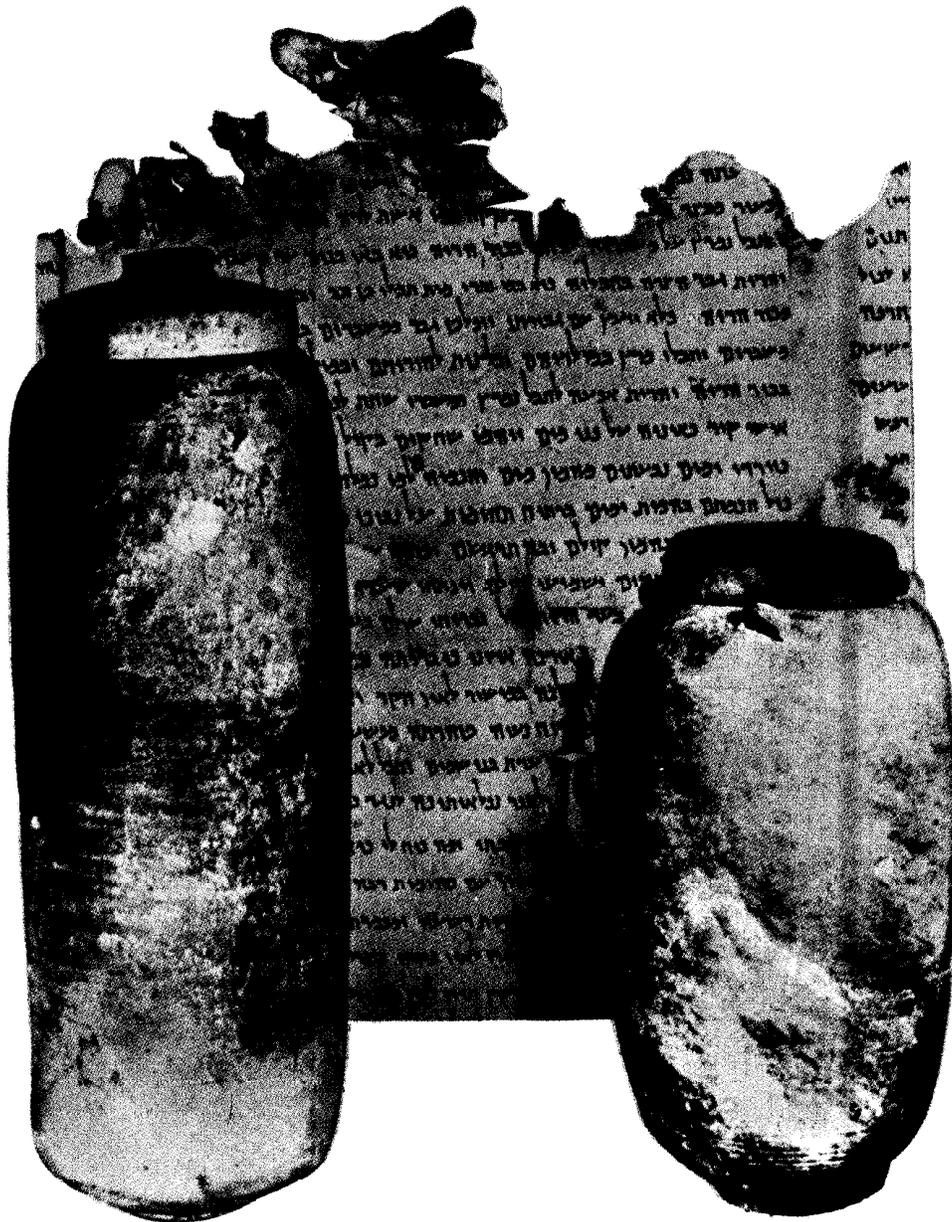


the
PLAIN TRUTH

VOL. XXII, NUMBER 2

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—Wide World Photo
A fragment of one of the Dead Sea Scrolls, and two clay containers which housed the documents for nearly 20 centuries are pictured here.

The PLAIN TRUTH

A magazine of understanding.

VOL. XXII

NO. 2

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*Sent FREE to all who request it,
as the Lord provides. Address
all communications to the editor.*

Copyright, February, 1957

By the Radio Church of God

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

Listen to

The WORLD TOMORROW

by L. Leroy Neff

We receive letters continually asking how to receive The WORLD TOMORROW if there is no station carrying it locally. Some state that the station they listen to fades in and out all the time. Others say that the broadcast is too late to listen to, as they must arise early for work. Still others ask what stations we broadcast on.

Here are points that will probably help you receive the broadcast.

Many do not realize that in each issue of The PLAIN TRUTH we publish a complete list of ALL stations which carry The WORLD TOMORROW broadcast. One or two of these stations can be heard in *most* of the United States and even into Canada. This fact is not known by many people. When they see a station listed in a distant area they immediately dismiss it as one they cannot hear. For complete radio information refer to the Radio Log (found on page 6) in each issue. There are often changes when new stations are added or old stations have a change of time.

Before giving specific information about the various stations it is good to understand something about the characteristics of radio waves which bring

the programs into our homes.

Radio waves go a limited distance in direct line. Beyond this distance the reception is sometimes spotty. This is caused by the reflecting of radio waves back from the ionosphere. The ionosphere is a layer of gases several hundred miles above the earth which reflects radio waves much like a mirror would reflect light rays.

This layer of gases is constantly shifting, and therefore, the best reception for distance stations changes from time to time, often quite quickly and without warning. Thus you might be able to see that at one particular time one station might come in loud while another one will be drowned out. Fading in and out is a result of this situation.

Possibly you can see now that when one station is not received very well in your locality another one might come in better. If you listen to Station XELO for example and the station does not come in well, try another station such as XEG or WLS, depending on your locality. By shifting each night if necessary from one station to another you might be able to hear all the program, even though at a different time during the evening.

Most people have no idea of the tremendous coverage of some of these stations. Here is a very brief summary of some of them. At the present time, the station with the most coverage is XEG, Monterrey, Mexico. We receive letters regularly from people who listen to this station in Colorado, South Dakota, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, and places in between. Station XELO, Juarez, Mexico, is heard as far as Montana, North Dakota, Minnesota, Missouri, and parts of Canada.

Station XERB, Rosarito Beach, Mexico, is heard as far as Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Nevada. Station WWVA, Wheeling, West Virginia, is heard in Ontario and Nova Scotia, Canada; Maine, Bermuda, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Kentucky. WABC, New York, is heard as far as North Carolina, Indiana, Ontario, and Massachusetts.

It should be understood that all of these places do not hear the program like a local station, and it is not always

consistent. There are sometimes places in between in which reception is difficult.

One problem in receiving these stations is due to the radios we listen to. Most radios nowadays are not designed for distant reception. They are usually designed for local reception only. People are not usually interested in receiving distant stations today.

In order to get around this problem, it may be necessary to purchase the type of radio designed for this use, such as so-called "Trans-Oceanic" or Short Wave radios, which also have the standard broadcast bands. Most of these, but not all, are more expensive than the "table model" variety.

A cheaper solution sometimes is to take one of the older radios which were designed for long distance service and have it put in good condition. Select a radio which uses modern tubes and is of the "superheterodyne" type. Be sure it is not too encumbered by numerous tubes such as eleven tubes or more. These can sometimes be more economically employed than buying a new set. The quality of sound may not be as good, but the distance receiving characteristics are frequently just as good. In such cases a *competent, honest, and reliable service man should be consulted to determine costs before making a decision.*

In general it is wise to have new, high quality, modern condensers installed in place of the old ones, along with replacement of any weak or shorted tubes. Sharp alignment of the set will also be necessary in most cases. If these things seem strange to you, consult your service man and he will understand.

Another problem is the late hour on some stations. To some, these are the only stations that can be received. If it is impossible—and usually it is not—to stay up, or if you are at work during the broadcast time, *there is a solution to your problem.*

Some of our listeners have secured tape recorders. These can be operated with a radio. With a timer that turns the radio and recorder off and on, the broadcast can be recorded, while you are at work. In addition to the recorder

(Please continue on page 18)

WHY GOD IS NOT REAL to Most People

Millions who claim to believe in God would be shocked if they knew the actual SOURCE of their belief and practice.

by **Herbert W. Armstrong**

I WONDER if *you* are like the person who said to me: "I believe in God, but it seems like God is so *far off*—so UNREAL!"

WHY do most people feel this way?

Then again, I have often wondered how it can be that so many have heard me explain the Message GOD sent to mankind by Jesus Christ, just as it is plainly recorded that Christ taught it, and yet have said afterward: "I surely enjoyed that. I never heard anything like that before, but it certainly makes sense"—and yet, even tho they heard it, understood it, even expressed that it was the most logical and self-evident *true* explanation of life and its purpose and truth they have ever heard—in spite of this, *knowing* it is the TRUE Gospel of Jesus Christ, yet *they evidence not the slightest indication that this true Message from God is of any concern to them, personally—or that it has any connection with them, individually!*

WHY is this?

What Is the SOURCE of Your Religion?

The answer is bound up in two factors: the unreality of God to the average person, and the actual SOURCE of one's religion.

Let's understand this mystery!

What *is* religion, anyway?

Religion is the obedience, service, or adoration rendered to the object of one's worship—a system of faith and devotion to a *superior Authority*—the profession, practice or observance of whatever belief and practice is required *by* that SUPERIOR AUTHORITY.

The very SOURCE of your religion, then, is that *superior authority*. Whatever that AUTHORITY that to you has appeared SUPERIOR—you received your

religion *from* it, and you profess whatever belief, and observe whatever practice it requires!

The question, then, now becomes: "*What IS* that SUPERIOR AUTHORITY?"

Is that SOURCE of *your* religious belief and practice, a Supreme, All-Powerful Personal GOD?—a GOD who *created* all matter, force and energy—who created *everything* that exists?

The incredible answer, in nearly all cases, believe it or not—is *NO!!*

MANY of the world's organized and recognized religions do not *believe* in any One Supreme, Personal, All-Powerful GOD!

Most of the many sectarian divisions of the professing *Christian* religion do claim to believe that there is ONE Supreme, All-Powerful Personal GOD—but, in reality, is such a Personal GOD the real SOURCE of their religious belief and practice? The astonishing answer is *NO!*

Most intelligent people believe there had to be some original FIRST CAUSE—a FIRST CAUSE of all that we see and know about us—of the earth, the sun, the moon, the stars, the *weather*—of animal life and plant life—of *human* life. But *is* that FIRST CAUSE an actual Personal BEING possessing *mind, intelligence, purpose*—and the powers to bring into existence the things that we see about us—and is there power to *guide, direct* and *control* the earth and the entire universe?

WHY God Is Unreal

If such a Supreme, Living, All-Intelligent, All-Powerful Personal Being does exist, then *WHY* is it that this GOD seems so UNREAL to people—so *far off* as to seem *non-existent*? *WHY?*

I think we can explain that!

The hour that you were born, you knew nothing about any One Supreme Personal GOD! You knew *nothing!* Whatever concept you have about God has come into your mind *since* the day of your birth. *HOW* did knowledge begin coming into your mind? There are only five channels thru which any knowledge can come, naturally, into the human mind—that which you *see, hear, taste, smell, or feel*—the five physical senses.

There exist THREE dimensions. But the natural mind of a mortal human person is aware of only TWO! Babies grow into little children—and they grow toward adulthood with an awareness only of the *within*, and the *around*. You grew toward adulthood with no real knowledge of the ABOVE—for the above is *spiritual*—it cannot be *seen*,—you cannot hear, taste, smell, or feel spiritual things, beings, or TRUTHS!

And so, if there BE any One Supreme Spiritual BEING who is GOD, you couldn't *see* Him—you couldn't *hear* Him—you had no actual personal *contact* of any kind with Him—you could know absolutely *nothing* of God thru any of these natural channels by which you receive knowledge.

WELL, THEN! There are many *millions* of professing Christians who say they believe in such a GOD—and who profess to *know* more or less about Him. *How did this happen?*

The answer is that they know what they have read or *been told* by those AROUND them—what they have received from other *people!* What most people know about GOD—or *think* they know—has *not* come from the ABOVE—*not* from God Himself direct, in any personal contact—but from the AROUND—purely from what they have heard, read,

or been told *by other people*. And *where* did these other PEOPLE acquire their "knowledge?" Well they, too, received it *from other people*—and in the main, all these other PEOPLE constitute a *deceived world* that has NO DIRECT KNOWLEDGE OF OR CONTACT WITH ANY ONE SUPREME SPIRIT BEING, WHO IS *GOD!*

Of course, altho *most* people neglect Bible reading, many have read *about* God in the Bible—but their concept of God has been so firmly implanted into their minds *by other people* during childhood *before* they started reading the Bible that they continue picturing Him in the same way.

Well, NO WONDER, then, that most people who profess to *believe* in such a God say that *God seems unreal to them!* They are like the old patriarch JOB. He thought He knew all about God. But after God actually *revealed Himself*, and *spoke directly* and *in person* to Job—after this *personal contact* had been established—Job said to God: "I have HEARD of You by the hearing of the ear: but NOW, my eye *SEES YOU!*" Yes, *now*, God had become REAL. Job's source of knowledge previously had been from the *around*—He had heard *about* God by the hearing of the ear—from *other PEOPLE*. God wasn't *real* to him! But once that direct *personal contact* was established, GOD BECAME REAL!

