVE Baptizing Tours in the U.S. and Canada

Here in North America, Mr. Dean Wilson—Director over the Canadian office and pastor of God's Church in Vancouver—will conduct a short Canadian baptizing tour assisted by Mr. Ron Miller, Ambassador College graduate. On this tour, he will be able to reach most of those requesting baptism in Western Canada and to become personally acquainted with many scattered brethren who may be able to attend the annual Festivals from time to time.

A short Negro baptizing and visiting tour is now being conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Bass. Mr. Bass—an ordained Elder in God's Church—re-

Mr. Howard Clark, newly ordained Preaching Elder.





Mr. Jim Lichtenstein, Local Elder.

cently spent this last school year at Ambassador College in Pasadena for special ministerial training. He and his wife will be able to baptize those requesting it in the southern part of the United States and thus perhaps avoid *trouble* and *persecution* which might result if white tours attempted to do this at this time. Also, he will be able to visit and encourage many of our scattered Negro brethren in this area.

The regular nation-wide tours are being conducted this year by Mr. Frank McCrady—accompanied by Mr. Dick Ames—who will cover the southeastern section of the United States; Mr. Hal Baird—assisted by Mr. John Pruner—who will primarily cover the north-eastern section of the United States and up into Eastern Canada; Mr. Paul



Mr. Roy Holladay, Local Elder.

Flatt—assisted by Mr. Dennis Pyle—who will be covering basically the Rocky Mountain and Plains State areas where we have no churches.

These tours are just now getting under way, so no reports are in as yet. But they will be visiting *hundreds* of prospective members of Christ's body, driving *thousands* of miles, and will be in *many* unusual and difficult situations before the summer is over. So REMEMBER to pray for these baptizing tours—and for the others which will be conducted in Great Britain and other parts of the world!

Fantastic GROWTH continues to be almost the order of the day in most of our local churches and several more



Mr. William Rapp, Local Elder.

*new churches* are already in the planning stage!

#### Plans for More New Churches

Recent high attendances in some of the local churches include 452 in St. Louis, 410 in Akron, Ohio, and 360 in the still relatively new church in Greensboro, North Carolina! Also, I understand that our burgeoning church in New York City had 604 in attendance recently! It will soon have to split into *two* churches—in order to provide adequate hall facilities.

Within a few weeks, the new Bible study in Asheville, North Carolina, is slated to become a *full church*—with Mr. Gary Arvidson moving there to act as co-pastor with Mr. Richard Plache in this new congregation.

Also, in the eastern area, Mr. Ray-



Mr. Paul Royer, Local Elder.

mond Cole—District Superintendent—and Mr. Guy Engelbart plan to convert the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Bible study into a regular church yet this month.

To eliminate confusion, and most of all to acquire better hall facilities, our *other* Harrisburg congregation—this one in Illinois—has moved its meeting place to Evansville, Indiana! A very fine hall has been secured there by Mr. Hal Baird, and this new location with finer facilities as well should cause the congregation to increase in size within a short period of time.

On the fourth of July, Mr. Ben Chapman—co-pastor of the Dallas Church—will preside over a planned "split" in his congregation. This "split"

*(Please continue on page 13)*



Mr. Robert Spence, Local Elder.



# The *UGLY* CHRISTIAN!

*Many brethren without realizing it fall into the category of being Ugly Christians! DO YOU? Here, from a member of the Letter Answering Department staff—which handles HUNDREDS of letters dealing with these problems—comes information you need to know—AND PRACTICE!*

by Bill Dankenbring

**A** FEW years ago, a book came out on the market entitled *The Ugly American*. Perhaps you read it. It was the gripping story of what is **WRONG** with American foreign policy. This eye-opening book revealed the stark fact that Americans *themselves*, are the worst feature of United States foreign policy. The conduct of American citizens traveling abroad gives America a *black eye* in the sight of peoples everywhere—in Europe, the Middle East, South America, and Asia!

But what about **YOU**? In your conduct before the world, do you give *God's Church* a **BLACK EYE**? Do you strike people as being weird, oddball, crazy, or fanatical?

What kind of **AMBASSADOR** for Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God **ARE YOU**? Too many of God's people are falling down in this vitally important matter! It is time we understood how to be a **GOOD** representative of the Kingdom of God!

## What Do You Mean, Ugly?

The word *UGLY* is a vivid, gruesome, word. Nobody wants to look at something that is *ugly*. Things which are *ugly* are repulsive—*repugnant*—**LOATHSOME**!

What, then, is an *ugly Christian*? Have you ever heard people comment, "If *he* is a Christian, then I don't want anything to do with it!" Or, "If that is a sample of Christian conduct, you can have it. It's not for me!" Such a person would qualify as an *ugly Christian*—a Christian who is not **REALLY following Christ** or imitating His perfect example! It is a supposed *member* who is **SELF-WILLED AND OBNOXIOUS** before God and toward other people!

Why do worldly people sometimes utter such disgusted comments, referring

to some of God's people? The answer is simple. Some of us have *not* been setting the **RIGHT example** before the world! Some, just like the "Ugly American," have offended unconverted people by ill manners, self-righteous conduct, ostentatious display of being religious, and *almost total lack of wisdom*!

Many Americans traveling in foreign lands treat the people as "local yokels" or unimportant nobodies. They love to display their riches, lavishly buying gaudy trinkets. They complain loudly when they think the price of a particular item is too high! And, because of these thoughtless actions, many foreigners *hate* the sight of our people!

**I KNOW!** Having lived in the Orient. The fact that Asians despise Americans with their big, shiny cars and fat wallets was vividly impressed on my mind. It is not uncommon for Americans to walk down the streets of cities in Formosa and hear oaths and curses muttered—or even shouted—as they go past.

But, brethren—are we making the *same mistake* in **OUR** dealings with the unconverted people of the world? Do some of us tend to parade our *self-righteousness* before people? Do we boast and brag about the "*new truth*" God has revealed to us and give the impression we think we are something special? Do we loudly complain when restaurant waiters mix up our orders? When eating in the homes of unconverted friends or relatives, do we always strive to bring the conversation around to *religion*? If pork happens to be served at dinner, do we haughtily declare, "Don't you know pork is not fit to be eaten? Pork is *unclean*—the Bible says so!"

If the answer is **YES** to any of those questions, then you should think seriously and ask yourself—"What kind of Christian am I?"

## Let Your **LIGHT** Shine

Let's notice what Jesus Christ had to say about *Christian conduct*. During the Sermon on the Mount, Christ admonished His followers, "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house" (Matt. 5:14-15). Yes, as *Christians*, we are the **LIGHT** of this sin-darkened, corrupt and wicked world! We are the **ONLY** light this world has ever known! But, let's read on.

"Let your **LIGHT so shine** before men, that they may see your *good works*, and *glorify* your Father which is in heaven" (Verse 16). As followers of Christ, brethren, **WE HAVE A JOB TO DO!** We have a commission—to let our light **SHINE!** How? In *good works!* By showing love to our neighbor, giving assistance when needed, lending a helping hand. If it were not for the people of God, this world would be in pitch darkness!

When a person enters a room and flips a switch, a light turns on and illuminates the entire room. It is a helpful, pleasing light. That is the kind of light we should be! But too many are so weak in the faith that they barely give *any* light whatsoever—just a feeble flicker. When an unconverted person sees them, he is hardly aware of the light! Such a Christian has not fully come **OUT** of this world and its pagan ways!

Others go to the *opposite* extreme. Rather than flooding the room with welcome light, they act like **HUGE BLINDING SPOTLIGHTS!** When an unconverted person sees them, he wants to either "shut them off" or run and hide!

God Almighty, our Father in Heaven, wants us to live **BALANCED, NORMAL**

Christian lives. He does not want us to be weak lights, failing to live the way we profess. Neither does He want us to become *fanatical extremists*—glaring spotlights—who give people the impression that true Christianity is some weird sect or *outlandish cult!*

Jesus said, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the CHILDREN of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust" (Matt. 5:44-45).

What about you? Do you love the people of this world—people who are ignorant of the laws of health, ignorant of God's perfect way of life, TOTALLY ignorant of *how* to live, the *purpose* of life—people whose lives are all mixed up, frustrated, miserable and wretched? Do you feel COMPASSION for the multitudes, as Christ—our example—*did*?

When *you* chance to meet an unconverted stranger, what is your *reaction*? Do you fearfully ignore him, afraid he might find out you are a Christian? Or do you despise him, because he doesn't have the truth you have? What *should* you do? Christ said LOVE even your enemies! We should show *love, warmth, and friendliness* whenever we meet unconverted people!

*That* is the kind of light we are to be!

### Too Much Talk

One mistake many people in God's Church make when around unconverted people is, THEY TALK TOO MUCH! How many times have *you* gotten into "hot water" because you opened your mouth when you shouldn't have? How many times have you said things which you later regretted?

One thing we often fail to remember about being a Christian LIGHT, is that a *light* shines forth and illuminates. It is *silent*—it does not make a SOUND! Ponder that a while. A light is *not* A TRUMPET! It is a silent, *quiet, shining* WITNESS! God's *people* should be shining *lights*. God's MINISTERS are the ones to lift up their voices like *trumpets* to show the people their SINS! (Isa. 58:1).

