

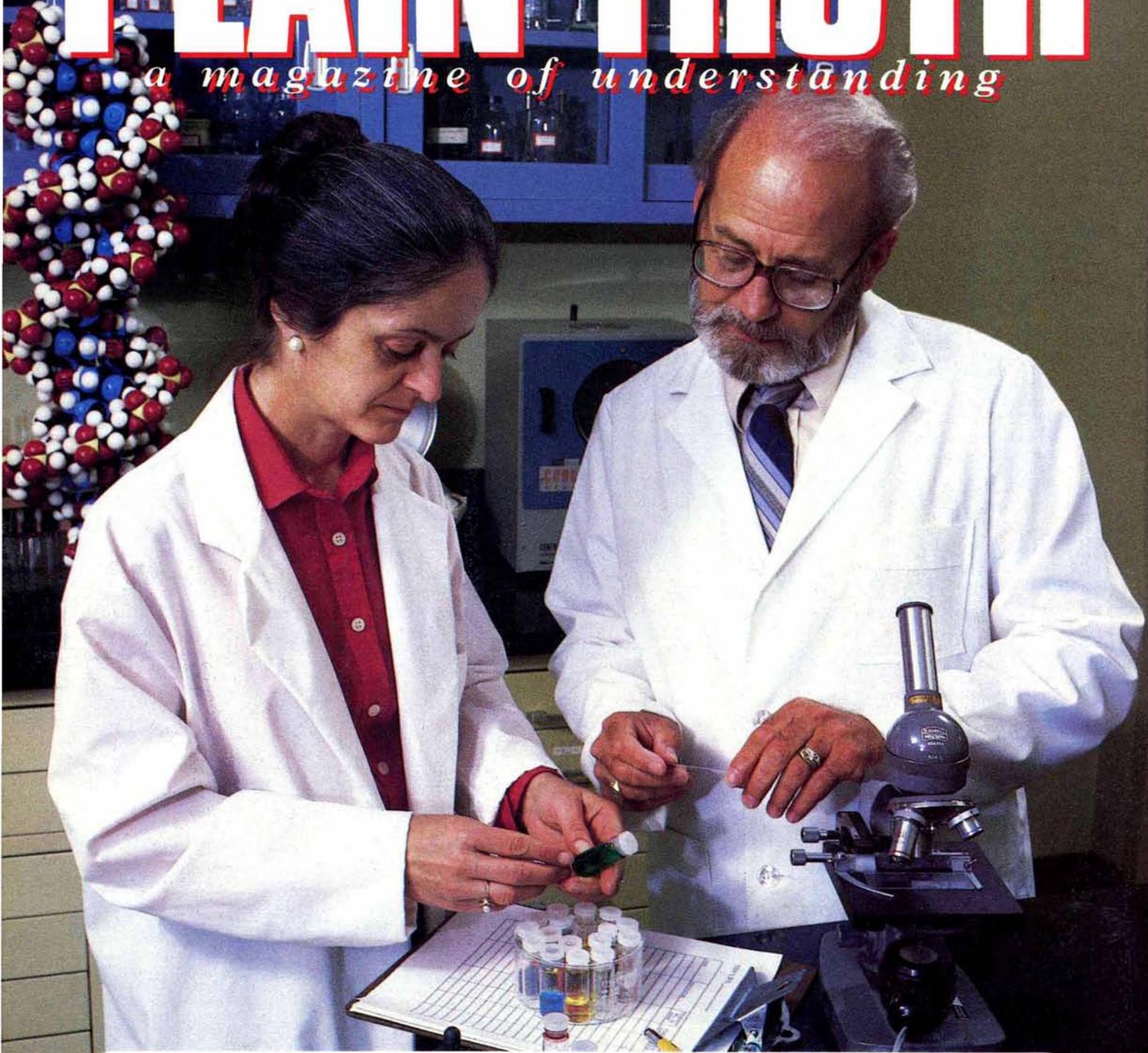
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JUNE 1984

PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding



Science: Off the Track?

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OUR COVER

Selecting dyes. The undergraduate environment provides an important teaching opportunity for scientists. Keeping on track in applying scientific discoveries to moral and environmental situations is a learned process.

COVER PHOTO BY WARREN WATSON—PT

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PERSONAL FROM

Herbert Armstrong



Why All These Churches?

WHY any church?" I asked myself in the fall of 1926. "Is religion, after all, the opiate of the people? Is there any reason, any purpose for religion or for churches? If so, which is the one *true* church? Why so many religions on earth if there is only one God? Why so many differing sects and denominations in traditional Christianity when there is only one Christ?"

I was in the midst of an almost day-and-night in-depth study and research. I was being shocked into disbelief. Did God exist, after all?

Although I had never experienced any special religious concern, I had been reared from infancy in a respected Protestant church—until age 18, when my thoughts and energies were devoted to a business career in which I had started out with unusual success. Then, at age 31, I was doubly challenged on a biblical question and on the theory of evolution.

I had been angered by the epithet from a fresh-out-of-college sister-in-law, "Herbert Armstrong, you are ignorant!" I had expressed the opinion that I did not accept the evolutionary theory, though I was somewhat familiar with it. This hypothesis was then rapidly gaining complete acceptance as the basic concept in all levels of education.

But "ignorant!" I was too proud to accept that accusation. Also I had been deeply disturbed by a biblical challenge contrary to a teaching that I had unquestionably assumed from boyhood church upbringing. There was a biblical relation between the

two challenges, in the book of Genesis and others.

But first, I delved into the writings of Darwin, Huxley, Haeckel, Chamberlin and other evolutionists. Soon my head was swimming. Their arguments appeared very convincing, as indeed they must be to have won the acceptance of higher education. For the first time I began to wonder, "Does God exist, after all?" I had been reared from infancy to assume the existence of God. Suddenly I realized I had seen no proof, but had accepted without question what I had been taught.

Today I know that most people believe whatever they have been taught—what those around them believe. College students today accept the evolutionary theory as fact because they are taught it. They would be considered ignorant by their peers if they did not, like sheep going to the slaughter, assume without question or proof the popular "in" thing. Few realize why they believe the things they do. Now I had to be SURE! I had to see PROOF!

In due time, in this virtual night-and-day research, I found the evolutionary doctrine utterly disproved, and the existence of the Creator God proved. And then, later, in a thorough study of the Bible, I was thrown for a while into even greater confusion, shocked into disbelief! I had always supposed traditional Christianity had received its teachings from the Bible. But to my astonishment, I now saw with my own eyes clear, plain, unmistakable teachings in the Holy Bible precisely the opposite, in most basic doctrines, from those taught by the Christian religion!

My underpinnings were slipping away! I began to realize orthodox Christianity does not explain the purpose or meaning of life—the amazing paradox of awesome human progress amid appalling human evils and retrogression!

I found the Bible to be like a jigsaw puzzle. Such a puzzle may consist of a thousand variously shaped pieces. It requires some time and patience to put the pieces properly fitted together, but then one has a beautiful and clear picture. On any one subject, I found many scriptures scattered here and there through the Bible, but when put together, each in its own context, the particular subject or teaching emerges clearly. Each such individual subject or teaching in the Bible may (Continued on page 42)

Trouble in Europe's “QUIET CORNER”

by Gene H. Hogberg

Mysterious objects prowl in Sweden's coastal waters. A spy scandal shakes Norway. NATO's clouded future threatens to upset the sensitive "Nordic balance" and the region's future security.

THE NORDIC world—made up of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Iceland—comprises what has often been called the "quiet corner" of Europe.

This corner, however, is very much in the news these days—and for good reason.

Earlier this year, the Swedish

armed submarine the U-137 ran aground in the same general area.

This time, however, "frogmen-like persons," according to the Swedish government, set foot on the island of Almoe and were driven off by the Swedish army using machine guns and hand grenades.

The action marked the first time since the Russo-Swedish war of 1809 that live ammunition was fired at foreign soldiers encroaching on Swedish soil.

Hundreds of Secret Probing

The latest incident brought to a head a decade of almost continual foreign submarine infringements in Swedish territorial waters, with, according to Britain's *Daily Telegraph*, "well over 300 reports, sightings and confirmed episodes in the past three years."

An official Swedish military report summarized the government's growing concern: "The relatively harmless intrusions of outer territorial waters of the 1960s have now been taken over by deep penetration of our inner coastal waters and often in areas of vital importance for our general defense."

Particularly disturbing was a Swedish parliamentary report that described how X-ray tracings had shown "manned midget submarines with a bottom crawling capacity" had, in September 1982, crept along the bottom of a waterway that leads right through the middle of Stockholm, the capital. One minisub audaciously crawled to within a mile of King Carl XVI Gustaf's palace!

The intruding submarines are widely believed to be mapping the entrances to military bases along the coastline of neutral Sweden for use in the event of a generalized war in Europe. They are also presumed to be seeking potential hiding places.

Scandal Rocks Norway

In neighboring Norway, the big story has been not so much unwanted submarines—though they are frequently spotted inside the country's many deep fjords—but a spy scandal, the consequences of which could be far-reaching.

Last January, Arne Treholt, Chief of Information at the Norwegian Foreign Ministry, was arrested just as he was attempting to leave Oslo's Fornebu Airport, his briefcase full of classified documents. He admitted to Norwegian security police that he had intended to fly to



The U-137, a Soviet nuclear-armed submarine, ran aground off Karlskrona, Sweden, in October 1981.

navy trapped a suspected foreign submarine near its top-secret Karlskrona naval base. The incident recalled the time in October 1981 when the Soviet nuclear-

er territorial waters of the 1960s have now been taken over by deep penetration of our inner coastal waters and often in areas of vital importance for our general defense."

Vienna, Austria, where he was to meet his contact man, a Soviet KGB officer.

The 42-year-old Mr. Treholt confessed after his arrest that he had been passing along secret documents for several years.

The revelation rocked the NATO high command in Brussels and stunned the Norwegian government. The accused spy was a popular, rising star in the opposition Labor Party and had been touted as a future candidate for foreign minister.

In his various responsibilities down through the years, Mr. Treholt had had access to secret NATO and Norwegian defense materials. Said one Foreign Ministry official: "We are truly shocked by the discovery. His position enabled him to see a wide variety of classified material."

It is possible that, since Norwegian intelligence had suspicions about Treholt for some time, they may have purposely screened material accessible to him.

Still, even though the details supplied to the public by Norwegian authorities at the time of this writing are incomplete, some Norwegians were already labeling the accused official "the worst traitor since Quisling"—a reference to Norway's defense minister in the 1930s, Vidkun Quisling, who proclaimed himself Norway's *Fører* (Führer) during the 1940-45 Nazi occupation.

Strategic Region

The submarine prowlings coupled with the alarming spy scandal emphasize once again that the Nordic countries comprise a prime geostrategic region of the world. They are far from being distant outposts of world affairs.

This fact was made evident during World War II. On April 9, 1940, Nazi Germany launched a full-scale preemptive blitzkrieg invasion of Norway, at the same time occupying Denmark. Norway's critical maritime position facing the North Atlantic Ocean on the west and Denmark's location at the entrance to the Baltic Sea made them prime targets. (Sweden managed to remain neutral during the war.)

Just how important Norway was to the German cause was illustrated



by the fact that the Germans kept a garrison force of more than 400,000 troops there during the war.

After World War II, Norway, in particular, assumed even greater strategic value. Norway, according to Johan Jørgen Holst of the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, "was in fact catapulted rather abruptly into a pivotal area as the Cold War enveloped East-West relations."

Mr. Holst talked with me in his office in Oslo only three days after the spy story broke.

Due to a remote border change which had taken effect in the Arctic region near the end of World War II, Norway found herself to be a front-line state. A narrow strip of Finland, the Petsamo district, which had previously separated the northeastern extreme limit of Norway from the Soviet Union, was absorbed into the U.S.S.R. (Nor-



British Royal Marines patrol on skis in northern Norway as part of recent NATO exercises.

way, incidentally, stretching over the very top of the European continent, reaches farther east than Istanbul, Turkey.)

Suddenly Norway was confronted with a 120-mile-long common border with a superpower that, according to Mr. Holst, "is geographically close but ideologically distant from Nordic Europe."

This meant that Norway's most remote and least populated county—Finnmark—was to be a neigh-



boration to the Soviet Union's "Kola Military District," the area around Murmansk, the U.S.S.R.'s only year-round ice-free port.

The Soviets today have an extraordinary concentration of forces in this region: at least 16 military airstrips with 300 war planes, plus port facilities for 230 surface ships and 200 submarines, many of these having nuclear missiles targeted on North American sites.

According to one estimate, the Kola Peninsula comprises the densest concentration of military power in all human history! An American official called the region "the most valuable piece of real estate on earth."

Postwar Debate

National security was a matter of intense debate in the various Nordic states in the immediate postwar years.

In the end, the Scandinavian countries, despite their cultural affinities, made their policy choices on the basis of two primary considerations—geography and their own individual experiences during World War II.

For a while Norway used her membership in the United Nations in order to try to act as a bridge-builder in overcoming differences between the Western powers and the Soviet Union. But as the

world's ideological gap continued to widen, it became obvious that security provided by the United Nations was as illusory as that offered by the old League of Nations.

Next, the formation of a joint Scandinavian defense league was explored at the initiative of neighboring Sweden. It was soon obvious, however, that Norway, Sweden and



Units of eight NATO nations on maneuvers in northern Norway in 1982. "Avalanche Express" exercises take place every two years to test reinforcement plans.

Denmark all held divergent views, especially Sweden and Norway.

The Swedes, neutral since 1814, wanted a neutralized nonaligned Nordic defense system, whereas the Norwegians believed that a Scandinavian league by itself simply would not have the required deterrent effect, since it would lack assurances of Western, especially American and British, support. The Scandinavian defense league idea thus went nowhere.

Norway joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization as a charter member on April 4, 1949. Iceland, on Scandinavia's western flank, also joined NATO, while on the eastern edge of the Nordic world, Finland maintained an armed, neutral position, tied to the security needs of the Soviet Union through the 1948 Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance.

Under terms of this treaty, Finland is obliged to fight only on its own territory and only in self-defense, and only then in the event that "Finland or the Soviet Union through Finnish territory" were to be attacked "by Germany or any state allied by the latter."

The treaty forbids Finland to join any Western military bloc such as NATO.

Preserving the "Nordic Balance"

Norway, because of the sensitive relations with its powerful neighbor to the extreme northeast, has placed several self-imposed limits on its NATO ties, all with the understanding of its NATO allies as well as its Nordic neighbors.

The most important limit is that no foreign troops can be based in Norway as long as the country is not attacked or threatened.

However, the no-base policy does not prevent periodic and regular allied maneuvers in and around Norway. In fact, this spring a huge exercise called "Teamwork 84/Avalanche Express" was held, involving about 40,000 Western military personnel from eight nations.

Other provisions permit the prestocking of allied equipment, fuel and ammunition, plus the installation and operation of jointly financed airfields, harbor bases and telecommunication links—all under Norwegian control.

As further reassurances to the Soviets that Norway's membership in NATO was purely defensive in nature, the government in Oslo early on declared that nuclear warheads would not be deployed on Norwegian soil in peacetime.

Denmark, too, unilaterally assumed similar "confidence-building" constraints.

Why were these measures taken? To preserve the sensitive "Nordic balance" that had emerged after the war, which had helped preserve the independence and freedom of all the Nordic countries.

(Continued on page 41)

PART TWO

A World Held Captive

by Herbert W. Armstrong

World violence heats up. *WHY?* Few realize it's a world held captive, deceived into loving the way of the archkidnapper, but with deliverance and freedom imminent.

NOW a United States President talks of Armageddon. The atomic scientists warn of doomsday. They have set the doomsday clock one more minute forward—from four to only three minutes to midnight!

The angry crescendo of world violence heats up furiously, as the archkidnapper, in a rage, perceives the fast-approaching END of the captivity.

Deliverance from kidnap in deception, human discontent, suffering and death hastens daily nearer. World PEACE, happiness and joy are just around the corner. The satanic kidnapper is stirred to furious wrath, for he knows now he has but a very short time left to hold a whole world captive.

Setting the Master Plan

People do not enjoy being told they

are deceived. Though it wounds human vanity, being told that one is ignorant of the knowledge of the truth is less painful than suffering the results of the deception.

We all are members of the human family. We need to be awakened to the fact that this human family was, and still is, the potential family of the living God. Yet this family was kidnapped at its very inception, and has remained willingly held captive for 6,000 years to this very day.

But remember, one who is deceived would not be deceived if he were aware of the deception.

The potential Father of the kidnapped family has paid the ransom price to free this world held captive, but humanity has loved the way of life of the kidnapper. That WAY is the root CAUSE of all the world's troubles, evils and sufferings. Humanity has been blinded to the WAY of peace, happiness and joyful accomplishment.

Since writing part one of this series, world violence and agonies

have been heating up. With increasing momentum. We are being violently hurled into the world crisis at the END OF THIS WORLD!

You need to UNDERSTAND what is prophesied soon to happen—and WHY! You were born into the panorama of world events that started 6,000 years ago. A divine PURPOSE is being worked out here below. The catastrophic archkidnapping of 6,000 years ago shall not prevent the working out of that supreme PURPOSE. An optimist turns the lemons thrown at him into lemonade. The supreme Creator God is turning the evil of the kidnapping into the supreme GLORY of ALL eternity!

Six thousand years ago, God set his MASTER PLAN of 7,000 years, for the accomplishment of the most glorious PURPOSE OF ALL TIME AND ETERNITY.

False scholarly hypotheses notwithstanding, this world had its origin in the creation of one man, named Adam. He and the wife God

created for him, named Eve, were humanity's first parents. This world is the human family that sprang from them. Decisions and actions by our first parents were the CAUSES that have brought the world to its present state.

Part one of this series revealed origins that led to their human creation. Of all the religions in this world, none understands who and what God the Creator actually is. How shameful, when God reveals himself in the Scriptures that have been available to man since the days of Moses—and even before, by direct personal revelation.

God is neither one single supernatural Person nor a Trinity. In John 1:1-5, 14, God is revealed as a divine FAMILY, originating with two Persons—the “WORD” who later became Jesus Christ, and God, who, upon Jesus’ birth, became the Father. Genesis 1:1 speaks of God as the origin of all, and creator of all. There, the English name God is translated from the Hebrew *Elohim*—a plural, meaning more than one person—that is, God and the “Word.”

Part one revealed God’s PURPOSE to be the reproduction of the GOD FAMILY through humans. God creates by dual stages. First he created the human family, out of which by spiritual reproduction shall be created the GOD FAMILY.

Bear in mind these basic truths: Two cannot walk together except they be agreed. Neither can two or more proceed in harmony and peace except one leads. God and the Word, both immortal, composed of spirit, had always lived the WAY of outflowing LOVE, with God supreme head. Their way of life—outflowing love, cooperation, harmony—constituted a LAW, the LAW OF GOD. It is a spiritual law. With God as supreme head and ruler, it became a GOVERNMENT over all they created.

First of all God created angels. Next God created the material universe, including the earth. On the earth was set a THRONE. On that throne God placed the super archangel Lucifer, a cherub, to administer the GOVERNMENT OF GOD over earth’s inhabitants. A third of the angels were placed on the earth. Lucifer had been created with daz-

zing beauty. This went to his head and he became vain, self-centered, hostile to God’s LAW as a way of life. He later sought to overthrow the throne of God in heaven but was cast back down to earth. His way of life, VANITY, self-glory, competition, HOSTILITY, self-centeredness, every person doing his own thing, became the basic LAW administered over the earth.

Next, God created MAN in God’s own image—form and shape. Man was mortal like animals, but differing as to form and shape, and in MIND. To human brain was added human spirit, empowering human brain with intellect, thus making possible a relationship between man and God.

In all this world’s learning and recorded knowledge the one most basic and all-important dimension has been missing. That great super-colossal, yet unknown TRUTH, is the one supreme PURPOSE of the great Creator God, and his master plan for working out that overall PURPOSE.

This supreme duality of knowledge is 1) God purposes to REPRODUCE HIMSELF through mankind created from the dust of the ground of the earth and 2) his MASTER PLAN of 7,000 years for its accomplishment.

Neither the grand and glorious PURPOSE, nor the MASTER PLAN for its supreme achievement, are known, understood or taught by any religion. They are totally unknown to modern science. They are neither known nor taught by education or any university of higher learning.

This is REVEALED knowledge, and its revelation is contained in the world’s most widely distributed, best-selling book. Yet that book is the most totally misunderstood, most distorted, falsely interpreted, misrepresented of books. That book is an enigma. It is a coded book, and the one instrument of decoding into plain and simple UNDERSTANDING is the very tree of life that the father of all humanity—Adam—rejected; and that is today opened ONLY to those called and drawn by God to come to him through Jesus Christ—those called to be the one true original Church of God. Without the indwelling of

God’s Holy Spirit none can understand that book.

God’s PURPOSE is to reproduce himself through man—reproduce the GOD FAMILY from the human family. It is vital to bear in mind that God is perfect spiritual CHARACTER. Character is ability to choose the true values from the false, right from wrong, and to WILL to do the right—even against self-desire.

The first man Adam had only temporary animal existence. To become begotten and then born into the GOD family, he first, with human mind, had to make that choice—develop with God’s help that godly CHARACTER.

Adam did not possess eternal life. But it was offered to him through the symbolic “tree of LIFE” in the garden of Eden.

Lucifer, now named Satan because of sin, deceived Eve into taking the forbidden symbolic fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

The first human, Adam, took to himself the production of knowledge of good and evil.

In this episode, revealed in Genesis 3, man and his human family, potentially God’s children, were kidnapped—became the property of Satan. They chose Satan’s WAY—self-centeredness—instead of God’s will. They chose the law of Satan instead of the spiritual law of God. Sin is the transgression of God’s law.

Thus the first human parent of the human family rejected the GOVERNMENT OF GOD. In choosing the forbidden tree, he yielded to the basic law of Satan’s government over the earth. Adam and Eve were, in real fact, kidnapped by Satan into his way of life. They chose to follow the way of life of the kidnapper.

