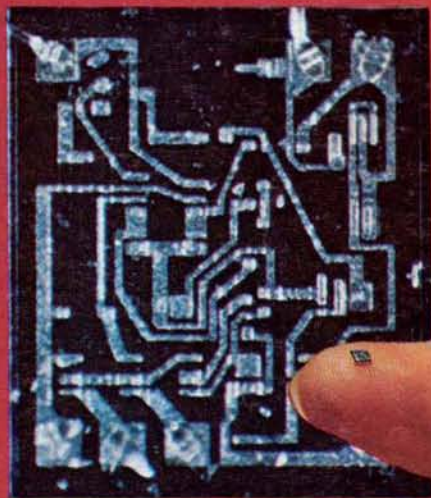
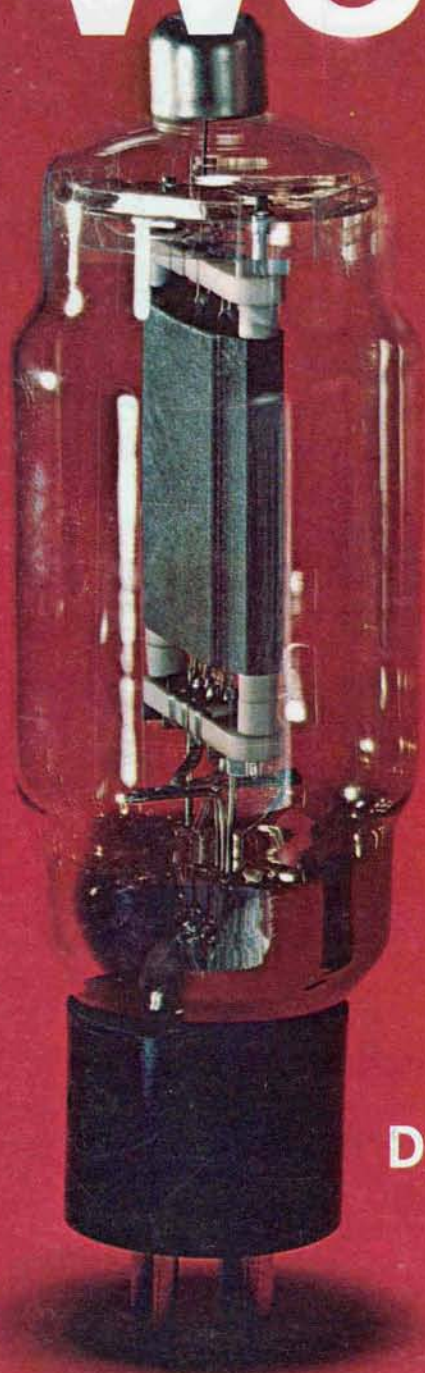


*The Good News of*  
**TOMORROW'S  
WORLD**

May 1971



**Did The Computer Evolve?**

See page 18.



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## More About Our Cover

In less than 30 years, the electronic computer has revolutionized the 20th century. This month TOMORROW'S WORLD features the computer: with one article on the amazingly rapid history of computer development (p. 18) in which we give the credit to the human mind that designed it, and another article on the Ambassador College Data Processing Center (p. 13) in which we show how the most modern computer enables God's Work to individually and personally service our vast readership. Pictured on our cover are the three main components in the "evolution" of the computer itself — from left to right: the vacuum tube, the transistor, and the "chip" (the integrated micro-circuit speck on the man's finger and highly magnified in the background). Technology marches on, and Ambassador employs it in God's service to benefit the world.

Ambassador College Photos

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HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

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Garner Ted Armstrong

### MANAGING EDITOR

David Jon Hill

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Herman L. Hoeh

Roderick C. Meredith

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# Personal from

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## Let God Fight Your Battles

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**T**HE WORLD you live in today is a very troubled world. You not only have your own personal problems, but you also suffer from the opposition and antagonism of the world around you.

It is time you considered how to conquer these troubles — how to be free from them — how to let GOD fight your battles instead!

First, understand this: If the world today is not happy — if world conditions are in a chaotic state — if lives are empty and purposeless — if minds are filled with fears and worries, bodies wracked with sickness and disease — *there is a reason!* Conditions are what we make them!

Mortal humans, groping in the darkness of confusion, have made conditions what they are. Humanity is reaping what it has sown! Only the direct and all-powerful supernatural intervention of Almighty God can deliver this world from all its troubles.

What the world doesn't know is that God will not cause its present ways of wrong living to bring any *human* Utopia. Rather, God Almighty will soon have to step in and RULE over the world — bringing it into the ways of His just laws, which alone can produce this happy tomorrow!

We, too, have lessons to learn. Even though stubborn and rebellious mankind brings upon the world even darker days in the immediate future, remember — it's darkest just before dawn. Take hope in the sure knowledge that the new world of God's making — and ruling — is very near today!

But in the meantime, what about YOU, and your own private life and problems? Let us consider some of your own private, personal troubles. I know that you have them! And I want to tell you something — I want to tell you good news. You are carrying a lot of worries, fears, and troubles *that you don't need to carry!*

Life is simply filled with private, personal battles. We have to battle fears and worries. Sometimes it seems we have to battle *people* who *appear* to be enemies, and whether you realize it or not, YOU also have to battle YOURSELF!

It is like having to fight a host of enemies — all these troubles, these circumstances, these adverse conditions, these temptations! But there is a way you may free yourself from these troubles that confront you. There is a way out! You can be free from fighting all of these enemies except just ONE — your own self, and you can receive a lot of help, and knowledge, and power in doing that!

Here's where that help can be found!

The Eternal Creator-Ruler of the universe — the God who gives you the very air you breathe — sent His own begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into this world over 1900 years ago to bring you *the way of deliverance* from all your trials, your worries, your problems. Why, then, do some of you not listen to the way He taught us? And why do so many people think of Him as a dead Christ hanging on a cross? God Almighty raised Him from the dead! Jesus Christ is our living Saviour and High Priest, just as the Creator is a living ruler of all the universe!

Do you realize the Jesus Christ, the living resurrected Christ, to whom is given *all power*, has a present mission to perform? Do you realize that His present mission is to *fight your battles for you* — to deliver you — to free you from all your fears, your troubles, and even the circumstances that beset you?

Now think this over carefully, and answer this! Why do you fight your own battles, when He — the living Saviour — is living in all power to fight them for you?

He's real. He's divine. Why do some of you go on worrying, when He is right there in all the power of the divine Creator to free you from all your worries?

Why? There is one of two reasons. Either you

have not fully *known* of this great, all-encompassing divine source of power which you can call on at will — you have not realized what *all-conquering help* you can have — or else you have through lack of faith or neglect, *failed to call on* that supernatural help in your times of need!

Can I open your eyes to see that God is a God of love — that God in all His supreme power wills above all things for you to prosper, and be in health, and to find the way to the happy, full, abundant life? (III John 2; John 10:10.) That Jesus Christ is a LIVING SAVIOUR, to whom you can go at all times — a Saviour to save you from your present everyday fears and worries, adverse circumstances, troubles, sicknesses, and trials, as well as to save you from eternal death at the end?

Notice what Scripture commands: “So let us approach the throne of grace *with confidence*, that we may receive mercy and find grace *to help us in the hour of need*” (Heb. 4:16, Moffatt).

God's salvation is not something you collect only after you die — it is a practical, common-sense, useful salvation which starts in your everyday life right here and now!

What needless pains some have been suffering. What needless fears and worries you may have been carrying around. What wonderful times — what happiness — you may have cheated yourself out of, just because you have not realized, and taken advantage of, the very present and all-powerful help of your living Saviour!

Actually what is happening is that you may have found yourself faced with foes far more powerful than you. These foes may come in forms of troubles, of unforeseen circumstances, of worries, of sicknesses, or even of other persons. These foes need not make your life unhappy.

Did you ever really think through the full meaning of I Cor. 10:11 — that the incidents in the lives of God's people of Old Testament times were written into the Bible for OUR learning and help?

I want now to turn to the experience of a man who lived in that time. This man found that he could RELY on the Almighty God. This man was faced with a far more terrifying trouble than has ever beset you. He found the happy solution. His experience will show you what you can do, this very day!

Once you understand, you will have to learn to

take God at His Word — to call upon God in prayer — you will have to ask God for what you need — and you may have to learn how to pray.

God Almighty will actually *intervene* in your life, and help you, and fight your battles for you. Remember, God is no respecter of persons. He will not do more for one than another. He will do as much for you, as for any person who ever lived. He will do as much for you — if you obey Him and rely on Him — as for any ancient king of Israel or Judah!

You may have a problem that completely overwhelms you. You may be at your wits' end — you may not know where to turn, or what to do! It may be a family problem, a personal problem, a financial problem, a problem of sickness or disease.

But let me tell you now as God's minister of a man who came upon a situation probably far more terrifying than yours — one that would throw fright and terror into the stoutest heart. The solution this man used will solve your problems — put an end to your troubles. The same God who heard and delivered him will hear and deliver you — IF you will obey Him and trust Him.

The fact that this man was an ancient king makes no difference. God is no respecter of persons — He will do as much for you. God is the same today and tomorrow as He was yesterday. This man was King Hezekiah of the ancient Kingdom of Judah. He was an ordinary human mortal, the same as you today.

The vast armies of Assyria were marching westward and southward to invade Judah. The Jews were greatly outnumbered. They had no army or power to stand up against such a powerful foe. They were helpless. They faced certain defeat — just as you may feel helpless in the face of your troubles today.

If some of you try to solve your problems, or overcome your bad habits, or resist sin in nothing more than your OWN power and strength, you, too, will find yourself outnumbered, overpowered, and doomed to defeat! You must learn, as this ancient king did, that God stands ready and willing to fight your battles for you. Read his experience in II Chron. 32:1-22, from the Moffatt translation: “It was after this, after all this loyal service, that Sancherib king of Assyria invaded Judah, besieging the fortified towns and meaning to seize them. When Hezekiah saw that Sancherib had come determined to attack Jerusalem, he and his nobles

(Continued on page 47)

# WHY GOD IS NOT REAL To Most People

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

by Herbert W. Armstrong

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

WHY do most people feel this way?

Then again, I have often wondered how it can be that so many have heard me explain the Message GOD sent to mankind by Jesus Christ, just as it is plainly recorded that Christ taught it, and yet have said afterward: "I surely enjoyed that. I never heard anything like that before, and it certainly makes sense" — and yet, even though they heard it, understood it, even expressed that it was the most logical and self-evident *true* explanation of life and its purpose they have ever heard — in spite of this, *knowing* it is the TRUE Gospel of

Jesus Christ, *yet they evidence not the slightest indication that this true Message from God is of any concern to them, personally — or that it has any connection with them, individually!*

WHY is this?

## What Is the SOURCE of Your Religion?

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

Let's understand this mystery!

What *is* religion, anyway?

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

and practice is required *by* that SUPERIOR AUTHORITY.

The very SOURCE of your religion, then, is that *superior authority*. Whatever that AUTHORITY that to you has appeared SUPERIOR — you received your religion *from* it, and you profess whatever belief, and observe whatever practice it requires!

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

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

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

MANY of the world's organized

and recognized religions do not *believe* in any One Supreme, Personal, All-Powerful GOD!

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

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

### WHY God Is Unreal

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

I think we can explain that!

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

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

And so, if there *BE* any One Supreme Spiritual BEING who is GOD, you

couldn't *see* Him — you couldn't *hear* Him — you had no actual personal *contact* of any kind with Him — you could know absolutely *nothing* of God through any of these natural channels by which you receive knowledge.

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

The answer is that they know what they have read or *been told* by those *AROUND* them — what they have received from other *people*. What most people know about GOD — or *think* they know — often has *not* come from the *ABOVE* — *not* from God Himself directly, in any personal contact — but from the *AROUND* — purely from what they have heard, read, or been told *by other people*. And *where* did these other *PEOPLE* acquire their “knowledge”? Well they, too, received it *from other people* — and in the main, all these other *PEOPLE* constitute a *deceived world* that has *NO DIRECT KNOWLEDGE OF OR CONTACT WITH ANY ONE SUPREME SPIRIT BEING, WHO IS GOD!*

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

*Well, NO WONDER,* then, that most people who profess to *believe* in such a God say that *God seems unreal to them*. They are like the patriarch *JOB*. He thought He knew all about God. But after God actually *revealed Himself*, and *spoke directly* and *in person* to Job — after this *personal contact* had been established — Job said to God: “I have *HEARD* of You by the hearing of the ear: but *NOW*, my eye *SEES YOU!*” (Job 42:5.) Yes, *now*, God had become *REAL*. Job's source of knowledge previously had been from the *around* — He had heard *about* God by the hearing of the ear — from *other PEOPLE*. God wasn't *real* to him. But once that direct personal *contact* was established, *GOD BECAME REAL*.

*There is a way* by which *YOU* can establish actual direct *PERSONAL CON-*

*TACT* with God, so that *He will become absolutely REAL*.

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

### The Unrealized SOURCE

This *SOCIETY*, the pattern or system which is of *HUMAN* origin, *is the actual SOURCE of nearly all of the BELIEFS and the PRACTICES of nearly all the people on earth today* — *AND THAT INCLUDES RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES*.

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

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

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

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

### How Religions Originated

A few times, in the history of this world, in one nation or another, a man

of higher-than-average intellect has DARED to THINK FOR HIMSELF — to think and to reason within himself *independent of*, and *contrary to* the society around him. As he has meditated upon some of the deeper things of life, he has dared to come to conclusions *different* from those of the accepted religion of HIS PEOPLE. Such a man has been *confined*, in this reasoning, to whatever *factual* knowledge he has gained from WITHOUT — and he has been confined to the AROUND — to this material WORLD of people, plant and animal life, and THINGS. He has been unable to SEE, or to HEAR, or in any way to KNOW about SPIRITUAL things.

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

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

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

### The SOURCE of This World's "Christianity"

BUT — marvel of marvels — the actual SOURCE of what is commonly accepted as "Christianity" today is alto-

gether different from what professing Christians call the "heathen" religions. Yet almost no one knows what it is.

It is A NEW THING in the earth; and it originated, not from the philosophies of a human mind *apart from* the truth of God and of Christ, but in actually seizing upon the true religion of Christ and *counterfeiting* it in order to exalt and deify a human man.

The Prophet Daniel foretold it. In the longest prophecy in the Bible — Dan. 10, 11, and 12, it is recorded: "And the king shall do according to *his* will [*not God's*]; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things *against* the God of gods [the true GOD] . . . Neither shall he regard the gods of his fathers [heathen gods] . . . and a god whom his fathers [pagans] knew not shall he honour . . ." (Dan. 11:36-38).

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

And all the world is DECEIVED!

### DOES God EXIST?

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

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

DID He ever communicate such a rev-

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

Over forty years ago I was led BY this very GOD to *ask* these same questions — and to seek their rational and absolute PROOF, one way or the other.

### The PROOF

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

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

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

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

I began to look into the religious WRITINGS — the sacred SCRIPTURES — of the *religions* of the world. Being an American, reared in what I was told was CHRISTIANITY — but now DOUBTING it, and demanding PROOF, I first set

out to PROVE whether or not the HOLY BIBLE could be such an inspired revelation.

### The PROOF of Inspiration

In this Book I found One actually quoted, saying He was GOD ALMIGHTY — a Personal BEING who had *created* everything that exists. This God is quoted directly as speaking, and as delivering DECREES and SENTENCES on the greatest of the ancient city-states, on the greatest of ancient NATIONS and EMPIRES — and FORETELLING what HE was going to CAUSE TO HAPPEN to those cities, nations, and empires a very FEW years later or a thousand years later or several thousand years later — and throughout eternity!

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

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

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

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

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

Ashdod was to continue to exist as a small city, until all surrounding territory was to be occupied by the JEWISH people in this 20th century A.D. — AND THAT HAPPENED! But her sister city of the ancient Philistines, ASHKE-

LON, was to be destroyed and NEVER rebuilt — and THAT happened!

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

Egypt was then, when this prophecy was written, one of the greatest NATIONS on earth. It was to be conquered by the Chaldeans, reduced to a minor nation — always to exist, but never again as a MAJOR nation — and NEVER again ruled by a NATIVE PRINCE. And THAT happened, exactly as the One quoted saying, "I AM THE ETERNAL GOD!" said it would!

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

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

You can prove it too, if you have not already done so. Request our free booklet *The Proof of the Bible*.

### God Answers Prayers

Then I found other proof. I found that this same GOD, in this same BIBLE, had hundreds of PROMISES written down for YOU and for ME, saying that under certain terms and conditions, He would actually cause certain things to HAPPEN for us — IF WE WOULD ASK HIM IN BELIEVING PRAYER! I found promises to deliver us from trouble when we get into it, to supply our every NEED when we really NEED it, to fight our personal BATTLES for us, to heal us when we are sick — yes, even to PROSPER us financially. These were promises of *outside supernatural help* I saw that every person often NEEDS. Time after time came when I actually *needed* some of these things — and by this time I had come to BELIEVE what God had written and promised — I followed His instructions: I prayed. I ASKED for what He had promised, I set myself to YIELD TO, and to OBEY this God of the Bible — to BELIEVE what He said in the Bible. And, believe it or not, THE ANSWERS CAME — yes, MIRACLES were performed! I learned that there was really SOMEONE THERE when I prayed to this God — there was Someone who actually HEARD, and who actually ANSWERED!

One time I was in immediate and desperate need of a very small amount of money — the need was so urgent I had to ask this invisible God, whom I could not SEE, to SEND this small piece of money to my home IMMEDIATELY. The need was so immediate I had no time for a long prayer — only some 20 or 30 seconds. But as I rose from that prayer, a man was even then in front of my house, on the way in with that EXACT AMOUNT of money! It was brought to me in less than one minute's time!

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

And I found other PROOFS. I KNEW,



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

And I found the SOURCE of this world's religious belief — a SOURCE that I was dumbfounded to learn is at *total variance* with what is commonly believed and taught and practiced today in the Western world under the name of CHRISTIANITY! Astounding though it was, I found that the Christianity of this world is NOT the teaching, or the practice, OF THE HOLY BIBLE!

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

### "Christianity" Not Founded on the Bible

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

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

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

It tells how, after the flood with only eight souls left alive on earth — and those eight possessing a true knowledge of the true God, the great grandson of Noah, NIMROD, and his wife SEMIRAMIS, rebelled against the revelation, the knowledge, and the RULE of God and began organizing HUMAN cities and governments, and a HUMAN-devised RELIGION which was the actual PARENT of ALL the religions of the world today.

It tells how, even in the nation God chose as His own, THE PEOPLE rejected

His knowledge and His rule. THEY stoned the prophets through whom He offered them the TRUE knowledge that man *needs and lacks*.

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

### The SOURCE of Religious Confusion

MANY religions today teach NOTHING about the One Supreme PERSONAL Creating God. Most professing denominations use the NAMES of God and Christ. They teach ABOUT God and ABOUT Christ, but they have embraced a MIXTURE of a PART of the truth of the Message of Christ and the revelation of the Bible *with ancient PAGAN superstitions and false philosophies*, and their own comparatively recent ideas of MEN.

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

They PROFESS to accept the Bible. They PROFESS God and the name of Christ as Saviour. But most of their BELIEFS are at TOTAL VARIANCE from those of GOD as revealed in the HOLY BIBLE.

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

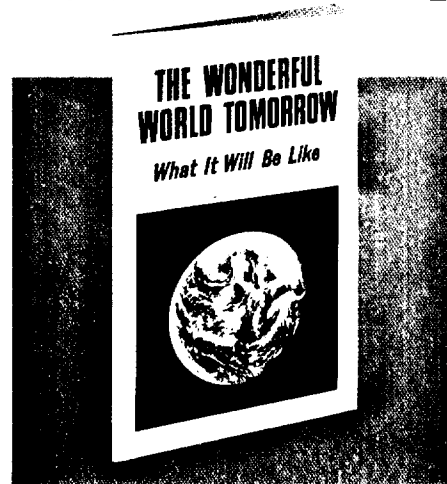
— their constant daily GUIDE in belief and in practice.

And this very SAME Bible inspired by the LIVING GOD foretells precisely what GOD is going to DO about it all — yes, and in OUR TIME!

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

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

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



Ambassador College Photo

If you want to know more about the great events coming in Tomorrow's World, be sure to request our fully illustrated booklet pictured above. No charge, of course.

# Should You JOIN A Church?

Many have asked, "Which church would you recommend?" "Where can I fellowship?" "Should I go to church?" Here are the BIBLE answers that will open your eyes!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

**W**HY all the furor about church attendance? Does it *really* make any difference whether you attend a church? Some say, "I've never been inside a church, and yet I know I'm as good a Christian as anyone else!"

Others, firmly convinced church-going is a vital part of Christianity, believe membership and attendance at church is necessary to salvation.

Are *you* a churchgoer? SHOULD you be?

## "Go to Church" Campaigns

Following the belief that it is vitally necessary to attend church in order to be a true Christian, many hold campaigns to increase church membership.

If any answer the altar call, or "come forward" at the climax of the appeal, they are counseled to JOIN A CHURCH — ANY church. It makes no difference WHICH, so long as that person is somehow convinced he should be attending a church.

To many, the "unchurched" represent a vast multitude of people who are as

yet unsaved. Assuming they will *become* "saved" if they are convinced they should attend a church, every effort is made to increase church attendance.

You've seen the billboards, the ads in magazines, or perhaps in movie theaters, urging people to "attend the church of your choice," haven't you?

What is behind it?

## What Is a Church?

Jesus promised, "I will build MY CHURCH" (Matt. 16:18). But what *is* a church? The word "church" comes from the Greek, *ecclesia*, which is derived from a root, meaning "to call out." The *Church* Jesus said He would BUILD is a group of "called-out ones." THIS Church *is the Body of Christ*, made up of many different *members* (I Cor. 12:27).

But most people do not conceive of the Church as Jesus built it!

Today, we have become confused. Religion is in chaos. Today, instead of the ONE CHURCH, the one group of *called-out ones* who belong to Jesus

Christ, we see literally HUNDREDS of *DIFFERING* groups, with different beliefs, different creeds and religious *books* to which they attribute divine authority, different customs, different methods of church government, different goals, different places of worship, different doctrines — carloads and myriads of insurmountable differences!

WHY?

I know a man, who, as a young boy, was preparing to attend church. As he began to trudge down the country road toward the small church building some distance away, a neighbor friend stopped in his car and offered the lad a ride. Grateful for the ride, and for being able to avoid the dirt of the road, the boy seated himself comfortably beside his neighbor.

Shortly, the car pulled to a stop in front of the small churchyard. The neighbor opened the door, and allowed the boy to get out. Struck with a sudden thought, the boy hesitated, and then finally got out of the car.

Still thoughtful, he entered the small church building — to hurry to the

matronly woman who was the children's teacher. Briefly, he explained how his neighbor had delivered him to the church — and how the same kindly man had *continued down the road* some distance further — to enter his own, a *different*, church. "Why is it," asked the boy of his teacher, "that he doesn't just come in HERE to OUR church, instead of going so much farther to another?"

The teacher *could not answer!*

Can you?

Is there ONE God? Then why do people try to worship Him in over a million different ways? Is there ONE Christ? Is there ONE Bible? Is there only ONE TRUE CHURCH? Yes, there is!

"There is ONE body, and ONE Spirit, even as ye are called in ONE hope of your calling; ONE LORD, ONE faith [body of beliefs — doctrine], ONE baptism, ONE God and Father of all" (Eph. 4:4-6).

### Where Is God's Church?

Jesus Christ DID build His Church, just as He promised He would. What is more, He inspired His servants to write down specific, detailed, *identifying marks* of that ONE Church, so whoever really THIRSTED for the truth, and *wanted* to find His true Church, could recognize it when he found it!