"Think before you speak" is certainly a fine motto—especially for a Christian!

*Think* before you begin to discuss a certain topic at work. THINK before you give a *rebuttal* to your unconverted mate who seems to want to argue. THINK TWICE before justifying a mistake, or giving an excuse to your employer as to why you failed to accomplish a certain task! *Use your head* next time you visit a relative's home for dinner. If you do, there will be much more PEACE in your life! As Solomon was inspired to write, "When a man's ways [and words!] please the LORD, he maketh even his *enemies* to be at *peace* with him" (Prov. 16:7).

One of the quickest ways to get into trouble is to "open mouth and insert foot." It would look *odd* to see a man hobbling around, one leg twisted up and his foot awkwardly stuck in his mouth! But that is how we appear to God when we make some crass, unnecessary, foolish remark which would have been better left unsaid! Solomon also wrote, "He that hath knowledge *spareth* his words: and a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit" (Prov. 17:27).

The reason many people like to talk so much is that they think they are impressing people—they are really getting their message across. But such is not the case! Rather, a good listener is respected more than a voluble talker who prates endlessly on, never knowing when to quit. "Even a FOOL, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that SHUTTETH HIS LIPS is esteemed a man of *understanding*" (Verse 28).

### When to Speak

When should a Christian speak, then? Is there ever a time? Most assuredly there is! The Apostle Peter gives us the answer to this question. Peter wrote, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to GIVE AN ANSWER to every man that *asketh* you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear" (I Pet. 3:15). Whenever anybody approaches you and begins to ask *sincere* questions regarding your belief, *then* is the time to speak forth and explain, in a simple, clear, logical manner. But, be sure to *use wisdom*! Do NOT use the individual's question merely as a chance to PREACH A SERMON at him. That would be the quickest way to

offend him, stifle his interest, and turn him away for good!

Let your answer be with MEEKNESS and godly fear, Peter said. Just *answer the question*. Don't be too curt or brief. Be friendly! But on the other hand, don't elaborate or go into great detail, just give enough of an answer to spark his curiosity and stimulate his interest. God *may* be calling him to His truth!

If YOU will be very careful with what you *say*—and guard the doors of your *mouth*—you will succeed much better in avoiding giving the impression of BEING an "UGLY CHRISTIAN"! "Let your speech be always with GRACE, seasoned with salt [tangy, zesty], that ye may *know how* ye ought to *answer* every man," the Apostle Paul admonished (Col. 4:6).

### Ambassadors for Christ

The United States is losing friends fast around the world because of its wretched, pitiful host of "good-will Ambassadors"—the tourists—the typical gum-chewing, bag-toting, pallid-faced American citizens abroad!

As members of the very CHURCH OF GOD, we also are AMBASSADORS—Ambassadors for a much greater cause! "Now then we are AMBASSADORS *for Christ*," the Apostle Paul wrote (II Cor. 5:20). "For our CITIZENSHIP [*Politeuma* in the original Greek] is in heaven" (Phil. 3:20).

What kind of an emissary are YOU? Are you losing friends for God's Work by your example? Do you give the wrong impression? Do you turn people away from the truth of God by your super-righteous conduct?

*Are you an UGLY Christian?*

Or are you a GOOD Ambassador? A balanced, *normal*, friendly person? Is your countenance *filled* with joy, happiness and radiance? Do people see your example and think, "I wish I were as cheerful and happy as *he* is! I'd sure like to know that person!"

Analyze yourself! Brethren, face up to those questions! BEGIN WORKING ON YOURSELF so that you will be a better, more effective, more influential AMBASSADOR for Jesus Christ, the *greatest Ambassador* ever alive, who set us the perfect example!

# Peter Was NOT The First Pope!

*Here are TEN solid, Biblical proofs that Peter was not at Rome. Mark each in your Bible and understand them well, so YOU will not be deceived.*

by Ernest L. Martin

THE PRIMACY of the Roman Catholic Church depends upon *one* fundamental doctrine: the claim that Peter was the first Bishop of Rome and the founder of the Roman Church.

The teaching of *Catholic* historians tells us that Simon Peter went to Rome at the same time as Simon Magus in order to thwart his evils. This was during the reign of Claudius. After successfully combating the Magus, they tell us, Peter assumed the Roman bishopric and ruled it until the Neronian persecutions of 68 A.D., during which Peter was supposed to have been crucified upside down on Vatican hill. This is the basic story and Catholic writers

never shirk in attempting to defend it. Some of them say that this general account is one of the most provable of historical events.

*But is it?*

The fact remains, many ecclesiastical authors of the second century, Justin Martyr among them, give information *completely negating* Peter's supposed Roman bishopric. This is admitted by virtually all scholars—except conservative Catholics (*Ency. Biblica*, col. 4554). But more important than this, the records of the True Church of God—the writings of the New Testament—absolutely refute the Roman Catholic claim.

It is time that the world gets its eyes open to the truth of this matter—the truth, which is clearly revealed in the Word of God. The Apostle Peter was NEVER the Bishop of Rome!!

## The Bible Teaching

There are ten major New Testament proofs which completely disprove the claim that Peter was in Rome from the time of Claudius to Nero. These Biblical points speak for themselves and ANY ONE of them is sufficient to prove the ridiculousness of the Catholic claim. Notice what God tells us! The truth is conclusive!

PROOF ONE: We should consider

This is a wide-angle general view of St. Peter's Square. The very name is in error—the Apostle Peter was never here—read the proof in this article.

Wide World Photo



*Christ's commission to Peter.* This is often very embarrassing to Catholics, because *Christ* commissioned Peter to become chief minister to the CIRCUMCISED, not to uncircumcised Gentiles.

"*The gospel of the CIRCUMCISION was unto Peter; (For he that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles:)*" (Gal. 2:7-8).

Here we have it in the clearest of language. It was *Paul*, NOT Peter, who was commissioned to be the chief Apostle to the Gentiles. And who was it that wrote the Epistle to the ROMANS? *It certainly WASN'T Peter!*

"And when James, Cephas [Peter], and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace [i.e. the gift or office] that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; *that we should go unto the Gentiles*, and they unto the circumcision" (Gal. 2:9).

Paul further mentioned his *special* office as the Gentile Apostle in II Timothy 1:11:

"Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, *and an apostle*, and a teacher of the Gentiles."

PETER is NOWHERE called the *Apostle to the Gentiles!* This precludes him from going to Rome to become the head of a Gentile community.

PROOF TWO: Paul specifically told the Gentile Romans that HE had been chosen to be *their* Apostle, not Peter.

"I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, *that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable*" (Rom. 15:16).

How clear!

Paul had the *direct charge* from *Christ* in this matter. He even further relates in Romans 15:18 that it was Christ who had chosen him "*to make the Gentiles obedient, by word and deed.*"

#### PAUL Established Only TRUE Church at Rome

PROOF THREE: We are told by Paul himself that it was he—not Peter—who was going to officially *found* the Roman Church.

"I long to see you, that I may im-

part unto you some spiritual gift, *to the end ye may be established*" (Rom. 1:11).

Amazing! The Church at Rome had not been ESTABLISHED officially even by 55 or 56 A.D. However, the Catholics would have us believe that Peter had done this some ten years before—in the reign of Claudius. *What nonsense!*

Of course you understand that NEITHER Peter nor Paul established the Catholic Church! But these proofs are given to illustrate that it is *utterly impossible* for PETER to have been in any way associated with ANY Church at Rome.

PROOF FOUR: We find Paul not only wanting to establish the Church at Rome, but he emphatically tells us that his policy was NEVER to build upon another man's foundation.

"Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, *not where Christ was named, LEST I SHOULD BUILD UPON ANOTHER MAN'S FOUNDATION*" (Rom. 15:20).

If Peter had "founded" the Roman Church some ten years before this statement, this represents a real affront to Peter. This statement alone is proof that Peter had never been in Rome before this time to "found" any church.

#### Peter Not in Rome

PROOF FIVE: At the end of Paul's Epistle to the Romans he greets no fewer than 28 different individuals, but *never mentions Peter once!* See Romans 16—read the whole chapter!

Remember, Paul greeted these people in 55 or 56 A.D. Why didn't he mention Peter?—*Peter simply wasn't there!*

PROOF SIX: Some four years after Paul wrote Romans, he was conveyed as a prisoner to Rome in order to stand trial before Caesar. When the Christian community in Rome heard of Paul's arrival, they *all* went to meet him.

"When THE brethren [of Rome] heard of us, they came to meet us" (Acts 28:15).

Again, there is not a single mention of Peter among them. This would have been extraordinary had Peter been in Rome, for Luke always mentions by

name important Apostles in his narration of Acts. But he says nothing of Peter's meeting with Paul.

Why? Because Peter was not in Rome!

PROOF SEVEN: When Paul finally arrived at Rome, the first thing he did was to summon "the chief of the Jews together" (Acts 28:17) to whom he "expounded and testified the kingdom of God" (Verse 23).

But what is amazing is that these chief Jewish elders claimed they knew *very little* even about the basic teachings of Christ. All they knew was that "as concerning this sect, we know that everywhere it is spoken against" (Verse 22). Then Paul began to explain to them the *basic* teachings of Christ on the Kingdom of God. Some believed—the majority didn't.