Adam could have qualified to RESTORE the GOVERNMENT OF GOD on earth. Instead, he and his human family—this world—have to this very day been HELD CAPTIVE by Satan, who still sits on earth’s throne.

Out of Adam and Eve developed human civilization. Had Adam chosen the tree of LIFE, he would have been brought into direct relation-

(Continued on page 39)

CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

Why We Do the Things We Do

by Ronald D. Kelly

National character and temperament reflect much of how we feel about each other. Let's take a positive look at cultural differences and see how to respect them.

MY WIFE and I along with our 10-year-old daughter were waiting for the number 4 bus on King David Street in Jerusalem.

It was the first week of our stay, and we were still filled with the excitement of being in this historic city.

The already full bus pulled up to our stop where nearly a score more shoved their way on to the bus. We were literally pushed

aside. Our daughter began to cry, fearing she would be separated from us.

It took a few days to get accustomed to boarding Jerusalem's buses.

A few days later, I waited outside one of the ubiquitous banks that dot every section of Jerusalem. There were two people in front of me—about 20 or 25

behind me. When the manager opened the bank doors, the rush was on. To transact business one must take a number card and wait his or her turn. Remember, I was number three in line. By the time I recovered from the surprising onslaught, the number card I drew was 18.

When I related these exasperating experiences to my friend Zvi Dagan who manages the International Cultural Center for Youth (ICCY) in Jerusalem, he smiled.

He advised me: "When you come to Israel, you must learn



to live as an Israeli. One thing you will soon get used to is standing in line and being shoved just a little."

It wasn't long before we were standing firmly in the ever-present lines—and we might have even shoved back once in a while.

We had to understand the people—how they lived and reacted. Once we did, we could share their culture, personality and national character.

"What is there," we wondered, "about their character that made them this way?" Another friend answered the question: "It is a trait, which you may at first object to, that has given my people the ability to withstand more than 3,000 years of hardship, trial and persecution. Don't worry that we should shove a little."

National Observations

I'll never forget the first time my wife and I traveled together to Europe. It was 1964. In Rome, we rented a car and proceeded to make our way around the city. There are few cities in the world where driving is more precarious than Rome.

My wife has not forgotten to this day those harrowing hours in Italian traffic.

But I wanted to experience Rome as the Romans. After a few apprehensive and tentative moments, I was responding to fellow drivers. I loved it.

But my wife would much prefer a cab, bus, subway, walk—anything but face the oncoming traffic with me at the wheel in a strange land.

For the past 20 years we have been fortunate to have international travel as a part of our job. When we have traveled we have had the unusual opportunity to become acquainted with the culture, personality and character of peoples from these many lands.

I have talked with numerous business people and tourists—especially Americans—who have traveled abroad. They take their U.S. airline, stay in a luxury hotel and eat American food. They see the cities and countryside through the large plate glass windows of a 50-passenger tour bus.

A hectic 14-day schedule takes them from city to city, nation to

nation. Near the end of the tour, the places they see look almost exactly like the places they have been. Sadly only photographs and postcards serve to remind them of their trip.

Too many people have not taken the time to know and understand the many and varied national personalities of the nations of the world.

Stereotypes—Real and Imagined

We all have our preconceived ideas about national character. The efficient German. The Frenchman and his wine. The Italian lover. The austere Russian. The meticulous Japanese. The relaxed Polynesian. The condescending American. The imperturbable Englishman.

Perhaps some of our perceptions are true. But those qualities don't always have to be negative. For example, not all the British are overly formal. One of my close British friends is a member of the noted old Reform Club in London. If you saw the movie *Around the World in Eighty Days*, you may remember the opening scene in which several stereotyped, stately English gentlemen planned the 80-day venture.

It is true these English clubs are quite formal—but there is a time and place for quiet formality and elegance.

My British friend recently took my wife and me to the Reform Club (it has only permitted women the past few years). It was a perfectly delightful evening—filled with laughter, wonderful food and tremendous British hospitality. And I assure you my friend is quite proper and cultured.

Once you view the people in England against their historical and even geographical background, then one can begin to understand the character of people who must be admired for their perseverance and droll sense of humor. Americans can even have fun appreciating the difference of driving on the "wrong" side of the road.

I have had the privilege of spending two summers in Germany working with our Bonn office manager, Frank Schnee. We have conducted two nationwide lecture and counseling tours, and he has shown

me a Germany that most American tourists do not see.

With opportunities to stay in private German homes, to eat and talk with scores of families, I have developed a great love and respect for Germany and the character of its peoples.

Most of the rest of the world characterizes the Germans as organized, obedient and, in certain generations, militaristic. And with some justification. Perhaps that does reflect the traditional character of some of the people some of the time.

But the polka dancing, yodeling Bavarian, the hard-working steel worker from the Ruhr, the jovial *Hausfrau* and the wonderful children that really make up Germany are the ones I have come to love and respect.

One of the more memorable families I visited a few years ago gave me a glimpse into the more traditional military character of some Germans.

We were guests in the home of a family who lived not far from Frankfurt. I noticed a number of military memorabilia in the home. In the course of time the conversation turned to that subject.

In World War II, the head of the home had served in the elite German *Sturmabteilung*—the Brownshirts. I was shocked. How could this man have been part of that war machine? But it is part of his past and he has had to face it and deal with it.

He told me how it happened. He was 17 at the time. Adolf Hitler and Joseph Goebbels, his minister of Propaganda and Enlightenment, had inspired thousands to don uniform. Stirring speeches and music filled the air.

"You do have to remember," he recounted, "that Hitler had brought Germany out of depression. He promised so much. One day the Brownshirts marched into our little village. A band played the stirring 'Horst Wessel Lied' and the first thing you know most of us young fellows had joined."

Of course that in no way justifies anything that happened. But I think I understood for the first time how a young man could get involved.

Opinions Real and Distorted

It's strange how war can distort our perceptions about the character of a people. Many Americans were led to believe, after the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941, that the Japanese language had no word for love.

But it's not true. There are several different words to convey the feeling and emotion of love in the Japanese language. The Japanese are a polite, kind and loving people when their efforts are channeled in the right direction.

Plain Truth editor in chief Herbert W. Armstrong has enjoyed a long and warm relationship with the Japanese people. Every summer a group of Japanese exchange students studies at Ambassador College in Pasadena, California. Mr. Armstrong has met with every Prime Minister of Japan for the past 13 years, not to mention Emperor Hirohito and Prince Mikasa.

Mr. Armstrong has a special friendship with several members of the Japanese Diet—they affectionately call themselves his Japanese sons.

Another often-distorted character image is the historic image of the Arab world—one that has come to us all the way from Crusader days a thousand years ago. For the past few centuries Arabs seemed tucked away in the desert regions of the Middle East. Only in recent decades has the world become fully aware of the power, culture and influence of the Arab nations. A Middle Eastern friend of mine is a Palestinian Arab who left Jerusalem after the Six Day War in 1967.

Having both Arab and Jewish acquaintances and friends has given me perspective on the problems both peoples have faced in centuries of turmoil.

I deeply understand the joy of Israelis who could once again wor-

ship at the Western Wall of the ancient Temple Mount. My Arab friend has helped me see the sorrow of his family and people as well. His ancestors had lived in that land for centuries. After 1967 he found himself a refugee. Once reasonably well-to-do and a landowner, he now lives in another country.

How wonderful the day will be when Arabs and Jews—and all



**Admire the good qualities . . . look
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peoples—can dwell in their own lands at peace and harmony.

For nearly 6,000 years the preconceived and stereotyped ideas we have of each other, the cultures, the temperaments and character differences of peoples, have resulted in jealousy, hostility, aggression and war.

But What Is the Answer?

When the apostle Paul first announced God's truth in Athens, he was a Jew traveling to the educational and cultural center of the Greek world.

There was a great gulf between Jew and gentile—to some degree it still exists today.

Jesus had already revealed to

Peter that God had placed no spiritual distinction between Jew and gentile (Acts 10). God would choose to call individuals out of all nations and tongues.

In Athens Paul announced: "And [God] hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation" (Acts 17:26, Authorized Version).

God did not make all peoples of one color. Nor of one culture. Nor all with the same interests and abilities. Nor all to express the same music and art. Nor all to speak the same language.

God's boundless universe and the infinite varieties of created life forms on the earth are further reflected in the manner in which the nations express their abilities and character.

Mankind was created in the image of the great Creator God. In Genesis 3 we also see a powerful spirit being on the scene—one who had rebelled against God earlier. He was there in the beginning to pervert the human potential for culture and to lure human minds into error.

The apostle John more than 4,000 years after was to say of this being—Satan: "The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil or Satan, who leads the whole world astray" (Rev. 12:9, New International Version throughout unless otherwise noted).

Satan had so perverted society that within 1,500 years of the creation of the first human pair, "the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence" (Gen. 6:11).

Careful reading of Genesis 6, accompanied by discoveries of archaeologists, shows that the ancient world had so degenerated that God decided to start the

human family all over again. The ancient world, says the biblical record, was destroyed by a flood.

But God carefully preserved animal and human life by instructing Noah to build an ark.

Through the three sons of Noah and their wives, God preserved the three major racial groups he had designed at creation.

Not long after the Flood, societies once again, under the influence of Satan, began to return to the degenerate customs of the pre-Flood world. A despot named Nimrod gathered into cities people under his leadership and soon set himself up as a god.

God then divided the world into different languages and directed migrations of peoples to populate this vast earth (Gen. 11:7-8).

The process would take many centuries.

In the course of time, the world has become what we know it today, with many nations and cultures. Each nation with its own distinct personality and character.

Unhappily, not every facet of national character is good. Nearly 6,000 years of satanic deception have taken their toll.

But as already stated, not everything in cultural diversity is evil either. Character and cultural differences are what make our world so interesting.

In spite of many differences there is a common respect and appreciation we should all have for each other.

That is how it is going to be in the world tomorrow.

Historically, national differences have filled the world with bloodshed and violence. Mankind has gone to war over color differences, character differences, natural resources, territorial possession, religious schisms and many another reason.

What a shame we have not learned to live together in peace and harmony. But as one of God's prophets said: "The way of peace they do not know" (Isa. 59:8).

However, there is a wonderful world of peace coming. Jesus Christ is going to return to earth as King of kings and Lord of lords, and as Prince of Peace (Rev. 19:16; Isa. 9:6).

It is not yet the world tomorrow.

It is still the world today. It is a world of national pride and jealousy. It is a world of differences and hostility. It is a world on the brink of human destruction.

The editor in chief of *The Plain Truth*, Herbert W. Armstrong, has been called an "ambassador without portfolio for world peace." It has been his desire, and it is the desire of this magazine, to make a clear contribution to human understanding. We know no mortal can bring world peace. God will do that.

But we can and should appreciate fellow human beings. And whatever limited good human beings accomplish should be respected.

Through the Ambassador Foundation, peoples from all over the world have been brought into contact with each other and have grown to respect the truly admirable abilities each possesses.

Not long ago Chinese acrobats from Beijing (Peking) performed at the Ambassador Auditorium in Pasadena. The audiences were thrilled by the intricate moves that seemed to defy gravity. Somehow no one seemed to worry that night that cultural and ideological differences have separated American and Chinese peoples for more than 35 years.

On that same stage at other occasions Irish folk dancers, Scottish pipers, a Jewish violinist, a Korean cellist, Spanish and Italian opera singers, Russian ballet stars, Mexican dancers and guitarists, African tribal dancers—performers from all over the world have shared their abilities and their cultural diversity, their personalities and character.

Perhaps in these areas of life our common ancestry comes to light.

Looking to the Future

One thing we humans seem to be experts on is the ability to see another person's or another nation's flaws. Those qualities that irritate are magnified.

Many chafe under the strain of Rome traffic, complain about the shoving in Israeli lines, ridicule dietary differences and make funny remarks about German efficiency.

These same humans may, in turn, love and respect the cleanliness of Switzerland, the cuisine of France and recognize the German-

made Mercedes Benz and BMW as among the finest quality automobiles in the world. We applaud the music, admire the art and love the scenery of almost every nation.

The conclusion we should draw from of all these differences is to admire the good qualities, overlook the not-so-good and look to the future when a time of world peace will once and for all remove the bad qualities and bring the people of the world into harmony with each other.

A beautiful passage of Scripture was written on this subject more than 2,700 years ago. Micah prophesied: "In the last days the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and peoples will stream to it. Many nations will come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.' . . . He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore" (Mic. 4:1-3).

The good news is that in the not-too-distant future, God is going to send Jesus Christ to the earth to establish his kingdom. And there will be a change in the whole of nature.

Isaiah shows "the wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them" (Isa. 11:6).

If God will change the nature of wild beasts, it should be equally evident he will also transform, by the addition of his divine nature to humans, the present divisive national flaws of peoples. A millennium of peace, prosperity, yes, and of admiration and respect for individual national character, is foretold.

Meanwhile in the world today, we would all be a lot better off if we concentrated on learning as much as we can about the admirable qualities of so many different peoples in so many different nations. □

How I Learned HONESTY

by Norman L. Shoaf

Honesty, it has been said, is the real test of a person's character. But how is this important human trait acquired?

I DIDN'T realize until I got home that the bank teller who cashed my check had given me \$150 too much.

The next day I returned to the bank and went to the same teller. I explained what had happened and handed her the money.

She stared at me incredulously and then, in a bewildered but thankful voice, said, "Most people would have just kept it."

One day at the grocery store I had to write a check for a few small items. I should have known better.

"Do you have a check-cashing card for this store?" the clerk asked. I fumbled for my wallet and found the card.

"May I see your driver's license, please?" I produced it. I noticed that a lot of people were waiting behind me in line.

"What's your phone number?"

I told her.

As the clerk handed me my receipt, I asked her, "Wouldn't it be nice if everybody just trusted each other?"

As she began to ring up the next customer's groceries, she answered mat-

ter-of-factly, almost absentmindedly, "It will never happen."

Never Happen?

"No legacy," wrote Shakespeare, "is so rich as honesty." If honesty is richness, the society in which you and I live is very nearly bankrupt!

Lack of honesty is a major cause of the multiple evils from which we as individuals and indeed this whole world suffer. Consider:

Why can't the superpowers

agree on treaties that would prevent a nuclear World War III? Because they don't—can't—and perhaps don't intend to—trust each other to stand by the words written in agreements.

Why do interpersonal problems plague families—husbands and wives, parents and children, brothers and sisters? Because in many cases family members have been hurt by each other's lies, lack of openness, untrustworthiness and hypocritical actions.

People in general lack faith in the promises of governments, politicians, advertising, the media—even religions.

Why?

Because of unkept promises of the past, ridiculous exaggerations, scandals over dishonesty and the perception that everyone is just out to get something.

Whatever happened to honesty? Authorities agree that honesty is a *learned* value—we're not just born honest or dishonest. Somewhere along the line, a large number of people have failed to learn honesty—failed to develop it as a character trait. On the other hand, some *have* learned it.

So how is honesty learned? Where and when do we get our concepts of



what is honest and what is dishonest? How should we learn to be open, reliable, sincere, disposed always to tell the truth?

Or should we always tell the truth?

Is there ever a time when lying, deceiving, exaggerating or withholding information is best?

A Skeptical World

Trust, sincerity, candor and reliability seem rare today. As one writer said, "To be honest, as this world goes, is to be one man picked out of ten thousand."

Author Adrienne Popper related that her parents had given her her concept of honesty when she was a child. She remembered in particular the story of Abraham Lincoln, who, when working as a store clerk, had walked a few miles to return a penny he had overcharged someone.

"When I was a child, one of my favorite bedtime stories described 'Honest Abe,'" she commented. "I understood the importance of being honest, for I could sense the approval in my father's voice as he read me this and other moral tales."

"When I read the fondly remembered tale of young Abe to my son not long ago, his reaction differed widely from mine.

"'Miles to return a penny!' he exclaimed. 'What a dope! He should have kept it. He could have lied and said he found it.'"

Children in general today do not grow up hearing about "Honest Abe" Lincoln, but about government scandals and other unrighted injustices. They are attracted to *Dallas'* J.R. Ewing, one of television's prime examples of corrupted power.

Dishonesty, injustice and corruption, of course, extend beyond the personal level into national leadership and government. A recent survey showed that Americans do not think it possible to have a government almost wholly free of corruption.

And why shouldn't they think that way, what with revelations of dishonesty and wrongdoing in government and business?

I have a close personal friend, an editor of the Spanish edition of *The*

Plain Truth, who came to the United States from a major South American country where he formerly owned a business. I say "formerly" because high taxation in the country forced him to give up the business. The government, says my friend, knows that most citizens will cheat on their taxes, so the government raises taxes to unbearable levels to gain the minimum revenue required. My friend simply could not pay what the government said he owed and stay in business. And he chose not to be dishonest.

My friend's brother, still a resident of the country, received a certain inheritance from his father. He faithfully reported the inheritance to the government, which promptly claimed more than half of it in taxes. What was even more shocking, though, was the reaction of his friends and neighbors. Most of them ridiculed him and some even became angry with him because he had been so "stupid" as to tell the government the truth.

This was certainly not the spirit of Simon Bolivar, called the "Liberator of South America." Bolivar refused to use government money to provide benefits for himself and avoided using his power to gain personal influence or advantage. He wrote: "There is no human power that can oblige me to accept a gift that my conscience refuses."

What can the individual do to cope in a mostly dishonest world, when even government, theoretically the protector of personal rights, does not expect to be trusted?

How is honesty to be learned in such societies?

Some Do Learn Honesty

Psychologists say that no one can be labeled totally honest or totally dishonest. Rather, honesty is a continuum upon which all of us fall, some closer to the honest end and some closer to the dishonest end.

I have another friend who, on a visit to one of the Arab countries, had a taxi driver carry him some little distance. When he gave the driver a gratuity above the price of the ride, the driver refused the tip. My friend insisted, grateful for the service the driver had offered. Only reluctantly did the driver accept the tip, and then he lowered the

price of the ride the exact amount of the tip!

Can you imagine this scene occurring in London or Paris or New York?

China Daily recently reported that nearly 10,000 people were thronging a Chinese department store in the northeastern city of Changchun when the lights went out. Nothing was stolen! People holding goods when the blackout occurred handed them back to staff members. Others lit candles or volunteered to help keep order. Bank notes totaling the equivalent of US\$80,000 were lying out in a bank branch in the store, but not one was stolen. Store employees commented, "The store was blacked out, but the customers were a shining example of honesty."

Turn out the lights in New York City for a few hours and notice the different result you will achieve!

Some learn honesty, while others don't. Why?

The Process of Moral Development

The whole problem of how the human conscience develops—of how different individuals or groups acquire orientations toward one moral action or another—has been much debated by psychologists, sociologists, even theologians. The process begins in earliest childhood. Research has produced some interesting implications for parents and teachers. As they grow older, children will basically retain the sense of moral judgment they acquired early, unless major experiences later alter their viewpoints.

Studies have identified four major levels of moral orientation in child development:

1) At the first level, the very young child has *little or no control* over his or her own actions. If the child is about to put a hand into a flame, the parent must intervene. If the child reaches for an object on a store shelf, the parent must intervene. The child cannot judge any better.

2) At the second level, the 2-year-old child begins to identify, at least hazily, a difference between actions to be considered wrong and actions to be considered right through a system of *rewards and punishments*. The child learns that if he spills his

glass of milk, he will be reprimanded, whereas if he obeys a parent's command to "Come here!" he will receive approval. The child begins to learn to make choices.

3) At the third level, the maturing child begins to *adopt someone else's values*. He (or she) identifies with another person, be it a parent, playmate or television image. He now develops an internal orientation toward moral judgments. He does what he sees his role models do.

It is at this stage that parents are often shocked to find that their child has picked up some of their own bad habits! "He's just imitating you!" one parent will tell another.

4) At the fourth level, the maturing boy or girl *makes his or her own decisions*. The young person becomes more or less independent in his judgments, especially of Mom and Dad. He comes, for example, to believe that his parents are wrong when they drink to excess or smoke, and he decides that he will not do so. Or he may decide under peer pressure to smoke experimentally even if his parents don't. He now charts his own direction in life, building on the foundation of previous teaching, conditioning and of personal observations.

The goal, then, of a concerned parent is to help the child develop, beginning with the earliest years, a right internal moral orientation based on principles and values that will hold him in the best stead throughout life.

Even the Bible echoes this sentiment in the proverb that urges, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22:6, Jewish Publication Society translation).

The child, in short, must develop an educated conscience. As author Adrienne Popper states, the young child internalizes the parent's cautionary voice. Typically, a parent will overhear a youngster scold him-

self for some infraction: "No, breaking toys is bad!" The child may even imitate his parent's tone of voice!

Authorities have determined that *the process of internalization is usually complete by the time the child is between 4 and 5 years of age*.

Yet how many parents fail to train their very young children because they believe that children can't understand until they are much older? How many leave the teaching of their children to teach-

Children this age are building the foundation of their character for life, and it is the parents' duty to properly supervise that construction.

Wiser observers offer better advice about guiding children: "Children want values," says Carol Gardner Silverman. "It is a disadvantage for kids to grow up without them. We can be aware of the fact that dishonesty exists and at the same time recognize that it is unhealthy to encourage children to give in to it."

Example of Extreme Importance

Many authorities believe that the single most important factor in imparting moral values to children is the example of parents. What does the child see the parent do in public? In private?

Does the parent exceed the speed limit when the signs clearly state the speed limit? Does the unoccupied parent avoid undesirable social engagements by saying he or she is "too busy"? Does the parent lie on his or her income-tax return?

I know an excellent elementary-school teacher who to this day fondly remembers the example of her mother, who found a nickel on the sidewalk and tried to find out to whom it belonged.

After an article I wrote on emotional maturity appeared in this magazine, I received a letter from a woman who told me: "I need to reread this article over many times, then maybe I will begin to overcome my bad habits that I have developed over the past years, especially in regard to my husband and children. The trouble is that I see the children have picked up those same bad habits!"

Indeed, the statement "Do as I say, not as I do" is ineffective in inculcating honesty and other values into children's morals.

