

CIRC. 8,175,000

the

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1985

PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding



Sexually Transmissible Diseases

Even YOU Could Become Infected!

The Plain Truth has no subscription or newsstand price. This magazine is provided free of charge. It is made possible by the tithes and offerings of the membership of the Worldwide Church of God and others. Contributions, however, are welcomed and are tax-deductible in the United States, Canada and New Zealand. Those who wish to voluntarily aid and support this worldwide work of God are gladly welcomed as co-workers in this major effort to publish the true original gospel to all nations. Contributions should be sent to our office nearest you (see addresses below).

FOUNDER AND EDITOR IN CHIEF:
HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

EDITOR:

HERMAN L. HOEH

EXECUTIVE EDITOR:
DEXTER H. FAULKNER

WORLD NEWS EDITOR:
GENE H. HOGBERG

ART DIRECTOR:
MONTE WOLVERTON

SENIOR EDITOR:
RAYMOND F. MCNAIR

SENIOR WRITERS:
JOHN HALFORD, RONALD D. KELLY,
RODERICK C. MEREDITH, DONALD D.
SCHROEDER, JOHN R. SCHROEDER, MICHAEL A.
SNYDER, CLAYTON D. STEEP, KEITH W. STUMP

ASSOCIATE EDITORS:
SHEILA GRAHAM, NORMAN L. SHOAF

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:
DIBAR APARTIAN, ROBERT BORAKER,
KENNETH C. HERRMANN, PATRICK A. PARNELL,
RICHARD H. SEDLIACIK, WILLIAM STENER,
DAN C. TAYLOR, JEFF E. ZHORNE

TECHNICAL COPY EDITOR:
PETER MOORE

EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS:
CHERYL EBELING, WERNER JEBENS,
DAWNA BORAX, SANDI HAGUE, MARIA STAHL,
WENDY STYER, ROBERT TAYLOR, RON TOTL,
EILEEN WENDLING

GRAPHICS:
Graphics Editor: RANDALL COLE
Staff: MATTHEW FAULKNER,
L. GREG SMITH
Photo Researcher: VERONICA TAYLOR

PHOTOGRAPHY:
Photo Services Manager: GREG S. SMITH
Senior Photographer: WARREN WATSON
Staff: G.A. BELLUCHE JR.,
KEVIN BLACKBURN, CHARLES BUSCHMANN,
NATHAN FAULKNER, HAL FINCH,
ALFRED HENNIG, ELIZABETH RUCKER,
KIM STONE

PUBLISHING:
Director of Publishing Services: RAY WRIGHT
Production Director: ROGER G. LIPPROSS
Production Manager: RON TAYLOR
International Coordinators:
VAL BROWN, BOB MILLER
Circulation Manager: BOYD LEESON
Circulation Assistant: CAROL RIEMEN
Newsstand Distribution: JOHN LABISSONIERE

BUSINESS MANAGER:
L. LEROY NEFF

INTERNATIONAL EDITORS:
BRITISH: JOHN ROSS SCHROEDER
DUTCH: JOHAN WILMS
FRENCH: DIBAR APARTIAN
GERMAN: JOHN B. KARLSON
ITALIAN: CARN CATHERWOOD
NORWEGIAN: ROY ØSTENSEN
SPANISH: DON WALLS

OFFICE DIRECTORS:
AUSTRALIA: ROBERT MORTON
CANADA: COLIN ADAIR
ENGLAND: FRANK BROWN
FRANCE: SAM KNELLER
LATIN AMERICA: LEON WALKER
NEW ZEALAND: PETER NATHAN
PHILIPPINES: GUY AMES
PUERTO RICO: STAN BASS
SOUTH AFRICA: ROY MCCARTHY
SWITZERLAND: BERNARD ANDRIST
THE NETHERLANDS: BRAM DE BREE
WEST GERMANY: FRANK SCHNEE

the PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding

VOL. 50, No. 9

Circ. 8,175,000

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1985

ARTICLES

- 3 — Nuclear Warfare: What Scientists Did Not—
Foresee 40 Years Ago
- 4 — Even You Could Become Infected!
- 7 — Why Bring the Bible Into That?
- 9 — Mystery of the Ages
Mystery of Angels and Evil Spirits
- 15 — A United Europe—Nearer Than You Think!
- 19 — Jesus' Birth: The Untold Story
- 22 — Minerals: Crumbling Bedrock of U.S. Economy
- 31 — Where Is God When Little Children Suffer?

FEATURES

- 1 — Personal from Herbert W. Armstrong
- 28 — "The World Tomorrow" Radio and TV Logs
- 41 — News Overview
- 44 — Letters to the Editor

OUR COVER

The symbolic handclasp of a young man and woman once meant love, marriage and sex—in that order. It now symbolizes easy liaisons—often same-sex ones—and the consequent spread of new diseases from the promiscuous to the innocent.

COVER PHOTO BY HAL FINCH—PT

The Plain Truth (ISSN 0032-0420) is published monthly (except bimonthly July/August and November/December issues) by the Worldwide Church of God, 300 W. Green St., Pasadena, California 91123. Copyright © 1985 Worldwide Church of God. All rights reserved. Second-Class Postage Paid at Pasadena, California, and at additional mailing offices.

PRINTED IN CANADA

U.S. Postmaster: Send address changes to *The Plain Truth*, Box 111, Pasadena, CA 91123.
United States: 300 W. Green, Pasadena, California 91123
Canada: P.O. Box 44, Station A, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2M2. Call toll free 1-800-663-2345.
Caribbean: G.P.O. Box 6063, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936
P.O. Box N3934, Nassau NP, Bahamas
P.O. Box 1021, Bridgetown, Barbados
P.O. Box 908, Hamilton 5-24, Bermuda
P.O. Box 10907, Georgetown, Guyana
P.O. Box 544, Kingston 5, Jamaica
P.O. Bag 114, Port of Spain, Trinidad
United Kingdom: P.O. Box 111, Borehamwood, Herts., WD6 1LU
Denmark: Box 211, DK-8100 Aarhus C
Norway: Box 2513 Solli, N-0203 Oslo 2
Sweden: Box 5380, S-102 46 Stockholm
Nigeria: P.M.B. 21006, Ikeja, Lagos State
Ghana: P.O. Box 9617, Kotoka Int. Airport, Accra

Kenya: P.O. Box 47135, Nairobi
Zambia: P.O. Box 50117, Lusaka
Zimbabwe: P.O. Box U.A. 30, Union Ave., Harare
South Africa: P.O. Box 5644, Cape Town 8000
Mauritius: P.O. Box 888, Port Louis
India: P.O. Box 6727, Bombay 400 052
Sri Lanka: P.O. Box 1824, Colombo
Singapore: P.O. Box 111, Farrer Road Post Office, Singapore 9128
Malaysia: P.O. Box 430, Jalan Sultan, Petaling Jaya, Selangor
The Philippines: P.O. Box 1111, Makati, Metro Manila 3117
New Zealand and Pacific Isles: P.O. Box 2709, Auckland 1
Australia: P.O. Box 202, Burleigh Heads, Queensland 4220
Fiji: P.O. Box 3938, Samabula, Suva
Tonga: P.O. Box 127, Nuku'alofa
Solomon Islands: P.O. Box 508, Honiara

Be sure to notify us immediately of any change in your address. Please include your old mailing label and your new address.

Important: The publishers assume no responsibility for return of unsolicited art work, photographs or manuscripts.

For your free subscription in the U.S.A. call toll free 1-800-423-4444 in the Continental U.S. and Hawaii, or from Alaska call collect, 818-304-6111.

PERSONAL FROM



God's Invisible Agents

As our readers know, my new book titled *Mystery of the Ages* is appearing serially in *The Plain Truth*. This issue carries chapter 2—"Mystery of Angels and Evil Spirits."

In my book I give some personal experiences with the very real, but invisible spirit world. I think our readers would benefit by reading about these experiences in this "Personal."

Angels serve a great function in carrying out God's purpose for humanity. They are his invisible agents often ministering in ways few understand to us poor humans who are heirs of salvation.

Personal Experiences

My wife, Loma, and I have both experienced this in personal incidents.

When our elder daughter was a baby, Mrs. Armstrong was sleeping with the child beside her on the inside of the bed against a bedroom wall. She heard a voice calling out, "Move Beverly." She thought it was a dream and without waking continued in sleep. She then heard the same voice again, a little louder. She half awakened, saw nothing, again thought it was a dream, turned over and was once again going to sleep, when the voice a third time was heard, this time loud and emphatic: "MOVE BEVERLY." Bewildered, she moved the child to the other side of her, and a second or two later, a heavy framed picture that hung on the wall immediately over where the child had been lying crashed down on the bed. It

might have crushed the child's head or severely injured her. The only explanation was that God sent an angel to save Beverly's life.

In the early days of my ministry, about 1934, I was driving a car one very stormy night in a downpour of rain on a highway south of Eugene, Oregon. I was driving about 40 miles an hour on a very winding road. As I approached a sharp curve in the road, the steering wheel of my car suddenly turned sharply to the left, as if wrenched out of my hand by some invisible force. Directly ahead of me was a wrecked truck. I just missed it, passing on its left. It was dark, and a wrecked car was standing just ahead of me. The steering wheel of the car was suddenly wrenched out of my hands, and the car turned sharply toward the right. My car passed between the northbound car and the southbound truck back onto the right lane, with not more than a single inch to spare between the wrecked car and truck. I had never experienced anything like it. The steering wheel of my car was turned by some force out of my control and against my hand holding it straight forward.

A previous time, late in 1927, within the first year of my conversion, I encountered a similar experience.

Experience of the Crooked Spine

After my wife and I had made some little progress in gaining biblical understanding on the subject of healing, Aimee Semple McPherson came to Portland.

She held an evangelistic campaign in the Portland Auditorium. My wife and I attended once, and then I went alone another time. We were "checking up" on many religious teachings and groups. Unable to gain entrance, because of packed attendance, I was told by an usher that I might be able to slip in at the rear stage door if I would hurry around. Walking, or running, around the block to the rear, I came upon a sorry spectacle.

A woman and child were trying to get a terribly crippled elderly man out of a car near the stage entrance. I went over to help them. The man had a badly twisted spine—whether from arthritis, or deformity from birth, or other disease I do not now remember. He was utterly helpless and a pitiful sight.

We managed to get him to the stage door. Actually, I should never have been admitted, had I not been helping to carry this cripple in. He had come to be

healed by the famous woman evangelist.

We were unable to gain contact with Mrs. McPherson before the service. And we were equally unable, after the service. I helped get the disappointed cripple back into their car.

"If you really want to be healed," I said before they drove off, "I would be glad to come to your home and pray for you. Mrs. McPherson has no power within herself to heal anybody. I have none. Only GOD can heal. But I do know what he has promised to do, and I believe God will hear me just as willingly as he will Mrs. McPherson—if only you will BELIEVE in what GOD has promised, and put your faith in HIM and not in the person who prays for you."

They gave me their address, just south of Foster Road. The next day I borrowed my brother Russell's car and drove out.

I had learned, in studying the Bible on the subject of healing, that there are two conditions that God imposes: 1) we must *keep his commandments* and do those things that are pleasing in his sight (I John 3:22); and 2) we must really BELIEVE (Matt. 9:29).

Of course I realized that many people might not have come into the understanding about keeping all of God's commandments—he does look on the *heart*. It is the *spirit, and willingness* to obey. And therefore some who really BELIEVE are healed, even though they are not strictly "commandment keepers." But once the *knowledge of the truth* comes, they must OBEY. In this case I felt sure that God wanted me to open the minds of these people about his commandments, and that SIN is the transgression of God's LAW.

Consequently, I first read the two scriptures quoted above, and then explained what I had been six months learning about God's law—and particularly about God's Sabbath. I wanted to know whether this cripple and his wife had a spirit of WILLINGNESS to obey God.

They did not. I found they were "Pentecostal." They attended church for the "good time" they had there. They talked a good deal about the "good time" they enjoyed at church. They scoffed and sneered about having to obey God. I told them that, since they were unwilling to obey God and comply with God's written conditions for healing, I could not pray for him.

Was This an Angel?

This case had weighed heavily on my mind. I had been touched with deep compassion for this poor fellow. Yet his mind was not impaired, and I knew that God does not compromise with SIN.

Some weeks later I had borrowed my brother's car again, and happened to be driving out Foster Road. Actually at the time my mind was filled with another mission, and this deformed cripple was not on my mind at all. I was deep in thought about another matter.

Coming to the intersection of the street on which the cripple lived, however, I was reminded of him. Instantly the thought came as to whether I ought to pay them one more call—but at the same instant reason ruled it out. They had made light of, and actually ridiculed the idea of surrendering to *obey* God.

Immediately I put them out of mind, and again was deep in thought about the present mission I was on.

Then a strange thing happened.

At the next intersection, the steering wheel of the car automatically turned to the right. I felt the wheel turning. I resisted it. It kept turning right. Instantly I applied all my strength to counteract it, and keep steering straight ahead. My strength was of no avail. Some unseen force was turning that steering wheel *against* all my strength. The car had turned to the right into the street one block east of the home of the cripple.

I was frightened. Never before had I experienced anything like this. I stopped the car by the curb. I didn't know what to make of it. It was too late to back into traffic-heavy Foster Road.

"Well," I thought, "I'll drive to the end of this block and turn left, and then back onto Foster Road."

But, a long block south on this street, it turned right *only*. There was no street turning east. In getting back onto Foster Road I was now compelled to drive past the home of the cripple.

"Could it possibly be that an angel *forced* the steering wheel to turn me in here?" I wondered, somewhat shaken by the experience. I decided I had better stop at the cripple's home to be sure.

I found him stricken with blood poisoning. The red line was nearing his heart.

I told them what had happened.

"I know, now," I said, "that God sent an angel to turn me in here. I believe that God wants me to pray for you—that he will heal you of this blood poisoning to show you his power, and then give you one more chance to repent and be willing to obey him. And if you will do that, then he will straighten out your twisted spine and heal you completely.

"So now, if you want me to do so, I will pray for you and ask God to heal you of this blood poisoning. But I will *not* ask God to heal your spine unless and until you repent and show willingness to obey whatever you yourself see God commands."

They were now desperate. He probably had about 12 hours to live. They were not joking and jesting lightly about the "good times" at "Pentecostal meetin'." They wanted me to pray.

I was not an ordained minister, so I did not anoint with oil. I had never yet in my life prayed aloud before others. I explained this to them, and said I would simply lay hands on the man and pray silently, as I did not want any self-consciousness of praying aloud for the first time to interfere with real earnestness and faith. I did have absolute faith he would be healed of the blood poisoning. He was.

I returned the next day. The blood poisoning had left him immediately when I prayed. But, to my very great sorrow and disappointment, they were once again filled with levity, and sarcasm about God's law. Again they were jestingly talking about having a "good time" at "Pentecostal" meetings.

There was no more I could do. It was one of the great disappointments of my life. I never saw or heard from any of them again. □

What Scientists Did Not Foresee 40 Years Ago

by Gene H. Hogberg

THIS past year much attention has been drawn to the 40th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

The end of that war also ushered in a new era—the age of atomic and thermonuclear weapons.

Saved Lives in Victory, But . . .

At the beginning of the Manhattan Project that produced the “Little Boy” and “Fat Man” bombs, American and British scientists were first driven by the knowledge that they were in a race with their counterparts in Nazi Germany.

Their worries diminished by the spring of 1945 as the “Thousand Year Reich” was collapsing in Europe. But Japan was still a stubborn and dangerous power, even in retreat.

The closer the Allied forces got to Japan the more suicidal Japanese defenses became. The battle for Okinawa alone resulted in at least 150,000 Japanese military and civilian deaths.

“In anticipation of American invasion,” wrote Cathryn Donahue in the August 7, 1985, *Washington Times*, “. . . two million Japanese troops were stationed around the islands, with tons of ammunition stowed in underground caves; another 3 million were being called back from China for a last-ditch defense. . . . Every one of Japan’s 10 million able-bodied civilian men and

women was asked to sacrifice his or her life in suicide attacks.”

A “demonstration” atomic bomb would not, it is now widely believed, have convinced the Japanese military command to give up the fight. In fact, even after the second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, there was little immediate inclination to give in.

Even though it remains a highly sensitive issue in Japan, some Japanese have publicly admitted that, by bringing a swift end to the war, the superweapons ironically saved Japan as a nation, making possible her amazing postwar economic recovery.

. . . New Awesome Destruction Unforeseen

Many of the scientists still alive who worked on the top-secret Manhattan Project have since become crusaders for control of atomic weapons.

These nuclear physicists had no idea at that time the world’s store of atomic and nuclear weapons would soar to more than 50,000, representing 13,000 megatons deployed by the United States and the Soviet Union alone.

Nor had they any idea how awesome some of the weapons systems would become, paling the 0.01 megaton Hiroshima bomb into comparative insignificance. Just one new U.S. Trident submarine, for example, contains as much destructive power in its missiles as 25 World War II’s!

Dr. Harrison Brown, a Manhattan Project veteran, is editor in chief of *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientist*. In his editorial in the August, 1985, issue, Dr. Brown writes that an all-out war involving between 5,000 and 10,000 megatons could result in *one billion persons* being killed outright, with an additional billion succumbing later to injuries from the blasts, fires and radiation.

But speculations about a resultant “nuclear winter” effect—dust and smoke hovering in the atmosphere, shutting out sunlight, producing severe temperature drops and a catastrophic decline in agricultural production—indicate the death toll could rise as high as *four billion persons*, or about 90 percent of the human population!

Imagine! The possibility of only a *tithe* of humanity left! And it could be worse if the effects of nuclear winter were transported south of the equator to where the remaining 10 percent of human beings live. (Nearly all the major population centers, including India, lie in the Northern Hemisphere.)

Thus, all mankind is threatened with the possibility of extinction, confirming the reality of Matthew 24:22—“unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved” (Revised Authorized Version).

The beginning of a “nuclear build-down” is urgently needed, Dr. Brown contends, “paving the way for bringing some kind of order out of the international
(Continued on page 45)

EVEN YOU Could Become Infected!

by Donald D. Schroeder

With stunning rapidity, new sexually transmissible diseases are surpassing previous scourges of VD.
Here's what you must do to minimize your chances of infection!

SUDDENLY, mankind finds itself face to face with some of the most sinister infectious diseases of this or any century.

Sexually transmissible diseases—such as AIDS, chlamydia, genital herpes and more than 20 others, many rarely seen or heard of before—are rampaging out of control in many nations.

Millions once ignorant of what in the past was called the silent epidemic are getting a rude and painful awakening to the *number one* serious communicable disease problem of our age.

No longer are the scourges of syphilis and gonorrhea the most frequent or most devastating of the sexually transmissible diseases. And sexual misconduct is not always involved in the spread of some of these newer diseases.

This is what is so alarming to health officials and what so many fail to grasp about this crisis.

AIDS Epidemic

From a handful of cases that first appeared in a few homosexual men

in the summer of 1981, virus-caused AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) has exploded into a frightening worldwide epidemic.

The costs are going to be staggering, say health officials, as the virus—once primarily afflicting homosexual and bisexual men, drug addicts sharing infected needles and hemophiliacs acquiring the virus from infected blood transfusions—spreads to other segments of society, mostly because of promiscuous sex practices and contaminated injections.

"AIDS is a sexually transmitted disease, not solely a gay disease," says Dr. James Curran, one of America's top authorities on sexually transmissible diseases.

At present in the United States, Canada, Europe and Australia, around 75 percent of AIDS cases are occurring in homosexual and bisexual men. Around 17 percent are occurring in intravenous drug abusers in the United States. Blood tests that show an antibody re-

sponse to the AIDS virus indicate around two thirds of homosexual men in San Francisco have evidence of having contact with the virus, while around half of male gays in the Los Angeles area have.

Further, a few studies of intravenous drug addicts showed 50 to 60 percent tested positive to contact with the AIDS virus (i.e., were infected by the virus). A great many female prostitutes are known to be intravenous drug users.

The question is not whether AIDS can be spread by conventional heterosexual sex; it can. The question now is how rapidly it is going to spread among "sexually



AIDS rapidly destroys cells of immune system with greatest reproduction rate of any known virus. It produces many genetic variations that hinder development of an effective vaccine.

AIDS viruses (spheres with dark centers) attack wall of a T-cell.

active" heterosexuals. Sexual activity with prostitutes and bisexual encounters are prime causes of the spread of the AIDS virus to heterosexuals. In some areas, 30 percent of new AIDS cases are appearing among heterosexuals.

A full-scale AIDS infection rapidly destroys the human body's immune response, leading to repeated "opportunistic" infections by many kinds of pathogens. In some cases the disease causes a rare form of skin cancer called Kaposi's sarcoma. Lower-key AIDS infections are suspected of causing other health problems, but the complete pathology is not yet understood.

Only a fraction of potential AIDS cases has so far surfaced, warn health officials.

"It's going to be everybody's problem"—meaning as a concern—said Dr. Neil R. Schram, chairman of the Los Angeles City/County AIDS Task Force. "The sheer numbers, in terms of what is coming, are staggering," said another health official. In many areas, reported cases of AIDS infections have been doubling every year.

Worldwide, AIDS has now struck more than 15,000 victims, more than 12,000 in the United States alone. An additional 500,000 to one million persons in the United States have already been infected with the AIDS virus, HTLV-III, according to estimates of some health officials.

Some officials estimate 10 percent or more of those infected with the AIDS virus will eventually develop serious symptoms and die within five years. There is no cure for this disease known to medical science at present. The disease seems to have a 100 percent fatality rate once serious symptoms develop.

Means of Spread

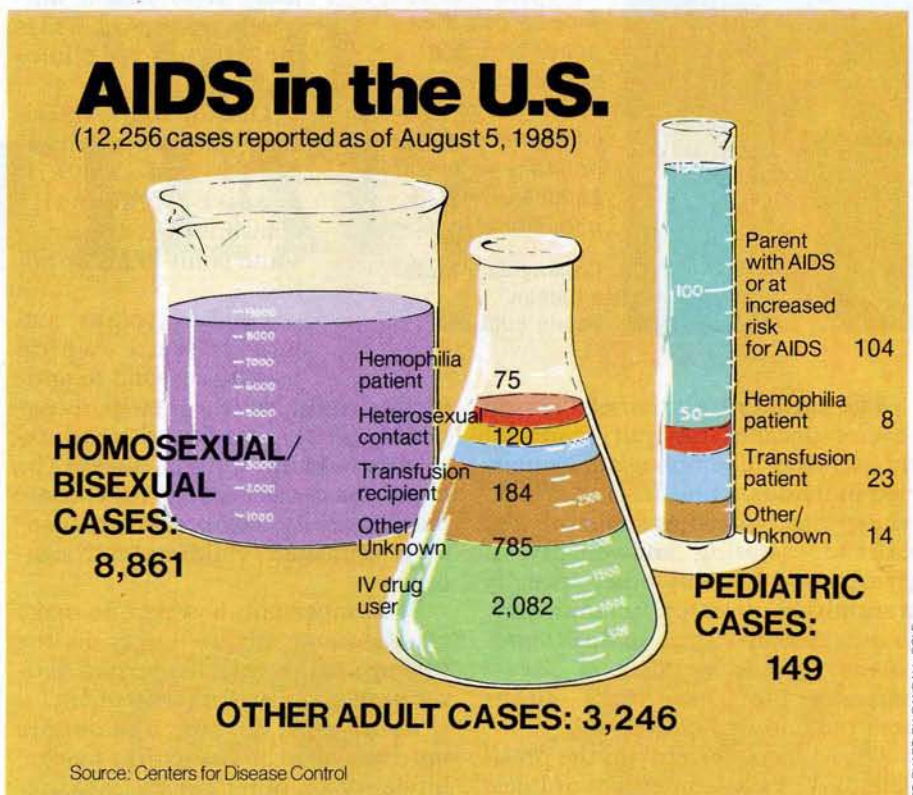
Medical scientists indicate a new secondary spread of the AIDS virus. Sexual partners or spouses of promiscuous mates, infected intravenous drug abusers and recipients of AIDS-contaminated blood transfusions are getting AIDS. And fetuses of AIDS-infected women are now appearing with infections. In addition, several women have contracted the deadly AIDS virus

through artificial insemination at one fertility clinic.

When AIDS was first diagnosed in 1981, it was known as the Gay Plague because it felled mostly homosexual males and seemed to be transmitted by anal sex. This abnormal act often causes bleeding and provides an exceptionally ready conduit for the AIDS virus into a new host.

"The basic problem is promiscuity, not nationality," said one health official.

Like the influenza virus, the AIDS virus is constantly mutating or transforming itself. The virus that causes the killer disease exists in around 100 different forms, according to researchers. This disturbing characteristic makes it very difficult for scientists to pin down



Available evidence indicates AIDS is not spread by toilet seats, handshakes, sneezing or simply being around a victim. General household or environmental transmission has not been definitely demonstrated. Intimate contact where the virus can be transmitted into another person seems required. In parts of Africa, AIDS is a heterosexual disease, striking men and women in roughly equal numbers.

Health officials have removed Haitians from the list of specific AIDS high risk groups. Researchers have discovered that most Haitians who contracted AIDS did so as a result of homosexual activity, use of contaminated intravenous needles or sexual contact with infected prostitutes—or from sexual contact with someone in these high risk groups who was infected.

or to devise a vaccine to fight it.

Another fact that has made this disease so particularly frightening and subtle is the long incubation period—up to 10 years—before symptoms may occur. Sexually active infected persons, male or female, may either carry the virus in latent (nonactive) form within their body cells or they may be carrying an active stage of the virus in their bloodstream for many years.

In the latter stage they can be spreading the AIDS virus to sexual partners even though they themselves appear healthy and without symptoms.

Blood tests can often indicate antibodies to the HTLV-III virus (though there can be false positive results—i.e., indications of infection). There is no way doctors can predict the fate of those who test

positive. Some health officials feel the virus may reactivate to circulate in the bloodstream or become a partial or full-blown active infection if the body becomes weakened under a siege of sickness or from stress in several directions.

almost exclusively by sexual contact but other diseases capable of being spread by sexual contact and by nonsexual or unhygienic means.