Now, what does all this mean? It means that if Peter, who was himself a strongly partisan Jew, had been preaching constantly in Rome for 14 long years before this time, *AND WAS STILL THERE*—how could these Jewish leaders have known so little about even the basic truths of Christianity? This again is clear proof Peter had *not* been in Rome prior to 59 A.D.

#### No Mention of Peter in Paul's Letters

PROOF EIGHT: After the rejection of the Jewish elders, Paul remained in his own hired house for two years. During that time he wrote Epistles to the Ephesians, the Philippians, the Colossians, Philemon, and to the Hebrews. And while Paul mentions *others* as being in Rome during that period, he nowhere mentions Peter. The obvious reason is—the Apostle to the circumcision wasn't there!

PROOF NINE: With the expiration of Paul's two year's imprisonment, he was released. But about four years later (near 65 A.D.), he was again sent back a prisoner to Rome. This time he had to appear before the throne of Caesar and was sentenced to die. Paul describes these circumstances at length in II Timothy.

In regard to his trial, notice  
(Please continue on page 24)



## The Bible Answers Your Questions

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

What good do my prayers do for others and the Work of God? Won't God intervene whether I pray or not?

Perhaps YOU—like this reader—don't realize the real IMPORTANCE or NEED for *your personal prayers*—for others, for yourself, and for the Work of God.

Perhaps *you* have been *neglecting* prayer as a result—not fully realizing how *dangerous* it is to do so. Perhaps you don't believe that one man's prayers—especially yours—will make any difference.

But *your Bible* says they will!

In Numbers 14:11-16 God gives us a living example of how *effective* one man's prayers can be. Notice: Israel had rebelled over and over again until God—a merciful and loving God—was RIGHTEOUSLY ANGRY. God was going to DESTROY Israel—the whole nation! He asked Moses “. . . HOW LONG will this people provoke me? . . . I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of THEE a greater nation and mightier than they.”

Realize—this was GOD speaking, not a mere man. God had the POWER to bring about what He said, and He said He was going to *destroy* Israel—all of it!

But what happened?

Moses—just one human being—*prayed* for Israel. He pleaded for them (Verses 15-19). He presented the whole situation before God and *asked* God to have mercy.

Moses was ONE MAN. But notice what God did because of this one man's prayers:

“And the Lord said, I HAVE PARDONED ACCORDING TO THY WORD” (Verse 20).

God *heard* and *answered* Moses' prayer for Israel. Yet IF Moses HADN'T prayed, Israel would have been DE-

STROYED. That one prayer was *IMPOR-*  
*TANT*.

For another example notice James 5:17, “Elias was a MAN subject to like passions AS WE ARE . . .” Elijah of the Old Testament was a weak human being—weak of himself as you and I are—but did he use that as an *excuse* for not praying? Did he say, “I'm just a weak human being. What good could *my* prayers do? I guess I'll just not pray!”? NO!

Notice, “. . . and he prayed EARNESTLY that it might not rain . . . AND IT RAINED NOT . . .”

God heard and answered this one man's prayer. How important that prayer was to God! God *acted* upon it. He *intervened* BECAUSE of it.

YOUR PRAYERS are just that important. God will hear and respect your prayer for your sick husband or wife or children. He will *intervene* ONLY IF we pray. He WILL answer *when* we pray for the financial standing of God's Work, for the opening of new Churches, for *The WORLD TOMORROW* broadcast, for the publishing of *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine, and for the spreading of this vital endtime message to the world.

YOUR PERSONAL PRAYERS ARE needed!

**You have often mentioned I Thessalonians 5:21 over the radio, telling your listeners to “prove all things.” How does one “prove all things”?**

God has so written His Word, the Bible, that you can PROVE it to be true.

There are two basic ways to “prove all things”—two ways to be sure your beliefs are based upon *scriptural fact* and not the vain ideas of men.

The Bible includes many definite predictions about *future events*. These prophecies, and the historical records that accompany them, have been so written that you can see God is stand-

## God's Work Grows

(Continued from page 8)



Mr. Elbert Atlas, Local Elder.

has full approval from Headquarters! For it is adding an additional local church in Fort Worth, Texas, to help solve the overcrowded condition in Dallas and enable many brethren from west of Fort Worth to attend regularly.

Brethren, the Living CHRIST is completely *on the job* this summer in guiding His Work! As the long summer days arrive, let us “gird up our loins” and USE them in the service of our GOD. Let us not bog down or become listless. Let us not become “weary in well doing,” but USE the long summer hours for *extra* prayer, *extra* Bible study and *extra* service and encouragement to our fellow brethren.

Let us GIVE of ourselves—*pray for one another*—and make this summer's spiritual harvest the GREATEST in the modern history of God's Church!

ing behind His Word, and that these prophecies have been and continue to be fulfilled. (If you don't already have our free booklet “*The Proof of the Bible*,” write for it immediately!) But checking Bible prophecies in an academic way is only one method to “prove all things.” You can “prove all things” in *another* way! The KEY lies in the word, “prove” used in I Thessalonians 5:21.

Let's understand!

In Luke 14:19, you will find the *very same* Greek word used and trans-

lated "prove." Luke is writing of a man making the excuse that he must "prove" five yoke of oxen, and cannot attend the "great supper" of the parable. The word "prove" is translated from the Greek word *dokimazo* and means, "to test by doing." This man was going out into the field, and put his new oxen to the test—to test them by putting them to work!

I Thessalonians 5:21 challenges you to "prove" God's Word by *putting it to the test!*

Notice in Malachi 3:10, the Hebrew counterpart of this Greek word is used. The Hebrew word for "prove" here is, *bachan* and means to "try or test by doing." This is God's *challenge* to the skeptic or doubter! Read it! "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and **PROVE ME** now herewith, saith the Eternal of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." We prove this tithing law by putting it to the test.

This is the **SECOND** way to "**PROVE ALL THINGS!**"

Acts 17:11 gives the concrete example of how the Berean converts proved all things. Let's receive the instruction we find in their attitude of study.

What was it that the Bereans studied? They did not study the ideas of men about the Bible, or the tradition of their pagan ancestors—they studied the **SCRIPTURES "DAILY!"** They studied the *Old Testament* scriptures. No other scriptures were available at that time.

How did the Bereans study? Their approach to the Bible was not *negative*—seeking to *find fault* with God's Word. They were *open-minded*, willing to put the Bible to an honest test. Read Luke's evaluation of them, "These were **MORE NOBLE** than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with **ALL READINESS OF MIND**, and searched the scriptures daily, *whether those things WERE SO*" (Acts 17:11).

The Bereans sought the plain truth with a positive attitude. They were will-

ing to accept the Bible which was written for our instruction, correction and reproof (II Tim. 3:16).

In I Thessalonians 5:21 God challenges *you* to test His Word as these Bereans did by putting it into **ACTION** in your *life!*

The skeptic doesn't believe in answered prayer, because he has never had prayer answered for him. You can't understand the **ECONOMY** of *tithing* until you begin to tithe and **SEE IT WORK!**

Some of God's Word must be tested by putting it into *action*, by taking it out to the "field" to see whether or not it will work in a down-to-earth situation.

God *challenges you* to put His Bible to the **TEST!**

If you have the *courage* and the *faith* to act as the Bereans did, then it can be written of you, "therefore **MANY OF THEM BELIEVED**" (Acts 17:12)!

**My teen-age daughter has asked me, "If time is so short, why not live it up now? I won't be here to have a marriage and children. We'll all be slaves. What's the use of missing everything?" How should I answer her?**

Many teen-agers have voiced the same question. They look about at world conditions, they may understand a few Bible prophecies, and they assume that everything is hopeless—we are all **DOOMED!** Calamity is coming and there is *no escape!*

However, there is a fatal flaw in such reasoning. What such an individual does not understand is that God Almighty is bringing punishment upon our nation for a **REASON**—and, for those who *act*, God has provided a way of escape!

God is going to punish this nation because of **SIN!** Jeremiah wrote, "All thy lovers have forgotten thee; they seek thee not; for I have wounded thee with the wound of *an enemy*, with the chastisement of a cruel one, for the **MULTITUDE** of thine *iniquity*; because *thy SINS were increased*" (Jer. 30:14). Yes, it is this very attitude of "Let's

get our kicks now!" which is bringing Divine retribution upon this nation.

Many people, especially teen-agers, think that *sin* is fun. They think that if they don't get their "kicks," they are "missing out" on something! Yet God's Word shows that sin is **EVIL**, filthy, rotten and leads to empty, miserable, frustrated lives.

This attitude of "Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die" is rampant in the United States. *And it was prophesied!* Isaiah was inspired to write, "And in that day did the Lord God of hosts call to weeping, and to mourning, and to baldness, and to girding with sackcloth: And behold joy and gladness, slaying oxen, and killing sheep, eating flesh, and drinking wine: **LET US EAT AND DRINK; FOR TOMORROW WE SHALL DIE!**" (Isa. 22:12-13).

Instead of repenting at God's warning message, instead of fearing to continue living in **SIN**, people are eating, drinking, dancing, trying to have a "good time" and get their "kicks"! Instead of looking at the dire **PERIL** stalking the world, people turn away their eyes and seek their own fleshly pleasures.

