

The PLAIN TRUTH

VOL. III, No. 7

DECEMBER, 1938



The Strife in Palestine

— — — a MUSSOLINI plot bringing
on the WORLD WAR?

THREE Major world movements are hurling the world, gradually but surely, into WORLD WAR!

Two of these three factors already have been discussed. They are the Fascist-Nazi revival of the ROMAN EMPIRE, and Communist RUSSIA'S activity. These two evil forces are bringing about the prophesied grouping of nations into the three-sided triangle---FASCISM, COMMUNISM, DEMOCRACY.

But there is a third evil force--- a little known menace to the peace of the world---playing just as decisive a part.

This force, and the events stirred up by it, form a thrilling drama in themselves. They center in Palestine, and the outcome still hangs ominously in the balance.

Rioting in Palestine

Rioting and terrorism between Arabs and Jews has broken out anew in the Holy Land. Newspapers have been full of it in recent weeks.

Bombs are hurled into crowds. Individuals are shot down in dark streets. Wayfarers are stoned and stabbed on the highways.

What is back of it all? What is the hidden significance of this Palestine strife?

The answer involves the outgrowth of a jealousy between two women of history--- and is the culmination of an age-long antagonism between two Bible characters--- together with a plot by Mussolini against Great Britain! And it is part and parcel of the cruel, and appalling persecution against helpless Jews in Germany and in Italy---all a part of one great and diabolic plot!

The answer also involves startling

STARTLING disclosures are here revealed, of events fulfilling Bible prophecies, and bringing on world WAR!

The fate of the world is held perilously in the balance by two men, little known to the world. Read who they are and what they are doing!

developments little known, and even less-known Bible history and prophecy!

In Palestine today are approximately 400,000 Jews and 950,000 Arabs. Each race demands the land as its own homeland, based on religious grounds. Great Britain controls it by mandate, and finds herself in a strange and perplexing dilemma---for Britain has made conflicting promises

to the Arabs and to the Jews, both of which cannot be kept! Mussolini knows this, and is employing fiendish propaganda and exerting cunning influence, striking at Jews in order to strike at Britain.

Mediterranean Crisis to Cause World War

As we have pointed out in previous articles, Mussolini **MUST** gain control of the Mediterranean in order to realize his ambition of restoring the ROMAN EMPIRE. Great Britain now controls it. The Mediterranean is the very life-line of the greatest Empire the world has ever known---the British Commonwealth of Nations. It would mean the death of the Empire to lose its control.

The Mediterranean is now aflame at both ends. In Spain the battle rages, its underlying real object the wresting of control of the Strait of Gibraltar---the entrance, or gate, to the Mediterranean on the West---by Fascist power. Mussolini is determined the Fascist rebels shall win in Spain. He also is injecting anti-French and anti-British propaganda in Tunisia and Tangier---the latter just across the water from Gibraltar at the Mediterranean's Western entrance. His plans are being carefully laid, so that, in due time, Mussolini can suddenly grasp control of this vital Mediterranean gate. (Cont. on page 2)

At the other end of the Mediterranean looms the strife in Palestine as a major threat to world peace. The trouble here is religious---Moslem against Jew.

In Spain Mussolini poses as a crusader against Red Communism. In Palestine he pretends to be the protector of the moslems, stirring them to hatred against Jews in order to strike at Britain.

In due time, all the nations of the world will be fighting over possession of Palestine and the city of Jerusalem, destined to become the capital city of the world. Whoever possesses it then will rule the world, and Dictators and rulers well know this.

Beginning of Arab-Jewish Strife

To properly understand just what is going on, and its true significance, it is necessary that we go back and briefly view events that lead up to the present Holy Land strife.

The whole trouble started with jealousy and hatred between two women over a man.

It was back in the days of Abraham. Sarai, Abram's wife, was without children and barren. To remove her reproach, she induced Abram to have a child by her Egyptian maid, Hagar (Genesis 16:1-3). But when Hagar "saw that she conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes . . . And when Sarai dealt hardly with her, she fled." (Verses 4-6).

But the angel of the Lord said to her, "Return to thy mistress . . . and thou shalt bear a son and call his name Ishmael . . . and he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of (margin, to the east of) all his brethren." (Verses 7-16).

Abraham loved Ishmael. When God had promised Abraham the great blessings of the birthright and of the sceptre, "Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee! And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with HIM, and with his seed after him. And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. But my covenant will I establish with Isaac." (Gen. 17:18-21).