There is a way by which YOU can establish actual direct PERSONAL CONTACT with God, so that *He will become absolutely REAL!*

But what is the *SOURCE* of the religions of this world? *Beliefs* and religious *practices* have come from this *SOURCE!*

TWO-Dimensional Minds

So now stop and THINK! The natural human mind is conscious actively of only TWO of the three dimensions—the WITHIN and the AROUND! Knowledge comes from WITHOUT—and, naturally, is confined to the AROUND, since knowledge of the ABOVE is not naturally transmitted thru any of the five senses. So knowledge comes from the AROUND—from people and things!

WITHIN is the process of reasoning, *from* that knowledge! And also within, guiding and influencing that

reasoning, is HUMAN NATURE!

What Human Nature Is

Human nature is a mixture of good and evil. But its basic principle is VANITY, which expresses itself in many ways. It expresses itself in covetousness, greed, selfishness, jealousy, envy, resentment, hatred. But this human nature is suffering from a sense of *inferiority*, and it desires desperately to be relieved of this painful feeling.

This basic ingredient of human nature, VANITY, also expresses itself in a desire to *belong* to a group, a club, a society, a church, a faction, or a NATION. In order to avoid feeling inferior, the *self* instinctively desires to be *accepted* by other people. This ingredient in human nature produces a spirit of rivalry, party-spirit, and consequently *loyalty* to the party, the club, the faction, the church, the group, the nation to which it *belongs!* It would fear to be disloyal, lest the others in this factional group consider him as a traitor, and therefore as evil—and HE feel *inferior*, which is a painful feeling!

This element in human nature is often called the "*sheep* instinct." People just naturally *follow—go along with—OTHER PEOPLE!* Consequently they *fear* other people! That is, they FEAR to *disagree*—they fear to act or perform or believe *contrary* to the other people of whatever SOCIETY they feel affiliated with.

If you can get a fad or a style or a custom *started* in any society, or nation, or group to which people adhere, all the people attached to it will usually follow like blind, dumb SHEEP!

WHY do so many teen-agers—both boys and girls—smoke cigarettes today? There are just two motivating reasons—the *vanity* of feeling more adult—and the sheep instinct. That is, because others they associate with and wish to be accepted by do it, they are *afraid* they will not be well-thought-of if they don't! It is a *practice* they follow in order to *conform* to whatever code or belief is laid down by the *society* in which they travel.

The Unrealized SOURCE

This SOCIETY, then, the pattern or system which is of HUMAN origin, is

the actual SOURCE of nearly all of the BELIEFS and the PRACTICES of nearly all the people on earth today!

—AND THAT INCLUDES RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES!

People BELIEVE what they do, usually, because the society with which they are connected believes that way. They practice whatever CUSTOMS they follow because the PEOPLE with whom they feel *connected* dictate these practices!

Most people the world over have accepted the *religion* of those *people* with whom they were most closely connected from infancy to adulthood—their *parents*. And by the time they grow up, they find themselves surrounded by a *larger* group than their immediate family—a *religious* group, or church or society or nation—all of which accept the same religious beliefs, and follow the same religious practices. And, if ever such a person is in any manner tempted to *question* these beliefs and practices, the FEAR of what all the others with whom he is attached might think and say dissuades him—USUALLY!

Yes, it is HUMAN to FEAR the society to which we have become attached *in the way* that we *should* fear the CREATOR GOD! But this immediate *society* around us is *near*—it is *real*—we see and *hear* these people—we want to be ACCEPTED by them—and God seems so *far away*—so UNREAL!

It ought to begin to dawn on our minds that the actual SOURCE of the religious beliefs and practices of nearly all individuals is—S O C I E T Y—other PEOPLE—and this society of other people is what the BIBLE calls THIS *WORLD!*

How Religions Originated

A few times, in the history of this world, in one nation or another, a man of higher-than-average intellect has DARED to THINK FOR HIMSELF—to think and to reason within himself *independent of*, and *contrary to* the society around him. He has allowed the BEST in human nature—and remember that human nature is a MIXTURE of good and evil—to guide his philosophical thinking. And, as he has meditated upon some of the deeper things of life, he has dared to come to conclusions *different* from those of the accepted re-

ligion of HIS PEOPLE. Such a man has been *confined*, in this reasoning, to whatever *factual* knowledge he has gained from WITHOUT—and he has been confined to the AROUND—to this material WORLD of people, plant and animal life, and THINGS. He has been unable to SEE, or to HEAR, or in any way to KNOW about SPIRITUAL things.

And since the real PRINCIPLES of life—the very PURPOSE of life, the WAY to peace, to happiness, to joy; the MEANING of life, of death, or whether there is life AFTER death, and of its nature—since all these fundamental PRINCIPLES OF LIFE are not to be SEEN, or heard, or knowledge of them transmitted thru the five senses; and since this BASIC knowledge can come only from ABOVE, from the CREATOR HIMSELF; and since these religious leaders were utterly CUT OFF from this true SOURCE of knowledge about LIFE, then their reasonings and philosophic and religious conclusions *have been of necessity in error!*

Yet they have seemed PLAUSIBLE! In nearly every case these men who have founded some new religion have found very few sympathizers at first, or even during their lifetimes. Only a FEW have ever been willing to BREAK AWAY from the established ideas and customs of their immediate SOCIETY. All others have avoided them or persecuted them! But in some cases their few followers themselves became leaders, and gradually, very slowly at first, new converts were added, until in time these new ideas became an established religion with many followers—often numbering many millions.

THAT is WHY there are different religions in different countries—that is HOW it all came about!

The SOURCE of This World's "Christianity"

BUT—marvel of marvels—the actual SOURCE of what is commonly accepted as "Christianity" today is altogether different from what professing Christians call the heathen religions! Yet almost no one knows what it is!

It is A NEW THING in the earth; and it originated, not from the philosophies of a human mind *apart from* the truth of God and of Christ, but in actually

seizing onto the true religion of Christ and *counterfeiting* it in order to exalt and deify a human man!

The prophet Daniel foretold it. In the longest prophecy in the Bible—Dan. 10, 11, and 12, it is recorded: "And the king shall do according to *his* will [*not God's*]; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things *against* the God of gods [the true GOD]: . . . Neither shall he regard the gods of his fathers [heathen gods], . . . and a god whom his fathers [pagans] knew not shall he honor."

Differing totally from all previous pagan religions, the true Christianity was *counterfeited*, with a former pagan belief or practice substituted for almost everything vital in the *true* belief and practice which came from GOD, and yet seizing on the NAME of Christ, and the NAME of God, and labeling this religion "Christianity." Vehemently it *professed* to abolish idolatry, by substituting the NAMES of God and of Christ for pagan gods, while substituting pagan beliefs and practices for those of Jesus Christ!

And all the world is DECEIVED!

DOES God EXIST?

But—if there BE a true FIRST CAUSE—a Supreme Personal BEING who had wisdom and power to actually CREATE this earth and life upon it—I say that IF there be such an intelligent Supreme Personal GOD, it is NOT REASONABLE that He should have failed to MAKE HIMSELF *known* to mankind—and to COMMUNICATE to mankind the knowledge of the TRUTH, the knowledge of the PURPOSE of life, the spiritual LAWS that GOVERN life and all relationships—and of the HEREAFTER!

Is there such a GOD? *Does* that God EXIST?

DID He ever communicate such a revelation of essential knowledge to mankind?—and IF SO, I ask you, *WHY* IS THE WORLD TODAY GROPING SO HELPLESSLY IN THE DARKNESS OF *CONFUSION*—with actually HUNDREDS of different and conflicting religious teachings?

Thirty years ago I was led BY this very GOD to *ask* these same questions—

and to seek their rational and absolute PROOF, one way or the other.

The PROOF

Since I could not *see* this Supreme God, I turned to what *could* be seen, or heard—measured and examined and absolutely PROVED—the laws and the facts of SCIENCE! And I found that what is observed and *known* about radioactivity *proves* there has been *no past eternity of matter*.

Matter itself, then, is not the great FIRST CAUSE, as some seem to think—for there was a time, in the long, long ago, when matter *came* into existence. SOMETHING could not bring itself into existence out of NOTHING. There was, then, a CREATING POWER that is apart from, and independent of MATTER. Next, was this FIRST CAUSE—the Creating Power that *created* matter—INTELLIGENT? I found accurate and absolute PROOF, unanswerable, that this CREATOR was a SUPREME Intelligence—an intelligence *infinitely* higher than that in MAN.

But what was this CREATOR *like*? Ah, I could not prove *that* by the laws of Science. I could prove only that there IS a Creator, who is INTELLIGENT.

But, regardless of whether the Creator be a PERSONAL God, or what, IF He is intelligent, it would be an insult to intelligence if He had not REVEALED HIMSELF and His PURPOSE in creating humanity on this earth—and all the FUNDAMENTAL KNOWLEDGE about life that mankind seems to lack.

I began to look into the religious WRITINGS—the sacred SCRIPTURES—of the *religions* of the world. Being an American, reared in what I was told was CHRISTIANITY—but now DOUBTING it, and demanding PROOF, I first set out to PROVE whether or not the HOLY BIBLE could be such an inspired revelation.

The PROOF of Inspiration

In this Book I found One actually quoted, saying He was GOD ALMIGHTY—a Personal BEING who had *created* everything that exists. This God is quoted directly as speaking, and as delivering DECREES and SENTENCES on the greatest of the ancient city-states,

on the greatest of ancient NATIONS and EMPIRES—and FORE-TELLING what HE was going to CAUSE TO HAPPEN to those cities, nations, and empires a very FEW years later or a thousand years later or several thousand years later—and throughout eternity!

Now NO MORTAL MAN could put such colossal pronouncements in writing, and bring them to pass! No MAN could cause such results. No MAN could KNOW the future!

The *only ONE* that could inspire such writing—IF events actually *happened* as written in advance—is the *MOST* High Creator who actually CONTROLS all the forces and powers that exist, who is also SUPREME RULER over the entire UNIVERSE!

I found such prophecies respecting not merely one, not merely two, not merely four, but concerning MOST ALL of the existing great cities of the world at the time the words were written.

Ancient TYRE was to be utterly destroyed, in a certain specific manner—and NEVER rebuilt. That happened, in the EXACT MANNER written down centuries BEFORE THE EVENT—and in nearly 2,500 years IT HAS NEVER BEEN REBUILT!

Her sister city, SIDON, was to be reduced to a very small city, continually attacked, with continual bloodshed in her streets—yet continuing to be rebuilt, and to exist. THAT has happened, *precisely* as written 2,500 years ago, down to this very day!

Ashdod was to continue to exist as a small city, until all surrounding territory was to be occupied by the JEWISH race in this 20th century A.D.—AND THAT HAPPENED! But her sister city of the ancient Philistines, ASHKELON, was to be destroyed and NEVER re-built—and THAT happened!

Ancient proud *Babylon* was to be totally DESTROYED, and NEVER AGAIN was any MAN to be allowed to LIVE THERE. I visited all these sites recently—and it has HAPPENED as prophesied. No man has lived at the site of ancient Babylon for many centuries—none lives there today!

Egypt was then, when this prophecy was written, one of the greatest NATIONS on earth. It was to be conquered by the

Chaldeans, reduced to a minor nation—always to exist, but never again as a MAJOR nation—and NEVER again ruled by a NATIVE PRINCE. And THAT happened, exactly as the One quoted say-

ing "I AM THE ETERNAL GOD!" said it would!

When these prophecies were written the Chaldean Empire was rising to become the world's first *world-ruling* empire. This GOD of the Bible, 2,500 years ago, inspired the prophets to write that it was to be conquered by the Persian Empire. It, in turn, by a great general from Greece—who turned out to be Alexander the Great; and HE was to be cut off from life at an early age, and his kingdom divided into FOUR divisions—and they, in turn, were to be absorbed by a rising Empire from the WEST, to be the most *powerful* of *all* empires. This same GOD inspired the writing, 2,500 years ago, that *this* great Empire, which was the Roman Empire, was to be overthrown, but to be resurrected *ten times!* NINE of those resurrections have already come and gone, and that same GOD wrote in those same *prophecies*, 2,500 years ago [some of them 1,900 years ago] that yet IN *OUR TIME*, there would be *another* resurrection of that EMPIRE by a UNITING of TEN DIFFERENT POWERS in the European-Mediterranean region of the ancient Roman Empire! And the stage is set for even THAT astounding prophecy to be fulfilled BEFORE YOUR VERY EYES WITHIN THE NEXT FIFTEEN YEARS!

And these are only a FEW of the scores and scores of PROPHECIES in this *remarkable* Book—MANY of them already startlingly fulfilled—all the others right NOW in almost IMMEDIATE IMMINENCE of being fulfilled in OUR TIME! Yes, I found that PROPHECY has absolutely PROVED that the Scriptures called the HOLY BIBLE were directly INSPIRED by the very CREATOR GOD!

God Answers Prayers

Then I found other proof! I found that this same GOD, in this same BIBLE, had hundreds of PROMISES written down for YOU and for ME, saying that under certain terms and conditions He would actually cause certain things to HAPPEN for us—IF WE WOULD ASK HIM IN BELIEVING PRAYER! I found promises to deliver us from trouble when we get into it, to supply our every NEED when we really NEED it, (Please continue on page 17)

RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

Herbert W. Armstrong analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of The WORLD TOMORROW!

TO THE U.S. & CANADA

WABC—New York—770 on dial—11:30 P.M., Mon. thru Fri.; 10:30 A.M., Sun., Eastern time.

WLS — Chicago — 890 on dial — 11:30 P.M., Mon. thru Fri.; 8:30 Sunday night.

WWVA—Wheeling, W. Va.—1170 on dial—Sundays, 11:15 P.M. Eastern time. 10:00 P.M., Mon. thru Fri.

WRVA—Richmond, Va.—1140 on dial—Sundays, 11:05 P.M. Eastern time.