It was the same way before the Flood of Noah's time. Jesus Christ said, "For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And *knew not* until the flood came, and took them all away; **SO SHALL ALSO** the coming of the Son of man be" (Matt. 24:38-39). And it was the *same way* in the days of Lot, when God rained fire and brimstone from heaven to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah for their wickedness (Luke 17:28-29). *So it always has been* when nations faced Divine judgment!

"Why not live it up now?" The answer is very simple. Living it up now, plunging headlong, heedlessly on into sin, and refusing to **REPENT** is the *very thing which is BRINGING destruction and punishment upon this land!* The only way to escape these punishments is to **STOP** living it up now, repent, and turn to **GOD** in utter humility (Luke 13:3, 5). God warns his people through the Prophet Ezekiel, ". . . turn ye, *(Please continue on page 20)*

# WINE MAKES A GLAD HEART

*Do you know the HEALTHFUL benefits of wine? Or, have you FALSELY assumed that wine is ALL BAD? You can learn now how to receive a BLESSING instead of a curse, by PROPER USE OF WINE.*

*by L. Leroy Neff*

**T**HE BIBLE says that God gives wine to make men *glad* (Ps. 104:15). Why have some men turned this blessing of God into a *curse*?

God plainly shows the *proper use* of wine in the Bible. But, men have *refused* to follow God's instruction. If we follow the scriptural instruction our health will benefit, and we will have a happier heart.

Here is an opportunity to learn these benefits from your own Bible and from scientific sources that you probably have not known before.

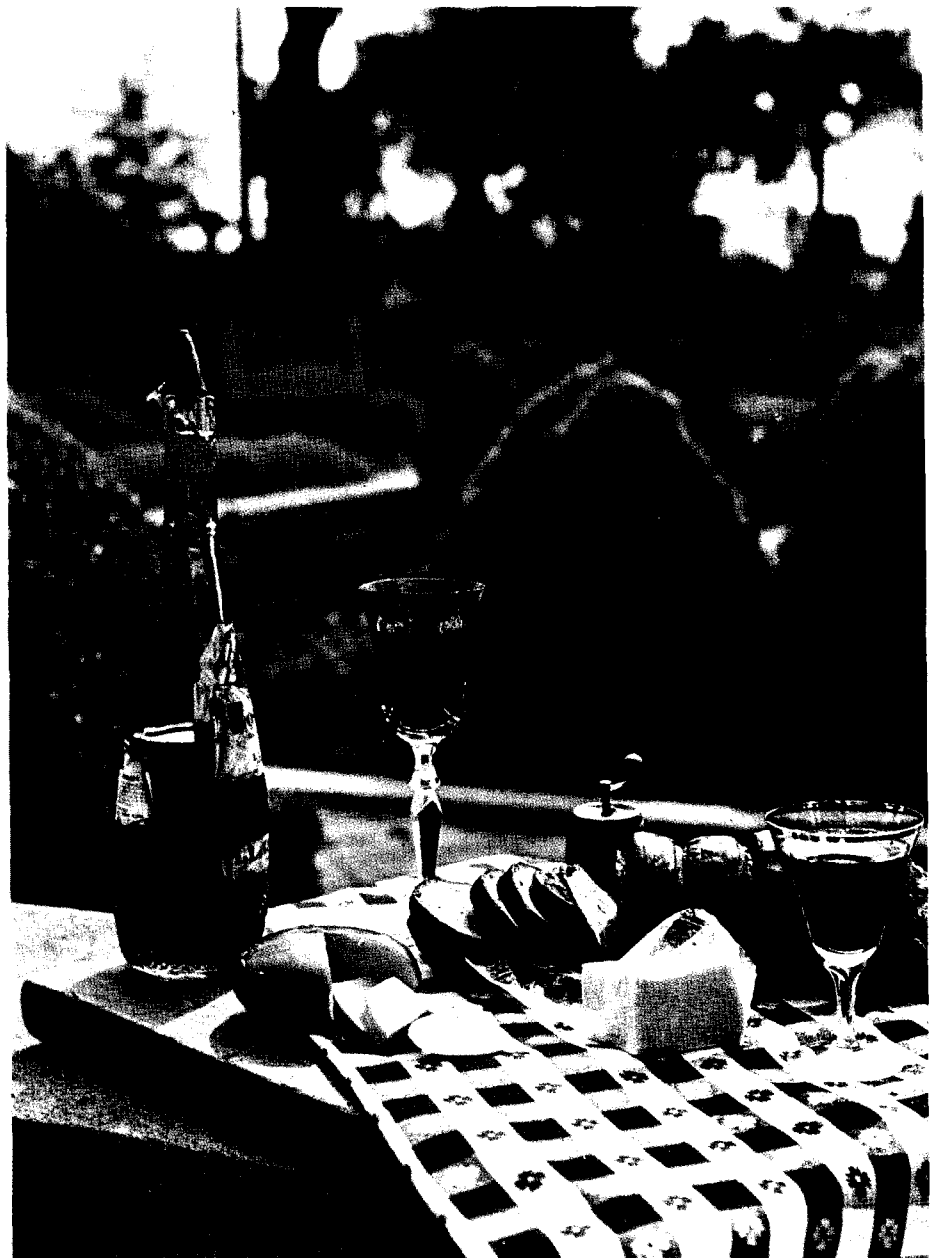
In the United States there are about fifty million social drinkers, three to five million *excessive* drinkers, and seven hundred fifty thousand *alcoholics*. Thousands of lives are ruined by drinking! Countless numbers of people suffer untold pain and anguish because of relatives or loved ones who drink *excessively*.

Because of the *improper* use of alcohol by a relatively few people, many others have come to the conclusion that *any use* of alcoholic beverages is completely and totally wrong. Many devout, religious people sincerely believe that God has forbidden any use of alcohol.

Wine is frequently mentioned in the Bible. If the use of wine is a sin, the Bible will *plainly* show that it is wrong. If there are benefits of wine, it will say so.

## Enjoy Wine

Melchizedek was priest of the Most High God at Salem (Jerusalem) during the time of Abraham. The Apostle Paul showed in the New Testament that this



*Ambassador College Photo*

The way God intended its use, wine can be used as a regular part of the diet—and be a controlled benefit, not an uncontrolled curse. As this photograph shows, wine has its natural beauty as well as the other foods God created to be enjoyed.

person was none other than the One who became Jesus Christ of the New Testament (Heb. 7).

On one occasion Abraham was *entertained* by Melchizedek. On this memorable occasion Melchizedek "brought forth bread and *wine*," for Abraham and his companions (Gen. 14:18). This is an example of Jesus Christ Himself, our Lord and Master serving *wine* to His guests! And, *He did not sin!*

This particular Hebrew word translated *wine* is *yayin*. This word is used 134 times in the Old Testament and it means *fermented wine*, not grape juice! This same beverage, when used *excessively* causes *drunkenness*. Proof is found in Genesis 9:21 where Noah drank *yayin* *excessively* and became drunk. Lot also became drunk on this *same* beverage (Gen. 19:30-36). It was the beverage used by Nabal so that he too became drunken (I Sam. 25:36-37).

God instructed His people to ENJOY *yayin* at the commanded Festivals (Deut. 14:26). In addition to enjoying wine we may also enjoy "*strong drink*." This term comes from an entirely different Hebrew word—*shekar*—which is used *twenty-two times* in the Old Testament, and means an "*intensely alcoholic liquor*."

These scriptures should make it clear that there can be a *right* and a *wrong* use of *yayin*. Christ in the office of Melchizedek *used it properly*. Noah, Lot and Nabal used it *improperly* in the accounts mentioned. We should learn to use it *properly* as Christ did.

In addition to using wine as a beverage God also *commanded* His Levitical Priesthood to include in the sacrifices a portion of wine as a *drink offering* (Ex. 29:40).

A blessing of wine was prophesied for our people today as a part of our national heritage! Read it in Genesis 27:28. "*Therefore God give thee of the dew of heaven, and the fatness of the earth, and PLENTY of corn and WINE.*"

Today, some people think that this particular blessing from God is a *curse* instead of a *blessing*! God gives *good GIFTS* to his children. For some people

who have improperly used it, *it has become a curse*. But if used correctly it is a *blessing* from Almighty God. This should emphasize our need to learn the proper use.

This same wine (*tirosh*) is also shown to be a gift of God in another scripture. "For she [Israel] did not know that I gave her corn, and *wine*, and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold, which they prepared for Baal. Therefore will I return, and take away my corn in the time thereof, and *my wine* in the season thereof, and will recover my wool and my flax given to cover her nakedness" (Hosea 2:8-9).

The word *tirosh*, "new wine," is used in these two places and in thirty-six other places in the Old Testament. People sometimes conclude that this word means *grape juice*, or *fresh-pressed juice of the vine*.

These scriptures show that wine is a *blessing* from God; however, the Scriptures also show plainly that wine can be a *curse* if *improperly* used. Hosea 4:11 states: "Whoredom and *wine* [*yayin*] and *new wine* [*tirosh*] *take away the heart*." Grape juice could not have this effect. This scripture should make it plain that the *improper* or *excessive* use of *either* wine or *new wine* will cause a person to temporarily lose proper control of his mind and body. The Hebrew *tirosh*, translated *new wine*, *can be intoxicating!*

This is also proved in Judges 9:13 where it is stated that *tirosh* "*CHEER-ETH God and man*." Grape juice does not have a warming or cheering effect, but wine, used moderately and not in excess does.