But people do not know *where to look*. Nearly every great error in thinking stems from one *false assumption*. People *assume*. Because most *assume* many things about what the Church should be, they are led into a maze and a labyrinth of false claims, obscure history, and error. Let's not assume!

There is only one real *source* that you can absolutely trust. That source is your own Bible!

People *assume* many things about Christ. Why assume? Why not search His own words instead?

Jesus *identified* His Church! Let's ask Jesus HIMSELF what it is like — what it would be doing — where it is — HOW to get into it!

### What Is the Church Like?

Jesus Christ said NO MAN could come unto Him, except it were given him of the Father (John 6:44). When He

explained He was the "Bread of Life," and began to reveal the deep spiritual significance of the WORD of God, of His approaching sacrifice, which is depicted by the Passover, many of the disciples found this truth *too strong* for them! They had *supposed* He was an "interesting" man — a good Teacher — that He had some "new ideas." But this was too much.

"From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked *no more with him*" (John 6:66). Jesus turned to Peter and all the twelve and asked, "Will ye also go away?" But Peter answered, "Lord, to WHOM shall we go? THOU HAST the words of eternal life"! (John 6:67-68.)

Where else can YOU go?

Only CHRIST HIMSELF has the TRUE words of eternal life! And Christ is ALIVE! He is the LIVING HEAD of HIS TRUE CHURCH!

Let's notice a grossly misunderstood verse that explains this.

Jesus said, "And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter [Greek: *petros*, which is a *little stone*, or a *pebble*], and upon this ROCK [Greek: *PETRA*, or big ROCK] I will build my church; and the gates of hell [the grave — death] shall not prevail against it" (Matt. 16:18).

And HE DID BUILD IT!

Notice what Paul was inspired to write: "And [you] are *built* upon the *foundation* of the *apostles and prophets*, Jesus Christ himself being the *chief corner stone*"! (Eph. 2:20.)

So, while Peter, as a stone or pebble, forms part of the spiritual *foundation* of the true Church, Christ is its CHIEF CORNERSTONE — the main ROCK on which it is founded — and HE IS STILL ITS LIVING, ACTIVE HEAD!

"For the husband is the head of the wife, even as CHRIST IS THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH" (Eph. 5:23).

Christ did not give Peter the sole authority in the stead or PLACE of Christ's own authority! He was here speaking of the entire foundation — of HIMSELF and of all those who were used to write the Bible — "and upon THIS ROCK I will build my church." (Christ is the chief cornerstone — the Head. He is the ROCK SPOKEN OF SEVERAL TIMES IN Deut. 32. He is called

the ROCK in I Cor. 10:4, and in *many* other scriptures.)

Wherever that Church is, *Jesus* is its HEAD. Not any man. Nor any woman.

And Jesus Christ is "the SAME yesterday, and today, and forever" (Heb. 13:8).

Of His own Church, Jesus said, ". . . The world hath *hated* them, because they are not OF the world" (John 17:14).

In this inspired instruction, just prior to His crucifixion, Christ revealed a great deal about His own Church. He said, "Ye have not chosen ME, but I have chosen YOU, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit" (John 15:16).

Christ promised that the society, the *world*, the system of things, or, the "around," would HATE His *true followers*! "If the world HATE you, ye know that it hated *me* before it hated you. If ye were *of the world*, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you *out of the world*, therefore the world HATETH YOU"! (John 15:18-19.)

Jesus said that His hated group would finally be *so persecuted, so despised* by society, that the time would come when "They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever KILLETH you will think that he doeth God service" (John 16:2).

Think of it!

FAR from becoming more *respected* by the community, FAR from "joining" a group that will enhance your business opportunities, gain you more friends, or raise your social stratum, Jesus promised IF YOU ARE IN HIS TRUE CHURCH, you may be KILLED because of it!

It is no wonder, then, that Christ calls His true Church a LITTLE flock! "Fear not, *little flock*; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (Luke 12:32).

What is His Church like?

It is a LITTLE Church! It is a group of sincere, CONVERTED, "called-out ones," who have COME OUT of this Babylon of confusion (Rev. 18:4) in repentance. It is a small, rejected, despised body of believers who are doing the WORK of God.

Jesus *never* prophesied of His Church

that it would become a large, impressive, politically powerful Church ruling over the nations in this age.

### What Will It Be DOING?

Christ had a WORK to accomplish on earth. "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man *can* work" (John 9:4).

He said, "The works that I do in my Father's name, THEY BEAR WITNESS OF ME" (John 10:25).

Even though some may not have *believed* Christ, as a PERSON, He warned them to LOOK TO THE WORKS BEING ACCOMPLISHED for the PROOF they sought!

"If I do *not* the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do, though ye believe not me, BELIEVE THE WORKS: that ye may *know*, and *believe*, that the Father is in me, and I in him" (John 10:37-38). The same is true of God's Church today!

During His earthly ministry, Christ called His disciples. His ministry was a personal TRAINING period for them! Many of His so-called "sermons" were NOT sermons, but personal, private INSTRUCTIONS to His disciples, who were to become a *part of the foundation* of the true Church of God! (See Matt. 5:1-2.)

But after Christ's death, burial and resurrection, He gave His Church a great twofold COMMISSION to fulfill!

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, ALL POWER is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go YE therefore, and teach ALL NATIONS, baptizing them in [the Greek word is *eis*, meaning "into"] the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you"! (Matt. 28:18-20.)

Mark's account tells us Jesus said the apostles were to go "into *all the world*, and PREACH THE GOSPEL to every creature"! (Mark 16:15.) Which gospel?

"And *THIS GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM* shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto *all nations*; and THEN shall the end come"! (Matt. 24:14.)

Wherever the CHURCH of GOD is —

# What Is A Church?

CHURCH business today is *big business!* Millions of dollars are spent on "churches" and millions of people go "to church" every week.

But few realize that by Biblical definition, one cannot go to or construct a church.

In every case in the New Testament, the word "*church*" is translated from the Greek word *ekklesia*, which *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance* defines as "*a calling out, i.e., a popular meeting, a religious congregation.*" It is also translated "*assembly*" a few times.

Notice some examples of how *ekklesia* is used in the New Testament.

Paul instructed the Roman Christians to "Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my helpers in Christ Jesus. . . . Likewise greet the *church that is in their house*" (Rom. 16:3, 5). Obviously there was no separate physical edifice in the house of Priscilla and Aquila, but the assembly of *called-out ones* — the Church — met there.

Paul referred to the same congregation (hosted by Priscilla and Aquila) in I Cor. 16:19. "The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the *church that is in their house.*" Colossians 4:15 refers to a congregation that met in the home of Nymphas in or near Laodicea. Philemon also had a church

meeting in his home (Philemon 2).

In the book of Acts, Luke referred to the Church in the days following Pentecost, 31 A.D. "And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple. . . . Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord *added to the church* daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:46-47).

The Church grows as Christ adds individuals to it; and it is wholly composed of those whom He has *called out* of the world — those who are *set apart* by Him to be a part of His body.

Paul wrote of Christ, "And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, and the first-born from the dead. . ." (Col. 1:18). In verse 24 Paul referred to himself, "Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church."

Paul was willing to suffer for *the Church* — the *body of Christ* — those who had repented and had been converted by God.

How plain! The Church is not the building. It's not something one can go to or join!

*It is* the sum total of all true Christians who have been begotten by the Holy Spirit, who have been called out by God, and have thus become part of the body of Christ — the true Church of God!

today — it will be PREACHING THAT SAME GOSPEL!

Jesus also told Peter THREE TIMES to *feed* the flock — which forms the *secondary* part of the great JOB which was given to the Church to accomplish! (John 21:15-17.)

Later, Peter repeated this great commission to those under his charge. He said, “*Feed* the flock of God which is among you” (I Peter 5:2).

Wherever the CHURCH OF GOD is, it will be DOING that very work. It will be faithfully carrying out that twofold commission, just as Jesus PROPHESED IT WOULD!

Christ explained that, even though the Church would be LITTLE during this age — it would have LITTLE strength — still, there would be OPEN DOORS supernaturally set before it — for the preaching of that Gospel (Rev. 3:8). The doors of RADIO, of TELEVISION, and of the PRINTING PRESS have been flung open before that *little* group today!

Somehow, somewhere, Jesus *said very plainly*, there would be a little flock, despised by the world, weak in numbers and physical strength, but preaching the Gospel as a witness to all the world!

### Then WHERE IS IT?

Many have written, wondering whether or not they should “join” one or another of the many different churches of the world.

This question is asked because people *assume*, vaguely, they should “attend some church.” As one woman once said to me, “Well, I suppose we ought to have *some* faith.”

You would be amazed to see the actual statistics as to WHY people attend their own churches.

Polls taken have revealed a wide variety of reasons for the present figures on church attendance in the United States. People attend “because it was the church they were reared in,” “because they like the pastor,” “because their friends go there,” “because their relatives belong to the same church,” “because a certain social level attends” — and they wish to “belong” to that level — “because the building is attractive,” or “nearby,” or “because they like

the soloist,” or “the choir,” or “the organist,” or, of all things, simply because they “like the parking facilities.”

A FEW attend their particular churches because they really believe their own church is right about its beliefs! But only a minority — not the majority — attend for this reason!

If someone offered you ONE MILLION DOLLARS in printed bills — all of them counterfeit, but some of them so excellently done so as to deceive even some of the top Treasury men themselves — what would you do? Suppose they were SO CLEVERLY made that only ONE EXPERT in the *entire world* could discern they were counterfeit. And, further, let's suppose you were offered, on the other hand, a crumpled old dollar bill — worn and used — but *authentic*, just the same.

Which would you choose?

ALL of the counterfeits — regardless of how seemingly *close* to the “real article” they may be — are worthless! But the one dollar that is authentic is *worth* far more than all the others put together — and even millions more like them!

The same thing is true of churches.

Why settle for a counterfeit? Even if it LOOKS like it may be “closer” to the truth than some others — WHY SETTLE FOR SECOND BEST?

There is only ONE CHURCH on the face of this earth that has been consistently, through *many years* of labor, preaching the ONE true Gospel of the Kingdom of God, telling you exactly what these times MEAN!

There is only ONE Church that has dared to tell you in definite, specific, point-by-point, detailed order the events that are yet to occur, what *will happen* in Europe, what WILL happen here in our country and all over the world, and what is sure to happen in the Middle East!

Some preachers may be vague, and say they somehow “feel” Jesus' return may be very near! They may say we are coming closer to the end of the world. But are they telling you what specific nations will do? The exact weather conditions ahead? Are they opening up the Bible and expounding to you fearlessly

in a point-by-point order — the real *meaning* of these mysterious books of prophecy? The symbols of Revelation? The *real meaning* of life? Who you are? Why you are? And where you're going? No!

Because they don't know these things!

Where is that ONE Church Jesus built?

It is where the WORK of that Church is being done!

And THIS WORK that you are reading of *right now* — that you *hear* over *The WORLD TOMORROW* — this Work is the only genuine Work that is carrying out Jesus' very commission just as He said it would be doing!

### How Do You Get Into It?

Believe it or not, you cannot “join” the Church of God!

No one ever HAS — *and no one ever will!* God must PUT you into it!

As I have already explained, the Church is the Body of Christ. Just as Jesus Christ did the WORK of God on earth by the instrument of His own physical body — an instrument through which the Father was working — so the Church, which is Christ's body, is the INSTRUMENT through which Christ accomplishes that work today!

Immediately after the day of Pentecost, Monday, June 18, 31 A.D., the Church of God began to grow by leaps and bounds. Thousands were brought to real REPENTANCE, and were baptized.

When the Jews at Jerusalem heard Peter's inspired sermon, they asked, “Men and brethren, WHAT SHALL WE DO?” (Acts 2:37.)

Well, then, why didn't Peter seize his opportunity? Why didn't Peter tell them — “GO JOIN A CHURCH”?

Why didn't Peter say, “Talk to the counselors, and they'll help you select a church home”?

Simply because Peter knew better!

Instead, he said, under inspiration of the Holy Spirit, “REPENT, and be *baptized* every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:38).

But did they then just become

"Christians" and NOT members of a church?

Did they just go home — and stay at home, never to have membership in any church whatsoever?

Most certainly not!

Jesus inspired Paul to write, "Now if any man have *not* the Spirit of Christ, *he is none of his*" (Rom. 8:9). You don't *belong* to Christ until you receive His Spirit!

Peter said you can receive that Spirit by being obedient and REPENTING of your *sins* — which are the BREAKING, or the TRANSGRESSION, of God's LAW (I John 3:4) — by acknowledging that Jesus is your Saviour because He paid for your sins in your stead — by being *baptized* — and THEN you can receive the Spirit of Christ that makes you a Christian!

God will give that Spirit only to those who are willing to "OBEY Him"! (Acts 5:32.) When you receive God's Spirit — which is the spirit of a sound, sane mind (II Tim. 1:6-7) — YOU ARE AUTOMATICALLY PUT INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST, which is the CHURCH OF GOD! Notice it!

"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body" (I Cor. 12:13).

The receiving of God's Spirit and the MIND OF CHRIST (Phil. 2:5) upon repentance and baptism PUTS YOU INTO, BAPTIZES YOU INTO, the Church!

Luke records, in the book of Acts, "And the Lord *added* to the church *daily* such as SHOULD BE SAVED" (Acts 2:47). "And believers were the more ADDED to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women" (Acts 5:14).

Everywhere in early Church history you see God was ADDING repentant believers to His Church, which is Christ's body. Not one single converted person ever stepped forward and asked to JOIN!

Christ expressly says, "NO MAN CAN come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:44).

You can enter God's true Church by REPENTING OF YOUR DISOBEDIENCE TO God's Law, by calling on God's true servants to baptize you, and by claiming God's promise of the gift of His Holy

Spirit. In that way, and that way ONLY, does anyone enter into the Church.

*Church attendance* is not the most important thing! Church attendance by itself does not mean Church membership in God's sight!

Some believe if they can just get people to "go to a church" they have gotten them "saved"! That means they view "churchgoing" as an END IN ITSELF!

But it most definitely is not. It is, where *God has made it possible*, a MEANS to an end. God *does* instruct His true servants *not* to forsake the assembling of themselves together — and shows by His Word that *an assembly should NOT meet unless one of God's true MINISTERS is present to FEED and GUIDE the flock!* Only the genuine worship of God in His Church is acceptable to Him!

God's Church HAS LITTLE STRENGTH! But it has *open doors* set before it — the doors of radio, television and the printing press — to carry the Gospel of the soon-coming Kingdom of God to the WHOLE WORLD as a last witness!

His Church is scattered. It is not noticed by the world. It is a "little flock." Many have an opportunity to meet, but others do not have the opportunity to attend a local congregation. They are "strangers and pilgrims" in this earth — looking for a BETTER WORLD — the WORLD TOMORROW!

*Should you join a church?* NO! BECAUSE ANY CHURCH YOU CAN "JOIN" IS NOT THE CHURCH OF GOD!

PROVE to yourself WHERE God's Church is — WHERE the *WORK* of that Church is being done, WHERE the MINISTERS of God are faithfully CRYING ALOUD, and SHOWING PEOPLE THEIR SINS — and don't settle for a counterfeit!

#### Personal Counsel

We offer you certain personal services to help you PROVE where God's Church is. First of all, if questions present themselves about the Church, our Personal Correspondents will be glad to answer. These men — specially trained for this job — will read your letters *carefully* and *thoughtfully*. They will be happy to answer any questions about the Church — either by printed litera-

ture or if need be — by a private letter.

Also as a part of the ADULT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM, we now have TRAINED MEN — graduates of AMBASSADOR COLLEGE — available in all parts of the United States and in many parts of the world, ready to counsel with you PERSONALLY — to answer questions — to help you with any spiritual problems — even to baptize any who are ready for it, if any should, voluntarily, and with no solicitation from us, so desire. Please do not construe this announcement as an "invitation" of any sort — but from time to time, people write to us, wanting to know if a *personal* visit is possible.

Because we say in literature, and you hear on radio, "there is no follow-up — no one will call on you" — many may have MISUNDERSTOOD. What we mean to say to the public is that there will be no follow-up trying to talk them into becoming a "member" of anything. Giving us your name and address for requested literature, or for a subscription to any of our magazines (free — already paid) does not mean someone will come knocking uninvited on your door.

Of course, we won't send anyone to see you, UNWANTED. Not unless you REQUEST IT! But, if you would like one of our trained men, graduates of AMBASSADOR COLLEGE, to call and counsel with you about any problems, answer any questions — even explain anything in the Bible — there is such a man NEAR YOU! So please feel free to invite such a visit. That's what they are there for. And of course you know they have nothing to sell. They won't ask you for money. They won't plead with you — or even urge you — to "be converted" or baptized, or to join anything. Of course, if you WANT and request help in finding God and letting Christ REALLY come into your life, they are fully qualified to HELP. But they will not try to shove anything on you. They are qualified to EXPLAIN the Bible if you ask, but never will they argue. Actually most of them are consecrated and ordained ministers. They, and we here at the Headquarters of this great Work, want only to HELP — to SERVE. We count it a PRIVILEGE to do so. ■



*News of the Work*

**Modern Technology**

# IN GOD'S SERVICE

## Ambassador College Data Processing Center

We employ the most up-to-date equipment available today — but always with the attitude of personal service to the individuals God has called us to serve. Computers can't be converted or have "attitudes." But there is one nice thing you can say about computers: they are 100 percent loyal and obedient to their masters! Like other marvelous modern tools God has made available, our computers are instruments of service in this Work of God!

*Ambassador College Photo*

**T**HE ENTIRE mailing list for *The PLAIN TRUTH* and for our Co-Workers was maintained personally by Mrs. Herbert W. Armstrong in 1934. She carefully addressed each magazine or envelope as it was sent out. When people wrote in changing their addresses or requesting any other literature that was available, Mrs. Armstrong would personally take care of the request with the only physical tools she had available to her in those days: pen and paper!

There were only a few, but precious, hundred on the entire mailing list. Nev-

ertheless, with the tools available it was a hard job, lovingly done over long hard hours, freely given.

As God blessed that giving attitude that has always permeated this Work, the Work grew. In a short time a secretary had to be hired. Typewriters and filing cabinets were added to the tools being used — sometimes boxes had to be used, and the first typewriter was borrowed. But the attitude of personal concern always remained.

God opened more and more doors. Ambassador College opened its doors in 1947, and ever since, Ambassador stu-

dents have helped carry the load of the Work which has constantly increased.

Today, the sheer weight of the numbers of millions of people God has called us to serve makes the best tools man has been able to create an absolute necessity for us to use — but always with that same attitude exemplified by Mrs. Armstrong in 1934!

Our files contain millions of names and addresses for the multiple mailing lists of *The PLAIN TRUTH*, *TOMORROW'S WORLD*, and the *Correspondence Course*. We must update them at the rate of around 100,000 changes per



Left: Smiling receptionist typifies the emphasis placed on the "Service with a Smile" attitude of the Ambassador College Data Processing personnel.



Right: View of our computer room. One of the most outstanding installations anywhere.

Left: The Data Processing Development staff is involved in designing computer programs for a host of daily, periodic and special problems that need personal human solutions.

Mr. Keith Hunter shown with the 360 Model 50 Central Processing Unit. Nearly seventy individuals are needed in the Data Processing section of this Work of God.

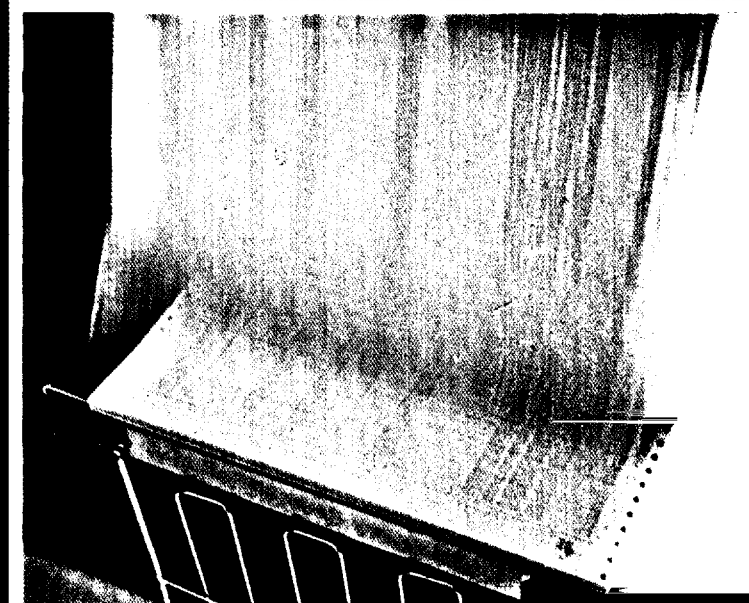
Far Right: In spite of the "seeming infallibility" of these cold mysterious objects — they require adjustment and care by competent human operators.



Left: Information is "key-boarded" into the computer terminals which are located in Mailing and other file control areas. Information is transmitted to the computer via video signals.

145,200 characters of information per minute — free of mechanical mistakes! — even so, it takes 25 hours of "print out" time to address labels for just one month's mailing of *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine for the U.S. alone!





month — 20,000 address changes and 80,000 new subscriptions.

To illustrate the enormous problem involved in maintaining these lists, let's take a historical example. Visualize what would happen if we attempted to maintain just *The PLAIN TRUTH* mailing list alone, much less the others, by IBM cards as we were doing in the early Sixties. At that time the circulation list was only a fraction of what it is today. IBM cards were keypunched with a subscriber's name and address, and kept on file to be run through a machine which printed the addresses on the magazines.

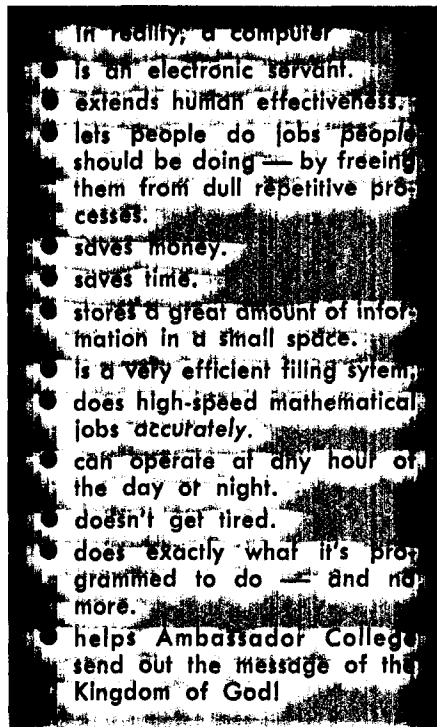
These cards were filed in storage cabinets by zip code. When a change of address was received, one of our staff members looked at the zip code, located the right filing cabinet, found the right tray, and then thumbed through it until he came to that person's card. The card was pulled out, a new one was made, and the new card refiled. It was a *laborious* process.

So here's the problem. If we tried to handle mailing lists that way today — with millions of names and addresses and a total of 100,000 changes per month — it would require a staff larger than the entire Ambassador College student body!

Obviously there must be some other solution. That's where the Data Processing Center and our 360 computer come in. Sustaining mailing lists isn't the sole function of the Center by far, but it is a fitting introduction to the department since it was the exploding *PLAIN TRUTH* subscription list that prompted the birth of the Center over five years ago. Data Processing enables us to handle the problems involved in maintaining the mammoth circulation lists, and the myriad literature requests, with the ease with which we do.