Practical Tips for Teaching Honesty

What can parents and teachers do



The bank teller who cashed my check had given me \$150 too much. She stared at me incredulously and said, "Most people would have just kept it."

ers when they start school?

By the time a child starts school, his attitude toward authority, his level of ambition, his understanding of right and wrong and even the ability to learn are, to a great degree, already set!

Yet some psychologists will tell you that it is perfectly natural for a young child to lie—for instance, to avoid punishment after breaking a lamp. These misguided authorities will tell you that you should not worry about dishonest behavior in 3- or 4-year-olds. They are wrong.

to ingrain honesty into children? Authorities have identified several effective methods:

• **Be honest with children yourself.** They, just like you, would rather know the truth than to be kept in the dark. And they can sense when you are not telling the truth. Remember that you are their model; everything you do is teaching them. Keep communication lines open so they know they needn't lie to you.

• **Monitor your children's thoughts and attitudes.** Attentive parents can "read" children's attitudes just by noticing the looks on their faces. This requires spending time with children, of course—something too few parents do. Be closely aware of your children's development, and constantly encourage them to go in the right direction.

• **Be consistent in teaching, example and discipline.** You are influencing the way your children make moral judgments.

• **Praise your children when they tell the truth.** Even when confessions result in punishment! Show the child you are happy when he or she tells the truth. A child wants your approval. He wants to please you and will develop the habit of telling the truth because you show satisfaction with your child's honest response.

• **Don't encourage "white lies."** Certain psychologists and educators would have you teach your children to lie, for instance, when they think they can avoid hurting someone else's feelings. But untruthfulness is habit-forming, and one lie must always be supported with others. Intimacy and love

between people is much harder to develop when one finds that the other has been untruthful, even in "small" areas.

• **Help each child develop an understanding of someone else's perspective in situations.** You should, in other words, help your child develop empathy through instruction and discipline. Remind the child: "How would you like it if he or she did that to you?" Encouraging this perspective correlates very strongly with positive moral development.

• **Explain that not everyone your child meets will always tell the truth.** Then encourage your child to hold to moral principles, the ones you have taught. As Clifford Sager says in his book *Intimate Partners—Hidden Patterns of Love Relationships*:

"Children are exposed to deception very early on. They see it all around them. Even if their parents genuinely stress honesty in all relationships, there are other ways in which youngsters come in contact with deceptions we not only tolerate but accept."

Mr. Sager points to the example of television advertising, much of which is more often than not implicitly inaccurate. Children soon learn that eating a certain kind of cereal won't make them into professional sports stars—on the contrary, that eating certain sugar-loaded cereals will rot their teeth!

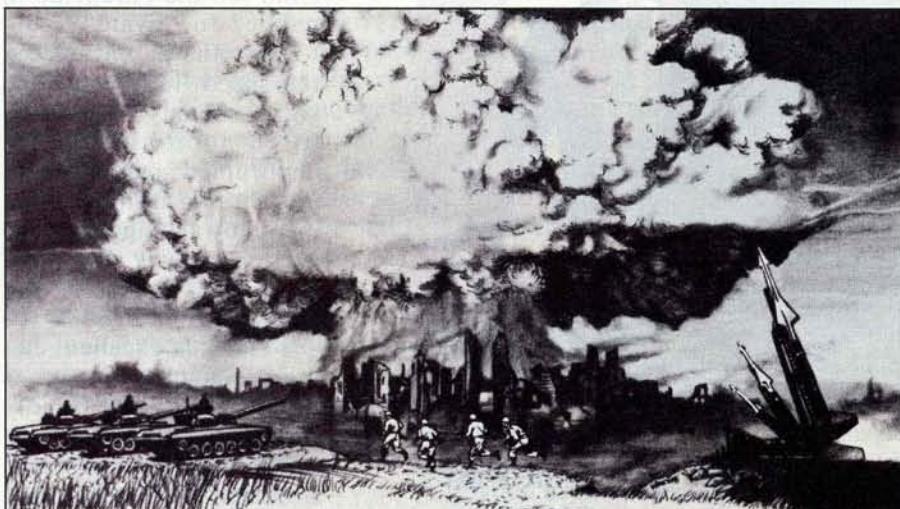
Sager continues: "Even if parents attempt to keep all promises, a child soon learns that others don't.... Once a youngster becomes convinced of this, and especially when lying seems to gain temporary advantage and truthfulness does not, patterns of deception may be set up that become increasingly hard to break."

Such patterns must eventually be broken—indeed, never started in the first place.

• **Teach that being honest does not mean revealing every thought.** It is not always necessary to comment, but when one does, everything one says should be the truth. Diplomacy is not necessarily dishonesty.

• **More and more parents, teachers and social researchers are rediscovering the value of reading and**

(Continued on page 31)



Are We Living in the Last Days?

Look at the facts:

- Proliferation of nuclear weapons
- World population expected to double in 30 years—and double again by 2035!
- Worldwide economic stress
- Shrinking resources in critical areas

World leaders are alarmed. Is there an alternative to global holocaust? For the surprising good news, send for our free booklet *Are We Living in the Last Days?* Just mail the request card to our nearest office.



What Spokesmen for Science Are NOT TELLING

by William Stenger

The universe: evidence for evolution, or the handiwork of a Creator? A new study resolves the enigma!

IS BELIEF in a living intelligent Creator *unscientific*?

Is the scientific method the only way to view reality?

The existence of a Creator is generally viewed by spokesmen for the scientific establishment as incompatible with objective reasoning and the scientific method. What guarantee, if there is a Creator, do we have that we are not dupes of "cosmic practical jokes" such as being placed in a young universe "created with an appearance of age"?

Has that Someone gone to a lot of trouble to produce fossils, even with worn-down teeth and arthritic joints, in order to trick us humans into thinking we evolved? Would a superior Being continually meddle

with the laws of nature, thereby confounding the results of scientific experiments and making such results meaningless? These questions demand answers.

Was There a Beginning?

Modern science has made many amazing discoveries about our universe. These are nearly always presented to the layman in the language of evolution. But do these discoveries genuinely support evolution—or the opposite conclusion? Just what should we conclude from the evidence of scientific investigation?

The origin of the universe has been debated by astronomers, physicists, philosophers and theologians for centuries. Has the universe always existed? Did it come into

existence at some definite time in the past? Many theories—theological and scientific—have been proposed and then discarded as new discoveries were made. In recent times, one theory—the big bang theory—has come to be accepted by many scientists as more consistent with the data than any other.

The big bang theory proposes that the entire universe exploded into existence in an instant of time. Physicists now claim to be able to project backward into the past to within one billion billion billionth of a second of the big bang (*Science Digest*, May 1981). Using known laws of physics, they *theoretically* tell what conditions would have been like within such a small time unit immediately after the big bang.

To accept the big bang theory, one has to believe that the entire universe came into existence suddenly and dramatically in an infinitesimally microscopic moment of time. Does that sound like the slow, gradual unfolding of evolutionary processes?

A few things bother scientists about the big bang theory. On the one hand, they observe inexplicable uniformity on the large scale, but, on the other hand, "clumpiness" on the small scale. There is also something they call "flatness" of the universe that requires special initial conditions. Moreover, the occurrence of the big bang itself seems to violate known physical laws.

In puzzling over these problems, scientists use expressions such as, "Someone had to time it very precisely," "The conditions of the universe were specially arranged," and "How did the universe manage to go 'bang' in such an improbable way?" (*Science News*, September 3, 1983).

So, the origin of the universe could not possibly be the result of a cosmological pipe bomb that somehow produced itself and just blew up.

Is there an explanation that agrees with the data? There is! The real big bang was a well-planned, deliberately executed act of CREATION! How would you expect a superpowerful divine Being to bring forth an entire universe? With a small fizz, a limp thud or a weak whimper? Of course not!

The creation of the universe was accomplished with a glorious display of light, heat, matter and energy—a display that still reverberates throughout space and only recently has been described by scientists as the big bang!

Thousands of years ago David wrote: "The heavens declare the glory of God" (Ps. 19:1). The marvels known today—the incredible size and power of the stars, the enormity of galaxies, awesome phenomena such as supernovae, pulsars and quasars—tell us more about the glory of God than David could have ever imagined!

Age of the Universe

How old is the universe? The answer to this question is almost always misunderstood by creationists and misused by evolutionists. Creationists generally believe, falsely, that the universe is hardly more than 6,000 years old. On the other hand, many evolutionists falsely suppose that the great antiquity of the universe somehow "proves" evolution.

First of all, the Bible does not say the universe was created 6,000 years ago. It simply says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Gen. 1:1, Revised Authorized Version). The physical evidence shows a universe and earth of great age. At the Grand Canyon alone one can see with the naked eye the results of geological processes that would require immensely more than 6,000 years to complete.

Further evidence from radiometric dating and astrophysics pushes the age of the universe back to more than ten billion years—or ten thousand million years for our British readers.

Evolutionists seize on these millions of years out of necessity. After all, they believe that given enough time, anything can happen. Apparently, some creationists also believe that given enough time, evolution could happen. Otherwise, why would they so desperately attempt to squeeze the history of the universe into a few thousand years in spite of stubborn facts to the contrary? Both viewpoints are wrong!

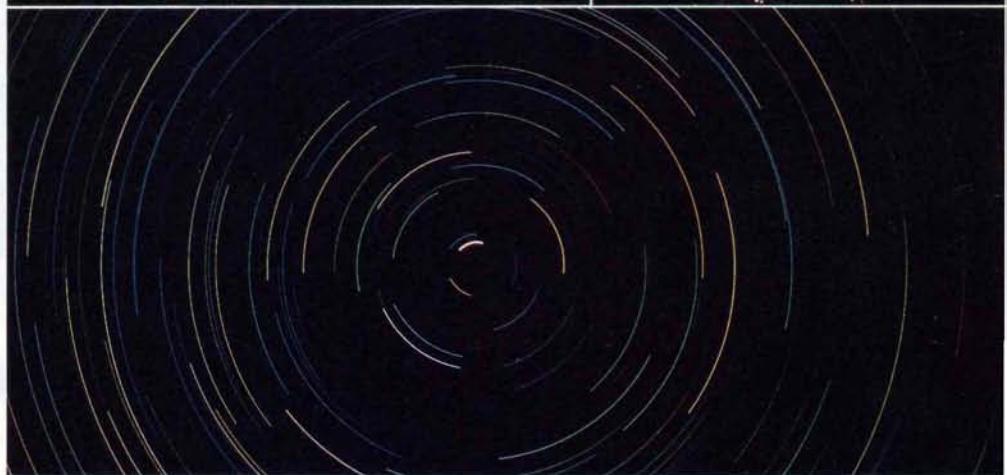
Necessity does not prove anything. You need air to fly an air-



The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork

—*Psalm 19:1.*

Clockwise from top left: Jupiter and two of its moons, Io and Europa, courtesy JPL/NASA; great galaxy in Andromeda, H. Armstrong Roberts; Horsehead Nebula in Orion, Finley—Holiday Film; time exposure of celestial North Pole, PT photo; Great Nebula in Orion, Finley—Holiday Film.



plane. Just because you have air, that doesn't mean you automatically have an airplane without the need of a designer. In the same way, just because you have billions of years, that does not make evolution occur. The great age of the universe does not in itself "prove" evolution or creation.

But what does the age of the universe tell us? Why would a Creator make it so long ago and maintain it? Not only merely to "declare his glory," but for an astounding purpose!

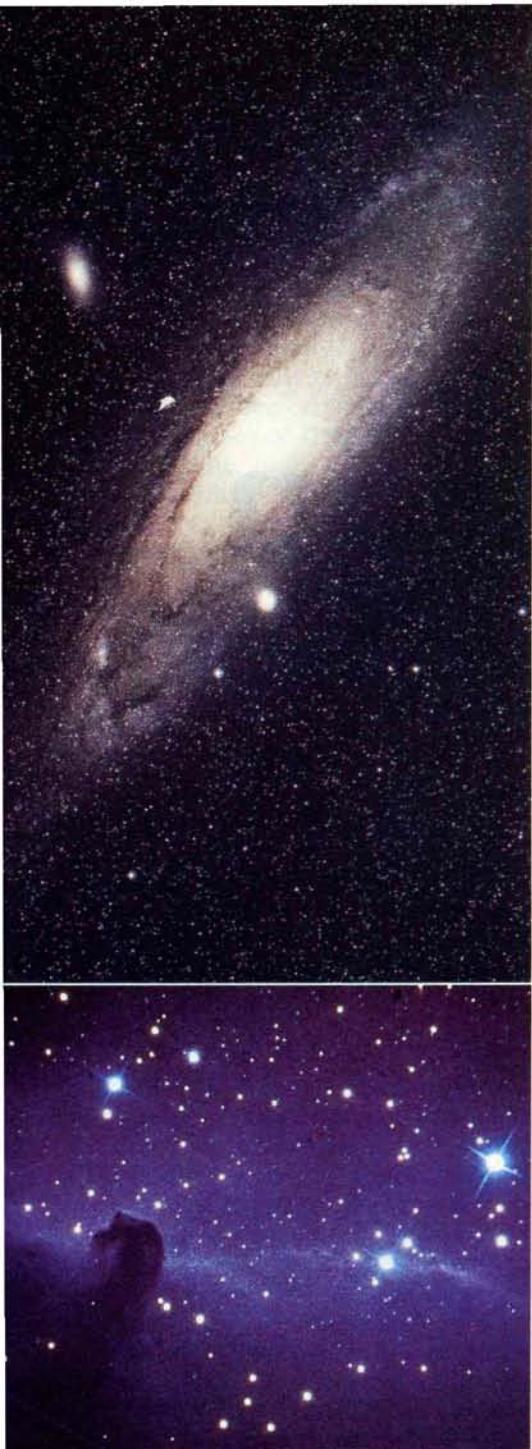
The Creator is eternal. He

inhabits eternity (Isa. 57:15). What better way to teach temporary human beings something of the concept of eternity, than to put them into a universe that is millions upon millions of years old?

Life Demands a Life

The earth teems with millions of forms of life—animals and plants of many distinct characteristics. Do these life forms give evidence for evolution?

In two previous articles in *The Plain Truth* (September 1981,



something fundamental about God's plan!

Life forms *reproduce* after their own kinds. This fact in itself contradicts a basic tenet of evolution. (By the term "kind," we do not mean the intentionally limited definition of "species." For instance, there could be many species such as lions, tigers, etc., within a "cat kind." But there is a total distinction between the "cat kind" and the "dog kind," for example.)

Evolution requires major changes in already existing life forms by means of *natural* genetic reproductive processes. (That is, invertebrate to vertebrate: fish to amphibian to reptile to bird, monkey to ape and hominid, and hominid to man.) There is not one shred of proof in the fossil record that genetic changes of this magnitude have occurred—or are even remotely possible—by any known biological process. A careful study of the anatomy and behavior of numerous creatures clearly shows how preposterous such an idea actually is. Kind reproduces its own kind! Only the creative process could account for the geologic record and the contemporary world.

But the fact of reproduction after its own kind also contradicts the teaching of nearly all theologians about the purpose of God.

Those of you who read *The Plain Truth* regularly already know that God is reproducing himself! Jesus came to reveal the FATHER. A "father" begets children—reproduces. Many theologians believe in a deity who is simultaneously omnipotent and impotent. While they are willing to allow roaches and amoebas to reproduce themselves, they cannot accept God as a FATHER reproducing himself. Yet we read, "And [I] will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty" (II Cor. 6:18). (See also John 1:12-13 and Hebrews 1:5 and 2:10.)

Does the Creator Meddle?

Would it make any sense for a living intelligent supreme Being to try to thwart legitimate scientific inquiry by "monkeying around" with the laws of nature? Would a Creator use cosmological trickery to deceive human beings about the creation they inhabit? The real

Creator does not operate that way!

"The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens" (Prov. 3:19).

"These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him. . . . A false witness that speaketh lies . . ." (Prov. 6:16, 19).

The Creator would not create a universe or even a planet earth that was itself a *false witness*. That would hardly "declare his glory" and "show his handiwork" (Ps. 19:1).

Does that mean the Creator *never* intervenes? It's very much like an airplane with an automatic pilot. The automatic pilot maintains the direction, speed and altitude of the airplane. However, the human pilot can override the automatic pilot at any time.

What we call laws of nature are like the automatic pilot. The Creator does on *rare* and usually *unique* occasions decide to override the "automatic pilot." But there was only one parting of the Red Sea. If the Red Sea parted every full moon, we would certainly expect to find a physical explanation, not a supernatural one.

Spectacular divine interventions are unique and do not permanently alter the "laws of nature." Similarly, miracles that affect an individual, such as a divine healing or an inexplicable protection from serious bodily injury, involve only a temporary or momentary alteration or cessation of existing physical, chemical or biological laws.

As more scientific discoveries are made, whether at the galactic level or the subatomic level, there is only more evidence of law, design, harmony and order—more evidence of an intelligent, ever-living, superpowerful Creator!

"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse" (Rom. 1:20).

So the next time you read about the wonders of nature or watch a television program describing some fascinating scientific discovery, don't be misled by evolutionary terminology and bias. Realize that you are seeing the handiwork of a master Creator! □

U.S. edition; February 1983, all English language editions), we have shown the utter mathematical improbability of even the "simplest" components of life, let alone life forms, coming into existence and developing through evolution. Mutations and natural selection notwithstanding, there is no evidence that life "evolved"—the missing links are still missing.

But life does teach us something about the Creator, something very important, which neither evolutionists nor theologians understand—

You Need MORE Than Faith In Jesus!

by John Halford

MILLIONS of people already claim to believe in Jesus.

Hundreds of thousands more in all parts of the world will "receive Christ" this year—or rather, they will *think* that they have received Christ.

They will, as they say, "give their hearts to the Lord," and believe that they are at last saved.

And they will be wrong!

It may come as a shock, but the gospel that is commonly preached today is not the same message that Jesus brought nearly 2,000 years ago. He was not then—and he is not now—trying to convert the world. Neither is he trying to get people to "accept him," "believe in him" or "receive him" before it is too late.

This is a deceived world. Deceived people are sincere. They don't know they are deceived. If they did know, they would not be deceived! It is because many are deceived that we read of those who have a "zeal of God, but not according to knowledge" (Rom. 10:2).

"Not According to Knowledge"

That statement is as true today as it was when the apostle Paul wrote it

more than 1,900 years ago. You'll see ample evidence of it just by looking at the religious book department of nearly any bookshop. Never before have so many Bible translations, Bible helps, Bible dictionaries, Bible atlases, concordances and commentaries been available. But the world is as confused as ever.

In the past several years new translations of the Scriptures have been published. They have been painstakingly executed by scholars with a thorough knowledge of the ancient languages.

The faithful Authorized King James Version, with its "thees" and "thous" and "verilys," had become a stumbling block for many who wanted to understand what the Bible said. These modern versions are rendered in modern English, with contemporary grammar and punctuation. They have corrected, in general, the few translation errors that crept into the older versions, and overall, they are useful tools for Bible study.

But although they have solved certain translation problems, they have unfortunately created some new ones. You need to know about one of them in particular.

It is not a case of the translators misunderstanding the original

word, as sometimes happened in the Authorized Version. Rather, they seem to have misunderstood what was *meant* by what was written.

The Problem of Translation

You see, translation—any translation—is to some extent an interpretation. Language is not just words—it is also thoughts. Translation is not just a case of swapping words—the translator's job is to convey the *thoughts* expressed by one language into another.

Bible translation is particularly complex. The structure of the ancient Hebrew and Greek languages is different from modern West European languages. It can therefore be difficult to render the *exact* thought and nuance of expression of the ancient Scriptures into modern languages. Generally, translators have done a conscientious job, and most modern versions are better than 99 percent accurate. But there are some places where modern theologians and scholars have not fully understood what the original writers were teaching.

They have therefore made a significant error in their rendering into modern English some verses in the epistles of Paul.

"In" or "Of"?

When Paul discussed the subject of faith and its relationship to salvation, he frequently used the Greek expression "pistis Christou." In the Authorized Version, this was translated "faith of Christ." Most modern versions, however, change this to "faith in Christ."

Grammatically, it is an arguable point, since the original Greek does not use either of the prepositions *in* or *of*. The grammatical sense is derived rather from the ending of the words themselves. However, in English, a preposition is needed. It should not surprise us that the translators of the modern versions preferred *in* to *of*. It *seemed* to them to make more sense, since the focus of modern Christian belief is a gospel *about* Christ, accepting him and believing *in* him.

From that point of view, it was presumably felt that "pistis Christou" could adequately be rendered "faith *in* Christ." Consequently, the expression and thus the thought, "faith *of* Christ," does not appear in these modern versions, as it did in the older Authorized Version.

What difference does it make?

It makes all the difference in the world—the difference between *being* a real Christian, and *thinking* you are one.

Preposition Changes Meaning

Remember that old expression—"For the want of a nail the battle was lost"? It could also be said of these new translations, "For the want of a preposition, a life could be lost."

Perhaps we can demonstrate the difference it makes by this analogy.

Suppose your wristwatch breaks. You take it to a reputable watchmaker, whom you know you can trust, and you ask him to repair it. You leave your watch with him, in complete confidence that he will return it to you in good working order.

You have, in other words, complete faith *in* that watchmaker. He has learned how to repair watches, and he will do it for you.

This, in effect, is how many people are taught to look to Jesus Christ. They trust *in* him, and

believe that his love, his goodness, and his mercy and holiness will save them when the time comes. But that kind of faith—however sincere—is *not enough to save you*.

But supposing, when you took your broken watch to be repaired, this happened:

The watchmaker agrees that your watch is broken. But he says, "If I just repair this for you, you have learned nothing. I know how to repair watches, but it is important that *you* learn something about it, too. We will repair it together.

"I will do a part of the work, the part you cannot do by yourself, and I'll show you how to do what you must learn to do."

Now the situation is different. No longer do you just need faith *in* the watchmaker's skill—you are going to need some of his skill as well.