#### Christ Drank—John Didn't

John the Baptist did not drink wine (*oinos*) (Luke 7:33). However, Jesus Christ DID drink *oinos* (wine). He said He did in Matthew 11:19, and Luke 7:34. Christ had not changed since the days of His office as Melchizedek. He did not preach against the *temperate* use of wine; instead He did like most of the other people of His day and drank *wine* in moderation! It was one of the principal beverages in Palestine at that time—and is to this day.

His first miracle was to change water into real *fermented wine* (*oinos*) (John 2:10). People who preach abstinence refuse to admit that this first miracle of Jesus was really what the Bible plainly says it was. They claim that this miracle was to turn water into grape juice! Imagine if you can an elaborate Jewish wedding supper where everyone drank only grape juice!

Christ turned six jars of twenty or thirty gallons each into wine (*oinos*)! This was no small miracle!

This was the kind of wine that the steward said was of *finest quality*. Could it have been grape juice? "Every man serves the *good wine* first; and when men have drunk freely, then the poor wine; but you have kept the GOOD WINE until now" (John 2:10, RSV). At such wedding feasts after men had "drunk freely," or more correctly were "softened with drink," the poorer quality of wine was brought out. The people did not realize the difference by then. To anyone who will read the Scripture for what it says, and who will be honest with himself the answer is obvious, this was *real*, fermented, alcoholic *wine*.

Another proof that *oinos* is FERMENTED *wine* is the fact that Paul said, "Be not drunk with wine (*oinos*)" (Eph. 5:18). *You cannot get drunk on grape juice!*

A parable which Jesus gave also proves that *oinos* is the kind of wine or juice that has been fermented. At that time, instead of having metal or glass bottles to enclose wine, the *skins* of animals were used. The working quality of the wine while fermenting, would break an old skin. It would not break a new skin because of its pliable characteristics. Jesus said that *oinos* would break old bottles (skins) (Matt. 9:17).

Paul instructed Timothy, "Drink no longer water, but use a *little wine* (*oinos*) for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities" (I Tim. 5:23). Notice, he said to use only a *little wine*, not a *whole lot*. This one scripture shows that the amount of wine used should be limited. The purpose of this wine was Timothy's frequent



stomach ailments. Later we will see why it was beneficial for Timothy to use fermented wine for his stomach.

### Wrong Use of Wine Condemned

Several scriptures have shown that it is not a sin to use wine *properly*. But what of the *improper use*? Drunkenness and the excessive use of wine is condemned (Eph. 5:18). Drunkenness is one of the works of *the flesh* (Gal. 5:21).

Those who are "mighty to drink" (excessive drinkers), are condemned by God (Isa. 5:22). The improper use of wine is a mocker and deceiver. "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Prov. 20:1). Those that *tarry long* over wine and spend a great deal of time in drinking will find all kinds of woe, sorrow and trouble (Prov. 23:29-30). While *in the process* of fermentation, wine will cause sickness and pain (Prov. 23:31-32). Verse 21 of this same chapter instructs us *not* to be among those who are *wine bibbers* (excessive drinkers), nor are we to be among gluttons (excessive eaters). The *excessive* use of food is just as *evil* as excessive drinking. If this verse means you should not touch one drop of wine, it also means you should not touch one morsel of food!

Even though alcoholism is a serious *sin* in our land, only a small percentage of people are guilty of it. There are untold *millions more* who are *gluttons*, smokers, idolaters, Sabbath-breakers, and who violate all of God's other commands.

One doctor looks at the matter of alcohol being habit-forming as follows: "Occasionally heard as an objection to prescribing alcohol . . . is that alcohol is habit-forming. So now hold on to your chair or your prejudice if any. Drinking is nothing like as habit-forming as smoking. It isn't even as habit-forming as overeating. From all practical viewpoints and for all practical purposes liquor is not habit-forming at all" (From *Liquor, the Servant of Man*, by Walter Hall Smith and Ferdinand C. Helwig, M.D.).

### Two Prohibitions

Many religionists claim that the use

of real *fermented wine* is *forbidden* in the Bible. The truth is that *they do not know* WHAT is in the Bible. There are only two specific *TEMPORARY prohibitions* against any use of wine and they were given for particularly *unusual* situations. The first concerns that of a *Nazarite*. This was a vow taken voluntarily by people in Old Testament times. While a person was under this vow he was not to cut his hair, nor was he to eat or drink *anything* that would come from *grapes*. Such a person could not eat *raisins*, drink *grape juice*, or wine. If this vow is used to prove that wine is wrong (as some people attempt to do) then so are grape juice and raisins, and it is wrong for a man to cut his hair!

The second complete *temporary* prohibition concerned *only* the High Priest, or those other priests who served personally within the Temple, or *within* the Tabernacle in the wilderness. This is given in Leviticus 10:9-11. This command was given to prohibit any possibility of a priest ministering in a drunken, or partially drunken state. Since the priests under the Old Testament dispensation were carnal, and did not have God's Holy Spirit, they quite possibly would on certain occasions appear before God drunken, unless there were a *total prohibition* for their drinking *at the time* when they were to perform their particular service. *At other times* they were given full permission to drink wine.

God wants us to learn how to discern what is good and evil by exercising our senses *properly* (Heb. 5:14). The use of wine is one such thing that *we MUST learn* to control. We should only use wine in what the world would call *EXTREME moderation*. A small amount of wine, especially *at meal-time*, is *BENEFICIAL* to the body. Excessive amounts of wine are harmful. It brings all kinds of trouble, woe and unhappiness to the user as well as to everyone around him.

### Here Are More Benefits of Wine

We have already seen from the Bible certain benefits from wine. In the example of Timothy, the Apostle Paul

said to drink wine would *help stomach distress* and aid digestion. This benefit of wine as well as several others have been recorded in the Bible for many, many centuries. Some doctors in the medical profession are now *beginning to learn* some of these very same things. They have not learned the basic cause of sickness and disease. But despite their mistakes, the medical profession has been able to observe the effect of certain foods on health. As a result of their research they recognize a few of the principles concerning health.

Doctors realize that the excessive use of wine and liquor is very harmful. Yet they also realize the *BENEFITS* of its *proper use*. Dr. Peter J. Steincrohn, M.D., wrote in his column in the *Pasadena Independent* of December 30, 1961, concerning the problem of alcohol. After acknowledging the *many evils* of *excessive* drinking he stated, "Yet, we doctors know there is another side to it. We recognize that alcohol can also do *MUCH GOOD*."

He stated that, "Alcohol is a two-edged sword; *one dull, the other sharp*. Before accepting it or rejecting it, there are a few things you should know. In *moderate amounts* liquor is an appetizer and a stomachic. A martini 'makes' many a dinner and social function. For the elderly, alcohol seems to provide a new lease on life." This famous doctor continued in this column to say that "over the years, hundreds of patients have told me (in all sobriety) how much the daily *ounce* or *two* of liquor has added to the fullness and enjoyment of their lives."

In layman's language a *stomachic* is an aid, benefit or tonic to the stomach. Do you suffer from stomach distress? Proper use of wine in the diet may help you.

As a result of the work of Dr. Salvatore P. Lucia, Professor of Medicine on the San Francisco campus of the University of California, doctors and laymen are being acquainted with the benefits of the proper use of wine. His book, *Wine as Food and Medicine*, is a comprehensive study of wine's place in the *diet*. Several years ago the University of California, in its public information radio broadcasts "The Uni-

versity Explorer," devoted one full program to the subject of the benefits of proper wine use.

Such sources as these give many details and examples of the healthful benefits of proper wine use.

### Wine, a Complete Natural Food

There is another book, published by the Wine Advisory Board, San Francisco, California, about the benefits of wine but it is available only for distribution to the medical profession. It gives very interesting details from a doctor's point of view concerning wine. Here are a few of the points brought out in this book as well as other recognized sources.

*Wine is one of the most complete foods!*

It is one of the *most digestible*, natural foods and consists of more than one hundred elements. It is found to be a rich source of energy. Doctors consider the B vitamins contained in wine make it a useful supplement in the daily diet. Also, certain constituents in wine significantly stimulate appetite. When used properly *with meals*, blood alcohol increases relatively slowly and gradually to only moderate levels.

Gastric juice is the fluid secreted by glands in the stomach for the purpose of food digestion. Wine resembles gastric juice more closely than does any other *natural* beverage. In limited amounts wine *increases gastric* secretion. It also stimulates the flow of bile. Bile is a secretion of the liver, which is necessary in the emulsification and assimilation of fats, and also prevents putrefaction of food in the intestines causing gas. Wine has also been found particularly *useful* in digestive disorders stemming from emotional tensions and anxiety.

Only in recent years have many of the puzzling factors concerning the effects of wine and of alcohol on the digestive system been clarified. "As far as wine is concerned, it appears evident that *small quantities have a generally stimulating action, while larger amounts act as a depressant*" (*Uses of Wine in Medical Practice*).