The American Social Health Association estimates 10 million Americans visit doctors' offices and clinics every year for these diseases. In England, more than half a million new cases of STDs are treated at clinics and hospitals.

One in four Americans between the ages of 15 and 55 will acquire a sexually transmissible disease at some point in his or her life.

Unlike syphilis and gonorrhea, which usually respond to antibiotics, some of the newly recognized STDs confound medical science. They cannot always be cured and can result in chronic pain, sterility, abnormal pregnancies, damaged children and cancer.

It is important, however, to make clarifications about some of the pathogens to avoid unmerited self-recrimination or embarrassment.

Some cases of these diseases are not related to promiscuity, marital infidelity or other sexual indiscretion. Some STDs can develop within faithful marriages or with no sexual contact at all. Not all STD infections are always avoidable, even by the most moral or faithful of persons. Contaminated blood transfusions or hypodermic injections or contaminated food or water, can transfer a few of these organisms.

Virgin men and women and faithful mates have gotten some cases of monilia, urethritis (NGU), trichomoniasis or venereal warts. Scabies, caused by a mite, and pubic lice are infestations that can be picked up not only by sexual relations, but by close body contact with infected persons or infected bedding or clothing.

Monilia is caused by an over-blooming yeast organism that normally lives harmlessly in the "flora" of the genital region. If the nat-

ural microbiotic balance is upset by some means—stress, drugs, pregnancy or tight clothing, for instance—the yeast organism may rapidly overgrow, creating a discomforting infection that can be easily transmitted sexually.

The disease called nongonococcal urethritis is caused by different organisms (some known, some unknown). This infection may also be caused and spread in similar manner.

Yet, while certain cases of STDs have nothing to do with immoral behavior, most of the STD epidemic is caused by promiscuous, freewheeling and permissive sexual conduct. Health authorities estimate between 20 and 30 percent of highly sexually active persons have one or more of these diseases.

Shocking New Sterilizer

Researchers have been startled to discover there is a greater infectious agent causing genital infections and sterility than gonorrhea.

The pinpointed pathogen is *Chlamydia trachomatis*. It is the fastest growing STD. Gonorrhea struck an estimated two million Americans last year, but chlamydia is estimated to have infected three to four million. This disease annually causes pelvic inflammations in thousands of women and, along with gonorrhea, is a major cause of sterility.

One authority estimates 150,000 of the several million U.S. females harboring the bacteria will become sterile. Some health authorities have estimated 5 percent of college females in the United States have the infection.

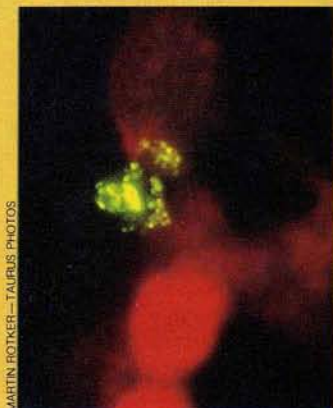
Before its identification, this infection was treated with general antibiotics as a relatively harmless unspecified nongonococcal infectious agent of the urethra or of the vagina. But far from being harmless, chlamydia is now recognized as one of the greatest causes of pelvic inflammation and infertility in adults, and blindness and pneumonia in infant children.

Gonorrhea can be treated with penicillin, but penicillin won't cure chlamydia. Because the organism is so persistent, it takes 10 to 14 days of the more powerful and costly

(Continued on page 39)

Chlamydia trachomatis infections, more widespread than gonorrhea, are a major cause of sterility and pelvic inflammations in adults; eye infection, blindness, pneumonia in infants.

Chlamydia infects a human tissue culture.



MARTIN POTKIN—TAUBS PHOTOS

The sexual revolution of the past several decades has put scores of thousands of nonmonogamous married individuals, and singles, at risk. Many are spreading one of the most devastating and deadly of viruses, and possibly other sexually transmitted diseases, unknowingly to others. The risk is in direct proportion to the number of sexual partners they have had—either heterosexual or homosexual.

Dr. Mervyn Silverman, the president of the U.S. Conference of Local Health Officers, said that the threat of AIDS, combined with existing fears about genital herpes and other sexually transmitted diseases, has pulled the reins on the galloping sexual freedom of the last 20 years. "I believe the sexual revolution is just about over," he said.

Why New Diseases

A long and growing list of other sexually transmissible pathogens—many unrecognized as such a decade ago—has health officials worried.

Medical and health officials have shifted away from discussing social diseases by the term "venereal disease." They are now called sexually transmitted or, even more accurately, sexually transmissible diseases (STDs). This term describes the true picture of the problem as it includes not only diseases spread

Why Bring the Bible into THAT?

by John Halford

I REMEMBER the first article I ever read in *The Plain Truth*. It was back in 1959.

The magazine had been coming to our house for several months, but I had not taken much notice of it. Then one evening my mother or someone left a copy lying open at an article about space travel—a subject I was becoming interested in.

I started reading casually, then with more interest. Just when I was starting to think that maybe there might be something to this *Plain Truth* magazine after all, the writer ruined everything. He quoted the Bible. That did it!

I looked through the rest of the issue. Sure enough, there were several interesting articles, but they *all* ended up quoting scriptures. Why? What did the Bible have to do with the space race, the decline of the British Empire or a crisis in Berlin? I found it very irritating. *The Plain Truth* was otherwise a potentially interesting magazine.

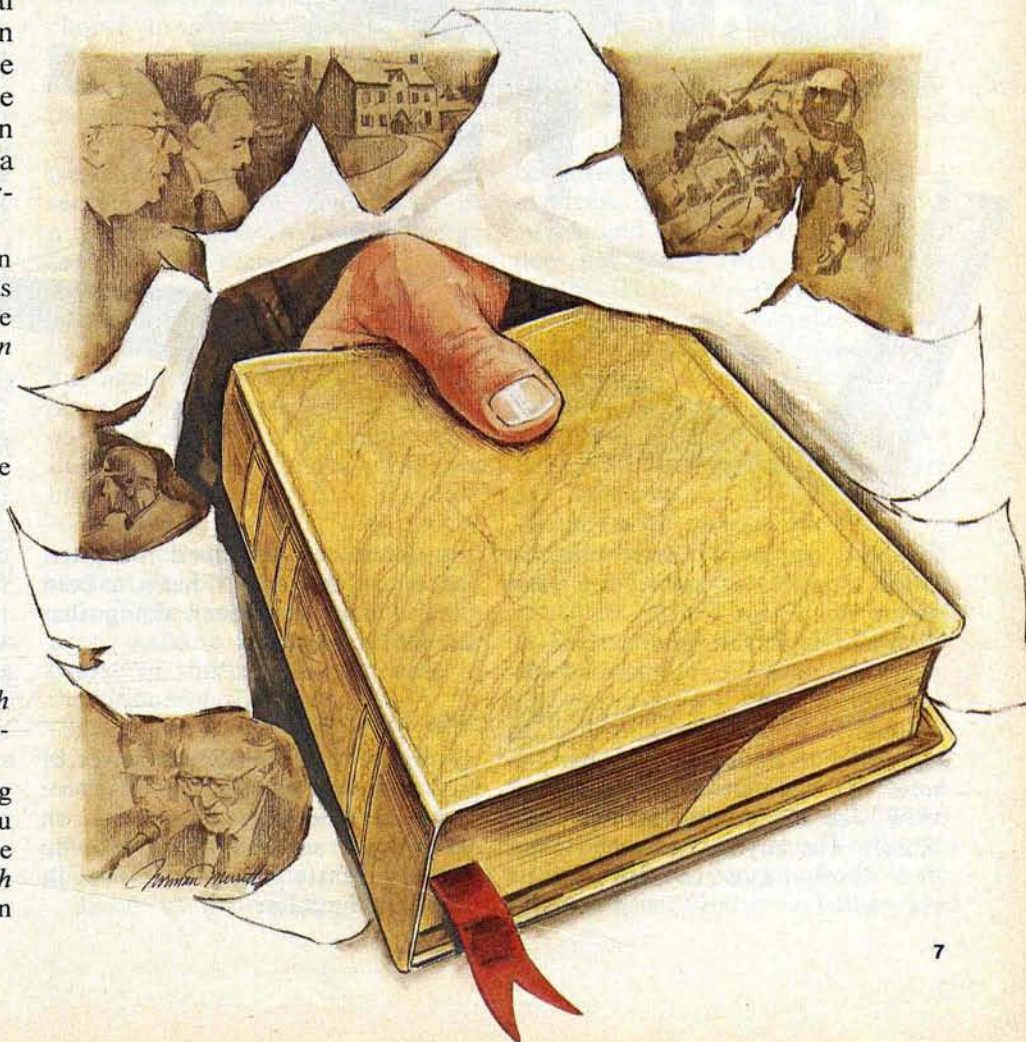
Now, 26 years later, I'm doing the same thing to others. Do you sometimes feel like I did? Do the scriptures in *The Plain Truth* annoy you? Do you ever put down

this magazine with exasperation and ask, Can't they write *anything* without rounding it off with a quotation from the Psalms, the prophet Ezekiel or the gospel according to Luke? Why does *The Plain*

Truth keep "bringing the Bible into that"?

A Point of View

Every major magazine has a point of view. Each sees the



issues of the day from its particular editorial vantage point. Scattered around my office are many publications. Some represent quiet, conservative values. Others are more extreme.

One newsmagazine published in Europe has a Third World readership in mind. No question where the editors are coming from—the United States is always wrong, and terrorists of any ilk are invariably “liberation fronts.” Get past that and you have an informative, well-written publication that keeps you up on what’s happening in Africa and Asia.

The point is that most publications, in catering to their readers’

Herbert W. Armstrong had begun to understand that he was living in the end of an age, and that society was about to go into its final tailspin. The world was becoming more selfish and materialistic, and although paying lip service to religion, was steadily losing contact with truth and reality. (Sorry to bring this up right now, but even the apostle Paul told us that would happen. It’s in his second letter to Timothy, chapter three, verses 1-5.)

The world needed a magazine that would accurately represent God’s point of view. So *The Plain Truth* was founded to fill that gap—to explain what God had to

The answer is the prophecies once delivered to ancient Israel and recorded by the prophets. Those prophecies, when you really understand them, give shape and form to the news of today . . . and tomorrow. We would not presume to help our readers understand what is *really* going on without constantly referring to them.

What about moral issues and social trends in our turbulent society? What is right and what is wrong? Who should decide? If anyone is entitled to say how mankind should live, surely it is mankind’s Creator. He gave instructions that we have chosen to ignore. Those instructions are the laws of God and are recorded in the Bible. They are bedrock truth. Our readers, caught in the cross fire of experimental values, need to know what God’s law says about how they live—or should live—their lives.

In our stress-filled society, people need encouragement, consolation, inspiration and entertainment. The quest for happiness and fulfillment has taken us in some bizarre directions. The world is full of false hopes and emotional blind alleys.

Is there anything genuine to believe in and positive to work for among the mixed-up values? Is there any real hope for the future? Is there indeed any meaning to life at all? Once again, the answers are available in the pages of God’s instruction book, the Holy Bible.

So that’s why we quote the Bible so often. We never just “add a few scriptures” to make our articles sound nice and pious. We don’t use a scripture unless it is truly relevant to our subject.

But as we sort through the news of the day from wire services in our news bureau and as we examine the issues of the moment, those quotations from Psalms, Ezekiel, the gospel of Luke and the other books of the Bible do become irresistibly relevant.

God does have something to reveal about our lives and our world, and *The Plain Truth* would not be true to its founding principles if we didn’t say what God reveals in his instruction book. □



interests, present their material from a particular slant. But what about *The Plain Truth*?

When it began, more than 50 years ago now, the founder and editor had in mind a publication that would fill a gap in publishing. In that difficult decade of the '30s—as now—just about every point of view was represented except one. Rarely was anyone asking, “What did God have to say about things?”

say about the news and the great issues of the day. That’s a bold claim. Yet we’ve been doing that for half a century!

How do we do it?

Why Scriptures

Is the news of the day a series of isolated happenings, or is there indeed something big going on behind the scenes? If so, how do the apparently unrelated events fit into that pattern?

Mystery of Angels and Evil Spirits

We continue, with this fourth installment, the serial publication of Herbert W. Armstrong's latest book *Mystery of the Ages*.

COULD ANYTHING be more mysterious than the question of the unseen spirit world? Angelic beings have always been a mystery to people on the earth. Do angels actually exist? Is there, in fact, a Satan the devil? Is Satan a literal, immortal being? Did God create a devil?

Some religions worship gods they believe to be evil spirits. Some of the great cathedrals of the Christian religion are embellished on their exterior with gargoyles, ugly and grotesque carved faces, which are supposed to frighten evil spirits away.

All the evils and troubles in the world are caused by minds clashing with minds.

But what is the real cause of those clashing of minds? Is there any connection between such contentious attitudes and the unseen spirit world? It is a mystery to almost everybody, but the Bible reveals a very real but invisible

world—another dimension, as some choose to call it—existing along with our own, but absolutely indiscernible to our five senses. It is the spirit world.

In the first chapter of Hebrews, we read of angels serving as God's secret messengers, sent forth to minister to those God has called to salvation and eternal life.

In Ephesians 6 it is stated that our contentions and strivings are in fact not with other human people, but against "principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness [evil spirits] in high places."

How can this be? Why is the world filled with such clashings and contentions between human minds?

In Ephesians 2:2, humans have been walking "according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air [Satan], the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience." People simply do not realize that there is an invisible spirit power injecting into their minds these hostile attitudes.

Even to professing Christians,

these scriptures have been a mystery.

Why do not even professing Christians understand this mystery? This invisible spirit world (Col. 1:15-16) is very real but because it is invisible it has been a mystery. But the fact that holy angels and evil spirits are invisible does not negate their existence. In actual truth the invisible spirit world is more real than the material and the visible. In fact, most people do not know what electricity is but are well aware of its reality. The Bible explains: "But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: in whom the god of this world [Satan] hath blinded the minds of them which believe not . . ." (II Cor. 4:3-4). Satan is the god of this world.

The time of UNDERSTANDING has come.

The Supreme Invisible Power

It was made clear in chapter one that God from eternity has been a family, originally composed of two members: God, and the Word who almost 2,000 years ago became Jesus Christ. God is invisible—the

supreme all powerful Spirit Being. We saw that God lives. He acts! What does he do? He is the creating family. Perhaps few realize, the very first thing God created was not the earth, suns, other planets—the universe. Before all these he created the angelic beings—a spirit world of myriads of angelic beings.

The Great God through the Word first designed and created these SPIRIT BEINGS—angels, each individually created—millions or perhaps even billions of them! Angels are actual personal spirit beings, each having a mind of greater capacity and ability than human minds, capable of attitudes, purposes and intentions. It is stated that even Jesus as a human was made “a little lower than the angels” (Heb. 2:7). They are composed wholly of spirit. They were given self-containing life—life inherent—immortality. They have no blood circulating in veins and do not need the breath of air to sustain life, but have self-containing life inherent within them.

Angels are, because created by God, called sons of God (Job 1:6), but they were not begotten and born sons of God.

Why the Creation of Angels?

Why were invisible spirit-composed angels created before all else? Why were they created even prior to the creation of physical matter and the physical universe? Why were they created at all?

Jesus Christ said, “I work and my Father works” (see John 5:17). In John 1:1-5 it is revealed that God and the Word (the God family) live. In the preceding chapter we noted how they lived—in mutual love, total agreement and perfect harmony. But if they lived, what did they do? They created. One might say that by profession they were in the creating business. To aid them in the work of creating, governing and managing what was to be created, they first of all created other spirit beings on a lower plane than the God family. Angels were created to be ministers, agents, helpers in God’s creation. They were created as servants of the living God.

From eternity God was supreme,

which to our human minds means God sat on the throne of all that existed or was to exist. In the 25th chapter of Exodus, we find an earthly description of the very throne of God in heaven, in the description of the ark built by Moses under God’s instruction. On either side of God’s throne was a super archangel, a cherub, whose wings stretched out covering the very throne of God. This signifies that these superior angels were involved in the very administration of the government of God over all of God’s creation. They were aides, ministers, servants, assisting God.

We read about angels in the first chapter of Hebrews. This chapter first speaks of Jesus. “He, . . . stamped with God’s own character, sustains the universe with his word of power . . . and thus he is superior to the angels, as he has inherited a Name superior to theirs. For to what angel did God ever say, ‘Thou art my son, to-day have I become thy father’? Or again, ‘I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me’? And further, when introducing the First-born into the world, he says, ‘Let all God’s angels worship him.’ While he says of angels, ‘Who turns his angels into winds [spirits], his servants into flames of fire,’ he says of the Son, ‘God is thy throne for ever and ever, thy royal sceptre is the sceptre of equity: thou hast loved justice and hated lawlessness, therefore God, thy God, has consecrated thee with the oil of rejoicing beyond thy comrades’—and, ‘Thou didst found the earth at the beginning. . . .’

“To what angel did he ever say, ‘Sit at my right hand, till I make your enemies a foot-stool for your feet’? Are not all angels merely spirits in the divine service, commissioned for the benefit of those who are to inherit salvation?” (verses 3-10, 13-14, Moffatt translation).

Humans are created a little lower than angels, though we have the awesome potential of becoming far greater. This fact is expressed in the second chapter of Hebrews.

It will come as news to most readers that angels were created before the earth and the physical universe were brought into exist-

tence. Job 38:1-7 shows the angels shouted for joy when God first created the earth. It is stated in both Genesis 1 and 2 that the earth was created at the same time as the entire physical universe.

Angels are invisible, immortal spirit beings with power and knowledge superior to humans (II Pet. 2:11). They have seen all the activities of mankind on the earth and therefore know more about the human mind, psychology, sociology, science and all the arts than any living man.

God’s Invisible Agents

God has had angels specifically assigned to supervise and protect his Church throughout all of its history (Rev. 1:4, 16, 20; 2:1, 8, 12, 18; 3:1, 7, 14). He has angels who continually walk through the earth to observe and report back to him the overall conditions on earth (Rev. 5:6; Zech. 4:10; II Chron. 16:9).

And God has angels specifically assigned to look after his begotten human children (Acts 12:15; Matt. 18:10). God promises: “For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways” (Ps. 91:11).

Twelve of God’s angels will be the gatekeepers in the new city of Jerusalem (Rev. 21:12), one for each tribe of Israel. These 12 may be assisting the archangel Michael now.

Angels are messengers. They appeared to Abraham, Lot, Hagar, Moses, Manoah, Gideon, Elijah and many of the prophets and apostles.

When these angels manifest themselves to human beings, they generally do so in the form of men.

The Bible mentions three angels of high rank: Lucifer (Isa. 14:12), now Satan the devil; Gabriel, who appeared to Daniel on two occasions (Dan. 8:16; 9:21), to Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist (Luke 1:19), and later Mary, the mother of Jesus (Luke 1:26); and third, Michael, called one of the *chief princes* (Dan. 10:13), and whom Jude identifies as an *archangel* (Jude 9). Michael is the archangel specifically assigned to protect and minister to the 12 tribes of

Israel (Dan. 12:1; 10:2-13, 21) and to the true Church of God today (Rev. 12:7).

The Supreme Creative Accomplishment

God assigns angels responsibilities, but God created within them **MINDS—WITH POWER TO THINK, TO REASON, TO MAKE CHOICES AND DECISIONS!**

But there was one super-important quality that even God's creative powers could not create instantly by fiat—the same perfect, holy, righteous **CHARACTER** inherent in both God and the Word!

This kind of character must be **DEVELOPED**, by the **CHOICE** and the **INTENT** of the one in whom it comes to exist.

So mark well this super-vital truism—that perfect, holy and righteous *character* is the supreme feat of accomplishment possible for Almighty God the Creator—it is also the means to his ultimate supreme **PURPOSE!** His final objective!

But HOW?

I repeat, such perfect character

Angels are actual personal spirit beings, each having a mind of greater capacity and ability than human minds, capable of attitudes, purposes and intentions.

must be *developed*. It requires the free choice and decision of the separate entity in whom it is to be created. But, further, even then it must be instilled by and from the Holy God who, only, has such righteous character to endow.

But what do we mean by righteous character?

Perfect, holy and righteous character is the ability in such separate entity to come to discern the true and right way from the false, to make voluntarily a full and unconditional surrender to God and his

perfect way—to yield to be *conquered* by God—to determine even against temptation or self-desire, to *live* and to *do* the right. And even then such holy character is the gift of God. It comes by yielding to God to instill **HIS LAW** (God's right way of life) within the entity who so decides and wills.

Actually, this perfect character comes only from God, as instilled within the entity of his creation, upon voluntary acquiescence, even after severe trial and test.

I have devoted a few paragraphs to this point because it is the supreme pinnacle means in God's overall **PURPOSE!**

Now as to the prehistoric angels: God 1) created them with minds capable of thinking, reasoning, making choices and decisions with self-will; and 2) revealed plainly to them **HIS TRUE AND RIGHTEOUS WAY**. But God of necessity allowed them free moral agency in accepting God's right way, or turning to contrary ways of their own devising.

What was God's **ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE** for the angels? Beyond question it is that which, now, because of angelic rebellion, has become the transcendent potential of humans!

As the testing ground, and opportunity for positive and active creative accomplishment, God created—brought into existence—the entire vast material universe.

First of all, God had created angels. After that, and for angels and for humans who were to be created later, God formed

and brought into existence the earth and the entire universe.

God now created not only matter, but with and in it energy and such laws as man has discovered in the fields of physics and chemistry. God formed matter to be present in both the organic and the inorganic states.

And so we come now to that which is revealed in Genesis 1:1: "In the beginning [of the physical universe] God created the heavens and the earth." These are material and physical.

As previously stated, in the Authorized Version will be found the word *heaven* in the singular. But this originally was written by Moses in Hebrew. And in the Hebrew the word is in the plural—*heavens*—thus including not only our earth, but the entire material **UNIVERSE**.

It is therefore indicated that *at that time*—after the creation of angels—the entire universe was brought into existence at the same time as the creation of our earth. I find strong indication of this in other biblical internal evidence, and also it is definitely stated in Genesis 2:4.

The Perfect Creation

The original Hebrew words (the words written by Moses) imply a perfect creation. God reveals himself as Creator of perfection, light and beauty. Every reference in the Bible describes the condition of any completed phase of God's creation as "very good"—perfect.

This first verse of the Bible actually speaks of the original **PHYSICAL** creation in its entirety—the universe—including the earth, perhaps millions of years ago—as a perfect creation, beautiful and perfect as far as its creation was a finished, completed work. God is a perfectionist!

In Job 38:4, 7, God is speaking specifically of the creation of this earth. He said all the angels (created "sons of God") shouted for joy at the creation of the earth. This reveals that angels were created *before the creation of the earth*—and probably before the *material* universe. The suns, planets and astral bodies are material substance. Angels are individually created spirit beings, composed solely of spirit.

As mentioned earlier, it will come as a surprise to many to learn that angels inhabited this earth **BEFORE** the creation of man. This passage from Job implies it.

Angels on Earth Sinned

Other passages place angels on earth prior to man.

Notice II Peter 2:4-6. First in time order, "angels that sinned." Next in time sequence, the antediluvian world beginning with Adam,

carrying through to the Flood. After that, Sodom and Gomorrah.

This book of books, containing the revealed knowledge of the Creator God, tells us that God created angels as composed of spirit. But can you imagine angels becoming *sinning* angels? Angels were created with power of thought, of decision and of choice, else they have no individuality of character. Since *sin* is the transgression of God's law, these angels rebelled against God's law, the basis of God's government.

But how and when did the angels sin?

Notice carefully what is revealed in II Peter 2:4-5: "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; and spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly." The phrase "cast . . . down to hell" in the above verse is an English expression translated from the Greek *tartaroo*, from *tartaros*, found in no other passage in all the Bible. *Tartaros* means a place or condition of restraint.

These verses show that universal sin brings universal destruction to the physical earth. The antediluvian sin, culminating with the Flood, was worldwide, universal sin. Notice: "... the earth was filled with violence . . . for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth . . . for the earth is filled with violence . . ." (Gen. 6:11-13). "But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. . . . Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God" (verses 8-9). All flesh had sinned—over the whole earth. But *only Noah* "walked with God." So, the Flood destroyed *the whole earth*—all but Noah and his family.

The homosexual and other sins of Sodom and Gomorrah spread over the territory of those two cities. And physical destruction came to their entire area. The sin of the angels was worldwide; the destruction of the physical was worldwide. (And there is reason to believe, as will be explained in chapter seven, universe-wide.)

The verses quoted above place the sinning of the angels *prior* to the antediluvian sins that started with Adam, *prior* to the creation of man. And *that* should be a surprise revealing of one phase of the mystery! Angels inhabited this earth *before* the creation of man.

It is revealed in Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28 that God placed the archangel Lucifer, a cherub, on a throne on the earth. He was placed there as a ruler over the entire earth. God intended him to rule the earth by administering the government of God over the earth. And the government of God was administered on earth until the rebellion of the sinning angels.

How long these angels inhabited the earth before the creation of man is not revealed. It might have been millions—or even billions—of years. More on that later. But these angels sinned. Sin is the transgression of God's law (I John 3:4). And God's law is the basis of God's government. So we know these angels, apparently a third of all the angels (Rev. 12:4), sinned—rebelled against the government of God. And sin carries penalties. The penalty for the sin of the angels is not *death*, as it is for man. Angels are immortal spirit beings and cannot die. These spirit beings had *been given dominion* over the PHYSICAL EARTH as a possession and an abode.

The universal, worldwide sin of the angels resulted in the physical destruction of the face of the earth.

God Rules His Creation

God is Creator. God is also Ruler over his creation. He preserves what he creates by his government. What God creates, he has created for a purpose—to be used, improved, developed, preserved and maintained. And this use is regulated by God's government. When the angels rebelled against God's government, the development and improvement of the earth—"putting the icing on the cake"—ceased. The preservation and development of the physical earth and all its original beauty and glory ceased—and physical destruction to the surface of the earth resulted!

By this angelic sin, Lucifer became Satan the devil and his angels became demons.

God is Creator, Preserver and Ruler.

Satan is destroyer!

So, now we read in Jude 6-7: "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."