It is the same with faith *in* and *of* Christ. Of course, we must have faith *in* Jesus Christ. The apostle Peter, speaking to the crowds in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost, urged them to believe that Jesus, whom they had crucified, was the Lord and Messiah (Acts 2:36).

Many believed Peter, and asked, "What shall we do?" (verse 37, Authorized Version). "Repent, and be baptized . . . in the name of Jesus Christ," replied Peter, "for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy [Spirit]."

So far so good. As a result of having faith *in* Christ, many today are told to be baptized for the remission of their sins. Then they think they are saved. But there is more to it than that.

After Baptism—What Then?

Many scriptures show what you do *after* you have placed your faith *in* Jesus Christ and his sacrifice will determine whether you will be *ultimately* saved.

Let's now take a close look at some of these scriptures that have been mistranslated in the generally excellent new translations and see exactly what it was that the apostle Paul taught. Then you will understand why the phrase "faith *of* Christ" carries the right choice of

preposition when rendering these verses into English.

First, Romans 3:22. This verse is breaking into the middle of a thought. We should go back two or three verses to pick up the thread of Paul's discussion. The church at Rome in Paul's day was a mixture of different ethnic groups, and there was a controversy among them.

The Jews thought that they were superior to others since they had had the law of God delivered to them. The non-Jews on their part were critical of the Jews for not keeping that law. Note that the discussion did not center around *whether or not* the law should be kept, but rather, *how it could be kept*.

Paul's epistle put everything in perspective. He showed that a Christian must quit sinning. Breaking God's law is sin (Rom. 3:20, and see also I John 3:4). Paul pointed out that *all*—Jews and gentiles—had broken the law. Nobody (except Jesus Christ) ever lived a life without sinning in some way. Therefore, no one could consider himself justified—guiltless and worthy of salvation—as a result of his conduct. Let's pick up the story in verse 21.

The New International Version explains it rather well. "But now a righteousness from God, apart from law [apart from human "righteousness"], has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify" (Rom. 3:21, New International Version throughout, except where noted).

In other words, there is a way to come up to God's standard of righteousness (the Ten Commandments) apart from the impossible task of trying to keep the law perfectly through your own strength or your own faith. How can you do it?

"This righteousness from God comes through faith *in* [should be translated *of*] Christ to all who believe" (verse 22).

Do you see what a difference the preposition makes?

Having repented of your past sins, you can't continue to sin. Paul makes that very clear in Romans 6:1-2, in any version or translation. You are to live a new life free of sin
(Continued on page 43)

Great Earthquakes Are PROPHESIED!

by Donald D. Schroeder

Major cities and hundreds of millions of people will be taken by surprise. But you can be prepared!

EARTH scientists, armed with more accurate seismic tools, are discovering startling new facts.

They warn of the potential for earthquakes in surprising places. Millions, they say, are certain to be caught off guard.

Here is what worries earth scientists. People have lulled themselves into complacency with the false idea that earthquakes are a matter to be concerned about only in certain notorious earthquake zones.

Surprising Jolts

About one year ago, a powerful earthquake devastated the business section of Coalinga, an oil and farming town in California. The community was resting on a fault that no one knew existed.

Last October, residents of the state of Idaho were rudely reminded of their earthquake risk when a powerful jolt, registering 6.9 on the Richter scale, tore through a mountain area leaving a 10-mile-long gash. Two hundred aftershocks occurred. Two children were killed. Several nearby states and parts of Canada were shaken by this quake.

Another surprising quake killed hundreds in Guinea in West Africa, a zone of the earth where earthquakes are rare. And last November Belgium suffered its worst earthquake in more than a century. Two persons died as a consequence. The surprise quake centered on the city of Liège and registered 5

on the Richter scale. British engineers warned that southeast England could be hit by similar or larger quakes.

In recent months, other large earthquakes in Turkey, Japan and the Philippines have killed

hundreds. A large earthquake shook Hawaii Island that could have caused severe damage had it struck a heavily populated area.

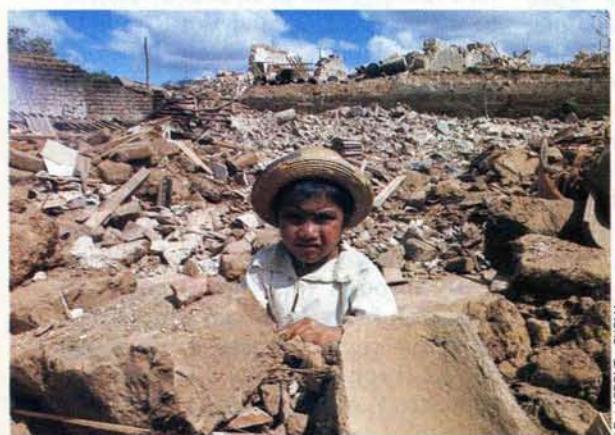
Earthquakes and tremors continue to jolt wide areas of the earth. Millions are being reminded that earthquakes and geologic disasters don't always happen "somewhere else."

In past centuries large earthquakes could strike areas of the earth and have little effect outside the stricken zone. Many of these earthquake-struck areas were then sparsely inhabited. And communications and commerce were such that much of the world might not even be aware a disastrous quake had occurred. No more.

During recent decades the world's population has exploded. Complex and highly technological civilization have been built right over areas of former earthquake activity.

Certain large cities of the developed world and numerous cities in the developing world have been built right on the ruins of earthquake-ravaged rubble.

At the time of writing this article, no truly modern industrialized metropolitan city has been struck by a great earthquake. But earthquake experts warn it is only a matter of time before one certainly will be struck. And when one is, it will not only cause great loss of life and property, but it could alter the



GUATEMALA CITY—FEB. 1976—7.5 ON RICHTER SCALE

The truth is, damaging earthquakes can occur anywhere. Many individuals within the past year, in scattered areas of the United States and other nations, have had to be jolted the hard way to learn this geologic fact of life.



POPAYÁN, COLOMBIA—MARCH 1983—6.5 ON RICHTER SCALE



EL ASNAM, ALGERIA—OCTOBER 1980—7.5

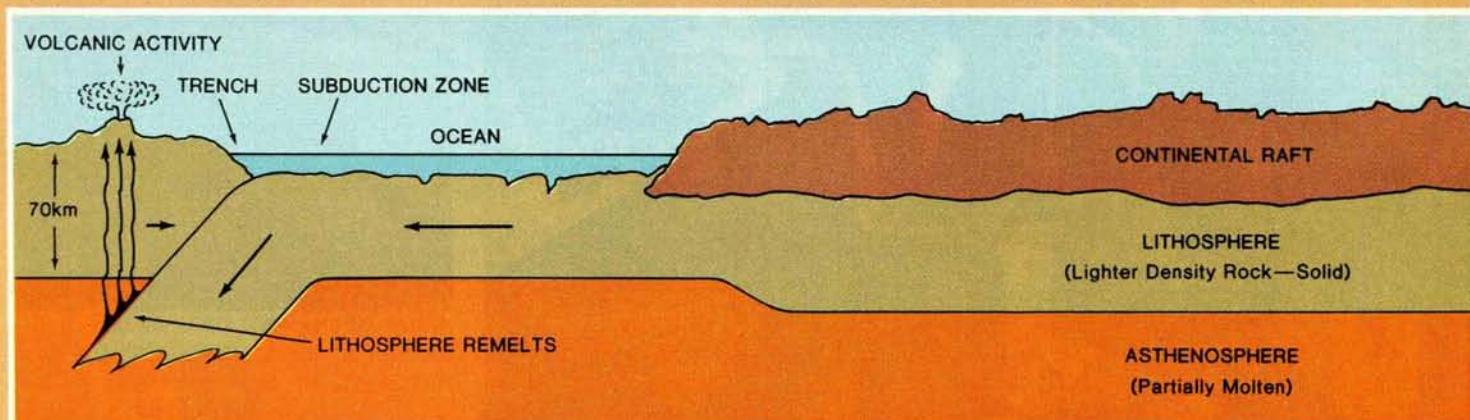
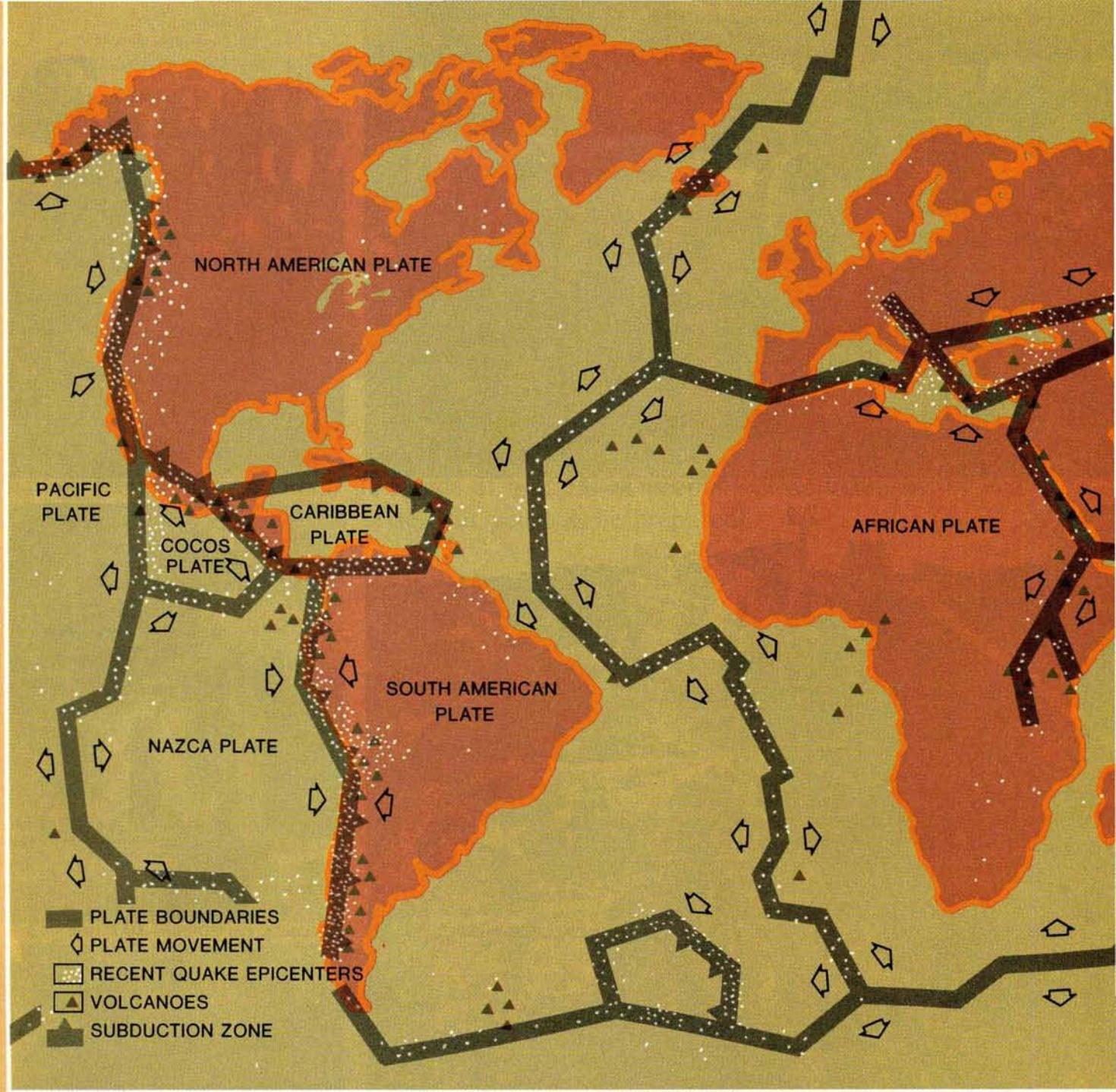


COALINGA, CALIFORNIA—MAY 1983—6.5



AKITA, JAPAN—MAY 1983—7.7

◀ NAPLES, ITALY—NOVEMBER 1980—6.8



THE WORLD'S TECTONIC PLATES

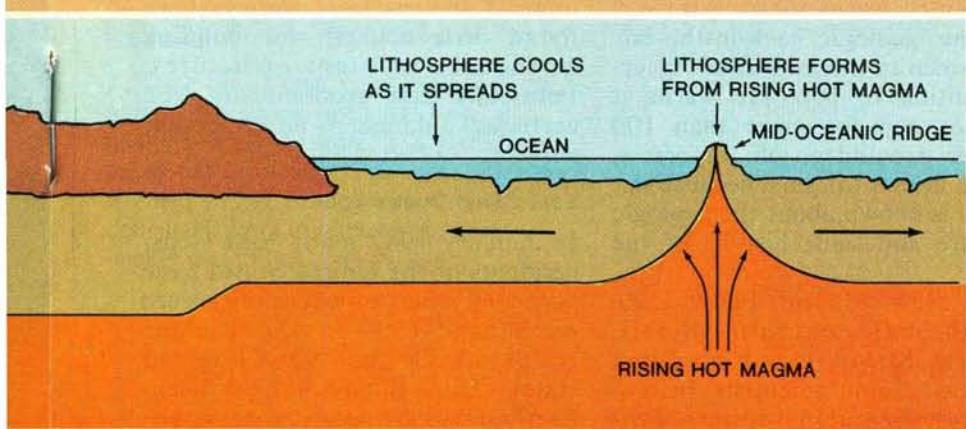
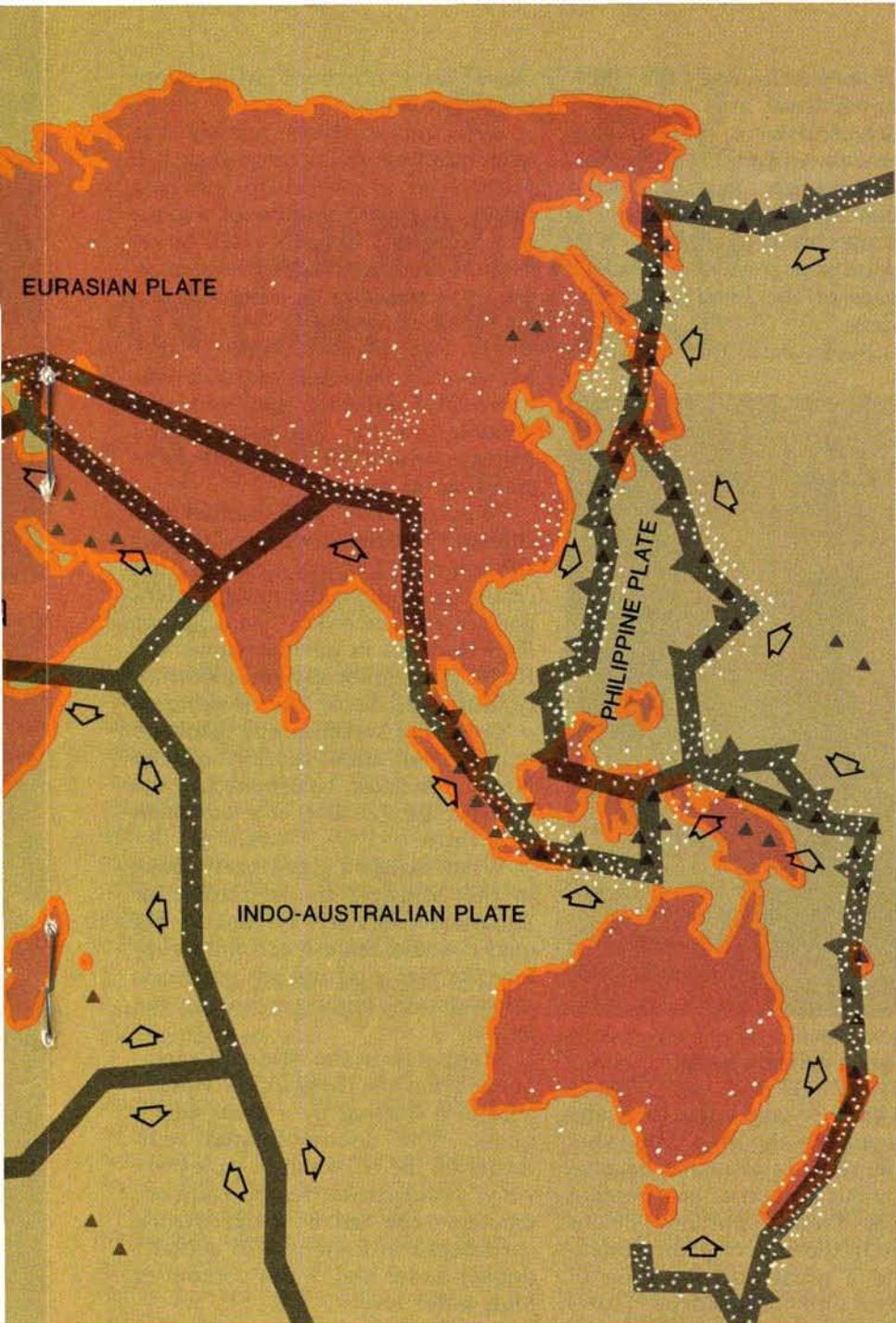
MAJOR EARTHQUAKE, VOLCANIC AND SUBDUCTION ZONES

Modern scientific research reveals the earth's surface (lithosphere) is broken like a cracked eggshell into huge semi-rigid slabs or plates of bedrock. Movements of these restless, slow-moving tectonic plates by powerful inner earth forces explain the earth's closely associated belts of major earthquake and volcanic activity and belts of mountains.

Earthquake danger is clearly greatest along plate edges, but can occur anywhere. Modern plate tectonics make more understandable the biblical prophecies about great future earthquakes.

BASIC TECTONIC CONCEPTS

Rising heated magma at oceanic rifts forces major earth plates apart, in turn creating powerful pressures that shift, grind, crumple and break land masses, create volcanic extrusions and subduct thinner ocean plates beneath land plates.



nation's political and economic affairs.

One major area of concern among seismologists involves the stresses developing in the North American continent.

"New" Earthquake Country

Many citizens across the United States and Canada are unaware of the earthquake stresses brewing

scale) focused around the New Madrid, Missouri, area.

So powerful were these quakes that they destroyed great forests, upheaved and tore apart major land areas and changed the course of the mighty Mississippi river. "The whole land was moved and waved like waves of the sea," wrote one eyewitness.

Few lives were lost in these



Earthquake preparedness reaches a high level in Tokyo, Japan.
Above, schoolchildren study activities they may need to do during a quake.

under their feet. While earthquake activity is most common near the Pacific and continental plate edges in the Far West and in western Canada, there are also powerful midcontinent (midplate) stresses building up. Major population centers in the East and parts of the Midwest are vulnerable.

U.S. government scientists estimate that 70 million of the nation's citizens live in areas of moderate to major earthquake risk. At least 39 states have suffered some earthquake damage in this century.

Midwest Time Bombs

How many are aware that the most powerful series of earthquakes since the founding of the United States did not occur in Western states? The series occurred in the Midwest in the years 1811-12. Three great quakes (estimated to be 8.6, 8.4, 8.7 on the Richter

quakes because only a few thousand then populated the area. But what was wilderness in 1811 has become the populous industrial heartland of America. Twenty million persons now live in the area of greatest danger, and a great concentration of business and commerce flows through this region.

St. Louis University seismologist Otto Nuttli warns there again is a haunting geologic jack-in-the-box coiled deep in the midriff of America, waiting to pop. He warns it may not pop for more than 100 years or it could go off tomorrow. No one knows for sure because not enough is known about the geologic structure and fault history of the area.

The New Madrid Fault Zone runs through southern Illinois, southeast Missouri and northeast Arkansas. Some scientists believe southwest Kentucky, western Ten-

nessee and northern Mississippi may be involved.

Earthquake stress energy has been building up for more than 170 years like a wound-up stressed spring. A repetition now of a great earthquake, Mr. Nuttli says, "would cause a disaster whose magnitude would only be eclipsed by an all-out nuclear war."

"In the Middle West," says Mr. Nuttli, "you see your relatives move to California and you say, 'Watch out for the earthquake.' Midwesterners don't realize they're standing on one."

The basement rocks under the state of Ohio lie between two major rift zones. "The only people that really know about the pending danger are the scientists," said author Ron Redfern in an interview. Mr. Redfern's graphically and pictorially illustrated book *The Making of a Continent* outlines the geologic features of each section of the North American continent and the massive forces that created them over time.

What makes a great earthquake in the Midwest so dangerous for American security is that a big quake would almost certainly rupture the major oil and gas pipelines, railroads and highways linking the nation.

Many soils in the Midwest earthquake zone are particularly vulnerable to a shaking by a great earthquake. The unconsolidated sediments of the Mississippi valley are very susceptible to earthquake damage—the earth under strong earthquake vibrations will actually liquefy under high water content or high water levels.

Despite general knowledge of earthquake danger in this region by officials and citizens, surveys have found little concern for building earthquake-resistant structures. Politically and economically, the earthquake danger is an unpopular subject.

East Coast Quake Zone

In January 1982 many East Coast residents of the United States were surprised when a moderately severe earthquake (5.9 on the Richter scale) struck the New England states. They shouldn't have been. Earthquakes are recorded common-

SAFETY AND SURVIVAL IN AN EARTHQUAKE

The Plain Truth provides the following basic earthquake safety rules as a public service. You may wish to post or keep them for future reference. Few casualties come from the actual ground movement of an earthquake. Most result from falling objects and debris, fires and uncontrolled panic. No rules can eliminate all earthquake dangers, but the following rules can greatly reduce injuries and damage.

Before an Earthquake

1. Support local safe building codes with enforcement for schools, offices, homes.
2. Support and encourage earthquake drills and training for schools, work areas and homes.
3. As a homeowner or tenant: Fasten shelves to walls. Remove heavy objects from upper shelves unless they are restrained. Place breakable or valuable items in a safe place. Remove or securely fasten high, loose objects, as well as heavy objects above beds. If you have defective wiring or leaky gas connections, replace them. You could thereby save your home. Bolt down water heaters and other gas appliances.
4. Teach members of your family how to turn off electricity, gas and water at main switches and valves.
5. Maintain at least three days supply of storable food and bottled water. Maintain an up-to-date medical kit. Provide responsible family members with basic first-aid instruction because medical facilities could be overwhelmed immediately after a severe quake. Keep at hand a flashlight and a battery-powered radio in the house.
6. Conduct calm family discussions about earthquakes and related problems. Do not tell frightening stories about disasters.
7. Think about what you would do if an earthquake struck when you were at home, in a car, at work, in a store, in a public hall or outside. Your prior planning will help you to act calmly, safely and constructively in an emergency and enable you to help others.