### The Computer

First, a word about computers. In some minds "the computer" is mysterious and instills into their minds the concept of impersonal, electro-mechanical tyranny. This concept is fostered by the mishandling and misuses of the computer on the part of some people. Science fiction stories add their bit to this impression. Actually, the com-



puter is only a tool — and, like all tools, can be used rightly or wrongly.

The computer merely performs simple repetitive functions — but much faster and more accurately than the human gray matter could. By using computers, Ambassador College is able to render more personalized service — since more work can be handled, errors are eliminated to a great degree, and Ambassador College personnel are left with more time for thinking and administering to the personal needs and problems of the people we serve.

### How Does It Work?

The answer to that question could fill a library. But let's give a very brief, simple outline for the benefit of our readers, as that will more clearly show how we use this instrument to help do the Work.

The four basic functions involved in a computer process are *input*, *processing*, *file storage*, and *output*.

1) *Input*. This has to do with imparting information to the computer. You or I receive, or "input," information through the five senses of sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell. Information, or data, enters a computer through punched cards, punched paper tape, magnetic tapes or disks, or *video-terminals*.

Terminals (as we explained last

month) look like a combination TV screen and typewriter (see photo). Information that is stored in the computer can be shown on the terminal screen — or information can be typed out on the screen and "inputted" into the computer. We use terminals to add new subscriptions to the file, to make name and address changes, and to send requested literature.

2) *Processing*. This part of the computer adds, subtracts, multiplies, divides, and performs logical functions. The computer does this according to a set of instructions. The set of instructions — telling the computer what to do — is called a "program." Each different job done on a computer will require a different program.

Now every mechanical job — no matter how complicated — can be broken down into a series of small steps. That's what a program does. It breaks down each job into a series of steps for the computer to perform — one step at a time.

Obviously, the faster a computer can perform this very great number of small steps, the more "power" it has — and the quicker it can get the job done. An example of one of these small steps, or operations, might be "multiply 2 times 3," or it might be the moving of one character of information. That's easy. Anyone could do it. But our computer can do 150,000 such operations per second — and not make mistakes! So it acts as an extremely valuable tool.

3) *File Storage*. This is where the records are filed — in particular, *The PLAIN TRUTH*, *TOMORROW'S WORLD*, and *Correspondence Course* mailing lists, and many other files. Information can be stored on tapes, disks, drums, cards, data cells, etc. We have one Datacell with a storage capacity of 400 million characters of information, and two and one half "2314's" (computer filing cabinets) with a total capacity of 620 million characters of information.

4) *Output*. This is the final result of "running facts through" the computer. It might be the newly corrected address — or the answer to our multiplication problem. The answer might emerge from the computer in the form of a printed report, punched cards, punched

tape, magnetic tape, or terminal displays. Or it could be up-to-date address labels — which our System 360 prints out at over 50,000 per hour!

### History

The Data Processing Center began in June of 1965 with only one man, Mr. Keith Hunter, now the manager of the center. The burgeoning number of PLAIN TRUTH subscribers required that we use a more efficient means of maintaining the subscription files to give the service we wanted to give. As with most mass-circulation magazines, address changes took at that time up to six weeks to go through the system. The computer was merely the final step on a path of learning to more efficiently serve larger and larger numbers of subscribers.

As we mentioned, Mrs. Herbert Armstrong had personally kept the file of a few hundred subscribers up to date by hand during the early years of *The PLAIN TRUTH*. Later, Elliot Stencils were used, followed by Addressograph plates. And then an IBM 407 machine was acquired in the early 1960's, and the names and addresses were kept on IBM cards. Each of these methods had quickly become outdated as the files grew.

But in 1964 IBM announced their new System 360. This seemed to be the solution to our problem. Because instead of being soon outgrown — as had past methods of file-keeping — the computer could *grow* as we grew!

The System 360 had another big advantage. Though there were various models — 20, 30, 40, 50 — a program for one model would operate on any of the other models. (A program is, remember, the set of instructions telling the computer how to do a certain job.) This meant that if we acquired a smaller model — say a model 30 — and then because of subsequent growth we needed a more powerful model — a model 50, for example — reprogramming would not be necessary in the changeover. That was crucial, because thousands of hours would be involved in writing new programs.

In April of 1967 Ambassador acquired its first model of System 360 — a Model 30. By June the

system was in use with five terminals, and the U. S. PLAIN TRUTH file — consisting of about 600,000 readers — was computerized.

And in May of 1968, the expanded needs of our subscription file maintenance system required a Model 50. The Model 30 was turned over to the Division of Financial Affairs and Planning, which found itself in need of the computer to handle its complex business and accounting transactions.

The deluge of new subscriptions from the mass-advertising campaign of 1968-1969 necessitated that the English and Australian offices handle their own subscription files. As a result, both offices now have their own computers. In August of 1970 Sydney received the Model 30 from Pasadena, and the Financial Affairs Division acquired a Model 40.

All told, about seventy people are needed to keep alive Ambassador's Data Processing Center. These seventy people, using the computer, do a job that would otherwise be utterly impossible.

### Many Other Uses

Besides the subscription lists, there are many other ways we put the computer to work. We use it extensively in the area of financial planning and accounting. To do this a terminal entry system was developed — as it was with the subscription list — so that our accounting personnel could keep right on top of expenditures and budgeting.

Our magazine and publication photo files have also benefited. Data Processing developed an indexing system that enables file personnel to quickly locate pictures on any given subject.

A similar system is being developed for our TV film librarians. Computer services have also been used to assist other Ambassador College activities such as the Registrar, the Physical Education Department, and the Food Service Department.

Each of these *applications* of the computer tells only part of the story. It takes many, many hours of study and work before a job can be analyzed and a way developed to do a job with the computer.

This process begins with the Data Processing Development staff. Their job

is to develop workable programs that harness the computer's capacity.

For instance, a need develops in some part of the Work where the computer could help out. Data Processing will, at the request of that department, direct a "systems analyst" to investigate the area in need. The systems analyst will study or analyze the present needs, goals, and work being done by that department, and then develop a system where the computer's power can be utilized. In designing a system, he will lay out or "plot" from start to finish all the steps or procedures necessary to accomplish the particular job. He'll then turn the work over to a programmer analyst.

The programmer analyst relates the work to be done with the technical aspects of computer processing. He'll figure out just exactly what the computer has to do in order to accomplish the job. Once he's done this, it's a matter of simply telling or instructing the computer what to do. That's where the programmer comes in.

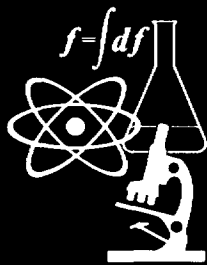
You could liken the programmer to a language interpreter. The programmer is the man who breaks the language barrier with the computer. He simply takes the instructions he has been given and "translates" them into a "language" a machine can understand. Just as we have English, French, and Chinese, so there are computer "languages" known as Fortran, Cobol, Assembler, RPG, and the like. That, in a nutshell, is how Data Processing develops systems and programs.

Once the job is programmed, then it is turned over to Operations personnel, who are the ones who actually run the computer equipment.

Our staff is constantly looking for new ways, new techniques, and the latest equipment — staying in the vanguard of the data processing industry — to efficiently and effectively use our equipment.

So we hope we have presented in this article, in some small way, a picture of how Ambassador College utilizes the computer to help get out God's message to millions of people. God gives us tools and talents — and expects us to rightly use them to their utmost!

Coming next month — the Ambassador College Press!



# Science vs. Theology?

## THE "EVOLUTION" OF THE COMPUTER

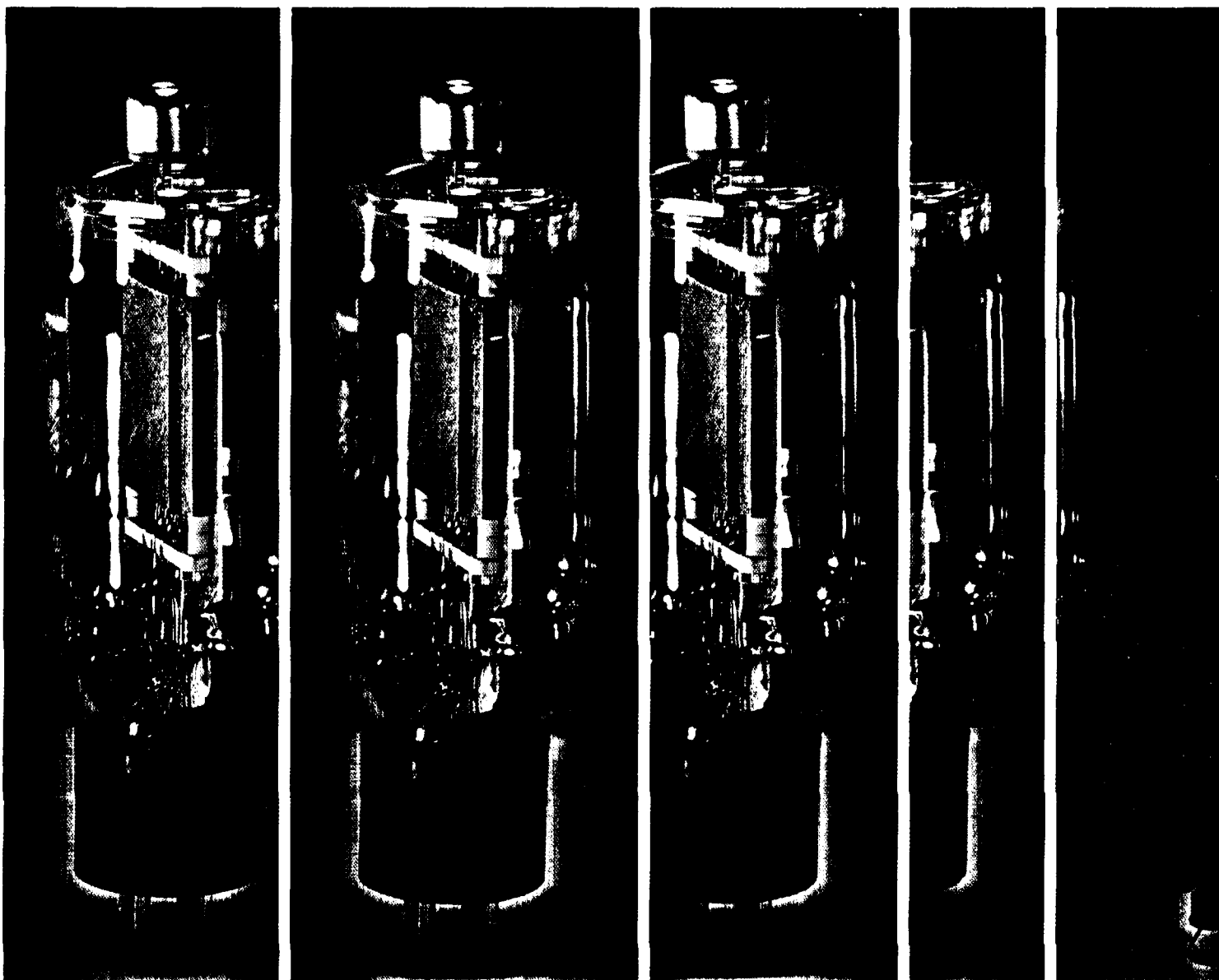
When a rational mind is running the show, evolution really works. And it doesn't require millions of years. Read about the fantastic development of the computer in just the past 30 years.

IT is impossible to establish the exact date for the birth of the computer.

The Chinese abacus goes back to antiquity. However, scientific historians point to Professor Charles Babbage — an English mathematician and eccentric genius of the early nineteenth century

— as the father of the computer as we know it today.

In 1822, Prof. Babbage began work on a unique calculator which he labeled a "difference engine." Following eight years of work, Babbage switched his interests to a significantly more sophisti-



The phenomenal acceleration of computer "evolution" has largely been a product of the electronic revolution. The transistor did what the old vacuum tube did, but in a fraction of the space and with much more efficiency. It was faster, required less power, generated less heat, had

fewer malfunctions, etc. The "chip" on the man's finger is the very latest landmark in the electronic revolution. It is not only *much* smaller, faster and still more efficient than one transistor but also it does the work of ten such transistors. And, incredibly, other recently designed

cated "analytical engine," which would have been — had it ever been completed — remarkably similar in concept to our present-day electronic computers. But when Babbage made the switch, he ran into trouble.

This switch alarmed the British government and it withdrew its support, thereby dooming the project to failure. Like so many others in history, Charles Babbage had the misfortune to be born 100 years ahead of his time. He was constantly plagued in trying to adapt his twentieth century ideas to nineteenth century machines, materials and techniques... but they were useless in his day because the delicate parts could not be manufactured with the materials and techniques of that era. Babbage's partially completed machines, along with 400-500 plans, were presented to King's College

Museum in London and later preserved in the South Kensington Museum. The plans that have been preserved reveal that Babbage's "analytical engine" would have operated very much like today's electronic computers with stored programs and punched-card input and output (Robert G. Van Ness, *Principles of Data Processing With Computers*, Elmhurst, Illinois: O. A. Business Publications, Inc., 1966, p. 1).

It was necessary for almost a full century to pass before any further development of the actual computer hardware transpired.<sup>1</sup> The year 1915 saw the Ford Instrument Company (which subsequently became a division of Sperry Rand) produce a machine which was designed to determine and maintain the angle of elevation required for a naval

gun to bombard its target. [Isn't it amazing how many scientific inventions were motivated and financed by war!] This crude "mechanical monster" — which operated on voltages and the rotation of gears — was nonetheless an early analog computer.<sup>2</sup>

The beginning of the first real *digital*<sup>3</sup> computer in the modern sense of the word had to wait until just before the Second World War. In 1939, Dr. Howard Aiken of Harvard designed a machine which utilized the two major conceptual breakthroughs without which the modern computer would not exist: The use of real numbers rather than analogs, and the self-contained ability to make logical decisions. Dr. Aiken's com-

<sup>1</sup>This is not to exclude the most significant milestone in the development of fundamental computer *principles*, which occurred around 1890.

Soon after the 1880 census was taken, the Bureau of Census was forced to come to a rather frightening realization. By projecting population growth forward, they discovered that the next census — to be taken in 1890 — could not possibly be completely counted *within ten full years*. This would mean that the *next* census would arrive in 1900, while the previous one would still remain incomplete. Obviously, some new counting device had to be designed, developed and implemented.

One of the Bureau's top statisticians at the time was Dr. Herman Hollerith. He began focusing his mind on the problem. One day he noticed a streetcar conductor punching out a person's fare from rows of numbers on a card. Each number represented a specific amount of money — with the sum of the new punches equaling the fare for that trip. Likewise, the sum of all the punches equaled the total amount paid for all trips — and when the card was full of holes, the passenger would obviously have to purchase a new card.

Dr. Hollerith noted that the holes were in fact being used to *store* information. This idea triggered the crucial concept which would soon generate a radically new component of twentieth century life. With only a slight change of the card, each punch could represent a *number* — and then a letter. From this experience came the "unit record" accounting systems using the "Hollerith code": a system of punched holes in a standardized card representing numbers, letters and special notations such as question marks, periods, etc.

<sup>2</sup>An *analog* computer is a type of calculating machine which operates by continuously *measuring* arithmetic numbers which are represented by fully determinable quantities — such as voltages, resistances or rotations.

<sup>3</sup>A *digital* computer is a calculating machine which operates by *counting* arithmetic numbers which are represented by discrete quantities — or digits or "bits" — in a decimal, binary (most often) or other similar system.



and manufactured chips are the working equivalent of literally hundreds and even thousands of electronic components, which, a scant two decades ago, would have filled a room! UPPER RIGHT: Pictures of internal and external components of the world's fastest computer, ILLIAC IV.

Ambassador College Photos; Burroughs Corp. Photos (upper right)

puter was limited by its electromechanical construction — its moving parts continuously became faulty or worn, and as a result errors were frequently introduced.

The next fundamental advancement in computer technology occurred in 1943, when the U. S. Army became interested in computers and sponsored developmental studies leading to the substitution of *electronic* circuits for electromechanical moving parts. Completed in 1945 and built by the University of Pennsylvania under the direction of John Mauchly and J. Presper Eckert, ENIAC (Electrical-Numerical Integrator and Computer) was installed at the Army Ordnance Depot at the Aberdeen Proving Ground.

ENIAC was huge — it weighed 30 tons and needed some 15,000 square feet of floor space. A man could literally walk through the "brain" of this early computer. It contained over 19,000 large vacuum tubes.

Other important advances quickly followed ENIAC. Dr. John von Neumann, a consultant to the Atomic Energy Commission, pioneered the development of internally stored programming during World War II. This crucial development enabled computers to store *instructions* as well as data in its memory. And so with instructions already given to the computer in advance, rapid-fire operations could be sustained without having to laboriously rewire the computer circuitry for each successive operation.

Finally, in 1951, Remington-Rand engineers, bolstered by Eckert and Mauchly, produced the very first of our present-day business-oriented computers — UNIVAC I — and delivered it to the United States Bureau of the Census. In a powerful example of the only real evolution — which is evolution directed by the human mind — after 12½ years of operation, UNIVAC I was presented to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D. C. "This is certainly a testimonial to the fantastic advancements in the computer field — items presented to the Institute are usually centuries old" (*ibid.*, p. 3).

But UNIVAC I was still a far cry from the computers of the 1970s.

UNIVAC I was a computer of surprising capabilities but it was a bulky

thing, although small by comparison with its ancestor ENIAC. UNIVAC I's central processing unit alone was housed in a structure nine feet high, fourteen feet long, and eight feet deep. Vacuum tubes, which are now considered large and cumbersome, many miles of wire, and the heavy metal framework needed to support the weight combined to produce a machine of excessive size and cost (*Computers and Automation*, John A. Brown, Arco Pub. Co., 1968, p. 9).

Enter solid-state electronics. The practical applicability of the *transistor* generated a new breakthrough in computer technology — the "*second generation*" had arrived. Just as the jet engine revolutionized the aviation industry, so the transistor allowed the computer industry to make dramatic new advances. Gone were the bulky central processing units, which alone were equivalent in volume to a small office. Electrical heat losses and power requirements, which formerly were a problem with vacuum-tube circuits, were greatly reduced.

And that was only the beginning. *Third generation* computers came along with the almost unbelievably small and incredibly efficient micro-circuitry that consisted of tiny "chips." Smaller than transistors, *each* of these "chip" micro-circuits is the equivalent of 5 to 3000 of the now-cumbersome transistors, resistors and diodes.

To appreciate what a 30-year *rationaly* determined "evolution" can accomplish — consider the following: A sewing *thimble* can hold enough semiconductor micro-circuits — "chips" — to be the working equivalent of *tens of thousands* of "old" vacuum tubes. And in the volume previously occupied by *one* such vacuum tube, ample room is available for *hundreds of thousands* of these more efficient electronic components. And now the *fourth generation* has already been conceived — and is about to be born.

Perhaps the most startling demonstration of the enormous growth of the computer industry is reflected by resurrecting the first extensive market analysis conducted by UNIVAC and IBM in the early 1950s. Both corporations originally estimated that the maximum number of computers which would *ever* be needed — in other words, the *market saturation point* — would be less than 20 machines. Little more than ten years later there were already 1000

times that many computers already operational in the United States alone. In 1969 the number was still steadily increasing past 50,000 machines, worth over 20 billion dollars, with present estimates for 1975 put at 128,000 computers, worth over 50 billion dollars.

Another way of appreciating the explosive evolution of computer technology is by comparing the number of arithmetical operations which can be made every second. ILLIAC I, designed and developed at the University of Illinois in 1952, could perform 11,000 such operations per second. ILLIAC II, completed in 1963, could perform 500,000. And now, nearing completion, is ILLIAC IV. This extraordinary experimental machine, built in cooperation with the Burroughs Corporation in Piola, Pennsylvania, will be capable of executing between 100,000,000 and 200,000,000 individual commands per second. And even this incredible rate of speed does not express the full capacity of ILLIAC IV:

Unlike its three predecessors and all computers now on the market, which solve problems by a series of sequential steps, ILLIAC IV is designed to perform as many as 64 computations simultaneously. For such a computing structure to be utilized efficiently the problem must be amenable to parallel, rather than sequential, processing. In actuality problems of this kind constitute a considerable part of the total computational spectrum, ranging from payroll calculations to linear programming to models of the general circulation of the atmosphere for use in weather prediction. For example, a typical linear-programming problem that might occupy a large present-generation computer for six to eight hours should be solvable by ILLIAC IV in less than two minutes — a time reduction of at least 200 to one (D. L. Slotnick, "The Fastest Computer," *Scientific American*, February, 1971, p. 76).

Isn't that incredible! A time reduction of at least 200 to one! A problem requiring six to eight hours for the giant computers of today will soon be able to be solved in under two minutes! And these problems may present over 4,000 constraints (the defined conditions or parameters of the situation) and 10,000 variables.

The key factor in facilitating the handling of the problem, of course, is solving many parts of the problem *at the same time* — up to 64 simultaneous

computations on 64 "slave" or auxiliary processing units — rather than only solving one part of the problem at a time.

Why have computer designers been forced to develop new techniques of logical organization in order to increase computation speed, rather than simply continuing to improve their hardware construction as they have in the past? Why? A serious obstacle has been encountered. It is a fundamental barrier. It slows down the whole operation. It's the rate limiting factor. It's a drag. And this drag, believe it or not, is *the speed of light* — over 186,000 miles per second!

The ultimate limitation on the operating speed of a computer designed to operate sequentially is the speed with which a signal can be propagated through an electrical conductor. In practice this is somewhat less than the speed of light, which takes one nanosecond ( $10^9$  second [one-billionth of a second<sup>4</sup>]) to travel about one foot. Although integrated circuits containing transistors packed together with a density ranging from several hundred to several thousand per square inch have helped greatly to reduce the length of interconnections inside computers, designers have been increasingly aware that new kinds of logical organization are needed to penetrate the barrier set by the speed of light (*ibid.*, p. 76).

If we pause to reflect on this for a moment, the impact should be overwhelming. Mankind is approaching the point where the slowest part of his computation systems — the *drag* on the whole system — is the speed of light!

Nor is this the end of the phenomenal evolution of the computer. ILLIAC IV can *diagnose* its own problems:

In a system containing more than six million components one can expect a component or a connection to fail once every few hours. For this reason much attention has been devoted to testing and diagnostic procedures. Each of the 64 processing units will be subjected regularly to an extensive library of automatic tests. If a unit should fail one of these tests, it can be quickly unplugged and replaced by a spare, with only a brief loss of operating time. When the defective unit has been taken out of service, the precise

cause of the failure will be determined by a separate diagnostic computer. Once the fault has been found and repaired the unit will be returned to the inventory of spares (*ibid.*, p. 77).

It is interesting to note that it took two medium-size computers (Burroughs B 5500) working almost full-time for two years to help design the meticulous micro-circuitry of the hardware and prepare diagnostic programs for the software (logic).

Another computer, the Burroughs B 6500, is wholly devoted to *talking* to ILLIAC IV. "Nobody" else can. This general-purpose computer is responsible for translating the many languages of the computer programmers into the hardware-determined language of the big machine itself.

Computers designing new computers. Computers diagnosing, testing and improving each other. Computers programming each other. It used to be science fiction. Now it's just science. And very real.

And on and on the evolutionary story goes. New techniques of memory storage, utilizing laser beams, give ILLIAC IV the capacity to store *one trillion* — 1,000,000,000,000 — "bits" (or the basic pieces) of information in a comparatively small space. One would need about 250,000 standard magnetic tapes to maintain an equivalent amount of data.

