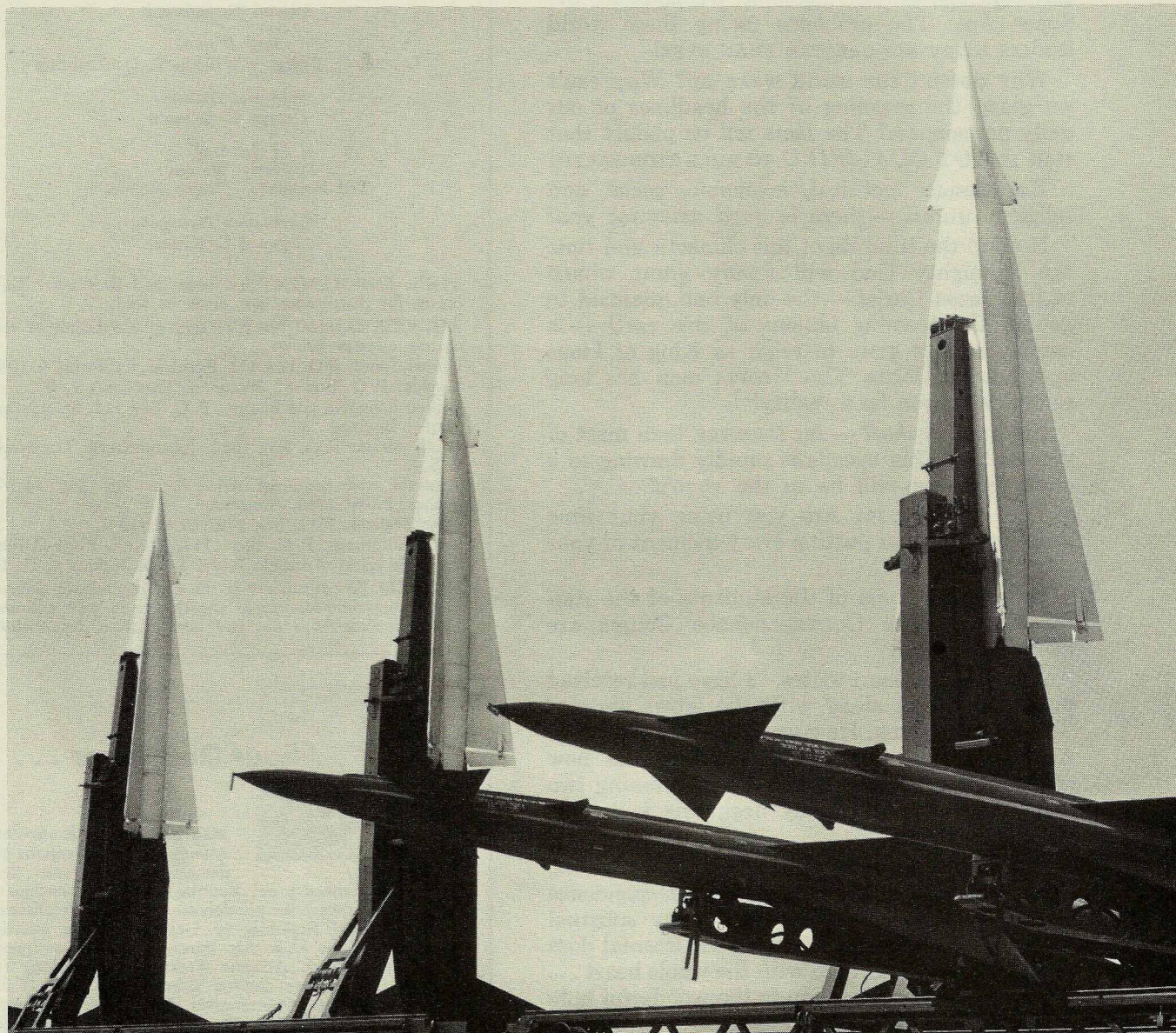


Ambassador College

CORRESPONDENCE COURSE



Where Is the Arms Race Leading?

LESSON 7

an open letter from

THE STAFF

WE have GOOD NEWS for you! But the news you are reading in your daily newspaper is not good at all.