Now back to Genesis 1:1-2. Verse 1, as stated above, implies a perfect creation. God is the author of life, of beauty, of perfection. Satan has brought only darkness, ugliness, imperfection, violence. Verse 1 shows the creation of a perfect, if unfinished earth, glorious and beautiful. Verse 2 reveals the result of the sin of the angels.

"And the earth was [became] without form, and void." The words "without form, and void" are translated from the Hebrew *tohu* and *bohu*. A better translation is "waste and empty" or "chaotic, in confusion and in a state of decay." The word was elsewhere in Genesis also translated *became*, as in Genesis 19:26. In other words, the earth, originally created perfect and beautiful, had now become chaotic, waste and empty, like our moon, except earth's surface was covered with water.

David was inspired to reveal how God renewed the face of the earth: "Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth" (Ps. 104:30).

A Surprising Truth

Now another surprise for most readers. Here is another bit of the missing dimension in knowledge, actually revealed in the Bible, but unrecognized by religion, by science and by higher education.

From verse 2 of Genesis 1 on, the remainder of this first chapter of the Bible is *not* describing the original creation of the earth. But it *is* describing a renewing of the face

of the earth, after it had become waste and empty as a result of the sin of the angels.

What is described from verse 2 on, in the supposed creation chapter of the Bible, did occur, according to the Bible, approximately 6,000 years ago. But that could have been millions or trillions of years after the actual creation of the earth described in verse 1!

I will comment later on the length of time it might have taken before all earth's angels turned to rebellion.

The earth *had become* waste and empty. God did not create it waste and empty, or in a state of decay. God is not the author of confusion (I Cor. 14:33). This same Hebrew word—*tohu*—meaning waste and empty, was inspired in Isaiah 45:18, where it is translated "in vain." Using the original Hebrew word, as originally inspired, it reads: "For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain [*tohu*], he formed it to be inhabited."

Continue now with the remainder of verse 2 of Genesis 1 (the earth had become chaotic, waste and empty): "And darkness was upon the face of the deep [the ocean or fluid surface of the earth]. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness" (verses 2-4).

Satan is the author of darkness. The rebellion of the angels had caused the darkness. God is the author of light and truth. Light displays and enhances beauty, and also exposes evil. Darkness hides both.

The verses that follow in this first chapter of the Bible describe the renewing of the face of the earth, yielding beautiful lawns, trees, shrubs, flowers, vegetation—then the creation of fish and fowl, animal life, and finally man.

The Great Lucifer

But first, before coming to man, we need to fill in the prehistory portion.

How did this sin of the angels

come to take place? How did it start?

Remember, God the Creator *preserves*, improves and enhances what he creates by his government. What he creates is created to be used. This earth was to be inhabited and used by angels, originally.

When God placed angels—apparently a third of all (Rev. 12:4)—on the newly created, perfect, beautiful and glorious earth, he set over them, on a throne, to administer the government of God, an archangel—the great cherub Lucifer. There were only two other beings of this extremely high rank of cherub, Michael and Gabriel.

So far as is revealed, these are the supreme pinnacle of spirit-composed beings within God's power to create. This Lucifer was a super being of awesome, majestic beauty, dazzling brightness, supreme knowledge, wisdom and power—perfect as God created him! (Ezek. 28:15). But remember, there is one thing God cannot create automatically and instantly by fiat, and that is perfect righteous character. So God of necessity created in him the power of choice and decision, or he could not have been a being of individuality and character.

At this juncture a truth must be explained almost never understood. God creates in a principle of duality. I have compared it to a woman baking a cake. When she takes the cake out of the oven, it is not yet a finished production until she puts the icing on the cake. When God created the earth and other planets this system of duality was involved.

What had been created was perfect as far as it existed up to that point. But it was not yet a finished or completed creation. God intended the angels to add their own workmanship to the earth's surface. He intended them to work over the surface of the earth, to improve it, to embellish it, beautify it—in other words "put the icing on the cake."

The same principle of duality applies to the creation of the angels. Perfect righteous character

cannot be automatically created by fiat. The angels themselves, of necessity, were required to have their part in the development of character, and their creation could not be actually finished until this character had been perfected.

Lucifer, Later Satan

I want you to grasp fully the supreme magnificence of this zenith of God's created beings. Two different biblical passages tell us of his original created state.

First, notice what is revealed in Isaiah 14. (This famous chapter begins with the time, shortly ahead of us now, when the Eternal God shall have intervened in this world's affairs. The people of Israel—not necessarily or exclusively the Israelis or Judah—shall have been taken as captive slaves, and God shall intervene and bring them back to the original promised homeland.) "And it shall come to pass in the day that the Lord shall give thee rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear, and from the hard bondage wherein thou wast made to serve, that thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, How hath the oppressor ceased! the golden city ceased!

The invisible spirit world is very real but because it is invisible it has been a mystery.

The Lord hath broken the staff of the wicked, and the sceptre of the rulers. He who smote the people in wrath . . . he that ruled the nations in anger, is persecuted, and none hindereth" (verses 3-6).

This is NOT speaking of the king of ancient Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar. The time is yet ahead of us—but shortly ahead. It is speaking of the modern successor of that ancient Nebuchadnezzar. It is speaking of the one who will be RULER of the soon-coming resurrected "Holy Roman Empire"—a sort of soon-coming "United States

of Europe"—a union of 10 nations to rise up out of or following the Common Market of today (Rev. 17). Britain will NOT be in that empire soon to come.

This united Europe will conquer Israel—if you know who Israel is today, and I do *not* mean Judah, known as the Israelis today. All that involves a number of other prophecies, which there is not room here to explain. (This is explained in our free book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.)

But this "king of Babylon" shall at the time of this prophecy have been utterly defeated by the intervention of the living Christ in his power and glory. Continue on:

"The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing. Yea, the fir trees rejoice... and the cedars of Lebanon, saying, Since thou art laid down, no feller is come up against us" (verses 7-8).

(I want to interpose an interesting bit of information right here. The cedars of Lebanon, biblically famous, are almost totally cut down. Only one small clump of these trees remains, high in the mountains. I have seen and photographed them. However, perhaps the finest specimen of the cedars of Lebanon surviving on earth is on what was previously our Ambassador College campus in England. We prized it highly. It is interesting to see that this prophecy, written some 500 years B.C., should record the fact that these beautiful and stately trees would become so largely felled.)

This passage in Isaiah 14 speaks of the doom of this coming human king at the hands of the glorified, all-powerful Christ. It refers to him as Satan's chief political ruler and military destroyer, to be totally deceived by Satan in the years very shortly ahead of us.

Satan's Earthly Throne

Then, coming to verse 12, this human earthly type of Satan the devil suddenly transposes to Satan himself—the former archangel, Lucifer:

"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the

nations!" A better translation here is: "How art thou, who didst weaken the nations, cut down to the ground." In the Revised Standard Version: "How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low!" This the former Lucifer did through the human political-military leader in his power—spoken of in the first 11 verses.

The name Lucifer means "Shining star of the dawn," or "Bringer of light," as God first created him. Now continue: "For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars [angels] of God."

Notice, Lucifer had a throne; he was a ruler. His throne was on earth, for he was going to ascend into heaven. Continue: "I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation [God's heavenly throne], in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High" (verses 13-14). Actually, it is plain that Lucifer had nothing less in mind than knocking the Creator God off his throne and becoming supreme God himself.

Apparently he planned to put himself in place of God, over the universe!

But finally, as the context returns again to the human type: "Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell [Heb. *sheol*], to the sides of the pit" (verse 15).

From that point, the thought returns to the human king. Lucifer was the supreme masterpiece of God's creative power, as an individually created being, threatening, as a Frankenstein monster, to destroy his own Maker—and assume all his powers to rule the whole universe.

Literally this prophecy is speaking of a war in heaven to occur in our present time described in Revelation 12:7-9: "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him." And also Daniel 12:1-2: "And at that time shall

Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt."

Satan's rebel rule was NOT a government based upon the principle of love—of giving, of outgoing concern for the good of others, but based on SELF-CENTEREDNESS, on vanity, lust and greed, on envy, jealousy, the spirit of competition, hatred, violence and destruction, on darkness and error, instead of light and truth, on ugliness instead of beauty.

Notice here, once again, the principle of duality. The above scripture applies to a time prior to the creation of the first human, Adam. But in Revelation 12:7 and in Daniel 12:1, Satan once again at the end of the 6,000 years allotted to his rule on earth's throne, tries once again to seize God's throne in heaven.

Lucifer a Created Being

Look now at the other biblical passage describing this supreme angelic creation of God, in Ezekiel 28.

Actually, the entire concept in Ezekiel 26 speaks of the ancient great commercial city of Tyre. It was the commercial metropolis of the ancient world, even as Babylon was the political capital. Tyre was the New York, the London, the Tokyo, or the Paris of the ancient world. The ancient Tyre, port of the world's shippers and merchants, gloried *herself* in her beauty, even as Paris in our time.

Chapter 27 carries on with comparisons to passages in the 18th chapter of the book of Revelation referring to a politico-religious leader to come (verses 9-19).

But coming to chapter 28, the theme comes more completely to the time just now ahead of us, the same time depicted in Isaiah 14. Ezekiel 28 speaks of the prince of Tyre, an earthly ruler, of whom the

(Continued on page 35)

A United Europe

Nearer Than You Think!

by Ronald D. Kelly

For centuries Europeans have dreamed of a united continent.
That dream is destined soon to be fulfilled!

IT'S NOT a new idea—a United States of Europe. French writer Victor Hugo first used the phrase in the mid-1800s. Before him Voltaire and Goethe philosophized about it. Beethoven, Mozart and Wagner dreamed of it as they composed beautiful music. Michelangelo and Rembrandt contemplated a united Europe while they produced magnificent paintings. Even Dante Alighieri, as early as 1300, dared to envision the European continent at peace under one ruler.

It has been the dream of Europeans for centuries. Emperors of the Holy Roman Empire, kings and queens, feudal lords, Popes and archbishops, dukes, barons and earls, philosophers, artists, musicians and commoners by the millions have vainly yearned for a united Europe.

The centuries have passed and it still remains an unfulfilled dream.

The Mood Since World War II

Commemorating the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II, on May 8, 1985, European Parliament President Pierre Pflimlin said, "It might now seem a vain hope to dream of bringing together all the peoples of Europe, but no one can stop us dreaming of a complete

Europe united in peace. After all, mankind's greatest steps forward have often only been dreams come true."

Forty years ago Europe lay in ruins from bullets, bombs and millions of marching boots. When British Prime Minister Winston Churchill surveyed the devastation in the Ruhr he could not envision Germany rebuilding in the next 50 years.

But rebuild they did.

In a speech he made in Zurich, Switzerland, in 1946, Churchill called to mind Victor Hugo's 1850s phrase as he advocated a "United States of Europe."

French Foreign Minister Aristide Briand, even in the halcyon days before the Great Depression, proposed the creation of a United States of Europe to the League of Nations.

It was given to a committee for further study. The dream was temporarily obscured by the rubble of the Second World War.

After the war no one knew if the dream could ever come to fulfillment. Europe was many nations now divided into two camps—East and West. The bombing raids were over. The Cold War was on.

Two Europes—Forever Divided?

The end of the war in Europe 40 years ago left Europe a divided continent. An "Iron Curtain" separated the two halves.

Many wonder how long such separation can endure. What could bring the nations of Europe together? Or is the status quo satisfactory for the peoples of Europe?

The separation can be realized above all else in the two Germanies—East and West. At the end of the war, many Western leaders assumed somehow the two Germanies would once again unite.

But 40 long years later they seem more apart than ever. An entire generation has grown to maturity knowing only the reality of two Germanies. Young East Germans on the whole seem little interested in being dissolved into the fast-paced Western culture that has developed after the war years.

Many fail to realize most people alive today only know the Second World War as history. Anyone less than 50 years of age remembers almost nothing from personal experience. I was 1 year old when Hitler marched Nazi troops into the Sudetenland. When the surrender papers were signed in 1945, I was only 7. My memories of the war are toy soldiers and model airplanes.

While in Europe this year I spoke with many Europeans, most of them less than 50, who like myself only know of the Second World War as an event of history.

A couple who are friends of mine are East Germans. Upon hearing I was in Europe they made arrangements for a trip to Vienna where we

could spend a day together. They have gone through the rebuilding process from an entirely different perspective. I grew up in a postwar American culture of high-tech progress—they in the hard working but slower pace of Eastern Europe.

They see little hope or opportunity for reuniting the two Germanies in our lifetimes.

When I first went to Germany in 1964, the hope of a united Germany was alive and vibrant among West Germans. A national holiday on June 17 each year was celebrated with speeches, marches and the hope of seeing the dream of a united Germany fulfilled.

Because of the fervor I observed in Germany, I, along with many other Westerners, believed it would be a short time till East and West Germany would be once again one nation. At that time I wrote an article entitled "The March for an Undivided Germany."

But that was more than 21 years ago. There are, today, no immediately visible signs the two Germanies will so unite. It's as though time has stood still on the German unity issue.

The marching has ceased. Celebrations looking forward to one Germany are minimal. Many accept the divided nations.

That in no way lessens the dream of a united Europe, however.

President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, speaking to the European Parliament in Strasbourg at the ceremony commemorating the war's end, said:

"In this room are those who fought on opposite sides 40 years ago, and their sons and daughters. Now you work together to lead Europe democratically. You buried animosity and hatred in the rubble. There is no greater testament to reconciliation and to the peaceful unity of

Europe than the men and women in this chamber."

Thinking of the future, President Reagan then expressed the hope that Europe's centuries-old dream of unity would not die, but come to reality: "Here in Western Europe, you have created a multinational democratic community in which there is a free flow of people, of information, of goods, and of culture. West Europeans move freely in all directions, sharing and partaking of each other's ideas and culture.

"It is my hope, our hope, that in the 21st century—which is only 15 years away—all Europeans, from Moscow to Lisbon, will be able to travel without a passport and the free flow of people and ideas will include the other half of Europe. It is my fervent wish that in the next century there will be one, free Europe."

He added, "You are, today, a New Europe on the brink of a new century."

On the subject of East and West Europe, European Parliament President Pflimlin said: "We must recognize our limitations. We represent only one part of Europe. There are peoples every bit as European as our own that are unable to take their place in our community. Dresden and Warsaw, Prague and Budapest are cities as European as our own 10 capitals."

The hope of a united Europe is far from dead. No one can see today exactly how or when it will come to pass. But there is no doubt, sooner or later, it will.



"It might now seem a vain hope to dream of bringing together all the peoples of Europe, but no one can stop us dreaming of a complete Europe united in peace."

**European Parliament
President
Pierre Pflimlin**

Prophesied for Our Day

As amazing as it may sound, the ultimate formation of a modern united Europe was prophesied thousands of years ago—in the days of the Babylonian empire.

Through a dream given to King Nebuchadnezzar, God revealed the

panorama of Western civilizations from 600 B.C. all the way to our time today.

In the dream, Nebuchadnezzar saw a great image with a head of gold, breast of silver, thighs of brass and legs of iron.

The king called his wise men and astrologers, but none could interpret the dream. Then God gave his servant Daniel the meaning. Here's what the dream foretold: "You [King Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonian empire] are that head of gold. After you, another kingdom will rise, inferior to yours. Next, a third kingdom, one of bronze, will rule over the whole earth. *Finally*, there will be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron" (Dan. 2:38-40, New International Version throughout).

Though a powerful kingdom, the great empire of Babylon fell to the Medo-Persians in 539 B.C. For more than two centuries the Persians controlled Western culture. But it, too, could not endure. By 333 B.C., under Alexander the Great, the Greco-Macedonian empire rose to unparalleled heights in military strength, art and education.

Shortly before the birth of Jesus, the Romans began to dominate Western civilizations. Remember, God had revealed in the book of Daniel there would be only four world-ruling kingdoms before the establishment of God's government on the earth. Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome make up those four great world-ruling empires.

Rome was to outlive the others—but it, too, fell into decadence and decay. The fall of the great Roman empire officially occurred in A.D. 476. Rome had survived 500 years.

More than 1,500 years have passed since the fall of Rome. But God's kingdom is not yet established. What has happened? Was the interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream wrong?

Not at all. We don't, however, have the complete story.

In Daniel 7 God revealed to the prophet even more about these four world-ruling kingdoms—this time through an analogy of four great wild beasts.

Daniel saw: "Four great beasts, each different from the others, came

up out of the sea. The first [Babylon] was like a lion... a second beast, which looked like a bear [Persia]... after that... was another beast, one that looked like a leopard [Greece]... and there before me was a fourth beast [Rome]—terrifying and frightening and very powerful... It was different from all the former beasts, and *it had ten horns*" (Dan. 7:2-7).

Here are the same four world-ruling kingdoms, but the fourth kingdom was different. It had 10 horns.

After Rome fell in A.D. 476, three Arian kingdoms occupied the West under the banner of Rome—the Vandals, the Heruli and the Ostrogoths. But they soon disappeared. They are described in Daniel 7:8, "Before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it."

"Another horn, a little one"—what was that one?

In the early part of the fourth century A.D. the Roman emperor Constantine had given official recognition to Christianity. It was later made an official state religion.

After the fall of Rome, the bishop at Rome gained great importance. Through land acquisition, the Church began to play a much more prominent role.

In A.D. 554 the Church commissioned Justinian, the Eastern Roman emperor at Constantinople, to restore the empire in the West by uprooting the last of the three Arian kingdoms, the Ostrogoths.

Religion, then, is the little horn of Daniel 7:8. Since the Imperial Restoration the Church has played an important role in the development of European culture and civilization.

The first three horns were outside kingdoms that only temporarily held power in Rome between A.D. 476 and 554. They were "swallowed up" by the Imperial Restoration.

Since Daniel's vision foretold 10 horns (we might call them resurrections of the ancient empire), after A.D. 554 there must follow seven kingdoms.

There indeed have been six great restorations in Europe since that

time. First was the Imperial Restoration of Justinian beginning in 554. Next came the Frankish kingdom under Charlemagne in 800. Then followed the Holy Roman Empire of the German nations beginning in the 10th century.

After that the Habsburgs led the Austro-Hungarian empire. Napoleon led a French revival of the empire in the early 19th century.

And in our century one of the briefest attempts to revive the empire was proclaimed by Benito Mussolini in the 1930s. With Adolf Hitler joining forces to form the Axis powers, the sixth of the final seven horns rose and fell.

Where are we in the course of prophetic events today?

We now await the seventh resurrection of Rome. Events now taking place are leading to the formation of what well may be called a "United States of Europe."

The potential of such a union is even greater than either of the superpowers—the United States and Russia.

As some Europeans view it, why should 235 million Americans on the West have to protect 300 million Europeans from 275 million in the U.S.S.R. on the East?

Who Will Form the Final Union?

In the prophecy given in the book of Daniel, the image was in the form of a man. A man has two legs, and on the feet 10 toes.

We should not pass over the significance of this. The two legs depict an empire divided.

From before the Imperial Restoration in 554, the empire was divided in two. The Western capital was often at Rome, with Constantinople the capital in the East. It was from Constantinople that Constantine the Great ruled in the fourth century. And it was from here that

Justinian led the Imperial Restoration.

Later Western restorations existed side by side with the Eastern Empire. Even the Axis powers of World War II had two capitals—at Rome and Berlin.

With that clue we might look for the seventh and final stage to also be made up of European nations partly from the West and partly from the East.

In addition to the two legs, the image had 10 toes. Those 10 toes reveal the final form of the empire will be made up of 10 nations or groups of nations.

In January of 1986 Spain and Portugal officially become part of the European Economic Community.

This culminates years of struggle and negotiation. Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares signed the treaty of accession on June 12, 1985. In describing the event as one of the most significant moments in Portu-

guese history as quoted in a Reuters press release, he said: "We have made it!... From here we will be setting off... on a new enterprise which will return Portugal to the unity of Europe, to fully participate in its dynamism and progress."

In another Reuters release, staff writer Youssef Azmeh, commenting on the entrance of Spain and Portugal into the European Community, observed, "The dream of a United Western Europe draws a little closer tomorrow when Spain and Portugal sign a treaty to join the European Community."

In January there will be 12 nations making up the combine. But they are all Western nations.

Since Daniel's image pictures the two feet each with five toes, we would do well to anticipate that the ultimate European union will change today's map dramatically



"It is my hope . . . that . . . Europeans, from Moscow to Lisbon, will be able to travel without a passport and the free flow of people and ideas will include the other half of Europe."

**U.S. President
Ronald Reagan at
European Parliament**

and include Eastern European nations as well.

No one knows yet just which nations will make up the final 10. The possibility always exists some nations could be considered one, such as Benelux (Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg), or two or more Balkan or Iberian states could be grouped together. After all, the modern borders of European nations greatly differ from the many different borders in historic times.

The 21st Century Dream?

With the 21st century only 15 years away, many do not see the dream of a united Europe being fulfilled till the next century.

But in our rapidly exploding technological world, events can happen so rapidly as to make our heads swim.

We can awaken any morning to find a portion of the world in the grips of terrorists. Or an oil boycott could reshape international thinking in a matter of days.

Trade wars are heating up at an intense pace.

A number of Latin American nations are on the brink of debt collapse and threaten default on multi-billion-dollar loans. Should such occur, the world economic scene could immediately be in chaos.

And there is always the threat of nuclear confrontation even among some of the smaller nations.

Any one or a combination of these and many other events could force European nations to quickly unite.

And there is always the democratic process.

Otto von Habsburg, once heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, now works tirelessly as an elected official of the European Parliament to bring the nations of Europe together into one large supranational entity. He, along with hundreds of other elected officials, attempts to hammer out the basis for greater harmony and ultimate total union of the European nations.

Whether in this century or the next, the inevitability of a united Europe is there. The dream is only a matter of time till reality.

The Common Ingredients

Over the centuries the divergent nations within Europe have made it

nearly impossible to bring them together.

Language and culture, politics and currency have all been barricades to unity.

But one by one the barriers are being broken down.

Since the formation of the European Economic Community in 1957, the original six nations have now expanded to 12. Several languages are taught in EC schools, making the language barrier far less significant.

Trade regulations and tariffs have been regulated to the common good of several member nations.

But more than any single unifying factor, religion has played and will play the most important role.

During the papal visit to the Low Countries earlier this year, the Pope was booed by some. Yet his visits to other countries reflect the respect and admiration the Catholic populace worldwide have for their leader.

Pope John Paul II, the first Slavic Pope, has maintained the popular theme of a united Europe since his election to the papacy in 1978. Perhaps more than any other single element of European history, the Church has desired to see European unity under the Christian banner.

In a May speech at the headquarters of the European Economic Community in Brussels, the Pope said, "European countries cannot submit themselves to the division of their continent." He urged officials to intensify their search for unity and work toward eliminating the East-West division.

Speaking of the two Europes (East and West) John Paul II said, "The countries that for different reasons do not belong to your institutions should be included in the fundamental desire for unity."

This past summer the Pope designated Methodius and Cyril as patron saints of Europe. On June 26 *The Wall Street Journal* observed: "The symbolic importance being attached to this choice of two missionaries to the Slavic peoples *highlights the Pope's vision of a united Europe.*"

This comes at the 1,100th anniversary of the death of Methodius. The two patron saints

were responsible for bringing Christianity to the Slavic world in the ninth century.

The Wall Street Journal article further commented: "These European men [Methodius and Cyril] dreamed great dreams and then acted to change the face of their world and their era."

A July 2 Associated Press wire release added, "In the fourth encyclical of his papacy, the Polish-born pontiff lauded two ninth century saints who brought Christianity to the Slavs and *set down his vision of a Europe spiritually united by a common culture and religion.*"

The Catholic Church remains the one constant force in all European history. It will play an ever-increasing role in the unification process.

Through the normal democratic processes the dream of a united Europe would indeed not be fulfilled till well past the start of the twenty-first century.

But what if the Middle East explodes into a wave of terrorist activity threatening even the destruction of Jerusalem's holy places—holy to not only Muslims and Jews but to the Christian world?

What if an international debt collapse occurs, forcing Europe for their common good to unite?

What if even Eastern bloc European nations see value in casting their lot with a new Europe?

What if, with the high office of the Pope backing them, Eastern European nations seek religious unity with Western Europe?

A combination of these events could bring about a union of any 10 of these nations into that final stage of the resurrected Roman empire.

And it could happen so fast, when it does, the world would be astounded. The groundwork has been laid—it has been in the process since European rebuilding began the day World War II ended.

This magazine has been forecasting that ultimate union from even before the end of the Second World War in 1945.

Europe is on the threshold of fulfilling the dream—the centuries-old dream of at last a united Europe. □

JESUS' BIRTH

The Untold Story

by Keith W. Stump

Read here the eye-opening facts about the *time* of Jesus' birth.

WHY would a magazine address in early autumn the subject of Jesus' birth?

Surely that would be a topic more suitable to a wintry (Northern Hemisphere) December, when readers' minds are turning toward the Christmas season.

Or would it?

Was Jesus born in December?

If not, when was he born?

And in what year?

What difference does it make, anyway?

These are questions *The Plain Truth* receives from a considerable number of readers each December. It is time they were answered!

But again we ask, Why do we answer them at *this* time of year?

A Visit to Bethlehem

In late December of each year, thousands of tourists flock into the small town of Bethlehem in the Judean Hills south of Jerusalem to participate in annual Christmas celebrations there. Some make the 6-mile journey from Jerusalem on foot. Upon arrival, they crowd with silent awe into the paved expanse of Manger Square in front

of the revered Church of the Nativity, built over the traditional site of Jesus' birth.

Inevitably, some of these tourists arrive in Israel unprepared. They have not thoroughly studied their guidebooks. As they step off their plane, they receive a real *shock*!

November through early March

in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem for their pilgrimage down to Bethlehem.

Nevertheless, most of those who stand in Manger Square on December 25 each year—prepared and unprepared alike—fail to perceive the message being proclaimed by the very weather around them!

Notice this plain testimony of your Bible: On the day of Jesus' birth "there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night" (Luke 2:8).



Worshippers crowd into Bethlehem for a Christmas service. A few linger in Manger Square after dark. The Holy Land is *not* hot year-round; notice the coats.



is "winter" in Israel! The weather gets cold, especially at night. Often it rains—or even snows! Yet many arrive in Israel carrying luggage bulging with summer attire, reasoning that it is always hot and arid in the Middle East. So they hurriedly purchase coats and sweaters

The shepherds were living out in the open fields, tending their flock through the night. The point?