The same book states that experiments have shown that after *moderate* amounts of wine have been swallowed

there is an increase in the *salivary* flow for ten minutes and the secretion rate remains high for more than an hour. Saliva is also an aid to digestion.

Wine increases gastric secretion, and as a result it is an aid to digestion. For those under emotional tension it aids in relaxation. In addition wine has been observed to aid in the natural evacuation of the colon. All these benefits from using wine in moderate amounts with meals, should make it clearer why Paul told Timothy to use a little wine for his stomach's sake. Wine has also been noted to have a beneficial and stimulant effect on the liver and has even been found to relieve pain in certain heart ailments.

Physicians sometimes recommend the moderate use of wine for elderly people and are recognizing that it is the *safest* of all sedatives and can reduce emotional pressure.

After physical or emotional fatigue, wine is found to be beneficial in relaxing the individual. In this same way it is also beneficial in times of emotional

tension and stress. The benefits of wine in times of stress, or sickness is also noted in the Bible. "Give *strong drink* unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts" (Prov. 31:6). God inspired Solomon to write these words centuries ago and yet some physicians, and *even some of you members* are just now beginning to find it out!

### The Best Antiseptic!

Another use of wine which has been recognized for millenniums is that of the *antiseptic* qualities of wine. People in the world often use mercurochrome or methiolate to disinfect cuts, bruises, or sores, and yet *wine is far better!* Actually, the bactericidal action of wine is greater than that attributable to its *alcohol* content. Researchers have been surprised to find that the germ-killing properties of *wine* are **GREATER** than that of the *same proportion of alcohol in water*. With the many enzymes and other components of wine (in addition to alcohol), it is a very effective

**BELOW:** It is only the **WRONG AND UNCONTROLLED, LUSTFUL, EXCESSIVE USE** of wine, or any other intoxicating drink, which produces a pitiful sight such as this!



means of killing harmful bacteria. In addition, it is *not damaging to the flesh*, as some antiseptics are.

Wine is so effective, according to a recent news release, that it is a greater combatant against *certain bacteria* than the much-publicized and greatly used *penicillin!*

In ancient times it was very commonly used as a germicidal agent; however, with our "modern drugs," it is no longer in *vogue*. Jesus showed that He knew the benefits of wine as an anti-septic when he gave the parable of the good Samaritan. In this case a man had been injured and had a severe wound. The good Samaritan "bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine (*oinos*)" (Luke 10:34). Imagine if you can how some people could claim that he poured in *grape juice* to cleanse this wound! The fermented wine cleansed the wound and killed the harmful bacteria. The oil mollified or softened the flesh.

You have now seen some of the healthful benefits of wine when used properly. It should be plain that it is a *needful* part of the diet. This has been proved from the Bible and secular sources.

If you had all used wine properly in your diet, your present health would probably be better today. If you start using it properly now, your health may improve.

The best time to use wine is at mealtime. It certainly is most beneficial as a part of our meals and in particular the larger meals. At that time, wine is more helpful in the digestive process. If you use wine at other times it will quickly pass through the body, and may not be as helpful.

It is easier to *over-indulge* if you drink wine when you are not eating your meal. You must always be sure that you do not over-indulge. If you do, it is sin and condemned by God.

### Now USE This Knowledge

In spite of the fact that it has now been conclusively proved that the *proper* use of wine is beneficial, and is not a sin, some people will still reject this truth! They judge themselves to be *more righteous than Jesus Christ!* They are SELF-RIGHTEOUS!

They have made up their minds already that the use of wine is wrong, and they *will not use it!* And, as a result they are probably suffering from certain physical ailments that they might not have had if they had used wine properly as a part of their diet. Such people set themselves up as *judges*, thinking themselves better than those who do use wine properly. Such a person is an *opinionated* person. An opinionated person is an heretic. The Bible states that when an heretic is instructed in the truth, after the first or second admonition he is to be *rejected* (Tit. 3:10).

Wine (*yayin*) is going to be used in the Millennium when Jesus Christ will

be ruling upon this earth. "I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel, and they shall rebuild the ruined cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and *drink their WINE* and they shall make gardens and eat their fruit" (Amos 9:14).

Wine is, and will continue to be, one of the *blessings* that God has given mankind. *Don't DEPRIVE yourself of this blessing*, but learn now to use wine *properly* as a regular part of your diet.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Next month, another article will discuss more of this subject, and help you understand more specifically just *how much is enough* for YOU.

## What Our Readers Say . . .

(Continued from page 2)

by the trail on the west side close against the trail those buildings are about one-half mile west. You follow this trail for about another one-half mile north and it swings down off the ridge towards the northwest; this continues for a one-half mile or more to where you head straight north for about one and one-half mile west. Now you come west one-half mile and open gate and travel to the northwest and come out of that one-quarter section at the northwest corner and from there my house is one-half mile north and about 250 yards west. Some of those distances are just guessed at; it is pretty hard for a stranger to get around in this country without a guide. From Alonsa to my place is about 10 miles."

Man from Reedy Creek, Canada

• *This is only one small reason why the baptizing tours need your prayers for God's guidance to be with them.*

"Please accept my sincere thanks for praying for the healing of our five-year-old daughter who was running a slight fever and was having a bloody discharge from the right nostril. Even before the anointed cloth arrived she was healed, but I still applied the cloth to her forehead and gave God thanks for His healing and His goodness!"

Mrs. William L. B., Maryland

### Blessed for Tithing

"I wondered in the back of my mind as to just how God might bring about all those blessings He promises in Malachi 3. Recently I lost an \$85-a-week job. Rather than grumble, I took advantage of the time off to study those promises, pray and fast. Then I picked up the want ads and checked at the Georgia State Employment Office. After four days the best thing that had opened was a part-time job at \$76 a week. I took it. The second day on the job the boss decided to put me on full-time at \$100 a week. The next thing he did was give me a lecture on diligence and application as the keys to more and quicker raises. I didn't bother to quote the Scriptures on that to him."

Georgia

• *God backs up His promises with action.*

### Natural Childbirth

"I would just like to tell you that we have had our baby. I just can't believe that it was as easy as it was. I wrote for information about taking drugs and going to a hospital when I was seven months along. When I found out that it was wrong, I didn't go back to that doctor. He was already planning on a Caesarean. But my 8 lb. 12 oz. boy came just as easy as anything. What a

blessing to hear your baby's first cry and have your husband with you. Why should anyone want it any other way?"

Mrs. F., Alabama

• *That's right—the best way is the way God designed!*

#### Deceived No More

"A few years ago my wife would ask me why I listened to your programs. She classes you with the pulpit pounders that are selling the 'pacifier.' When she started listening with me instead of tolerating your program she realized you were talking about things she had never heard in church. Now she is asking me why we don't get your Bible Course. I have wanted it for some time but I also wanted her to ask a few times before I asked you. So would you please send your Bible Course."

Mr. L., Washington

• *Sounds familiar.*

#### A RESPONSIBLE Juvenile

"I am twelve years old and I am sending my tithes to God, it is \$12.00. I earned it for my Boy Scout uniform, but after I read your letter (the semi-annual letter) and I got to thinking about it. I changed my mind about the money, and I decided to give it to God because I owe it to Him. That is more important to me than my uniform, and my mother said that I could get my uniform later."

Dale V., New York

• *You're starting life out right! How much better than the old timer who said, "Ve are gettink to soon old—and too late schmart!"*

"I had planned to 'get out of debt first,' then tithe, but after reading God's tithing laws, I see that I was wrong. So I am enclosing my tithe, plus a little extra."

Miss M. P.

#### More Tithing Blessings

"I have tithed faithfully for about two years now, not having received any real spectacular blessings in that length of time, although I have never been in dire need without receiving help. This was when I was only paying two tithes. Now I'm in my third tithe year and

wow! I now have a job (which I am completely certain was a direct blessing from God in that our minister, Mr. Friddle, referred me to it) in which I received more money than I have ever received before (\$2.78 per hr.), the place I rent comes only to \$25.00 per month, I have only about \$250.00 worth of bills to pay off, which I couldn't even begin to pay off before, I can walk to Sabbath service, Bible study, Spokesman Club and to work eliminating the need for a car (which, incidentally, I do have but cannot be driven because of mechanical condition), etc., etc., etc. To sum it up, when paying only two tithes I could just break even, not go ahead, not going behind. But now I pay three tithes and have money to burn. Believe me, God really blesses the faithful tithe-payer as I knew he would before I entered into it. (Also, I am to be getting married soon.) Could I possibly ask for any more?"

Mr. E. McG., Washington

• *More of us should enter into tithing with such enthusiasm—God will bless us!*

"I was at my sister's home when she came back from the Feast of Tabernacles at Jekyll Island. She really brought back a blessing to us. Some of the things she had in her notes simply took my breath—I still cannot comprehend a God who can care so much for a bunch of half-witted idiots as to take us by the hand and lead us out of this horrible Babylon. I am so humbly grateful to have God made more real since seeing those notes."

Mrs. T. A. S.

"I wrote and told you our young son had double pneumonia. His temperature is normal this morning. He started to improve as soon as we mailed the letter for the cloth to you. This is not the first time this has happened."