Big changes are taking place every week in the delicate balance of world power. Experienced world leaders are being replaced by younger men — in many cases with *less* ability. Soon all the “Old Guard” will have gone — their vital jobs filled by a **NEW GENERATION**. Younger men — with new ideas — are putting their hands to the controls of the *awesome weapons* of the Space Age. The problems facing these world leaders today are **GREATER THAN EVER!**

Why doesn't the world wake up? Why can't we grasp the meaning of the headlines of our daily newspapers? The facts tell us plainly that **MAN IS NOT QUALIFIED TO RULE THIS EARTH!**

But despite political, economic, social and religious unrest — there is *good news for you!*

Beyond the troubles of this climactic end-time age, Almighty God will finally grant **WORLD PEACE**. Jesus Christ — the only one qualified to govern the teeming billions of this earth — is coming in **OUR TIME** to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords. The **UTOPIA** man has long sought will soon be a reality!

But *time is short* — far **SHORTER** than most of you realize. This decade is rapidly drawing to a close. Soon we will be in the 1970's!

The question is: Are you using your time properly? Are you putting every moment of your time to good use?

Notice how some of the students of the Ambassador College Correspondence Course are using their time:

A man in Missouri writes, “I have just received my third lesson along with the latest issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH*. How wonderful to study and understand the Bible. I find that I am now spending a very enjoyable and enlightening two hours daily and am really beginning to understand the Bible.”

One of our students in West Germany writes, “In the sixth lesson of the Correspondence Course I found many answers to my spiritual needs. How wonderful it is that the Eternal does answer, if one seeks Him with the whole heart . . . I am now beginning to study the wonderful holy Word of God and am receiving new encouragement and strength from Him.”

Another man within the European Common
(Please continue on page 16)

AMBASSADOR COLLEGE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

LESSON 7

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About Our Cover . . .

Man has already stockpiled enough nuclear weapons to destroy all life on this planet many times over! Yet the arms race continues. Our cover shows Nike air defense missiles in readiness in the Federal Republic of Germany. Nike missile battalions of the U. S. Air Force have been assigned to NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) in Europe. NATO was created after World War II as a bulwark against Communism. But the alliance was greatly weakened when Charles de Gaulle removed French forces from the organization in 1967. Member nations now have to rely more heavily on West Germany to fill the gap created by the French pullout.

West German Defense Ministry Photo

HOW CHRIST WILL STOP WORLD SUICIDE

CVILIZATION is at the *crossroads*. Mankind already has the capacity to destroy all life from the face of the earth!

Many world leaders now expect that nuclear destruction soon will erase human life from this planet — unless something totally *unforeseen* occurs to STOP it!

Scientists and statesmen also tell us the *only* hope for survival, and for peace, is ONE SUPREME WORLD GOVERNMENT ruling over all nations. Yet with the same breath, they admit that is *IMPOSSIBLE* for man to accomplish.

WHY?

Why Men Say to God: "Keep Out!"

World government is coming *in our time*. Absolute UTOPIA is soon to grip this earth. In our time, we shall see WORLD PEACE. We shall see

sickness banished; vigorous health restored; ignorance replaced with universal *right* education; poverty replaced with universal prosperity; weeping and wailing turned into happiness and JOY.