During an Earthquake

1. Remain as calm as possible. Think through the consequences of any action. Calm and reassure others.
2. If indoors, watch for falling plaster, bricks, light fixtures and other objects. Stay away from windows, mirrors, chimneys and outer walls. If in danger, get under a table, desk, bed or a strong doorway. School children should be taught to get under desks. Usually it is not best to run outside. The one exception may be if you are in a heavy, poorly constructed old building.
3. In a high-rise office building, get under a desk. Do not dash for exits; stairwells may be jammed with people or broken. Power for elevators may fail.
4. If outside, avoid high buildings, walls, power poles and objects that could fall. Do not run through the streets. If possible, move away from all hazards. If you're in an automobile, stop in the safest place and stay in your automobile (because you are encased in steel).
5. Never be stampeded into leaving an upright building merely because it groans horribly or cracks appear and plaster falls. If collapse is obviously imminent, you may need to vacate the building. (Collapse of a building is generally indicated by walls falling as a unit.)

After an Earthquake

1. Check for injuries. Do not attempt to move seriously injured persons unless they're in immediate danger of further injury. Wear shoes to avoid foot injuries from debris and glass.
2. Shut off all damaged electrical and gas lines. Do not operate light switches, use either matches or open flame appliances until you check for and rule out gas leaks. Do not touch downed power lines.
3. If water is off, emergency water may be obtained from water heaters, toilet tanks, ice cubes, canned vegetables and even radiators of cars. (Water from radiators should not be used for drinking as it may contain antifreeze.) Check to see if sewage lines are intact before permitting the flushing of toilets.
4. Do not use your telephone except for genuine emergency calls. Turn on radio for information.
5. Do not spread rumors or be quick to believe them. Rumors can cause great harm and panic following disasters.
6. Do not immediately go sight-seeing. Keep streets clear for emergency vehicles.
7. Be prepared for additional aftershocks. Although usually smaller, they may be large enough to cause further damage to weakened structures, especially masonry structures.
8. Watch out for and stay clear of areas of potential tidal waves or landslides.
9. Help police, fire fighters, civil defense or relief units only if requested to do so. Otherwise stay out of damaged areas.
10. Make thorough check of your home for cracks or leaks in chimneys, utility connections or other weakened parts of the home that could cause future fires, asphyxiation or further damage.

ly in the region, but many are not felt by humans.

Geologists point out that past incidences of recorded earthquakes prove New York City, Boston, northwestern New York State and eastern Canada must be considered earthquake prone. So, too, Charleston, South Carolina, severely damaged by an earthquake in 1886.

The crustal rock properties in the East Coast region are more dangerous than those in the Western states. The Eastern crustal rock transmits seismic energy much more efficiently and widely because the area has far fewer faults to absorb the shock. Earthquakes of similar size would wreak far more

"The 1857 and the 1906 earthquakes will be repeated—there's no way around it," comments Jerry Eaton of the U.S. Geological Survey National Center for Earthquake Research.

The two sides of the 700-mile-long San Andreas Fault have slipped past each other some 15 feet in 140 years—in the middle of the state. The densely populated San Francisco and Los Angeles sections, however, have not budged.

Inevitably, when the stresses become irresistible, the strained rock in these areas will snap. Some have called San Francisco "the city that is waiting to die."

What alarms earthquake experts is that officials in various California cities have allowed major industrial and residential concentrations to be built right along many faults.

An adviser to the California State Commission on Seismic Safety says: "The way many hospitals and schools were built around here [San Francisco area], you'd think they used the [San Andreas] fault line as a guide."

A devastating quake in California's Silicon Valley would set back American leadership in sophisticated electronics for years. Critical water aqueducts cross the San Andreas several times. And a major earthquake would break water and gas lines in thousands of places, knock out half the electrical transmission lines and pumping treatment plants. Landslides would block mountain roads.

Alaska faces one of the highest earthquake dangers. It is the most seismically active spot in the North American continent. The Puget Sound area in the state of Washington has a history of damaging earthquakes. Montana, Wyoming, Idaho and Utah will undoubtedly continue to have sporadic earthquakes in the moderate to severe range, earthquake experts warn.

Earthquakes are a common earthly occurrence. On the average, every 30 seconds, year in and year out, the earth trembles, rumbles, quivers or

shakes somewhere. Seismologists record more than one million earthquakes every year. The vast majority of these quakes are so slight that only delicate measuring instruments can detect them.

But of the average million or so earthquakes recorded each year several hundred quakes have the destructive power for slight to considerable damage if they hit areas of human civilization. About 20 earthquakes are strong enough to create serious or extensive damage. About two to four of these earthquakes on a yearly average are devastating or catastrophic in their effects, resulting in death and widespread destruction.

Great Future Quakes

Is it true there is nothing humanity can do to prevent such disasters?

The startling answer is, disastrous earthquakes can be prevented!

Too many have been looking only to human, scientific understanding of the physical forces involved in natural disasters. They totally fail to see any moral-spiritual aspect to these calamities.

Why haven't we thought through the fact that the Creator has the power to control the forces in the universe? God has the power to intervene in the forces of the earth for human benefit or for chastisement according to how nations live.

God has chosen to allow this world's civilizations to have 6,000 years to experiment with their own humanly devised ways of living contrary to God's laws if that is what they want to do. Mankind long ago chose to follow ways that seem right in human eyes.

Civilization after civilization has worshiped false gods. They have lived the way of self-centeredness, greed, strife, violence and warfare. Sometimes nations or large segments of a nation totally give themselves over to grossly lewd, violent or corrupt life-styles. God sees.

Great cities, city-states and even empires in past history have been weakened or destroyed by great earthquakes. Many don't want to see these as God's judgments on sinning peoples.

(Continued on page 44)



HANCOCK—SYGMA

El Asnam, Algeria, again laid waste in October 1980 by a 7.5 quake, 26 years after a similar disaster.

damage over a wider area in the East Coast than on the West Coast. Yet for the most part, earthquake awareness on the East Coast is very low and preparedness is almost nonexistent.

Cities Waiting to Die

At both ends of the San Andreas Fault in California, two major metropolitan areas could experience a big quake now. There is a 50-50 chance of a major earthquake somewhere in California, not just on the San Andreas, in the next 10 years, says Bruce Bolt, a seismologist at the University of California at Berkeley.

The southern section of the San Andreas Fault running close to the Los Angeles-San Bernardino megalopolis down to the Mexican border is the greatest danger spot for an earthquake of the magnitude that destroyed San Francisco in 1906.

THE ANXIOUS couple sat down timidly in front of a steel desk. A medical researcher, already seated and hardly aware of their presence, peered intently at a sheaf of papers spread before her.

"Hmm, yes, Mr. Hancock, we did find some evidence of genetic damage that must have been transmitted by your mother—you did say that she admitted to extensive recreational drug use during the 1960s?"

The husband swallowed hard and nodded weakly. In a choked voice he stammered: "Ah, does this mean that we won't be able to have *normal* children?"

Instantly the researcher looked up, smoothed her crumpled lab garb and in a surprised and almost indignant voice said: "Of course you'll be able to have genetically normal children, Mr. Hancock. It's a very simple procedure to repair the inherited gene damage."

Only Science Fiction?

The above dialogue is fiction. But if today's genetic research and development continues at the present frenzied pace, it may not be fiction for long.

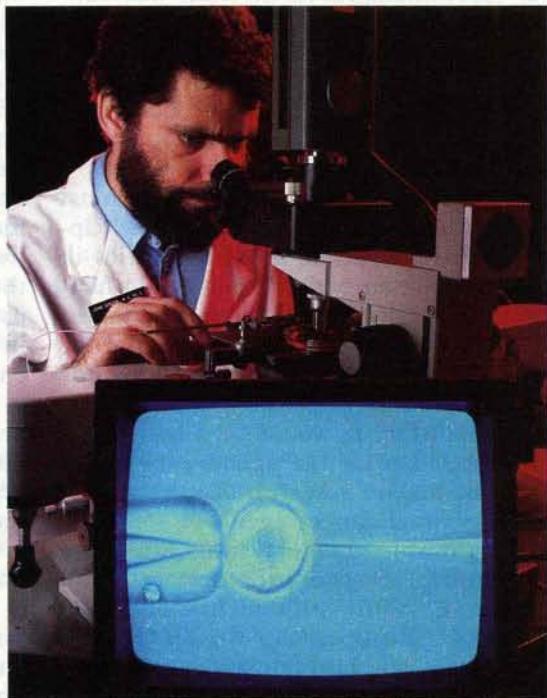
"Through a genetic window, we can know with uncanny, sometimes disturbing accuracy the most intimate facts of the legacy brought by our spouse's background and the quality of life we may expect for our children," asserts Dr. Marc Lappe, author of *Genetic Politics — The Limits of Biological Control*.

Nicholas Wade, a senior writer for *Science* magazine, claims that gene-splicing has put "the whole gene pool of the planet . . . at our disposal. The

Is Science Off the Track?

by Michael A. Snyder

As science unravels the genetic code, is biotech about to spawn a malevolent biological age?



MARMARAS—WOODFIN CAMP & ASSOC.

Using electronically aided equipment, researcher inserts human gene into mouse embryo.

key to the living kingdom has been put into our hands" (*The Ultimate Experiment—Man-made Evolution*, page 2).

Barely a decade old, the modern genetic industry worldwide has assembled both scholarly research teams and the hard cash needed for proper funding.

In the United States alone, more than 100 fledgling gene-splicing companies and entrepreneurs have boldly waded into the microscopic world of biotechnology, or "biotech," as it has come to be known. The

top five companies employ more than 1,700 researchers, and eager investors have plowed hundreds of millions into public holdings, hoping to cash in on the "tiny" revolution.

Biotech research is not limited to the United States either. Private industrial and governmental laboratories in Japan, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, West Germany and France have joined the race to dominate the new industry.

Thus far, the investment has paid off handsomely.

To the general public, the now-accepted term *biotech* may be fuzzily associated with test-tube babies. But biotech is far more than the now well-known *in vitro* fertilization, where a human or animal egg is removed from an ovary, fertilized with sperm in a laboratory culture dish, and subsequently reinserted in the mother's uterus.

Indeed, test-tube babies represent but the small tip of an enormous scientific iceberg.

Amazing results have been culled from laboratories worldwide in an equally amazingly short time. Fueled by an intense competitive drive that rivals the scope of the World War II nuclear Manhattan Project, researchers now assemble man-designed vaccines

and chemical additives never before deemed possible.

A study released by the U.S. Office of Technology Assessment claims that biotech could produce microorganisms that literally eat toxic wastes, promote faster and higher quality growth in farm stock and organically engineer substitutes for oil products. Biotech is foreseen as also applicable in fighting diseases such as herpes and cancer.

Equally impressive is the effort aimed at correcting genetic defects. If science is successful, doctors will be able to examine and correct so-called lethal genes—genes that result in physical and mental defects. Some researchers insist that within this century, genetic manipulation will remove the tragedy of birth defects.

How Is It Possible?

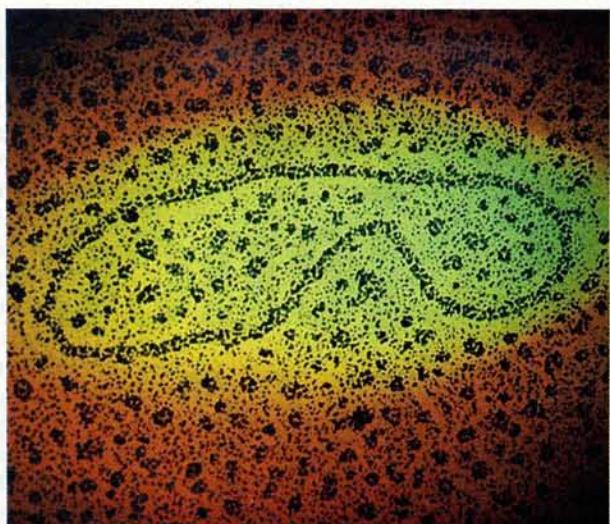
The infant biotech industry is made possible by the 1973 understanding of how to break apart and mold together the molecular blueprint of a gene (deoxyribonucleic acid or DNA) and the messenger molecule (ribonucleic acid or RNA) that reads and transfers the DNA blueprint.

Ever since the first humans understood that living beings mate "after their kind" (Gen. 1:21), animal breeders and farmers were challenged by the possibilities of selective breeding. And now scientists have been tantalized into mapping out chromosomes, the microscopic bearer of the DNA genetic code.

Unknown Dangers

But even as science unravels this same genetic code, the fear arises that science may also be unwittingly opening a molecular Pandora's box.

As research in the gene-splicing industry began heating up in the early 1970s, many scientists worried that a well-meaning research team might accidentally unleash a new, powerful and possibly unstoppable microorganism.



PHILLIP HARRINGTON—FRAN HEYL ASSOC.

A looped plasmid of DNA molecules reveals its shape under electron microscopic magnification.

Would certain nations or terrorist organizations focus on developing and *using* such man-made malignant material? Clifford Grobstein, an eminent biologist, voiced another possible danger: "By manipulating genetic substance could we inadvertently dislocate delicate balance and unleash catastrophe?"

When word spread that one prominent research team was considering developing new cancer-like qualities in *Escherichia Coli* cells, scientists wisely called a halt.

E. Coli is a naturally occurring simple microorganism often used in laboratory experiments because of its favorable characteristics, most notably its ability to reproduce rapidly. It exists in great quantities in the human body. What would happen if altered and now-virulent *E. Coli* cells escaped to animal or human hosts? One researcher called it "a pre-Hiroshima[-like] condition. It would be a real disaster if one of the agents now being handled in research should in fact be a real cancer agent."

Within a short time after the ending of the proposed research on *E. Coli*, 140 scientific leaders from Europe, the Soviet Union, Japan, the United States and Canada gathered at the Asilomar conference center in Pacific Grove, California, to map out safety guidelines for gene-splicing. That

was nearly a decade ago. The individuals meeting there decided that continued research into gene-splicing was reasonably safe if done under carefully controlled conditions.

And thus sprang the beginnings of the fledgling biotech industry.

Why Do We Need Biotech?

After the Asilomar conference, heated debate raged over the philosophical, ethical and physical issues surrounding the molecular genetic revolution. During the 1975 conference, prominent scientists worried aloud about the possible virulent consequences. One laboratory official declared: "As far as I am concerned, there is no absolute [biological] containment and all containment is inefficient."

Another scientist, expressing the thoughts of many, added: "There is no way to decide right now what a safe organism is or what a safe cloning vehicle is."

Many scientists still demand today that dangerous research be halted until a better understanding is achieved and universal safety measures can be set in motion.

Mr. Wade answers for the scientific majority: "Such abnegation of intellectual curiosity is not in man's nature, and in any case, the question [of whether to proceed] is moot: the door to the [genetic] treasure-house is already ajar, and the only question remaining is what use will be made of the riches within" (*The Ultimate Experiment*, page 3).

Tampering with genetic blueprints borders on the ominous. How? In the absence of perfected gene-altering technology, humans seeking healthy offspring can legally practice eugenics through abortion.

In plain words, parents fearing birth defects or deficiencies in unborn children could choose abortion-induced fetus death—if genetic counseling indicated problems.

"Today, over sixty different

genetic diseases can be ascertained through prenatal diagnosis, in time to provide critical information about the likely quality of life of a prospective human being, for parents and less likely, for society, to make decisions as whether to continue or to terminate a pregnancy," asserts Dr. Marc Lappe.

Listen to these stunning words by the same author!

"As a result of genetic knowledge, we live in a universe where many more judgments will have to be made—judgments as to where genetics rightfully affects our choices of spouse or profession, or where we should compensate (or penalize) one ethnic group for an inherited disability and not another" (*Genetic Politics—The Limits of Biological Control*, page 28).

Far-reaching words, these! If these words were put into practice by a government, one race or group of people found to be carriers of sickle-cell anemia, hereditary predisposition for alcoholism or other characteristics, could—or perhaps, under this type of dangerous thought, *should*—be restrained from passing on such "defective" genes.

Despite such ominous implications, genetic advances offer scientists great and desirable control over individual and collective life.

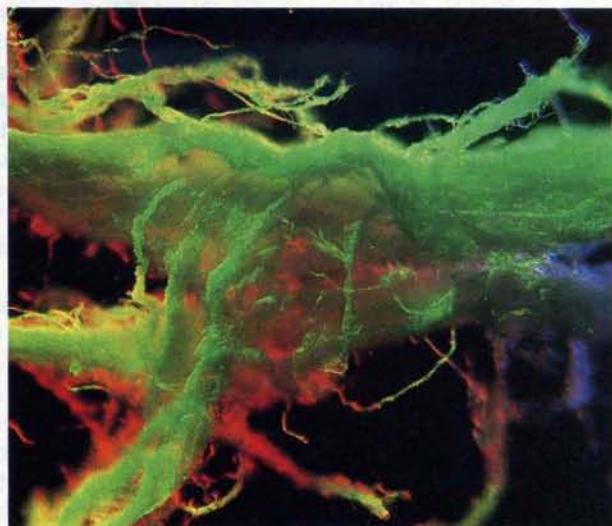
But consider what has happened in the past! Does humanity possess the innate ability to act properly on such genetic knowledge? What does the record say?

The Dark Side of Genetics

Eugenics, a term not heard very often today, was a popular concept in the first half of this century.

(The word eugenics comes from the Greek word *eugenēs*, which means "wellborn.")

Early geneticists, following in the footsteps of Darwinism, began lobbying for application of "positive and negative eugenics." They meant to encourage genetically superior humans to mate and to



Delicate strands of DNA bear the molecular blueprint for cell reproduction.

published today, recommended in 1947 that mental defectives be sterilized. In 1924, Albert Edward Wiggin declared in *The New Decalogue of Science*: "Nothing is more certain in science than that godly parents beget godly children and ungodly stock spawns a godless brood."

Such misguided thought was not limited to the United States. In 1982, records surfaced of the malevolent biological experiments in wartime by Japanese scientists in Manchuria.

And few need to be reminded of what might be the ultimate expression of negative eugenics: Nazi Germany's "Master Race" experiments.

We can thus see that this so-called enlightened age has also been a dark age!

What about today?

As-yet-unsolved questions remain for the fledgling biotech industry: What would happen if it became technologically possible for science to radically change the genetic composition of humanity? Or for gene-splicers to produce an uncontrollably lethal substance that could significantly alter delicate ecological balances?

The Forgotten Realm

Few consider the *real* underlying reason why such research is even necessary!

The problems humanity today faces are not primarily physical but spiritual in nature! Scientists understand that parents transmit defective genes from generation to generation—yet it is beyond physical or scientific means to fully comprehend why.

In explaining genetic damage, it is seldom considered how and why human conduct dramatically impacts future generations.

Sexually transmitted diseases, drug experimentation, poor nutrition and needless exposure to commercially produced radiation negatively affect gene reproduction. But what is done to correct it? Man

treats the physical effects, not the spiritual causes—lust, greed, selfishness. Humanity, it seems, always ends up treating the effects—not the cause! To treat the causes would change life-styles—even this civilization itself! And *that* humanity is unwilling to do. An understanding of these spiritual laws God set in motion could lead humanity away from genetic damage—for example, babies marred by sexually unprincipled parents or drug abuse.

God allows humans to sin—to break spiritual laws. Therefore God also has to allow the consequences of law-breaking. And they *accumulate!* Those consequences are more *far-reaching* than most want to believe.

Indeed, today's defective genes may have been the result of ances-

tral misconduct—the breaking of spiritual laws—decades or perhaps even a full century earlier. The penalties may pass through three or four generations (Ex. 20:5).

Lust, for example, leads to drug abuse and children being born addicted to drugs. Lust leads to sexually transmitted diseases and the consequent need for Cesarean births to prevent infections. Greed leads to perverting foodstuffs and a consequent decline in nutrition leads to disease.

God has decreed that man, cut off from a true understanding of the purpose of life, reap what he sows in the flesh.

The first two humans set the tragic pattern for these past near 6,000 years. They foolishly rejected God and his revealed spiritual laws. You can read it for

yourself in the first three chapters of Genesis.

The result? God adopted a hands-off policy. He allowed humans to create their own religions, their own governments and institutions, their own laws. God now intervenes only as it suits the purpose that he now is working out.

But God never intended it to be that way. Even as he offered the knowledge of his spiritual laws to the first humans, he offers it to humanity today. You are reading that offer in the pages of this magazine!

God may allow punishment “to the third and fourth generation,” but by his great mercy and promise of divine healing he says he shows “love to thousands who love me and *keep my commandments*”! (Ex. 20:6, New International Version). God takes no joy in the physical manifestation of sin in the form of cancer, birth defects and physical weakness. “As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and *live*” (Ezek. 33:11, Revised Standard Version).

Mankind *could*, by turning to the way of God instead of its present deceived path, find a fulfilling and satisfying life. Instead of tampering with dangerous molecular elements to correct the effects of generations of genetic flaws, scientists could point up the causes of today's problems and demand we change our life-styles to *prevent* the problems from occurring in the first place.

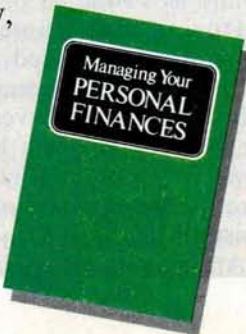
Thankfully, the time is soon coming—whether scientists or theologians want it or not—when the solutions will be published for all to understand and concentrating primarily on the treatment of effects will cease! If you want to learn more of the soon-coming age when dangerous genetic research won't be necessary, request our free authoritative booklet *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like*.