Ask any biblical scholar, or any modern Israeli: This *never* could have occurred in Judea in the month of December—nor even in November, or late October for that matter!

In ancient times as today, shepherds brought their flocks in from the fields and penned them in shelters *not later than the middle of October!* This was necessary to protect them from the cold, rainy season that usually followed that date. (The Bible itself makes it clear that winter in Palestine is a rainy season; see Ezra 10:9, 13; Song of Solomon 2:11.)

Yet Luke 2:8 tells us that at the time of Jesus' birth, the shepherds were yet *abiding* in the fields—*by night*, at that! They had not yet brought their flocks home to the sheepfolds. Clearly the cold, rainy season had not yet commenced.

Thus, on the basis of Luke's testimony alone, we see that Jesus could have been born *no later than* mid-October—when the weather is still pleasant at Bethlehem. A December 25 nativity is too late!

More Proof

Additional biblical evidence lends further support to the foregoing conclusion.

Luke 1:24-38 informs us that the virgin Mary miraculously became pregnant with Jesus when her cousin Elizabeth was six months pregnant with a child who would later be known as John the Baptist. Jesus, then, would have been born six months after John.

If we could know the time of John's birth, we could then simply add six months and know the time of Jesus' birth.

Does the Bible reveal the general time of John's birth?

Notice: Elizabeth's husband Zacharias was a priest at the Temple in Jerusalem. Luke 1:5 records that Zacharias was "of the course of Abia [in Hebrew, Abijah]."

In the days of King David of ancient Israel (10th century B.C.), the number of priests had so increased that they had to be divided into 24 courses or shifts, which would take turns in performing the priestly duties (I Chron. 24). Each course served one week at a time, beginning and ending on a weekly Sabbath day (II Chron. 23:8). The course of Abijah was the *eighth* course or shift in the rotation (I Chron. 24:10).

The Talmud (collection of Jewish civil and religious laws and

commentaries) records that the first course performed its duties in the first week of the first month of the Hebrew calendar. This month (called *Abib* or *Nisan*) begins about the start of spring in the Northern Hemisphere.

The second course worked the second week. The third week—being the annual festival season of Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread—found *all* 24 courses serving together, sharing the heavy duties of that special time. The third shift then took its turn during the fourth week of the year.

Projecting forward, the eighth course—the course of Abijah, in which Zacharias served—worked the ninth week of the year. But Zacharias' course then stayed on at the Temple to serve the 10th week also—the week of the annual Pentecost festival—along with all the other courses.

It was during that two-week period of work—near the end of spring—that the announcement by the archangel Gabriel came to Zacharias regarding his wife's imminent conception (Luke 1:8-20). When his two weeks' service was completed, Zacharias and Elizabeth went back to their home and Elizabeth conceived (verses 23-24)—sometime late in June or early July.

The rest is a matter of biology and arithmetic. Elizabeth's sixth month of pregnancy would have been in December. She would have given birth three months later—in late March or early April of the following year. Six months after that, Jesus would have been born, in late September or early October—before the sheep were brought in from the fields, as we have seen!

Clearly, Jesus was not born in December.

Late September or early October was also the time of year that taxes were customarily paid—in the fall, at the end of the harvest. Joseph and Mary, it will be remembered, had journeyed to Bethlehem to be taxed (Luke 2:3-5).

The fact that there was "no room for them in the inn" (Luke 2:7) also suggests the time of the autumn harvest, because the annual fall festivals occurring at that time attracted multitudes of Jews to

Jerusalem and nearby towns, filling all available accommodations.

Jesus Born "Before Christ"?

An even more frequent question received from readers concerns the *year* of Jesus' birth. Few subjects are fraught with so much confusion and misunderstanding. Opinions vary widely.

This immediately brings up a preliminary question: How could Jesus have been born in a year "B.C."—*Before* Christ—as most authorities suggest? It would seem to be a contradiction in terms!

First, understand that the manner of reckoning time according to B.C. and A.D. was devised hundreds of years after Jesus' birth. It was invented in the sixth century A.D. by a monk in Italy named Dionysius Exiguus. This Dionysius misunderstood the time of the reign of Herod the Great, king of Judea. So he reckoned the birth of Jesus to have occurred in December of the year 753 AUC (*ab urbe condita*—"from the foundation of the city [of Rome]"). In past ages, time was often reckoned using the founding of Rome as the starting point for counting.

Thus, in Dionysius' new system, January 1, 754 AUC, became January 1, A.D. 1 (*anno Domini*, "in the year of the Lord"). That is, he assumed Jesus was born on December 25, just a week before January 1, A.D. 1.

Later, it was discovered that Dionysius had been incorrect in his reckoning of the reign of Herod and hence of the commencement of the Christian era. Jesus had been born some years *earlier* than Dionysius had thought. But by then, the new chronology was in general use and it was too late to change! It has continued in use throughout most of the world to the present day.

With that understanding, we can now proceed to determine the year of Jesus' birth. There are several ways of doing so.

Daniel's Prophecy

Notice, first, this ancient prophecy from the book of Daniel:

"Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah

the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks..." (Dan. 9:25).

The commandment or decree to restore and build Jerusalem was made in the seventh year of the reign of Artaxerxes I, king of ancient Persia (see Ezra 7:8)—according to the autumn-to-autumn reckoning of the Jews, in 457 B.C. The archangel Gabriel told Daniel that there would be a total of 69 prophetic weeks from that time until the public appearance of the Messiah.

Sixty-nine weeks is equivalent to 483 days (69 x 7). A day of prophetic fulfillment is a year in actual time (Num. 14:34; Ezek. 4:6). So 483 prophetic days (69 prophetic weeks) is 483 years.

Simple arithmetic now takes over. Four-hundred-eighty-three years from 457 B.C. (the year of the decree) brings us to A.D. 27—the year when Jesus, the Messiah, began his public ministry. (In calculating this, be aware that you must add 1 to compensate for the fact that there is no year zero.)

Now consider further: It is generally understood that Jesus entered upon his ministry in the *autumn* of the year, immediately after his baptism. (His ministry lasted 3½ years, ending in the *spring*, at Passover time.) In Luke 3:23 we learn that Jesus was "about thirty years of age" when he began his ministry. If he was about 30 years old in the autumn of A.D. 27, then he must have been *born* in the end of summer or early autumn, and in 4 B.C.! (Remember, there is no year zero.)

It thus stands clearly revealed from Daniel's prophecy that Jesus was born in 4 B.C.. But there is yet further proof!

Herod's Eclipse

Students of the Bible recognize that Jesus was born *before* the death of Herod the Great (Matt. 2:15, 19). When did Herod die?

The first century A.D. Jewish historian Flavius Josephus, in *Antiquities of the Jews* (book XVII, chapter vi), tells of an eclipse of the moon late in Herod's reign. I have before me, as I write, the authoritative *Solar and Lunar Eclipses of the Ancient Near East*

by Kudlek and Mickler. Its tables reveal that the lunar eclipse in question occurred on March 13, 4 B.C.

Continuing with Josephus' account, we discover that sometime after the eclipse, Herod—afflicted with a painful and loathsome disease—went beyond the river Jordan to bathe himself in hot springs there. The cures he undertook were unsuccessful. His condition worsened and he returned to Jericho. There, in a wild rage, he plotted the deaths of many prominent Jews. He also ordered his own son, Antipater, slain. All these events required some months.

Josephus further reveals (chapter ix) that Herod's death occurred sometime before a spring Passover. This Passover would have been 13 months after the eclipse, or the Passover of April, 3 B.C. This confirms our previously calculated 4 B.C. birthdate for Jesus.

Further corroborating this, Josephus also records (XVII, viii, 1) that at his death, Herod had reigned 37 years since he had been declared king by the Romans. That had occurred in 40 B.C., a fact that Dionysius overlooked. Herod's death therefore took place late in 4 B.C.—shortly after Jesus' birth in the early autumn of 4 B.C.

This is the *only* date that is consistent with all the provable facts!

The "Star" of Bethlehem

A word is necessary at this point about the celebrated "Star of Bethlehem" (Matt. 2) that guided the wise men (Greek, *Magi*) across the deserts of the East to Bethlehem. *The Plain Truth* receives many letters about this each December.

Scholars have tried to pinpoint the date of Jesus' birth by means of astronomical calculations related to the appearance of this mysterious "star." For centuries, theologians and astronomers have puzzled over and debated this perplexing question.

Dozens of theories exist purporting to explain what this "star" actually was and when it appeared. Some hold it was a comet. Others postulate a nova (exploding star). Still others say it was a meteor, or a planet, or a conjunction of two or more planets. (A conjunction takes

place when planets appear, from our earthly viewpoint, to briefly become a single bright object as their paths cross the sky.) Dates for proposed celestial phenomena usually range from 7 B.C. to 2 B.C.

But the heart and core of the star controversy goes beyond matters of astronomy. To one who believes that the Bible is the Word of God and is to be taken at face value, the account of the star in Matthew's gospel can have only one explanation. It was clearly and incontrovertibly a *miracle*, of *supernatural*, not natural origin!

What natural phenomenon in the heavens—whether comet, meteor, exploding star or planet—could "go before" the Magi and "stand over" a specific house to *precisely* pinpoint it (Matt. 2:9-11)? And if it was attributable to a nonmiraculous agency, how can we account that it appeared and reappeared to the Magi and apparently went generally unnoticed by others?

Natural explanations are sheer astronomical foolishness! If the biblical account cannot be accepted in *all* its details, why should anyone believe it has any merit at all?

The star was clearly a special miracle of God, of divine origin, defying all the proposed natural explanations of liberal scholarship. It is quite possible that the Star of Bethlehem was simply an *angel* sent to lead the Magi to Jesus, since the Bible often symbolically uses stars to signify angels (Job 38:7; Jude 13; Rev. 1:20; 9:1; 12:4; et al.).

In Jesus' Name?

We have seen the proof that Jesus was born in the early autumn, not in the winter. But, some will ask, what difference does it make? Is it not *the thought* that counts? What is wrong with celebrating a day—any day—in honor of Jesus' birth?

Each December, articles inevitably appear in newspapers and magazines pointing out the ancient origins of today's Christmas customs. All authorities agree that the customs surrounding Christmas—the Christmas tree, mistletoe, holly wreaths, yule logs, stockings on the hearth, exchanging gifts and so on—were practiced in connection

(Continued on page 27)

MINERALS

Crumbling Bedrock of U.S. Economy

by Gene H. Hogberg

The U.S. is losing its domestic resource base. And its vision is clouded as to what is happening in one of the world's most strategic, mineral-rich regions.

THE United States and the democratic free nations of the Western world may soon be faced with the gravest economic crisis since the days of the Great Depression.

It could come from either of two sources.

The first possibility is often propounded in the general news media: The unraveling of the globally interlinked banking system as a result of a major default by any number of debtor nations, such as Brazil, Mexico or Argentina.

Every few months, the debt crisis flares anew. So far, repeated last-minute rescue operations ex-

tending debt servicing have prevented major defaults from occurring.

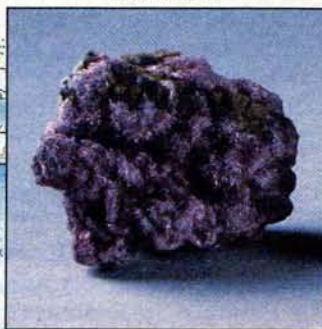
The second probable cause of economic turmoil is far less perceptible to the average man on the street. It revolves around the deteriorating minerals base of Western society.

In the United States, the once-formidable mining and mineral processing industries are suffering from suffocating governmental regulation, the impact of radical, unbalanced environmentalism and low-cost foreign competition.

Coupled with this is a dangerous overreliance for key minerals on potentially unstable parts of the world.

Very few people are aware that behind the increased unrest in southern Africa, for example, is a concerted effort to deprive the Western world of the mineral resources in that very critical area. More on this key factor later.

ERYTHRITE



Cobalt, represented by chunk of erythrite ore, is an essential in superhard alloys for aerospace industry.



Executive Speaks Out

Earlier this year, J. Allen Overton, President of the American Mining Congress, addressed the Commonwealth Club, a public affairs forum in San Francisco, with an enlightening speech. He warned those of us present that the United States is "losing its mining, minerals and minerals processing base"—the very foundation of modern society.

"The stakes are high," declared Mr. Overton, "yet most Americans are not tuned in to the problem." As the United States shifts into more of a service-oriented and high-tech economy, the public at large and especially the younger generation no longer see the importance of maintaining a strong national mineral base.

"It is not without reason," this top executive continued, "that minerals have been called the bedrock of civilization and, throughout history, the stepping-stones of human destiny."

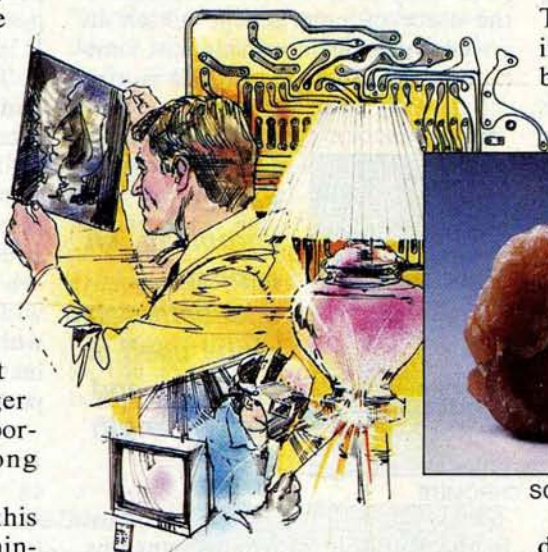
"Without minerals, we would have no factories or offices . . . no schools or hospitals . . . no highways or railroads or planes to fly in the sky . . . no communications networks or energy systems . . . no means of equipping the military that defends us or cultivating the agriculture that feeds us. . . .

"It can truly be said that *our horn of plenty begins with a hole in the ground.*"

Mr. Overton challenged charges of environmental extremists who have exerted intense pressure to severely curtail mining operations

and even minerals searching, especially on federally owned lands.

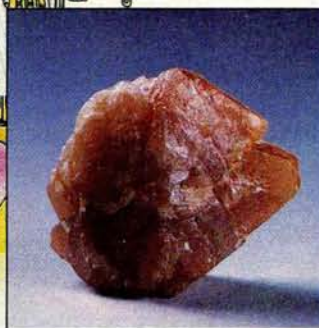
"What *cannot* truly be said . . . is that all our material bounty has been bought at the expense of rapping and ruining the land. Moreover,



stamping plants—cannot be "turned on and off like a spigot," to use Mr. Overton's words. "Once lost, it will take years—if ever—to recover it."

Dangerous Dependence on Imports

Throughout the American mineral industry presently is a severe double crisis of unemployment and



SCHEELITE

Tungsten is widely used in iron alloys, in electronics and to improve strength of cutting and drilling tools.

we ought to remember that over the entire history of this nation, with all the material blessings that mining has produced, only a fraction of one percent of the land's surface has ever been touched by a miner's pick."

Americans, Mr. Overton asserted, seem to have forgotten that "it takes *stuff* to make *things*."

The average person doesn't stop to think that a process of several years is involved from the point of minerals exploration to on-site development, to extraction, smelting and manufacture of the primary products. Moreover, the basic components of the minerals process—the mines themselves, the smelters, the

depressed prices. Partly as a consequence, American industry has become dangerously dependent upon foreign sources of minerals at "the far end of vulnerable shipping lanes," as Mr. Overton put it.

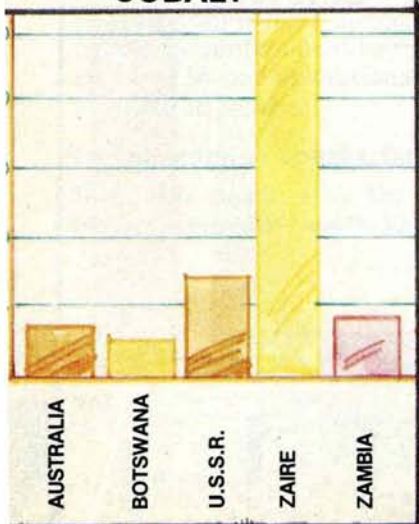
"We have been increasing our reliance on Zambia, Zaïre, South Africa and other nations that are marked by social, political and economic instability," he continued. The Soviets, on the other hand, "have spent billions of rubles to develop their mineral mother lode in Siberia, and recently completed a new 2,000-mile railroad to connect it with the heartland of its military manufacturing complex."

He was referring to the new Balkal-Amur Mainline railroad, or BAM, a major adjunct of the older Trans-Siberian line.

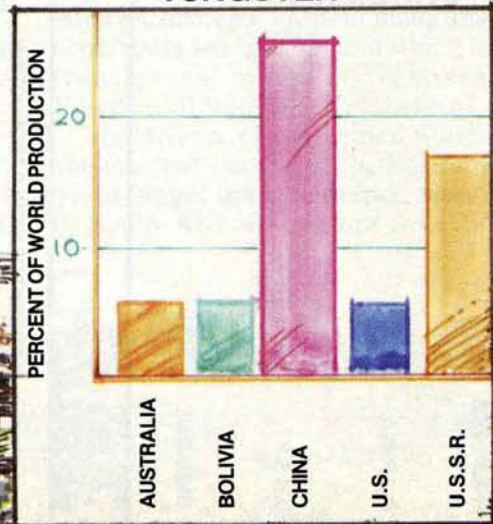
How dangerously dependent is the United States now on foreign sources? Let Mr. Overton continue:

"Just recently the Secretary of the Army testified before Congress that the United States is more than 50 percent *dependent* on foreign sources for 23 of 40 critical materials essential to the U.S. national

COBALT



TUNGSTEN



security, while the Soviet Union is totally *independent* of foreign sources for 35 of these same critical 40 materials."

The Soviets are following any and all courses open to them to foster weakness in the minerals area on the

metals—the Soviet Union would become the dominant supplier if South Africa were ever forced out of the world market.

The threat of economic sanctions against South Africa is now a grave possibility as a result of reaction to the state of emergency, which its government declared this past summer in an attempt to quell rioting

Africa? Why all the unrest and accompanying worldwide condemnation and pressure at this present time? It does indeed seem strange considering the recent unprecedented series of social changes and political reforms instituted by the government of State President P.W. Botha.

To obtain the answers to these and other questions the author recently talked with visiting political and business leaders from South Africa. These individuals, who represent a broad spectrum of interests and opinions, were visiting Southern California while on a nationwide tour of key U.S. cities. They were attempting to shed light—instead of heat—on what is happening in their troubled land.

Among the two delegations were 18 parliamentarians in South Africa's new tricameral national parliament. These included representatives of the Indian and coloured peoples as well as delegates from the Afrikaner and English-speaking communities. They ranged from liberal through moderate to decidedly conservative points of view. The visitors also included four officials, plus one businessman, from two of the black national states within South Africa, the states of Lebowa (consisting primarily of the North Sotho people) and Gazankulu (made up largely of the Shangaan and Tsonga peoples). Three of these officials were parliamentarians; the fourth was the Chief Minister—head of government—of Gazankulu, Professor Hudson Ntsanwisi.

All those I talked to—black, white, Indian, coloured—deplored



CHROMITE

Chromite is a source of chromium, an almost unsubstitutable metal used in stainless and high-strength steel.

part of the United States and the Western world in general. This includes—and the issue must be seen for what it really is—the promotion of social strife throughout mineral-rich southern Africa, as well as influencing uninformed reactions to what is truly happening there.

"Persian Gulf of Minerals"

What the Middle East in general and Saudi Arabia in particular are to petroleum, southern Africa, and specifically the Republic of South Africa, are to nonfuel minerals.

Africa's heavily mineralized region stretches from Shaba province in Zaïre southward into South Africa's Transvaal province, with its fabulously rich golden reef. This region has been called "the Persian Gulf of minerals," with South Africa as its "Saudi Arabia."

In the case of four strategic minerals—chromite, manganese, vanadium and the platinum-group

in the Republic's urban townships.

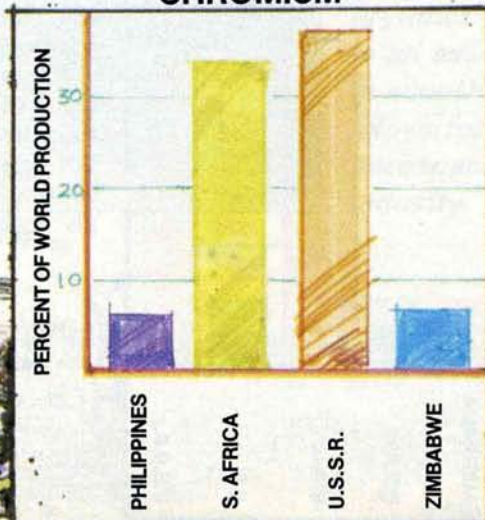
"By creating unrest or provoking civil war within the area," speculated the *Journal of Commerce*, more than five years ago, as if anticipating what has in fact occurred, "the Soviet Union could bring the Western industrialized world to a *total economic collapse*."

Without access to the region's vast storehouse of mineral wealth, noted this respected business daily, "jet engines, automobiles, oil refineries and nuclear or conventional power stations could not be built. Operations of a train or a computer, a cutting tool, a mine or an electromagnet would be impossible."

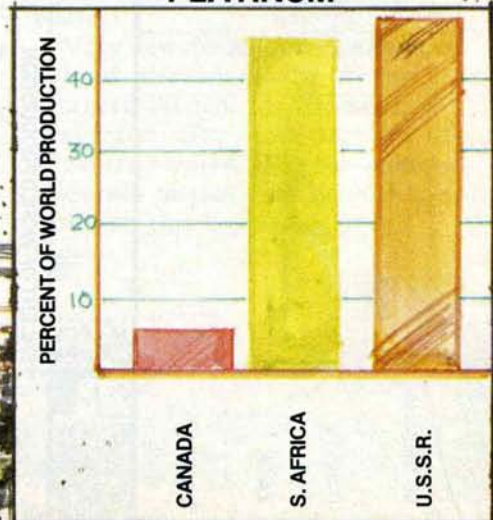
Why Unrest Now?

What is really going on in South

CHROMIUM



PLATINUM



the violence taking place. And at the same time they were firmly opposed to the campaign in some quarters of the United States to force local, state, university and union pension funds to sell off shareholdings in the more than 300 American companies doing business in South Africa.

The goal of those calling for disinvestment is actually *divestment*—forcing those companies to pull out of the country entirely. (These traveling officials, including the black leaders, found to their dismay that many local U.S. officials did not want to hear their side of the story.)

There was no doubt in the minds of those I talked to as to who was largely responsible for the current state of unrest—radical groups inside the townships (the white cities are unaffected to date) who have been inciting young school-age and unemployed youths to violence. The principal guerrilla organization, backed by the South African Communist Party, has vowed to make the black urban areas of the country “un-governable.” This is the reason for the growing number of attacks on local black council officials and policemen—anyone accused of “collaboration.” Much of the mayhem also takes place between rival forces competing for power.

While the instigators grab the headlines, the vast majority of South Africa’s black people, according to the June 26 *Intelligence Digest* of Britain, “are saddened and shocked by the behavior of their youngsters, stirred up to a frenzy by professional rabble-rousers hired by one revolutionary organization or another.”

Parliamentarian Speaks Out

But, once again, why the revolutionary mentality *now*? The clear-

est answer came from a most eloquent member of the visiting South African parliamentarians, Salam Abram, a member of the new Indian chamber (which is called the House of Delegates).

“There are,” Mr. Abram said, “elements within our borders who do not want to see reform succeed.” They fear that the country’s new governmental structures (gradually admitting Indians, coloureds and eventually perhaps urban blacks into the process) could, as Mr. Abram said, have “an even chance of success.” Success would keep a prosperous society in the Western camp. Revolutionaries bent on seizing power must turn those not yet in the system *against* the system before it’s too late.

Never forget, added Mr. Abram,

The platinum group are essential in medical instruments, molten glass, electrical contacts, and as catalysts.



SPERRYLITE

that the fall of the Western-style free enterprise system in South Africa is a major Soviet objective. To facilitate this aim, he said, the Communists turned the revolutions in two former Portuguese colonies flanking South Africa—Angola and Mozambique—to their side.

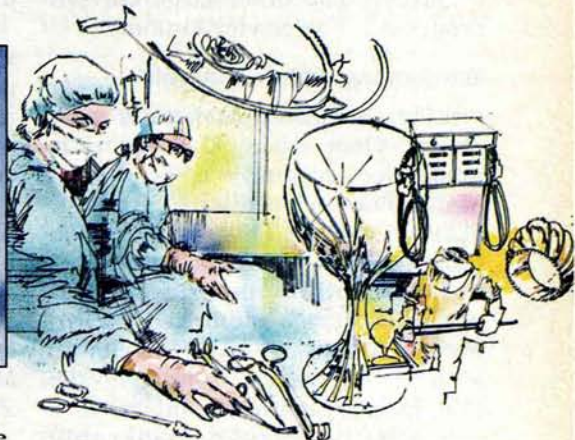
But, again, why is Moscow so interested? Minerals provide the key to the answer, along with South Africa’s strategic location along the Cape route sea lane, around which is transported much of Western Europe’s oil from the Middle East.

The defense of the United States and much of the rest of the Western world hinges upon continued access to South Africa’s treasure trove of

minerals. The late Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev once boasted that the key to Soviet world domination is the isolation of the mineral resources of the Middle East and southern Africa from the West.