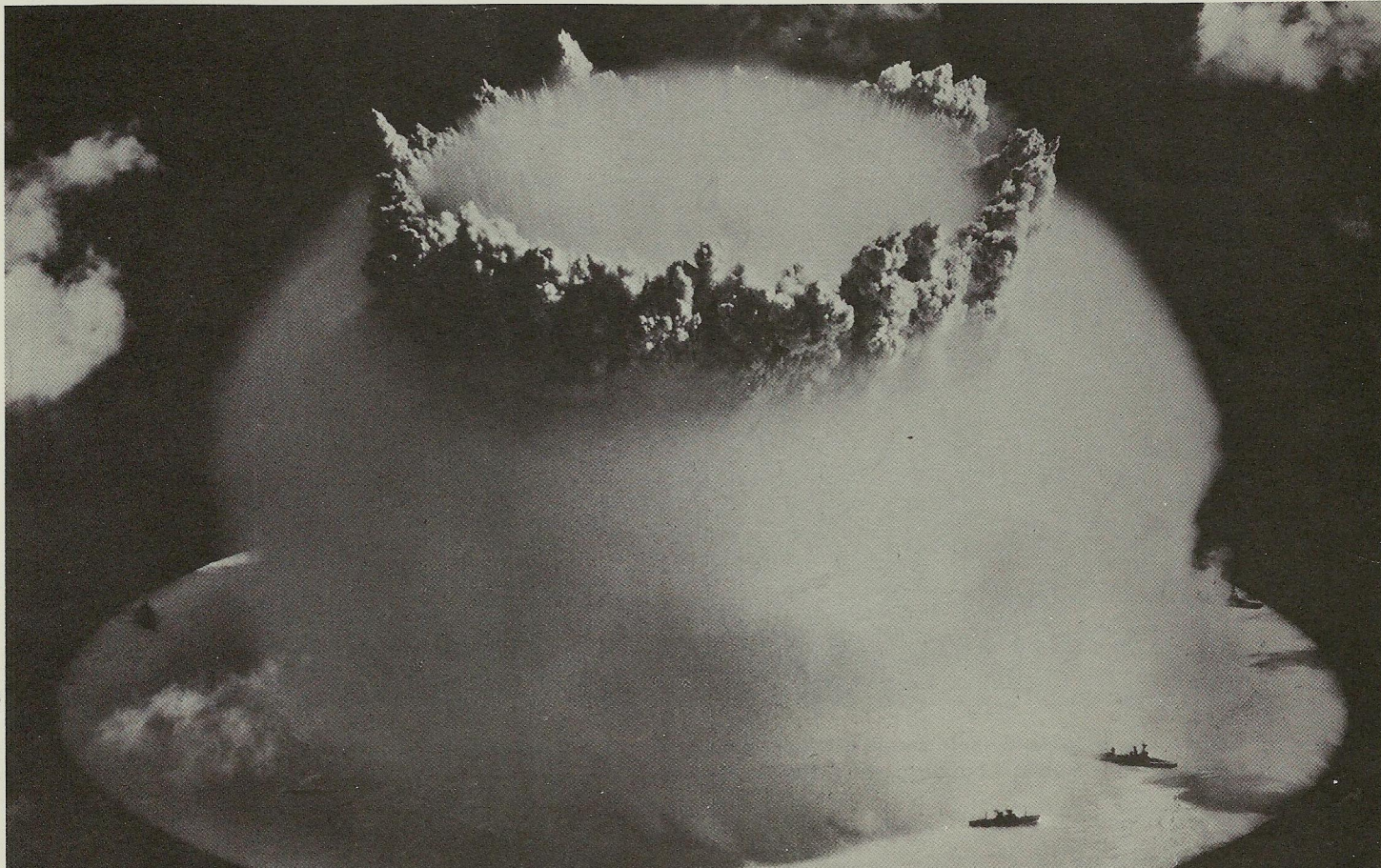
But *why* don't we have this kind of world today? Simply because men do not want Almighty *God* to tell them what to do! Humanity resents correction and refuses to CHANGE!

In 1951, the late General Douglas MacArthur made a historic address before the assembled Congress of the United States. In that dramatic speech, he revealed the depth of his understanding of the CAUSE of war and strife — and, in *principle*, the SOLUTION.

He said: "I know war as few other men now living know it, and nothing to me — and nothing to me — is more revolting . . . Men since the beginning of time have sought peace . . . Military

Unless God Almighty intervenes in human affairs, mankind will wage a final world war that will destroy all human life from the earth. Below, explosion of the fifth experimental atomic bomb at the Bikini test site in the South Pacific.

American Stock



alliances, balances of power, leagues of nations, all in turn failed, leaving the only path to be by way of the crucible of war. *The utter destructiveness of war now blocks this alternative. WE HAVE HAD OUR LAST CHANCE.* If we will not devise some greater and more equitable system, our 'ARMA-GEDDON' will be at our door."

General MacArthur knew that unless the trend of world events was reversed, civilization was headed toward utter oblivion. He realized man's misguided scientific and technological genius would lead him to the brink of *self-annihilation!*

"The problem," General MacArthur continued, "basically is THEOLOGICAL and involves a spirit of recrudescence and *IMPROVEMENT* OF HUMAN CHARACTER that will synchronize with our almost matchless advances in science, art, literature and all the material and cultural developments of the past 2,000 years.

"IT MUST BE OF THE SPIRIT IF WE ARE TO SAVE THE FLESH," he concluded dramatically.

General MacArthur realized the answer to man's search for peace must be a *CHANGE* IN MAN'S BASIC CHARACTER.

Yet nearly 6,000 years of human history have proved that, left to himself, man is *totally incapable* of effecting this change. Throughout history, negotiations for peace have always been

accompanied and supported by the most vigorous *preparations for war!*

The story is no different today.