ARCHIVAL MEMORY is a new high-capacity secondary memory, developed by the Precision Instrument Company. The beam from an argon laser records binary data by burning microscopic holes in a thin film of metal coated on a strip of polyester sheet, which is carried by a rotating drum. Each data strip can store some 2.9 billion bits, the equivalent of 625 reels of standard magnetic tape in less than 1 percent of the volume. The "strip file" provides storage for 400 data strips containing more than a trillion bits. The time to locate data stored on any one of the 400 strips is about five seconds. Within the same strip data can be located in 200 milliseconds. The read-and-record rate is four million bits a second (*ibid.*, p. 83).

These memories remember because human brains designed them. Computers compute because human brains developed them. The computer has dramatically "evolved" because human minds *made* it do so. And remember, we have not been compelled and coerced into

requiring the participation of millions upon millions of years. About 30 was quite sufficient.

Now what about those human brains and human minds that designed, developed and "evolved" the computer? Why do they work? Are they the chance result of innumerable fortuitous circumstances?

We might give a few facts for the sake of comparison:

Examine the extraordinary technicalities of the human brain. From the eye alone, the optic nerve brings about one *billion* bits — 1,000,000,000 — of visual information *per second* to the brain (there are one million nerve fibers — each of which conveys one thousand bits per second). This doesn't even take into account the other inputs to the brain: The 11 other cranial nerves and the massive fiber columns of the spinal cord.

Consider the activity in the cerebral cortex of the brain — the thin (4-millimeter = 1/6th-inch) outermost covering of the brain. Here ten billion neurons reside — processing ten *trillion* bits — 10,000,000,000,000 — every second. This doesn't even consider the other massive sections of the brain.

And contemplate this: The human brain occupies less than *1/10th of one cubic foot* in volume.

Chance evolution? To think so would be to admit a far more remote possibility than ILLIAC IV being found in perfect running condition by the first American Indian to visit Piola, Pennsylvania.

Theistic evolution? Did the Eternal Creator of heaven and earth need millions of years to "evolve" man from his "anthropoid ancestors" while computer scientists have been able to "evolve" today's incredibly sophisticated computers in just 30 years? Can the Creator be inferior to His own creation?

Does the human *brain* work like a computer? Are they built with similar-design ideas?

And then what about the human *mind*? Is it like a computer?

These are the questions we want to consider — and answer — in the coming months.

<sup>4</sup>To begin to appreciate what a billionth of a second really means, consider the fact that a nanosecond has the same relationship to one second as one second has to 32 years! Or, in other words, if we stretch one normal second out to 32 years, then one billionth of a second would equal just one second.



# HOW DID THE ARK HOLD "ALL THOSE ANIMALS?"

*Save the earth's fauna in an Ark? Only the most simplistic Bible-believer would swallow a tale so incredibly naïve! Any seaman worth his salt knows Noah would have had more animals than he could ever hope to carry in his comical floating tub! So goes the critics' sarcastic carping and ridicule of the sober Bible record of the flood of Noah's time. Let's look at the facts — we'll quickly see that the critics are all wet!*

**C**RITICISMS of the Bible usually flourish in the rich soil of misconception. Traditional images and popular literature picture the Ark scarcely larger than an ordinary fishing smack — sitting helpless before the slightest squall.

Now let's find out what the *truth* is — and why "all those animals" had room to spare!

First consider the *real* size of the Ark. "The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits [563 ft.], the breadth of it fifty cubits [94 ft.], and the height of it thirty cubits [56 ft.]" (Genesis 6:15). That's ocean-liner size! Not until the nineteenth century was there built a vessel that exceeded its length. On displacement standards the Ark was a ship of 66,000 tons.

It had a volume of about three million cubic feet (and virtually the entire capacity of the Ark could be used for storage). This is equal in capacity to somewhat in excess of 1000 standard American railroad freight cars!

The surprising similarity of the Ark to modern ships is vividly demonstrated by a class of vessels which do a job remarkably like that of the Ark — lightships. Situated at strategic locations along the coasts of many countries, where fixed lighthouses are difficult to construct, is an ever-present battery of lightships. As did the Ark, these maritime sentinels ride steady in heavy seas without the aid of engines. Their hulls contain accommodation for the crew, generators to power the powerful elec-

tric lights, fog horns and radio transmitters. They are towed into position for use.

Illustrated is a representative member of the class. It is the *South Goodwin* lightship which stands guard over the ever-changing sands of the River Thames, a few miles off the southeast

skillfully selected and precision-planned separate pieces. We must recognize the existence of skilled knowledge and ability in that ancient world not again equaled until recent times!

After all, what about the men who built the Ark — Noah and his family? What were they like? It took a man with sufficient mind power, resources and experience — and backed by God's power — to carry out the monumental task of saving mankind from total destruction in a worldwide flood! It took more than a local incompetent to warn the world of impending disaster!

And Noah must have been capable of managing great wealth to finance the cost of building the Ark. Obviously, no accurate figures can be given, but an estimate is available in terms of modern ships of similar size.

In 1968, Upper Clyde Shipbuilders Ltd. of Scotland completed a large utility bulk carrier 550 feet in length, 75 feet wide and 47 feet high, a size somewhat smaller than the Ark. Complete

Historical records for the exact length of the cubit in modern terms are vague. Our research places it around 22.5 inches. But for reference, here are comparison figures in round numbers on the Ark's size for an 18-inch cubit, commonly accepted by many authorities. You will note there is still plenty of room!

	18-IN. CUBIT	22.5-IN. CUBIT
Length .....	450 ft.	563 ft.
Breadth .....	75 ft.	94 ft.
Height .....	45 ft.	56 ft.
Volume .....	1.5 mil. cu. ft.	3 mil. cu. ft.
Capacity in freight cars .....	500	1000
% of Ark's volume required for "all those animals" .....	40%	20%

coast of England. This modern "ark" has virtually the identical overall shape of Noah's Ark. The real Ark was, of course, several times as large in all dimensions.

Just for interest, consider the weight of the Ark. A meager knowledge of ship construction will reveal that a ship of that size would require a very large single central rib, or keel, just to support the sheer weight of materials alone. One can build a tiny vessel using basket-weaving techniques, but not a giant liner. The framework of the Ark alone must have been an engineering masterpiece — laminated out of many

with engine and one deck, but without fittings, the ship cost £1,500,000 (about \$4,000,000). No matter what the comparative costs were in Noah's day, the Ark required colossal resources to construct. It was hardly the backyard effort of a primitive river-dweller.

Now how did Noah get all those animals into the Ark?

First of all, God specifically instructed Noah to select one pair of every "KIND" (seven pairs of clean animals). The Bible term "kind" refers generally to a group of creatures, all of which interbreed. The horse kind is represented, therefore, by one pair of ani-



mals, and the same would be true also for dogs, cats, etc.

Then, by noticing Gen. 7:22, "All in whose nostrils was the breath of life," it is clear that only air-breathing or terrestrial animals were included in the Ark. This excludes virtually all sea creatures and simple forms of life which are not harmed by water.

Now consider this. Sixty percent of the animal kingdom lives in the sea, and 70 percent of land animals are insects. The remaining 12 percent of the animal kingdom are of the average size of a rhesus monkey.

Remember the Ark had a storage capacity of 1000 freight cars. Giving every pair of known modern species of insect 16 cubic inches of space, only 21 such freight cars would be required. (Counting Genesis kinds only, the required space is far less.)

For the other creatures, we wrote a letter to the London Zoo for information on how much space animals require. Their answer was, "Most animals can be maintained in very close confinement indeed for long periods and remain perfectly healthy. A rhesus monkey, say, can be maintained indefinitely in a cage about 2 ft., 6 inches cubed" (15 cu. ft.).

Accurate estimates of the number of mammal, bird, reptile and amphibian species on earth today is about 18,000. (Again, recognizing that only kinds, not species, were included, there would have been far fewer actual animals aboard the Ark.) Most animals are unclean, and there were a pair of each unclean animal. But let's be liberal and say 40,000 rhesus-monkey-size animals were on the Ark.

Only 20 percent of the Ark's three million cubic feet would provide room for 40,000 cages, each large enough for a rhesus monkey, on modern zoo standards.

And so, viewed from the perspective of scientific fact, only *one* of the three decks was plenty to accommodate "all those animals." That left another deck to store provisions, and one deck for Noah and his family.

So the *final* question. What did Noah ever do with all that room?



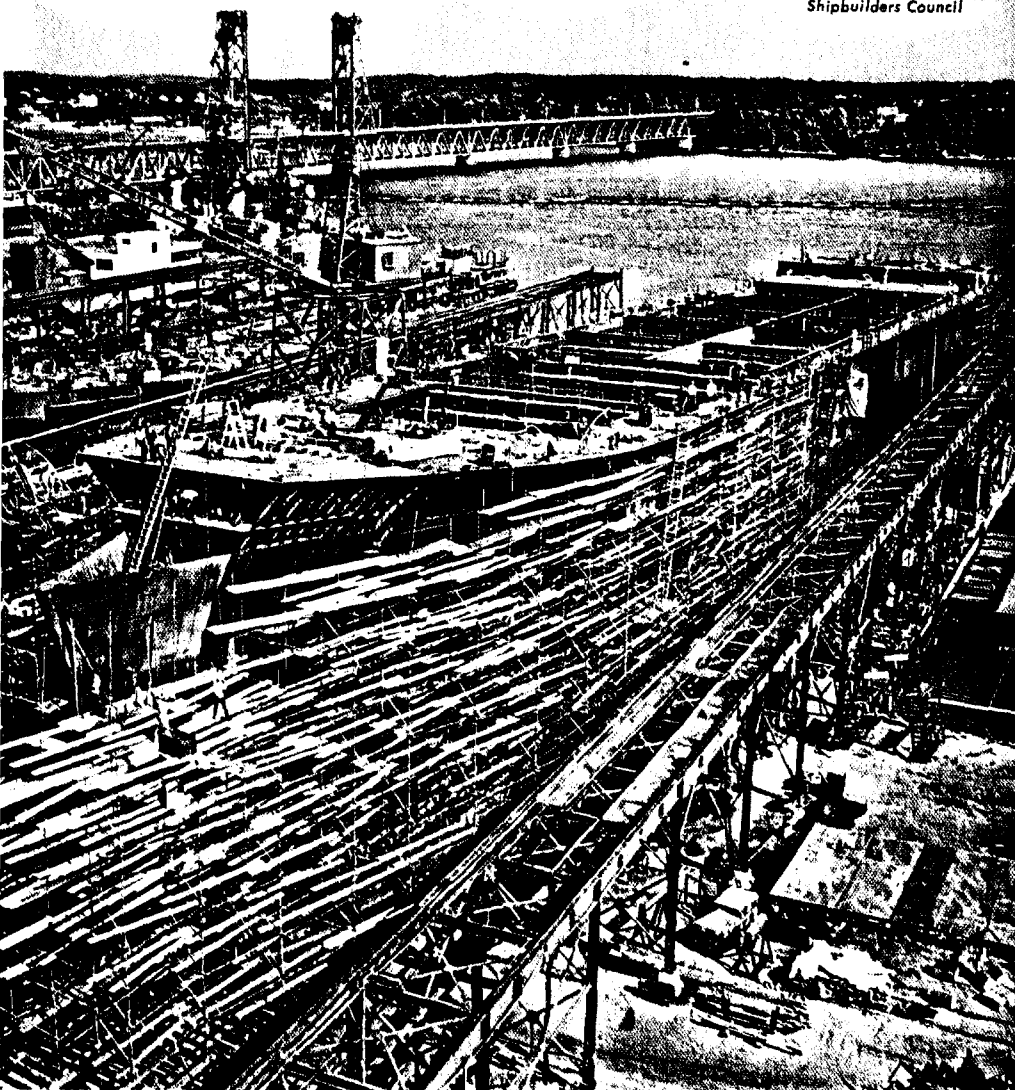
Ewing Galway

**ABOVE:** The Ark's storage capacity was equal to 1000 freight cars like these.

**LEFT:** A rhesus monkey — showing the average size of the animals on the Ark. Photo Researchers

**BELOW:** Modern shipbuilding. Not until the nineteenth century was there built another vessel the size of the Ark! Shipbuilders Council

Shipbuilders Council



# ANIMAL DISTRIBUTION AFTER THE FLOOD



EACH isolated land mass or continent has animals or birds not found elsewhere. Australia has its kangaroo, koala bear, duckbilled platypus, and Tasmanian devil. North America boasts the beaver, rattlesnake, raccoon, turkey, and opossum. South America offers the llama, capybara, and sloth. Asia has its peafowl and panda bear. Africa has the giraffe, hippopotamus, and zebra. Certain island groups also have kinds of animals not found elsewhere. How did all these animals become segregated after leaving Noah's Ark?

Consider that God — not Noah — brought the animals to the Ark (Gen. 6:20). It would not have been a difficult matter for Him to see to it that they also redistributed themselves after the Flood. God is the Originator of animal migration. It was His will that the animals — as well as mankind — replenish and repopulate *limited* geographical realms after the Flood (Gen. 9:1; 10:5; 11:8-9). It should be no surprise to see both men and animals even today basically segregated around the world. It's basic. All forms

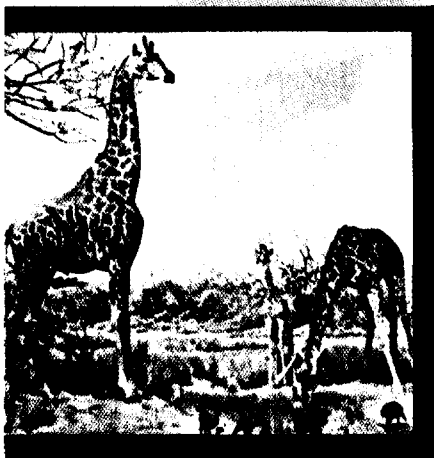
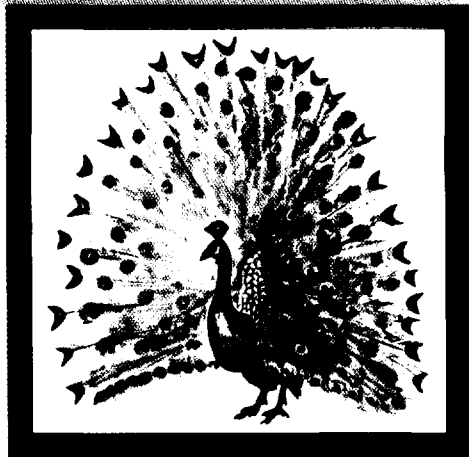


of life exist in the specific land areas where they can best flourish.

The major land masses of the earth are not as isolated as one might suppose. They have been even less isolated in the past. Witness the existing land bridge between Asia and Africa — the Sinai Peninsula — and Central America between the North and South American continents. Land bridges have also existed in the geologically recent past between Asia and Australia as well as Asia and North America. To this day, the ocean is relatively shallow between much of Asia and Australia. Should the oceans lower a few hundred feet, this land bridge would again be exposed.

As men travel and migrate, they traditionally take with them familiar plants and animals. Some go with them accidentally. Many animals have spread to new areas in this manner — the rabbit to Australia, the English sparrow and European corn borer to the Americas, etc.

Recent discoveries are showing scientists that *much sea traffic* existed in the ancient world. The Bible itself shows



that Solomon's ships plied the seas and brought back precious items *and animals* from great distances (I Kings 9:26-28; 10:22; II Chron. 9:10). The "three years" mentioned in I Kings 10:22 may be highly significant. Is it only a coincidence that a sailing boat takes three years to circumvent the earth? The Biblical record implies worldwide exploration and shipping in the time of Solomon! Animals were transported to the Middle East from far-off lands. It is logical to conclude that animals were shipped between other areas as well. Individuals have had pet lions, tigers, snakes, bears, etc. — even in our present society. Are we to believe that man was any different in ancient times? Surely not.

It has also been demonstrated that animals have reached isolated islands on floating masses of vegetation or on storm and flood debris. This has been pointed out by such authors as Rachel Carson in her book *The Sea Around Us*. Never has an island emerged from the sea but that it soon became the home of various sorts of animals and plants.

# NOAH'S DAY TODAY!



Wide World Photo

*A society that is rotten to the core, violent, crime-ridden. It eats, drinks and goes about the selfish pursuit of life studiously ignoring the warning of God! The entire society of mankind is committing suicide — COSMOCIDE!*

by David Jon Hill and J. Orlin Grabbe

**T**HE WORLD in Noah's time was *destroyed!* That's why we're concerned and worried. Because we notice some similarities to today's world.

Christ forecast, "As things were in Noah's days, so will they be when the Son of Man comes. In the days before the flood they ate and drank and married, until the day that Noah went into the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away. That is how it will be when the Son of Man comes" (Matt. 24:37-39, *New English Bible*).

Now if Christ were *really* going to return, and come back at a time when the whole earth *is* the way it *was* in Noah's day, and if our newspapers were to say that's the way the world was *now* — we'd be concerned!

So we are. Because He is. Because society is living Noah's day all over again.

Here's how.

## A Population Explosion

"Now a *population explosion* took place upon the earth" (Gen. 6:1, *Living Books of Moses*). That's the first thing we read about the immediate pre-Flood world.

How many people did the earth have then? Pre-Flood population probabilities go something like this:

Present population growth is 2 percent per year (3.5 percent births minus 1.5 percent deaths), and doubles every 35 years. If we take a fairly conservative rate of growth for pre-Flood society (10 children per couple in a 123-year generation), this figures out to a 1.3 percent yearly increase, just two thirds of today's growth rate. That's doubling every 53 years.

What do we find? That at the time of the Flood — 1657 years after the creation — there would have been 6.5 billion births (and that at a conservative estimate) of which only 18,400 people would have died by natural causes!

Apply the current-events test and see the comparison with our super-saturated planet now. "Massive collapse of nations. A billion people starving to death. Poisoned oceans, killer smogs, riots, plagues and a succession of wars pitting the 'have-nots' against the 'haves.' This is the scenario for the seventies, the world of tomorrow that has been envisioned by a frightening young man named Paul Ehrlich [of Stanford University's Department of Biological Sciences]. . . . The trigger to this catastrophe, declared Ehrlich, is **OVERPOPULATION**. 'Mankind is breeding itself into oblivion,' he warns" (*Frontliners* 1970).

"More warnings have been uttered by scientists on the perils of overpopulation than on any subject in modern times . . . If mankind does not control its fearsome fecundity, it will drown in its own flesh" (*Los Angeles Times*, Dec. 8, 1969).

"Sir Julian Huxley, the famous British biologist, has said: 'This problem of

population is the problem of our age.' And Dr. B. R. Sen, Director-General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization until last fall, succinctly summarized the problem when he said: 'The next thirty-five years . . . will be a most critical period in man's history. Either we take the fullest measures to raise productivity and to stabilize population growth, or we will face disaster of an unprecedented magnitude. We must be warned . . . of unlimited disaster' (Population Reference Bureau, May, 1968).

"The greatest population growth the world has ever encountered will take place in the second half of the 1970s, a United Nations report said . . ." (UPI release, Oct. 30, 1969).

Delve deeper and see a primary inevitable consequence of a population explosion. Each person is, to begin with, an explosive package — in a different way. Barring the intervention of God, each human individual grows up to become enmeshed in his own carnality — oriented toward "the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life" (I John 2:16).

So what happens when the world fills up and becomes compacted with packages of "all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity"? (Rom. 1:29.) What happens when the socially destructive life-directions of millions of "backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things" are crowded together, elbow-to-elbow, over the planet? (Verse 30.) What is the cumulative impact of people upon people who are "without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful"? (Verse 31.)

The result is — **VIOLENCE! Crime.** Humans in their carnality unabatedly inflicting hurt, pain, and misery upon other humans.

### Violence for the Sake of Violence

"And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. . . ."

Moreover, "the earth also was corrupt with violence" (Gen. 6:5, 11).

Or, in slightly different words, "the crime rate was rising rapidly across the earth" (Gen. 6:11, *Living Books of Moses*).

So goes the description of Noah's time — and it's a vivid and accurate picture of our age!

"Are violence and terror becoming a way of life in much of the world?" asked an AP special correspondent on August 26, last year. "There has been something akin to an epidemic of bombing, political kidnaping and murder, urban and rural guerrilla warfare, torture killing, organized terror, sabotage, killing and maiming of innocents. Plus street war, looting, rioting, near anarchy, senseless cruelty and general noise and confusion. . . . The American Psychiatric Association [views] the growth of violence as a matter of 'urgent concern' for the whole world.

"Today, terror and violence do not simply dot the map here and there. Sometimes it seems even aimless or haphazard, as if it were violence just for the sake of violence."

Another commentator talks about "the problems of uninhibited violence exploding around the earth." He reports that "in almost every corner of earth a spirit of internal lawlessness is manifested by violent riots, murders, kidnapings, piracy and hijacking of airplanes" (C. L. Sulzberger, *New York Times*, April 8, 1970).

"Violence — Worldwide Problem" read the title of a *U. S. News & World Report* article last year (Sept. 28). "Violence is growing in many countries . . . becoming more political, more organized — also more spectacular, more terroristic."

### Population Pressure!

A recent Associated Press release informs us that "Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, winner of the 1970 Nobel Peace Prize . . . says the population explosion is producing stresses because of overcrowding. 'These stresses may lead us into complete chaos,' he said."

Wherever we look, we find the same sad state of affairs. In the U. S., "crime during the nineteen-sixties outstripped our population growth by over 11 to

one," stated J. Edgar Hoover, "and this trend would appear to show no sign of abating in the foreseeable future" (UPI release, December 27, 1969).

A district judge in Denver, Colorado, stated that "crime is experiencing its greatest ascendancy in the history of this nation. During the last 10 years our police departments have been beset by a crisis of such staggering proportions as is unparalleled in the history of American law enforcement" (*Rocky Mountain News*, Denver, September 19, 1969).

That's *your world!* That was Noah's world. "As seen by God, the WORLD WAS ROTTEN TO THE CORE . . . ALL MANKIND WAS VICIOUS AND DEPRAVED"! (Genesis 6:11-12, *Living Books of Moses*.)

Now for the most significant common characteristic between Noah's day and our time. Notice Matthew 24 again, verses 38 and 39, the world was "eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark. And KNEW NOT until the flood came, and took them all away."

People *didn't know* violent mass death was coming — but they **COULD HAVE!** Because there was a continuous warning message from God — calling the earth to *repent*, to turn away from evil, violence, crime, lust and greed!

Noah himself was used to herald that warning message — Noah, a "preacher of righteousness"! (II Peter 2:5.)

That same message that Noah preached — to change, to turn to God — is going out today! God is offering His Spirit, that man can be freed from vanity, lust, greed — the cruel bonds of man's carnal mind. Unless that message is heeded, our society is doomed to disaster as it was in Noah's time!

God urges, "Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isa. 1:16-18).

But Satan has deceived the whole world, and therefore mankind continues

headlong along its turbulent trail toward utter destruction. The rat race for survival, comfort, pleasure, sex, entertainment and sensual saturation goes on, as the foundations of modern society are violently torn apart!

Now Christ said that in Noah's time people continued this heedless pursuit till the *very day* of destruction — in a pandemic refusal to get excited about *God's* state-of-the-world message!

And today society has universally and progressively become utterly *un*-concerned about the state of the world — and retreated more and more inwardly into mass-produced epicureanism and escapism. "Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die" is the order for *today* — and forget about tomorrow!

Packaged experiences, store-bought daydreams, and catered selfishness — not concern about the tragic condition of mankind — are injected in massive doses. TV, movies, fantasy, novels, gambling, spectator sports, innumerable forms of pseudo-love and perverted sex, crass materialism. No previous generation has been exposed to one tenth the amount of vicarious merrymaking, and mental and sensual escapism that *our* generation lavishes on itself.