A Critical Element

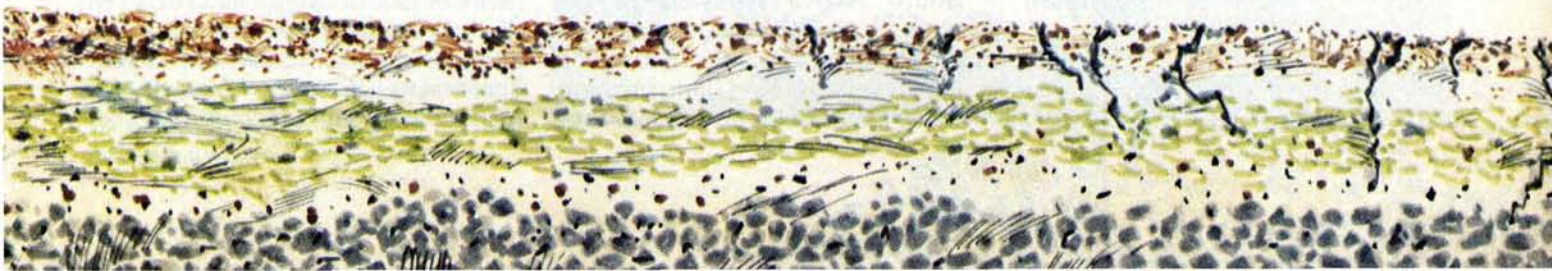
Let’s look at some of these minerals, first of all chromium. The United States has no chromium reserves and limited resources. Yet this mineral is so critical in the area of national defense that without it missiles, ships, submarines, aircraft and weapons support systems could not successfully be built. Regarding chrome, a report from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Mines, says, rather matter-of-factly: “The problem for the United States is one of national security.”



Chrome is considered to be the single most important strategic mineral to modern civilization. It has also been called the “most unsubstitutable metal in the world.” There is no replacement for it in the manufacture of corrosion-resistant steel.

Without chrome, said former steel executive E.F. Andrews, “we can’t build an automobile—and I’m not talking about the trim, we can’t make jet airplane engines, we can’t drill an oil well, we can’t dig a mine.”

Chrome is considered so vital that for years the United States specifically exempted chrome from



the list of embargoed imports from Rhodesia, as Zimbabwe was formerly known.

Chrome is so indispensable that, according to Mr. Andrews, "we would have to revert 40 to 50 years in our standard of living and our technology in order to do away with chrome completely." Chrome is, more than any other metal, the Achilles' heel of the U.S. economy. Without it America would be brought quickly to its knees.

Yet the cruncher is that the United States is almost totally dependent upon imports for its chromite ore and South Africa is the largest free world producer of it. And by adding Zimbabwe, the proven reserves of southern Africa as a region constitute roughly 97 percent of the total world's resources. The other large current producer? The Soviet Union.

Manganese, Other Minerals

Another indispensable metal is manganese. Once again, U.S. domestic production currently is negligible. Manganese is essential to the production of steel. There is no known substitute for it. Without its qualities to capture impurities, steel would tear, crack and break. "When we can do without steel, we can do without manganese," reports the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Statistics vary considerably about the primary deposits and reserves of manganese (as they do concerning most metals), but according to one source 50 percent of the world's known recoverable reserves of manganese lie in South Africa—with the other 50 percent inside the Soviet Union.

The Soviets have striven for self-sufficiency in manganese. The United States, Japan and Western Europe, according to a U.S. Department of the Interior report, "are all nearly completely deficient in manganese that is economically mineable." They rely on imports, mainly from South Africa, Gabon, Brazil and Australia.

Two other groups of metals further reveal the critical dependence of the West on southern Africa.

First of all there is the platinum group of metals (PGM), a family of six closely related metals. One of the principal uses of PGM now is to act as catalysts to control automobile emissions. And every year the demand increases as emission control standards tighten.

According to another U.S. Department of the Interior report, "nearly all of the world's supply of these metals currently are extracted from lode deposits in three countries—the Republic of South Africa, the U.S.S.R. and Canada."

Finally, there is cobalt. This space-age metal is necessary for the superhard alloys used in the aerospace industry. Every jet engine requires 200 pounds of the metal. Cobalt is also essential in the manufacture of integrated circuits.

The United States, the world's aerospace leader, must import 97 percent of its cobalt supply, most of it from Shaba province in Zaïre, which produces two thirds of the entire Free World supply.

Zaïre twice, in 1977 and 1978, almost fell to invading Communist-backed forces striking out from Angola. With one of its neighbors, Sudan, coming under pressure from radical Libya, some experts are once again concerned over Zaïre's future.

Moreover, "three Z" countries to the north of South Africa—Zaïre, Zimbabwe and Zambia (another major cobalt producer)—must ship their ores out by way of South African railroads and ports. They thus are vulnerable to world sanctions as well as any counter-measures by Pretoria.

Space does not permit an examination of other critical minerals, such as gold, uranium, tungsten, vanadium, columbium and titanium.

Deadly Trap Being Set

From all appearances, the United States and the rest of the Western world are walking straight into a trap, as we near the biblical crisis at the close of the age.

South Africa today is in the midst of rapid social change—reforms that Hoover Institution expert L.H. Gann says are downplayed by "lib-

eral academicians and journalists." Revolutionaries are determined to halt this process. They need help from the West—in the form of disinvestment.

If those agitating for disinvestment of U.S., British, Canadian and other Western industries succeed, Member of Parliament Abram told me, then additional millions of blacks could be thrown out of work—better able to be marshaled into the forces of revolution!

(There is no doubt that some young people, in joining the disinvestment bandwagon, are motivated by idealist intentions, or simply do not see the outcome of their actions. Then, too, as *Newsweek* magazine pointed out in its May 13, 1985, issue, many student demonstrators simply want to show that "the spirit of protest is alive and well.")

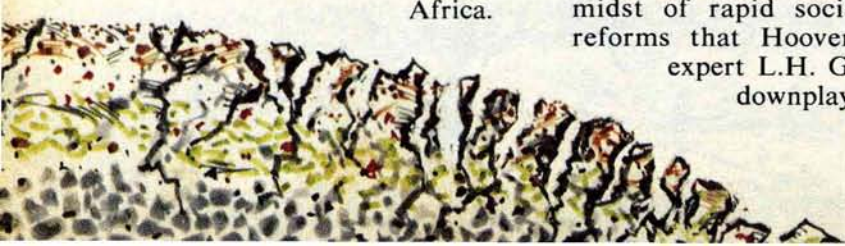
Mr. Abram's analysis was backed up by a report in an inside financial newsletter that reports, in the boldest of terms:

"The Soviets do not believe they can conquer South Africa militarily. Their plan is instead to surround and isolate South Africa, precipitate economic sanctions and disinvestment in the West, harass South Africa along her four country 1500-mile border, and foment internal revolution among her 16 million Blacks."

It is no coincidence that the campaign of protests in the United States began in earnest a little more than a year ago after a high power meeting between revolutionary leaders and their American supporters at the United Nations. So revealed Arnaud de Borchgrave, editor of the *Washington Times*.

How do those whom the revolution is supposed to help feel about disinvestment? Public opinion surveys reveal that black South African workers are significantly against disinvestment. But overseas organizers say the workers must be willing to sacrifice their jobs in order to gain their "freedom."

Even more is at stake. Employment in South Africa is crucial to the various small politically independent—but economically very dependent—states in South Africa. In the mountainous highlands of Lesotho,



for example, live less than a million and a half people. There are no resources in Lesotho to speak of. A large percent of Lesotho's adult males work in South Africa, mostly in mining, generating more than 60 percent of the mountain kingdom's gross national product.

As Casper Uys, a Conservative Party member from southeastern Transvaal, told me: "Lesotho is a mining state—with no mines!" Swaziland, Botswana and Mozambique are also critically dependent upon South Africa for labor markets.

Who Would Be Hurt Most?

Further escalation of violence in southern Africa is certain to result in demands in the United Nations for a total trade embargo against South Africa. But U.N. sanctions would be largely ineffective.

Short of international sanctions,

the United States, in years ahead, may unilaterally adopt a trade boycott as a result of the divestment pressure. But the United States stands to lose more than South Africa in the process.

Not long ago, in Los Angeles, the former South African ambassador to the United States, Bernardus Fourie, told newsmen that he wouldn't be "so arrogant" as to suggest that the United States was dependent upon South Africa for key mineral resources. But he added with a smile that the United States could also go to the Soviet Union for the same supplies—if they would sell them, and at affordable prices.

For many years *The Plain Truth* has alerted its readers that, based upon biblical prophecy, the United States and the democracies of Northwestern Europe are headed

for a time of national calamity. (Request your copy of the book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* to see why in full detail.)

One cannot help but wonder whether the sanctions and embargo trap will backfire. If so, what will happen to the social fabric of America when millions are forced out of work as mineral-starved industries can no longer produce steel, automobiles, jet airplanes, railway stock, agricultural machinery, computers and communications gear, food-processing equipment, surgical instruments and virtually the entire range of defense hardware.

Farfetched? Don't be too sure. The revolution that some intend for a country thousands of miles away may instead convulse America to its foundations. □

JESUS' BIRTH

(Continued from page 21)

with pagan religious celebrations centuries before the birth of Jesus. None are of Christian origin!

Anciently, December 25 was the date of the pagan Roman Brumalia, the final day of the popular week-long Saturnalia celebration, celebrated in honor of the god Saturn. It was the day of the "invincible sun"—a winter solstice festival.

"Christmas" was not among the earliest festivals of the New Testament Church. It was not until A.D. 351 that Pope Julius I decreed December 25 to be Christmas ("Christ-Mass") Day. He sought to overshadow the popular Roman Brumalia by imparting "Christian" connotations to the day.

But again, some will ask: What is so wrong with borrowing some of those early customs and using them to honor Jesus? May we not continue to celebrate December 25, as long as we do it in *Jesus' name*?

Can pagan practices be "Christianized" in this way?

More than 34 centuries ago, the rebellious children of Israel fashioned a pagan idol—a golden calf—in the wilderness (Ex. 32). It was the god Apis, the sacred Egyptian bull deity worshiped at Memphis on the Nile. Aaron declared that the pagan, Egyptian rites by which the Israel-

ites worshiped the calf were "a feast to the Lord" (verse 5).

Did God feel honored? Did he approve of their using pagan customs to worship him?

Absolutely not! It was a *great sin* (verse 21), and 3,000 paid with their lives (verse 28)! They had *deceived* themselves that what they were doing was right.

We are commanded not to seek to worship God with customs borrowed from other religions (Deut. 12:29-32). "Learn not the way of the heathen," God declares (Jer. 10:2).

True Christians never meet paganism half way. Pagan worship—whether "in Jesus' name" or not—*remains* pagan worship! Christianity mixed with paganism is not Christianity at all. Right-

teousness has no fellowship with unrighteousness (II Cor. 6:14). God simply will not accept that type of false "worship."

If God had wanted us to observe Christ's birthday, he would have given us the exact date and specific instructions on how to observe it. But he has not! Christmas is an invention of *man*, issuing from pagan worship.

Write for our free booklet *The Plain Truth About Christmas* for full details on the Bible teaching about such holidays. And to discover what holy days God *has* ordained in the Scriptures, you might want to request *Pagan Holidays—or God's Holy Days—Which?*

You owe it to yourself—and to God—to understand these important truths! □

Send for our free booklet, and

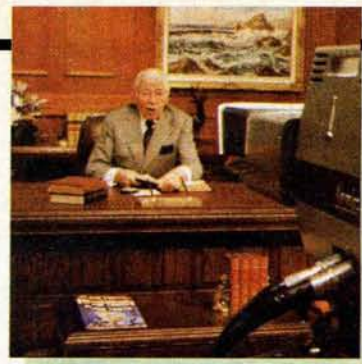
You'll get a REAL surprise this Christmas.



Our booklet *The Plain Truth About Christmas* reveals the surprising facts about this ancient pre-Christian celebration! For your copy, mail the request envelope in this issue or write to our address nearest you.

"THE WORLD TOMORROW"

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of the world tomorrow on **TELEVISION and RADIO**.



TELEVISION LOG

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

U.S.

Nationwide Cable

Lifetime Cable Network (LIF) New York — 10:30 pm ET, Sat
Nashville Network (TNN/NSH) Nashville — 7:00 am CT, Sat
Satellite Program Network (SPN) Tulsa — 12:00 pm CT, Wed
WOR, New York — 11:30 am ET and 11:00 pm ET, Sun
WGN, Chicago — 7:30 am CT, Sat
WTBS, Atlanta — 6:30 am ET, Sun

ALABAMA

WBMG, Birmingham — 42, 10:30 am, Sun
WBRC, Birmingham — 6, 11:30 am, Sun
WTVY, Dothan — 4, 7:00 am, Sun
WOWL, Florence — 15, 10:30 am, Sun
WHNT, Huntsville — 19, 7:30 am, Sun
WCOV, Montgomery — 20, 9:30 am, Sun

ALASKA

KIMO, Anchorage — 13, 10:00 am, Sun
KTVE, Fairbanks — 11, 8:00 am, Sun

ARIZONA

KNAZ, Flagstaff — 2, 9:00 am, Sun
KNXV, Phoenix — 15, 8:30 am, Sun
KTVK, Phoenix — 3, 7:00 am, Sun
KUSK, Prescott — 7, 10:30 am, Sun
KVOA, Tucson — 4, 9:00 am, Sun
KYEL, Yuma — 13, 9:00 am, Sun

ARKANSAS

KTVE, El Dorado — 10, 7:00 am, Sun
KPOM, Ft. Smith — 24, 9:00 am, Sun
KAIT, Jonesboro — 8, 10:00 am, Sun
KATV, Little Rock — 7, 9:30 am, Sun

CALIFORNIA

KBAK, Bakersfield — 29, 9:00 am, Sun
KIEM, Eureka — 3, 9:00 am, Sun
KMPH, Fresno — 26, 9:30 pm, Sun
KCOP, Los Angeles — 13, 12:00 midnight, Sun
KHJ, Los Angeles — 9, 12:30 pm, Sun
KTTV, Los Angeles — 11, 7:00 am, Sun
KTVU, Oakland — 2, 8:00 am, Sat; 6:30 am, Sun
KESQ, Palm Springs — 42, 10:30 am, Sun
KRCR, Redding — 7, 7:30 am, Sun
KQVR, Sacramento — 13, 8:30 am, Sun
KRBK, Sacramento — 31, 8:30 am, Sat
KSBW, Salinas — 8, 7:30 am, Sun
KGTU, San Diego — 10, 7:00 am, Sun
XETV, San Diego — 6, 10:30 am, Sun
KBHK, San Francisco — 44, 11:30 pm, Sun
KRON, San Francisco — 4, 7:00 am, Sun
KSBY, San Luis Obispo — 6, 8:30 am, Sun

COLORADO

KRDO, Colorado Springs — 13, 10:30 am, Sun
KWGN, Denver — 2, 7:00 am, Sat
KUSA, Denver — 9, 7:30 am, Sun
KTVS, Sterling — 3, 10:00 am, Sun

CONNECTICUT

WVIT, Hartford — 30, 11:30 am, Sun
WTXX, Waterbury — 20, 7:30 am, Sun

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WDVM, Washington — 9, 7:00 am, Sun
WJLA, Washington — 7, 11:00 am, Sun

FLORIDA

WBBH, Ft. Myers — 20, 9:30 am, Sun
WTVX, Ft. Pierce — 34, 7:00 am, Sun
WCJB, Gainesville — 20, 9:00 am, Sun
WTLV, Jacksonville — 12, 9:30 am, Sun
WCIX, Miami — 6, 9:30 am, Sat
WTVJ, Miami — 4, 8:00 am, Sun
WCPX, Orlando — 6, 7:00 am, Sat; 8:00 am, Sun
WESH, Orlando — 2, 9:00 am, Sun
WJHG, Panama City — 7, 7:30 am, Sun
WEAR, Pensacola — 3, 11:30 am, Sun
WXLN, Sarasota — 40, 7:00 am, Sun
WCTV, Tallahassee — 6, 6:30 am, Sun
WXFL, Tampa — 8, 11:30 am, Sun
WPEC, W. Palm Beach — 12, 9:30 am, Sun

GEORGIA

WTSG, Albany — 31, 8:00 am, Sun
WGNX, Atlanta — 46, 7:00 am, Sat
WSB, Atlanta — 2, 7:30 am, Sun
WTBS, Atlanta — 17, 6:30 am, Sun
WRDW, Augusta — 12, 10:30 am, Sun
WRBL, Columbus — 3, 8:30 am, Sun
WGXA, Macon — 24, 11:30 am, Sun
WTOG, Savannah — 11, 10:30 am, Sun
WVGA, Valdosta — 44, 10:30 am, Sun

HAWAII

KHVO, Hilo — 13, 10:30 am, Sun
KHNL, Honolulu — 13, 9:30 am, Sun
KITV, Honolulu — 4, 10:30 am, Sun
KMAU, Wailuku — 12, 10:30 am, Sun

IDAHO

KBCI, Boise — 2, 9:00 am, Sun
KPVI, Pocatello — 6, 7:30 am, Sun

ILLINOIS

WCIU, Chicago — 26, 10:00 pm, Sat; 12:30 pm, Sun
WGN, Chicago — 9, 7:30 am, Sat
WAND, Decatur — 17, 7:00 am, Sun
WQAD, Moline — 8, 8:30 am, Sun
WMBD, Peoria — 31, 10:30 am, Sun
KHQA, Quincy — 7, 8:30 am, Sun
WTVO, Rockford — 17, 9:00 am, Sun

INDIANA

WTVW, Evansville — 7, 7:30 am, Sun
WKJG, Ft. Wayne — 33, 9:30 am, Sun
WRTV, Indianapolis — 6, 7:00 am, Sun
WTHR, Indianapolis — 13, 8:30 am, Sun

WLFI, Lafayette — 18, 7:30 am, Sun
WSBT, South Bend — 22, 10:00 am, Sun
WTWO, Terre Haute — 2, 10:30 am, Sun

IOWA

WOI, Des Moines — 5, 10:00 am, Sun
KIMT, Mason City — 3, 10:00 am, Sun
KTVO, Ottumwa — 3, 10:00 am, Sun
KCAU, Sioux City — 9, 8:00 am, Sun
KWWL, Waterloo — 7, 10:00 am, Sun

KANSAS

KUPK, Garden City — 13, 10:00 am, Sun
KLOE, Goodland — 10, 10:00 am, Sun
KAYS, Hays — 7, 10:00 am, Sun
KCTV, Kansas City — 5, 10:30 am, Sun
KSNT, Topeka — 27, 10:30 am, Sun
KAKE, Wichita — 10, 10:00 am, Sun

KENTUCKY

WBKO, Bowling Green — 13, 10:30 am, Sun
WLEX, Lexington — 18, 9:30 am, Sun
WAVE, Louisville — 3, 9:30 am, Sun
WDRB, Louisville — 41, 10:00 pm, Sun
WPSD, Paducah — 6, 10:00 am, Sun

LOUISIANA

KLAX, Alexandria — 31, 9:30 am, Sun
WAFB, Baton Rouge — 9, 11:30 pm, Sat
KLFY, Lafayette — 10, 9:30 am, Sun
WDSU, New Orleans — 6, 10:00 am, Sun
WGNO, New Orleans — 26, 7:30 am, Sat
WVUE, New Orleans — 8, 9:00 am, Sun
WWL, New Orleans — 4, 7:00 am, Sun
KTBS, Shreveport — 3, 8:30 am, Sun

MAINE

WVII, Bangor — 7, 9:00 am, Sun
WMTW, Poland Spring — 8, 9:00 am, Sun
WAGM, Presque Isle — 8, 9:00 am, Sun

MARYLAND

WBFF, Baltimore — 45, 10:30 am, Sun
WHAG, Hagerstown — 25, 7:30 am, Sat
WMDT, Salisbury — 47, 11:00 am, Sun

MASSACHUSETTS

WNEV, Boston — 7, 7:30 am, Sun
WSBK, Boston — 38, 8:00 am, Sun
WLNE, New Bedford — 6, 7:30 am, Sun
WGGB, Springfield — 40, 9:00 am, Sun

MICHIGAN

WUHQ, Battle Creek — 41, 11:30 am, Sun
WTOM, Cheboygan — 4, 10:00 am, Sun
WXON, Detroit — 20, 8:00 am, Sat
WJMN, Escanaba — 8, 10:00 am, Sun
WJRT, Flint — 12, 8:00 am, Sun
WZZM, Grand Rapids — 13, 12:00 noon, Sun
WILX, Lansing — 10, 10:30 am, Sun
WLUC, Marquette — 6, 11:30 am, Sun
WJBK, Southfield — 2, 6:30 am, Sun
WPBN, Traverse City — 7, 10:00 am, Sun

MINNESOTA

KCMT, Alexandria — 7, 9:30 am, Sun
KDLH, Duluth — 3, 10:00 am, Sun
KEYC, N. Mankato — 12, 8:30 am, Sun
KMSP, Minneapolis — 9, 7:00 am, Sat
WUSA, Minneapolis — 11, 8:30 am, Sun
KNMT, Walker — 12, 9:30 am, Sun

MISSISSIPPI

WLOX, Biloxi — 13, 8:30 am, Sun
WCBI, Columbus — 4, 10:30 am, Sun
WABG, Greenwood — 6, 8:00 am, Sun
WLBT, Jackson — 3, 9:30 am, Sun
WTOK, Meridian — 11, 10:30 am, Sun

MISSOURI

KRCG, Jefferson City — 13, 10:30 am, Sun
KODE, Joplin — 12, 9:30 am, Sun
KSHB, Kansas City — 41, 7:30 am, Sun
KOLR, Springfield — 10, 10:00 am, Sun
KPLR, St. Louis — 11, 10:30 pm, Sun
KSDK, St. Louis — 5, 9:00 am, Sun

MONTANA

KULR, Billings — 8, 11:00 am, Sun
KTYM, Butte — 6, 4:00 pm, Sat
KFBB, Great Falls — 5, 8:30 am, Sun
KCFW, Kalispell — 9, 4:00 pm, Sat
KECI, Missoula — 13, 4:00 pm, Sat

NEBRASKA

KWNB, Hayes Center — 6, 9:30 am, Sun
KHGI, Kearney — 13, 9:30 am, Sun
KBGT, Lincoln — 8, 9:30 am, Sun
KMTV, Omaha — 3, 9:30 am, Sun
WOWT, Omaha — 6, 7:30 am, Sun
KDUH, Scottsbluff — 4, 8:00 am, Sun
KSTF, Scottsbluff — 10, 10:00 am, Sun
KSNB, Superior — 4, 9:30 am, Sun

NEVADA

KVCB, Las Vegas — 3, 7:30 am, Sun
KOLO, Reno — 8, 10:30 am, Sun

NEW HAMPSHIRE

WMUR, Manchester — 9, 10:30 am, Sun

NEW MEXICO

KGSW, Albuquerque — 14, 11:00 am, Sun

NEW YORK

WNYT, Albany — 13, 7:00 am, Sun
WBNG, Binghamton — 12, 11:00 am, Sun
WGRZ, Buffalo — 2, 8:30 am, Sun
WIVB, Buffalo — 4, 11:30 am, Sun
WENY, Elmira — 36, 11:00 am, Sun
Lifetime Cable Network, (LIF) New York
(on cable stations throughout U.S.) — 10:30 pm ET, Sat
WNEW, New York — 5, 7:00 am, Sat
WOR, New York — 9, 11:30 am, Sun; 11:00 pm, Sun
WROC, Rochester — 8, 11:30 am, Sun
WIXT, Syracuse — 9, 7:00 am, Sun
WUTR, Utica — 20, 8:30 am, Sun
WWNY, Watertown — 7, 11:30 am, Sun

NORTH CAROLINA

WHNS, Asheville — 21, 10:00 am, Sun
WPCQ, Charlotte — 36, 8:00 am, Sun
WGHP, High Point — 8, 11:00 am, Sun
WPTF, Raleigh — 28, 11:00 am, Sun
WRAL, Raleigh — 5, 7:00 am, Sun
WITN, Washington — 7, 11:30 am, Sun
WWAY, Wilmington — 3, 9:30 am, Sun
WXII, Winston-Salem — 12, 10:30 am, Sun

NORTH DAKOTA

WDAZ, Devil's Lake — 8, 10:00 am, Sun
WDAY, Fargo — 6, 10:00 am, Sun

OHIO

WAKR, Akron — 23, 11:30 pm, Sun
WKRC, Cincinnati — 12, 9:30 am, Sun

WLWT, Cincinnati — 5, 11:00 am, Sun
WJKW, Cleveland — 8, 7:30 am, Sun
WUAB, Cleveland — 43, 9:00 am, Sun
WBNS, Columbus — 10, 7:00 am, Sun
WTVN, Columbus — 6, 9:30 am, Sun
WDTN, Dayton — 2, 7:00 am, Sun
WKEF, Dayton — 22, 11:00 am, Sun
WLIO, Lima — 35, 8:30 am, Sun
WTOV, Steubenville — 9, 9:00 am, Sun
WDHO, Toledo — 24, 9:00 am, Sun
WYTV, Youngstown — 33, 11:00 am, Sun
WHIZ, Zanesville — 18, 9:30 am, Sun

OKLAHOMA

KTEN, Ada — 10, 10:00 am, Sun
KAUT, Oklahoma City — 43, 9:30 pm, Sun
KOCO, Oklahoma City — 5, 7:30 am, Sun
KTUL, Tulsa — 8, 10:30 am, Sun
Satellite Program Network, (SPN) Tulsa (on cable stations throughout U.S.) — 12:00 noon CT, Wed

OREGON

KCBY, Coos Bay — 11, 7:30 am, Sun
KVAL, Eugene — 13, 7:30 am, Sun
KDRV, Medford — 12, 8:00 am, Sun
KOIN, Portland — 6, 6:30 am, Sun
KPIC, Roseburg — 4, 7:30 am, Sun

PENNSYLVANIA

WTAJ, Altoona — 10, 11:30 am, Sun
WSEE, Erie — 35, 11:00 am, Sun
WLYH, Lebanon — 15, 8:00 am, Sun
WPHL, Philadelphia — 17, 7:30 am, Sun
WTAF, Philadelphia — 29, 7:30 am, Sat
WPGH, Pittsburgh — 53, 9:30 am, Sat
WPXI, Pittsburgh — 11, 7:30 am, Sun
WTVR, Reading — 51, 10:30 am, Sun
WDAU, Scranton — 22, 12:00 noon, Sun
WNEP, Wilkes Barre — 16, 8:30 am, Sun

RHODE ISLAND

WPRI, Providence — 12, 10:30 am, Sun

SOUTH CAROLINA

WCBD, Charleston — 2, 9:00 am, Sun
WOLO, Columbia — 25, 10:00 am, Sun
WPDE, Florence — 15, 9:30 am, Sun
WYFF, Greenville — 4, 6:30 am, Sun