The descendants of Ishmael, then, were to become a GREAT NATION---but a nation of WILD MEN, their hand against every man, every man's hand against them, and they were to plague their brethren, the descendants of Isaac. Bear that in mind!

By tracing the names of Ishmael's twelve sons in the Scriptures, we find they settled in the land of ARABIA, and are traced to the ARABS of today.

Isaac had twin sons, Jacob and Esau. Esau, the elder, despised his birthright, and it went to Jacob. Esau was red, and Jacob was white. Esau's descendants are the TURKS today. After selling his birth-

right, ---his title-deed to the land of Palestine---Esau regretted it bitterly, and sought to get it back. And later, his descendants, the Turks, did get possession of that land during the Times of Israel's national punishment, and they held it from 1517 until 1917.

Jacob's name was changed to ISRAEL, meaning "Overcomer," or "Prevailer with God." He had twelve sons, each of whom became the father of one of the Twelve Tribes of Israel.

To Whom Palestine Really Belongs

To really understand the march of prophesied events today---to grasp the true but hidden significance of the present crisis in Palestine---we must identify ALL the races and peoples involved.

For, make no mistake about it, GOD GAVE ABRAHAM AND HIS DESCENDANTS AN ABSOLUTELY BINDING LEGAL TITLE-DEED TO THAT LAND. The Arabs, descendants of Ishmael, son of Abraham, claim it is theirs. The Turks claim it because they, too, are descendants of Abraham thru Esau. And the Jews claim it as descendants of Abraham thru Jacob, or ISRAEL. Who is right? NONE OF THEM!! The truth is stranger than fiction!

God's promises to Abraham were twofold---of race, and of grace---material, and spiritual. That part of the promises which included material, racial, national blessings are called the BIRTHRIGHT. The other part of the promises, including kings, and spiritual blessings thru Christ, final King of the line, are called the SCEPTRE.

Now the Scriptures plainly and distinctly affirm something very few people realize: namely, that "The SCEPTRE shall not depart from JUDAH" (Gen. 49:10), but "the BIRTHRIGHT was JOSEPH'S." (I Chron. 5:2).

The account of the passing on of the BIRTHRIGHT, showing that it, and not the SCEPTRE, included title-deed to the promised land, is recorded in the 48th chapter of Genesis. There is plainly shown that LEGAL OWNERSHIP OF PALESTINE BELONGS TO THE DESCENDANTS OF EPHRAIM, SON OF JOSEPH!!

The promises of national greatness, wealth and power, involved in the BIRTHRIGHT went jointly to Ephraim, whose descendants today are none other than THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS, and Manasseh his brother, whose descendants are THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA! The Sceptre, including promise of kings, of Christ, and of salvation thru Him, went to JUDAH, of whom the JEWS are descended. But, the few realize it today, the Jews are of only ONE TRIBE of Israel---Judah. The Ten Tribes of the HOUSE OF ISRAEL, headed by Ephraim-Manasseh, became LOST, and have been called "the Lost Ten Tribes." Their identity as the British and American people today was thoroughly proved in twelve successive messages to the Radio Church over station KWJJ, and will be printed serially in The PLAIN TRUTH thru 1939.

And so Great Britain is in real fact

the BIRTHRIGHT holder, descended from Ephraim the son of Joseph the son of Israel, the rightful legal OWNER of all Palestine, as decreed by Almighty God in His unbreakable covenant with Abraham.

The JEWS are descendants of Judah, of which tribe Christ came. The Jews did, and should now occupy, but not own, that portion of the promised land called JUDAEA, surrounding Jerusalem.

The Turks are descendants of ESAU, (also called "Edom" in the prophecies,) and the Arabs are the nation of wild men descended from ISHMAEL. Both the Turks and the Arabs are descended from Abraham, and therefore both races consider the promised land should be theirs. But God gave it to Abraham only thru Isaac and Jacob, and God said "In ISAAC shall thy seed be called."

Because of sin and rebellion, the House of Israel, headed by Ephraim, was driven out of their own promised land until the end of the "Times of the Gentiles," which began to end December 9th, 1917. On that very day the Gentile Turk surrendered the land to EPHRAIM-GREAT BRITAIN, to whom it belongs by divine grant from that very day, henceforward forever!!