*All this — as the world rapidly approaches its deathbed!*

Oh, some get concerned about world conditions. Some are appalled by pollution, excited about wars, involved in racial problems, heartbroken over the tragic state of national governments — provided they're allowed *their* solution, *their* time, *their* way! Everything except heeding the warning message to repent and turn to God!

Eight persons were saved in the destruction of Noah's world (II Peter 2:5). A *remnant* will be saved in the destruction of our society (Ezek. 6:8) — a destruction that can only be forestalled by *national repentance!*

God pleads in Ezekiel 18:31-32: "Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye"! □

# THE GOD FAMILY

*"We are the children of God:  
And if children then heirs, HEIRS OF GOD."*

by Robert L. Kuhn

**F**INALLY. Like the last great crescendo of a gigantic symphony, after nearly 6000 years of man's history, the Creator of the universe is proclaiming to all mankind what the ultimate purpose of human life really is.

Now, just before the close of man's age, God is revealing why He created the universe and why He designed human beings. And although known by some individuals in the Old Testament period and preached by Jesus and the apostles in the early New Testament period, this astounding and fundamental truth has never before been made available to all nations on such a massive scale.

It's no accident. There's no coincidence involved. The time is now. We are living in a unique moment of the history of the *universe*. Our generation will see it all put together. And our generation will have to understand *why*.

We are now ready to approach the ultimate purpose of — and for — human life.

It involves our spirit, the spirit in man. (The spirit in man can be defined as the non-physical component of the human mind which differentiates it from animal brain. The spirit in man is *not* an immortal soul — rather it is simply a spirit essence which imparts the power of self-conscious intellect to the human brain, thereby generating

the human mind.) And the purpose of human life involves God's Spirit, the Spirit of God. More precisely, the fundamental purpose of human life involves the *union* of these two spirit essences — and the resulting new creation which then emerges. Paul epitomizes the overwhelming significance of the entire process with breathtaking succinctness: "*The Spirit of God joins with our spirit in testifying that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; HEIRS of God*" (Romans 8:16-17, *The New English Bible with KJV*).

### Heirs of God

The key word is obviously *heir* — because we are "*heirs of God*." What does this tell us?

First we define the word: An *heir* is a person who is entitled to, and assured of, the acquisition and possession of specified riches, properties, offices, titles and responsibilities — all to be received at a given time or at a particular event in the future. Now since we human beings are "heirs of God," whatever the name "*God*" stands for, we are entitled to, and assured, of the acquisition and possession of *it*.

And just as surely as all the young sons of the Ford, Rockefeller and Rothschild families are absolutely guaranteed the treasures, rights, privileges and opportunities which are certified and secured by their physical fathers' family names, all human beings can be absolutely guaranteed the enormously more spectacular treasures, rights, privileges and opportunities which are certified and secured by our Creator and spiritual Father's family name — *God*.

So we go to the next step: *What is God?* What is this which we all can be heirs of? The answer to this question simultaneously answers the most fundamental question of human life: "What is man?"

*Because mankind was created to become literally Sons of God.*

That's the purpose of human life — plain and simple. That's why we were created. That's why the entire universe was created.

But this is such an incredible concept that most people will not comprehend it. Why? Is it too complex? No. It's too

*simple* — too simple for minds nurtured by, and accustomed to, the tortuously tangled religious systems and dogmas of this world. So we will repeat it: All human beings — you included — were created to literally join the God Family. And become God. God as God is God.

How can that be?

*Because God is a Family.*

### The Family of God

More accurately, "*God*" is the family name of the eternally creating class of beings who have designed, are sustaining and will forever rule *all reality* — spiritual and physical reality, known and unknown reality, reality that does exist and reality that does not yet exist.

That's what *we* are *heir* to.

*The Family of God!*

*Everything!*

*Forever!*

The concept that *God is a Family* is as bold as it is thrilling. It is almost a "revolution." The Establishment surely can't hack it.

"Organized religion" portrays God as "the Aloof Holy One" — the "Unapproachable Judge," who will barely condescend to have a few "goody-good," "super-righteous" pruders gaze at His pious face in some heavenly stained-glass paradise. To state that *God is a Family* seems like outright

heresy compared to the twisted maze of pagan doctrines which have established themselves as the respectable religious systems of this world.

Nevertheless, it is true — *God is a Family*.

Because, as incredible as it appears to our materialistically hardened eyes, *the Bible explicitly teaches that God is a Family — and that the entire purpose of every human life is to join that "very family circle of God"* (Romans 8:15, Phillips translation).

The proof centers around *Elohim* — the Hebrew word translated "God" in so many Biblical verses (for example, Genesis 1:1). *Elohim* is a *plural* word — it ends in "*im*," which is the regular sign of the plural in the Hebrew language. Now read Genesis 1:26 and observe that *the God Family refers to itself in the plural*: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."

Interestingly enough, though clearly in the plural, *Elohim* takes a *singular* verb. The reason for this is that *Elohim* is a *uniplural* word — like the English words family, group, team, congregation and church. To be *uniplural* means that although the overall concept of the word is *singular*, *innumerable members can compose this singular-word-concept*. For example, one family, one group, one team, one congregation and one church are each singular, yet all can have as many independent members within them as desired.

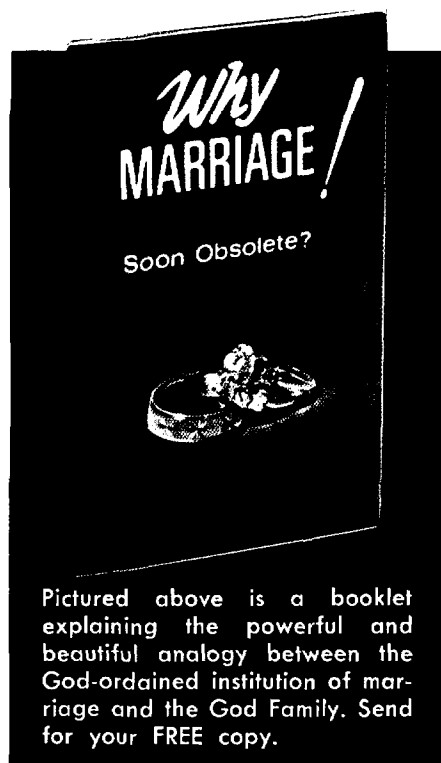
In like manner, *God is singular*, God is *ONE* — *GOD IS ONE FAMILY* — yet the God Family can and will comprise an almost infinite number of individual distinct Sons. Ephesians 3:14-15 proclaims that the whole FAMILY in heaven and earth is named after God the Father. Or, in other words, the whole family is named the *God Family*.

### The Present Members of God's Family

At the present time — *today* — there are only *two* beings in the God Family:

1) God the Father — the *Possessor* of heaven and earth (Genesis 1:4:18, 19; Psalm 110:1; Daniel 7:13; John 5:19) — the Father of Jesus Christ.

2) The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob — the active *Creator* of heaven



and earth — the One who became Jesus Christ.

Now the fact that the Jesus Christ of the New Testament is *exactly* and *identically* the very same Being who appeared as the God of the Old Testament — the very same Eternal Creator who made the universe, formed Adam, directed Noah, called out Abraham, wrestled with Jacob, spoke to Moses, led Israel through the wilderness and inspired all the prophets — may seem shocking.

Most people assume — weakly obeying what contemporary “churchianity” commands — that you couldn’t find two more opposite beings in the entire universe than the cold, cruel God of Old Testament thunder, and the weak, mild-mannered “little Lord Jesus” of New Testament piety.

So it is going to be a rude surprise to discover that the God of the Old Testament was merciful (Deuteronomy 4:31, etc.), compassionate, and a giver of grace and glory (Psalm 84:11; 111:4, etc.) — and that the Jesus Christ of the New Testament was powerful (Matthew 12:34), authoritative (Matthew 5:17-19) and a dispenser of judgment and war (Rev. 19:11).

The Christ of the New Testament had literally been God from the beginning (John 1:1). This physical man composed of flesh and blood — the One called Jesus of Nazareth — had been the One who had actually created everything — the earth, the heavens, the universe.

How does one demonstrate this crucial point? With surprising ease. Compare the appropriate New Testament verses — John 1:3, 10; Ephesians 3:9; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:2 — which state that *Jesus Christ* created all things, with the appropriate Old Testament verses — Genesis 1:1; 2:3; Deuteronomy 4:32; Psalm 89:12; Isaiah 40:26; 41:20; 45:7; Amos 4:13 — which state *the Lord God of Israel* created all things. Now either *two separate* Beings created all things — which is, of course, a logical contradiction — or else Jesus Christ is the Lord God of Israel!

I Corinthians 10:4 clinches the point: The “Rock” of Israel — Deuteronomy 32:4, 15, 18, 30, 31; Psalm

18:31, 46; 28:1; 62:2; 78:35; Isaiah 17:10 — “was Christ.”

A fascinating corroboration of the fact that the Creator God of the Old Testament was the One who became Jesus Christ of the New Testament comes from an understanding of the literal meaning of “YHVH” — the personal name of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. (The uncertain pronunciation of YHVH is due to the absence of vowels in the original Hebrew manuscripts.)

YHVH has been thousands of times translated “LORD” in the King James Bible. This translation is misleading. Because YHVH can be thought of, in one way of bringing out the meaning, as a composite of three basic Hebrew word-concepts — “was” (HYH), “is” (HVH) and “will be” (YHYH). It therefore follows that when “HYH,” “HVH” and “YHYH” are combined to form “YHVH,” their respective meanings should likewise be combined to form “Was — Is — Will Be.” (Most Hebrew scholars agree on this concept of “being” — although, as we might expect, they have different explanations for the exact origin of the form “YHVH.”)

As a result, YHVH — the personal name of the Eternal God of Israel — literally means the “Was — Is — Will Be — Being.” This is the *precise* description of Jesus Christ found in Hebrews 13:8: “Jesus Christ the same *yesterday* [was] and *to day* [is] and *for ever* [will be].” This is also the precise description of the God of Israel, “For I am the LORD, I change not” (Malachi 3:6).

### What Will We Look Like?

What will it be like to be Sons in the God Family? To conclude this short article, let’s answer one aspect of this question: What will we look like?

There’s only one way to find out: Find out what Jesus Christ looks like *today*.

How will that help? Because Jesus Christ is our elder brother in the God Family — the pioneer of our salvation. What He looks like today is what we will look like in the resurrection. Because Christ has promised to give to us just exactly the same quality of glori-

fied body which God the Father has given to Him: “And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them [all of Christ’s disciples]” (John 17:22). And Christ did *more* than “just” promise — *He swore by Himself* (Genesis 22:16; Hebrews 6:13) and He confirmed it by an oath (Hebrews 6:17).

This means that God and Christ are putting their own very names on the line. They are staking their eternal reputations. They are risking everything for man. That may sound shocking to some — but that’s precisely what God inspired His Word to proclaim.

Now let’s read the detailed present-day description of Jesus Christ as described by John the Apostle in the book of Revelation. “And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters. And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength. And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last” (Rev. 1:13-17).

As unheard of as it may sound, what you have just read is a prophetic description of what *you* can look like in a very few years.

And you can go further. Read about your potential future environment.

Read about the indescribable majesty of the throne of God the Father in the fourth chapter of Revelation.

Read about the fantastically beautiful “portable” throne of God the Creator in chapters 1 and 10 of Ezekiel.

Finally — and the most “brain-bursting” and “mind-expanding” of all — read through the 21st and 22nd chapters of Revelation. Discover the imagination-defying, incomprehensible New Heavens and New Earth.

*And it ALL can be yours — everything — forever — because you can be an Heir of God!* □



# IS GOD

# CALLING YOU?

**At this very minute God IS calling a people out of this sin-sick and dying world. It is a wonderful calling for a fantastic purpose. It is so awe-inspiring that some have difficulty believing it. Perhaps YOU are being called right now. You need to know, lest you ignore a direct call from the great God of all the universe. Read this article to find out whether God is calling YOU!!**

by Alfred E. Carrozzo

**T**HE COMMON idea of today's Christian world is that a battle is taking place between God and Satan. The idea teaches that God is trying to get everyone saved, and Satan is trying to get everyone lost. *If* that be true, then every honest person will have to admit GOD IS LOSING!

The vast majority of all people on earth today do not even profess Christianity. Yet, your Bible says there is no other name under heaven through which we can be saved (Acts 4:12). Many millions of people have lived and died without ever hearing the name of Jesus Christ. What about those people? What about little babies that live only a few hours? Has God caused them to be doomed? What about the millions living under atheistic Communism? Are they lost forever?

**ABSOLUTELY NOT! EVERYONE** will have a chance!

## Specific Calling Necessary

The *shocking* fact is, *God is not trying to get everyone saved now!*

It is a lack of understanding of God's plan that causes the evangelists to shout: "Give your heart to the Lord before it's too late!" The inspired Word of God reveals that **NO ONE** can come to Jesus Christ **UNLESS THE FATHER SPECIFICALLY CALLS HIM** (John 6:44).

In other words, this is **NOT THE ONLY DAY OF SALVATION!!** This is an absolute fact of your Bible.

All those who are *not* now called, or given a chance for salvation, will come up in the *second* resurrection. They will come up as physical human beings and be given their one and only chance for salvation. This resurrection takes place one thousand years later, after what Bible students call "the millennium."

Most professing Christians are in ignorance of this basic truth. Why such ignorance in an enlightened age? Why can't a people who bear the name "Christian" understand the simple statements of the One whom they claim to follow? It was Jesus Christ who said to His disciples: "... It is given unto

*you* to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is *not* given" (Matt. 13:11). He explained to His intimate followers that they had been called. He said: "... I have chosen you out of the world" (John 15:19).

The Bible is filled with positive **PROOF** that all Christians must receive a *divine call from God*.

## Understanding Clouded

Astounding as it may seem, God has deliberately clouded the meaning of His message so the vast majority cannot understand. God explains in Isaiah 28:10-13: "For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little... that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken."

God purposely wrote His Word so that it could be misunderstood. He intended that only those whom He is calling and choosing will understand.

Do you understand God's Word? Is God calling *you*? How can you know?

## How God Calls and Chooses

Many misunderstand how God calls. Some feel God calls by means of an audible voice. Others feel it is done by drastic intervention, such as accidents or fires. Still others desire a "good feeling all over" to be assured of a calling.

What is the truth? How does God call? Have *you* been called and *chosen* of God? The answer is really very easy to understand. Simply stated, God calls *by His Gospel* and *through the power of His Holy Spirit*.

The Gospel is the good news of the coming government of God and is recorded in the Bible — God's Word to mankind. Through the power of His Holy Spirit, God opens the minds of those He is calling so they can understand the plain truths of His Gospel message. God's Spirit begins to work in a special way with those whom He is calling.

## What God's Spirit Will Do

How is the Spirit of God manifested in those whom He is calling? How does the Spirit of God work upon and through the human mind?

Initially, the Spirit of God will lead

the one being called to *believe He exists!* In this age of skepticism and doubt, it is chic to deny the existence of God. But if God's Spirit is working with you, it will be impossible for you to deny God's existence. It is a sign that God may be calling *you!*

Also, God's Spirit will guide you to prove and profoundly *believe* the Bible is the inspired Word of God — God's Instruction Book to mankind. God's Spirit will lead you to *know* "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (II Tim. 3:16.)

How can anyone really believe the Bible if he feels portions are uninspired? Yet, this is exactly what many "Christians," so called, believe today! Some regard the Old Testament purely as historical literature. Some go so far as to teach that the book of Revelation is the writing of a man obsessed with hallucinations.

Others say only the epistles of Paul should be accepted. **WHAT NONSENSE!**

All this doctrinal confusion is a direct result of choosing certain portions of the Bible to believe — refusing to accept all Scripture as given by inspiration of God.

We either believe **ALL** the Bible, or none of it. It's as simple as that. Jesus Christ said: "... The scripture cannot be broken" (John 10:35). He said the Scriptures make a complete chain — they do not contradict one another. Yet, books have been written to expose assumed Bible contradictions. But Jesus said Scripture does not contradict itself.

Every supposed contradiction is the result of either a mistranslation or a misinterpretation. Unless you approach the Scriptures with this truth, you cannot hope to grasp the full meaning of God's Word. You will fool yourself into believing the Bible is full of contradictions and cannot be depended upon.

If you believe the Bible is God's Word — that all Scripture is given by inspiration of God — and that "the scripture cannot be broken," *God may be calling you!*

Another way God's Spirit guides those whom God is calling is to inspire them to take God at His word —

believe He says what He means and means what He says. Those whom God is calling through His Holy Spirit will believe the simple statements recorded in the Bible without coloring them with a myriad of preconceived ideas.

If God is calling you, His Spirit will lead you to believe Christ did not come to do away with God's Law but to fulfill and perform it (Matt. 5:17). You will believe the Kingdom of Heaven is not *in* heaven, but here on earth. You will believe the plain statement that the meek shall inherit the earth — not heaven (Matt. 5:3, 5).

If God's Spirit is working with you and *calling* you, you will reject the pagan idea of an immortal soul. You will believe the statement in Ezekiel 18:4, 20, that the soul is not immortal but can die! (Write for a FREE reprint, "Do You Have an Immortal Soul?")

You will begin to understand that virtually everything you have been taught about the Bible is probably the antithesis of the actual truth. Space will permit only the above few examples, but there are many dozens and scores of misunderstandings about what God actually says which could be pointed out.

If the Spirit of God is leading you, it will direct you to understand the plain truths of His Word.

In addition, God's Spirit will show you that you should **NEVER** try to interpret the Bible: "... No prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation" (II Peter 1:20).

Many cannot understand Scripture because they have not learned the Bible interprets itself! Many supposed contradictions occur because men have not learned to let the Bible interpret itself. Through diligent and earnest study, we can understand perplexing verses only in the light of other scriptures.

For example, Revelation 12:3 mentions a "great red dragon" with seven heads and ten horns. There have been many *interpretations* of this verse. Some say the dragon is the false prophet. Others say it is the beast. Still others claim the dragon is mysterious symbolism picturing Red Russia or some form of Communism. But none of these *interpretations* is right.

God doesn't tell us in verse three

what the great red dragon is. Reading verse three alone we would have to conclude we just don't know. Or we would have to come up with an interpretation. Or we could **LET THE BIBLE INTERPRET ITSELF!**

If we choose to let the Bible interpret itself, all we need do to **KNOW** what the red dragon represents is to read verse nine. In verse nine God reveals that the dragon is "that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan."

If God is calling you, His Spirit will eventually lead you to believe every statement of the Bible, and you will let the Bible interpret itself! But this isn't all.

God's Spirit will lead those whom He is calling to **LIVE BY EVERY WORD OF GOD!** (Matt. 4:4.) To really understand the Bible, it is paramount to live by every word of God, not just some portions or pet doctrines. Most professing Christians accept some Bible truths, but for the most part, they walk in dismal error. How can they live by the Word of God when they don't even know what it says? It is an appalling fact that the majority of professing Christians can't even name the first four books of the New Testament — the four Gospel accounts — the Gospel which they must believe!

Candidly speaking, nearly **ALL** professing Christians are **NOT WILLING** to live by every word of God. Some deliberately reject all but a relatively small portion which has no bearing on their personal lives. God gives understanding *only* to those who are willing to live by all of His Word!

Another way God uses His Spirit to call His people is by convicting and convincing them of His way. If God is calling you, you will begin to fully understand the Bible for the first time. You will begin to read and study the Bible with the appetite of a starving giant. And you will come to see there is a way that *seems* right to a man but ends in death (Prov. 14:12).

Man's way is the grasping, greedy, selfish way of "getting." It is a "do unto others before they have a chance to do it unto you" philosophy. It is the way of lust, envy, strife, murder, jealousy, wrath, drunkenness, revelings and the like. It is the cause of *all* man's

troubles, heartaches and sorrows. It is the reason for the wretched conditions we see on earth today.

If God is calling *you*, His Spirit will convince *you* to begin to candidly, honestly, wholeheartedly admit *you* have been going man's way, the *way that leads to death*. You will begin to dedicate your whole life to God and His way. You will say, and mean it, "Thy will be done." You will repent!

Through Bible study and close contact with God, you will begin to see the whole world really is on the brink of cosmocide because of man's way. You will come to know assuredly man is reaching the end of his rope. Man desperately needs help. And God is the only one who really has the answers to all this world's problems.

The answer to man's problems is simply to follow God's way of love — the way of outgoing concern — the way of giving, sharing, helping — the way of doing unto others as you would have them do unto you. It is the way to real happiness, joy, peace, contentment — the way of gentleness, goodness, meekness and self-control. It is based on the principle Christ gave to His disciples that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

If God is calling, convicting and convincing you of His way, you will begin to have inner peace. You will begin to fully trust God to solve the world's problems through His way of love. You will know and realize God truly has the answers. You will rejoice in the fact that God is giving the answers to those He is calling.

And then you will begin to comprehend that God is calling some *now* for a *specific purpose*. You will realize it is a specific calling for a specific Work. It is a special commission. It is a commission to preach the true Gospel of the Kingdom of God to all the world as a *witness* before the end of this age. It is a commission to teach all nations to believe everything Jesus Christ has commanded His true followers. It is a commission and a *Work* designed to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers to keep mankind from destroying himself! (Matt. 24:14, 21, 22 and Mal. 4:6.)

If God is calling you, you will begin to wholeheartedly have a part in *doing His Work*. You will realize this tremendous knowledge of God's way is desperately needed by all the world. You will come to fully understand and know God's own physical people are actually being destroyed for a lack of this knowledge (Hosea 4:6). You will see the urgent need to *have a part in the very Work* that is disseminating this vital knowledge — this Gospel message of God's way to all the world. You will zealously *take part in the Work* that is teaching all nations the way of peace, happiness and joy brimful and running over.

You will have the desire to GIVE, to share with and to help this wretched world. *You will put your whole heart into God's Work*. You will completely dedicate yourself to having a part in warning the world of the dramatic events to occur just before the close of this age. *Soon you will realize nothing else matters*.

This world is lost in a hopeless morass of confusion, wretchedness and depravity. Any thinking person will admit it can't go on much longer. You can have a part in telling the world today about the wonderful World Tomorrow. If God is calling you, you can rejoice in the fact that you can help spread the knowledge to all the world that God Himself is going to intervene in the affairs of mankind and save the world. You will be thrilled to have a part in telling the world there is a better tomorrow — that God *does* care — that God *will act*.

And when you think how upside-down marriages can be put right-side up, how you can have a part in turning the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, to bridge the generation gap, cement the family unit, you will rejoice.

If you have a part in God's Work, you will take great satisfaction in the knowledge that you are helping teach the world how to have happy homes, happy children, happy marriages and everything good in a full and abundant, happy life. You will even be willing to sacrifice to have a part in helping this world understand God's way.

If God is calling you, *please under-*

*stand* it is a fantastic, almost overwhelming calling to *help save humanity* by sacrificing to give this world what it needs most — *God's way, that leads to life*.

### Is God Calling You?

If you, through *The WORLD TOMORROW* broadcast, *The WORLD TOMORROW* telecast, *The PLAIN TRUTH* and the pages of this magazine, are beginning to believe the Bible means exactly what it says — if the Gospel message is perceived by you to be God's personal message to you — if you see your way is wrong — if you desire to give, share and help this world — then YOU ARE BEING CALLED OF GOD!

You are being called *right now* through the pages of this magazine. Are you going to heed that call? Are you going to respond to God's Holy Spirit and accept the truths you have been receiving?

Are you willing to live by every word of God — believe the Gospel and respond to the call from Almighty God to be among the firstfruits in His Kingdom?