The Solution: **CHANGE** Human Nature

There is a *CAUSE* for every *effect!* And for the past 6,000 years, men have been treating the *results* of this world's problems, instead of dealing with the *ROOT CAUSE.*

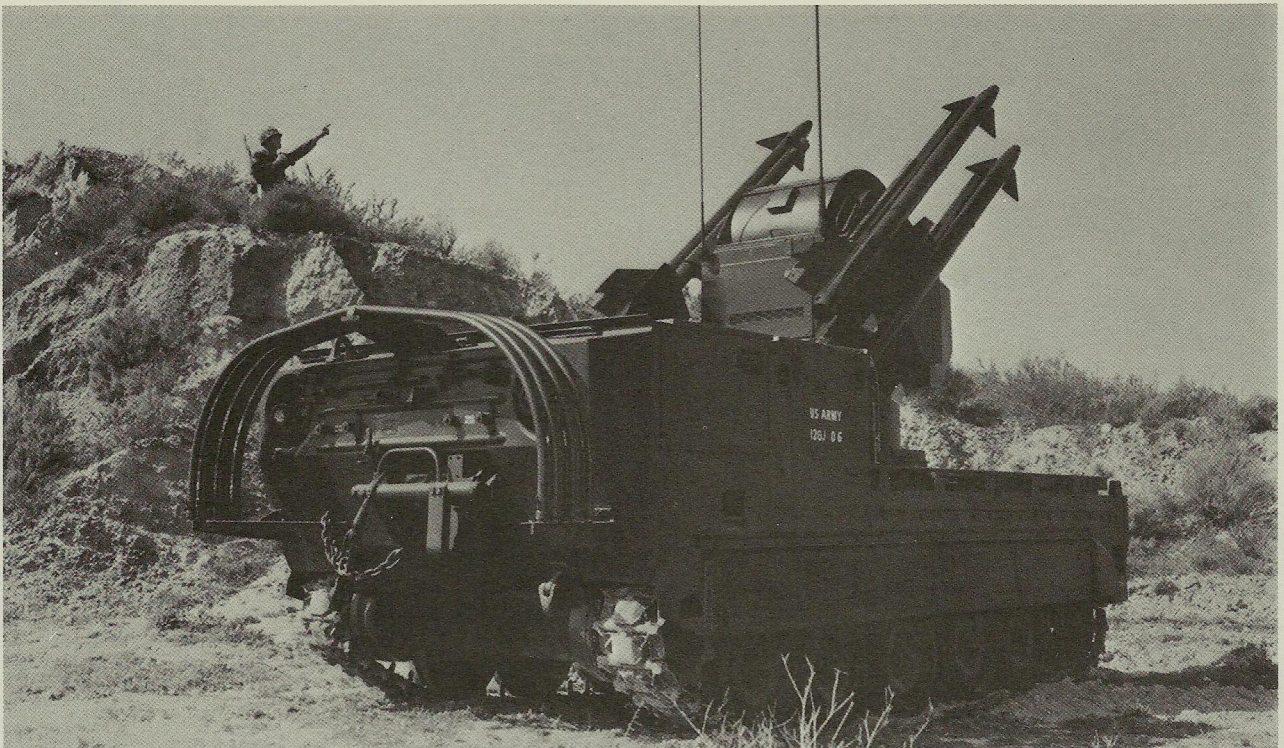
The real cause of all the world's ills is simply *UNRESTRAINED HUMAN NATURE.* And the real solution can be simply stated in just three words: *change human nature!*

World leaders and philosophers recognize that man's nature must be changed if today's problems are to be solved. But they have to admit man is *utterly incapable* of bringing this change about.

Time magazine phrased it this way:

"To cope with what Sir James Frazer describes [in his book, *The Golden Bough*] as this 'standing menace to civilization,' many authorities suggest that a *WAY* must be found to *control aggression...*" (*Time*, June 21, 1968, p. 18, emphasis ours).

Human nature — with its pride, vanity, lust and greed — is plainly the problem. But the way to solve the problem has eluded philosophers and statesmen through the centuries.



Wide World

Men continue to lend their creative talents to developing weapons of destruction. Pictured above is the United States Army's mobile Chaparral Air Defense System.

What the great philosophers and statesmen haven't realized is that the way to solve the problem has been available all these years! The BIBLE tells us all about human nature — what it is, and HOW to change it. They have just refused to believe it.