SOUTH DAKOTA

KHSD, Lead — 11, 8:00 am, Sun
KOTA, Rapid City — 3, 8:00 am, Sun
KDLT, Sioux Falls — 5, 9:30 am, Sun

TENNESSEE

WDEF, Chattanooga — 12, 10:30 am, Sun
WTVN, Chattanooga — 9, 12:30 pm, Sun
WBBJ, Jackson — 7, 12:00 noon, Sun
WKPT, Kingsport — 19, 11:30 am, Sun
WATE, Knoxville — 6, 11:00 am, Sun
WPTY, Memphis — 24, 8:00 am, and 9:30 pm, Sun
WKRN, Nashville — 2, 9:00 am, Sun
WSMV, Nashville — 4, 11:00 am, Sun
Nashville Network, (TNN/NSH) Nashville (on cable stations throughout U.S.) — 7:00 am CT, Sat

TEXAS

KTXS, Abilene — 12, 7:15 am, Sun
KAMR, Amarillo — 4, 9:00 am, Sun
KBVO, Austin — 42, 7:00 am, Sun
KZTV, Corpus Christi — 10, 10:00 am, Sun
KTVT, Dallas — 11, 7:00 am, Sun
WFAA, Dallas — 8, 12:00 noon, Sun
KTSN, El Paso — 9, 7:30 am, Sun
KGBT, Harlingen — 4, 7:30 am, Sun
KPRC, Houston — 2, 7:00 am, Sun
KGNS, Laredo — 8, 7:30 am, Sun
KCBD, Lubbock — 11, 9:30 am, Sun
KTRE, Lufkin — 9, 6:30 am, Sun
KMID, Midland — 2, 8:30 am, Sun
WJAC, Port Arthur — 4, 10:00 am, Sun
KLST, San Angelo — 8, 10:00 am, Sun
KENS, San Antonio — 5, 7:30 am, Sun

KSAT, San Antonio — 12, 8:30 am, Sun
KCEN, Temple — 6, 11:30 am, Sun
KLTW, Tyler — 7, 6:30 am, Sun
KFDX, Wichita Falls — 3, 9:30 am, Sun

UTAH

KSL, Salt Lake — 5, 7:30 am, Sun
KUTV, Salt Lake — 2, 8:30 am, Sun

VERMONT

WVNY, Burlington — 22, 10:00 am, Sun

VIRGINIA

WVIR, Charlottesville — 29, 10:00 am, Sun
WSET, Lynchburg — 13, 7:30 am, Sun
WVEC, Norfolk — 13, 10:00 am, Sun
WXEX, Richmond — 8, 10:30 am, Sun

WASHINGTON

KVOS, Bellingham — 12, 10:30 am, Sun
KVEW, Kennewick — 42, 11:00 am, Sun
KIRO, Seattle — 7, 7:00 am, Sun
KXLY, Spokane — 4, 9:30 am, Sun
KSTW, Tacoma — 11, 10:00 am, Sun
KAPP, Yakima — 35, 11:00 am, Sun

WEST VIRGINIA

WOWK, Huntington — 13, 9:00 am, Sun
WSAZ, Huntington — 3, 10:00 am, Sun
WOAY, Oak Hill — 4, 10:00 am, Sun
WTAP, Parkersburg — 15, 11:00 am, Sun

WISCONSIN

WQOW, Eau Claire — 18, 9:00 am, Sun
WFRV, Green Bay — 5, 9:00 am, Sun
WXOW, La Crosse — 19, 9:00 am, Sun
WKOW, Madison — 27, 9:00 am, Sun
WITI, Milwaukee — 6, 9:00 am, Sun
WTMJ, Milwaukee — 4, 8:00 am, Sun
WAEO, Rhinelander — 12, 10:30 am, Sun
WAOW, Wausau — 9, 9:00 am, Sun

WYOMING

KCWY, Casper — 14, 10:00 am, Sun
KYCU, Cheyenne — 5, 10:00 am, Sun
KOWY, Lander — 5, 10:00 am, Sun
KWWY, Rock Springs — 13, 10:00 am, Sun
KSGW, Sheridan — 12, 8:00 am, Sun

CANADA

BRITISH COLUMBIA

KVOS, Bellingham — 12, 10:30 am, Sun
CJDC, Dawson Creek — 5, 11:30 am, Sun
CFJC, Kamloops — 4, 8:30 am, Sat
CHBC, Okanagan — 2, 8:30 am, Sat
CKPG, Prince George — 2, 9:30 am, Sat
CFTK, Terrace-Kitimat — 3, 9:30 am, Sat
CHAN, Vancouver — 8, 6:30 am, Sun
CHEK, Victoria — 6, 7:30 am, Sat

ALBERTA

CFCN, Calgary — 4, 11:00 am, Sun
CFRN, Edmonton — 3, 5:30 am, Mon
CHAT, Medicine Hat — 6, 11:00 am, Sun
CKRD, Red Deer — 6, 10:00 am, Sun
KXLY, Spokane — 4, 9:30 am, Sun

SASKATCHEWAN

CKSA, Lloydminster — 2, 9:30 am, Sun
CKBI, Prince Albert — 5, 7:00 am, Sun
CFQC, Saskatoon — 8, 10:00 am, Sun
CJFB, Swift Current — 5, 11:00 am, Sun
CICC, Yorkton — 10, 6:30 pm, Sun
CKOS, Yorkton — 5, 11:30 am, Sun

MANITOBA

CKX, Brandon — 5, 10:00 am, Sun
CKND, Winnipeg — 9, 7:00 am, Sun

ONTARIO

CKVR, Barrie — 3, 11:30 am, Sun
WGRZ, Buffalo — 2, 8:30 am, Sun
CJBN, Kenora — 13, 8:00 am, Sat; 5:30 pm, Sun
CKWS, Kingston — 11, 12:30 pm, Sun

CKNY, North Bay — 9, 10:30 am, Sun
 CJOH, Ottawa — 13, 10:30 am, Sun
 CHRO, Ottawa — 9, 8:00 am, Sun
 CHEX, Peterborough — 12, 12:30 pm, Sun
 CJIC, Sault Ste. Marie — 5, 11:30 am, Sat
 Global, CIII, Southern Ontario — 8:30 am, Sat; 9:30 am, Sun
 CICI, Sudbury (Fr.) — 3, 10:30 am, Sun
 CKPR, Thunder Bay — 2, 10:30 am, Sun
 CITO, Timmins — 6, 10:30 am, Sun
 CFMT, Toronto (Ital.) — 47, 12:00 noon, Fri
 CFTO, Toronto — 9, 9:00 am, Sun

QUEBEC

CFCF, Montreal — 12, 7:30, 9:30 am, Sun
 CKMI, Quebec City (Fr.) — 5, 10:30 am, Sun
 CFEM, Rouyn-Noranda (Fr.) — 10/13, 9:00 am, Sun
 CKRN, Rouyn-Noranda (Fr.) — 4, 8:00 am, Sun

ATLANTIC CANADA

WVH, Bangor, Maine — 7, 9:00 am, Sun
 CJCH, Halifax, N.S. — 5, 11:30 am, Sun
 CKCW, Moncton, N.B. — 2, 11:30 am, Sun
 WAGM, Presque Isle, Maine — 8, 9:00 am, Sun
 CHSJ, St. John, N.B. — 4, 12:00 noon, Sun
 CKLT, St. John, N.B. — 9, 11:30 am, Sun
 NTV, CJON, St. John's, NFLD. — 6, 10:30 am, Sun
 CJCB, Sydney, N.S. — 4, 11:30 am, Sun

AUSTRALIA

ACT

CTC7, Canberra — 7:30 am, every second Sun

NEW SOUTH WALES

AMV4, Albury — 8:30 am, Sun
 WIN11, Bateman's Bay — 8:30 am, Sun
 CBN11, Bathurst — 8:30 am, Sun
 WIN6, Bega — 8:30 am, Sun
 BKN7, Broken Hill — 8:30 am, Sun
 CWN10, Cobar — 8:30 am, Sun
 CTC10, Cooma — 7:30 am, every second Sun
 GMV10, Deniliquin — 7:30 am, Sun
 CWN6, Dubbo — 8:30 am, Sun
 CTC10, Goulburn — 7:30 am, every second Sun
 MTN9, Griffith — 8:30 am, Sun
 GMV6, Jerilderie — 7:30 am, Sun
 AMV4, Khancoban — 8:30 am, Sun
 NBN10, Merriwa — 8:30 am, Sun
 CWN9, Mudgee — 8:30 am, Sun
 NBN1, Murrumbidgee — 8:30 am, Sun
 NBN3, Newcastle — 8:30 am, Sun
 CBN8, Orange — 8:30 am, Sun
 TEN10, Sydney — 6:30 am, Sun
 RVN2, Wagga Wagga — 8:30 am, Sun
 WIN4, Wollongong — 8:30 am, Sun
 RVN6, Young — 8:30 am, Sun

NORTHERN TERRITORY

NTD8, Darwin — 10:00 am, Sun

QUEENSLAND

QTQ9, Brisbane — 6:00 am, Wed; 6:05 pm, Wed and Thurs
 MVQ11, Collinsville — 11:00 am, Sun
 UHF42, Gold Coast — 6:00 am, Wed
 ITQ10, Gunpowder — 2:00 pm, Sun
 SEQ1, Gympie — 7:00 am, Sun
 DDQ10, Kingaroy — 11:00 am, Sun
 MVQ6, Mackay — 11:00 am, Sun
 SEQ8, Maryborough — 7:00 am, Sun
 ITQ8, Mt. Isa — 2:00 pm, Sun
 SEQ10, Nambour — 7:00 am, Sun
 DDQ5A, Toowoomba — 11:00 am, Sun
 SDQ4, Warwick — 11:00 am, Sun

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

SAS10, Adelaide — 6:00 am, Wed
 SES8, Mt. Gambier — 8:30 am, Sun
 GTS5, Pt. Lincoln — 8:30 am, Sun
 GTS4, Pt. Pirie — 8:30 am, Sun
 RTS5, Riverland — 11:30 am, Sun

TASMANIA

TNT10, Burnie — 8:00 am, Sun
 TNT48, Devonport — 8:00 am, Sun

TVT6, Hobart — 8:00 am, Sun
 TNT9, Launceston — 8:00 am, Sun
 TVT8, Queenstown — 8:00 am, Sun
 TNT11, St. Marys — 8:00 am, Sun
 TNT7, Savage River — 8:00 am, Sun
 TVT8, Strathgordon — 8:00 am, Sun
 TVT8, Swansea — 8:00 am, Sun

VICTORIA

GMV10, Alexandra — 7:30 am, Sun
 BTV6, Ballarat — 7:30 am, Sun
 AMV11, Bright — 8:00 am, Sun
 ATV10, Melbourne — 6:00 am, Sun
 BTV7, Nhill — 7:30 am, Sun
 BTV11, Portland — 7:30 am, Sun
 GMV6, Shepparton — 7:30 am, Sun

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

GSW9, Albany — 7:30 am, Sun
 BTW3, Bunbury — 7:30 am, Sun
 GTW11, Geraldton — 11:30 am, Wed
 VEW8, Kalgoorlie — 11:00 am, Sun
 BTW10, Katanning — 7:30 am, Sun
 VEW6, Merredin — 11:00 am, Sun
 BTW6, Narrogin — 7:30 am, Sun
 STW9, Perth — 7:00 am, Sun
 BTW6, Quairading — 7:30 am, Sun
 VEW63, Tammin — 11:00 am, Sun
 VEW47, York — 11:00 am, Sun

PHILIPPINES

LUZON

Metro Manila — GMA Chan. 7, 8:30 am, Sat; 9:30 am, Sun

MINDANAO

Cagayan de Oro — GMA Chan. 12, 7:00 am, Sat; 8:30 am, Sun
 Davao — GMA Chan. 7, 9:00 am, Sat; 10:00 am, Sun
 Iligan — GMA Chan. 12, 8:00 am, Sat; 9:30 am, Sun
 Zamboanga — GMA Chan. 3, 8:30 am, Sat; 9:30 am, Sun

VISAYAS

Cebu — GMA Chan. 7, 8:00 am, Sat and Sun

CARIBBEAN

St. Lucia, HTS, Castries — 4, 6:30 pm, Wed
 Bermuda, ZBM, Hamilton — 10, 5:00 pm, Sun
 Bahamas, ZNS, Nassau — 13, 10:30 am, Sun
 Puerto Rico, WSJU, Carolina — 18 and Cable 12, 7:00, 8:00 am, Sun
 Puerto Rico — San Juan Cable TV WGN, Chicago — 5, 7:30 am CT, Sat; WOR, New York — 9, 11:30 am and 11:00 pm ET, Sun; WTBS, Atlanta — 13, 6:30 am ET, Sun
 Virgin Is. (U.S.A.), WSVI, Christiansted, St. Croix — 8, 8:00 am, Sun
 St. Maarten, LBC, Philipsburg — 7, 4:00 pm, Sun
 Antigua, ABS, St. John's — 10, 9:00 am, Sun
 Trinidad and Tobago TV — 9 and 14, 6:00 pm, Sun; 2 and 13, 9:00 am, Sun
 Aruba, Telearuba, Oranjestad — 13, 7:00 pm, Sun

EUROPE

Italy, Rete Quattro (Italian) — 8:00 am, Sun
 Italy, Tele-Monte-Carlo (Italian) — 4:30 pm, Sun
 Luxembourg, RTL-TV (French) — 10:45 pm, Thurs
 Monaco, Tele-Monte-Carlo (French) — 11:30 pm, Mon
 Norway, Oslo, Janco-TV — 10:30 am, Sun

OTHER AREAS

Belize, Central America, TVTV — 7, 9:00 am, Sun
 Guam, KUAM, Agana — 8, 9:30 am, Sun
 Hong Kong, TVB Pearl — 25, 7:30 am, Sun
 Japan, JCTV, Tokyo — 5:00 pm, Sun
 Sri Lanka, ITN11, Colombo — 7:30 pm, Sun
 Tonga, ASTL, Nuku'alofa — 7:30 pm, Sun

RADIO LOG

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

UNITED STATES

KSL, Salt Lake City, Utah — 1160, 5:30 am, Sun

CANADA

BRITISH COLUMBIA

CJVI, Victoria — 900, 10:30 pm, Sun-Fri

ALBERTA

CFCW, Camrose — 790, 10:00 pm, Mon-Fri

QUEBEC

Radio Nord, CHAD, Amos (Fr.) — 1340, 8:45 am, Sun
 Radio Nord, CKLS, La Sarre (Fr.) — 1240, 8:45 am, Sun
 CJMS, Montreal (Fr.) — 1280, 6:15 am, Sun
 CKVL, Montreal — 850, 11:30 pm, Sun
 CJRP, Quebec City (Fr.) — 1060, 7:15 am, Sun
 Radio Nord, CKRN, Rouyn (Fr.) — 1400, 8:45 am, Sun
 Radio Nord, CKUD, Val d'Or (Fr.) — 900, 8:45 am, Sun

CARIBBEAN

ZNS-3, Freeport (Eng), Bahamas — 810, 6:00 am, Mon-Fri; 9:00 am, Sun
 RJR-FM, Christiana, Jamaica — 101.3, 6:00 am, Tues, Thurs; 6:30 am, Sun
 RJR-AM, Kingston, Jamaica — 720, 4:00 am, Sun-Wed; 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat
 RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 92.7, 6:00 am, Tues, Thurs; 6:30 am, Sun
 RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 94.7, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat
 RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 95.7, 6:00 am, Tues, Thurs; 6:30 am, Sun
 RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 104.5, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat
 RJR-AM, Mandeville, Jamaica — 770, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat; 4:00 am, Sun-Wed
 RJR-FM, Montego Bay, Jamaica — 92.9, 6:00 am, Tues, Thurs; 6:30 am, Sun
 RJR-AM, Port Maria, Jamaica — 580, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat; 4:00 am, Sun-Wed
 RJR-FM, Spur Tree, Jamaica — 90.5, 4:30 am, Thurs, Sat
 MBC Radio (Fr), Port au Prince, Haiti — 1430, 10:30 am, Sun
 VOB, Bridgetown, Barbados — 790, 7:30 pm Mon-Sat
 NBS, Trinidad — 610, 10:30 pm, Sun-Fri

NEW ZEALAND

IXP, Radio Pacific, Auckland — 1593, 6:00 pm, Sun
 IXW, Radio Waikato, Hamilton — 954, 9:15 pm, Sun
 KCC-FM, Whangarei — 90.3, 9:00 pm, Sun

OTHER AREAS

Radio Ceylon — 7190, 9720, 15425, 9:00 pm, Sun, Tues, Thurs, Sat
 Fiji, Radio FM96, Suva — 6:30 am, Sun
 Honduras, San Pedro Sula, Radio Norte (Sp) — 780, 8:45 am, Sun
 Hong Kong Radio, Kowloon — 1044, 6:30 am, 12:00 am, Sat
 Radio Luxembourg (Fr) — 5:15 am, Mon; 5:00 am, Tues, Thurs
 C2AM, Radio Nauru — 1323, 9:00 am, Sun
 A3Z, Tonga Radio (Eng), Nuku'alofa — 1020, 6:30 pm, Sun
 Radio SUD (Fr), Toulouse — 1161, 5:45 am, Tues, Fri

Why does God allow human heartache and misery? But especially, why does God let tragedy strike little children?

by Patrick A. Parnell

A MOTHER wrote a letter to a syndicated newspaper columnist. In it she said:

"I can tell you firsthand that of all human suffering, none can equal the pain of a mother who must put her young child into a grave."

Another mother recently had to face that pain. Her 11-year-old son Kevin died after suffering most of his life from cystic fibrosis. She described Kevin's moving last words. She held Kevin through the final night. In the morning he knelt in his hospital bed and with his remaining breath said: "Not yet. Not yet. I'm not ready yet."

"I don't know whether he was talking to God or not," she said.

I was also deeply saddened by another real life story, this one concerning a little 3-year-old girl.

My wife and I took an afternoon to visit and relax together at a nearby park, nestled some 3,000 feet high in a beautiful mountain setting. Patches of snow were still on the ground. Overhead the sun shone brightly against a deep blue sky. A slight breeze rustled through surrounding pine trees—a gorgeous, serene, pristine atmosphere. But even in this peaceful environment, miles from the nearest city, we were reminded of this world's harsh realities.

I saw what looked like a wanted poster, stapled to a bulletin board, attached to the side of a restroom facility. Upon closer inspection I realized it was a missing child report.

As I read the information below the little girl's picture, my stomach began churning and feeling light. Tears welled up in my eyes. The report read: "Laura Ann Bradbury—white female, 3 years old, 3 feet tall, 25 to 30 pounds, sandy blonde hair, dark brown eyes. Last

Where Is God When Little Children Suffer?



G.A. BELLUCHE JR.—PT

seen wearing a kelly-green hooded sweat shirt; white, pink and purple knit short-sleeved blouse with horizontal stripes, lavender long pants and rainbow striped flip flop sandals. Last seen—4 p.m. Thursday, October 18, 1984.”

I was immediately reminded of my own girls, thankfully now much older, and my heart reached out for little Laura Ann and Laura Ann’s parents.

That’s many months ago, I thought to myself. I wonder if she’s all right? I wonder if she’s still alive? Early next day I called the authorities, hoping for news. “We’re no closer to finding little Laura now than we were the day she was missing,” came the sad reply. “There are no suspects and no leads.”

Where Is God?

Such stories are emotionally draining. Hardly anything affects one as much as witnessing or hearing about such tragedies involving small children like 11-year-old Kevin and little 3-year-old Laura Ann. Why, many ask, does God let these things happen to little children? Why does God allow little children to suffer and die? Why does God let thousands of healthy children die each year because of accidents?

Overwhelmed and emotionally distraught, perhaps even on the verge of anger and bitterness because of a heartrending incident involving a little child, some people lash out in harshness: “I can’t believe in a God who would let that happen!” Or, “I can’t worship a God who allows awful diseases and accidents!”

How *are* we to explain an eternal, everliving, all-wise, all-knowing God who allows painful suffering and death to happen to innocent little children, not only *now* but throughout recorded human history?

Tragedies involving little children, such as the widely published plight of the starving Ethiopian and other African children—their little bodies emaciated, diseased and dying, their bellies bloated—are never easy to take. But before we blame God for the multitude of terrible, heartrending tragedies afflicting little children and people worldwide, we need to stop and understand. Have you ever stopped

to ask yourself if there may be reasons why God allows sad events and suffering to occur?

Whose Fault? Whose Responsibility?

Is God totally to blame? Shall we humans assume no responsibilities? And what about a devil? Philosophers and theologians, scientists and agnostics have all puzzled over these questions.

Consider the thousands of little children maimed and killed by accidents. There’s a cause for every effect. Faulty equipment, carelessness, human miscalculations, lack of training, drunkenness. How many fires occur because children play with matches? Or because people smoke and fall asleep on a sofa or in bed? How many small children are severely injured and permanently scarred or maimed through scalding accidents; or die from drinking caustic, deadly solutions negligently left within their little reach?

Potentially dangerous toys, loaded guns, unguarded swimming pools, children darting into the path of oncoming automobiles—and you can name others—claim children’s lives daily. Parents, often, are either careless or fail to teach children proper precautions.

Do humans bear no fault? God, of course, bears responsibility if he is God! And what about a deceiving devil? How do we account for a deceived and deluded world of suffering?

Babies: Alcoholics and Drug Addicts

Consider another tragic example. Worldwide, babies are born already addicted to alcohol or hard drugs because their mothers were addicts during pregnancy. Imagine these babies’ first taste of life. They enter the world suffering painful alcohol or addiction withdrawal symptoms. Some die in the process.

Can we begin to understand the human part in the suffering and death children endure? There is a human responsibility involved even before a baby is born. After birth parents have an even greater duty to teach, protect and watch over their children.

Parents must especially know what their little toddlers are doing

and where they are. Perhaps more of this kind of awareness would have prevented the disappearance of little Laura Ann.

But the more we open our minds, and the deeper we search for understanding about why little children suffer, disappear or die, and why people have suffered terrible evils throughout history, the more we must acknowledge the human responsibility involved, even for such diseases from which 11-year-old Kevin suffered and died.

There is only one source available to give us this needed understanding of the causes of so much human suffering and misery. That source—which holds life-giving and life-preserving knowledge—is the Bible.

A Series of Wrong Choices

Since the beginning of human experience God reveals he has given humans freedom of choice—freedom to act rightly, act wrongly or not act at all.

The answers to our problems begin to unfold once we read the episode that took place in the garden of Eden. It is there that we must go to find the fundamental answers to the basic dilemmas of humanity and humanity’s sufferings that have so long puzzled philosophers.

Scripture reveals that God created the first humans in his very own image. That is, he imparted mind power to our first parents—the ability to think, plan, reason and create—and, most important, the ability to exercise decision-making powers.

The first two humans were given a choice. Since God gave them a choice, God is in charge. He is therefore *responsible* for whatever happens. But if the first humans chose freely to go the wrong way, the *fault* is theirs and the penalties theirs and their children’s! Instead of choosing to obey God’s government over their lives and do things God’s way, they chose to do things their way.

God advised them to take of the “tree of life,” which symbolized outgoing concern for others, God’s way of doing things, obedience to his authority, and acceptance of his revealed knowledge, leading even-

tually to eternal life in health and happiness.

He warned them against choosing the opposite way, portrayed by the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil"—representing self-centeredness, selfishness, reasoning apart from God, acquiring knowledge by trial and error, even living life in outright rejection of God's revealed way of outgoing concern for others.

A wrong choice, God warned man, would lead to coming under the sway and government of Satan and unhappiness and death for the whole human family. "And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Gen. 2:16-17).

They chose wrong! The woman was deceived by Satan. The man willingly—not willfully—chose to go the wrong way. They rejected God's way and chose Satan's way instead. They rejected God having any authority in their lives! They built their own society and civilization cut off from God's revelation, from his revealed spiritual and physical knowledge. That's how this world became Satan's world.

That's why mankind has suffered throughout history. That's why all the misery we see today. Mankind as a whole has chosen to reject God's revealed way of life—including his promises of protection from evil, and healing of our sicknesses and diseases. God did not force our first parents to choose correctly. He hasn't forced mankind since. And he doesn't force us today.

Except for a select few, whom God has called out and to whom he has revealed his truth, humanity—and that includes the vast majority that profess Christianity—has rejected revealed right knowledge on how to live—that right knowledge disseminated by God's law and spelled out specifically in God's Ten Commandments. The first four show us how to love God and the last six teach us how to love each other.

Instead, humans have chosen to live contrary to God: cheating, lying, stealing, killing, coveting,

committing fornication and adultery and living selfishly and competitively to the hurt of others. This pattern of living has affected every facet of life: business, education—or shall we call it miseducation?—medical science, politics and most certainly religion.

Greed, for the most part, and competition have been the motivating factors of human conduct. We see the ugly result today with such things as industrial pollution of the earth's air, water and soil and the chemical polluting of foodstuffs, a major cause of many of today's degenerative diseases.

Is it any wonder, then, why we have unhappiness, suffering and so many terrible heartrending personal and world ills?

God Can Intervene

It is not that God can't intervene in the world's affairs. And it is not that God cannot save children, or adults, from disease, death or injury in accidents. He can! God can intervene and God does intervene to help and protect those choosing to truly live life his way.

God loves children! Jesus, the very personification of God, lived life on this earth exactly as God the Father would have, had the Father become human. "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father" (John 14:9), Jesus said. Jesus did what he saw his Father do. Jesus openly showed his love for children. God the Father loves children, too!

"Suffer [allow or let] little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me," said Jesus (Matt. 19:14). He opened his arms to little children, put his hands on them and prayed for them (verse 13). Jesus, who is at the right hand of God the Father this very minute (Acts 7:56), receives little children today through his ministers who do the same things Jesus did.

Parents truly choosing to live life God's way, according to his commandments and instructions, can bring their children to God through his ministers today and, in prayer, ask him to protect them and help them. And he will! He does!