Remember, those whom God is calling will have a part in saving this chaotic world. They will have a part in preaching this final warning message to this dying world before the end of this age. They will have a part in picturing the wonderful World Tomorrow. They will have a part in turning "the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers" (Mal. 4:5-6).

And finally, they will have a part in the Kingdom of God as kings and priests under Jesus Christ who will be *here on this earth ruling all nations as King of kings and Lord of lords*.

It is a fantastic calling *you now have*. No wonder Paul was inspired to write in Hebrews 2:1-3: "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; how shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation."

The call is out! It is a wonderful calling! You have heard, and read, and seen. The next move is yours! □

# Youth of Today...Where Is -

Why do so many young people today have the blah's? Why are so many **TURNED OFF**? Why do they **DROP OUT**? Should life be so **BORING** for young people? Is there any **REAL ADVENTURE** left to be had in our times? Or are the only adventures left in our society found in sex, drugs and violence? If you're under thirty — in age or spirit — you'd better read this article!

“What



# The Spirit of Adventure?

**A**DVENTURE! Challenge! Trailblazing! Conquest! New horizons! These action-packed words have stirred generations of young people the world over!

Youth has always been keenly responsive to the challenge of adventure, eager to tackle new and more demanding obstacles, anxious to do what has yet been undone by "the older generation." Countless tales of courage, heroism, exploration, discovery, and rugged adventure attest to this fact. But is this vital commodity of youth changing today?

Are young people today losing the spirit of adventure?

It depends upon what kind of

"adventure" you mean! Mind-bending drugs and jaded sexual exploits are "adventure" enough for many youths today. For others "adventure" is to be found in the revolutionary political arena — a Molotov cocktail in one hand, the writings of Lenin, Marx or Mao in the other! But is that "the real thing"? Or will these prove in time to be phony substitutes for the deeply satisfying pursuits and accomplishments that others, in other times and better days, have tasted?

Come on! If you're young and you're alive and you think you can take a challenge, take this one! Challenge yourself! DO YOU HAVE THE SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE?

## "Adventure" — What Is It?

Listen to what Maurice Herzog, the gallant young Frenchman who led the successful 1950 expedition to the top of 26,492-foot Annapurna, writes about adventure:

"As life has grown progressively easier over the centuries, with adventure disappearing from the face of the earth, man's physical organism has protested. Society's solution is sport. It is notable that sports have developed most brilliantly in advanced societies. Sport has no meaning when daily life provides its parallel.

"For the ultimate stage of our comfort-keyed civilization, man will doubt-  
(Continued on next page)

# the World Needs Now Is... ...CHARACTER!

*With this one word, most of the world's problems could be solved. Why? How? When? Can character really be relevant to the 20th century? Is it for the young? We now find out.*

by Brian Knowles

**T**HIS IS A mind-shattering age we live in! It's the age of "Mary Jane" and "Jesus Rock." Shaggy-haired musicians beat out the amplified rhythms of the blues, "trips," sex and religion while the world's youth jerks and cavorts mesmerically before them. Society's older members look on helplessly as the generation gap widens. The Establishment flounders, while crime, unemployment, taxes, divorce, inflation and ecological crises soar out of sight.

To some this is the "dawning of the age of Aquarius" as interest in the occult, associated mysticism and other "black arts" enjoys new popularity.

Bookstores stock their shelves with volumes on astrology, Tarot, I Ching, and witchcraft — and do a land-office business.

In this age of "anything goes," dirty bookstores and so-called "adult" movies are springing up all over the face of America like chicken pox. Nudity in the theatre and "bottomless" nightclubs are becoming fashionable.

This is also the age of rebellion and demonstration. Campuses are being torn apart by racial, political and ideological strife of every stripe. Banks have been burned and police officers murdered. The "fuzz" never had it so bad!

Youths, blacks, whites, women, the "New Left" and others take to the streets with marches, sit-ins, demonstrations and protests. The silent majority remains silent and the revolutionaries shout, "Right on!"

"Hell no, we won't go!" chant the opponents of the draft. And of those who went to Vietnam, about half have experimented with drugs in some form!

This is quite an age all right! It's the age that beat the Beatles and killed Janis Joplin and Jimmie Hendrix. This is YOUR AGE!

And it's a tough age to grow up in! It's a thwarting and a frustrating age. This is a time of enormous psychological pressures, especially on the young. The pressure is on to CONFORM, to blend with contemporaries of one's own age group and "run with the pack."

## How Does It Happen?

How does a young person become caught up in the vortex of conformity?

(Continued on page 38)

less sustain himself by consuming a variety of little pills. But just as swallowing nourishment through pills will never entirely supplant gourmandizing and the pleasures of the table, so sport will never abolish a thirst for natural activity without training manuals or tricks. And the solution is not a supersport [like American football, basketball, baseball?]. *The solution is adventure* — adventure in which a man's *total energies* and all his physical and mental resources, are involved. In adventure, muscles, nerves, instincts, reflexes, even brains — in a word, *the entire man* — are taxed to the full" (*Man Against Nature*, collected and edited by Charles Neider, "Adventure — The Unending Challenge," Maurice Herzog, p. xi, emphasis mine throughout).

Here, with clear reasoning, this world-famous mountaineer exemplifies the need for man to be challenged, to be alert, alive and active — not sedentary, placid, and passive!

### A Little World

Face it! For most people today what was once "the big, *wide* world" has become "the *little* world." You know what I mean?

Today it's the little world in front of the TV set. The little world of a narrow, big-city street. The little world inside the little house, or the little car or the little classroom!

"Where's it at?" youth wants to know. They're not finding it in the little worlds they were born into — and have not yet escaped from. Not only is it a little world, with narrow horizons, it's also a soft world, an *indoor* world — or *if* outdoors, a smog-choked, noise-polluted, deadly dull and *boring* world!

Are there any true challenges left? Or have we passed the *last frontier*? What's it going to be from here on out? Just more of the same until there's standing room only? Will the "adventures" of *Tomorrow's World* be about as thrilling as waiting for a bus, or punching a clock, or sitting stalled in a traffic jam? No, fortunately *a much better world awaits you* — *if you do your part today!*

Tomorrow's World will need young men and women with rugged stamina

and courage. They will have to face some of the greatest challenges the world has ever seen!

Tomorrow's *leaders* won't be the kind of people who can only sedately reflect on the problem, pose alternatives, or pass the buck. They will have to *DO SOMETHING!* The stress will be on dynamic action, not another "blue ribbon committee" to study the problem!

Recognizing the need for this kind of active leadership, what can you do to prepare yourself for facing tomorrow's problems and challenges? How can you respond to the call of adventure today and be prepared to meet it head-on tomorrow?

### Be Active, Not Passive!

The proper functioning of your mind depends in large measure on right use of your body! Learn to use your God-given arms and legs as your Creator intended. This means *exercise!* It means vigorous, hard *WORK*. This is one of the biggest problems of youth today — too little work and exercise. That's why so many are soft and flatulent — and plainly *effeminate!*

The book of Proverbs is full of exhortations to learn to labor productively *with your hands* as a prime means to diligence in life. Young men and women are to learn to work willingly with their hands. The Proverbs speak of the lazy man whose hands refuse to labor (Prov. 21:25), and who becomes so lazy he can hardly bring his food to his mouth (19:24)!

The *legs* need exercising, too. Walking anywhere today is almost unheard of! Machines must take us everywhere we go, but they rob us of much-needed exercise. Develop a love of walking, running, hiking. Swimming is also a fine form of exercise. Learn to walk erectly, breathe deeply, and feel your body respond to your commands. This is a vital part of becoming an *active person!*

Don't sit on the sidelines, watch from the bleachers, or lie sprawled in front of the TV set. Get in there and *participate!* Every young person should know a number of team sports and be able to play them fairly well. These might include baseball, basketball, volleyball, touch and flag football. He

should learn some of the individual sports, too, like tennis, golf, handball, squash, racquetball and those taught in track and field. Even a fair level of accomplishment in these areas will bring you enormous satisfaction in life — in the form of a healthy body and alert mind, in learning the lessons of good sportsmanship and teamwork, plus the personal qualities of drive, determination, endurance, training, etc.

Be active! Develop your skills! Learn to play fairly and courageously. All this stimulates the spirit of adventure and develops the whole man!

### Develop a Love of the Outdoors!

When Almighty God completed His marvelous physical creation, He "saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good"! (Gen. 1:31.) Indeed it was — and *still is!* Granted, man has done a lot to pollute what He made perfect and pure, but there is still much to see, experience, behold, and appreciate.

Forests and woodlands are "very good." They hold fascinating sights, sounds, and secrets. Mountains, high and low, new or old, rugged or smooth are *marvelous* — bigger than man, beyond his ability to completely defile or "conquer." Upward they beckon with their forested slopes, cascading streams, and breathtaking views.

The sea and its shore are also "very good." They too are *big* and awe-inspiring. Their forms of life are seemingly endless — water birds, fish (large and small), clams and crabs, lobsters and sea lions. All part of the truly "*great outdoors.*"

So are the vast, windswept Great Plains. Here are other forms of life and very beautiful scenes. Upland game birds, prairie dogs, antelope and deer, often against a backdrop of shimmering seas of golden grain.

No matter where you may live, there is a part of God's outdoor world available to you! By simply putting forth a little effort, even big-city dwellers can escape the concrete jungles of man's making to the much more beautiful, peaceful, and inspiring world that *God* made! You don't have to stay penned in and bound to a modern megalopolis!

You can start by getting a map of

your home state. State and national park systems publish excellent, free maps and brochures. Even oil company highway maps show special points of interest, parks, recreational areas, etc. Libraries are full of such publications. Many bookstores have a special section for maps and travel guides. You should have no trouble finding out *where* to go. Some imagination and ingenuity will turn up *the way*.

Most youths today have access to cars. Many have a car of their own. Others have motor bikes. Bicycles still provide good exercise and transportation, but should be used on less heavily trafficked roads. But you don't have to go places all by yourself! *Thoughtful parents should take the lead in such outings!*

But whatever you do, don't make the mistake of thinking that if you were born in or now must live in a crowded, nerve-jangling, people-choked city, you are forever doomed to your fate. You can — and *must* — *get out occasionally* — to preserve a balanced, sane, and healthy view of life and the world around you! You need to *be* outdoors to develop a *love* of the outdoors!

### Christ the Outdoor Man

Never forget that Jesus Christ was — and is today — the greatest naturalist, conservationist, and *outdoor man* of all time! Notice what Bruce Barton writes in his book *The Man Nobody Knows* (The Bobbs-Merrill Co., Inc., New York, 1962, p. 43): "All His days were spent in the open air . . . on the Sabbath He was in the synagogue because that was where the people were gathered, but by far the greater part of His teaching was done on the shores of His lake, or in the cool recesses of the hills. He walked constantly from village to village, His face was tanned by the sun and wind. Even at night He slept outdoors when He could — turning His back on the hot walls of the city and slipping away into the healthful freshness of the Mount of Olives. *He was an energetic outdoor man. The vigorous activities of His days gave His nerves the strength of steel.*"

Mr. Barton gives us an accurate and fresh perspective on the true Jesus Christ! He did not come as a soft,

pedantic, effeminate teacher of nice sayings and platitudes. He came as a *MAN!!* — a rugged outdoorsman who could lead other equally rugged and masculine men like Peter, a commercial fisherman. Men like Peter would *never* have followed the so-called "Jesus" the artists have portrayed for us — a "man" who looks as if he never saw the light of day!

Let's follow the example of the greatest man who ever lived and who set us a perfect example! Let's develop the same kind of love for the outdoors He had and has today! The same kind of vigorous activities will prepare us for the challenges of His wonderful World Tomorrow!

### Keep It Safe and Sane!

If you develop an active and energetic mind and body and a love for the outdoors, this next step comes logically — you will naturally want to seek out *SAFE AND SANE* challenges and adventures!

Each outdoor activity has its own particular challenge, provides its own adventure. The hiker and climber quests for his destination. It may be a distant lake where the fishing promises to be excellent. Perhaps the goal is the summit of a high hill or mountain. Such goals toss out a challenge. Can you make it? Will you succeed?

The fun comes from planning and preparing to attain the goal, and then putting forth all the effort and using all the ingenuity necessary to do it!

Hunting and fishing have their challenges, too! These outdoor sports require skill, patience and technique and build within the sportsman the traits of character gained only in the outdoors.

And in the going and coming, and while on location, there are countless sights, sounds, and lessons — a hawk circling overhead, the rushing of a waterfall, the lonely howl of a coyote or wolf, the glimpse of a deer, the explosion underfoot of a grouse or pheasant, the impressive track of a bear, the spoor of an elk, the amazing intricacy of a spider web, beautiful rocks and crystals, tumbled and tortured strata in the rocks and roadsides, wildflowers in full bloom, the startled whistle of a wood-

chuck, a glorious sunset marking the end of a perfect day.

But remember I said "*SAFE AND SANE*" adventures! Why did I qualify that? Because the pursuit of dangerous adventures can and does lead to permanent injury and *death!* Adventure does not have to be death-defying and nerve-shattering to be challenging and rewarding — nor should it be!

When Satan the devil was tempting Jesus Christ to *sin*, he encouraged Him to jump off a high building while claiming the promise of God's protection (see Matt. 4:3-6). Jesus quickly shot back the right reply, "Thou shalt not tempt [or test] the Lord thy God!" (Verse 7.) By intentionally putting our lives in jeopardy, we tempt or test God to see whether or not He will protect us. God forbids such foolishness! To have God's protection, one must qualify for it! This means we must minimize and avoid risks and hazards, not invite them!

### "Be Prepared"

To this end, the old Boy Scout motto, "Be prepared," should be rigidly adhered to. Solid and thorough preparations include such considerations as proper clothing and footgear, adequate and nourishing food supplies, clean, pure water, navigational aids — map and compass — first aid training and supplies, matches, etc. All these requirements vary according to the nature of the outing, but certain laws of common sense, restraint, safety, and judgment must *always* prevail!

If you are young and relatively inexperienced, take this word of caution! *Recognize your inexperience and limitations!* Usually youth does not do so unless or until they are forcibly driven home — but by then it may be too late! Don't make a cut or burn, getting lost or stranded, or a bad fall teach you this lesson the hard way! Be careful in the outdoors! Exercise judgment and restraint! Take every precaution and safeguard within reason — such as telling others where you're going, when you expect to return, etc.

And above and beyond all your human efforts, ask Almighty God for protection! Claim His promise of

Psalm 34:7, "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them." You can count on God's angelic protection if you have done your part, and are looking to God to do His!

The program outlined above — BEING ACTIVE, DEVELOPING A LOVE OF THE OUTDOORS, AND SEEKING AND ACCEPTING SAFE AND SANE ADVENTURES — is one that will *start you in the right direction*. It will *begin* preparing you for life's highest and finest adventures. But make no mistake about it, IT IS NOT AN END IN ITSELF!

### Beyond the Physical Realm

There is a world beyond the physical realm — an unseen, *spiritual* world. There is a God in heaven who gives man his very life and being for a great and awesome *purpose!* Yes, there is a purpose in life — a *reason for being* — and that transcending purpose is *the greatest adventure of all!* God's plan for mankind *challenges the total man* — physical and spiritual! It pits man against himself in a *kind of right* "competition" known only to a chosen few, and rewards the victorious with a sense of satisfaction beyond belief. It is God Almighty who is the Ultimate Challenger — who supplies man with the adventure of entering His very own Family for all eternity!

Apart from contact with this great God, you can go on vainly searching for the meaning of it all, catching your pleasures while you can, but you will never figure out *why you were born, where you are going, and what is the outcome of it all!*

Not only will you never appreciate God's physical "work" and creation, you will never, unaided and on your own, find out and discover His true *spiritual* Work. For this adventure you need the best Guide in the business! You must have access to His maps, His savvy, know-how, and experience! And you must become a part of His highly organized *expedition*.

Take heart! *You're on the right track this very minute as you hold this magazine in your hands and read this article!* ▣

# the World Needs CHARACTER!

(Continued from page 35)

How does a lovable, seemingly innocent little child become transformed into a foul-mouthed, long-haired, pot-smoking hippie? What processes effect such a transformation? The first major influence in any child's life is, of course, his *parents*. Until about age six, Dad and Mom are the ultimate authority on everything. The child imitates their mannerisms, actions, personality traits and, to a degree, their likes and dislikes.

Then the child enters the school environment. A new influence is added in the form of the teacher. Before long the child comes home quoting "Miss So and So." The teacher's influence may, in some cases, begin to override that of the parents. As school-life continues, the child becomes increasingly conscious of the other children.

By junior high school the influence of the "peer group" may begin to outweigh that of the parents and the teachers. As the student passes through the high-school years, the sway of the "*peer group*" emerges *supreme!* The average young person then becomes *vastly* more concerned with what is "in" than with parental wishes or the desires of his teachers! The high-school student *DESPERATELY* wants to be *ACCEPTED* by his or her contemporaries!

In order to accomplish all this, the teen-ager *must conform* to existing peer-group standards and vogues! He must do what the other kids do and "run with the pack." To do otherwise is to invite *social ostracism*. Unless the student falls in with current clothing styles and musical vogues, he is an outcast! If "bombing around" in a chopped, four-barrel, no-tread, fire-breathing beast of an automobile is "in," then you'd better "get with it"! It is vital to "dig" whoever is currently popular on the rock scene. If maxis are in, then that's the thing to wear. The pressure is also applied to conform to existing sexual standards. It is *not easy* to survive without conforming to the mores of this high-velocity society.

Many teens find the only way to bridge the gap between the Establishment (parents, teachers, police, rulers, etc.) and their peers is to play "Jekyll and Hyde." They conduct themselves one way around the Establishment, and another around their peers. There are changes in vocabulary, personal habits, hair styles, facial expressions, etc., in order to conform to the wishes of whichever group the young person is with. This constant adjusting and readjusting is a tremendous *strain* on the young mind! Many youths finally resort to an *open break* with the Establishment. They become part of the growing army of disillusioned youth "sittin' on the dock of the bay."

### What the World Needs Now . . .

In a permissive, hedonistic and violent age the pressures to conform are gigantic and seemingly irresistible. It is *not easy* to live a clean, moral, wholesome and ultimately profitable life in the midst of a dying, decadent, out-of-control society. It is *intensely difficult* to resist the pulls and lures of drugs, sexual looseness, X-rated movies, pornography, violence and all the other evils that are gnawing at the fibre of modern society. This is the age that turned off the "turned-off generation."

*But it doesn't have to turn you off!*

You don't have to drop out, split and make the drug scene or join a commune! You don't have to conform to the antics of a society that is rapidly hurtling itself into oblivion!

You *should* be *DIFFERENT*. And in a *POSITIVE* way. Just because it is difficult to live sanely and rightly doesn't mean it is impossible.

"What the world needs now is love, sweet love . . ." so says the song. And it's true! The world *does* need love. But that's not *ALL IT NEEDS!* If this strife-filled, war-torn old world is to survive into a better age, then its people need something else besides love. Something to make love work. What the world *desperately* needs is a solid nucleus of young men and women with *CHARACTER*.

### What Is Character?

"Character . . . what's that?" some might say. Character is the most necessary ingredient any person must possess



in order to achieve satisfaction and ultimate success in life! Without it, no person can achieve a happy, meaningful life. The acquisition of character is the key to fulfilling the *whole purpose* in human life. NOTHING could be more important!

Here is a good working definition of character: "True character involves the capacity and the *willingness to find what is right*, the will to *choose the right way*, then the strength of will to *resist all other actions* and impulses and *DO what is right!*"

How many people do you know whose lives personify that definition of character? Does yours? Imagine how much the world would be changed if all mankind possessed true character? THAT'S what the world REALLY NEEDS NOW!!

If this world really is to HAVE a tomorrow — and it shall! — then its young men and women of *today* need to begin to develop the character to *build* that tomorrow! This world needs young people who are willing to step out into the world, *seek the right way* and have the *intestinal fortitude* to *follow it* NO MATTER WHAT. There is no room for compromise here.

### Character Development — Is It for the Young?

"Religion," assert the young, "is for little old ladies in felt hats!" To millions of modern teen-agers, becoming a "Christian" is the "*squares!*" thing they could possibly do. Youth, they allege, is the time to "sow your wild oats" and "have a ball." Old age is the time to "get religion" they will claim. In reality, *nothing could be farther from the truth.*

True religion involves the development of CHARACTER! Today, more than ever, *youth needs character.* At this turbulent, crisis-filled juncture in human affairs, a solid nucleus of character-filled young men and women is a crying *necessity.* This world desperately needs young people who are willing to seek out what is right, and then, in spite of all influences to the contrary, have the courage to step out and perform it. *Only* those willing to do so will ever achieve maximum success and happiness in this life. *Tomorrow's*

*World* of productivity and abundance will be made up of such young leaders.

### Bible Examples

The Creator's Instruction Book is filled with examples of *young people* who were not afraid to demonstrate character in spite of very trying circumstances. Such examples "were written down *for our instruction* upon whom the end of the ages has come" (I Cor. 10:11, RSV).

Our first case history is that of a young Hebrew. If he were alive today, he would most likely be named "Joe Jacobson." In Bible terms, however, he was known as "*Joseph.*" His father's name was Jacob. Joseph was the next-to-youngest of twelve brothers. Our story opens when Joseph is *seventeen years old* (Gen. 37:2).

Joseph and his brothers had the responsibility of taking care of their father's vast flocks of sheep. As a result, the young men spent a great deal of time together.

Joseph was his father's favorite son and Jacob did not try to hide the fact. In fact, Jacob even made Joseph a special multi-colored coat as a symbol of his love (verse 3). Joseph tactlessly flaunted the garment around his brothers. As a result the brothers became intensely jealous and hateful toward young Joseph. They spoke sarcastically and cynically to him (verse 4).

In addition, God had inspired Joseph to have some dreams of prophetic significance. In the dreams God symbolically indicated that there would come a time when Joseph would rise above the rest of his family. In his youthful exuberance, Joseph could not help boasting about these dreams to his brothers. This certainly did not help matters. This only intensified his brothers' animosity toward him.

As their anger and jealousy reached a fever pitch, the young men began to plot Joseph's death. However, the oldest brother, Reuben, was a little more levelheaded than the rest and he restrained them. He suggested they throw Joseph into a pit, from which he hoped to later rescue him and return him to Jacob. Judah, the more practical-minded brother, came up with a "better idea." He suggested

*selling* the seventeen-year-old boy into slavery. Some of his brothers then cast Joseph into a pit and went off to eat and to consider this latest plan.

While they were eating, some Midianite merchants happened by. Joseph was then pulled out of the pit and sold to them for twenty silver pieces. They in turn, took young Joseph to Egypt, where he was sold as a slave (Gen. 37:5-28).

Then Joseph was purchased by a high-ranking Egyptian officer named Potiphar. Joseph *matured* a great deal in Potiphar's household and was given a very responsible job administering his business affairs. Ultimately, *all* of Potiphar's affairs were directed by the young Joseph (Gen. 39:1-4).

Now let's step back a moment and get the whole picture. Here is a young man (likely in his early twenties now) who had everything going for him. He was trusted and responsible for the administration of great wealth. In addition to this "... Joseph was *good looking and handsome*" (Gen. 39:6, Moffatt translation). He had ability, brains, good looks and an excellent job.

But like most modern young men, he was also exposed to rather overwhelming temptations! Notice how Joseph handled one such temptation in Genesis 39:7-12 (*Living Books of Moses* version).