Your Bible reveals the solutions to all the problems confronting this world — the problems of crime, of war, of sickness and poverty. And it reveals that this *present generation is destined to see the END of all world ills!*

Sound impossible?

It would be — *if* it were left up to MEN. It will take a HIGHER and *infinitely wiser* Power than man to put an end to all war, and bring world peace to suffering humanity. Only the power and authority of the very Government of God, and the Spirit of God placed *within* man, can do it.

The very One who created man with human nature is coming to establish the Government of God on earth, and to show the world *how* human nature can be CHANGED — and *why* we have had human nature in the first place!

Nations Will Not Submit

The governments of this world promise PEACE — but only bring WARS. Men, in their vain attempts to bring us peace, have brought this world to the brink of annihilation!

Now God Almighty *must* — and WILL — soon step in to *change* this world and create a new, peaceful and happy society — the WORLD TOMORROW.

But this world doesn't want to change. Man desperately wants to PRESERVE the society *he* has established upon this earth. Men do not want God to intervene and *force* them to learn the way to world peace and prosperity. Men want peace on their own terms — not God's — even though man's way to "peace" leads inevitably to more wars and final cosmocide.

When Jesus Christ does come to stop world suicide, *the nations will be ANGRY. THEY WILL NOT WANT TO SUBMIT TO THEIR CREATOR!*

The joint military forces of the world will actually attempt to *fight* and destroy Him. And so the returning Christ will be forced to deal with the nations in the only language they will understand — overwhelming FORCE! What a paradox that men will have to be FORCED into living happy, prosperous and abundant lives.

In all the supernatural power and glory of God, Christ will fight against those armies that fight against Him — totally defeating them.

Your Bible reveals Christ will *not* come again as a sufferer, or as a man of sorrows, but as a

KING and CONQUEROR, to occupy a throne of glory, and to bring order out of world chaos!

Now for the exciting details as we begin this revealing lesson.

But before you begin, remember that this is a course in the *study* of the BIBLE. It is not just something for you to *read* through quickly. What we have written is intended to *help* you STUDY your Bible — to learn the Truth of God's Word. The one textbook of this course is your *Bible!* Always have your Bible open before you when you sit down to study with this course.

You will find this the most thrilling, the most interesting and IMPORTANT experience of your whole life — IF you apply yourself and really STUDY.

LESSON 7

What IS "Armageddon"?

We are hearing more and more today about "Armageddon." World leaders and scientists frequently use this term when they speak of the inevitability of nuclear warfare, and the annihilation of mankind.

Yet few *know* what "Armageddon" really is!

Like most other topics of Biblical prophecy, what is popularly taught about this subject has been accepted *without question*. As with most other Biblical subjects, people have been turned away from the truth and led to unwittingly embrace man-made fables!

When *World War I* first broke out, many excitedly proclaimed: "This is the Armageddon war!" Then many confidently assumed that World War II was the war that would end with "Armageddon."

Now the idea is that "Armageddon" is the prophesied last battle of a coming war between the Democratic Western World and Communist Russia. It supposedly will be a battle between atheistic Communism on the one side, *attacking* Jerusalem; with the British and American armies on the other side, *defending* it. And at the precise instant of this final colossal battle, it is believed, the Second Coming of Christ occurs.

But is this really what Biblical prophecy foretells?

Make no mistake! World War III is on the way. Witness the growing concern over the crisis in the Middle East.

World Wars I and II were merely small forerunners of the UTTER DESTRUCTION soon to break

SUDDENLY upon the nations! The present cold war is just the lull before the storm.

There are forces at work in the world which are destined to plunge the nations into world war once again. This time it will be so *hellish*, only the Second Coming of Christ will be able to save mankind from extinction!

That's why God commands us to "WATCH" (Luke 21:36) — to watch *world news* so we may be AWARE of the fulfillment of Bible prophecy, and be accounted worthy to ESCAPE the nuclear holocaust about to fall upon this heedless world!

In the preceding lesson we studied the events leading up to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and the actual *manner* of His coming. Now we are ready to continue with the events to transpire immediately thereafter — beginning with the symbolic *sixth vial* of the "seven last plagues" and the great climactic battle misnamed "Armageddon."

Armies Gather at Armageddon

1. What will occur when the symbolic SIXTH VIAL of God's wrath is poured out? Rev. 16:12. Notice from which *direction* these kings will come. What else happens at this time? Verses 13-14, 16. Let's carefully analyze what is being depicted by these verses.