Biotech is not the ultimate answer to man's biological problems. A spiritual solution—making clear the spiritual causes and effects—is. □



Managing Your PERSONAL FINANCES

Money problems got you down? In these times of financial uncertainty, money management is a worry for many. Our free booklet *Managing Your Personal Finances* shows you ways to save money, including effective budgeting and a sensible *emergency method* for getting out of debt now. For a copy, mail the card in this issue, or write to our office nearest you.



HONESTY

(Continued from page 14)

telling moral stories in teaching children. There is, after all, something to be said for giving children right role models to look to. Such examples have a positive impact on impressionable young minds.

• Teach children to control frustration and not to expect instant gratification of every desire. Such an expectation encourages manipulative lying.

Coming—A World Full of Truth

The magazine you are reading is called *The Plain Truth*. It is dedicated to giving you a clear, straightforward understanding of world affairs, happy family relationships, social issues and religious questions. It is dedicated, as its title implies, to fostering truth.

Honesty and other positive traits of moral development are all part of character, an indispensable factor in successful living, whether on a personal, national or international level.

Me? I was blessed to be taught honesty by a combination of all these factors—parental training, positive peer influence and good role models—plus one other. I haven't always been perfectly honest—none of us have—but then, I don't claim to have any excuse.

I remember my parents telling the truth even to the point of blunt frankness, sometimes even to their own hurt.

I remember, when my brother and I were small boys, riding through the cotton fields of southern Missouri with our parents. We boys had been born and reared in the city of St. Louis and had not seen cotton growing. The suggestion came up that it would be easy to stop the car, go out into the field, and pick some cotton to see what it looked and felt like.

"No," I remember my mother saying. "That would be stealing. The

cotton belongs to the farmer. It is enough that you look at it and feel it." My brother and I learned something more important than what cotton looks and feels like.

When I showed an interest in reading, my parents pointed me to biographies of great people of the past. I remember being stirred by stories of men like Abraham Lincoln, George Washington and Winston Churchill. General Douglas MacArthur said he would return and did. Every people has its heroic figures who are symbols of honesty

I can remember several times in my life when my parents, friends, even people I hardly knew were frank with me about personal faults I had. It didn't feel good at the time, but I learned to be glad when they told me, because then I could correct the fault. Their honesty paid off and I appreciated it.

My parents did one other important thing: They taught me the Ten Commandments, the ninth of which says: "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor" (Ex. 20:16, Revised Authorized Version).

I remember being made to copy the Ten Commandments from the Bible and hang them in our kitchen so we could all see them every day. I had the Ten Commandments memorized and knew that they worked before I grew up and read the writings of all the people who said they didn't—that they weren't in force anymore.

The Worldwide Church of God publishes an attractive booklet explaining just what those Ten Commandments are and how they can work to make your life happier and more prosperous, too. If you would like a copy, just write us at the address nearest you and ask for *The Ten Commandments*.

Think what it would be like if everyone in the world told the truth all the time! Think of the problems that would be solved—the heartaches that would be prevented.

Honesty will be the *only* policy when God's kingdom is set up on earth, and the coming of that kingdom is just ahead of us now. The Bible tells us that at that time, "Truth shall spring out of the earth" (Ps. 85:11). Outside that kingdom—in the lake of fire!—will be "whoever loves and practices a lie" (Rev. 22:15, 21:8, RAV).

Why not practice the happiness-producing way of honesty in your own life—and teach it to your children—now? □



Children in general today do not grow up hearing about "Honest Abe" Lincoln, but about government scandals and other unrighted injustices.

and truthfulness. Their biographies should be read.

I remember going into grocery stores in small towns and seeing blank checks from banks available at the checkout stands. You could write a check on your account and the storekeeper would take your word that you had enough money in your account to cover the check—that you even had an account, for that matter. I remember wondering how the storekeepers could trust people like that. The answer, at least to me, was clear: *because honest people didn't lie*.

IT IS the spring of 1945. The fighting in Europe is over.

Never has war been more destructive. The human and material losses are incalculable.

The staggering enormity of the tragedy gradually becomes clear. The appalling cost in human lives totals more than 40 million civilian and military deaths.

Europe lies in ruins. Germany in particular has been hard hit. Many wonder whether war-torn Germany will ever rise again.

Europe has hit bottom. It has been the pattern of European history: catastrophe, followed by revival, followed by catastrophe.

The war-ravaged Continent slowly begins to pick up the pieces. The suffering and destruction of World War II prompt many to ask how such a catastrophe might be avoided in the future. Many wonder: Is Europe doomed to oscillate between order and chaos, between power and ignominy? Or might a new path toward peace and stability be found?

Age-old Ideal

In a celebrated speech at Zurich, Switzerland, in September 1946, Winston Churchill suggests a possible solution: "We must build a kind of United States of Europe."

Once again, an age-old ideal resurfaces.

The devastation of two world wars has made the limitations of national sovereignty painfully evident. If Europe's individual nationalisms could be submerged within the context of European supranationalism, many feel that future continental conflagrations could be averted. If Europe could become one family of nations, historic enmities could be put to rest.

The plan has highly significant overtones. For centuries, statesmen have advocated the union of European nations. Now, a fresh move-

THE HISTORY OF EUROPE & THE CHURCH

PART TEN

THE FINAL UNION

by Keith W. Stump

Editor's Note: This article concludes our series examining the centuries-long relationship between Europe and the Church.

ment toward unity arises from the devastation of World War II.

But how to begin?

It is Churchill, among others, who again suggests a course: "The first step in the re-creation of the European family must be a partnership between France and Germany."

The reconciliation of these two age-old enemies is widely viewed as the essential cornerstone of peace in postwar Europe. In essence—the re-creation of the Empire of Charlemagne!

How, specifically, might this be achieved?

First Steps Toward Unity

A scheme is devised to unite France and Germany within a common venture designed to bind their economic destinies so tightly together that another intra-European war could not occur. The result is the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), created by the Treaty of Paris in April 1951.

The ECSC is a first step toward European integration. It creates a common transnational authority to pool French and German iron, coal and steel resources. The project is extended to include Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

The wheels of European industry have begun to turn again. Massive U.S. aid in the form of the Marshall Plan has helped spur European recovery. And the ECSC has shown Europeans the advantages of cooperation.

Now, a further step is taken on the road toward integration.

Individually, the nations of Western Europe—fragmented by internal barriers—are merely secondary influences in world affairs. But united, many come to realize, their joint economic strength could allow them to recover some of their lost influence and give them a major voice in the global arena.

The signing of the Treaty of Rome on March 25, 1957, creates the European Economic Community (EEC), or Common Market. Its six charter members are the same countries associated in the ECSC. (By 1981, the number of members will have grown to 10—see map.)

The EEC's initial goal is to remove trade and economic barriers between its members and unify their economic policies. But the ultimate hope is that the organization will be able to bring about the eventual political unification of Europe. Many hail the EEC as the nucleus of a future "United States of Europe."

In short order the EEC becomes

EUROPEAN UNITY

SPIRITUAL AND POLITICAL



European Community membership currently stands at 10 nations (map, above). Roman Catholicism exerts an enormous influence across the Continent (map). St. Peter's Basilica and Square are focal points of Vatican City (below). European Community headquarters building is located in Brussels, Belgium (upper right). European Parliament meets in Strasbourg, France (lower right).



the world's most powerful trading bloc. And West Germany—at the center of the European continent—becomes the most powerful nation of Europe west of the Soviet Union.

Pattern of History

Again, Europe has set out on the road to unity. Past articles in this series have shown that the Roman dream of a united Europe has *permeated* the history of the Continent.

Justinian dreamed of restoring the Roman Empire. He accomplished it in A.D. 554, healing the "deadly wound" administered to Rome by barbarian invaders in 476. But his restoration was short-lived.

In A.D. 800, Charlemagne was crowned as *imperator Romano-rum*, again restoring the Roman Empire in the West. In Charlemagne, Western Europe had a Christian Caesar, a Roman emperor born of Germanic race. His realm was the spiritual heir of the old Western Roman Empire.

Charlemagne was *rex pater Europae*—"King Father of Europe." He showed Europeans the ideal of a unified Christian Empire. Throughout the Middle Ages, the memory of the once-great Roman Empire lived as a vital tradition in the hearts of Europeans.

In 962, Otto the Great revived Charlemagne's Empire as the first fully German Reich. The *Sacrum Romanum Imperium Nationis Germanicae*—Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation—made its debut. Otto's octagonal crown became the very symbol of the concept of European unity. Germany became the power center of the Empire.

In the 16th century, the great Habsburg Emperor Charles V pursued tirelessly, though ultimately unsuccessfully, the medieval ideal of a unified Empire embracing the entire Christian world.

Napoleon, too, dreamed of a resurrected Roman-European civilization, dominated by France. He considered himself the heir and successor to Caesar and Charlemagne.

Mussolini likewise envisioned a modern Roman Empire. In 1936 he proclaimed another resurrection of the Roman Empire, claiming succession to imperial Rome.

Mutual Need

Along with the time-honored system of Roman-inspired government, another pattern has stood out in the panorama of European history: the intimate relationship of the spiritual with the secular power.

Throughout the Middle Ages, leaders considered the Church at Rome to be God's chosen instrument in *spiritual* matters. The Holy Roman Empire was regarded as God's chosen *political* organization over Western Christendom. Pope and Emperor were regarded as God's vice-regents on earth.

This intimate alliance of Church and State served the needs of both institutions. The Empire exercised its political and military powers to defend religion and enforce internal submission through religious uniformity. The Church, in turn, acted as a glue for Europe, holding together the differing nationalities by the tie of common religion.

This ideal in Church-State relations was never completely realized, as we have seen in the frequent conflicts between Emperors and Popes for the leadership of Christian Europe. Yet despite their rivalry, the Papacy and Empire remained closely associated, their mutual need for each other overriding disagreements of lesser importance.

Justinian became inheritor of the Roman Empire as Christianized by Constantine. He acknowledged the supremacy of the Pope in the West.

Charlemagne received the imperial crown at the hands of Pope Leo III, initiating a close alliance between Pope and Empire.

Otto the Great was crowned Holy Roman Emperor by Pope John XII, reviving Charlemagne's Empire in an alliance between Emperor and Church.

Pope Clement VII crowned Charles V as Holy Roman Emperor. Charles fought hard to maintain the spiritual unity of Europe.

Napoleon's coronation was consecrated by Pope Pius VII. Mussolini, too, recognized the need to come to terms with the Vatican, as did Adolf Hitler a few years later.

All these successors of the Roman Caesars understood the vast importance of the Papacy in European affairs.

But what of the present and future role of the Vatican in Europe in these latter days of the 20th century?

Elusive Unity

Over the past few decades the authority and unity of the Roman Catholic Church have been severely shaken. The festering issues of birth control, abortion, divorce, celibacy, homosexuality, women in the priesthood, political activism of priests and distribution of ecclesiastical power have greatly troubled the Church.

Many even in the upper echelons of the Vatican hierarchy have expressed apprehension over the Church's future.

At the same time, the continent of Europe itself stands at an historic crossroads. Divided ideologically between East and West and beset with serious economic and military concerns, Europe faces crucial decisions on its future.

Like the Catholic Church, Europe has been weakened by division. And both prelates and politicians alike realize that a house divided against itself *cannot stand*.

In the face of this division, voices within both European political circles and the Catholic Church are appealing for **UNITY**. But how, many ask, is that elusive unity to be achieved? How are the rifts to be healed—both within the Church and within Europe itself?

The record of the recent past does not augur well for the future. On a purely political basis, the nations of Europe have been unable to unite. Strides have been made, but the slow process of gradually increasing the powers of the EEC's political institutions has not worked as hoped. The process has resulted in only minimal surrender of national political sovereignty. The institutions are invested with no substantial powers. And Eastern Europe is still cut off.

Likewise, the Catholic Church within remains philosophically divided between liberal and conservative, despite the best efforts of unity-minded churchmen.

Confronted with these realities, leading European politicians and

Catholic clergymen have come to an important realization. There is only *one possible course* for the future, they believe.

Common Causes

If they are to solve their respective problems, Europe and the Catholic Church *need each other's help*. Their *common need* for unity can be achieved only by *working together*.

Once again, the past points the way to the future.

Influential churchmen inside the Vatican have come to believe that the only way to inspire unity and bring new life to the Church is to *plunge it into a cause larger than itself*. That cause, many believe, is the *unification of Europe!*

In turn, many of Europe's political leaders see a role for the Church in their efforts. They believe the Church might once again exercise its powerful cohesive effect on Europe, providing the glue—the tie of common religion—to hold Europe together politically.

Again, as in centuries past, Europeans are beginning to appreciate that religion and politics are interdependent. In essence, they are envisioning a reconstitution of the whole of classic Europe, along the lines of the old Holy Roman Empire, under Catholic aegis.

The dream of the Holy Roman Empire yet lives!

Roots of Greatness

The time-honored theme of European unity on the basis of a common religious heritage has been raised frequently by Pope John Paul II. For him it is no casual, passing concern. He has made it very clear that he believes he has a literal *calling from God* to unite Europe!

During his well-publicized trip to his native Poland in June 1979, the Pope declared: "Europe, despite its present and long-lasting division of regimes, ideologies and economic systems, *cannot cease to seek its fundamental unity and must turn to Christianity*.... Economic and political reasons cannot do it. We must go deeper...."

In Santiago, Spain, in 1982 he proclaimed the following, in what

he called a "Declaration to Europe":

"I, Bishop of Rome and Shepherd of the Universal Church, from Santiago, utter to you, Europe of the ages, a cry full of love: Find yourself again. Be yourself. Discover your origins, revive your roots."

The Pope has repeatedly stressed that Europe must seek religious unity if it is to advance beyond its present divisions. At his final mass during his trip to Poland last June, John Paul prayed for "all the Christians of East and West, that they become united in Christ and expand the Kingdom of Christ throughout the world."

Last September, in the first Papal pilgrimage to Vienna, Austria, in two centuries, the Pope again urged Europeans on both sides of the Iron Curtain to unite on the basis of their common Christian heritage. To a crowd of 100,000, he emphasized Europe's unity in "the deep Christian roots and the human and cultural values which are sacred to all Europe."

Recurrent Theme

The theme of European unity on the basis of common religious heritage is not unique to John Paul II. Since World War II, each Pope has thrown his weight behind moves for the creation of a supranational European community.

Pope John XXIII said that Catholics should be "in the front ranks" of the unification effort.

Pope Paul VI was especially vocal in his support for European unity. In November 1963, he declared: "Everyone knows the tragic history of our century. If there is a means of preventing this from happening again, it is the *construction of a peaceful, organic, united Europe*."

In 1965, Paul VI observed that "a long, arduous path lies ahead. However, the Holy See hopes to see the day born *when a new Europe will arise*, rich with the fullness of its traditions."

Perhaps the most forceful of Paul VI's calls for European unification came on October 18, 1975. It was an address in Rome to participants in the Third Symposium of the Bishops of Europe.

Present were more than 100 bishops, cardinals and prelates representing 24 European countries. The Pope declared:

"Can it not be said that it is faith, the Christian faith, *the Catholic faith that made Europe...?*"

Paul VI continued: "And it is there that *our mission* as bishops in Europe takes on a gripping perspective. *No other human force in Europe can render the service* that is confided to us, promoters of the faith, *to reawaken Europe's Christian soul, where its unity is rooted.*"

Paul VI called the Catholic faith "the secret of Europe's identity." In discovering this secret, he said, Europe could then go on to perform "the providential service to which God is still calling it."

Europe and the Cross

The Popes' calls for the spiritual unity of Europe have been echoed by influential spokesmen in the political arena.

Prominent among these is Dr. Otto von Habsburg, a key figure in the movement for European unification. Dr. Habsburg is the eldest son of the last Austro-Hungarian Emperor and a member of the European Parliament. (See "Otto von Habsburg—Man With a Mission," March 1984 *Plain Truth*.)

Inter-European unity has long been a quest of the Habsburgs, as we have seen. Dr. Habsburg often speaks of the similarities between the Holy Roman Empire of the Middle Ages and his view of a coming "United States of Europe."

Dr. Habsburg has long advocated a strong religious role in any future united Europe. He regards the Roman Catholic Church as Europe's ultimate bulwark. "The cross doesn't need Europe," he once stated, "but Europe needs the cross."

Europeans, he believes, must be reawakened to their historical religious heritage. "If we take Christianity out of the European development, there is nothing left," he declares. "The soul is gone."

Dr. Habsburg has also called attention to the potential role of the crown of the Holy Roman Empire, which today resides in the Schatz-

kammer (Royal Treasury) in Vienna.

Christopher Hollis, in the foreword to Dr. Habsburg's book *The Social Order of Tomorrow*, points out that Dr. Habsburg "would like to see Europe resume her essential unity, and in the symbolism of that unity he thinks that the imperial crown of Charlemagne and of the Holy Roman Empire might well have its part to play."

It is to the model of the Holy Roman Empire that many European political figures and leading churchmen are now looking for the answer to today's political and religious woes. A revived alliance between church and "empire," they believe, may be the very key—the only key—to European survival in the face of perilous world conditions!

Final Revival

Forces already have been set in motion that will revolutionize the face of Europe—and the role of the Roman Catholic Church.

As often explained in the pages of *The Plain Truth*, Bible prophecy reveals that current efforts toward Church unity and European political integration *will be achieved!* The result will be the emergence of a religious-political union in Europe, in the spirit of the old Holy Roman Empire—a final revival, in this age of the Bomb, of the ancient Roman political system!

As we have seen in this series of articles, numerous revivals of the Roman Empire have arisen in Europe in the centuries since the fall of ancient Rome. In Revelation 17, these revivals are represented by the seven heads of a wild animal. Six have already occurred, from Justinian to Mussolini. One last restoration of this great political system is yet to arise.

This confederated Europe will be an immense political, military and economic power—a great Third Force in world affairs, a superpower in its own right.

Prophecy further reveals that this powerful church-state union will be composed of "ten horns"—meaning 10 nations or groups of nations (Rev. 17:3)—under the overall leadership of a single political figure (verse 13). Europe will again have a single political head of state!

Moreover, prophecy foretells that a religious figure of unprecedented power and authority will sit astride the "empire," directing it as a rider guides a horse (Rev. 17:3).

To counter the ongoing spread of atheism, secularism and consumerism, the Vatican—as in centuries past—will be forced to become a major power in the international arena. The political muscle of the Papacy will be reinvigorated. In these turbulent last days of the 20th century, the "spiritual unity" of the Continent—as so often urged by recent Popes—*will be realized!*

Two Legs

Now notice further: In the second chapter of the Old Testament book of Daniel, the Roman Empire and its predecessors are pictured as a giant human figure. The figure's 10 toes correspond to the 10 end-time national units also described (as "horns") in Revelation 17.

The prophecy of Daniel reveals that these 10 entities will constitute a political system that will exist at the return of Jesus Christ to establish the kingdom of God on this earth (Dan. 2:44, 45).

The original Roman Empire was broken into two "legs," as pictured in the human image of Daniel's prophecy—the Eastern Empire centered at Byzantium (Constantinople) and the Empire of the West centered at Rome.

Thus it is very possible that the coming reconstituted Roman Empire will be composed of two distinct yet cooperative parts: one comprising nations of Western Europe, the other incorporating nations freed from Soviet dominance in Eastern Europe. Given the fact of five toes on each foot of the human image, possibly five entities will come from the West and five from the East.

With this in mind, Pope John Paul II's appeals to Christians behind the Iron Curtain take on added significance. His voice is a source of enormous influence in that region. Many East Europeans have caught his vision of a pan-European Christian alliance against the secular materialism of our modern age.

"The Pope," observes one news commentator, "has undertaken the

liberation of Eastern Europe." Vatican observers speculate that the voice of the Papacy might continue to stir religious and nationalistic fervor in Eastern Europe, which, together with other factors, could weaken the Kremlin's hold sufficiently to open the way for a political deal between Europe and the Kremlin—a deal that would allow elements of Eastern Europe to associate themselves with an evolving West European union.

In this age of intercontinental missiles, the nations of Eastern Europe no longer adequately fulfill their original function as a buffer zone for the Soviet Union. And they are a severe drain on Soviet resources. Many political observers are therefore suggesting that the Kremlin might soon be willing to strike a deal: the withdrawal of its military forces from Eastern Europe in exchange for the neutralization of Eastern Europe and the withdrawal of American forces from Western Europe!

The resulting political vacuum in Europe could then be filled by the prophesied resurrected Holy Roman Empire!

United Europe Inevitable

What is transpiring on both sides of the Iron Curtain today are the first steps in the refashioning of Europe into a new, yet old, alignment.

As George Bailey, in his perspective book *Germans*, suggests: "Can we be sure that history has written finis to what was perhaps the grandest design ever conceived by man: the Holy Roman Empire?"

Declares Otto von Habsburg: "We are well beyond the point of no return where you can still go back into the [recent] past. Of course, we have not yet arrived at the other shore; but we can't go back."

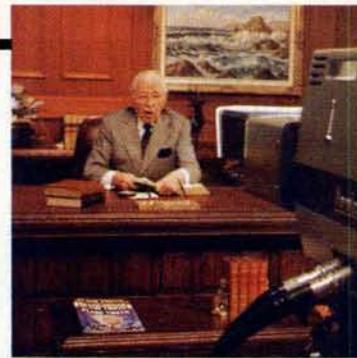
A united Europe is *inevitable*.

Europe awaits a modern Charlemagne, another Otto the Great, a second Charles V—a champion to resurrect the tradition of imperial unity.

The coming *Renovatio imperii Romanorum*—restoration of the Empire of the Romans—will astound the world! Europe—and the Church of Rome—will again be powers to reckon with. □

"THE WORLD TOMORROW"

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of *The World Tomorrow* on TELEVISION and RADIO.



RADIO LOG

Listed by state or province are the station's call letters, location, frequency and time when the *World Tomorrow* program is aired.

U.S.

ALABAMA

WERC, Birmingham — 960, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

WMGY, Montgomery — 800, 6:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.