XELO—800 on dial, every night, 9:00 P.M. Central Standard time. (8:00 P.M. Mountain Standard time.)

XEG—1050 on dial, every night, 8:30 P.M. Central Standard time.

WCAE — Pittsburgh, Pa.—1250 on dial—4:00 P.M. Sundays.

WXYZ—Detroit, Mich.—1270 on dial—1:30 P.M. Sundays.

HEARD ON PACIFIC COAST

XERB—1090 on dial—7:00 P.M. every night.

KGER—Los Angeles—1390 k.c.—12:30 P.M., Mon. thru Fri.; 12 noon Saturday; 2 P.M. Sun.

KARM — Fresno—1430 k.c.—9:00 P.M. Daily.

KBLA—Burbank—1490 k.c.—7:30 A.M. daily. 9:30 A.M. Sunday.

KPDQ — Portland — 800 on dial — 8:30 A.M. daily.

KUGN — Eugene — 590 k.c. — 7:00 P.M. Sun. thru Fri.

KVI—Seattle-Tacoma—570, first on dial—10:30 P.M. every night.

TO ALL OF EUROPE

RADIO LUXEMBOURG

Mondays: 23:30 Greenwich time

TO ASIA & AFRICA

RADIO CEYLON

Tuesday: 10:15-10:45 P.M. India-Pakistan Beam and Ceylon Beam.

Wednesday: 11:30-12:00 noon African Beam. 5:15-5:45 P.M. S.E. Asia Beam.

RADIO FORMOSA

Wednesday: 5:50-6:20 P.M.

RADIO LORENCO MARQUES

Saturday: 10:00-10:30 P.M.

Just How Important Are the DEAD SEA SCROLLS?

It is time you knew the truth behind the recent discovery of ancient religious documents in caves near the Dead Sea.

by Herman L. Hoeh

A CLEVER sales campaign is riding the crest of renewed interest in the Bible. Dozens of books and articles have been written *to sell* the idea that the recently found DEAD SEA SCROLLS are vital for a new understanding of Christianity.

But are these scrolls really important? Do they "shed a brilliant new light on Christianity" as claimed?

Here is what you should know about these documents—

How It All Began

The first scrolls were discovered by accident about 10 years ago. The scene was the blighted desert beside the Dead

Sea. It was one of the "wildernesses" of Palestine, even in Bible times. An Arab boy herded goats—some say sheep—in a ravine called Wady Qumrân, not far from the road to Jericho. He chanced upon a cave in the vicinity—though there is much dispute among writers as to what led him to the cave.

Inside the cave were the crumbled remains of 2000-year-old manuscripts. They have been remarkably preserved considering their age. The scrolls had been wrapped in linen and pitch and placed in earthen jars in the cave. So small and obscure was the entrance to the cave that it has secreted these documents for nearly 20 centuries!

The Arab boy and his companions took the scrolls to Bethlehem where they attempted to sell them to an antiquities dealer. From one merchant to another they journeyed. Four scrolls were finally purchased for about \$150 by Archbishop Samuel of the Syrian Orthodox Monastery in Jerusalem.

It was not until February 1948 that real interest developed in the scrolls. The Archbishop sent those which he had obtained to the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem. Dr. John C. Trever identified the ancient Hebrew script of the scrolls. He suspected their enormous age. The writing on the scrolls resembled that of

A page of part of the oldest known Biblical Scrolls. This one was brought to London shortly after being discovered near the Dead Sea. It is exhibited in the British Museum.



A scene in a murky cave near the Dead Sea during the search for fragments of the scrolls. This is the cave in which the oldest known fragment of the Bible was found. It dates back tentatively to the first century B.C. Scholars are still trying to piece together the story of how the scrolls and old manuscripts were originally buried.

—Wide World Photos



other fragmentary manuscripts already known to have been written *well before the time of Christ!*

Meanwhile, the Hebrew University at Jerusalem purchased the other manuscripts found by the Arab lads in the Qumrân caves—more than one cave proved to contain the ancient manuscripts.

In all, there are over 40,000 fragments of leather and papyrus. About a dozen nearly complete scrolls have been found. The MOST IMPORTANT of these contains—on 23 feet of leather—the *entire Old Testament Book of Isaiah.*

Has the Bible Been Accurately Preserved?

And of what value is the Isaiah scroll?

It is unique proof of the *reliability of the Holy Scriptures* that have been handed down to us through the centuries. **THE TEXT AGREES COMPLETELY WITH WHAT WE HAVE IN OUR PRESENT-DAY BIBLES!**

The only differences are minor spelling changes and misplaced words, changes that represent the carelessness of *unofficial* scribes who copied on leather this text of the book of Isaiah.

In other words, the present text, found in all Hebrew Bibles, which is a continuation of the *official* Old Testament Hebrew text, is *far superior* in grammatical accuracy to this newly found *unofficial* copy of Isaiah made 2000 years ago.

Here is wonderful knowledge that the ancient scroll of Isaiah, just like the printed copies of Isaiah in any modern day Bible, has the SAME 66 CHAPTERS and *wholly agrees in meaning* with our present-day text! Yet many modern writers, when discussing the Dead Sea Scrolls carefully avoid recognizing this fact **BECAUSE THEY DO NOT WANT TO BELIEVE THAT THE BIBLE HAS BEEN ACCURATELY PRESERVED**, not only in meaning, but even in wording.

Until this find, the oldest and fullest Manuscript in Hebrew was the Codex Petropolitanus, dating from about 916 A.D. This latest find near the Dead Sea certainly is proof of the *accuracy* with which the Jews have copied the books of the Old Testament.

Between 1949 and 1951 additional manuscripts were located in other caves near the Dead Sea. In these scrolls were 19 of the Old Testament books—nearly all telling the same story as the Isaiah Scroll. More recent discoveries contain fragments of all the Old Testament books except one.

Some of these newly found frag-



—Wide World Photo

At the left in this picture is the manuscript roll from which the page at the right was separated. The fragmentary and rotting condition of the roll makes the work especially difficult.

mentary scrolls, however, differ somewhat from the official text preserved by the Jews and used in their synagogues from the time of Christ till now. Several modern scholars have therefore hastily jumped to the conclusion that these fragments cast doubt upon the accuracy of the fully preserved official text. Contrary to this careless modern thinking—and it is quite a sales point in this “Christian” world that wants to *doubt* the Bible—these fragments prove no such thing.

Here is *why*. There is no proof that the heretical Jewish sect which apparently preserved these texts—the sect may have been the Essenes, though many scholars doubt it—was accurate in its copying of the Old Testament. In fact, many of their scrolls contain *fables* interwoven with the text of the Old Testament! The official scribes never permitted this to happen to the official text. The scribes taught their fables orally.

Remember what Jesus said in Matthew 23:2—“The scribes and Pharisees

sit on the seat of Moses.” In this verse Jesus recognized that the scribes and Pharisees had the God-given authority over the preservation of the text. The scribes’ specific duty was to preserve the Old Testament text. The heretical sect centered near the Dead Sea was never appointed by God for this purpose. They did not always preserve the Hebrew Text accurately. Yet it is this apostate sect that modern scholars turn to in order to find reason to doubt the POWER of God to preserve His written Word for us. This is the kind of scholarship which fills many of the books being peddled to millions who want “new light” on the Bible.

What Else Do the Scrolls Contain?

Besides the valuable Isaiah scroll, the Qumrân caves secreted *The Habakkuk Commentary*—the Book of Habakkuk with a verse-by-verse misinterpretation of two chapters of the prophecy [this commentary is the root of the unimportant but heated controversy over the sect which preserved the scrolls].

Then there is the *Commentary on Genesis*—another fabulous interpretation, this time written in Aramaic. It contains among others a fable about the beauty of Sarah, Abraham’s wife.

There is also a *Manual of Discipline*—a code which governed the life of the Qumrân sect; a group of *Thanksgiving Psalms*—having nothing to do with the Old Testament book of Psalms; and *The War of the Sons of Light with the Sons of Darkness*—containing uninspired Jewish apocalyptic fables.

A number of Hebrew Apocryphal writings have also been uncovered.

And of what importance are these to the origin of Christianity and the New Testament Church?

Obviously of no fundamental value—yet most of the books and articles on the Dead Sea Scrolls magnify these inconsequential papyrus and leather fragments into “new and astounding” evidence about the origin of Christianity and the person of Jesus Christ! The fact remains that **NOT ONCE IN THE NEW TESTAMENT** is this small heretical sect *even mentioned!* Always you read of the scribes, the Pharisees, the Sadducees, *(Please continue on page 17)*

Germany IS RISEN Again!

A new German colossus is risen in Europe. Here is astounding news you need to keep abreast of!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

GERMANY is a powerful nation again! Only a few years ago, the victorious allies relaxed with a sigh of relief as the German High Command signed surrender documents at Nürnberg, Germany. It was over. We had won. Germany had been *conquered, whipped, DEVASTATED!*

Or had she?

Today, the western allies are bound together *with* Germany in NATO ties, facing a common enemy to the east. The general, blinding fear of Communism has bound former enemies into mutual aid agreements to form a solid front, a stalwart bulwark against the ever advancing hordes of Asiatic Communists.

But something is wrong!

Germany, to the surprise of western planners, is not acting like the peaceful, docile vassal they supposed she would! Instead of accepting her role as a dejected, beaten, and grateful and well-meaning ally of the Western Powers, Germany has sown seeds of foreign industry, developed her own industry into an overwhelming machine, and is again throwing her weight around in the world.

Historical Lessons

There should be only *one* reason for ever setting down one single historical fact. That reason should be so future generations can *learn the lessons* from history, can *profit from the mistakes* of their progenitors, and avoid making the same mistakes in the future!

The mistakes were made in the past—*but the lesson has not been learned!*

It was only comparatively few years ago that solemn-faced diplomats gathered in Geneva, Switzerland, to form the world's first attempt at world government. The League of Nations was established on the heels of a war some of you well remember—a war that soaked the battlefields of France in the blood of hundreds of thousands, that littered the seas with dead bodies, that brought suffering, disease and poverty to millions. Germany, it was proposed, was never again to become a "problem nation" in the world. Through stripping Germany of her vast Pacific Island holdings, including New Guinea, the Solomons, the Carolinas and the Marianas, and by means of taking from Germany her

vastly wealthy holdings in Africa, including German East Africa (modern Tanganyika), German Southwest Africa and Togoland, Germany was to be deprived of the means to ever again attempt world conquest.

The Sudetenland was gone, vast sections of what had been German holdings in their own homeland were gone. Danzig was accessible only by way of the "Danzig Corridor." Vast war reparations were set—and Germans were expected to repay the world for the damage they had done.

But one thing was not gone!

The indomitable German spirit had not been removed! The war reparations were lowered, lowered again, and finally forgotten completely. But Germany did not forget! Germany could not forget her colonies, *nor could she forget her defeat!*

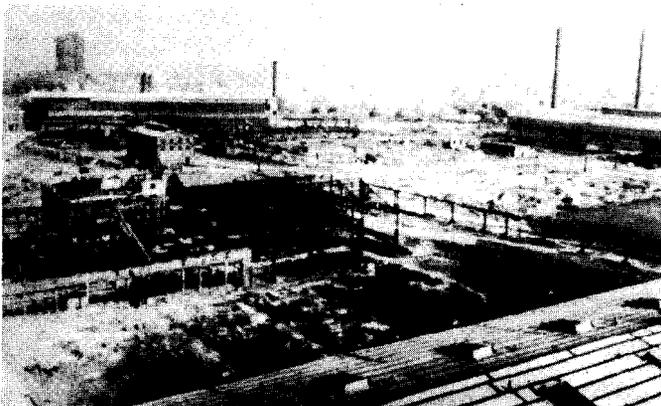
Willful Blindness

No one was disturbed much at the books, news articles and broadcasts during those years of apprehension from 1936 to 1939. News observers, some of whom had been given personal inter-

The famous Krupp works in Germany, which for more than a century symbolized big guns and war, is busily turning out products varying from false teeth to locomotives. The picture below shows the heart of the Krupp works as it looked after World War II destruction. After the war the Allies ripped up most of what

remained and carted it away as war reparations. The picture below shows trucks rolling off the assembly line of the new Krupp works in Essen.

—Wide World Photo



views with Goering and Hitler, *knew* of the Pan-Germanism that pervaded the new Reich. No one was disturbed much, it seems, to see German civilian busses with high chassis, four-wheel drive, and made from heavy materials. Western observers were not worried about the planning of German industry so a change to production of war materials could be effected within a startlingly short time.

To satiate the desires of the new Reich for acquisition of "Lebensraum" (living space), Chamberlain sacrificed Czechoslovakia to the Nazi lust. The Nazi's appetite was not satisfied with this, however. The late President F. D. Roosevelt received word during the night of September 1, 1939 that Warsaw was being bombed. The world was shocked—stunned by this sudden outburst of brutality—but they still hoped. They hoped Hitler's thirst for territory and power would be quenched with Poland. After all, it was the *Poles* who were being bombed, not the rest of the world. It was only eight days before the bombing of Warsaw that Germany had signed a non-aggression pact with Moscow!

Then World War II!

Prague, Warsaw, and then Antwerp, Rotterdam and Oslo—country after country fell before Hitler's new type of warfare—*Blitzkrieg!* *Lightning* warfare! A stunning, stupefying attack from Hitler's newly tested (in the Spanish civil war) Stuka dive bombers, and then an immediate invasion from Hitler's crack, mechanized Panzer units, reinforced by a behind-the-lines parachute drop of other trained, highly efficient Nazi soldiers. France sang, danced, and went about business as usual. Secure behind her Maginot line—she waited. But Hitler didn't even bother with the famous fortifications of the Maginot. He came around them—through Belgium. It was preposterous—it was almost unbelievable—the French DIDN'T BELIEVE IT COULD HAPPEN—and yet, here were German soldiers, goose-stepping into Paris!