Mr. and Mrs. D. N. B., Alaska

"I wrote you to pray for me, I had heart trouble. I got the hanky and did what you said. I threw between \$10 and \$15 worth of medicine in the trash can and set the trash afire. Our great granddaughter said, 'Grandma, why did

you throw your medicine away?' and I said, 'Well, I don't want the devil to tempt me while I know he is always on the job.' She now wants you to pray for her. She is a nervous-turned child and has a nerve in her face that jerks her eye sometimes. She is 10 years old and wants me and her to take the Bible Correspondence Course."

Mrs. E. E. H., Arkansas

"Thank you for *The WORLD TOMORROW* broadcasts. A few months ago my husband made fun of me for listening to such foolishness. Now he looks forward to your broadcasts as much as I. I attended Bible school but never learned that sin is the transgression of the law. Each denomination has its own view on sin. It was wrong to dance, attend movies, smoke, drink, play tennis, wear make-up, wear jewelry, etc. As we studied various religions and their beliefs this list grew longer and longer until I didn't know what to believe. Ultimately, I left all churches and only since listening and studying your literature do I feel I can be a Christian by doing what God commands."

Mrs. Frank S., Ohio

• *We'd heard of all these ideas except the one on tennis! Ridiculous.*

"The other night when in the hospital while listening to my transistor I found your program. A nurse came in  
(Please turn to page 22)

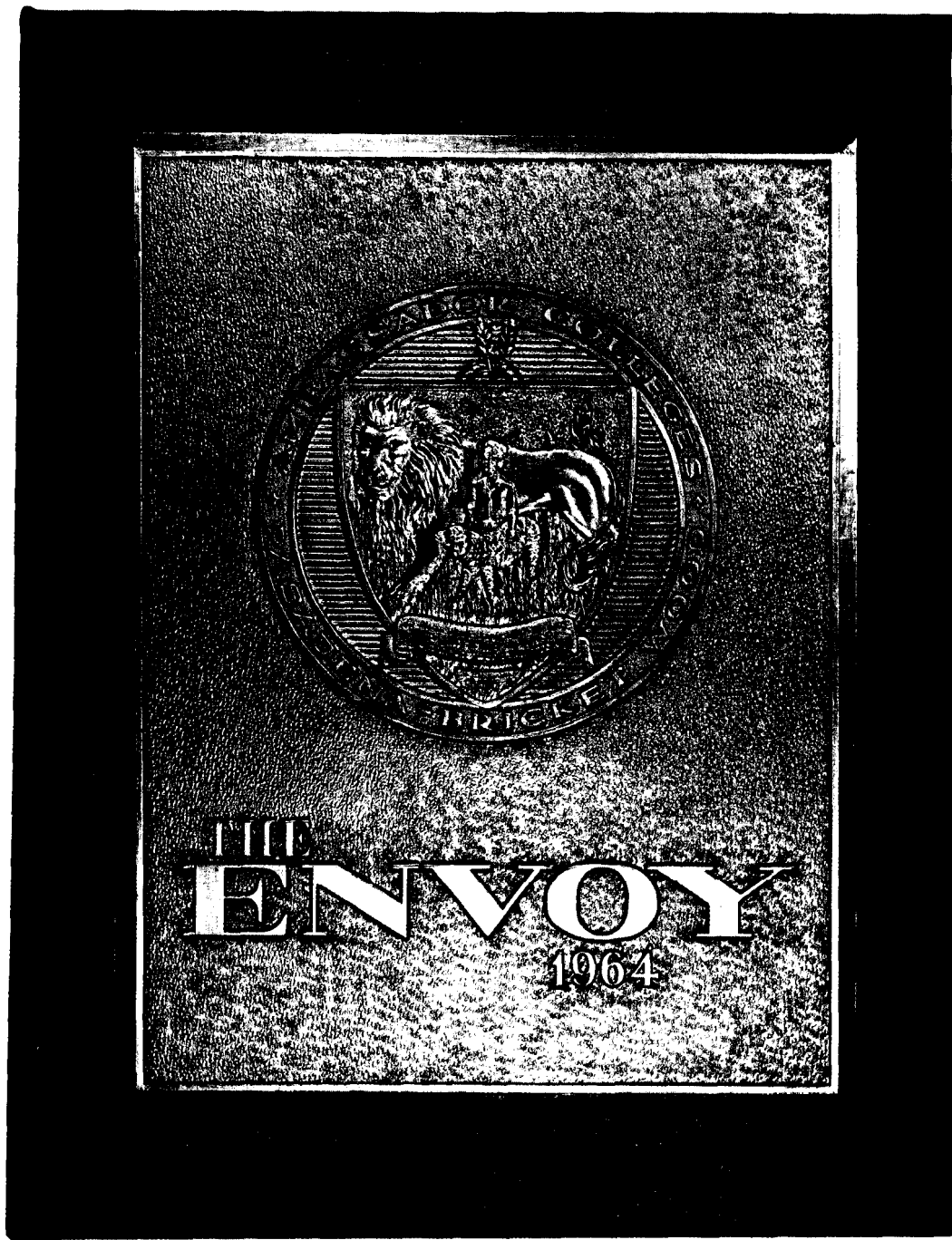
## Bible Questions

(Continued from page 14)

TURN YE from your evil ways; for *why will ye DIE, O house of Israel?*" (Ezek. 33:11).

Only those who continue on in sin will have to face—and suffer—the coming calamities. But those who turn to God and REPENT of their sins will receive promised Divine protection from these fearsome days. Christ promises His people, "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the *hour of temptation*, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth!" (Rev. 3:10).





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## Readers Say...

(Continued from page 20)

to adjust the windows and heard it too. She was all enthusiastic. Her daughter was enrolled at Ambassador College in Pasadena. I enjoyed her enthusiasm. It was a recommendation for your college, your paper, and all your literature."

Miss Edna T., Florida

### Healing

"Once you sent me an anointed handkerchief in answer to a request for prayer for the healing of a small cancer on the left side of my nose, near my eye, and when finally I began to stop thinking of myself, of how unworthy I was for God to heal me of that thing, and went ahead and opened the letter, and quit being afraid, I felt then that I had done the right thing, by acting on faith instead of feeling, and when I read the letter, then I felt sure about everything, and after a sincere prayer I applied the cloth and left the results in God's hands by faith in His promises. As the days went by, the thing got worse. But I refused to doubt, and stood firm on the promises, and wouldn't look at the thing or think about it, and one day I looked, and it wasn't there anymore, and I am so glad and thankful for it all, that I could write a volume about it, and I continually thank God for it."

F. D. McG., Texas

• *These examples help our faith—even for "small" illnesses.*

### Church Important

"I missed attending church last Sabbath. It really hurts not to get to hear God's true ministers."

Mr. H., Arizona

• *Many times we learn the real value of the blessings we have by having them removed from us temporarily.*

### God Heals TODAY!

"I have been having some eye trouble but after six months of blindness in one eye, the Lord is restoring my sight, thanks to answered prayer, so I'm trusting that I won't find the Correspondence Course too much for me."

Mrs. Zella M., Colorado

## PROOF FIVE

(Continued from Page 4)

### THE COMMANDMENT AGAINST IDOLATRY!

Let's understand the real differences between God's TRUE Church and all the others.

#### "Healing" Miracles—Or Are They?

Satan has literally strewn the pathway to God's True Church with the red herrings of FAKERY and DEMONISM! Today, myriads believe in an emotional frenzy as being the only evidence of the Spirit of God.

Millions have been deceived by FALSE signs and "wonders," just as God said they would be (Matt. 24:24). Yet perhaps you thought Simon Magus fakery has reached no greater refinements than in the "healing revivals"

under huge tents in the United States today!

The claims are many and varied, the ads lurid, the preaching is hoarse-voiced ranting and unintelligible gibberish, as the "sick and afflicted" file down a sawdust trail of perspiring hopefuls toward the so-called "evangelist" on the stage.

But God's True Church will NEVER be engaged in such a travesty; a carnival-like side show of sheer human EMOTIONALISM and DEMONISM, which makes a mockery of the really WONDERFUL truth of Healing!

Instead, God's TRUE Church will be found to be following Christ's practices—*exactly!*

When Jesus healed, He said, "See that you tell *no* one!" He NEVER ONCE tried to drum up a huge crowd in order to put the Power of God ON DISPLAY! He NEVER advertized "healing services," NEVER "put on" braggadocio, such as seizing an infirm person's crutches and breaking them, or throwing them away! Instead, He quietly, but *firmly*, in a voice of real authority and FAITH, said, "Thy sins be forgiven thee!"

God's True Church will be those who recognize the *difference* between the REAL power of God and the FAKE WITCHERY of today, *masquerading* as the power of God.

Members of the TRUE Church of God will be following and *obeying* the command of James 5:14, "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of FAITH *shall* save the sick."

If you could look behind the scenes, OUT of sight, into the *private* lives of members of God's True Church, you would see the sick and afflicted *kneeling*, with the ministers of Christ laying hands on them, and quietly, but firmly, and in FAITH—yet knowing we are NOT heard for our "much speaking" *anointing* them with oil—and asking God in PRIVATE, IN SECRET (Matt. 6:6) to heal them of their sickness.

What a striking DIFFERENCE between God's way and the way of the FAKERY of Satan the Devil! And what a dif-

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ference in the RESULTS! God's people ARE BEING HEALED—while those who *claim* to be "healed" in a tent-camp side show are NOT really healed!