But WHAT A MIXUP has been caused, --- all because men do not understand the BIBLE! The Scriptures show that the ten-tribed House of Israel was to LOSE its national identity, and be thought of as a Gentile nation until these very last days. And so Ephraim-Great Britain, supposing herself to be Gentile, supposing the JEWS to be Israel (instead of the House of JUDAH, as they are always called in the Bible), made the famous Balfour declaration trying to give Palestine to the Jews! And the Jews, thinking they are birthright Israel, have been emigrating back there at the rate of 40,000 to 70,000 a year. This was necessary to fulfil the prophecies saying Judah would be in Jerusalem and the land of Judah during the final world war. (See Joel 3:1-13; Zech. 12:2,4,6-7; and 14:14).

Jew-Arab Strife Outgrowth of Jealousy of Two Women

But now once again let us come back to the jealousy aroused between Sarah and Hagar, mothers respectively of Isaac (Great Britain) and Ishmael (Arabs).

Abraham wanted Ishmael to inherit the birthright, which included possession of the land. So did Hagar. But Sarah demanded this blessing for her son. "And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking. Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac. . . And God said unto Abraham . . . hearken unto her voice, for IN ISAAC shall thy seed be called." (Gen. 21:9-12).

Naturally Hagar resented having her son rejected from this great BIRTHRIGHT. And so, just as the Turks, children of Esau, have fought to gain and to hold this prom-

ised land, so have the ARABS, descendants of Ishmael. Although God denied this inheritance to Ishmael, the Arabs today consider that Palestine belongs to them.

There are more Arabs in Palestine than any other nationality. To them it is HOLY LAND, the same as to the Jews. They are perfectly willing to FIGHT for it.

The Jews think they are birthright Israel, and believe this land belongs by God's birthright to them. And "silly dove" Ephraim (Hos. 7:11), not realizing that SHE is really the birthright tribe of the House of Israel---the nation that GOD has decreed shall OWN Palestine after December 9, 1917---is blindly trying to build a national home for the Jews in this land, and at the same time blundering into a contradictory pledge to establish it as a home for the Arabs!

But in spite of all this blundering and misunderstanding, GOD IS SEEING TO IT THAT EPHRAIM-ENGLAND HAS AND RETAINS ACTUAL POSSESSION OF THE LAND!! God promised it to Abraham, thru Isaac, Jacob, and Ephraim---unconditionally---and GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES! Praise His name!

The Arabs are DIVIDED!

Now consider some rather amazing facts. On three sides of Palestine lies an Arab land of thirty million inhabitants---from Syria and Iraq to Egypt and Aden, including most of the Arabian peninsula. Even in Palestine the Arabs still outnumber the Jews more than two to one.

During the world war, Lawrence of Arabia was leading a revolt in the desert. He was a British emisary, carrying British gold and British promises. And thru him as agent, Great Britain made the promise of a UNITED ARABIA, with PALESTINE TO BECOME A PART of a great Arabian kingdom!

Then Great Britain violated that promise, and issued the Balfour Declaration, promising Palestine to the JEWS as a national homeland! Britain's blunder in making contradictory promises to two peoples has played directly into Mussolini's hands. He is using this to incite the Arabs against the British.

But now consider another fact: the Arabs are not united, but divided in different sects! It goes back to Mohammed. He left no male heir---only a daughter, Fatima, who married his cousin, Ali. A large faction at the time supported Ali as rightful successor to Mohammed, but they lost out and another became caliph. Later there was civil war over it, and Ali and his two sons were all killed. The Damascus governor was recognized as orthodox caliph, but a great schism was caused, and the party of Ali, known as the heretical "Shiites", have to this day refused to recognize the orthodox succession. The caliphite was finally abolished during the world war.

Two Mighty Arabian Leaders

Now we find appearing on the scene,

fought with dynamite, two powerful Arabian leaders heading these opposing parties.

The orthodox leader is six-foot-four-inch Ibn Saud, King of Central Arabia---a giant of religion and in physical power, King of the Wahabis, the powerful sect of puritanical fanatics of the inner desert. During the world war London backed the blood enemy of Ibn Saud.

Today the domain he rules more than half surrounds Palestine. The Italians are arming him, and buying his support.

The perilous position of Britain---the imminent danger of WAR that would inflame the entire world---now becomes apparent. In a desperate effort to ward it off, and satisfy Ibn Saud and his followers, to whom, remember, Britain has PROMISED Palestine---the British partition scheme has been proposed. This partition of Palestine would award to Ibn Saud the southern and largest section of Palestine. It would award to the Jews the northern portion, retaining a small center strip from the Mediterranean and including Jerusalem, for England.