But the world, as a whole, is cut off from God, and rejects God's revealed instructions in the Bible on how to live. God has given man-

***Our world is
on a course of
life contrary
to God's
wholesome way
of living.
Because of
it all humanity is
suffering . . .***

kind 6,000 years in which humans under the sway of the devil can go their own way and write their experiences in human history. God has kept hands off this world (except in certain circumstances and locations to fulfill his plan) and has stayed out of the lives of those who reject him or are ignorant of his teachings.

Because of it, the world in general is having to learn the lesson—the very painful lesson—of what happens when humans are cut off from God's protection, guidance, right way of living and contact. Children have suffered, some dying early deaths. And the world in general is full of unhappiness and crime. Diseases often rampage unchecked.

Nuclear arsenals are poised. And you think humans and Satan have no responsibility for what society is doing?

Even the Righteous Suffer

Yes, our world is on a course of life contrary to God's wholesome way of living. Because of it all humanity is suffering, sometimes even those who decide to choose correctly and live God's way.

We have to learn that all of us affect each other. Others' mistakes and actions can and often do hurt. Others' selfishness and inconsideration, sometimes outright disrespect, persecution and hatred, cause pain. And, of course, often they are not another's actions, but our own!

The ancient poet-musician Asaph records in Psalm 73 how saddened and bewildered he be-

came after noting those living contrary to God seemed to prosper and get ahead. They scoffed at the idea that God even took note of their self-centered, wrong conduct. Their money, they thought, could buy them anything.

Said Asaph: "But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped. For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked" (Ps. 73:2-3). It was difficult for him. "When I thought to know this [understand it]," he said, "it was too painful for me" (verse 16).

But when Asaph considered the end of it all, he knew better than to be envious of wrongdoers: "Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end" (verse 17).

Once Asaph got his mind back on God's revealed truth, he recalled that we humans eventually *are responsible to God* for what we do in this life—and we will be eternally rewarded accordingly. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to . . . the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting" (Gal. 6:7-8).

God has allowed even those who serve him to suffer the world's hatred and persecution since the very first murder of Abel by his brother Cain. ". . . and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: and others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: they were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth" (Heb. 11:35-38).

Jesus Christ himself suffered. But before he did he overcame Satan and qualified to replace Satan. But Jesus will not remove Satan until humans have experienced their near 6,000 years of going their own way under Satan's sway.

No wonder, then, that Satan deceived the leaders of Jesus' day, especially the self-righteous religious leaders, to plot more than once to kill Jesus. Jesus was accused and

maligned, slapped in the face, beaten unmercifully, cruelly crucified and speared to death.

And so God makes it plain even to those who choose right, not to think it strange when difficult trials strike, causing suffering: "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy" (I Pet. 4:12-13).

But he adds this warning to make sure that any suffering isn't from breaking his law: "But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. Yet if any man suffer as a Christian . . . let him glorify God on this behalf" (verses 15-16).

Why does God let the righteous suffer? Because it gives absolute proof where their true loyalty is. It allows those so tested to build godly character that will last for all eternity—character that continues on into eternal life when Christ returns to restore the government of God on earth and to reward individuals who serve him.

"And, behold," says Jesus, "I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. . . . Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life . . ." (Rev. 22:12, 14).

And, as Paul clearly explains, any suffering in this life by those choosing to obey God cannot compare with the tremendous reward to come later: "For I [consider] that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Rom. 8:18).

God Is Fair and Just

Where is God when little children suffer and die? God assumes the responsibility. He has been restraining himself these near 6,000 years, allowing this world to complete its lesson. But he is soon to intervene in human affairs by sending Jesus the Messiah the second time to put an end to suffering and ignorance by deposing Satan and

restoring the government of God.

The fairness of God's way is in the fact that all who have ever lived or ever will live, will yet have an opportunity to choose right and have "right to the tree of life."

Kevin's parents can take heart. All of you who have lost a loved one can take heart. Eleven-year-old Kevin will live again by a resurrection to physical life in a strong healthy body! All who have ever lived and died in ignorance of God's way of life, or who ever will live, will be given their opportunity under the reign of the government of God, and by a resurrection, to live a healthy, right way of life. Wrongs will be corrected. Sorrow, as in the case of little Laura Ann, will be turned to joy.

God is righteous! God is just! He is merciful! These thousands of millions of people, including 11-year-old Kevin and other children who did not fully understand God and did not have the chance to choose God's way of life, will have their opportunity in a resurrection to physical life described by John in Revelation 20:12: "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened [books of the Bible revealing the right way to live]: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works."

How fair! They will live again! They will be taught Bible truth on how to live, and then be given a chance to live God's way.

And after that God the Father himself will live with all those choosing his way of life. Then there will be no more heartache and human miseries: "And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying; and there shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away'" (Rev. 21:3-4, Revised Authorized Version).

What comforting words for all of us! □

Angels

(Continued from page 14)

ancient king of Tyre was a type. God says to the prophet Ezekiel: "Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus [actually referring to a powerful religious leader to arise soon, in our time], Thus saith the Lord God; Because thine heart is lifted up, and thou hast said, I am a God, I sit in the seat of God, in the midst of the seas; yet thou art a man, and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God: Behold, thou art wiser than Daniel; there is no secret that they can hide from thee: with thy wisdom and with thine understanding thou hast gotten thee riches, and hast gotten gold and silver into thy treasures [or "treasuries"—RSV] . . . and thine heart is lifted up because of thy riches: therefore thus saith the Lord God; Because thou hast set thine heart as the heart of God; behold, therefore I will bring strangers upon thee, the terrible of the nations . . . they shall bring thee down to the pit, and thou shalt die the deaths of them that are slain in the midst of the seas" (Ezek. 28:2-8). (Compare with II Thessalonians 2:3-4, speaking of "that man of sin . . . who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God . . . so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.")

What a Super Being!

But at this point, as in Isaiah 14, the lesser human antitype lifts to a greater spirit being. Instead of the prince of Tyre—a human man—it now speaks of the KING of Tyre. This is the same Lucifer.

Ezekiel the prophet continues:

"Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the KING of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord God; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty" (verses 11-12).

Please read that again! God would never say anything like that of a human man. This superb spirit being filled up the sum total of wisdom, perfection and beauty. He was the supreme pinnacle, the masterpiece, of God's creation, as an individually created being, the greatest

one in the almighty power of God to create! The tragic thing is that he rebelled against his Maker!

"Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God" (verse 13). He had inhabited this earth. His throne was here. "Every precious stone was thy covering . . . the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created" (verse 13). He was a *created being*—not born human. He was a spirit being—not human flesh. Great genius and skill in music was created in him. Now that he has become perverted in all thinking, acting and being, he is the real author of modern perverted music and the modern rock beat—of discordant moans, squawks, shrieks, wails—physically and emotionally excitable beats—unhappy, discouraged moods. Think of all the supreme talent, ability and potential in a being created with such capacities. And all perverted! All gone sour—all dissipated, turned to hatred, destruction, hopelessness!

Yet, take courage. The awesome human potential, if we care enough about it to *resist* Satan's wiles and evils and discouragements and to persevere in *God's way*, is infinitely superior and higher than Lucifer's—even as created, *before* he turned to rebellion and iniquity!

But continuing the particular revelation of this crucially important missing dimension in knowledge: "Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so," says God of this Lucifer. This takes us back to the 25th chapter of Exodus, where God gave Moses the pattern for the ark of the covenant. The description begins with verse 10, and verses 18-20 show, in the material pattern, the two cherubs who were stationed at each end of the very throne of God in heaven—the throne of the government of God over the entire universe. The wings of the two cherubs covered the throne of God.

Trained at Universe Headquarters

This Lucifer, then, had been stationed at the very throne of God.

He was trained and experienced in the administration of the government of God. God chose such a being, well-experienced and trained, to be the king ruling the government of God over the angels who inhabited the whole earth.

Continue: "... thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire." This is not talking about any human being. But continue: "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity [lawlessness] was found in thee" (Ezek. 28:15). He had complete knowledge, understanding and wisdom. But he also was given full powers of reasoning, thinking, making decisions, making his choice. And, with all this foreknowledge—even of results and

God assigns angels responsibilities, but God created within them minds—with power to think, to reason, to make choices and decisions!

consequences—this superb being, the highest that even God could create by fiat, turned to rebellion against his Maker—against the way that produces every good. He turned to lawlessness. He had been trained in the administration of perfect law and order. As long as Lucifer continued in this perfect way, there was happiness and joy unspeakable over the whole earth. There was glorious peace—beautiful harmony, perfect love, cooperation. The government of God produced a wonderfully happy state—as long as Lucifer was loyal in the conduct of God's government.

What Caused the Angels' Sin?

What caused the angels on earth to sin, to turn to lawlessness? Certainly the ordinary angels did not persuade this great super being to turn

traitor. No, it was in him that iniquity was found. But, after how long? We don't know. God does not reveal that! It could have been any number of years from one or less to millions times millions.

And then, even after Lucifer himself made the decision to rebel and try to invade God's heaven to take over the universe, it is not revealed how long it took him to persuade all of the angels under him to turn traitor and follow him.

I know well the method he used. He uses the same method still today in leading deceived humans into disloyalty, rebellion, and self-centered opposition against God's government. First, he turns one or two to envy, jealousy and resentment over an imagined injustice—then into disloyalty. Then he uses that one or two, like a rotten apple in a crate, to stir up resentment, feelings of self-pity, disloyalty and rebellion in others next to them. And, as each rotten apple rots those next to it until the whole crate is rotten, so Satan proceeds.

If, in the government of God on earth today, the "rotten apples" are not thrown out early enough, they would destroy the whole government. But, once thrown out of the crate, they cannot do any more damage to those in the crate.

But *think* how long it must have taken the soured and embittered Lucifer to turn millions of holy angels into resentment, bitterness, disloyalty, and finally open and vicious rebellion. It could have taken hundreds, thousands or millions of years. This was all before the first human was created.

All this happened after the original creation of the earth, described in verse 1 of Genesis 1. Verse 2 of this creation chapter describes a condition *resulting* from this sin of the angels. The events described in verse 2, therefore, may have occurred millions of years *after* the original creation of the earth.

The earth, therefore, may have been created millions of years ago. But continue this passage in Ezekiel 28: "By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will

cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy [remove] thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground..." (verses 16-17). At this point the context returns to the soon-to-appear, human, religious-political ruler—of whom the prince of ancient Tyre was a forerunner.

Earlier in this chapter, I showed you how physical destruction, ugliness and darkness had covered the *face* of the earth, as the result of the sin of Lucifer (who is now the devil) and these "angels that sinned" (now demons), and how in six days God had renewed the face of the earth (Gen. 1:2-25).

Why the Creation of MAN?

But why did God create man on the earth (Gen. 1:26)?

Look at this situation as God does. God has given us humans minds, like the mind of God, only inferior and limited. God made us in his image, after his likeness (form and shape), only composed of matter instead of spirit. But God says, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:5). We can, to some degree, think even as God thinks. How must God have looked at the situation, as he started renewing the face of the earth—after the colossal debacle of the angels!

He had created a beautiful, perfect creation in the earth. He populated it with holy angels—probably millions of them. He put over them, as king, on an earthly throne, the archangel—the cherub Lucifer. Lucifer was the supreme masterpiece of God's creative power as a single separately created spirit being. He was the most perfect in beauty, power, mind, knowledge, intellect, wisdom, within the almighty power of God to create. God can create nothing higher or more perfect, by instantaneous fiat.

Yet this great being, knowledgeable, trained and experienced at God's own throne in heaven over the universe and the administration

of the government of God, had rejected that government, corrupted his way, rebelled against administering or even obeying it. He had led all his angels astray and into the sin of rebellion.

Now consider further. Apparently the entire universe had been created also at the time of the earth's creation. There is no evidence either in God's revealed Word, nor in science, that any of the planets in endless outer space had been inhabited with any form of life. But God does nothing in vain. He always has a purpose.

Apparently all such planets in the entire universe *NOW* are waste and empty—decayed (*tohu* and *bohu*)—like the earth was, as described in Genesis 1:2. But God did not create them in such conditions of decay—like our moon. Decay is *not* an original created condition—it is a condition *resulting from a process* of deterioration. Evidently if the now-fallen angels had maintained the earth in its original beautiful condition, improved it, carried out God's instructions, and obeyed his government, they would have been offered the awesome potential of populating and carrying out a tremendous creative program throughout the entire universe. When they turned traitor on earth, their sin must have also brought simultaneously physical destruction to the other planets throughout the universe, which were potentially and conditionally put in subjection to them.

Earth to Become Universe Headquarters

It will be explained in chapter seven of this work that God's purpose is to make this earth, ultimately, the headquarters of the entire universe.

Remember, this earth, originally, was intended to be the abode of a third of all the angels. The angels, beholding the earth at its creation, found it so beautiful and perfect they shouted spontaneously for JOY (Job 38:4-7). It was to provide a glorious opportunity for them. They were to work it, produce from it, and preserve and increase its beauty.

And at this point, it is well to

understand the nature of God's original creation: It is like the unfinished furniture available in some stores. This furniture is "in the raw"—it is finished all but for the final varnish, polish or paint. Some can save money by doing this *finishing* themselves—provided they have the skill to do so. This furniture may be of fine and superb quality—yet lacking the final beautifying *completion*.

So it is with God's creation. It is *perfect*, but subject to a beautifying finish that God intended angels to accomplish. The original "unfinished" creation was produced by God *alone*. But he intended angels, prehistorically, and MAN, now, to utilize creative power—to finish this part in God's creation—of adding the final beautifying and utilitarian phases of what shall be the **FINAL COMPLETED CREATION!**

And whether or not it had been revealed to the angels, it was a supreme TRIAL AND TEST. It was to be the PROVING GROUND of obedience to GOD'S GOVERNMENT and their fitness to develop into final finished creation the millions of other planets in the vast universe. For what is revealed in God's Word indicates that God had created the entire PHYSICAL universe at the same time he created the earth. The seventh word in Genesis 1:1 should be translated "heavens." This word includes the vast universe, not just this earth's atmosphere.

Radioactive elements and the law of radioactivity prove that there was a time when MATTER did not exist. GOD is a spirit. God is composed of spirit. God was before ALL ELSE—the CREATOR of all. Angels were created prior to the earth. What God reveals strongly implies that matter had never existed before the original creation of the earth—that the entire *physical* universe was brought into being at that time.

God's Purpose for Angels

So the angel potential was to take over the entire universe—to improve and finish the billions of physical planets surrounding the uncountable stars, many of which are SUNS. The sun in our solar system is merely an average-size sun.

Some that we see as stars are actually many, many times larger than our sun. Our solar system, vast beyond the imagination of most minds, is only a *part* of our galaxy, and there are many galaxies! In other words, the physical UNIVERSE that the mighty God created is *vast beyond imagination!* How GREAT is the GREAT GOD!

He intended angels to have a vital part in the final creation of the endless universe!

(But God may not have then fully revealed this awesome potential to the angels, for one third of them set out to take it from him by force, without first qualifying.)

For this far-reaching purpose, God established his GOVERNMENT on earth over them. The administration of the GOVERNMENT OF GOD over this globe was delegated to the super archangel—the great cherub Lucifer.

Bear in mind that even the holy angels and archangels—including this super cherub Lucifer—of necessity were endowed with ability to think, to reason, to form attitudes, and to make choices and decisions.

As explained previously, God started this Lucifer out with everything going for him. He sealed up the sum of wisdom, beauty and perfection. He was PERFECT in all his ways from the instant he was created UNTIL INIQUITY—rebellion, lawlessness—was found in him (Ezek. 28:15).

He had been trained and was thoroughly experienced in administration of the GOVERNMENT OF GOD at the very throne of the endless UNIVERSE! He was one of the two cherubs whose wings covered the throne of God the MOST High (Ezek. 28:14; Ex. 25:20).

How Sin Entered

He was created gloriously beautiful—*perfect* in beauty, but he allowed vanity to seize him. Then he turned to erroneous reasoning. God's law—the basis of God's government—is the way of LOVE—outgoing concern for the good and welfare of others, love toward God

in obedience, humility and worship—the way of giving, sharing, helping, cooperating. He reasoned that competition would be better than cooperation. It would be an incentive to excel, to try harder, to accomplish. There would be more pleasure in serving SELF and more enjoyment.

He turned *against* God's law of LOVE. He became jealous of God, envious, and resentful against God. He allowed lust and greed to fill him, and he became bitter. This inspired a spirit of *violence!* He deliberately became his Maker's

It will come as a surprise to many to learn that angels inhabited this earth before the creation of man.

adversary and enemy. That was *his* choice, not God's—yet allowed by God!

God changed his NAME to what he became, SATAN the DEVIL—which *means* adversary, competitor, enemy.

Satan directed his supernatural powers henceforth to EVIL. He became bitter not only against God, but against God's law. He used his subtle wiles of deception to lead the angels under him into disloyalty, rebellion and revolt against the Creator and finally into a WAR of aggression and violence to attempt to depose God and seize the throne of the UNIVERSE.

As long as Lucifer remained loyal and administered the GOVERNMENT OF GOD faithfully, this earth was filled with wonderful and perfect PEACE. The angels were vigorously HAPPY to the extent of JOY! The law of God's government is THE WAY OF LIFE that CAUSES and produces peace, happiness, prosperity and well-being. Sin is the WAY OF LIFE that has *caused* all existing EVILS.

The penalty of sin by the angels was *not* death—for God had made them immortal spirit beings who

cannot die. What God gave them was **THIS EARTH** as their abode and opportunity to qualify to possess and beautify the entire **UNIVERSE**.

Their penalty (they are still awaiting final judgment up to now) was disqualification—*forfeiture of their grand opportunity, perversion of mind, and a colossal earthwide CATAclysm of destruction* wreaked upon this earth.

As a result, the earth came to the condition briefly described in Genesis 1:2. Lucifer was created a perfect bringer of **LIGHT**. Now he became author of **DARKNESS**, error, confusion and evil.

So the rebellion of the angels that sinned (II Pet. 2:4-6; Jude 6-7; Isa. 14:12-15; Ezek. 28:12-17) brought this extreme cataclysm to the earth.

How must God have looked at this situation after the colossal debacle of Lucifer and the angels that sinned?

LUCIFER was created the most perfect in beauty, mentality, knowledge, power, intellect and wisdom within the almighty power of God to create in a being, with power to think, reason, make choices and decisions on his own. God knew that no higher, more perfect being could be created as an initial creation.

Origin of Demons

Yet this superior being, trained and experienced at the very throne of the **GOVERNMENT OF GOD** over the universe, had resorted to wrong reasoning and made a diabolical, perverted decision. He worked on the angels under him until he turned their minds to rebellion also. This, incidentally, might have taken Lucifer millions of years. In all probability he had to begin perverting the minds of his angels one at a time, at first. He had to cause them to feel dissatisfied, wronged by God, and inject into them resentment and bitterness.

When Lucifer allowed thoughts of vanity, jealousy, envy, lust and greed, then resentment and rebellion, to enter and occupy his mind, **SOMETHING HAPPENED TO HIS MIND! His mind became perverted, distorted, twisted!** His thinking became warped. God

gave him and the angels control over their own minds. They can never straighten them out—never again think rationally, honestly, rightly.

I have had a number of personal experiences with demons through a few demon-possessed people. I have cast out demons through the name of Christ and power of the Holy Spirit. Some demons are silly, like spoiled children. Some are crafty, sharp, shrewd, subtle. Some are belligerent, some are sassy, some are sullen and morose. But *all* are perverted, warped, twisted.

Do Satan and his demons affect and even influence humans and even governments today? Do evil spirits affect even your own life? These questions will be answered in chapter four of this book.

As God surveyed this cataclysmic tragedy, he must have realized that since the highest, most perfect being within his almighty power to create, had turned to rebellion, it left God himself as the only being who *would not* and *cannot* sin.

And God is the Father of the divine God family or kingdom.

Notice John 1:1-5. The Word who was “made flesh” (verse 14) has existed always—from eternity—with the Father. God the Father has created all things—the entire universe—by him who became Jesus Christ (Eph. 3:9; Col. 1:16-17).

When Jesus was on earth, he prayed to God, his Father in heaven. The Father spoke of Jesus as “my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” Jesus lived on earth as a human, tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin.

The fourth word in the English Bible is “God” (Gen. 1:1). And the original Hebrew word is *Elohim*, a noun plural in form, like the English word *family, church* or *group*. The divine family is God. There is one God—the one family, consisting of more than one Person.

God saw that no being less than God, in the God family, could be *certainly* relied on never to sin—to be like God—who cannot sin. To fulfill his purpose for the entire vast universe, God saw that nothing less than himself (as the God family) could be absolutely relied upon

to carry out that supreme purpose in the entire universe.

Why Humans Succeed Fallen Angels

God then purposed to *reproduce himself*, through humans, made in his image and likeness, but made first from material flesh and blood, subject to death if there is sin unrepented of—yet with the possibility of being born into the divine family begotten by God the Father. God saw how this could be done through Christ, who gave himself for that purpose.

And that is why God put man on the earth! That is what caused God to do this most colossal, tremendous thing ever undertaken by the supreme, almighty God—to reproduce himself! The following chapter will make this undeniably clear.

One last important comment before ending this chapter. God’s supreme overall purpose is to create, even to the extent of reproducing himself, and also that God must reign supreme over all his creation. Apparently God has chosen this earth to become his universe headquarters, and the seat of even the supreme throne of God. (See I Corinthians 15:24.) But Satan had overthrown the government of God on the earth. Now God purposed to restore his government over the earth through man, created in the image of God and finally to become part of the God family. We should heed Paul’s admonition not to be ignorant of Satan’s existence, or of his devices, nor let him get an advantage of us (II Cor. 2:11). Our supremely important purpose will be made clear in following chapters.

Good News

You have heard the saying about “good news and bad news.” The latter part of this chapter has given you the bad news. The good news is God’s purpose through mankind and the fact that the two thirds of the angels who are holy and righteous outnumber the demons and remain as God’s invisible agents to minister to and help in the righteous character development of the myriad of humans who shall yet become the sons and heirs of the Supreme God and members of the great God family. □

Infected!

(Continued from page 6)

tetracycline or erythromycin to cure it.

The early symptoms of chlamydia infection, if there are any, often go unnoticed—though the damage can be irreversible. Studies show that 20 percent of men and 30 to 40 percent of women with gonorrhea also have chlamydia.

"The real victims of today's STD explosion are babies and mothers—and would-be mothers," said a gynecologist. A very high chance exists that an infant passing through a chlamydia-infected birth canal and becoming infected will develop an eye disease or pneumonia.

Chlamydia infection not only sterilizes but causes strictures in female sexual organs and is thought to be to blame for alarming increases in ectopic (tubal) pregnancies. "Since each of these pregnancies represents one fetal death, this constitutes an epidemic of fetal deaths," says Dr.

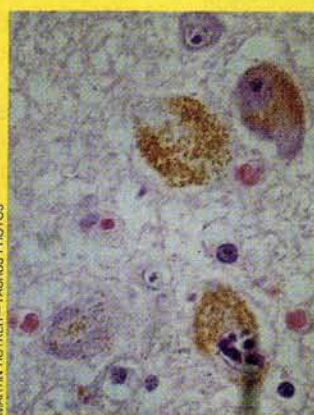
King K. Holmes, an STD authority in Seattle.

Super-Gonorrhea Too

The first totally penicillin-resistant strain of gonorrhea was discovered in the United States in early 1976. It was thought to have been introduced from Asia where improper self-treatment by prostitutes created super-resistant strains. Since then, promiscuous sexual behavior has spread super-resistant gonorrhea to more and more nations of the world.

Health officials around the world are becoming worried as more and more strains of gonorrhea become resistant to all but the most powerful and expensive antibiotics. "All our steel-capped bullets are turning into rubber," laments one health official.

MARTIN ROTKER—TAURUS PHOTOS



Millions infected with genital herpes find social and personal lives upset by recurring sores, blisters, fever or discharge. The life-lasting virus is a suspected link in many cases of cervical cancer.

Herpes viruses in human tissue, highly magnified.

Another disturbing finding in recent years amplifies man's futility in trying to control STD epidemics by treating the effects and not the causes. It was thought that most males with a gonorrhea infection manifested early symptoms that would cause them to seek treatment. Many studies, however, show that between 15 to as much as 50 percent or more of males infected with gonorrhea are asymp-

Herpes: Scourge of Sexual Revolution

During the decade of the Seventies, genital herpes suddenly exploded into a full-fledged epidemic that swiftly cut through the ranks of the sexually permissive.

Today this virus-caused disease competes with gonorrhea and chlamydia as the most common STD (sexually transmissible disease). Health officials estimate scores of millions are infected with this virus that lasts a lifetime.

Though the disease is rarely fatal to adults, a great many persons infected with genital herpes suffer recurring infectious blisters that upset their social and personal lives. While the frequently painful lesions can often be alleviated by medical treatment, the disease is incurable since the virus retreats deep into tissues.

So far, every treatment that has shown promise has

failed to knock out the virus. "Genital herpes is the disease which keeps many venereal disease specialists monogamous," said one health official.

While adult herpes sufferers frequently find their lives emotionally and socially upset, greater tragedies afflict the newborn. One concern of the medical community is the rising prevalence of genital herpes infection during delivery of the newly born offspring of infected women. Half of all babies passing through a herpes-infected birth canal become infected. And one quarter die or are brain damaged.

The virus is highly suspect as a cause of many miscarriages. Furthermore, there is a high correlation between genital herpes infections in women and cancer of the cervix, although the virus has not

been absolutely identified as the cause.

Again it is important to make distinctions when discussing the herpes problem. There are several types of herpes viruses. Some manifest different symptoms or hit different parts of the body.

Herpes simplex, type 1, is a common, normally nonvenereally passed virus that causes cold sores on the lips, mouth or above the waist. This virus is usually transferred by personal contact with others, by kissing or using the same eating utensils during periods of active infection. Herpes simplex, type 1, is often found in a third or more of population groups. Many children and adults have it. This is the virus that caused unnecessary panic in the U.S. among uninformed parents who heard other schoolchildren

had herpes.

Genital herpes (herpes simplex, type 2), however, is almost always transmitted in sex-related contact. Oral-genital sex practices also spread herpes viruses to reverse areas. Autoinoculation from an infected area can transfer any herpes virus to other mucous-membrane openings. It is dangerous to transfer any herpes infection to the eyes.