2. *Against whom* will the kings of the earth gather to fight? Rev. 17:14. We have already shown in the previous lesson that the "Lamb" is Jesus Christ.

3. WHO will *incite* the nations to FIGHT AGAINST their Creator God? Rev. 16: 13-14. Who is the dragon? Rev. 12:9. Are these "spirits" therefore Satan's demons? (The word "devils" in the King James Version ought to be rendered *demons*. There is one fallen archangel or cherub called the "devil," but there are many fallen angels of lesser rank which are called "demons" in the Bible.) Are they responsible for *gathering* the armies together? Rev. 16:16.

COMMENT: The proper translation of the inspired Greek of Revelation 16:16 should be as follows: "And THEY gathered them together. . . ." This verse is sometimes rendered incorrectly: "And he gathered them together. . . ." Notice the *battle* is actually stirred up, *not* by men or nations *alone*, but by three spirit demons of Satan the Devil!

4. What will these evil spirits do to *cause* the armies to gather? Verse 14.

COMMENT: Notice that these spirits INFLUENCE the leaders of the nations — *deceiving* them with miracles — stirring them to this battle.

5. Is the symbolic "Beast," mentioned in verse 13, a great military and political leader having authority over many armies? Rev. 17:12-13.

COMMENT: The BEAST, mentioned in Revelation 17, is not only the *political* revival of the ancient Roman Empire, but also the man — the *military leader* — who heads this system. The BEAST — this political Babylonish revival of the Roman Empire — is yet to appear in Europe. It will be the final revival of Fascism, the last rebirth of the Roman Empire — a United States of Europe that will *startle* this world!

Today we hear and read a great deal about the question of a UNITED STATES OF EUROPE. The nations composing the European Economic Community for years have struggled over the problems of political and military unification. The final outcome of the quest for European unity is revealed in Bible prophecy. Your Bible discloses HOW the coming United States of Europe will attempt to solve this world's nagging problems.

Bible *prophecy* shows 10 "kings" — TEN NATIONAL DICTATORS — will arise in Europe and *give their combined military strength* to ONE STRONG MAN whom the Bible refers to symbolically as the "Beast."

Now you are beginning to see the hidden connection between Bible prophecy and present-day world events now being fulfilled before your very eyes. This is the very *end-time!* Jesus tells us to "WATCH" these events now taking shape. For your Bible shows that when world leaders shall proclaim "peace and safety," SUDDEN DESTRUCTION WILL COME! (I Thes. 5:3.)

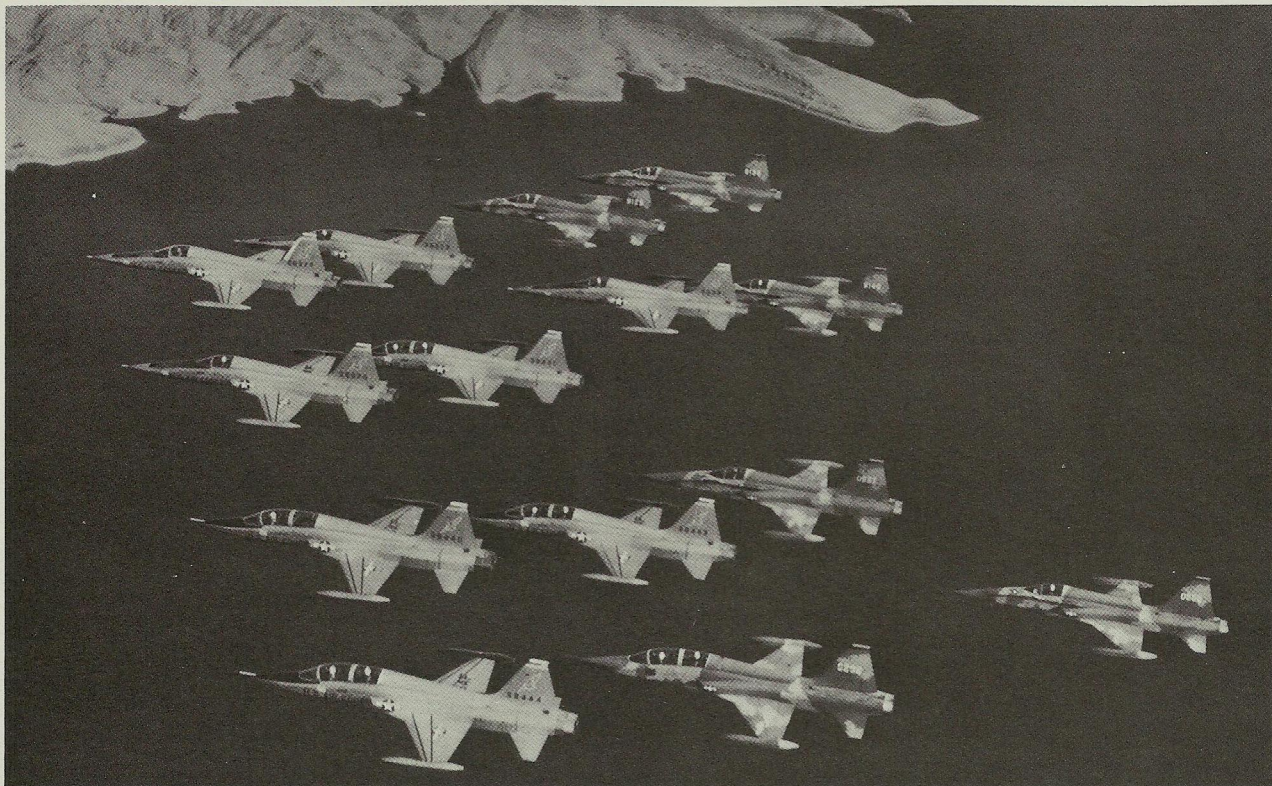
Why?