Names that live in infamy like Warsaw, Antwerp, and finally *London, Manchester, and Coventry* should have taught

the world a lesson. But they didn't.

A Lesson Not Learned

The shrieks of the wounded and dying no longer fill the ravines and glades of Europe. Gone are the warehouses filled with tens of thousands of shoes, with tons of clothing and articles of value for resale in Germany. New grass has grown up to cover the ravaged earth with green. New foliage has covered the swamps and ditches where hundreds of thousands died in agony in the last war. The screams have faded in the memories, until today the grizzly spectres of Nazi death camps and the gruesome furnaces for burning victims have all but been forgotten completely.

But did the millions of Jews, Poles, Czechs, Belgians, French, British, Dutch and Americans all DIE IN VAIN?

The answer is self-evident today.

Some Amazing Facts

After World War II, world statesmen and diplomats once more met with ashen-grey faces over conference tables. My father, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, personally attended the San Francisco Conference in 1946 when the United Nations' Charter was drawn up. He saw world leaders face each other in solemn assembly and avow that the formation of the United Nations was the *world's last hope for peace!*

Once more, the statesmen were to assure that the life-blood of millions was not to have been shed in vain. Once more, provisions were drawn up which would prevent Germany from EVER AGAIN rising from the total decay and devastation of Allied bombs. Once more, the world told itself it had fought the war to end ALL wars—and would never have to fight again.

Perhaps the common American attitude was expressed by a woman who had been in the American Military service. She had spent considerable time in Germany right after the close of World War II. This woman, when told by one of God's ministers that Germany was going to rise again said: "That's NUTS! I've BEEN there. I've SEEN the wreckage of Germany—and I'm telling you Germany WILL never RISE AGAIN!"

LOOK AT GERMANY TODAY!

The Germany who would "never rise

again" is setting the pace for the entire world in many of the most important industrial products! Western Germany ranks second in the world in shipbuilding—rapidly overtaking the first-place nation, the United Kingdom. The United States does not even enjoy third place. West Germany is wealthier than the United Kingdom, and actual figures prove West Germany to have more gold and dollar reserves than those of the *entire sterling area!* Sir Anthony Eden said, in July, 1956, "The loss of export markets could do to Britain what the U-boats twice failed to do." (Newsweek, July 9, 1956.) West Germany has passed Britain as an exporter of cars, and Germany is now in first place in European auto production.

Everywhere, the story is the same. The vast coal reserves of the Saar, politically, ethnically and religiously tied fast to Germany, are being channeled to the steel mills of the tremendously potent industrial Ruhr. The huge stacks of Wuppertal, Koblenz, Mainz, Mannheim and other important cities in the Ruhr are belching black smoke day and night, as Germany's vast industrial machine begins to shift into high gear. From countries all over the world come reports of Alfried Krupp interests building huge steel mills, dams, railroads, factories, and supplying locomotives, machinery, machine tools and parts to foreign countries.

As early as 1925 and even before, top-flight members of the German General Staff were dispatched to South American countries to become advisers, to influence the officer corps of South and Central American Republics, and to spread hatred of the United States.

Captain Ernst Roehm, organizer of the Nazi Storm Troops, showed up in Bolivia in 1925 as "special adviser" to the Bolivian Army. The German aviation officer Fritz Hammer went to Colombia, where he later organized Nazi espionage and economic infiltration under cover of Nazi aviation concerns. General Bohnstedt became head of the military academy in Salvador and official instructor to the Salvadorean Army. General Reinecke, General Kundt and many other officer-agents of the German General Staff became active in Chile, Paraguay, and Peru. After World War



—Wide World Photo

Like the United States, Germany also has a highway problem. Here you see Germany's new highways gone modern. The clover-leaf near Frankfurt was opened to traffic recently to link two superhighways, one of which is still under construction.

II, Adolph Galland, a top Nazi pilot, and wartime ace, credited with having shot down the phenomenal number of 102 allied planes, went to Argentina as special advisor to Juan Peron's air force. Recently, Galland returned to Germany, purportedly to become the leader of Germany's new "Luftwaffe."

The huge industrial cartels of I. G. Farben and Krupp have once more emerged as the pace-setters for all German industry. Articles appearing in *Look* and *Colliers* magazines within the past few months have shown the vast resurgence of German industrial might under the dynamic leadership of men like Alfred Krupp. While British production is hampered, stalled, and seriously shortened by strikes, German production surges ahead to capture markets created by the slack. For example, toward the

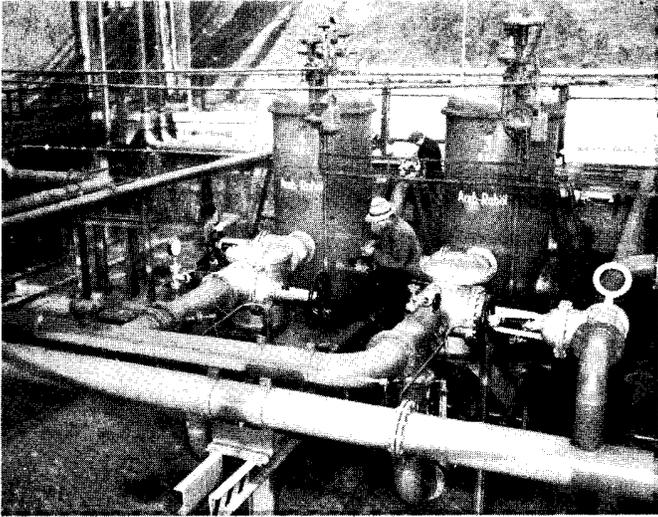
last of June, 1956, the British Motor Corporation, Britain's biggest auto company, fired 6,000 workers in eight plants. The rest of the corporation's 50,000 employes were to go on either a three-day or four-day work week! Other British companies were following suit!

Krupp technicians are advisors in Krupp construction and engineering projects the world over. Huge steel mills are under construction in India, Egypt and Pakistan. Krupp steel and equipment is being used. In Yugoslavia, most of the heavy industry is being rebuilt by Krupp engineers. In Egypt, Krupp is selling locomotives. In the Sudan, the Government has been convinced that Krupp should participate in railway development, irrigation and mining projects. In Argentina, Krupp is planning dam building, hydroelectric plants,

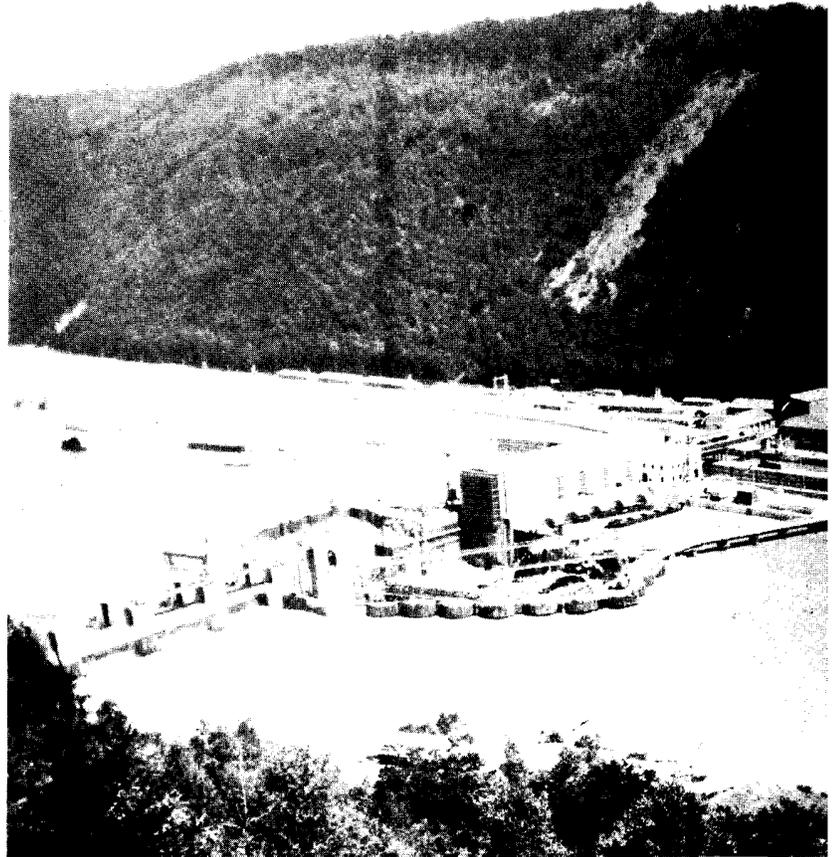
railways, steel mills, development of raw material and natural resources and manufacturing of heavy machinery. In Sao Paulo, Brazil, restaurants and bars teem with German businessmen, many of whom are Krupp representatives, aiding in the building of a huge steel mill nearby.

In Colombia, while Mr. Benjamin Rea and I were visiting its capital city, Bogota, German technicians and construction engineers came by the plane loads to exhibit German equipment and machinery at an international trade fair. In talking to the people in Bogota, including wealthy businessmen, the talk was about *German* industry and efficiency, *not* American! Perhaps the situation in the Western Hemisphere could best be summed up in the words

(Please continue on page 14)



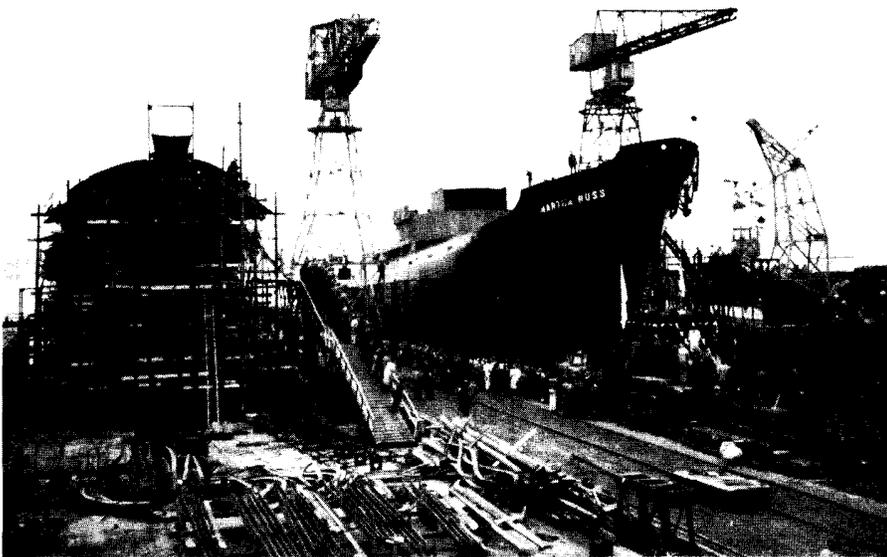
—Wide World Photo
 Opening valves for the rush of oil into storage tanks. The oil was shipped from the Middle East on one of the last ships that passed the Suez Canal before the outbreak of hostilities. Germany is not severely handicapped by the present oil shortage in Europe.



The largest hydroelectric river plant in Europe was opened on the Dan man-Austrian project.

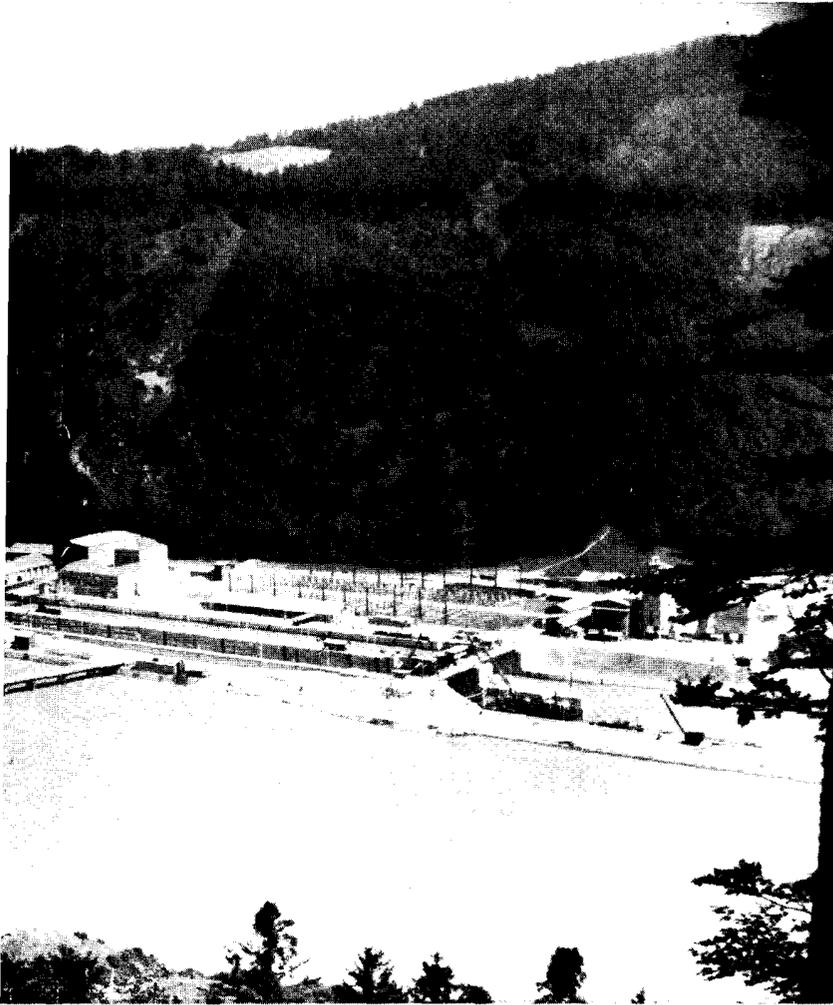
The New GERMANY

Here you see sliding into the water the first cargo steamer granted the German Merchant Marine following the Second World War. —Wide World Photo



This gas station in Hannover, Germany has a roof suspended on steel cables. Architect designed the structure which took...