But the partition proposal has only infuriated Ibn Saud and his Arabs. They want ALL of Palestine with the Jews driven out. And again the Jews want all of Palestine with the Arabs driven out, and possession of the city of Jerusalem.

In this ticklish British dilemma, Mussolini sees his devilish opportunity. By means of propaganda, he is inflaming the Arabs against the British. He is trying to cause so much disturbance between Arabs and Jews in the Holy Land that a showdown will be forced. When that time comes, Mussolini plans openly to denounce the Palestine mandate to Great Britain, issuing a formal proclamation that Italy no longer recognizes the authority of the League of Nations, under which Britain now governs the Holy Land. Then Ibn Saud, with Mussolini's approval, will declare himself King of UNITED ARABIA, including Palestine, and with the weight of Mussolini's army, fight to retain it!

Thus events connected with this Jewish-Arab strife, little known by the public, are playing a crucial role in hurling the world into war! The situation is dangerous and perilous.

Can Great Britain meet it?

The answer involves the other of two mighty Arabian leaders---Aga Khan, president of the League of Nations!

The Power of Aga Khan

Today there are ten million Mohammedans of the Shiite heresy---the sect which believes the LEADER should be a blood descendant of Mohammed---the party of Ali.

They are scattered everywhere, and are the dominant sect in Persia. The cult is known today as the KOJA ISHMAILI---stamping them as the descendants of Ishmael! They are also concentrated in India. Their supreme religious leader---their pontiff---a descendant of Mohammed and of Ali and Fatima, is Aga Khan! To his fol-

lowers he is as infallible, as sacred, as the pope is to Roman Catholics. Every member of the KOJA ISHMAILI gives two per cent of his income to Aga Khan. His income is about ten million dollars a year, dedicated to furthering the cause of the Ishmaili.

Aga Khan was educated by British tutors, graduated from Cambridge. His son and successor is married to an English woman. He is British in manner, in sympathies, and in politics he is ultra-British. Time and again he has proved himself 100% loyal to Great Britain---and has been one of the most powerful influences in holding India loyal. Thru British influence, he was elected president of the League of Nations.

And so, in this Palestine drama, we find the two strong-man leaders of the Arabs on opposite sides---one working with Mussolini, the other with Great Britain and with great power to help offset Mussolini's plots.

Just how the drama finally will work out, we must wait to see. But the general outcome in Palestine is clearly prophesied in the Bible.

In Zechariah 12, the present trouble is foretold. "The Ever-Living . . . says, ---'Look! ---I will make Jerusalem a cup of staggering to all the peoples (Gentiles); and they will be also against Judah (the Jews) when besieging Jerusalem.'" (Verse 1, Fenton translation).

The siege against Jerusalem has already started thru this intrigue, scheming, and propaganda. And these Gentile nations, ---Italy and Germany especially---certainly are now AGAINST the Jews! Thus this present Jewish persecution in these countries is prophesied!

This 12th chapter of Zechariah shows the Jews were to return to Jerusalem and Palestine before the final coming world war. In Joel 3, God says that when Judah returns to Palestine (verse 1), the Gentile nations are to PREPARE WAR! They are to beat plowshares and peace-time productive implements into weapons of WAR! The weak nations are to brag "We are STRONG." How marvelously---with what fervor---the Gentile nations are obeying that command of 2500 years ago! Numerous shiploads of old iron ---including actual plowshares---have been shipped from America to Japan and Fascist nations, where it is being melted and cast into weapons of war!

In the 14th chapter of Zechariah, the first four verses, it is prophesied that finally ALL NATIONS shall be gathered against Jerusalem to battle. Half of the city shall be captured. And during the final battle, at Armageddon, 70 miles northeast of Jerusalem, JESUS CHRIST WILL RETURN TO THIS EARTH, "And His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives!" (verse 4). And the JEWS will then be at Jerusalem (verse 14).

The 11th chapter of Daniel shows Mussolini (or his successor) will be the one who captures half of the city of Jerusalem. The pope will be there with him (Rev. 19:20)

The
PLAIN TRUTH
A Magazine of Understanding
Edited by
HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
VOL. III. No. 7.
Published in conjunction with the
RADIO CHURCH OF GOD
KWJJ, Portland, 1040 kilocycles,
4. P.M. SUNDAYS
KORE, Eugene, 1420 Keys., 9:45 A.M.
Sent FREE to all who request it,
as the Lord provides. Address
communications to the Editor,
Box 111, Eugene, Oregon.