CALIFORNIA

KGRB/KBOB, City of Industry — 900/98.3, 12:00 noon, Mon.-Sat.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.

KIEV, Glendale — 870, 11:00 a.m., Sun.-Fri.

KRAK, Sacramento — 1140, 10:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

COLORADO

KQXI, Arvada — 1550, 3:45 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 11:30 a.m., Sun.; 3:00 p.m., Sat.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WRC, Washington — 980, 7:30 a.m., Sun.

FLORIDA

WLQY, Ft. Lauderdale — 1320, 11:00 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.

WCGL, Jacksonville — 1360, 8:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 12:15 p.m., Sun.

WINZ, Miami — 940, 12:05 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

WPLP, Seminole — 570, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 11:30 p.m., Sun.

GEORGIA

WPLO, Atlanta — 590, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

ILLINOIS

WMAQ, Chicago — 670, 4:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 6:30 a.m., 10:00 p.m., Sun.

INDIANA

WOWO, Ft. Wayne — 1190, 11:15 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:03 a.m., Sun.

WMLF, Indianapolis — 1310, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

WSBT, South Bend — 960, 11:15 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

IOWA

KXEL, Waterloo — 1540, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

KANSAS

KGGF, Coffeyville — 690, 6:00 p.m., Sun.-Sat.

KENTUCKY

WGRK, Greensburg — 1540, 8:05 a.m., Sun.

WTKC, Lexington — 1300, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

WAVG, Louisville — 970, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.

WRLV, Salyersville — 1140, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

LOUISIANA

WJBO, Baton Rouge — 1150, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:00 a.m., Sun.

KWKH, Shreveport — 1130, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

MICHIGAN

WLQV, Detroit — 1500, 12:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

WHTC, Holland — 1450, 12:30 noon, Mon.-Sat.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.

MISSOURI

KMBZ, Kansas City — 980, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 6:30 a.m., Sun.

NEW MEXICO

KBCQ, Roswell — 1020, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

NEW YORK

WMCA, New York — 570, 7:00 p.m., Sun.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

WOR, New York — 710, 11:30 p.m., Sun.-Sat.; 6:30 a.m., Sun.

WGY, Schenectady — 810, 10:30 p.m., Sun.

OHIO

WCKY, Cincinnati — 1530, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

WJW, Cleveland — 850, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

WMNI, Columbus — 920, 5:05 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:00 a.m., Sun.

WONE, Dayton — 980, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:15 a.m., Sun.

OKLAHOMA

WKY, Oklahoma City — 930, 5:00 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

KVOO, Tulsa — 1170, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

OREGON

KWJJ, Portland — 1080, 10:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

PENNSYLVANIA

WHP, Harrisburg — 580, 7:30 p.m., Sun.-Sat.

KQV, Pittsburgh — 1410, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

SOUTH DAKOTA

WNAX, Yankton — 570, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 11:00 a.m., Sun.

TENNESSEE

WKGN, Knoxville — 1340, 12 noon, Mon.-Sat.; 8 a.m., Sun.

WREC, Memphis — 600, 4:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 6:00 a.m., Sun.

WLAC, Nashville — 1510, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

TEXAS

KRLD, Dallas — 1080, 11:30 p.m., Sun.

KPRC, Houston — 950, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 10:00 p.m., Sun.

WOAI, San Antonio — 1200, 10:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 p.m., Sat.; 10:00 a.m., Sun.

UTAH

KSL, Salt Lake City — 1160, 12:06 a.m., Tue.-Sat.; 5:30 a.m., Sun.

VIRGINIA

WNIS, Norfolk — 1350, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 10:00 a.m., Sun.

WRVA, Richmond — 1140, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sun.

WASHINGTON

KVI, Seattle — 570, 11:00 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

WEST VIRGINIA

WCHS, Charleston — 580, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

WWVA, Wheeling — 1170, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

CANADA

BRITISH COLUMBIA

CISL, Vancouver/Richmond — 940, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKO-FM, Vancouver — 96.1, 8:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

CJVI, Victoria — 900, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

ALBERTA

CKO-FM, Calgary — 103.1, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

CFCW, Camrose — 790, 10:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFRN, Edmonton — 1260, 5:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKO-FM, Edmonton — 101.9, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

SASKATCHEWAN

CJNB, North Battleford — 1050, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

CKBI, Prince Albert — 900, 7:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 11:00 p.m., Sun.

MANITOBA

CKDM, Dauphin — 730, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKJS, Winnipeg — 810, 12:05 noon, Mon.-Fri.

ONTARIO

CJNR, Blind River — 730, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CJSS, Cornwall — 1220, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKNR, Elliott Lake — 1340, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKNS, Espanola — 930, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKO-FM, London — 97.5, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

CKO-FM, Ottawa — 106.9, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

CKCY, Sault Ste. Marie — 920, 10:30 p.m., Sun.

CJMX-FM, Sudbury — 105.3, 7:30 a.m., Sun.; 5:30 a.m. and 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKO-FM, Toronto — 99.1, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

CFGM, Toronto-Richmond Hill — 1320, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

QUEBEC

CKO, Montreal — 1470, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

CFMB, Montreal (Fr) — 1410, 5:00 p.m., Sun.

CKVL, Montreal, (Fr) — 850, 6:45 a.m., Sun.

CHNC, New Carlisle — 610, 6:45 p.m., Tues. and Thurs.; 7:45 a.m., Sun.

CJRP, Quebec City (Fr) — 1060, 7:15 a.m., Sun.

CJRS, Sherbrooke (Fr) — 1510, 6:45 a.m., Sun.

CKLD, Thetford Mines (Fr) — 1330, 8:15 a.m., Sun.

CHLN, Trois Rivieres (Fr) — 550, 5:30 a.m., Sun.

ATLANTIC CANADA

CHFX, Halifax, N.S. — 101.9, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKBC, Bathurst, N.B. — 1360, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

CJVA, Caraquet (Fr), N.B. — 810, 10:15 a.m., Sun.; 9:00 p.m., Tues. and Thurs.

CFLC-FM, Churchill Falls, Lab. — 97.9, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFCB, Cornerbrook, Nfld. — 570, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFDL-FM, Deer Lake, Nfld. — 97.9, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CJEM, Edmunston — 570, 8:35 a.m., Sun.; 8:30 p.m., Tues. and Thurs.

CKGA, Gander, Nfld. — 730, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

CKCM, Grand Falls, Nfld. — 620, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

CKMV, Grand Falls — 8:35 a.m., Sun.; 9:00 p.m., Tues. and Thurs.

CFLN, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Lab. — 1230, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CHCM, Marystown, Nfld. — 560, 8:30 a.m., Sun.

CKCW, Moncton, N.B. — 1220, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKEC, New Glasgow, N.S. — 1320, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFNW, Port au Choix, Nfld. — 790, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFGN, Port aux Basques, Nfld. — 1230, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFNN-FM, St. Anthony, Nfld. — 97.9, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

VOCM, St. John's, Nfld. — 590, 9:00 a.m., Sun.

CFSX, Stephenville, Nfld. — 910, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CHER, Sydney, N.S. — 950, 10:30 p.m., Sun.-Thurs.

CFLW, Wabush, Lab. — 1340, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CARIBBEAN

ZFB-1, (Eng) Hamilton, Bermuda — 960, 1:30 p.m., Mon.-Sun.

ZNS-3, (Eng) Freeport, Bahamas — 810, 6:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.

Radio Cayman, Grand Cayman — 1555, 1205, 103.5 FM, 6:00 a.m., Tues.-Fri.

RJR-FM, Christiana, Jamaica — 101.3, 8:00 p.m., Tues., Thurs.; 9:30 p.m., Sun.

RJR-AM, Kingston, Jamaica — 720, 4:30 a.m., Thurs.; Sat.

RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 92.7, 8:00 p.m., Tues., Thurs.; 9:30 p.m., Sun.

RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 94.7, 4:30 a.m., Thurs.; Sat.

RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 95.7, 8:00 p.m., Tues., Thurs.; 9:30 p.m., Sun.

RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 104.5, 4:30 a.m., Thurs.; Sat.

RJR-AM, Mandeville, Jamaica — 770, 4:30 a.m., Thurs.; Sat.

RJR-FM, Montego Bay, Jamaica — 92.9, 8:00 p.m., Tues., Thurs.; 9:30 p.m., Sun.

RJR-AM, Port Maria, Jamaica — 580, 4:30 a.m., Thurs.; Sat.

RJR-FM, Spur Tree, Jamaica — 90.5, 4:30 a.m., Thurs., Sat.

MBC Radio, (Fr.) Port au Prince, Haiti — 1430, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

ZDK, Grenville Radio, (Eng) St. John's, Antigua — FM 99, 7:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

Radio Caraibes, (Fr) Guadeloupe & Martinique — 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

Radio Caribbean, (Eng), St. Lucia — 840, 2:10 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

Rediffusion, (Eng) Bridgetown, Barbados — 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.

BBS, St. Michael, Barbados — FM 90.7, 6:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., Sat. & Sun.

Radio Antilles, (Eng) Montserrat, Eastern Caribbean — 930, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

Radio Antilles, (Fr) Montserrat, Antilles — 1450, 740, 6:00 a.m., Mon., Thurs., Sat.

Netherland Antilles, Voice of Aruba, PJA-10, Oranjestad — 1320, 6:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sat. & Sun.

NBS, Trinidad — 610, 10:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

NEW ZEALAND

1XP, Radio Pacific, Auckland — 1593, 6:00 p.m., Sun.

1XX, Radio Bay of Plenty, Whakatane — 1242, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

2XS, Radio Manawatu, Palmerston No. — 828, 10:15 p.m., Sun.

4XO, Radio Otago, Dunedin — 1206, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

4XA, Radio Central, Alexandra — 531, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

4XC, Radio Central, Queenstown — 1359, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

4XE, Radio Central, Wanaka — 1359, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

4XF, Radio Foveaux, Invercargill — 1224, 8:00 p.m., Sun.

OTHER AREAS

3GL, Geelong, Victoria, Australia — 1341, 8:30 p.m., Sun.

A3Z, Tonga Radio, (Eng) Nuku'alofa — 1020, 6:30 p.m., Sun.

C2AM, Radio Nauru — 1323, 9:00 a.m., Sun.

Hong Kong Radio, Kowloon — 1044, 6:30 a.m., 12:00 a.m., Sat.

Radio Ceylon — 7190, 9720, 15425, 9:00 p.m., Sun., Tues., Thurs., Sat.

Honduras, San Pedro Sula, Radio Norte (Sp.) — 780, 8:45 a.m., Sun.

Radio Luxembourg, (Fr) Luxembourg — 5:15 a.m., Mon.; 5:00 a.m., Tues., Thurs.

See next issue for TV log

World Held Captive

(Continued from page 6)

ship with God—begotten as God's own son. Through God's Spirit joined with his human spirit, he would have had the ability to understand God's spiritual purposes and knowledge, and been able to develop the very mind of God. He would have been led by God in building GOD'S WORLD. Instead, he was led by Satan, and the whole world family, started through Adam, was DECEIVED into building a civilization that became SATAN'S WORLD—a WORLD HELD CAPTIVE.

It has developed systems of government over cities and nations, an economic system, a social system—all based on the principle of "GET" rather than outflowing love, cooperation, harmony and peace. It has developed into a competitive world, based on Satan's law—every man for himself, vanity, coveting, strife.

It might well appear that Satan struck his master stroke in kidnapping Adam, the first human, by whom God purposed to reproduce himself millions of times over. But God's PURPOSE cannot be thwarted.

That is the reason God then, at the very time of Adam's disobedience and kidnapping, decreed that Jesus, the second Adam, should come. He would be God's means of paying for the ransom to reclaim his potential children. Further, Jesus would be the SECOND ADAM. To use a modern slang term, it would be "a whole new ball game." The very begotten FAMILY OF GOD, for which Adam had been created, would now be started in and through the SECOND ADAM.

Jesus, unlike the first Adam, did choose the tree of LIFE. He did obey God. He met, conquered and qualified to replace Satan on the throne of the earth. At the same time, God decreed that as in Adam all would pay the penalty of DEATH, so in Christ, the second Adam, the SAME ALL would in God's due time be resurrected again to physical life, brought to judgment, sentenced to eternal death, but then learn that their death penalty had been paid for them by Jesus Christ and the tree of LIFE reopened to

them, in the Great White Throne resurrection (Rev. 20:11-12).

After some 4,000 years of the world that developed into a world of human good and satanic evils, Jesus came.

He came as the SECOND ADAM, to found GOD'S WORLD, which the first Adam failed to start.

Jesus' coming BEGAN the SPIRITUAL PHASE of God's creation of humans. Jesus did not come to reform or save this world—Satan's world. He came to start a DIFFERENT WORLD. It was God's plan to start it through his CHURCH.

Foundation of God's World

Jesus said: "I will build my church" (Matt. 16:18). The word *church* is translated from the Greek and means "called-out ones." He chose and called his 12 original disciples or students, and taught them the ways of the KINGDOM OF GOD.

It was prophesied of Jesus in Isaiah 9:6-7 that he would be born as a babe, grow up and the GOVERNMENT (of God) would be on his shoulders. He would bring peace to the earth. Satan's world has brought contention, confusion, division, hostility, violence, destruction, war and death. The Messiah, Jesus Christ, would RESTORE the GOVERNMENT OF GOD to the planet earth.

Jesus brought the gospel message from God to mankind—not to convert and change Satan's world, but to ANNOUNCE the coming world-ruling GOD kingdom as a witness. Jesus came not on a "soul-saving crusade," nor did he plead with people to "accept him as Savior." When the woman at Jacob's well asked him for the "living waters" of the Holy Spirit (salvation), he merely told her of her sins.

The word *gospel* means "good news." Jesus was a newscaster, announcing in advance the NEWS of the coming KINGDOM OF GOD.

Since God's PURPOSE is to reproduce himself—expand the God FAMILY—and since it shall be the world-ruling family, then the KINGDOM OF GOD is the born family of God ruling the entire world. NO RELIGION ON EARTH UNDERSTANDS THIS PIVOTAL TRUTH! It is a DECEIVED world—held captive by Satan.

The Church of God was the embryonic beginning of the soon-to-be world-ruling and world-filling KINGDOM OF GOD.

The Church began with the ONE man, the second Adam, Jesus Christ. He expanded it to the 12 he himself chose and called and taught. During his ministry God had called a few others to believe his gospel message and follow him. Even among them, several followed only a short time and fell away. By the day of Pentecost, 120 received God's Holy Spirit, were baptized and became BEGOTTEN (but not yet born) children of God.

After his 3½-year ministry, Jesus gave himself as a ransom to be crucified, paying the penalty for all the sins of all of mankind who would repent, believe, grow in grace and God's knowledge, overcome and endure to the end of their human life.

Jesus commissioned his apostles to teach others, as many as God should call. The New Testament throughout teaches that ONLY those God chooses and spiritually calls, could come to him through Jesus. Jesus said, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him" (John 6:44).

Those so called and chosen by God for his kingdom were called "out from among them [to] be . . . separate" (II Cor. 6:17). Jesus did not live as part of this world, its ways and customs—nor must those called.

This present evil world of Satan—the kidnapped world—had its foundation in the first Adam. It was at the FOUNDATION of this world (Rev. 13:8) that God decreed that Jesus, as the Lamb of God, would come to pay the ransom price.

Jesus, during his earthly ministry, likened this world to a building. In Ephesians 2:20-22 the Church is likened to a building.

Jesus, in referring to the present evil world, said it is built on a foundation of the sand of Satan's way of vanity, covetousness, envy and jealousy, competition and strife, violence, rebellion, contention, unhappiness, suffering and death. THIS WORLD IS DOOMED TO CRASH! And great shall be the fall thereof.

Jesus did not come to repair or

remodel or make over this building—this world—this civilization. Its foundation is faulty—that of Satan. Its superstructure—its systems of government and legal systems of law and justice, its systems of faulty and materialistic education, its religions, its social systems and customs—all its superstructure—is faulty, producing discontent, unhappiness, contention, competition and strife leading to violence and destruction, anguish, suffering, poverty and death. Those are the supporting columns and beams of the superstructure of the building that is this world. Jesus did not come to reform this world—to bring a “spiritual revival”—to pray for it or to save it or any of its ways.

The Church is the start—the embryo—of an entirely NEW and DIFFERENT BUILDING.

Jesus called those God has chosen to draw OUT from among this world and its ways. Those called out must continue to live on the same earth. They are taught even to be subject to its governments over them; not to OBEY when that would mean disobedience to God, but to be subject—if necessary, even to whatever penalties they impose.

Why the Church Age?

Since Jesus founded the Church—the foundation of the coming world of God—more than 1,950 years have passed. One might wonder, WHY these more than 1,950 years of the “church age,” before establishing the KINGDOM?

God's purpose is to choose and call certain ones out from the ways of Satan's world, and train them to become teachers and rulers when God sends Christ back to earth as KING of kings and LORD of lords to rule, teach and convert all who then shall be willing. All who have lived in this world and become set in its wrong and evil ways must be taught the right ways of God.

Those converted and finally saved in the Church shall be kings and priests and given power to rule and teach all others (Rev. 2:26-27; 3:21; 5:10). For this nearly 2,000 years of training, Jesus has been High Priest and head of the Church, in heaven supervising his Church.

On Christ's return in supreme

power and glory, Satan shall be removed from earth's throne. Jesus Christ will sit on the throne of David ruling over Israel and also on the THRONE OF THE EARTH, now still held by Satan.

Church to Be Ready

The Church shall have been made ready for her stupendous responsibility of rulership under Christ, by the time of his return as KING of kings and LORD of lords.

What, then, is the real PURPOSE of the Church? WHY did Jesus found the Church? Was it to repair the superstructure of the faulty and decadent BUILDING to which I have likened this present evil world? Was it to “save” by conversion this sinning world of Satan? And was it to become divided into many divisions or branches, Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Protestant?

The whole professing “Christian” world has been deceived. All nations have been deceived. The ninth verse of Revelation 12 states this emphatically and plainly.

God started his supreme mission and PURPOSE of reproducing himself through the first human, Adam. But to become a begotten child of God, so that he might, on acquiring the spiritual character of God, be BORN into the divine FAMILY OF GOD, Adam was required to make a choice. He chose apostasy, rebellion, self-righteousness mixed with evil—the way of the kidnapper of the potential family of God.

God said plainly to Adam, that on the disobedience of taking the forbidden fruit, he would surely die. His temporary existence ran out and he died after 930 years.

Study Ephesians 2:1-2. Satan, as prince of the power of the air, actually works IN—within—the natural born children of Adam. Satan worked within Adam's first son, when he slew his brother Abel. All Adam's children have sinned. All, up to those living today, DIE.

But, it was decreed at the foundation of this world—at the time of Adam's sin—that as in Adam all should die, so in Christ, the second Adam, the same ALL should be brought back to life through resurrection from the dead.

The tree of LIFE was closed to all

humanity until Christ the SECOND ADAM. He was born of his mother, the virgin Mary, of the Adamic human family. But her son Jesus was fathered, not by MAN, a son of Adam. But by GOD. As a son of GOD, the tree of LIFE was opened to him. But as a son of MAN, he, like the first Adam, was required to make a CHOICE!

Satan tried to destroy him as an infant, but God moved to prevent that. Then, at about age 30, before he could preach a word of God's message, the gospel, Satan attacked him head-on. In this temptation (Matt. 4:1-11), Jesus made his choice. He rejected Satan's temptation and way of life. He chose God's way, according to the Scriptures. He defeated Satan, commanding him to depart from him, and the defeated Satan slunk away. JESUS HAD QUALIFIED TO REPLACE SATAN ON THE THRONE OF THE EARTH! Thus, as Jesus said in Mark 1:15, the time was fulfilled and the kingdom of God was at hand.

The SECOND ADAM had passed the test. He had overthrown Satan. He had qualified to replace Satan on earth's throne and to RESTORE THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

Sin and rebellion had started with the one man, Adam. Righteousness and obedience leading to PEACE now started with the one man, Jesus Christ. He was the BEGINNING—THE FOUNDATION—of the altogether NEW “building”—the new world—the new civilization—the WORLD TOMORROW!

He said he would build his Church. His Church was that new building—that new civilization—that new world, in embryo.

Jesus started it off by calling his 12 disciples. But each of them now had to CHOOSE between the tree of LIFE and the satanic tree of human good and evil. One of the 12 failed. But Jesus said the Church would never die. The rains would fall (Matt. 7:24-27), the floods would come, the hurricanes would blow, but this NEW house built on the solid rock foundation would ALWAYS STAND!

Jesus did not say “churches.” Paul said they would all “speak the same thing”—no divisions. Where is that Church today?

(To be continued)

"QUIET CORNER"

(Continued from page 4)

As a result, Finland was not brought under Soviet control, unlike Eastern European nations bordering the U.S.S.R. Norway and Denmark joined the Atlantic Alliance, but at a lower level of military commitment.

In 1954, Norway's Foreign Minister Halvard Lange provided a succinct definition of this Nordic balance. Norway had refused to allow foreign bases on its territory, he said, because "the stationing of allied units on the Scandinavian peninsula might provoke increasing Soviet pressure on Finland, and possibly Russian occupation of Finnish bases near the Norwegian and Swedish borders, a development which would not only seriously impair the strategic position of both Norway and Sweden, but also cause a serious deterioration of the international situation in general."

Similar considerations operated to keep Sweden out of NATO altogether. In early 1949, the Swedish government concluded that if Sweden and Norway both joined NATO, the Soviet Union might feel compelled to react by moving its line of defense farther west, making further demands upon Finland. Such a development would not only pose a grave threat to Finnish security and independence, but it would also offset, at best, whatever advantages Sweden might gain by joining the alliance.

The success of the Swedish policy was made manifest in 1955 when the Soviet Union unexpectedly decided to terminate its 50-year lease on its naval base at Porkkala, Finland.

The balance was working.