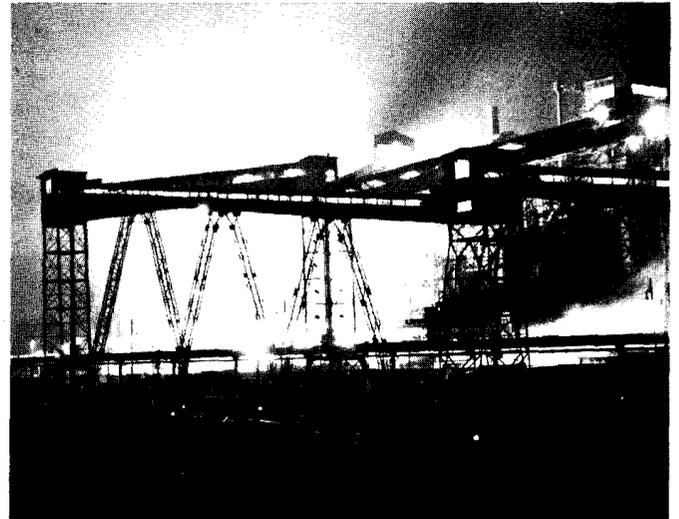




—Wide World Photo
 the Danube River near Passau, Germany, on July 2, 1955. It is a Ger-

Germany has been given the modernistic treat-
 steel cables from a concrete arch. A German
 which towers 72 feet.

—Wide World Photo



—Wide World Photo
 This is a night photo of one of the busy steel mills in Ger-
 many's Ruhr—Europe's biggest industrial center. German
 steel mills hammer out thousands of tons of rolled steel
 daily for the commercial and military needs of the At-
 lantic powers.

IS RISEN Again!

The 8000 ton passenger-freighter "Hamburg" slides
 down the ways as it is launched at the Vulkan Werft
 shipyard in Hamburg.

—Wide World Photo



Germany IS RISEN AGAIN!

(Continued from page 11)

of a Venezuelan businessman who said:

"We want to buy some equipment. We ask a Frenchman—he doesn't answer. We ask a Briton—he immediately begins to launch into a speech telling us why his product is the best. We ask an American—he sends us a catalog. We ask a German—two Germans show up with the equipment and say: 'Where do we put it?'"

Everywhere, German industrial know-how and quality is beating out the bigger nations in foreign markets. At this present moment, German overseas assets soar up into the billions of dollars, with a tremendous export market from Germany itself pouring solid currency and gold into German reserves every day.

GERMANY IS NO LONGER A WHIPPED, BEATEN, DEJECTED NATION OF DAZED, DENAZIFIED, WESTERN - LED VASSALS! GERMANY IS ONCE MORE A NATION TO BE RECKONED WITH IN THE WORLD!

Repeated Warnings

For many years, the *Plain Truth* magazine has been bringing you the actual prophesied events scheduled to happen within the next 10, 15 or 25 years. In a previous issue of the *Plain Truth*, Mr. Herman L. Hoeh described prophecies included in issues *up to 22 years ago* which vividly picture TODAY'S world happenings! Even during World War II, while allied bombers were busily pounding Germany to a shattered, bleak pile of rubble, Mr. Armstrong was warning his listeners and readers that *Germany was going to rise again!* They didn't believe it.

LOOK ABOUT YOU NOW!

Were the warnings sound? Were they true? Have they HAPPENED?

The answer is shouting loudly at a heedless nation from its own banner headlines and news articles, telling of a resurgent, restless, industrious people who are once more becoming the world's problem nation.

Mr. Armstrong has been warning this nation for many years of a Biblically prophesied revival of the ROMAN EM-

PIRE that is coming in Europe. Prophecy contains stern, stark WARNINGS for our people! If you haven't yet read Mr. Armstrong's amazing point-by-point summary of prophetic events from now until 1975—write in immediately for the booklet "*1975 in Prophecy*." We'll send it to you by return mail.

Our people are asleep! They don't seem to believe it is POSSIBLE for the United States to have *more than one enemy at a time!*

Many Enemies

However, the information coming from American tourists abroad, from news correspondents and magazine photographers in all parts of the world proves differently!

America is now living in a world that is literally FILLED with her enemies! Enemies SHE has created!

During Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong's tour through the Middle East, they were *amazed* at the hatred evidenced toward Americans. Mrs. Armstrong, in her diary, which appeared serially in the *Plain Truth*, told of the American tourists, and their utter *contempt* they display toward the customs and the peoples of foreign nations. Everywhere, they met hostility, coolness, or open hatred.

During my brother's stay in Europe, he repeatedly mentioned the same things. People frankly *tell* the Americans in Europe *they are not wanted there!*

News magazines and newspapers have been proclaiming many incidents in Germany between the German civilian population and our G.I.'s stationed there. German newspapers are loudly calling American soldiers "Gangsters and sex maniacs." This was front-paged in the "*Rhein-Pfalz*," which went on to say, Americans ". . . who believe they can treat our wives and daughters as game are undesired here." The "*Bild-Zeitung*," with a circulation of 2,500,000, splashed this across its front page: "G.I.'s, is there something the matter with you fellows? Seven thousand MP's have to take you in hand. Because there are fights with German civilians, blood starts flowing. Lifeless bodies are left lying in the streets . . ." Only eleven Germans out of every 100 believe the Americans to be a needed and welcome protection! The

other 89% feel they are an unavoidable necessity, an unwanted burden, or gave no opinion!

During my trip to Central and South America with Mr. Benjamin Rea, head of the Spanish Department at Ambassador College, I was made forcibly aware of the hatred toward the United States in our South American neighbors. I described many of these incidents in an article, "Our Good Neighbor Policy Isn't Paying Off!" which appeared in the October, 1954 *Plain Truth*. Mr. Rea, having spent considerable time in Mexico since that time, reports the same feeling—augmented by world situations—exists in the minds of our neighbors south of our borders. For example, he saw a large sign on a fence labeling us "Yankee Dogs" while traveling in Mexico this past summer.

America is scorned, distrusted, unliked—even HATED, the world over! When will we WAKE UP TO THAT FACT?

A United Europe

A United States of Europe is coming! We have been warning you of these things for YEARS—and you are seeing them happen before your very eyes! For example, in a major news magazine of the United States just last October, an article appeared telling of Germany's Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, expressing his opinion that Europe should *form a confederacy* to become a *third power bloc in the world!* The facts contained in this article and others we have shown you prove only ONE nation would emerge as the LEADER of any such confederation! Adenauer further said that no nation in this union should possess a veto. Germany would weld this group of nations as she willed!

Our own men, returning from Europe, have repeatedly warned you of a feeling of integration, the relaxing of age-old differences, and the feeling of mutual fear of Communism being responsible for bringing Europeans closer together! *The European union is not many years hence! WATCH AND SEE!*

Punishment Coming

This nation is to be horribly punished for its great sins! Our sins have mounted up to Heaven itself—and Almighty God

has pronounced sentence! We have warned you repeatedly of coming DISASTER for our people unless they will *wake up*, and return to their God! Tremendous changes in the WEATHER are occurring, disease and sickness prevails everywhere, our economy is on a *very shaky basis*—while appearing to be fairly stable on the surface. Our people are UNPREPARED *mentally*, spiritually, physically, EMOTIONALLY, for the terrifying atrocities and bestialities that GOD HIMSELF SAYS ARE COMING!

But can *anyone* ever be prepared for such things?

No!

Listen! "They took away a baby from its mother's breast," said a former prisoner named Atrokov before the Polish-Soviet Atrocities Commission, "and killed it before her eyes by smashing it against the barracks wall."

YES! HORRIBLE BESTIALITIES AND MERCILESS CRUELITIES ARE COMMITTED IN WARFARE! *And some of these identical tortures await our people unless they will wake up and turn to their God!*

In the little-understood book of Lamentations, God makes some startling prophecies concerning our peoples! "How hath the Lord covered the daughter of Zion with a cloud in His anger, and cast down from heaven unto the earth the beauty of Israel, and remembered not His footstool in the day of His anger!" (Lam. 2:1).

God says we are to be punished by a foreign nation who is exceedingly CRUEL in warfare! He says the women are to be raped in the streets (Lam. 5:11) and the little children to be perishing from hunger! (Lam. 2:11). If the Poles, the Lowlanders and the Jews were shown no mercy during World War II—think, *think* how much MORE terrible will be OUR fate when we are occupied by a foreign enemy!

Our enemies are going to REJOICE over our ultimate destruction! "All that pass by clap their hands at thee, they hiss and wag their head at the daughter of Jerusalem . . . all thine enemies have opened their mouth against thee, they hiss and gnash their teeth, they say, We have swallowed her up; certainly THIS IS THE DAY THAT WE LOOKED FOR!" (Lam. 2:15-16.)

There will be *singing and dancing* in



—Wide World Photo

Before a group of railroad officials, a new type German hopper car shows how it unloads itself, in Darmstadt, Germany. For unloading, the hopper is automatically lifted from its understructure to the height of about 5 feet above the carriage. Then it tilts slowly to the side on which the opening is located and thus empties its contents onto the loading platform of a truck standing by. The unloading mechanism is hydraulically operated.

foreign capitals over our fall! There will be *laughter and joy* the world over when the news goes booming around the earth—"AMERICA HAS FALLEN."

No—Americans are not *prepared* to be dragged by the heels through foreign cities by screaming, vicious mobs; they are not *prepared* to fall! "They that did feed delicately (enjoy material wealth and pleasures) are desolate in the streets; they that were brought up in scarlet embrace dunghills." (Lam. 4:5). Instead of earnestly seeking our God—instead of surrendering our lives and wills to Him, we, as a nation, have been seeking our *own* ways, our own material well-being and physical, sensual pleasures. God does not WANT to punish us! He would much rather that we REPENT and turn to Him! "For He doth not afflict *willingly* nor grieve the children of men." (Lam. 3:33). But God has said we have watched for physical NATIONS to save us (Lam. 4:17), we have formed alliances, "hired lovers" (Hos. 8:9), and have not trusted in our God!

How Important Is It?

How vital is it to YOU that you escape

these unspeakable brutalities, and the heart-stopping, breathtaking tortures at the hands of practiced taskmasters? To the millions of Jews, the countless Europeans and others who died—*how important do you suppose it might have been?* Standing huddled in naked groups in a forest glen, clutching their babies to their breasts—searching in pitiful glances the faces of each stern-faced enemy soldier—*looking frantically for just one glance of mercy—just ONE LOOK OF COMPASSION—just one soldier who would step forward and say, "You, there! YOU don't have to die—come and stand over here!"* But the mercy did not come! They were shown no mercy! "I, myself," said Edward Baran, another witness before the Polish-Soviet Atrocities Commission, "saw how babies were taken from their mothers and killed before their eyes; they would take a baby by one foot and step on the other, and so tear the baby apart."

Yes—gone are the mutilated bodies of forgotten millions—gone are their ear-piercing shrieks from the glades and forests of Europe. But unless this nation repents—these very things are going to

take place on OUR OWN SOIL—TO OUR OWN PEOPLE!

GOD SAYS SO!

A Commission—And a Plea

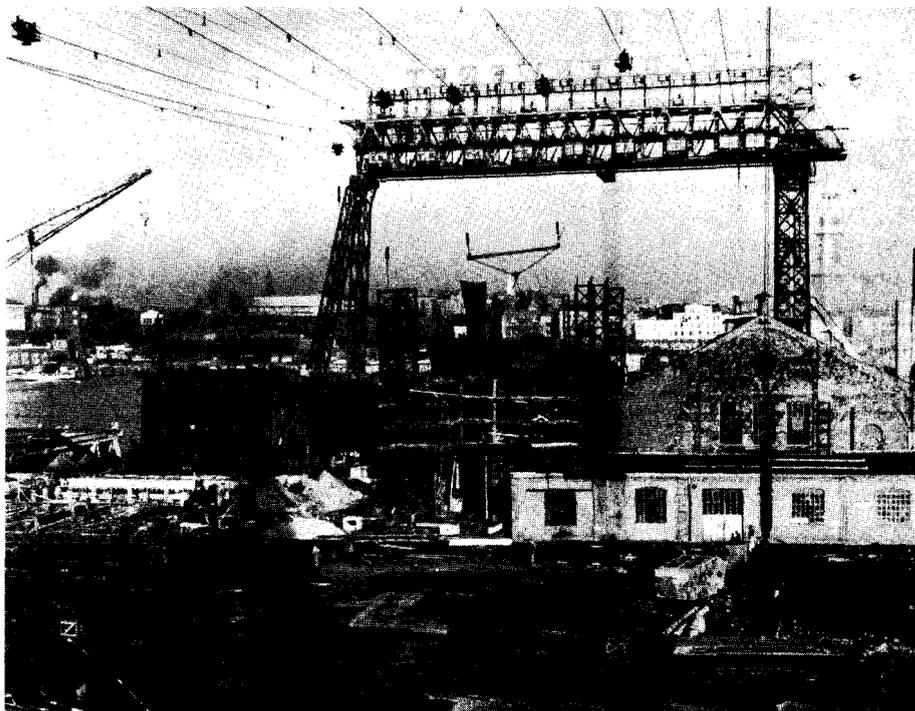
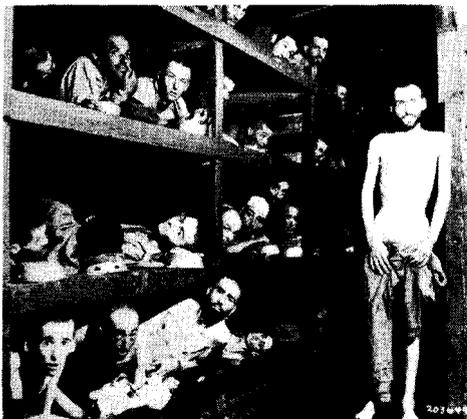
The Creator has commissioned us to proclaim this warning of impending disaster to you! Speaking of the *watchman* (God's servants whom He is using in His work) God says, "If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he *blow the trumpet* (sound the *warning*), and WARN the people; then whosoever *heareth* the sound of the trumpet, and *taketh not warning*; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head!" (Ezek. 33:3-4).