NOTICE: Be sure to notify us immediately of any change in your address.

We are NON-DENOMINATIONAL---uterly INDEPENDENT of men or religious organizations, sects, or denominations---and wholly DEPENDENT upon our Father in heaven for guidance, and for every dollar required to carry on this great work of FAITH. Only thus can we be FREE to serve GOD, and preach the WHOLE TRUTH of the Bible. We ask every reader to PRAY EARNESTLY with us that the Lord will send forth more laborers into His vineyard, helping with tithes and offerings that the true Gospel may go to multiplied thousands, and souls may be saved!

A Heart-to-Heart Talk
WITH THE EDITOR

Some people look upon Christianity as something to PUT OFF, if possible, until a last-minute death-bed confession---assuming that thus they can enjoy life, and still escape the tortures of hell.

No wonder there are scoffers who sneer than religion is an irrational superstition, believed only by the gullible and unthinking.

We live in a modern world of conflicting creeds,---a religious babylon---in which the TRUE Gospel is seldom preached, the Bible little understood, Christianity paganized.

The true Christianity of the Bible is the ONLY sound, rational explanation and WAY of life. The ONLY way to happiness, peace and joy, even during this life.

It seems the REAL OBJECT and PURPOSE of the Christian life is little understood.

The Apostle Paul understood it when he said, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the HIGH CALLING of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 3:14).

The Christian has a definite life CALLING. Just what is that calling?

Look over the world as it is today! Are people HAPPY? Have our forms of government brought blessings to their peoples? Has our system of industry, business, brot prosperity and contentment? Has our form of society produced anything except a competition in snobbery and self-glorification? Have our preachers and church organizations succeeded in "saving" the world?

We know things are WRONG!

Jesus preached but one Gospel---the

The STRIFE in PALESTINE

(Continued from p. 4)

---and they will attempt to establish the palace and capital there, after having taken Egypt, wresting the Suez Canal from Britain (Dan. 11:41-42). The horrible END of these two men is told in Rev. 19:20.

The very END of this dispensation and Gentile order is NEAR! War clouds are everywhere. The forces in Palestine are SET, and events move swiftly to a climax.

The time of God's JUDGMENTS against the sins of modern civilization is AT HAND! The DAY OF THE LORD, with its terrible PLAGUES, is upon us!

These prophesied events, now occurring, are REAL---they are no dream! Jesus warned us to be SOBER---WATCHING---PRAYING! Men are warned by the Scriptures to be seeking the Lord with all their might---in real earnest---with broken hearts, contrite spirits, with fasting and with weeping---that we may be accounted worthy to ESCAPE the things about to be visited on the earth.

It is high time to AROUSE OUT OF OUR SPIRITUAL SLUMBER!

EDITORIAL, Continued

GOOD NEWS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD! He is the Nobleman who has gone to heaven for a Kingdom, and TO RETURN (Luke 19:12). He has gone only until the Times of RESTITUTION ---or RESTORING---of all things. (Aots 3:21)

He is COMING AGAIN!---SOON---as King of kings, and Lord of lords. Then all present forms of government will end. All this worlds ways will end. Christ will RULE all nations, with a stern rod of iron, yet in love, righteousness, justice. War will be no more, for nations will disarm. Peace and prosperity will come. The TRUTH will be resotred, and men will respond and be converted! No wonder Jesus taught us to pray, "THY KINGDOM COME! THY WILL BE DONE ---ON EARTH!"

But---and here is the Christian's high CALLING---the true saints who are OVERCOMERS---who GROW in grace and in knowledge---enduring trial, test, persecution unto the end, are the ones who shall then reign WITH Christ (Rev. 2:26-27; 3:21; 5:10; 20:4,6). Some will rule over five cities, some over ten (Luke 19:17-19). Others will be priests---true ministers of Jesus Christ, ministering the living waters of salvation to countless numbers (Zech. 14:8).

The saints must be prepared to succeed in these high positions where the present world leaders have failed! What a CALLING---what a position of responsibility lies ahead!

The youth who chooses law, medicine, engineering, for his life calling knows he must FIT HIMSELF for the task---thru perhaps four to six years of university training following ordinary education.

Have you realized that the CHRISTIAN LIFE is one of PREPARATION for a very solemn, serious responsibility?

Being truly "born again"---thru real broken-hearted repentance and faith in Christ, is only the BEGINNING. We must GROW in grace and knowledge. Are YOU?