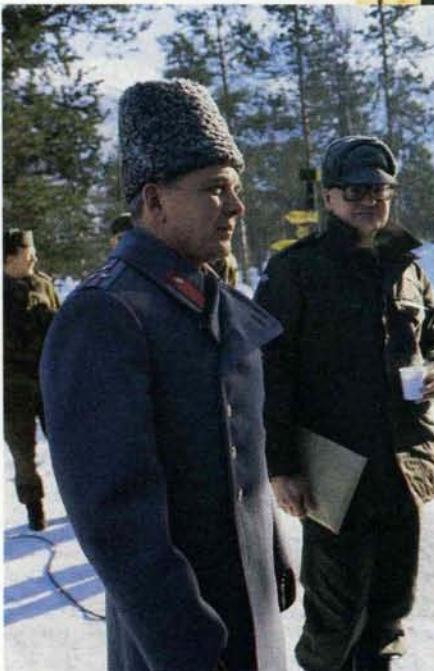
Still, in NATO circles, neutral but well-armed Sweden has always been generally regarded as a silent partner, bound by its own national interest to fight on the side of the West in any future general European conflict. Sweden's minister of defense was criticized in some circles (including, of course, in the Kremlin) for stating publicly in 1981: "Even if we consider ourselves to be neutral, we know where we belong."

Ties to Britain, America

The Nordic peoples have always felt a sense of kinship among themselves, reinforced by bonds of language, religion and similar outlooks toward society.

In the Winter 1984 edition of the U.S. journal *Daedalus*, Patricia Bliss McFate, president of the American-Scandinavian Foundation, writes:

"What then holds the [Nordic] countries together? . . . Trust and kinship. . . . The countries are a family that grew up together, sharing experiences and beliefs. Now they live apart, but they are still siblings. And, although they tease one



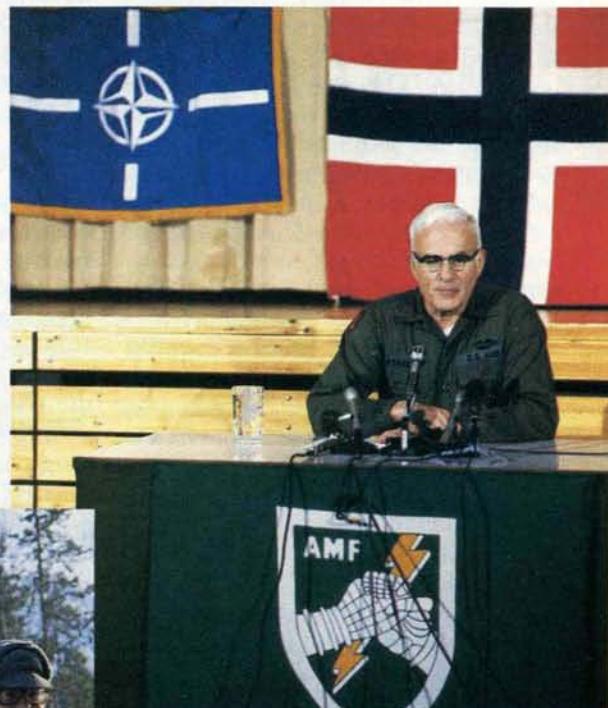
NATO Supreme Military Commander in Europe, General Bernard W. Rogers (top photo), explains nature of 1984 "Avalanche Express" exercises to newsmen. Under terms of agreements, a Soviet observer, below, was invited to watch maneuvers.

another, and occasionally quarrel bitterly, they won't fight."

The ties between the Nordic world and the Anglo-Saxon peoples of Britain and North America are also deep. They go way beyond the alliance structures of today and are cemented by bonds of blood as well

as common values. Norway is a case in point.

"Norway," according to Mr. Holst, "is a country with its back to Europe and facing the Atlantic. Her security policy orientation has



STUART FRANKLIN—SYGMA

been maritime and Anglo-Saxon."

Historically, good relations with Britain and the Royal Navy have long been paramount to Norway's security.

These ties were further strengthened during World War II when King Haakon VII fled to London, establishing his government in exile there. Norway's extensive worldwide maritime fleet was placed at the disposal of the allied cause.

Ties to the United States have, until recently, also been strong, helped by the fact that there are more Americans of Norwegian blood living today than there are Norwegians.

However, the "umbilical cord" to America, as U.S. Ambassador to Norway Mark E. Austad said last year in a speech in Los Angeles, "is thinner than in the past. Leftists have downgraded the natural U.S.-Norway bond."

In fact, Norway's espionage affair provides a penetrating look into the generation that first came to political awareness in Scandinavia, as elsewhere in Europe, in the 1960s. Mr. Treholt had been an

outspoken critic of NATO in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Strategic Thinking

In the booklet *The Nuclear North Atlantic*, British author (and anti-nuclear activist) E.P. Thompson, describes Norway's strategic position in this manner:

"In NATO's strategic thinking, the Soviet Navy is waiting to press through 'the gate' between Norway and Iceland while Soviet Backfire bombers might slip through the same 'gate,' pass down to the west of Scotland and Ireland, and then turn sharp left and strike at Western Europe through the 'back door.'"

Other experts expand this vital stretch of North Atlantic expanse, patrolled partly by Norway, to include an area all the way to Greenland. They call passageways through this sector the "Greenland-Iceland-United Kingdom gap," or the "G-I-UK gap." NATO forces maintain antisubmarine warfare barriers in the gap, patrolled on the western flank from U.S. bases in Iceland and Greenland.

Thus the Soviet Union is partially bottled up at its only ice-free port. And together, Norway, Denmark and Sweden are situated at the entrance to the Baltic Sea, a

matter of concern for the large Soviet fleet at Leningrad.

(The Soviet blue-water navy has only two other exits, both of them subject to limitations as well. The nation of Turkey controls the Dardanelles, the "chokepoint" for the U.S.S.R.'s Black Sea navy, whereas distance and the weather limit Soviet operations in the Far East at Vladivostok.)

Searching for Security

Since World War II, Norway and Denmark have abandoned neutrality and placed their reliance upon the NATO alliance. In turn, the independence of both Sweden and Finland relies to a great deal upon maintenance of the sensitive Nordic balance.

It is for this reason that all the loose talk today of Europe and America going their separate ways is a disturbing element to Nordic defense planners. Is NATO on its last legs, as some feel?

"Norway," notes Johan Jørgen Holst, "is likely to be the last party to leave the bridge in the event that NATO should capsize on her voyage through the next decade. The dissolution of NATO would cause the Nordic pattern to crumble as well."

could not solve, with discontent, unhappiness, violence, agony and death.

Religion gave this unhappy world no hope. Education had no answer. Governments had no solution. Science gave no deliverance, but instead has now produced the weapons of mass destruction to destroy us all—every man, woman and child on earth!

My in-depth study and research PROVED the reality of the living Creator GOD, and that the Holy Bible is in fact God himself speaking—revealing himself and spiritual knowledge to those who, through his Spirit, are able to comprehend. And now, at age 91, through his living Word, God has opened my eyes clearly to UNDERSTAND why mankind was created on earth—how this violent society came to be developed—why Jesus Christ said: "I will build my Church"—how the professed Christian church jumped the track—and which Church, even to

Instead of existing in a finely balanced relationship, these small countries of Northwestern Europe could come under increased pressure from both the East and from a soon-coming revived Roman Empire in continental Europe. Their future peace, security and independence would be in serious jeopardy.

It is time to directly warn the people living in the "quiet corner of Europe" of events to unfold in Bible prophecy that will drastically affect their lives.

The destinies of the Nordic countries are intimately intertwined with the fates of the British and American peoples. Yet few individuals have stopped to ask: Why have the Anglo-Saxon peoples and the smaller nations of Northwestern Europe risen to such prominent positions in world affairs in the past two centuries? What has been the true source of their unprecedented prosperity? Why have these great seafaring nations together controlled at one time nearly all the vital seagates in the world?

For the answer to these questions and for a clear picture of what is to occur, write for the free book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. □

this day, is the same original *true* Church Jesus Christ did found more than 1,950 years ago!

Yes, I found, finally, the one true Church. And I found WHY it is, and WHAT it is—and how and why so many differing sects of it developed. Yes, and how a WHOLE WORLD, even as the Bible says (Rev. 12:9), has been deceived—and very soon, now, shall be UNDECEIVED and delivered from its confusion, violence and suffering.

In the next issue of *The Plain Truth* I make it all plain in the eye-opening article "Where Is the True Church?"

All this did not come easily. Hard, long and diligent study alone was not enough. It required openness of mind. It brought an inward battle with this vain self, which had to be conquered. It necessitated ADMITTING I was wrong, and willingness to accept truth new to me. It required accepting and *living* that truth. □

Faith

(Continued from page 19)

(Rom. 6:4). But how, if you can't keep the law by your own strength or your own faith? The answer is—you have to have an added faith. But from whom, and what kind of faith?

Since you can never be justified by your own unaided attempt to keep God's law or attain his righteousness, if you have believed in Jesus Christ you have a new way to become righteous. Instead of relying on your own strength, you can ask God for the help to become righteous (i.e., to obey the law). God has promised to develop in you *the same faith that Jesus had*—the faith of Jesus Christ!

This is an important point. If you look up the word *faith* in a dictionary, you will find it says something like this: "confidence, trust or belief in the promises or statements of another."

Everyone has some faith—although it varies from individual to individual. Some find it easy to believe—others, perhaps because of previous letdowns and betrayal, find it hard to put "confidence, trust or belief" in anyone or anything.

But even the most faithful are not faith-full enough by their *own* strength or their own faith to save themselves from sinning in the future. Look at Ephesians 2:8. "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this *not from yourselves*...." How then?

Continuing in Ephesians 2:8, "...it is the gift of God."

Here is then a level of faith that goes far beyond the "confidence, trust or belief" that your human mind must first exercise in having faith *in Christ* to forgive your guilty past.

This new, higher level of faith is the gift that God gives, through the Holy Spirit, which one receives through the laying on of hands after baptism.

Jesus had that kind of faith. And because he did he had total trust, confidence and belief in God. Thus he was able to live a life that was blameless. Jesus never sinned. He was often tempted, but he always resisted. He knew how to get the

strength he needed to reinforce his own inadequate human strength.

"During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death..." (Heb. 5:7).

Jesus prayed to his Father in heaven for the strength to resist sin. And such was the relationship of trust, love and confidence between Jesus and his Father, that he *always* received that help.

Jesus Christ and the Father had lived in harmony for an eternity before Jesus came to earth as the Son of God. He had no doubts that *what his Father promised, he was able also to perform* (see Romans 4:21).

Having faith in Christ, many today are told to be baptized for the remission of their sins. But there is more to it than that.

That is the kind of faith that we must have if we are to receive our eternal reward. God expects us, if we are his sons and daughters, to live as Jesus did.

Jesus set the example. His life is the standard by which we must measure performance—not in some dreamy, sanctimonious way, but in the practical down-to-earth circumstances of daily life. A true Christian should ask, Is this the way Christ would react? Is this what he would have done? Am I following his example?

If not, your behavior must be changed to conform with Jesus' example as recorded in the Scriptures. You will need to ask God for the faith to do this—the same faith that he gave Jesus Christ to face and conquer problems.

With *that* faith, when tempta-

tion comes, you will have the strength to put aside your natural human impulses and make the same kind of decision that Jesus did in similar circumstances.

That's why Paul, in his epistle to the Galatians, wrote: "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith *in* [you guessed it—it should be *of*] the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Gal. 2:20, Revised Authorized Version). Once the right preposition is put in, these modern versions become clear.

Think back to the analogy of the watchmaker. Christ wants you to learn to do the things he did. He wants you to share in his skills. He wants you to know the same confidence and trust in God that he had.

He doesn't want you just to be grateful to him for doing it. He wants *you to* have the experience of overcoming sin, looking to God for the spiritual strength, just like he did.

Why?

Why You Need the Faith of Christ

Look at Philippians 3:8-11. Here we find Paul explaining to the Philippians how grateful he is to be called as a part of God's Church.

He had to give up many things, including a position of power and prestige, in order to be an apostle. "... I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith *in* [read *of*] Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead."

So Paul knew that his resurrection from the dead would be preceded by God building in him the same kind of faith that Christ had. He knew that only then would he know the "power of resurrection," as Jesus Christ has known it.

Paul was not saying that he was

trying to earn his salvation by *his own faith*. That is what those who are deceived by a false gospel do when they rely only on *their faith in Jesus*. It is plainly evident throughout his writings that Paul knew he could *never do that*.

A Christian cannot gain salvation by his works through his own faith any more than he can by simply having faith *in Christ*. This is a vital point that so many who claim to be Christians do not understand.

Salvation is God's free gift, but he will not give it to those who cannot handle it properly (any more than you would give a bicycle to a child who refuses to obey the traffic signals).

Ministers today concentrate on getting people to "accept Christ," while they neglect to teach the need for receiving Jesus Christ's faith as a free gift to enable us to *obey God*.

Putting Faith to Work

When Jesus Christ returns to this earth to enforce peace, the world is going to be in a terrible condition. But thankfully, the worst will be over. Jesus Christ will begin the task of guiding and teaching all mankind God's way of life and the way to eternal life.

There will be a lot of work ahead for those whom God has called in this present life to understand his purpose. They will be resurrected and made immortal when God intervenes in world affairs to re-establish his government over the whole earth. They will be working *with Jesus Christ*, doing what he does. They will be teaching, helping and encouraging others to overcome human weaknesses, that they also may be given eternal life.

Such teachers must be experienced—there will be no place for enthusiastic amateurs. The time to build that experience through the faith *of Jesus* imparted by the Holy Spirit is now.

That is why a Christian, whose hope is the resurrection from the dead, needs more than just his faith *in Jesus*. He must share in the life of Christ, living as he did, learning as he did. To do that successfully, he needs the faith *of Jesus Christ*. □

Earthquakes

(Continued from page 26)

But the Creator also intervenes to forestall the natural consequences of physical forces building up within the earth. Why? In order to accomplish his purposes among nations.

Our world is rushing toward a grand climax. Mankind's day under the sway of Satan is almost over.

God is now using this magazine, and verbally the *World Tomorrow* telecast and broadcast, to warn mankind that God is soon going to usher in a new civilization based on his immutable spiritual laws—the way of love toward God and love for fellow human beings.

But the time is fast approaching when God will do more than speak through human beings. He is about to intervene powerfully in world affairs to stop our world's spiraling crime, corruption, pollution and warfare. He will punish and remove today's civilizations and set up a new civilization.

Great earthshaking events are prophesied to humble a haughty and rebellious human race in the closing days of man's civilization before the return of Jesus Christ to reestablish the government of God over the earth.

This period of time is called the day of the Lord in Bible prophecy. "O God . . . You have been displeased. . . . You have made the earth tremble; You have broken it; heal its breaches, for it is shaking" (Ps. 60:1-2, Revised Authorized Version).

Isaiah, chapter 24, reveals why God will first shake the foundations of the earth: because "the earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. . . . The earth is utterly broken down . . . the earth is moved exceedingly" (verses 5, 19, Authorized Version).

"Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the Lord of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger" (Isa. 13:13).

"And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and

the Lord alone shall be exalted *in that day*. And the idols he shall utterly abolish. And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, *for fear of the Lord*, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to SHAKE TERRIBLY THE EARTH.

"In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made each one for himself to worship, to the *moles* and to the *bats*; to go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for the *fear of the Lord*, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to SHAKE TERRIBLY THE EARTH" (Isa. 2:17-21, emphasis ours throughout).

The book of Revelation reveals the climax of these earthshaking events. "I looked when He [Jesus Christ] opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake . . . and every mountain and island was moved out of its place" (Rev. 6:12, 14, RAV).

Again Revelation, chapter 16, prophesies the earth's final great earthquake to end today's civilizations, one that will alter the geography of the *whole globe*; "such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. . . . Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found" (verses 18, 20, RAV).

During this great earthquake, every civilization of man will be shaken to the ground. Some will be totally destroyed. This is what the Creator thinks of the evils of the civilizations man has built! God will start anew! That's why the world tomorrow is called in Scripture "the times of restitution of all things" (Acts 3:21).

Earth scientists are worried about the unpreparedness of so many to cope with damaging earthquakes. They say earthquakes are certain to occur in many areas of the earth.

The Scriptures concur with this assessment—and explain why! Don't be caught totally unprepared. The Bible tells you how you, now, can have special divine help and protection if you will change your ways and begin to do what God says is right—not what you think is right in your own eyes. □

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Malta

John Halford's article in the March issue was well-prepared and, above all, gave a true and precise picture of the past and present state of the island. In recent years (especially since the 1981 elections), many foreign correspondents attributed to the island a much worse image and I was quite happy that *The Plain Truth* made amends. In a modern, nuclear-bent age, the Maltese are more than proud to amalgamate with other nonaligned nations and shout for peace... truly a word hardly spoken of nowadays.

Albert F. Debono
Fgura, Malta

I read your article on Malta and found it very interesting. I had no idea Malta took part in the war and I was a little vague on where Malta was. I'd like to praise the Maltese people for showing such heroism.

Narinder Kumar
West Midlands, England

Love, Marriage and Sex

I must thank you for your article on "Love, Marriage and Sex." I found it both interesting and informative. Ronald D. Kelly's sympathetic approach to such a difficult and complicated issue was of immense value to me personally.

Fiona Starkey
Sittingbourne, Kent

Does God Exist?

I would be obliged to receive a copy of your booklet *Does God Exist?* at your convenience. I would not describe myself as particularly religious, although my main interest in life is philosophical and centers around the true meaning of life and existence (of which naturally religions are an important aspect, but

do not seem to me to provide real answers any more than science does). My attitude, like many others, varies between agnosticism or scepticism to some kind of faith since there seems no other answer.

G.A. Riskel
Isle of Man

• *In addition to Does God Exist? you might also want to request Why Were You Born?—a booklet that gives philosophical meaning to all the vagaries of this life.*

"Dr. Habsburg Speaks Out"

In "Dr. Habsburg Speaks Out" he is reported to say: "Armament is not the cause of evil but the consequence of evil. *Armament is like the fever to the disease.*" It could be argued that Dr. Habsburg misunderstands the role of fever. Fever is a *healing* reaction of the body to a particular condition. It is clear that armaments are rather like the drug that suppresses the healing reaction. Dr. Habsburg is right when he says:

"*Armament is the consequence of evil,*" but he seems not to understand that fear is the evil! The only remedy for fear is LOVE. This love has obviously nothing to do with religion as the situations in Iran/Iraq, Lebanon, N. Ireland, Pakistan/India, and many other places show! Let us pray that historians, church leaders and politicians grow up in time to prevent a holocaust and rather become instruments of the peace that passes all understanding.

G. Andriessen
Ottery St. Mary, Devon

• *The peace that passes all understanding will come to this earth. In the meantime we are commissioned to watch*

world events—and that includes reporting and analyzing the activities of leading nations and important personalities.

Above Politics

At a glance, one would initially think that *The Plain Truth* tends to be politically oriented. I have found that it is continuously revealing the relationship of the global crises with biblical interpretations. This has accelerated my interest in reading this great publication for the liberal man.

Matthew O. Eregbowa
Ankara, Turkey

Disagrees

Thank you for sending *The Plain Truth* as requested. I find these magazines interesting, but cannot agree with your teachings in all respects and that is the reason why I have not returned the request card. I know I shall be "hitting my head against a wall," but I feel I must make some comments as I am a keen student of the Bible. No one has *all* the truth, but we should seek to increase our knowledge and understanding of the scriptures.

We do indeed wait earnestly for the return of Jesus Christ, but I am convinced you are wrong in teaching that He will return literally in the flesh. He "gave His flesh for the life of the world" and is now a great spirit being with His Father. He also said that His kingdom was not of this world and I feel sure this means that it is a spiritual kingdom, but which will certainly have earthly representatives in the resurrected prophets of old. If Jesus were to return to earth in the flesh, He would be just as much ignored and persecuted as He was at His first advent.

Miss A.D. Wells
Sevenoaks, Kent

• *Do you agree with all that is said in any magazine or book you read? We hope you'll change your mind and return the request card. And by the way, we agree that Jesus will not return as a flesh and blood human being. Our booklet Just What Do You Mean—Born Again? explains.*

Fiftieth Anniversary Issue

May I express thanks for a copy of the Golden Anniversary issue of *The Plain Truth*. Let me say that upon perusing it one appreciates the objectives of yourself and other editors in seeking to serve the cultural and educational needs of all people and the forthright observations regarding domestic, economic and international issues of our day, as well as remarks relating to morality, technology and much else.

J.D. Boulton
Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex

May I say how much I enjoy reading your magazine. I look forward to receiving a copy every month. May I also take this opportunity to wish Mr. Armstrong and all his staff a happy fiftieth anniversary.

The Earl of Preston
Co. Waterford
Republic of Ireland

Why the Dutch Beat Back the Sea

We found the article "Why the Dutch Beat Back the Sea" in the January 1984 issue very interesting and helpful in understanding the prophecy concerning them. We would like to see other articles concerning the rest of the tribes of Israel along these lines.

Mr. and Mrs. R.E. Crepe
Watonga, Oklahoma

Mideast Turmoil— TO END IN PEACE!

The Middle East is seething with crisis after crisis.

No country in the Middle East is free of entanglement in the escalation of regional violence—not even those countries seemingly at peace. A "holy war" is threatening to sweep over the entire area. Western leaders find no solution in sight.

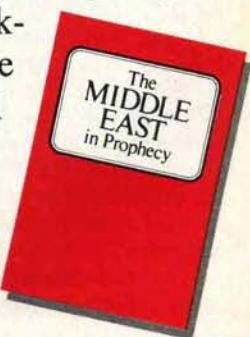
What is the cause of this turmoil? Why do so few have any conception of the danger it threatens to the whole world or how it will all end?

It's time you understand. This most



pivotal piece of global real estate is destined to be the center of events that will culminate in world peace at last. The outcome of Mideast turmoil was foretold centuries ago in the Bible. Our free booklet *The Middle East in Prophecy*

explains the astounding background to the crisis in the Middle East—and how it will be resolved. For your free copy, just mail the card inside this issue or write to our office nearest you.



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