God tells His servants if they FAIL to proclaim this warning—*regardless of how unpleasant it is*—regardless of how UGLY are the atrocities that were and yet are to be committed—then He will require the blood of the people at His own messenger's hands! (Ezek. 33:6). The warning not only entails making known the coming time of national trouble and disaster—but telling the people to *turn from their own way!* (Ezek. 33:9). "CRY ALOUD, *spare not*, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins!" says God to His ministers (Isa. 58:1).

Our thoughts are NOT God's thoughts—our ways are not God's ways—for we have *rejected* God's laws, His way of life! "Let the wicked FORSAKE HIS WAY,

Conditions such as this will be commonplace among our people when they are taken into slavery by the coming fascist-union of Europe.

—Wide World Photo



—Wide World Photo

General view of the Hamburg, Germany, Stülcken & Son shipyards. They specialize in 8 and 10 thousand ton ships. Germany is today the world's second largest producer of ships—and soon may be the first!

and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon." (Isa. 56:7.)

A warning is being given to YOU—THIS INSTANT! Will you HEED THE WARNING?

"... As I live, saith the Lord Eternal, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from

his way and live: TURN YE! TURN YE FROM YOUR EVIL WAYS; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?" (Ezek. 33:11).

Will *you* open your eyes—and see what is PLAIN before you? Can YOU see what is going on in the world, and what is going to happen to this nation? God grant that YOU might understand, and not have to suffer the inhuman bestialities of a conqueror!

This horrifying photo of mass execution was taken from a captured German soldier during World War II. Such atrocities will multiply a hundred-fold in the next holocaust.



How Important Are the DEAD SEA Scrolls?

(Continued from page 8)

the Herodians, and the Zealots—but never of the Essenes!

In order to sell their books, some few authors speculate that the sect which buried the scrolls constituted the followers of John the Baptist—or even the disciples of Jesus Christ Himself! But *proof* of such ideas they have none. They have speculations to *sell*—and people *are* interested in human speculation!

One writer contends that this heretical sect—perhaps they were the Essenes mentioned by the Jewish historian Josephus—held doctrines which “were the rich, spiritual subsoil that nourished early Christianity!” If this were true,

WHY IS THE BOOK OF ACTS SILENT ABOUT THIS SECT?

The facts are that the teachings of John the Baptist, of Jesus Christ and the apostles—yes, of the entire New Testament—are *totally at variance* with the semi-paganized monastic life led by the Essenes!

Perhaps the clearest summary of the scrolls was given by a professor Roland Murphy, at the Catholic University: “No Christian need fear the scrolls. They will shed light on two important points—the accuracy of the Hebrew text of the Bible and the history of the Jewish movements in the time of Christ.”

The Dead Sea Scrolls do throw light on these two points—but a *very faint light!* And most writers totally obliterate what little light the scrolls do reflect of the history of the Jews in Christ's time.

No, the Dead Sea Scrolls are *not* im-

portant—and books about them are even less valuable! Let's not be drawn into a new sales whirlpool and become lost in a maze of unproved, often contradictory speculations about the Bible.

WHY THE PLAIN TRUTH HAS NO SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

So many ask: “How can you publish a magazine, without subscription price, and without advertising?” The answer is simple. The GOSPEL must go to the whole world, and it must go FREE. It must not be sold like merchandise. “Freely ye have received,” Jesus said to His disciples whom He was sending to proclaim the Gospel, “Freely GIVE.” Without money and without price, is God's way. We proclaim a FREE salvation. Therefore, we cannot put a PRICE upon the PLAIN TRUTH.

We have been called of God to conduct this work. It is *not* our work, but God's. We have set out to conduct God's work God's way. We rely, in FAITH, upon God's promises to supply every need. God's way is the way of LOVE—and that is the way of *giving*, not getting. God expects every true child of His to GIVE of tithes and offerings that His work may go FREE—that His true ministers may GIVE the precious Gospel to others. We simply TRUST GOD to lay it on the minds and hearts of His people to give of their tithes and offerings that we may be enabled to GIVE the good things of God's Word to the hundreds of thousands who hear the Message over the air, and the scores of thousands who read The PLAIN TRUTH.

Many times our faith has been severely tried, but God has never failed us. We must not fail HIM!

WHY GOD IS NOT REAL

(Continued from page 6)

to fight our personal BATTLES for us, to heal us when we are sick—yes, even to PROSPER us financially. These were promises of *outside supernatural help* I saw that every person often NEEDS! Time after time came when I actually *needed* some of these things—and by this time I had come to BELIEVE what God had written and promised—so, I followed His instructions: I prayed. I ASKED for what He had promised, I set myself to YIELD TO, and to OBEY this God of the Bible—to BELIEVE what He said in the Bible. And, believe it or not, THE ANSWERS CAME—yes, MIRACLES were performed! I learned that there was really SOMEONE THERE when I prayed to this God—there was Someone who actually HEARD, and who actually ANSWERED!

One time I was in immediate and desperate need of a very small amount of money—the need was so urgent I had to ask this invisible God whom I could not SEE, to SEND this small piece of money to my home IMMEDIATELY. The need was so immediate I had no

time for a long prayer—only some 20 or 30 seconds. But as I rose from that prayer, a man was even then *in front* of my house, on the way in with that EXACT AMOUNT of money! It was brought to me in less than one minute's time!

I have had such petitions to that Great Invisible GOD answered HUNDREDS UPON HUNDREDS OF TIMES! And SO CAN YOU—if you can ever get to really KNOW this Great Universe-Ruling CREATOR—if you will unconditionally OBEY HIM as He commands IN THIS VERY BIBLE—and IF you will implicitly and unswervingly BELIEVE what He has promised there!

And I found other PROOFS! I KNEW, then, that the BIBLE is that very revelation of vital knowledge without which this world lives in darkness and in religious CONFUSION—and in unhappiness, wretchedness, and suffering! I *had found the one and ONLY TRUE SOURCE* of TRUTH—of the only TRUE belief and practice—the only TRUE WAY OF LIFE!

And I found as the SOURCE of this world's religious belief—a SOURCE that I was dumbfounded to learn is at *total variance* with what is commonly believed and taught and practised to-

day in the western world under the name of CHRISTIANITY! Astounding *tho* it was, I found that the Christianity of this world is NOT the teaching, *or* the practice, OF THE HOLY BIBLE!

THAT discovery sent my head to spinning! THAT discovery was the most shocking truth of my life!

“Christianity” Not Founded on the Bible

I found that there is absolutely NO organized religion on the face of the earth that has AS ITS SOURCE of faith and practice, the HOLY BIBLE.

I found that EVERY one has as its SOURCE, the PRECEPTS OF HUMAN MEN, derived from error-filled human reason based on limited knowledge from the AROUND, and reasoned out WITHIN, as directed by the VANITY of HUMAN NATURE!

But HOW could such a preposterous state of affairs come about? The BIBLE ITSELF plainly reveals the answer! Its HISTORY tells how the very first man, Adam, REJECTED the knowledge of GOD, and was influenced solely by the WITHIN and the AROUND!

It tells how, after the flood with only eight souls left alive on earth—and those eight possessing a true knowledge of the

true God, the great grandson of Noah, NIMROD, and his wife SEMIRAMIS, rebelled against the revelation, the knowledge, and the RULE of God and began organizing HUMAN cities and governments, and a HUMAN-devised RELIGION which was the actual PARENT of ALL the religions of the world today!

It tells how, even in the nation God chose as His own, THE PEOPLE rejected His knowledge and His rule. THEY stoned the prophets thru whom He offered them the TRUE knowledge that man *needs* and *lacks*!

It tells how God sent HIS OWN SON, born as a mortal HUMAN, with HIS MESSAGE FOR MANKIND—and how men CRUCIFIED the very SON of God, Jesus Christ. Then, later, REJECTING His Message from God and His WAY of life and His RULE over them, men appropriated JESUS' NAME, and called their own religion "CHRISTIANITY!" The PROPHECIES of this same Bible foretold that this WHOLE WORLD would be DECEIVED—that they would turn AWAY their ears from the real TRUTH, and accept FABLES, and the TRADITIONS OF MEN!

The SOURCE of Religious Confusion

MANY religions today teach NOTHING about the One Supreme PERSONAL Creating God. Most professing Christian denominations use the NAMES of God and of Christ. They teach ABOUT God and ABOUT Christ, but they have embraced a

MIXTURE of a PART of the truth of the Message of Christ and the revelation of the Bible *with ancient PAGAN superstitions and false philosophies*, and their own comparatively recent ideas of MEN.

The real SOURCE of their practice and their belief is NOT the ABOVE—it is the AROUND, it is SOCIETY, *it is THIS WORLD!* Even as THE BIBLE says—"ALL nations are DECEIVED."

They PROFESS to accept the Bible. They PROFESS God and the name of Christ as Saviour! But most of their BELIEFS are at TOTAL VARIANCE from those of GOD as revealed in the HOLY BIBLE. Their practices and CUSTOMS come mostly from the traditions of MEN and the ancient PAGAN traditions and are those which are denounced as FILTHY ABOMINATIONS in the sight of GOD!

MOST professing Christians today do not look into the BIBLE to learn what to do in life, in business, in society, in government. No, GOD IS UNREAL—FAR OFF to them. They have heard ABOUT Christ. They THINK they follow the Bible, because the actual SOURCE of their religion—SOCIETY—has caused them to believe that its teachings and practices CAME from the Bible! They merely read the Bible superficially FOR INSPIRATION! It is NOT their one infallible AUTHORITY—their constant daily GUIDE in belief and in practice!

And this very SAME Bible inspired by the LIVING GOD foretells precisely what

GOD is going to DO about it all—yes, and in *OUR TIME!*

It reveals that GOD made man a free moral agent—that God DECREED from the beginning that MAN MUST CHOOSE whether to believe and obey God, or to reject God and set up on earth his *own* systems of religion, government, and society; and that God set apart a duration of 6,000 years for man to *cut himself off* from the very real GOD, and to learn his lesson by writing it in cruel *human experience*.

God reveals His great PURPOSE IN ALL THIS—and He reveals that, IN OUR TIME, God Almighty is going to INTERVENE in human affairs before organized powers of humanity finally blast human life from off this planet by the engines of destruction finally invented by misguided human brains!

Yes, *in the next few years* God Almighty is going to intervene with all the POWER and FURY of the Supreme CREATOR AND RULER OF THE UNIVERSE, and STOP this hellish trend of organized mass destruction of MAN BY MAN! He is going to send the very SAME JESUS CHRIST, once *again* to this earth—this time in all the colossal POWER and GLORY of the Great ETERNAL GOD—to set up on earth the RULE of GOD ALMIGHTY over ALL NATIONS!

The religions of MEN will be abolished!

Then, finally, God will reveal Himself to all nations!

Listen to The WORLD TOMORROW

(Continued from page 2)

and timer it may be necessary in some cases to have other minor connections made by a serviceman. These recorders can be secured from most radio stores, radio mail order houses, or large mail order stores. Prices usually start at about \$90 and continue up, depending on the quality desired.

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Are People Lost BECAUSE OF ADAM'S SIN?

Millions who profess the Christian religion believe that everyone today needs SALVATION only because of what ADAM did! But IS THAT TRUE?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

“WHY IS IT,” some people will ask, “that this WHOLE WORLD has to suffer so much now, *because of ADAM'S SIN?*”

There's a common belief that as a result of the original so-called “FALL OF MAN”—meaning the transgression of ADAM—that all people are BORN LOST—consigned straight to an ever-burning torment of HELL FIRE!

But is *THAT* true?

Let's LOOK AT this ancient event that is called the “FALL OF MAN!” We take a lot of things for granted—we unquestioningly accept and assume a lot of things we hear or read—or that have been generally accepted and believed. And when we take out some of these things and take a good LOOK at them, we receive some shocking surprises!

Was Adam Created Spiritually Perfect?

The common idea in the CHRISTIAN-PROFESSING world is that God originally created Adam, the FIRST MAN, an immortal, PERFECT, spiritual character. The Bible expression: “God created man in His own image” has been interpreted to mean that God made man immortal and spiritually PERFECT—and created of the SAME COMPOSITION AS God—that is, out of SPIRIT. The BODY is interpreted to be merely the material GARMENT the spiritual man wears—or the physical HOUSE which an immortal soul inhabits. And thus, it is commonly believed, God has COMPLETED HIS CREATION. The man was *perfected, completed, immortal, PERFECT* in character!