"One day... Potiphar's wife began making eyes at Joseph, and suggested that he come and *sleep with her.* JOSEPH REFUSED... 'HOW CAN I DO SUCH A WICKED THING AS THIS? IT WOULD BE A GREAT SIN AGAINST GOD.' But she kept on with her suggestions *day after day,* even though HE REFUSED TO LISTEN... then one day as he was in the house going about his work... she came and grabbed him by the sleeve demanding, 'Sleep with me.' HE TORE HIMSELF AWAY... HE FLED FROM THE HOUSE...!!!

Many young men of today would have *welcomed* such a situation. But Joseph was not an *ordinary* young man! He was different in that he had CHARACTER. He *KNEW* what was right, and in spite of *intense* and *repeated* temptations his powerful character *prevailed.* The events that followed ultimately led to his being brought to the attention of

the Pharaoh and finally his being made the Prime Minister of all Egypt.

As a result of his character, Joseph achieved glittering *success*. Joseph fulfilled God's instruction as expressed in I Corinthians 6:18. He *fled* fornication! How many others would have done so? But then, how many others were qualified to be Prime Minister?

### Daniel's Example

*Daniel* is another sterling example of a young teen-age boy with *strong character*. Daniel's character was tested in a *different* area of life than was Joseph's.

The time was 604 B.C. The house of Judah was in the process of being conquered by the Babylonian Empire under the leadership of King Nebuchadnezzar. The king had instructed his top eunuch to select some youths of Jewish nobility to undergo a special training program to prepare them for service in the Babylonian government. Among those selected was a young man in his *mid-teens* named Daniel. He was an *out-standing* youth in every way. Those selected were to be "... strong, healthy, good-looking lads... those who have read widely in many fields, are well informed, *alert* and *sensible*, and have enough poise to look good around the palace" (Dan. 1:4, *Living Prophecies* version).

During their three-year tenure they were to be given a *special diet of exotic foods* similar to those the king himself dined on. However, Babylonian dietary standards were not up to God's. Daniel realized that to indulge in this diet would physically defile his body! (Dan. 1:5, 8.) Being a young man of *character*, Daniel was not about to *compromise* with God's high standards. No matter what!

The young Daniel faced a seemingly insurmountable problem! He had been instructed to eat and drink certain foods and wines. To disobey could have meant *death*. After all, he was a *prisoner*. He was taken from a conquered nation. To turn his nose up at the royal cuisine would have been considered an *insult* of the grossest sort. And to have resisted the express wishes of the *king himself* was incredible to say the least. But *Daniel was determined not to compromise*.

*Wisdom* is an important accessory to

character. Realizing he was treading on thin ice, Daniel *diplomatically* and *tactfully* suggested *a test*. He knew if he could prove the efficacy of his own diet over that of the king, then he might be allowed his own diet on a regular basis. He requested a diet of vegetables (pulse) and water. (Not that he was a vegetarian. It is likely the meat offered by the Chaldeans had not been properly slaughtered according to God's Law or perhaps it had been offered in sacrifice to idols. Lev. 3:17; Acts 15:20. Or possibly only those meats considered "unclean" were being served. Lev. 11; Deut. 14.)

In any case, the chief eunuch agreed to the test and it was carried out. At the end of the 10-day period, it was evident that Daniel's diet had benefited him greatly (Dan. 1:8-16).

Daniel and his friends were then allowed to continue on the diet they had chosen, and the king's cuisine was withdrawn. Daniel's *character, wisdom* and *determination to do right had paid off!*

### Another Test of Character

Some years later, under a different administration, a *government order* was issued *forbidding anyone to pray* to any but the king himself (who was considered a "god"!). This ruling was to be enforced for a one-month period (Dan. 6:7). But Daniel was in the habit of *praying three times a day* to the *God of Israel*. He was not about to discontinue this practice which enabled him to remain close to his Creator. In the face of being torn to shreds by vicious lions, Daniel maintained his custom of *praying regularly! He would not be moved from doing what was right!* The government officials — who were intensely jealous of Daniel — found him doing so and had him placed in a compound of ravenous lions. A large rock was placed at the entrance barring any escape. Daniel spent the entire night in the company of these great cats and was released in the morning unharmed! (Dan. 6:10-23.) Almighty God sent an angel to protect Daniel.

Once again the strong and faithful *character of Daniel paid off!*

### Youth No Excuse!

"If I'm old enough to fight (in military service), I'm old enough to drink!"

assert many modern youths. When it comes to the use of alcohol, cigarettes, or the indulgence in premarital sex, many youths will *vehemently* proclaim their eligibility.

Yet when it comes to *learning moral principles* and *exercising character* and self-control — *that's for old folks*. But it's nothing new. *Youth has long been used as a "cop-out" from responsibility*.

Centuries ago, God chose to use a *young man* to warn a *whole nation* of impending national disaster. But like so many modern teen-agers and young people, he too used the old dodge "I'm too young" to avoid responsibility. His name was Jeremiah! Let's notice what transpired in Jeremiah 1:5-6. God said to young Jeremiah: "... I ordained thee *a prophet* unto the nations." Here was a *giant responsibility* thrust on the youthful shoulders of Jeremiah. But notice his all-too-familiar reaction! "O Lord God," I said. *'I can't do that! I'm FAR TOO YOUNG! I'M ONLY A YOUTH!'*" (*Living Psalms and Proverbs With the Major Prophets Paraphrased* version.)

But God recognized Jeremiah's "cop-out"! Notice *His* reply! "But the Lord said to me, *'DO NOT SAY, I AM ONLY A YOUTH...'*" (Verse 7, RSV.) Of course, Jeremiah *changed his attitude* and *went ahead and fulfilled the responsibility* God had given him. As a result of demonstrating *character* and *doing what was right*, Jeremiah was instrumental in preserving the royal dynastic line of Israel.

Youthfulness should NEVER be used as an excuse to avoid responsibility. The development and exercising of character is not limited to "old fuddy-duddies." Moral excellence and firmness can be demonstrated by children, teen-agers and adults alike.

At this crisis-filled point in the human chronicle, God is once again using young people to do His Work. More than ever before, we all need to develop strong, abiding CHARACTER. God wants us to be *successes* in life, to be *truly happy*, and to realize our *maximum potential* as human beings.

You owe it to yourself to *look into* the matter of *character development* and begin *your own personal program* in it. □

# *The* **STORY of MAN**

**for children five to one hundred five**

by Basil Wolverton

## **Josiah's Crusade Against Idolatry**

CHAPTER ONE HUNDRED FORTY-FIVE

**A**FTER King Manasseh had repented, he started leading Judah back to the worship of God. But he died before he completed the gigantic task of reforming the nation. His son and successor, Amon, did not follow the good example of Manasseh's latter years, but followed, instead, the bad example of his earlier years.

### **Idolatry Breeds Violence**

Historians have pointed out, with good reason, that most of the successors of idolatrous Israelite kings had very short periods of rulership. So it was with Amon, whose servants plotted against him and murdered him by the time he had ruled only two years. The people of Judah, however, were so angry because of their leader's assassination that they succeeded in finding all those connected with the act and put them to death. (II Kings 21:19-26; II Chronicles 33:21-25.)

By this time, Amon had been buried close to his father in the family burial place near the royal palace.

### **Josiah's Crusade Against Idolatry**

Although only eight years old, Amon's son Josiah was the next ruler of Judah. Even though he was at first guided by advisors with various beliefs and ambitions, by the time he was about sixteen he had a growing desire to follow the ways of his ancestor David, whose accomplishments greatly interested him.

By the time he was twenty years old, Josiah began to rid his kingdom of idols by outlawing the presence of pagan altars and images. At the same time he sent out crews of men to tear down and destroy any objects connected with idolatry. They

went throughout Judah and even into the land from which most of Israel had been removed. The last use of heathen altars, just before they were wrecked, was for burning the bones of the profane priests. Their bones were found buried near the altars at which they had officiated when sacrifices had been made to idols. (II Kings 22:1-2; II Chronicles 34:1-7.)

During the years those changes were being made, proper activities were restored at the Temple, which again required repairing because of rough usage while careless and rowdy idol-worshippers held their profane ceremonies there. Worshippers of God came from far and near, even from the tribes of Israel; and they brought offerings. At last there was a considerable collection of silver at the Temple given as offerings by God's worshippers. When Josiah was about twenty-six, he ordered officials to use the silver to buy new timber and stone and to pay the wages of carpenters, builders and masons for mending the worn and broken parts of the Temple. (II Kings 22:3-7; II Chronicles 34:8-13.)

Meanwhile, Hilkiah the high priest excitedly reported to his friend Shaphan, the king's secretary, that he had found the Book of the Law in the Temple. (II Kings 22:8; II Chronicles 34:14-15.)

This Law on the original scroll of sheepskin, comprising the first five books of the Old Testament, had for a long time been at the side of the ark. (Deuteronomy 31:24-26.) And Jehoshaphat in his time had copies made for teaching the Law all over the nation. (II Chronicles 17:7-9.) Later, during some time when the Temple was overrun by idol-worshippers, most copies of the Law were destroyed. This official Temple master copy was missed by the destroyers, probably because some astute and faithful priest concealed it rather than have it destroyed by those who wanted to do away with God's laws.

When Shaphan, Hilkiah and others presented the ancient but well-preserved sheepskin scroll to the

king, his excitement was no less than that of Hilkiah. Josiah was so interested that he immediately asked that Shaphan read some original scriptures aloud, so that they might know what God requires of men and nations. (II Kings 22:9-10; II Chronicles 34:16-18.)

### The Laws of Peace

Shaphan read aloud certain chapters from the book of Deuteronomy — that part having to do with God's promises of blessings for obedience and the curses that would follow disobedience. (Deuteronomy 28.) Josiah became so perturbed that he violently tore his robe. In those times that was an action that indicated great distress. (II Kings 22:11; II Chronicles 34:19.)

"According to what you just read, as Moses wrote it," Josiah exclaimed, "this nation is overdue for a terrible time of God's wrath! I want you influential men to go at once and inquire of God if anything special can be done to cause God to be merciful to us!"

"There is a true prophetess here in the city by the name of Huldah," Hilkiah said in a desperate tone.

"Seek her out," Josiah ordered. "Ask her what will happen and what we should do."

Hilkiah, Shaphan and three other men of rank left right away to find the Prophetess Huldah, to whom God had given special ability to understand some of His intentions. (II Kings 22:12-14; II Chronicles 34:20-22.)

God must have previously given Huldah understanding for Josiah's benefit, because she had an immediate answer for her visitors.

"Tell the man who sent you that God will indeed bring deep misery to the people of Judah because of their turning to false gods," Huldah said. "God's warnings, like His promises, never fail. There is nothing that can be done *now* to alter God's plans. But He wants the king of Judah to know that he, Josiah, won't go through the soon-coming time of curses and desolation for his nation. Because Josiah has repented and has faithfully worked to turn his people back to the right way, he will be mercifully taken to his grave and will be spared the evil to come." (II Kings 22:15-20; II Chronicles 34:23-28.)

When Josiah learned what Huldah had to say, he was disappointed that his people would not *completely* repent. As a result there wasn't much he could do to prevent God's wrath from eventually falling

on Judah. Nevertheless, the king determined to make the most of the time he had left. He called for the people — especially the leaders — to meet with him at the Temple to hear a reading from the Book of the Law. He hoped that all who heard would be sobered and anxious to seek God. After the reading, probably by Hilkiah the high priest, Josiah stood up before the crowd.

### The People Follow Josiah

"God of Israel, we have heard your laws read just as you gave them to your servant Moses," the king called out in prayer. "We know that your laws are just and good, and that only by living by them can we be happy, healthy, prosperous and safe. We realize now, more than ever, that disobedience toward you will surely result in misery, sickness, poverty and trouble. We would like to declare to you that it is our desire and intention, with your help, to put aside ways that aren't good for us or pleasing to you, and wholeheartedly live by your rules only!"

A loud murmur of approval came from the people and their leaders. (II Kings 23:1-3.)

"We can get off to a good start by seeking out and destroying all idolatrous things that still remain in Judah," Josiah told the people. "I daresay there yet remain even in the Temple articles that have to do with idolatry. I request the high priest and those under him to look closely again for such things. If any are found, let them be removed at once from the Temple!"

Obviously someone had been careless in this matter. Many pots, bowls and other equipment used in pagan ceremonies in the Temple were hastily rounded up and carried out. Later they were tossed into a huge fire outside the city. The ashes of wooden objects and the fragments of metal things were taken to be dumped at the site of the city of Bethel. This place had been an important seat of activities for God's servants, but later became defiled by pagan priests who claimed they represented God.

Josiah doggedly set out to remove every vestige of idolatry from Judah and even part of the land of Israel north to Samaria. Hiding pagan priests were found and punished. The dwellings of those who had been pagan temple prostitutes, both male and female, were burned or torn down. (II Kings 23:4-20; II Chronicles 34:29-33.)

At Bethel, Josiah's men even dug up the remains of heathen priests and burned them on the

altar there, thus carrying out the prophecy made three hundred and fifty years before, when God inspired one of his servants to declare that one day a man named Josiah would burn the bones of the pagan priests on that altar. (I Kings 13:1-3, 26-32.) However, the bones of the true prophet who had spoken this weren't touched. (II Kings 23:17-18.)

After these things had been accomplished, the time came for the Passover, which many observed with special fervor because of Josiah's success against idolatry. But the king's good works didn't alter God's intention to punish the nation because of their turning from Him. (II Kings 23:21-27; II Chronicles 35:1-19.)

Sometime later Josiah was one morning informed by an excited officer: "Thousands of Egyptian troops are pouring into our land!"

### **Surrounded by Enemies**

Josiah, king of Judah, had worked diligently to wipe out idolatry and sorcery from his nation and from territory of the Israelite tribes to the north. He fervently hoped God would spare his country from the curses the people bring on themselves when they forsake the God of Israel for pagan gods and demons. (II Chronicles 34:1-7.)

Josiah also knew that God would be pleased because the Book of the Law had been found and much of it read to the people. To add to all this, the king saw to it that the Passover that year was observed with unusual solemnity and great ceremony. Many thousands of animals were sacrificed, thirty-three thousand of which Josiah contributed from his flocks and herds. (II Kings 23:1-28; II Chronicles 34:8-33; 35:1-19.)

### **Josiah's Political Dilemma**

The king's hopes for continued protection for Judah were dependent on his being careful not to endanger his life. But Josiah, and the nation, got smug and careless. Josiah's hopes were almost wiped out when he learned that an Egyptian army with thousands of troops and cavalry and hundreds of chariots was moving along the coastal area of western Judah. (II Chronicles 35:20.) This, Josiah reasoned, was the beginning of God's punishment of Judah, come in the form of a mighty fighting force that might devastate the whole nation in less than a week. However, the next report to reach the king gave him some comfort.

"The Egyptians are continuing northward on the plains by the sea. No troops or chariots have turned inland."

Though relieved at the news, Josiah remained perturbed because a foreign army was on his soil. He wanted an explanation, as soon as possible, for its being there. Even before he could send emissaries to the Egyptians, representatives came from none less than Necho, the Egyptian king, who was with his army.

The spokesmen told Josiah: "Our King Necho wants to assure you and your people that there is no reason for concern, because we have no intention of war or any harm to your people or their possessions. We wish only to pass harmlessly through your land on the way to Carchemish on the Euphrates river. Our king intends to free that city from the king of Babylon, who has no right to it.

"Our king trusts that you will have no desire to interfere with his plans. Otherwise, Judah shall surely suffer heavily, inasmuch as God has told him that we should go against the Chaldeans at Carchemish. Any who interfere with God's will shall surely be dealt with in a terribly harsh manner!" (II Chronicles 35:21.)

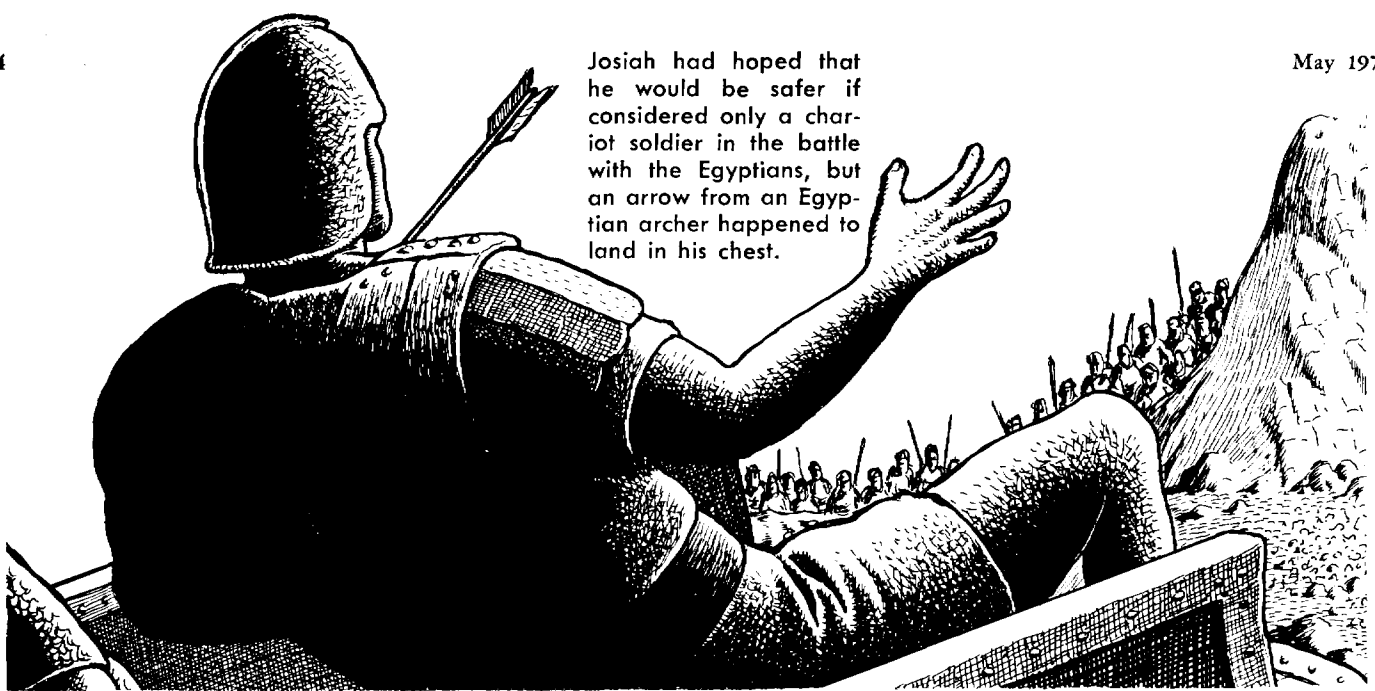
"So be it," Josiah said after the Egyptians had departed. "Let them kill each other off. I don't intend to become embroiled in a war, though not because of being threatened by some pagan who claims to speak for God. If the Egyptians win, we'll no longer be vassals to the Chaldeans. Their victory over the Assyrians didn't rightfully mean that we should switch allegiance to the king of Babylon."

"If the Egyptians don't win, we'll suffer for it," an officer reminded the king. "As long as we are vassals to the Chaldeans, we will be expected to serve as a buffer between Babylonia and Egypt. If we fail to confront the Egyptians, we'll probably pay a higher price in lives if the Chaldeans demand an accounting from us."

### **Josiah Picks a Fight**

"But the latest report is that the Egyptians have already passed through Judah and are moving across the plain of Sharon," Josiah pointed out. "How could we possibly overtake them?"

"There's still time," the officer explained. "Probably they'll be turning eastward at the valley of Jezreel to take the highway to Damascus for the



Josiah had hoped that he would be safer if considered only a chariot soldier in the battle with the Egyptians, but an arrow from an Egyptian archer happened to land in his chest.

benefit of their chariots. We could rush an army northward past Samaria and intercept them after they've changed directions!"

Josiah acted at once, though with mixed feelings. (II Chronicles 35:22.) He didn't want to start a battle, but neither did he want reprisals from Babylon for standing idly by.

The two armies came within sight of each other in the valley of Megiddo, near where the most terrible battle in the history of man will take place only a few years after this is written. (Revelation 11:14-19; 16:15-17.)

"I went to the trouble of warning that stubborn king of Judah," Necho muttered angrily to his officers when he saw the approaching army. "Perhaps we can save time and effort by first removing him from the scene. Instruct the archers to close in at a reasonable distance from these Jews' chariots. Tell them to watch carefully for the royal chariot and make certain that their arrows reach both passenger and driver."

The Egyptians supposed that the king of Judah would be easily distinguishable in a special chariot, but Josiah had considered that, and came into battle in an ordinary cavalry chariot. During the first careful pass the two forces made at each other, the Egyptian archers couldn't find what they were looking for. They finally discharged clouds of arrows at all the chariots of Judah. One of those arrows landed, as if by chance, deep in Josiah's body.

"Put me in another chariot and get me out of here before the Egyptians discover they have

wounded me," Josiah muttered weakly. (II Chronicles 35:23.)

The king was quickly transferred to another chariot and carried back to Jerusalem, where he soon died. (II Kings 23:29.) Perhaps the king of Egypt was a long time learning that one of his archers had fatally wounded the king of Judah. There was a sudden retreat of the army of Judah, and that was what mainly mattered to the Egyptians, whatever the cause. Having shoved the army of Judah aside, Necho moved on unhindered toward the northeast.

Because Josiah was so greatly respected and because his death foreshadowed the death of the nation, there was great mourning upon his death, even by many who didn't care for his staunch stand against idolatry. Asked to speak at the king's funeral was the young Prophet Jeremiah. He was a friend of Ahikam, an intimate of Josiah and son of Josiah's confidential secretary Shaphan. (Jeremiah 26:24; II Kings 22:8-12; II Chronicles 34:20-21.) Jeremiah delivered a most unusual eulogy because of Josiah's accomplishments for God. His observations were later set to music and sung and played for centuries to come on special occasions. (II Chronicles 35:24-25; Lamentations.)

Josiah was buried in one of the sepulchres of the kings of Judah. He was the last king of that nation who followed God, and God promised he would die without having to go through the misery that was to come to Judah. Although Josiah died of a battle wound, the nation was at peace, and he died in a peaceful state of mind far from the battlefield. (II Kings 23:30; II Chronicles 35:26-27.)

*(Continued next month)*

# ANSWERS to your Questions

● "I thought Christ appeared for the first time when He was born of the virgin Mary. But, you said that the LORD [the Eternal] who appeared to the prophets in the Old Testament was the One who became Jesus Christ. Wouldn't that mean Jesus was present on earth often, and the next time would not be the second appearance?"

Read Hebrews 9:28, "... So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear *the second time* without sin unto salvation." The first time Christ came to dwell among men, to bring the Gospel, to found His Church, to pay for sin. The second time He comes, He will bring salvation and establish the Kingdom of God in Tomorrow's World.

After Christ's first coming to dwell as a man among men, He appeared on more than one occasion to the Apostle Paul (Acts 9 and Gal. 1:12). On these occasions, He did not come to dwell among men, but appeared relatively briefly. The same is true of His Old Testament appearances. When He appeared to the prophets and patriarchs, it was always for a brief, but important purpose. But at no time did He come to dwell among men until He was born of the virgin Mary.

● "I seem to hold grudges against others. Please tell me how I can overcome this trait."

One of God's most wonderful attributes is His ability to forgive. And not only does He forgive, He *forgets* as well (Psalm 103:8-14).

It isn't easy to forgive someone when you think he has wronged you. And it's easy to bear a grudge against that person.

What does it take to forgive? It takes

real character. It takes Godly humility. And it takes the willingness to *forget* — traits we humans often lack.

The ability needed to forgive can only come from *above*. God Almighty is the Giver of abundant resources. Only He can give you the love to cover up and drive out bitterness and resentment when other people do you wrong. God gives you this love through the power of His Holy Spirit, which is abundantly available when asked for with whole-hearted sincerity and truth (Luke 11:9-13).