Because of the rapid growth and emotionally upsetting nature of genital herpes, the American Social Health Organization has established a program called Herpes Resource Center. Herpes sufferers in the U.S. needing assistance or information on the nearest sources of medical advice can send a self-addressed envelope with their request to HRC, Box 100, Palo Alto, California, 94302. Persons in international areas needing help should contact their nearest health agency.

tomatic—that is, they do not manifest early symptoms but are spreading the disease.

It has been early symptoms in males who seek treatment that has been the principal way health officials trace and treat their female partners—80 percent of whom commonly do not show or notice early infectious gonorrhea symptoms. Many of these infected women seek treatment only after serious health damage has occurred.

Spiraling Homosexual STDs

The AIDS tragedy has only recently pinpointed the soaring STD crisis that has long existed among homosexual males. Some health authorities feel the frequent bouts of STDs picked up by many homosexuals are what weaken so many to serious cases of AIDS.

Whenever an STD or other communicable disease is introduced into a promiscuous group it proliferates like wildfire. British and American doctors report that the serious viral diseases hepatitis A and B, which cause jaundice and liver failure, are increasing rapidly among homosexuals. Some health authorities estimate syphilis and hepatitis are 10 or more times more frequent among homosexuals than among heterosexuals because of the nature of homosexual practices.

The folly and danger of promiscuous and improper sex are far greater than anyone ever imagined!

God made the human body. The Creator instructed humans in its proper use. The intestinal tract was made for eliminating human wastes, toxins and other potentially disease-causing material. The male and female sex organs were made for eliminating urinary wastes and to be united in faithful, holy wedlock and love. They are not made for lust, perversion or promiscuity. These words have to be said because so few are saying them!

Protect Yourself

Many individuals have kidded themselves that their sexual activity doesn't fit the promiscuous mold. They try to redefine promiscuity to make themselves feel better for not being truly monogamous or a virgin.

Health officials, however, report many boys and girls, and men and women, pick up their STD infection after sexual relations with only one or two "special" partners. In most cases, the infection was picked up because one of these partners had picked up an STD infection somewhere else at some other time.

Some who have been careless or indiscriminate in their sexual lives have picked up a serious STD infection that now lies inactive or unnoticed: That infection can rekindle and infect a faithful mate or innocent children!

Do not think God is ignorant about all this! To the contrary, God is going to respond—and sooner in our generation than many realize! The Creator, for now, is letting human beings, for the most part, reap the natural consequences of their own ways of living.

God's laws, revealed in the Bible, show us how to avoid almost all sexually transmissible diseases, or at least cut down to an utter minimum one's chances of contracting or spreading them. (Let's not forget, some cases of STDs can develop in monogamous marriages or in virgins.) Monogamy and virginity greatly limit the spread of these diseases. It is permissive and promiscuous sexual conduct, *and in some cases, unhygienic living*, that causes STDs to become epidemic.

Treatment of infected individuals is needed. But *prevention* by proper living—both sexually and hygienically—is the only sound way to stop these epidemics.

The biblical injunctions against premarital, extramarital and homosexual practices and uncleanness (the improper disposal of human wastes or improper care of open sores) are not casual suggestions. They are living physical and spiritual principles set in motion by the Creator.

God's laws were designed to protect the family unit—every member in it. They are intended to protect and promote the development of societies and nations that obey them. Disobeyed, they bring unimaginable social curses.

Few realize the Bible prophesied the alarming social disease epidem-

ics reported in this article. Note the prophecy of Deuteronomy 28: "If you are not careful to do all the words of this law which are written in this book . . . then the Lord will bring on you *and your offspring* extraordinary afflictions, afflictions severe and lasting, and sicknesses grievous and lasting. . . . Every sickness also, and every affliction which is not recorded in the book of this law, the Lord will bring [God will allow] upon you . . ." (verses 58-59, 61, Revised Standard Version).

Prevention is the only way to stop the STD epidemic. That means premarital, extramarital, homosexual and perverted sex practices—all heinous sins in God's sight—must be completely avoided by single persons or married couples wanting to keep clear of these diseases as much as possible!

But suppose you are infected with an incurable STD, or a difficult-to-cure one. If any such infection exists within a marriage, no sexual relations should occur during any possibly infectious stage, and otherwise only after advice from a reputable doctor knowledgeable in these diseases.

Only you can determine in your own life to swim against the tide of modern sexual permissiveness. The information and warnings from this article—and more important, from God's revelation to you in Scripture—put you in the position of being without excuse!

If you allow yourself to engage in careless or extramarital sex after you have received this knowledge—then you will reap the consequences!

Our free updated booklet entitled *Sexually Transmissible Diseases—Even You Could Become Infected!* contains additional vital information on STDs—with diagrams, common misconceptions about venereal disease, unusual modes of transmission, VD's tragic role in history and STD phone hotlines for information.

You and your children cannot afford to be ignorant about these diseases. You can live the way of life that will prevent the "silent epidemic" from ruining your life! □



Understanding World Events and Trends

Toys and Violence

The toy industry has ended its late-1970s disarmament movement, and the G.I. Joe doll and a host of new, otherworldly warriors

cartoon programs that highlight their adventures and promote sales of the toys.

These other "action figures" (the industry avoids the words *war toys*) inhabit different times and worlds

produce: Much controversy surrounds them. The toys and the cartoon shows that promote them, say opponents, center around levels of violence harmful to children. In the Transformers cartoon show, for instance, some 83 acts of violence

for children, raising the catharsis argument—that acting out violence in play keeps children from acting it out in real life.

Dr. Thomas Radecki, president of NCTV, disagrees, citing numerous studies that he insists disprove the catharsis argument. "Children learn behavior," he says. "These games and cartoons teach them that aggression solves problems. Eventually they act out these solutions in real life."

Protests about violence don't seem to slow down sales of these kinds of toys. The Toy Manufacturers of America predict that 1985 will be another record sales year. As one toy-industry publication put it, "War is sell." ■



WOLVERTON—PT

have invaded toy stores around the world.

In 1976, when G.I. Joe only earned \$6 million for his manufacturer, Hasbro Industries, he was retired from active duty. But he's back now and heading up a band of mercenaries that hit consumers for about \$100 million in 1984.

G.I. Joe's stated enemy is a group of villains known as "Cobra." But everyone knows the real struggle is between toy companies fighting for a spot in an industry that did nearly \$12,000,000,000 worth of business in the United States alone in 1984.

G.I. Joe's competition is headed by the "Go-Bots," the "Transformers," "Voltron" and "Masters of the Universe" series of toys. All are featured in television

than G.I. Joe. But with him, they are expected to dominate sales during the holiday buying spree.

Profits aren't all these toys

occur every hour, according to the National Coalition on Television Violence.

Defenders of the toys say that the violence is not bad

Disarmament Research Institute

It was in August of 1945 that Japan became the first nation in history to experience an atomic attack. It was something that most people would prefer to forget—but many in Japan have decided to remember. Not, however, in a spirit of indignation, self-pity or revenge.

The attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki have placed Japan in a unique position for they alone among all the

people of the world *know* from firsthand experience what nuclear war is like. Some Japanese feel a special weight of responsibility to warn the world to renounce war as a means of resolving disputes.

Such a person is Tokuma Utsunomiya, a senior statesman and a respected member of the Japanese Diet. He is also chairman of the Disarmament Research Institute,* an organization dedicated to informing the world of the horrors of atomic bombing. Mr.

Utsunomiya remembers the bombings as an unparalleled disaster, but he is not anti-American. He realizes that the Japanese nation brought the disaster on itself.

He reminds his people that their fathers and grandfathers allowed themselves to be led into the war by militarists. He makes no excuses. He is realistic, understanding that the excesses and atrocities committed by the Imperial Japanese army dulled any edge of compassion that the enemies may have felt. Mr. Utsunomiya candidly admits that Imperial Japan

*Tokuma Utsunomiya, Member of The House of Councillors, National Diet of Japan

reaped what it sowed.

But now the Japanese must show themselves to be a matured and sobered people, committed in a way that no other people can be to showing the truth about atomic war. To this end the Disarmament Research Institute makes available a pictorial record and information in several languages about the effects of atomic attacks.

Two hundred thousand people died horribly in the holocaust of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Most were noncombatants—women, children and the elderly.

Mr. Utsunomiya warns that the Japanese must not allow themselves to say, "Let's forget it; the past is the past." Not while nuclear war is an ever-present threat.

Rather, the Japanese must take advantage of their unique experience and show the world, as convincingly as possible, exactly what happens—to *people*—when nuclear weapons are used.

Such honesty is refreshing in a world where it is more usual to accuse or blame. But there is nothing to be gained by

pointing a finger. What is important is to make sure that it never happens again.

When the elder statesmen of Japan speak out on nuclear war, and call on their people to set an example by continuing to renounce war and violence forever, not only the Japanese but the whole world should listen.

Without accusation or justification, Tokuma Utsunomiya has made a dignified plea for sanity. He sees his work as having worldwide application and as the most effective



memorial to the 200,000 people whose lives were so cruelly shattered on those two August mornings 40 years ago. ■

Quebec Still Canadian

Eight years ago Canada faced the possibility that the province of Quebec would secede. A Parti Quebecois campaign slogan stated, "A vote for the PQ is a vote for independence."

But that was eight years ago. Most of Quebec doesn't want independence from Canada.

A recent poll indicated that only 4 percent of the inhabitants of Quebec want independence. Another 15 percent desire a sovereignty-association with Canada. That is less than half the nearly 40 percent who wanted a sovereign-state setup when the Parti Quebecois

presented a referendum on independence in 1980.

To many in *La Belle Province*, separatism hardly seems worth it. Many issues of major concern to French-Canadians in Quebec are being resolved to their satisfaction, with the province able to maintain a large degree of cultural independence.

A few years ago some French-Canadians feared that the French language would become only a "curiosity," functionally replaced by English. Immigrants to Quebec usually elected to learn English rather than French. A command of English was required for many jobs. Francophones complained that an English-speaking minority dominated Quebec's economy. Said the *Toronto Star* in 1977: "The chief threat to Canadian unity is neither political nor a matter of linguistic or cultural chauvinism, but a question of economics."

But that is changing. In 1977, the provincial government passed the French Language Charter declaring French to be Quebec's language of business and government.

The age at which a person is most likely to first experience serious depression is dropping steadily. Harvard Medical School researchers have found that while women born in the 1930s were most likely to suffer major depression at about age 50, women born since 1950 were likely to become seriously depressed before age 30. Women generally are more susceptible to depression than men. But researchers observed that the difference between men and women in rates of depression seems to be diminishing. ■

Now, one whose home language is French can spend his entire working life using only French (though bilingualism is required for nearly all executive-level jobs). He is served in French in restaurants and stores.

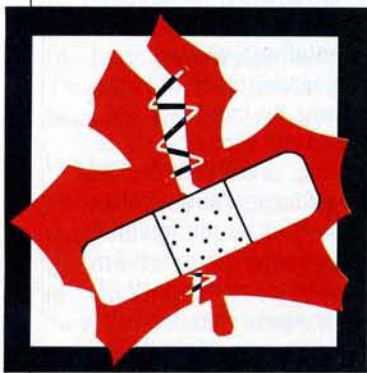
It's the English-speaking citizens who are forced, more and more, to learn two languages to get by. The same language law banned English signs and restricted English schooling.

The *Star* went on to say that no French-Canadian at that time headed any of the major corporations operating in Quebec, including banks, life insurance companies, major retailing chains, oil companies, automobile or appliance companies, major construction or real estate firms. Now French-Canadians are becoming more involved in businesses

that were once English-speaking bastions. The Quebec French have come to hold numerous key positions in business in the province.

Quebec's economy in 1983 and 1984 showed growth above the Canadian average despite the fact that major companies for years have been moving their headquarters to neighboring Ontario, saying they can't live with the language laws. With more control over their own economy, most French-Canadians are looking at separatism negatively as an isolationist move.

Tension between Quebec and the rest of Canada has by no means been eliminated. But, it seems that Canada does not have to worry about being *sans Quebec* in the foreseeable future. ■



Dangers of IUD Use

Women who have used intrauterine devices (IUDs) for birth control may have increased their risk of becoming infertile by more than two and a half times, according to two studies by the U.S. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. The studies, based in Boston and Seattle, tested childless

women with tubal infertility, and new mothers.

The studies directly linked, for the first time, use of IUDs with pelvic inflammatory disease, one cause of infertility. Some 88,000 American women rendered infertile by the disease may have been affected because they used IUDs.

Intrauterine devices are small plastic or copper-wrapped plastic devices inserted by a doctor

into the uterus. Their popularity stems from their convenience (once inserted, they need not be removed for up to five years) and effectiveness (95 percent). IUDs are used by about 2.2 million American women.

Dr. Daniel Cramer, director of the Boston study, stressed that this "doesn't mean that all women who have used the IUD are going to become infertile. The majority of women can use the IUD without a problem."

Other studies have linked certain brands of IUDs with complications such as greatly increased menstrual bleeding, punctures of the uterus, increased incidence of ectopic (tubal) pregnancies and, in the case of accidental pregnancy, spontaneous

second-trimester abortions (greatly increasing risks of death to the mother) or



premature or stillbirths.

In addition to safety risks, some regard the IUD as an abortion device, since it prevents implantation of an already fertilized ovum into the uterine wall. ■



Young People Postpone Marriage

Fewer young people are marrying today, and those who marry are waiting longer before doing so, according to statistics from Britain, the Netherlands and South Africa.

The popularity of marriage among young people in Britain dropped to an all-time low last year, says the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

The number of young people in Britain marrying during their teen years fell by half during the past decade and by more than 10 percent in 1984 alone. Ten years ago, one in three British girls married before the age of 20; last year only one in five did so. Fewer bachelors are marrying before the age of 25.

Some 344,000 marriages took place in Britain in 1984, an increase of .5 percent over 1983; the 1983 figure was the lowest since 1959. But the slight increase in 1984 was entirely accounted for by remarriages of divorced people.

The average age of Dutch

men marrying for the first time was 25.3 in 1978; in 1983, 26. The average ages for women were 23 in 1978 and 23.7 in 1983, reports the Central Bureau of Statistics.

In South Africa, 7,797 girls under 20 married in 1982, compared with 9,296 in 1973. Some 975 men under age 20 married in 1982; in 1973 the figure was 2,237. Meanwhile, the number of

divorces in South Africa nearly doubled in 10 years: 16,660 people divorced in 1983, 8,890 in 1973.

Many young people are staying home longer because of uncertain economic conditions. The acceptance of living together instead of marrying, and the desire to pursue other personal interests before marriage, are other factors. ■

Premarital Sex OK, Say Most Americans

For the first time in the almost two decades the topic has been studied, says *The Gallup Report*, a majority of U.S. adults consider premarital sex acceptable. The following chart shows the trend during the last 16 years:

Is Premarital Sex Acceptable?

Year	"No"	"Yes"	"No Opinion"
1969	68%	21%	11%
1973	48	43	9
1985	39	52	9

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

U.S. and Britain in Prophecy

I have just completed my reading of *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* and found it, in all sincerity, one of the most interesting and thought-provoking books that I have read in a long while.

I have, during the past couple of years now, gradually cultivated an ever-increasing interest in history, especially that of Europe and Britain in particular. This book only served to heighten my interest.

I found the ideas put forward most intriguing and original in conception. It is indeed always a refreshing experience to learn of new thoughts and interpretations given to, sometimes, thoroughly overworked and tired themes, though I must admit to having never read any other material on the subject of "The Lost Ten Tribes," never before giving much thought to the enigma of their disappearance from the face of the earth—that is before now.

You may be pleased to know that my interest in European history was initially germinated by the serialised *Plain Truth* article "The History of Europe and the Church." It is in fact your articles on Europe and its imminent, though fragile, unification that I find of greatest interest.

Peter A. Clifford
Stalybridge,
Gtr. Manchester

Young Subscribers Speak Out

As a young *Plain Truth* subscriber and from what I have read so far, I am quite pleased and interested in all of the free literature provided for me. I have also enrolled for the Correspondence Course, and I find it very inspiring. Now that my summer holidays have begun, I plan to make

good use of it by continuing with the Bible Course, reading *The Plain Truth* and the other free informative booklets. They help me understand fully various subjects regarding the Bible itself—my most valuable object.

Thelma Oliveira
Mississauga, Ontario

I have been a *Plain Truth* subscriber for almost one year and find it a superb magazine. Although I am only 14 years old, I still find it very interesting and extremely easy to understand.

Ross Lamonica
Scarborough, Ontario

This is to notify you to please cancel my subscription to *The Plain Truth*.

Unfortunately, I don't have any choice in the matter. My parents won't allow your literature in the house, and there is nowhere else they could be sent. Some booklets that I ordered are also being sent back to you by them. I thought it better to cancel.

I still listen and watch the broadcasts on CFCW radio and CFRN television. I hope that sometime in the future I will be able to subscribe again. *The Plain Truth* is a wonderful magazine as is the *World Tomorrow* program. I feel very bad about this.

Name withheld
Edmonton, Alberta

I started reading *The Plain Truth* a year ago at age 15 and I think it's great, especially now that you have those special segments about child rearing—it really makes you think.

In your May issue you had an article entitled "For Teen Eyes Only." I thought it was fantastic! And I really encourage you to write more of those because they make us

think and parents understand.

Marlene Couture
Laval, Quebec

Intended for Someone Else

One of our son's friends left a copy of *The Plain Truth* at our home. I believe it was actually intended for her mother.

I decided I would start reading the article on abortion (very informative) and just kept reading article after article. I am halfway through the magazine and am enjoying it thoroughly.

C. Bowman
Toronto, Ontario

Youth Should Protest—But How?

My letter is about your article "Youth Should Protest . . . But How?"

I think that youth should protest. This is international year of the youth and what do you hear on the news? The U.S.S.R. and U.S.A. talk about nuclear weapons. If we don't protest now, we could wake up tomorrow fighting a war. I think that all weapons should be put in a spaceship and launched towards the sun. That is the plain truth.

Nychcole Penny
Taber, Alberta

I recently picked up a copy of *The Plain Truth* when the cover headlines caught my eye—"Youth Should Protest, But How?"

I feel the author, John Halford, did an excellent job not only on the article but on taking the time to understand the youth of today. I am 17 years old and am exactly as the author puts it, "... deeply disturbed by the crazy, mixed-up world that I soon must inherit."

It made me feel so good to actually read that someone (namely an adult) actually did not condemn the youth of

today as being a bunch of deranged, moral-less beings who have no respect for anything or anyone.

Halford realized, and made others realize through his article, that the youth of today are not as far out as adults tend to believe. We just want to DO SOMETHING about our world rather than sit back and watch it self-destruct.

Halford also exposed the only key to straightening out this world. That is by beginning to live now according to the laws of God that are for our own good. Just imagine if everyone did.

Jo-Anne Flynn
Bridgeport, Connecticut

I must endeavor to congratulate you for this timely article "Youth Should Protest—But How?"

You made it clear that the root of all evils on earth today started right from the garden of Eden as a result of Adam's rebellion against God. It was so because he and his wife listened to the archenemy—Satan.

Youths are protesting, though not only youths, to be precise. Many people are starving, particularly in Africa (Ethiopia). I was particularly impressed because you gave the solutions to the problems by saying, "But the world's problems are too big for a Band Aid—the earth needs 1,000 years of intensive care—and only God can give us that." This is wonderful. Please keep on publishing articles for the nations to be more enlightened as regards the world's conditions.

Nwachukwu Martyns
Enugu, Anambra State
Nigeria

I enjoyed reading the article "Youth Should Protest—But How" in your July-August 1985 magazine. Many people today do not understand the

true meaning of "punk rock" and I would like to try to clarify things.

The teenagers of today with their dyed hair and strange clothes are not necessarily trying to be "punk." Punk is not how you dress or how you wear your hair, but a whole system of beliefs. The true punks were actually people such as Johnny Rotten and Sid Vicious of the Sex Pistols who started the punk movement in 1976. The true punks were trying very hard not to conform to society and they were against all forms of organization. They were very "anti-establishment." The punks tried to find a way to convey their message to society, and that was in the form of their music. Their songs were often rude and violent, but they got attention. This was basically the start of the punk revolution.

It is very wrong to assume that today if someone wears his or her hair differently from the norm or wears different styles of clothing they are punk. Punk basically died out in the late '70s and the early '80s. The people that dress that way today are usually just trying to be different and in no way are the violent people we assume them to be. Sure, there are still people who are like the punks of the '70s, but it is wrong to try to judge people just by the clothes they wear. These people are often kind, generous people and should not be disliked because of their choice to be different.

Melanie Falta
Export, Pennsylvania

Physician's Office

As a physician I like to keep a selection of magazines in my office for my patients. I read as many *Plain Truth* editions as possible. I, for one, find them very educational and I enjoy their candour. It is not often one finds serious discussion on so many important issues—and with such honesty. I am sure many of my patients would enjoy them as well. If it could be at all possible, I would greatly appreciate a number of them in my office, so all my patients could take advantage of your perceptive magazine. I have mentioned this idea to a few of my patients, and I am sure if you sent me a dozen magazines on a regular basis they would be well received.

Susanne Tupper, M.D.
Ottawa, Ontario

40 Years Is Enough

A few weeks after arriving in the United States from Germany I was pleased to read your article entitled "40 Years Is Enough." Having spent close to one half of my life living just one hour's drive from the Iron Curtain has taught me some valuable lessons.

I have visited the Iron Curtain twice and it is just that, an electrified, mined fence that stretches between East and West. To see this fence and realize what is on the other side has helped me see the importance of the role the military plays in Europe.

I have seen the unrest among the younger generation

about having the U.S. forces in Germany; I have seen the demonstrations; I lived in the community in which a terrorist attack left thirteen automobiles destroyed.

With these experiences and lessons, I agree that the withdrawal of military forces from Europe is something the Europeans need to think long and hard about.

Tony Huizinga
Student, Northwestern College
Orange City, Iowa

Famine

About the item entitled "Where U.S., Soviets Work Together." I find that hard to believe, and question whether the Soviet aircraft were carrying the food to those who need it, rather than feathering the government's own nest.

I say this because the Soviet-backed government in Ethiopia carried out a deliberate plan of disrupting the economy. It has confiscated 6 thousand tons of Australian aid (early 1985), imposed taxes and handling charges on food aid, spent \$200 million on celebrating the anniversary of the 1974 revolution and allowed Western relief agencies to bring in their own trucks—so long as they are Mercedes and ownership is passed to the government. A \$5 million statue of Lenin has been built, and it was Lenin who said, "Famine . . . performs a progressive function. [It] forces peasants from the villages into the city, thus . . . speeding the industrialization of the

nation." Drought may be a natural occurrence, but famine is undoubtedly a man-made consequence, and to be expected if people do not follow biblical principles.

I hope that you will be able to publish this letter, long though it is, so that your readers will be acquainted with the whole "plain truth"!

R. Long
Brisbane, Queensland

In 1945 I was in Leyte and in Manila at the time that U.S. and other countries' civilian prisoners were being liberated. Most noticeable was the fact that the small children were in reasonably good condition, while the adults were scarcely-alive skeletons who had sacrificed themselves for the younger generation.

From 1964-1966 I worked in a rural health program in Ethiopia, in many areas which are those now suffering from famine. It is distressing to me to note that the Ethiopians shown in most of the coverage by the media depict *children* who are "scarcely-alive" skeletons, while the *adults* are *relatively* in very good condition.

I hope that the food and medical attention which may be reaching the affected areas are first reaching the children, and that adults are being restrained until the children are cared for! The scenes observed in the Philippines and in Ethiopia seem to reflect quite different sets of values.

Donald J. Pletsch, Ph.D.
Gainesville, Florida

Scientists

(Continued from page 3)

anarchy from which the whole world suffers."

The creation of, as he calls it, "truly effective peace-keeping machinery" is imperative, so that "international disputes, together with warlike actions", can be handled by means of a "global legal code backed up by the legal, military and economic machinery needed to take firm enforcement measures when required."

What Dr. Brown is describing, in secular terms, is not only what is certainly needed, but *what is soon to occur* to this war-ravaged planet. Yet politicians cannot bring it about.

What is coming is the government of God, to be brought to this earth by the living Jesus Christ. It will enforce the one "global legal code" that all men can live by successfully—the law of God.

It *will* have the "legal, military and economic machinery" and power necessary to enforce world

peace (see Revelation 2:26).

Many of the great minds of this world—scientists, educators, politicians—know that world government is urgently needed. But they can't see how it will come about. "I am not so naïve," said Dr. Brown, "as to suppose that a full-fledged world government can be created in the near future."

Scripture reveals that it will. In the words of Jesus Christ, the coming King of kings: "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." □

IN THIS ISSUE:



MATTHEW FALKNER—PT

WHAT SCIENTISTS DID NOT FORESEE 40 YEARS AGO

"The Bomb"—the weapon of science that initially saved millions of lives at the end of World War II—now threatens all humankind with extinction. Why this incredible irony?

A UNITED EUROPE—NEARER THAN YOU THINK!

For centuries Europeans have dreamed of a united continent. Read how that dream is destined soon to be fulfilled.



NORMAN MEHRITT

WHY BRING THE BIBLE INTO THAT?

Do the scriptures quoted in *The Plain Truth* annoy you? Why does *The Plain Truth* quote the Bible in explaining today's fast-moving events?

JESUS' BIRTH—THE UNTOLD STORY

Jesus was not born on December 25! Read here the eye-opening facts about the real time of Jesus' birth.



G. A. BELLUCHE JR.—PT

WHERE IS GOD WHEN LITTLE CHILDREN SUFFER?

Why does God allow human heartache and misery, or let tragedy strike little children?

MINERALS—CRUMBLING BEDROCK OF U.S. ECONOMY

The United States is losing its domestic resource base. And its vision is clouded as to what is happening in one of the world's most strategic and mineral-rich regions—South Africa.

Become a subscriber NOW!

For your FREE SUBSCRIPTION use the reply envelope or card inside.

MOVING? Let us know so we can continue to send you the *Plain Truth* magazine free. Call 1-800-423-4444 and keep *The Plain Truth* coming! In Alaska call collect, 818-304-6111.