And then, this theory continues, along came Satan. The Devil succeeded in WRECKING this perfect creation—this *man* that God had perfected, causing him deliberately to SIN! And this SIN of Adam is supposed to have somehow

affected a CHANGE in the man's NATURE. He was now a FALLEN man—he now had a DIFFERENT and a FALLEN NATURE than he had had previously. He and all his descendents were now automatically consigned, upon the experience that we call DEATH, to be plunged into the eternal torment of HELL FIRE.

Here had stood, in the man ADAM, the SUPREME MASTERPIECE of all God's creation. But Satan succeeded in WRECKING what God had created—THWARTING God's purpose—UPSETTING God's Plan!

And so, as this prevailing idea pictures it, God had to start all over again, and think out some NEW Plan for REPAIRING THE DAMAGE!

It is looked upon something like an automobile manufacturer who had manufactured one very far-advanced, perfectly precisioned automobile — His SUPREME MASTERPIECE—only to find that, on its first drive out of the factory, an enemy had come along and WRECKED that car. The idea is that the manufacturer would have it towed back in, and would set out to REPAIR THE DAMAGE.

Is Salvation Merely to Repair the Damage?

And so the commonly accepted idea of CHRISTIANITY seems to be that Christian REDEMPTION is an effort on the part of God to repair the damage which Satan inflicted in that original SIN,

POUR NOS LECTEURS FRANÇAIS!

Nous sommes heureux d'informer nos lecteurs que, petit à petit, les articles de Monsieur Herbert W. Armstrong sont traduits dans la langue française. Présentement, nous tenons à la disposition de ceux qui nous en font la demande une copie de l'article français, intitulé “Pourquoi Êtes-Vous Né?”

that is, to make us as GOOD AS Adam was, before the so-called “fall.”

But is a badly-wrecked automobile really as good, after it is repaired, as it was before the wreck? Of course not!

This common idea of a professing Christianity IS NOT TRUE AT ALL! It is NOT the teaching of the HOLY BIBLE. It is NOT the Christianity of CHRIST, nor the twelve APOSTLES, nor of the apostle PAUL!

The general false conception is that ever since the so-called FALL OF ADAM, God has been doing His very BEST to get the WHOLE world SAVED—that is, to restore men to a condition AS GOOD AS Adam was before the so-called FALL! And, further, that there is a great COMPETITION going on between God and Satan. Satan is very cunningly RESISTING God, RESTRAINING and OUT-SMARTING HIM so that only a small fraction of the WHOLE world's population is actually being saved. Now this entire erroneous teaching pictures Satan as *more powerful* than God—he's getting the best of the competition. It represents Satan as being able to thwart God's purpose, to step in to upset God's plan and then to use his cunning and his deception and his wiles to *out-wit* God and to *prevent* God from repairing the damage in the case of more than a very small fraction of the human race.

What the Bible Really Teaches

Now let's go back into the book of Genesis and see just what the Bible itself says about all this.

In Genesis 1:27, it certainly DOES say that God CREATED man IN HIS OWN IMAGE. But it does not say that man's COMPOSITION was the same as God's—that God made man of IMMORTAL SPIRIT!

Notice what it says about what God

madc man OUT OF—Genesis 2:7: "And the ETERNAL God formed man"—not the HOUSE that man was to enter, not the GARMENT or CLOAK he would wear, but "formed MAN of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man BECAME a living soul."

Not that man HAS an immortal soul, but man BECAME a LIVING SOUL. That is, man *is* a living soul.

The word "soul" as it was originally inspired and written by Moses in the Hebrew language was "NEPHESH," and "nepshesh" means the life of animals—of animals who receive their life from the BREATH OF AIR. It is the very antithesis of ANYTHING immortal. It means material life sustained by blood and the breathing of air—that's what the very word "nepshesh" translated here "soul" means. A number of times in the first chapter of Genesis the various animals were called "nepshesh" in the original inspired Hebrew—only the translators in our English version of the Bible translated it "creature" there, and "soul" when it came to man.

The word "breath"—the "breath of life" here—simply means "air" or "wind." Isn't this exactly what every man breathes in and out of his nostrils? Why certainly! It was this *same* "BREATH OF LIFE" that God caused to be breathed in and out of the nostrils of animals.

Notice the time of the flood in Genesis 7:21-22. It is recorded that "ALL flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of EVERY creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, AND EVERY MAN: ALL in whose nostrils was the BREATH OF LIFE." That includes all of the animals, as well as man, in whose nostrils was the breath of life—"of all that was in the dry land, died." There we see the same *identical* Hebrew word *used* that is used for MAN—and God breathed into MAN'S NOSTRILS the BREATH OF LIFE—the same Hebrew word precisely, that is used for breathing in and out of the nostrils of animals.

The New Testament Teaching

We read in I Corinthians 15:53, ". . . this MORTAL must PUT ON im-

mortality." The Bible says that man is DUST—that man is MORTAL, but that man can RECEIVE immortality and that he must PUT ON *immortality* at the resurrection of the just. Now turn to Ezekiel 18:4, ". . . the soul that sinneth, it SHALL DIE." It isn't immortal! And that's repeated again in the Bible—it's given twice. Sinful man shall not LIVE forever, but DIE!

And, what did God say to Adam in the garden of Eden? This was BEFORE the so-called "fall."

Beginning with verse 15 of Genesis 2: "And the Eternal God TOOK the man, and put him into the garden of Eden, to dress it and to keep it. And the Eternal God COMMANDED the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou SHALT NOT eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely DIE!" (Gen. 2:15-17).

How could that be IF Adam were ALREADY immortal? IF the man were PERFECT in character—if HERE were PERFECTION, the MASTERPIECE OF *all* God's creation, and God had completed the creation and was THROUGH with it—would He have said, "In the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely DIE?" It wouldn't have been POSSIBLE if the man were perfect—the man couldn't have fallen if he had been perfect, could he? He said, "In the day that thou eatest thereof thou SHALT SURELY DIE!"—not LIVE forever. He didn't say, "You'll live forever in some other place or condition—in hell." No, the penalty for sin is DEATH!

What Actually Happened

Satan came along to deceive this human, mortal man, that had been made from the dust of the ground. First, Satan called God a liar when God said that the man was mortal, subject to death if he committed sin. God said, "In the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die"—in other words, the man is mortal—subject to death. But, you read in Genesis 3:4, that the serpent said, "Ye shall not surely die." He questioned the veracity of God's Word! Satan argued that the man was ALREADY immortal—an immortal soul that would

not die—that he would live forever anyway. But God had said, just as you read in Romans 6:23, that the "wages of sin is DEATH and the GIFT of God is Eternal Life."

Satan argued that if we disobeyed God—if we commit sin—that we will be *as* God—like God. We'll be like gods ourselves—that is, immortal spirit. And so, somehow, ever since, most people have just assumed and gotten into their minds the idea that when Adam was created "in the IMAGE of God" he was created and made of the same COMPOSITION as God—that is, composed of immortal spirit and of PERFECT character, and that he was created in the same character and the same nature of God originally, but that his nature *changed* and he fell.

In John 4:24 in the New Testament, you read that "God is a Spirit." But nowhere does the Bible say that MAN IS a SPIRIT, or that man is SPIRIT. Rather, the Bible says that man is *dust*—"unto dust shalt thou return," saith God. In I Corinthians 15 of the New Testament, it says that "man is OF the earth, earthy."

What Is the IMAGE of God?

How was Adam made in the IMAGE of God? How could he have been in the image of God if he was of different composition? Just the other day I saw a statue or image of Abraham Lincoln. Now if I would tell you that that statue was composed of flesh and blood, you would tell me I was crazy, I'm quite sure. No, it was composed of iron. I have seen images composed of wood, bronze or stone. Abraham Lincoln was made of flesh and blood, but the statue, *made in his image*, was made of iron. Almighty God is made of SPIRIT, but the man who was made IN HIS IMAGE was made of the dust of the ground—he was made flesh and blood. God Almighty is NOT flesh and blood, God Almighty is SPIRIT. Jesus Christ said, "That which is *born* of the flesh is flesh"—plain flesh and blood of the dust of the ground—"that which is born of the Spirit," He said, "IS SPIRIT." He said also that man can be *born* of the Spirit he SHALL BECOME Spirit and then he will be Spirit, but he is *not* Spirit now.

Jesus was explaining to Nicodemus, in John the 3rd chapter, how man is mortal—man is flesh—but that he may be born again, and he **MUST** be born of God *before* he can become immortal. Eternal Life is the **GIFT** of God.

How can man be in the **IMAGE** of God and still not be of God's composition? Turn back to I Corinthians 15: 45, "So, it is written, The first man Adam was made a **LIVING** soul"—that's a living "nephesh" which means *material*, **MORTAL** life—"the last Adam"—which was Christ—"was made a **QUICKENING** spirit"—that's an energizing, or an immortal spirit. Verse 47, "The first man is **OF** the earth, **EARTHY**:"—that's the first Adam, made of the earth. It's the *man*, not the **GARMENT** he wore, not the **HOUSE** he was in, not the body he was inside of. The "*man* was **OF** the earth, earthy: but the second man"—Christ—"is the Lord from heaven." Now in verse 49:

"And as we **HAVE** borne the image of the earthy we **SHALL** also bear the image of the heavenly." Here it's talking about **COMPOSITION**—here it's talking about one man being made of the **DUST** of the ground, another being of **SPIRIT**. And, we have only borne the image of the dust of the ground, but we **SHALL** bear the image of the heavenly. We are only in the form and shape of God now, but **NOT** of the radiant composition, **NOT** of the same character. We're merely the clay model and God Almighty is the Master Potter. He made us of *matter* so that He, the Master Potter, could reform and shape us into the final image that it was His purpose originally to make us.

Is God Competing with Satan?

There wasn't any competition between God and Satan. The "fall" of man wasn't what you have been supposing. God put the very nature in man that **CAUSED** the man to fall. God **KNEW** that redemption would be necessary and it was planned long before that very first man had been created. God has a **GREAT** purpose, and the world has lost sight of that purpose. It couldn't have been brought about in **ANY OTHER WAY** than the way that God is doing. Satan was **NEVER** more powerful than God—he

never frustrated God's purpose, and he never will.

Now the Bible reveals that the heart of man is above all things deceitful and **DESPERATELY** wicked, and that's absolutely true.

What is wickedness or sin? The Bible definition is, "Sin is the **TRANSGRESSION** of the Law" (I John 3:4). That's the **LAW** of God, and it's a law that God *created*—it's a law God set in motion—it's a **LIVING** Law—it's an inexorable Law—it's the Law of **LOVE**. It's a **WAY** of life. It's the Way of **PERFECT** character. It's the Way of **SPIRITUAL** character. **LOVE** is the fulfilling of that Law, but it takes the **SPIRITUAL LOVE** of God shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit to fulfill that Law, and to establish that character in us.

How do we transgress that Law? By lust of the flesh, by pride and vanity, by our tempers of resentment, hatred, envy, malice, jealousy. The most common sins which transgress God's Holy, Spiritual Law, are those of yielding to the desires and the appetites of the **FLESH**, and these tempers of ours.

Why Man Sins

There are five senses, the sense of seeing, of hearing, tasting, smelling and feeling. When God created Adam, he put **IN** Adam the same five senses that are in you! And mark this now, the **SAME SENSUAL NATURE** that **CAUSES** you to sin! Adam sinned, didn't he? Let's examine that sin and see what **CAUSED** him to sin—or, let's take Eve, because the account of her sin is described in detail rather than Adam's.

After the devil had tempted the woman, "when the woman saw that the tree was **GOOD** for food, and that it was **PLEASANT** to the eyes"—here are her five senses at work—"and a tree desired to make one wise"—there is vanity—"she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat"—that was stealing—"and she gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat" (Genesis 3:6). There is the first sin.

Do you comprehend?

The woman could see, she had the sense of sight—she *saw* that the forbidden tree was pleasant to the eyes. Now, she had the sense of taste. She

realized that the tree tasted **GOOD**—but God had forbid it. God said it is **NOT** good for her, it may look good, it might even taste good, but it is poison in her stomach, and there's a bad principle involved—but the woman saw otherwise. She thought otherwise in her carnal mind—her appetite was aroused—she craved the taste of it. Then, vanity was aroused in her—it was, so she believed, *desired* to make her *wise*.

And all of these lusts which break the tenth commandment caused her to break the commandment against stealing, and to take the fruit that did not belong to her and that had been forbidden to her and her husband. In so doing, she obeyed Satan—she had **ANOTHER** god **BEFORE** the true God, and she dishonored her **ONLY** parent, so she broke the first and the fifth commandments.

Yes, sin is the transgression of the Law—and God's Law was **BROKEN** in **FOUR** distinctive places in that first original sin in the garden of Eden. **FOUR** of the **TEN COMMANDMENTS**. Adam and Eve were **ORIGINALLY** created with the **SAME** nature, the **SAME** five senses, with the **SAME** pride and vanity, the **SAME** desires, appetites, nature and vanity *that you and I have today*.

Now when the first man and woman yielded to those appetites and desires—to the very nature which God had originally **CREATED** in them—and transgressed God's Law, committing the **FIRST** sin, then what happened? Did their nature change? Did they then fall from immortality and become **MORTAL** all of a sudden? That is ridiculous!

Man Was Created Mortal

Let's notice Genesis 3:7. "And the eyes of them both were opened, and they **KNEW** that they were naked: and they sowed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons."

Notice, there wasn't any change in their nature—there wasn't any fall in their nature—it was the very nature that had been originally created in them, and their willing **YIELDING** to it was what caused the sin. What happened was that their eyes were opened as a result of it—now the **KNOWLEDGE** of evil had come. "They **KNEW**," it says.