### The Laws of Health

God's True Church realizes an ounce of prevention *is* literally worth a "pound of cure," and LOTS MORE!

We know it is far better to obey the LAWS OF HEALTH, and avoid getting sick in the first place, than it is to be guilty of many physical sins, and be calling constantly on the ministers and elders for anointing and prayer.

God is a God of BALANCE! He has put a tremendous system of counterweights, checks and balances into nature. Even the little insects, the fish, the frogs and snakes, the birds and bats, the rabbits and coyotes—all play an important part in keeping our environment in BALANCE!

When man destroys that delicate balance in nature—he finds nature on the rampage!

And when you destroy an EQUALLY complex balance in YOUR BODY and MIND, you find your body and mind on a rampage!

Let's understand, briefly, the *use* of certain foods or "supplements" in the RIGHT BALANCE!

First: YOU NEVER NEED A SUPPLEMENT AT ANY TIME EXCEPT WHEN YOUR SYSTEM IS TEMPORARILY OUT OF BALANCE! Many LOAD their bodies with various food additives and supplements, hoping to find the proverbial "fountain of youth," I suppose—or trying to find that nebulous "shot in the arm" that will be the final cure-all to all physical ailments!

For some, it's fasting. For others, it's this or that brand name of vitamin (and IS THERE REALLY ANY SUCH THING?). Brethren—THERE IS NOT ONE SINGLE EXAMPLE IN THE ENTIRETY OF THE BIBLE OF A FAST FOR PHYSICAL HEALTH!

But let's keep our balance. If a scales tips one way—you correct it by adding weight on the lighter side, and bring it back toward normal. If your body begins to feel a cold coming on, for example; you have allowed your system to become hyperacidic. That is,

you've probably been a little OVERBALANCED in the direction of sweets, fried foods, starch, or fats. You've been neglecting enough fresh fruits and vegetables, citrus, and lean *broiled* meat, instead of fatty and *fried* meat. Make no mistake! If you have already GOTTEN the cold—EATING LOTS OF FRESH FRUIT AND CITRUS WILL NEVER IN ONE MILLION LIFETIMES CURE YOU OF IT! There is ONLY ONE CURE FOR ANY SICKNESS OR ANY DISEASE—and that is GOD!

But if your body gives you a beginning *warning* sign, like a little stuffiness in your nose, or a chill in your spine—if you IMMEDIATELY stop adding any weight to the HEAVY side of the scale, and IMMEDIATELY begin piling on to the LIGHT side of the scale—it is possible to bring back your bodily BALANCE!

I *know* this is true, brethren—because I have AVOIDED GETTING a cold MANY times by so doing. I *stop* eating ALTOGETHER, usually. I begin drinking lots of orange, grapefruit, or lemon juice. Aside from that—I FAST! If I begin to feel the stuffiness leaving, and need strength, I usually begin by eating thin beef broth, or *lean* broiled meat, with sliced tomatoes and cucumbers. And it WORKS!

But what is THIS? My private "old wives tale" for getting rid of COLDS?

NO—it is NOT! I have NEVER GOTTEN RID OF A COLD by this method! But I have AVOIDED GETTING A COLD IN THE FIRST PLACE in this manner!

Let's never forget that word BALANCE! Let's KEEP our balance!

### Summing It All Up

God's True Church KNOWS the value of physical exercise. We KNOW the Divinely revealed laws of foods, of health, of exercise, of sleep. And we *know* the tremendous value of RIGHT THINKING and PRAYER to keep a SOUND, BALANCED MIND!

Does this mean we are physical exercise ADDICTS? Food FADDISTS? HEALTH-FOOD SLAVES?

*Certainly not!*

God says there *are* some—even in His True Church, which He describes as being really WEAK in the faith (Rom.

14:1) who "believe" various things about diet. If *you* observe someone sitting in the corner, or carrying his sack about with him—seemingly a little "furtive" about it—a little "strange" and "different" in his dietary habits; then realize there may be a spiritual WEAKNESS there—but don't harshly CONDEMN him for it. "For one believeth that he may eat all things [that is, things which are clean, and LAWFUL to eat]: another, WHO IS WEAK [spiritually—and, usually PHYSICALLY as well], eateth herbs" (Rom. 14:2).

If you see a person with his proverbial sack of dates, nuts and grapes, or with his bottle of fresh carrot juice, or with his little sack of herbs—then DON'T DESPISE HIS DIETARY HABITS. Just realize he feels this is best for HIM! And, it *may be*. At least, it is best for the sake of his personal *conscience* if he really, as the Bible says, "believeth" he should eat that way.

But let's realize, brethren, that "the kingdom of God is NOT meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit!" (Rom. 14:17).

*Study* that 14th chapter of Romans! *Believe* it. *Obey* it.

What about it, brethren? Do YOU really LIVE BY this great proof of the True Church of God? Are you living a BALANCED life? Do *you* eat only the right, wholesome, *clean* foods, as God describes them; and eat a *balanced* diet of these foods? Do *you* get plenty of fresh air and exercise? Do *you* get a good, full, deep, satisfying, restful SLEEP every night? Are *you* mentally, physically, and spiritually ALERT, ALIVE, VITAL, VIBRANT??

And—even IF you are living in this manner—DO YOU REALIZE IT WILL NEVER GET YOU INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD? Do you keep the PHYSICAL things in their *correct perspective*—realizing it is the HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD you need, even more than grapes and supplements?

*Search* yourselves—bc sure you are TRULY IN THE FAITH!

And then *rejoice* that God has given His true servants BALANCE and WISDOM to see the real TRUTH about health and healing!

## Peter Not In Rome

(Continued from page 12)

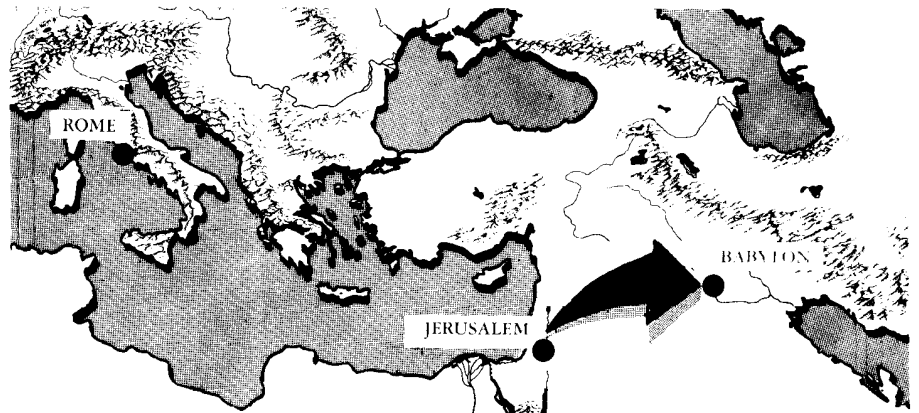
what Paul said in II Timothy 4:16.

"At my first defense no man stood with me, but *all men* [in Rome] *forsook me*: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge."

This means, if we believe the Catholics, that Peter *forsook* Paul, for they tell us Peter was very much present at Rome during this time! Peter once denied Christ, but that was *before* he was converted. To believe that Peter was in Rome during Paul's trial, is untenable!

PROOF TEN: The Apostle Paul distinctly informs us that Peter was not in Rome in 65 A.D.—even though Catholics say he was. Paul said: "*Only Luke is with me*" (II Tim. 4:11).

The truth becomes very plain. Paul



Peter Went to Babylon—Not to Rome!

ABOVE: This map illustrates how Peter's travels took him in the completely opposite direction from Rome, during the years the Catholic Church claims he was founding their church in Rome. BELOW: This is what that Babylon looks like today! And Rome will soon look worse! *Matson Photo*

wrote *TO* Rome; he had been *IN* Rome; and at the end wrote at least six epistles *FROM* Rome; and not only does he *NEVER* mention Peter, but at the last moment says: "Only Luke is with me."

Peter, therefore, was *never* Bishop of Rome!

### Where Was Peter?

Near 45 A.D. we find Peter being cast into prison *at Jerusalem* (Acts 12:3, 4).

In 49 A.D. he was *still* in Jerusalem, this time attending the Jerusalem Council.

About 51 A.D. he was in Antioch of Syria where he got into differences with Paul because he wouldn't sit or eat with Gentiles. *Strange that the "Roman bishop" would have nothing to do with Gentiles in 51 A.D.!*

Later in about 66 A.D. we find him in the city of Babylon among the Jews (I Pet. 5:13). Remember that Peter was the Apostle to the *CIRCUMCISED*. Why was he in Babylon? Because history shows that there were as many Jews in the Mesopotamian areas in Christ's time as there were in Palestine. It is no wonder we find him in the East. Perhaps this is the reason why scholars say Peter's writings are strongly Aramaic in flavor—the type of Aramaic spoken in Babylon. Why of course! Peter was used to their eastern dialect.

At the times the Catholics believe Peter was in Rome, the Bible clearly shows he was elsewhere. The evidence is abundant and conclusive. By paying attention to *God's own words*, no one need be deceived. Peter was *NEVER* the Bishop of Rome!