We have three reprint articles available which explain what the Holy Spirit is and how you may receive it. They are "How You Can Be Imbued With the Power of God," "This Is the Life — Real Abundant Living" and "What Is Real Repentance?"

Send for your *free* copies today. Learn how you may receive the power to erase the past with forgiveness and to face the future with a fresh viewpoint.

● "Who are the Gentiles? Where do they come from?"

The word "Gentile" is a relative term. It means an outsider. In the Biblical usage it means a person who is not a physical Israelite, i.e., a descendant of Jacob. Inasmuch as most of the world is today unaware of the identity of *eleven* out of the twelve tribes of Israel, the word "Gentile" is commonly used today to mean a non-Jew. There are many non-Jews, however, who are Israelites. This is explained in our FREE book *The United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy*.

We should note, however, that in the judgment it makes absolutely no difference to God what we are ethnically or racially. God's salvation is available to all.

● "Can you tell me where Cain got his wife?"

Notice Genesis 5:4 — "And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he begat sons and *daughters*." Obviously Cain married one of his sisters — one of Adam's daughters — and Seth did likewise. There simply wasn't anybody outside Cain's immediate family to marry.

● "How do we know how many hours were in a whole day at the time of creation week?"

Theistic evolutionists and even theologians often claim the "days" described in the first chapter of Genesis are "epochs" of a thousand or more years each. A look at the creation account and a simple knowledge of nature and common sense clearly show how long they were.

Notice that the plants were created on the third day. The sun did not appear until the next day. If these "days" were thousands of years long, then plants would have had to survive all that time without sunshine! Furthermore, the insects which pollinate many of these plants were not created until the sixth day!

Each day of creation week is not some long epoch, but exactly what the scripture says, 24 hours each. Each day is an evening and a morning — that is, nighttime and daytime.

An in-depth study on this subject is available in our reprint article "How Long Were the Days of Creation?" Send for your FREE copy.

● "What is the name of the true Church of God?"

Twelve times in the New Testament, the name of the *one* true Church is given as *the Church of God*. Churches are often named after men, after the system they have devised, or after a significant doctrine they emphasize. But wherever the *one* true Church is, it will *always*, without exception, be named the CHURCH OF GOD.

One caution should be mentioned here. Even *some* who have the correct name are *not* proclaiming the KINGDOM OF GOD and are *not* teaching obedience to God's Ten Commandments. In our

age of history, the true *Church of God* is preaching (Matt. 24:14) and publishing (Mark 13:10) this GOOD NEWS of Tomorrow's World by radio, television, magazines, booklets and advertisements. The true Church of God *must* be doing the Work of God (Matt. 24:46) when its Head — Jesus Christ — returns to earth to take over the governments of this world (Rev. 11:15).

And be sure to read the article "Should You Join a Church?" beginning on page 8 of this issue.

### ● "Why did God create different races?"

God created different races for the same reason that He created different kinds of birds, or varieties of roses. Each has a special beauty, usefulness, and contribution to make. The racial problem is not a skin problem, but one of the human heart. Prejudice and hatred come from the mind. God created the different races to serve and help one another. The racial problem is but one more evidence that man needs a change of heart. Only then will everyone see that variety *is* the spice of life and racial differences were put there by a loving Creator to add to — not take away from — human happiness.

### ● "Why do you use the expression 'Holy Spirit' instead of 'Holy Ghost' in quoting Scripture?"

The words "Ghost" and "Spirit" in the English translations of the New Testament are both translations of the same Greek word, *pneuma*. When the King James Version was first printed, in 1611, the English words "ghost" and "spirit" were used interchangeably and meant "spirit." In modern times, the meaning of the word "ghost" has totally changed. Today it has acquired the false meaning of "a disembodied soul of a dead person" or of a "demon" (see *Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary*). Some few continue to use the word "ghost" in referring to God's Holy Spirit, but the word "ghost" is no longer an appropriate translation for the Greek word meaning "spirit." The term "Holy Ghost" can be very misleading and should be properly translated as "Holy Spirit."

### ● "Is it unChristian to have pets?"

The Bible says, "A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast" (Prov. 12:10). This is obviously indicative of the fact that God did intend man to keep domesticated animals. God created animals for man (Gen. 1:26; Job 30:1). In the world tomorrow, animals will be tame and some will serve as pets (Isaiah 11:6-8). There are advantages in having pets. For example, teaching a child to care for a pet is an excellent way to educate him for responsibility. But it is *not* advisable to keep, as pets, animals which become frustrated in captivity.

### ● "Do you recommend the new translation of the Bible called *Good News for Modern Man*?"

This translation, like a number of others in modern English, has one advantage. In certain chapters it makes the Bible come alive by its modern expressions. Often, however, it lacks the quality of a great translation.

The basic problem with the King James Version is that the English spoken over 350 years ago is *now* quite out-of-date in many instances. It may also give the reader a pseudosanctimonious feeling or outlook toward true Christian living. We do not speak with "thou's" and "thee's" as was the custom when the King James Version was translated about 350 years ago. Nonetheless, the King James Bible is still the best and most accurate fundamental study Bible. Modern translations only help it to become more understandable.

Like all translations, this new one contains some poorly rendered verses. To understand better any translation, we have a FREE article that discusses how to study the Bible. Write for your copy of "Twelve Rules for Bible Study."

### ● "What is the Jewish holiday Hanukkah all about? Is it like Christmas?"

Hanukkah is a Hebrew word meaning "dedication." The holiday commemorates the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem by Judah Maccabee following the expulsion of the

Seleucid Syrians under Antiochus Epiphanes in 165 B.C. The full account of the story can be found in Josephus' *Antiquities of the Jews*, Book XII, chapters 5-11.

Hanukkah is a Jewish national feast of rejoicing. We read that Jesus was present at the festival of Dedication (since he was a physical Jew) in John 10:22. We learn from Christ's example that acknowledging national holidays not emanating from paganism (such as the American Thanksgiving Day) is not wrong and does not violate God's higher Law.

Many have noticed that Hanukkah customs are similar to Christmas, because many Jews, especially in the United States and Canada, have adopted Christmas customs and attached them to the celebration of Hanukkah. This is a fact that many Jews themselves regret.

### ● "In the Feb. 1971 issue of TOMORROW'S WORLD, in the article "Who Wrote the Law?" you emphasize the word computer in your testing of the proof of the authorship of the Pentateuch. The picture on page 43 is not a computer but an IBM 407 accounting machine. Correct me if I'm wrong, but the 407 is incapable of making a literary analysis."

Sorry — our mistake. That *was* a 407 accounting machine — and you're right about it being incapable of performing a literary analysis. We were using the picture mainly to illustrate the intricacies of computers in general — *not* as a specific example of a machine that could perform a literary analysis. A picture of the internals of an IBM 360 or 370 would better illustrate what the "heart of a computer" looks like, but won't change the computer's inability to operate in the moral or spiritual realm.

Be sure to read about our Data Processing Center in the "News of the Work" section beginning on page 13. Also, read the article about "The Evolution of the Computer" (a historical treatise) starting on page 18.

### ● "Once a person is saved is he always saved or can he also be lost?"

To "save" means "to preserve alive."



The Bible clearly shows death faces *all* human beings because we consist today of corruptible physical matter (Heb. 9:27; I Cor. 15:50). Inasmuch as human bodies run down and decay, it is simply not possible for humans to live forever in the fleshly state.

However, a loving God has provided a method by which we might be granted eternal life. This is salvation. Like most English words ending with "*ion*," salvation is a *process*. And as a process salvation is analogous to birth (John 3:1-8). Before a baby is born, it must be begotten or conceived. I Peter 1:3 shows we are *begotten* to a hope, the hope of being resurrected, just as a baby is begotten in hope it will be born.

At the resurrection, those to whom God will grant salvation will be given incorruptible spirit bodies that can never be destroyed (I Cor. 15:42-54).

*At that time*, it will be impossible for those saved to become "lost."

In this age a truly converted person is still flesh and blood and can die. Being converted, he has the begetting agent, God's Holy Spirit, in him. In II Cor. 1:22, 5:5 and Eph. 1:14, the Holy Spirit, is described as an "earnest." This is a legal term meaning a *guarantee* or *surety*. If we have God's Spirit within us today and continue to have it, it is our *guarantee* that we will be saved. However, if we lose it, we no longer have the guarantee.

And we can lose it! God warns, "Quench not the Spirit" (I Thes. 5:19). He further warns, "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to

come, if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance" (Heb. 6:4-6). So it is possible for one begotten of God's Spirit to "fall away" and become a spiritual *miscarriage*.

However, most who think they are spiritual miscarriages — or think they have committed the UNPARDONABLE SIN — worry needlessly.

You need to understand what the sin is that shall never be forgiven. So be sure to request our free booklet *What Do You Mean... "The Unpardonable Sin"?* for an in-depth explanation of this vital subject.

Just send your request to:

TOMORROW'S WORLD  
P. O. Box 111  
Pasadena, California 91109

[For those outside the United States, see the inside front cover for the address of our office nearest you.]

## Personal

(Continued from page 2)

and his chiefs agreed to stop the water of the fountains outside the town. . . .

"Then, appointing officers over the citizens, he gathered them in the open space at the gate of the city, and encouraged them. 'Be firm,' he said, 'be brave, be not daunted nor dismayed for the king of Assyria or for all his host; we have with us One greater than all he has; he has a mortal force, but we have with us the Eternal our God, to help us and to fight our battles.'"

Continuing, "His [Sancherib's] officers said even worse things against God the Eternal and his servant Hezekiah. (Sancherib also wrote letters, insulting the Eternal the God of Israel and attacking him thus: 'As the gods of the nations elsewhere in the world have failed to save their folk from me, so shall Hezekiah's God fail to save his folk.') The officers shouted aloud in Hebrew to the citizens of Jerusalem on the walls, to terrify them and scare them, that they might capture the city. They talked about the God of Jerusalem as one of the gods of the nations on earth, mere handmade idols!"

Now notice what the king of Judah did. "King Hezekiah and the prophet

Isaiah the son of Amoz *prayed* over this and cried to heaven." They prayed for help. They did not know *how* God would intervene. But they knew God would act!

Here's what happened: "Then the Eternal sent an angel who swept off all the gallant fighters, the leaders, and captains in the camp of the king of Assyria, till he had to go home in disgrace. He [later] went into the temple of his god, and there his own offspring murdered him with their swords. So the Eternal rescued Hezekiah and the citizens of Jerusalem from Sancherib the king of Assyria as well as from all other foes, *protecting them on every side.*"

That experience was written into the very Word of God for *your* learning, and *to show you the way today!*

Perhaps you are faced with a foe more powerful than you. It may be some temptation. It may be some circumstance or condition, or trouble — some serious worry. Then let me ask you, "What are you relying on, to withstand the siege of this trouble — to deliver you from it?"

What do some of you do when some fear, worry, trouble, comes up against you? Do you not first fear and worry, and then either try to *run from* this trouble, or else try to meet it in *your*

own power and strength — with *your* own thinking and planning, and doing?

Do you ever search your own heart and life to see if it is *YOUR fault*? In almost every in-law or marital trouble, for example, both are at fault.

Did you never realize that the very Creator who caused you to be born — who gives you the life you have — is able and anxious to fight all these battles for you just as He did Hezekiah's, if you will only turn to Him and ask Him for wisdom and guidance, rely on Him, and trust Him with the result?

I know of a young lady, who, when in her middle twenties, had a problem that was most serious in her life. Three times this girl had been disappointed in love. She had at last been tempted to marry a man she had no right to marry. She brought her problem to me, as God's representative. I found she was looking only at physical appearances. She reasoned that, so far as she could see, if she obeyed God and refused to marry this man, she might *never* be married. I counseled her to obey God — to stop looking at the material circumstances and using human reason to disobey God. I counseled her to do, first of all, what God instructs in the Bible, and then to trust Him for the outcome.

But that girl did not rely on God — she relied on her human reason. She

obeyed impulse and temptation, and married the man. He left her to commit adultery with another woman on their very wedding night. Her life became miserable, terribly unhappy.

Then at another time, another similar case was brought to me. This young woman rejected the temptation — she obeyed God, and relied on the Eternal to work out circumstances — she trusted Him with the result. Her faith was tried and tested. God did not answer at once — but in due time, just the right man came into her life, they fell in love, they were married and God has blessed their marriage with supreme happiness.

Now I want to bring you one more case history — a remarkable experience that will show you the way out of all your difficulties and troubles.

If you will let God have His way in your life, then you will have begun to learn how to let Him fight your battles, solve your problems, and deliver you from so many troubles you are suffering.

Now, notice the experience written for our learning and help, today:

"It was after this that the Moabites and Ammonites, with some of the Meunim, made war on Jehoshaphat. Word came to Jehoshaphat that a huge host was moving against him from Edom, over the Dead Sea, and that they were already at Hazazon-tamar (or Engedi). *Jehoshaphat was afraid.*"

Is fear your usual reaction, too? But observe what the king of Judah did.

"He resolved to have recourse to the Eternal, and proclaimed a *fast* all over Judah. So Judah assembled to seek help from the Eternal; people came from every town in Judah to worship the Eternal" (II Chron. 20:1-4, Moffatt).

Jehoshaphat did exactly what God wants *you* to do today, when faced with any temptation or trouble — *he took it to God in prayer and fasting!*

And as he continued to ask God for help, he said (verses 6-12), "O Eternal, the God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven, and ruler of all realms on the earth? Such power and might is thine that no one can resist thee. O our God, didst not thou evict the natives of this land before thy people Israel, giving the land to the offspring of Abraham thy friend, for all time? And they

settled in it, they have built a sanctuary in it to thine honour, thinking that if evil befell them, the sword in judgment, or pestilence, or famine, they would stand in front of this temple and before thee (for in this temple is thy presence) and cry to thee in their distress, till thou didst hear and save them. Now here are the Ammonites and Moabites and folk from mount Seir, whom thou didst not allow Israel to invade, when Israel came out of the land of Egypt — no, Israel turned away from them, and did not destroy them!"

There was no reason for these neighbors to be enemies. Sometimes your own neighbors become your enemies, too, don't they?

But notice what the king said to God: "Look how they reward us, coming to eject us from thy very own country which thou hast given us to be ours. O our God, *will thou not deal with them? We are helpless against this mighty host* that is attacking us; we know not what to do, but we look to thee."

Now I want you to notice! — Jehoshaphat cried out for God to come to their aid. Here is God's answer (verses 14-17):

"... Jehaziel... was inspired by the spirit of the Eternal in the midst of the gathering to cry, 'Listen, all ye men of Judah, ye citizens of Jerusalem, and you, O king Jehoshaphat, the Eternal's message to you is this: *Fear not*, falter not before this vast army, *it is for God, not for you, to fight them.* March down against them tomorrow, they are coming up by the ascent of Haziz, and you will come upon them at the end of the ravine in front of the desert of Jeruel. *You will not need to do any fighting;* take up your position, stand still, and watch the victory of the Eternal, who is on your side, O Judah and Jerusalem. Fear not, falter not. Move out against them to-morrow, for the Eternal is on your side.'"

And notice that Jehoshaphat *obeyed* after God instructed him. Verses 20-24 declare, "Next morning they rose and moved into the open country round Tekoa. As they advanced, Jehoshaphat stood and said, 'Listen, men of Judah and citizens of Jerusalem! Take hold of the Eternal your God and you will keep

hold of life; hold by his prophets, and you will prosper.' After this counsel to the nation, he appointed the Eternal's singers to praise him in sacred vestments, marching in front of the army and chanting, 'Give thanks to the Eternal, for his kindness never fails.'

"As they began to sing and praise him, the Eternal set men in ambush against the Ammonites, the Moabites, and the folk from mount Seir, who had attacked Judah, and they were routed. The Ammonites and the Moabites *turned on the* natives of mount Seir, determined to wipe them out. . . ."

They turned against one another! That is how God answered Jehoshaphat. "... And then, after destroying the natives of mount Seir, they all helped to kill one another. So when the men of Judah reached their post of attack looking over the open country, they saw the host were so many corpses stretched upon the ground; not a man had escaped."

Jehoshaphat did not merely leave this trouble with God and then do nothing about it himself. First, he prayed, and asked for wisdom, guidance, and help. Then he did what God said. He had to do his part — but the *battle was God's*, and Jehoshaphat did not try to fight God's battle. He merely did *his own part*. But he *believed* God, and *relied* on God.

The point I want you to remember is that your battles are not really yours, but God's. If you look to Him, He makes them His battles, and He fights them for you. How futile, for you to try to fight God's battles for Him.

God says: "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all" (Psalm 34:19).

In the New Testament we read, "By *grace* are ye saved through *faith.*" Yes, but the *faith* that saves us is a *living faith* that is practical — it works — it really relies on God! So put it to practice!

God does not promise us an easy time during this life in this world. But He does promise to fight our battles for us — to deliver us from every trouble and affliction. Will you let Him do it, and learn how happy your life may become? God help you to understand! □

# Letters to the Editor

## Personal from the Editor

I wanted to tell you how interested I was in reading the "Personal" from Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong in the March issue on emotional and spiritual maturity. With little or no home training in giving and taking, loving, and being loved, it is no wonder that there are so many unhappy marriages and divorces, automobile accidents (caused by anger and frustration) and muggings. We are becoming a world of undisciplined people. I am retired and never studied the Bible very much, but since receiving your literature, I have begun to study it more earnestly.

Melville H.,  
Wyoming, N. Y.

## Moses Wrote the Pentateuch

My boss receives *Tomorrow's World* and shares it with me every once in a while. Today he brought the magazine to the office and I read your article on the Pentateuch and was happy to find support for my belief that Moses wrote the first five books of the Bible. I have a Bible handbook at home which supports the validity of Daniel's authorship by archaeological and other proofs, and that ascribes the authorship of the Pentateuch to Moses. It encourages me to know that there are other Bible scholars who can give evidence to support these beliefs.

Martha L.,  
Batavia, Ill.

## How Much of the Bible Should You Reject?

Your article "How Much of the Bible Should You Reject?" (March, 1971) is done in your usual superb style. The most interesting part is your using the Bible to verify its own "inspired Scripture." Isn't this on a par with the Mafia using its own code of ethics to substantiate its benevolent family?

G. U. S.,  
(no address given)

• *You're right, G.U.S., the Bible does verify its own inspired Scripture, but you need to do what that article suggested. Write for our free booklet The Proof of the Bible. It shows also how such secular references as the Encyclopaedia Britannica and Rawlinson's Ancient History confirm many Bible prophecies predicted long before they actually happened. And read the letter above yours and do as Martha L. did. Consult a Bible handbook such as Halley's. It will corroborate Biblical events from many historical and archaeological sources. Finally, why not read the article "The Exodus" on page 28 of the April issue and learn how the ancient Egyptians preserved their own*

*account of the events surrounding the Biblical Exodus?*

## 4,000 Years of Easter

I have just finished reading the article entitled "4,000 Years of Easter." It really shocks me that Easter originated from pagan sun worship — not from Jesus Christ. I am a Christian and had always believed that Easter was celebrated because Christ rose from the dead. After reading the article, I couldn't help writing to you. I really want to find out the plain truth about Easter. Was Jesus really crucified on Friday? I noticed you have published a booklet called *The Crucifixion Was Not on Friday*. Please send me a copy.

Lilian J.,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

## The Wonderful World Tomorrow

The magazine *Tomorrow's World* is beginning to have quite an impact on my life, along with the booklet *The Wonderful World Tomorrow*. After I see all the misery going on in today's world, there is certainly a need for a great change. I've decided to make a notebook containing an alphabetical listing of various subjects as they will be in the *World Tomorrow* under Christ. Such subjects as air pollution, cities, agriculture, crime, homes (no more slums, no packing of houses together, etc.), etc.

Stanley B.,  
Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

## Correspondence Course

Please send me your Correspondence Course on the Bible. *Tomorrow's World* arrived today and as I picked it up it fell open to page 8, "The Bible—How to Understand It." These past ten years I have studied the Bible. For the last year I have looked for a Bible study course that would help me understand those difficult, evasive parts within it. Perhaps your guide will help me — am anxiously awaiting that "Good News" from you. Thank you in advance.

Lewis D.,  
Salt Lake City, Utah

## Prayer

And what a timely article by William F. Dankenbring, "Your Prayers Can Work Miracles"! I am enclosing a check as a result of such praying; my equity in a small lot that I no longer wanted to keep. The realtor handling it had already given up hope of selling, as it is in a new development with at least one hundred other lots to choose from. I appealed to God earnestly January 2nd, and Monday morning about 9:00 a.m. I received a call from the owner of the development saying a man and his wife came by Sunday (Jan. 3) and wanted my lot so bad they left a deposit. I'm sure most people would say this is nonsense to think God had a hand in this, and that in time the realtor could have

sold it. They had plenty of time — why didn't they?

Era C.,  
Lewisville, Tex.

• *No comment — we agree with you!*

## Which Day?

I read with keen interest the article on page 32 of the March issue of *Tomorrow's World*. God bless you in this work of telling the truth from the Source of truth. Please send me a copy of *Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?* Here in my library, I have a copy of The Holy Name Edition of Gibbon's *Faith of our Fathers* which you might quote. Gibbon states that nowhere in the whole Bible is there a single line sanctifying Sunday as the Sabbath.

E. C. S.,  
Berrien Springs, Mich.

• *E. C., you will find that particular Gibbon's quote on page 87 of Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath? — which you will have received by the time you read this.*

## Tithing

Thanks a million for my first copy of *Tomorrow's World*. Like many, I am unemployed. In early January, I began to tithing my unemployment checks. By February 1 — Bingo! I received a large settlement with my former employer. Just a week ago, I had four job offers.

Joseph L.,  
Oklahoma City, Okla.

## Logical Reasoning?

Please cancel all further issues of *Tomorrow's World* and *The Plain Truth*. I'm sorry, but I do not agree with all of your teachings and if there is any doubt about anything, there is no sense to continue with it.

Mrs. R. R.,  
Schiller Park, Ill.

• *Your doubt is the very reason you should continue. If you have any doubts whatsoever, then you automatically admit there is a possibility that our teachings might be worthy of careful consideration. You owe it to yourself to thoroughly prove them one way or the other by checking the Source. And after all, you wouldn't cancel a major newsweekly magazine just because you disagreed with some points. Why miss out on the articles and points you can agree with? If you read in TOMORROW'S WORLD only what you already know, believe, and agree with, what is its value — other than just entertainment?*

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## THE "JESUS TRIP" *One-way Ticket To NOWHERE!*

by Garner Ted Armstrong

**A** furor of protest came flooding in over my recent article in *The PLAIN TRUTH* concerning the new "trip" among many of America's youth, the "Jesus Trip." Many were angry. But WHY? In the article, I challenged everyone to FIND THE TRUE JESUS CHRIST! WHY should this make professing *Christians* angry? Some few DID discover they had been following after "another Jesus"! They were those who carefully CHECKED the scriptures, and took up the challenge to FIND the true Christ. Most merely read the first portions, found something with which to violently disagree, and then scanned hurriedly the remainder with emotional bias. In writing the lengthy article necessary to ANSWER the many arguments I received, I find it impossible to publish in *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine, under its present format. So, each person who wrote, complaining, will receive a *single issue* of the June TOMORROW'S WORLD magazine. They will receive no more issues, unless they specifically request them. Read, then, in this article, of the TRUE Jesus Christ: how He *paid taxes, slept in homes*, two of which were very likely His OWN, DID NOT come "head to head" with the establishment, and DID NOT have long hair. Read of the TRUE CHRIST for a change — and turn from *fables* to the *living Jesus!*