Yes, KNOWLEDGE came—they KNEW!

I always wondered what was meant by the KNOWLEDGE of good and evil before I was converted. Then I found out. To have the knowledge of evil is to know evil—to *participate in it*—and that means to rebel against God and to break His Commandments. They came to the wrong knowledge. Man's knowledge is mostly a mixture of good and evil. Human nature is a MIXTURE of good and evil. There's good in all people, and there's also evil in every one of us that we need to recognize.

Animals do not sin. Animals don't *know* enough—they don't have the KNOWLEDGE to commit sin. Animals live and go and proceed by instinct—they do exactly as God intended. But MAN came into the KNOWLEDGE of evil. Man has a mind. Man must make his OWN decisions, and MAN is the only flesh creature that knows how to commit sin.

Did God *change the nature of man*, or did He pronounce some curse upon him?

Genesis 3:16-17: "Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow, and thy conception . . . and unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the GROUND for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou *eat* of it all the days of thy life"—there was a curse on the GROUND, but *not any change* in the nature of the man.

Notice, "And the Eternal God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us"—like God—"to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of LIFE, and eat and LIVE for ever"—lest he gain Eternal Life, an immortal life which was offered as God's gift in the garden of Eden—"therefore the Eternal God sent him forth FROM the garden of Eden to TILL the ground from whence he was taken. So He drove out the man: and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden, cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned EVERY way, to KEEP the way of the tree of life"—lest he go back and BECOME immortal.

No, the man was *not* immortal. He

had the opportunity of becoming immortal but he spurned it—he turned it down.

A Resurrection for All!

Notice I Corinthians 15:22: "For as IN Adam ALL die, even so IN Christ shall ALL be made alive"—the same "ALL" that die in Adam. Why? Simply because Adam was originally MADE mortal—made of the dust, composed of flesh and blood—of matter, not of spirit. Does this say that because Adam fell all die? No, most certainly not. But, as in Adam all die—that's speaking of this first death, so after that, the resurrection. The wages of sin is not just this first death that people die, the wages of sin is an ETERNAL DEATH. "In Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive"—that's the good, bad, and indifferent—all people—sinners and saved alike. That is not the ultimate penalty of sin! The final penalty of sin is the SECOND DEATH, from which there will NEVER be a resurrection—it is ETERNAL PUNISHMENT. DEATH is that punishment, forever—eternally.

We were born from our parents, and so on back to Adam who was created MORTAL—formed of the dust—composed of FLESH and BLOOD. IN Adam—as long as we are his children—born of him—we all die this FIRST death. But IN Christ, ALL who are *not* in the first resurrection will be made alive *by another resurrection to mortal life* (Rev. 20:5,12 and I Cor. 15:40).

IN Christ we can be BORN AGAIN and have IMMORTAL life so that we never can die. That comes through the first resurrection.

Notice Romans 5:12—"Wherefore, as by ONE MAN sin entered into the world, and death BY sin; and so death passed upon ALL men, for that ALL have sinned"—the real *death penalty—the second death—passes on you*, because YOU have sinned—because ALL have sinned, and *NOT BECAUSE of Adam's sin*.

Notice, sin entered this world by ONE man—sin is the transgression of God's Spiritual Law. Adam was a mortal—flesh and blood—human. He had the NATURE of sin in him, otherwise, he WOULD NOT have sinned. If he had been perfect, he would NOT have sinned.

He had the sensual nature—the sense of sight, of hearing, tasting, smelling, and feeling, and GOD had put that nature in him—God talked to him—preached a sermon to him—TOLD him that the wages of sin would be DEATH. But if he resisted that nature, if he partook, instead, of the TREE OF LIFE symbolizing the HOLY SPIRIT of God, fulfilled God's Law, THEN he could have had the GIFT of Eternal Life.

But Adam rejected that. Adam sinned. He never RECEIVED the precious gift of Eternal Life. He was driven out of the garden of Eden *lest* he RECEIVED it, and so DEATH passed upon ALL men.

Here's where the death penalty came—NOT because of Adam's sin—that's what most people have thought, but look at it in YOUR BIBLE—death is passed up ALL MEN BECAUSE that ALL HAVE SINNED—because WE have sinned, not merely because of Adam's sin.

We Bring the Penalty on Ourselves

No, it says in PLAIN language that DEATH has passed upon ALL men BECAUSE that ALL HAVE SINNED. The DEATH penalty is passed upon YOU—it is passed upon EVERYONE of us, BECAUSE WE have sinned—because WE have lived the wrong way and have not turned to God. The Scripture does NOT say that the penalty of Adam's sin is ETERNAL death for you and for me—but the PENALTY for YOUR sin, of MY sin, of OUR sins, is DEATH! But God so loved this world that he GAVE his only begotten son, Jesus Christ, that whosoever believeth on HIM should NOT perish, but should have the GIFT of Everlasting LIFE (John 3:16).

The way is TO REPENT—to REPENT OF SIN—and ACKNOWLEDGE Jesus Christ as PERSONAL SAVIOUR. Then the promise is, we SHALL receive the GIFT of the Holy Spirit. And then, if we grow in grace and in knowledge—IF WE OVERCOME, overcome the world, overcome ourselves and our own natures, if we endure until the end—then we shall be made immortal—we shall be BORN into the very FAMILY OF GOD at last.

Oh, what a great WONDERFUL and ALL WISE purpose God had in making man as He did. How we will PRAISE Him for it when finally we understand!

THE BIBLE ANSWERS

Short Questions

FROM OUR READERS

Where did Halloween come from?

Hundreds of letters, in response to Mr. Armstrong's broadcast, have posed this question. Here is the answer:

Real Origin of Halloween

Do you know that Halloween was introduced into the professing Christian world centuries *after* the death of the apostles, yet it was celebrated by the pagans *centuries before* the New Testament Church was founded!

How did Halloween come to America? Here is the intriguing answer from history: "The American celebration rests upon Scottish and Irish folk customs WHICH CAN BE TRACED IN DIRECT LINE FROM PRE-CHRISTIAN TIMES"—from paganism! "Although Halloween has become a night of rollicking fun, superstitious spells, and eerie games which people take only half seriously, its beginnings were quite otherwise. The earliest Halloween celebrations were held"—not by the inspired early church, but—"by the Druids in honor of Samhain, Lord of the Dead, whose festival fell on November 1." (From HALLOWEEN THROUGH TWENTY CENTURIES, by Ralph Linton, Page 4.)

Far from being Christian, this festival is an old pagan holiday, masquerading as though it were one of the customs of the church. And yet professing Christians allow their children to get into the spirit of this pagan custom!

The *Encyclopedia Americana* states about Halloween that it "is clearly a relic of pagan times."

Now notice what the authoritative *Encyclopedia Britannica* says about Halloween: "It long antedates Christianity. The two chief characteristics of ancient Halloween were the lighting of bonfires and the belief that this is the one night in

the year during which ghosts and witches are most likely to wander about. History shows that the main celebrations of Halloween were purely Druidical"—from the pagan Druids of Northwest Europe—"and this is further proved by the fact that in parts of Ireland October 31 is still known as OIHDH SHAMHNA, 'Vigil of Saman.'" Saman or Samhain was the pagan lord of the dead among the Druids.

So Halloween was celebrated among the pagans long before Jesus was born in Bethlehem. This pagan holiday, however, was not celebrated alone among the Druids. It was also a *Roman* festival! The *Britannica* continues: "On the Druidic ceremonies were grafted some of the characteristics of the *Roman* festival in honour of Pomona held about November 1, in which nuts and apples, representing the winter store of fruits, played an important part."

Notice the widespread pagan custom to celebrate this season of the year.

Why Halloween Was Celebrated

Now comes the shocking *truth* from history as to why this holiday was celebrated! Here are the plain facts as written in THE BOOK OF HALLOWEEN, on page 10, by Ruth Kelley: The pagan Druid priests "taught the *immortality of the soul*, that it passed from one body to another at death . . . They believed that on the last night of the old year (October 31) the lord of death gathered together the souls of all those who had died in the passing year and had been condemned to live in the bodies of animals, to decree what forms they should inhabit for the next twelve months. He could be coaxed to give *lighter sentence by gifts and prayers.*"

"On the New Year, their sins being expiated, they were released to go to

the *Druid Heaven.*" (From *Halloween Through Twenty Centuries*, p. 5.)

Halloween was celebrated to preserve in the minds of the people the false doctrine of the *immortality of the soul*—that the dead are not really dead. Almost all heathen nations had days in honor of the dead—days originally instituted to commemorate the death of Nimrod (Genesis 10:8-10) whom Semiramis, his wife, said was still alive.

Now let us understand the meaning of the word "Halloween." "It is the eve of Allhallows or Hallowmas or All Saints' Day—and as such it is one of the most solemn festivals of the (Catholic) church." (From page 3 of Linton's *Halloween Through Twenty Centuries.*)

Halloween is the evening of Allhallows or All Saints' Day, which falls on November 1. Since in ancient times, the days were customarily reckoned as beginning at sunset, Halloween was merely the *evening celebration* in anticipation of the great day of November 1, dedicated to the lord of the dead!

Who Was the "Lord of the Dead"?

You will remember that shortly before his crucifixion, Jesus was questioned by the Sadducees about the resurrection. In order to prove that there would be a resurrection from the dead, Jesus told them: "But as touching the *resurrection of the dead*, have ye not read that which was spoken to you by God, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is *not* the God of the dead, but of the living" (Mat. 22:31-32).

Notice the meaning of Jesus' answer. Since the patriarchs are DEAD, and since God is ONLY the God of the living—because the DEAD serve not the Lord (Psalms 6:5; 115:17)—then there must be a resurrection of the DEAD in order that they might live again and that God might be their God.

To make the resurrection possible, "Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be the Lord both of the dead and living" (Rom. 14:9). Observe that Jesus *became* the lord or master of the dead because through his resurrection He gained the keys of the grave and death (Rev. 1:18) and will *resurrect*

the dead so they may live to serve him. *But from whom did Jesus gain these keys? Who had prior mastery over the dead?*

Paul, in the book of Hebrews, speaks of "him that had the power of death, that is the *devil*" (Heb. 2:14). So the devil, Satan, was lord or master of the dead!

Among the heathen Druids, Samhain or Saman, the lord of the dead, was Satan! To this day people still celebrate

with frolicking fun a wild night in honor of the devil! Paul says that the heathen who thought they were worshipping the true God were actually serving demons (Gal. 4:8). Youngsters today who tear up the countryside on Halloween are *not* serving God.

But if Halloween is merely the *evening* in honor of the devil, how did the day—called Allhallows' or All Saints' Day—come to be celebrated in the professing Christian Church?

The Origin of All Saints' Day

The first of November, celebrated among the pagans in honor of Samhain—Satan—is today celebrated in hundreds of churches "to honor all the saints, known and unknown, and according to (pope) Urban IV, to supply any deficiencies in the faithful's celebration of saints' feasts during the year" (*Catholic Encyclopedia*).

How did the veneration of saints, supposedly alive in heaven, come to be celebrated on a day in honor of the devil?

... *The Church*, feeling that every martyr should be venerated, *appointed a common day for all.*"

Notice, what once was a memorial for each martyr on different days became a general day in honor of the *dead* who were believed to be alive in heaven. "Gregory III (731-741) consecrated a chapel in the basilica of St. Peter to all the saints and fixed the anniversary on *November 1*... Gregory IV (827-844) extended the celebration on 1 November *to the entire Church*. The vigil (Halloween) seems to have been held as early as the feast itself."

Notice that the celebration of Halloween, the eve of the day, is as old as the celebration of All Saints' Day in the Catholic Church. On page 6 of his book, Ralph Linton says of this holiday, "All Saints' Day was introduced into the church calendar because the year was not long enough to make it possible to dedicate a special day for each spirit of the Catholic Church... That the day chosen was one already associated in the popular mind with a thronging of spirits of the dead which was quite in line with church policy of incorporating harmless pagan folk ideas."

Protestants continued the celebration

of Halloween partly "since it was on this day, in 1517, that Martin Luther posted his epoch-making *ninety-five* theses on the door of the castle church at Wittenberg" which started the Protestant Reformation. "He chose Halloween night because he knew that the townfolk... would be coming to the church that night." (*Halloween*, pp. 9-10.)

Origin of "Trick or Treat"

Do you know where the common Halloween prank of children knocking on doors and shouting "trick or treat" originated?

Linton says: "... certainly it comes from pagan times." In Ireland up to the turn of the century, it was customary to have a procession "led by a man in a white robe wearing a horse-head mask." ("The horse was sacred to the Sun God," says Linton, "which indicates that this custom was a survival of a Druid rite.") The procession levied a contribution from the farmers in the perverted name of what probably was an old Druid god. Unless the procession was "treated" liberally with gifts, the farmers were "tricked" with the threat of a curse that would ruin next year's crops!

This traditional custom of having processions at Halloween is further derived from another unusual practice. Wealthy churches during the Middle Ages, copying the ancient Greek and Roman religious processions, paraded the relics of patron saints. The poorer parishes could not afford to buy relics, so they used caricatures of their patron saints. "Those who were not playing the parts of the holy ones also wanted to get into the procession and so dressed up as angels or devils. The Allhallows procession around the churchyard eventually became a gay and motley parade." (From page 103 of *Halloween Through Twenty Centuries*.)

The present day "trick or treat" is but a continuation of these degenerate and absurd customs which came out of paganism and have been labeled with Christian names.

Is it any wonder that children and adults wantonly damage private property, especially mail boxes—which is a federal offense—on a day originally dedicated to Satan, the Destroyer?

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