Because men don't know the way to peace. They think the way to peace is still through the crucible of war!

These events are as *certain* as the rising and setting of the sun. The forthcoming United States of Europe, in conjunction with a great religious revival — the reviving "Holy Roman Empire" of the Space Age — is the next major world event prophesied to occur! The world will "wonder" — stand aghast — when this union of Church and State occurs! (Rev. 17:8.)

You need to "*watch*" world events as never before. You need to subscribe to and read at least one newsmagazine every week. And by all means read *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine which makes world news plain in the light of Bible prophecy! It's *free* of charge.

6. Is the "False Prophet" that is mentioned



Northrop Corporation

World leaders talk peace, but prepare for potential war. When Christ returns He will bring peace and the nations will not learn war anymore (Micah 4:3). Above, pilots train in Northrop F-5 twin-jet fighter planes.

in Revelation 16:13 a great religious leader? II Thes. 2:3-4. Who will diabolically *inspire* this False Prophet? II Thes. 2:9.

COMMENT: The False Prophet is the *religious* or *ecclesiastical leader* who shall, in the very near future, be associated in a mutual working agreement with the "Beast" and this final restoration of the Roman Empire. The apostle Paul said this "man of sin" will have the audacity to claim he is GOD on earth! Through Satan's power, he will perform miracles and *lying* wonders to *deliberately deceive* the world into believing he is God, and that the returning Christ is the *Antichrist!*

Notice that the "three unclean spirits" come out of the *mouths* of the devil, the Beast and the False Prophet. In I Kings 22:21-23 we find unclean spirits — *lying* spirits — in the mouths of the false prophets in ancient Israel. Those spirits so completely deceived the ministers of that day that the demons, or *lying* spirits, actually talked through the mouths of the prophets.

And so the unclean spirits mentioned in Revelation 16 will possess the Beast and the False Prophet and use their mouths to utter lies to DECEIVE THE NATIONS into fighting the returning Christ. They will convince the world He is the Antichrist — the *enemy* of mankind!

7. Exactly *where* do the devil's demons cause the armies of the nations to be GATHERED TOGETHER in preparation for their great battle against Christ? Rev. 16:16. But *where* does the actual battle take place? Zech. 14:2.

COMMENT: Just before the return of Jesus Christ, all the nations of the whole earth will marshal their armies at a place called Armageddon. "Armageddon" is not an English word, but rather the Greek pronunciation of the Hebrew name *Har Meggiddo*. When names are brought over into the Greek language in which the New Testament was written, the H's are usually dropped, and so are often omitted in the spelling in English.

Meggiddo is a small town approximately 55 miles northwest of Jerusalem. It is a few miles southeast of Haifa — a natural port and industrial center that could provide ideal facilities for any troops landing there. The vast plain of Megiddo is situated in a large bowl-shaped valley once called the Plain of Esdraelon, but now commonly called the Valley of Jezreel. It is actually a large flat area ideal for the *assembling* of military equipment and personnel.

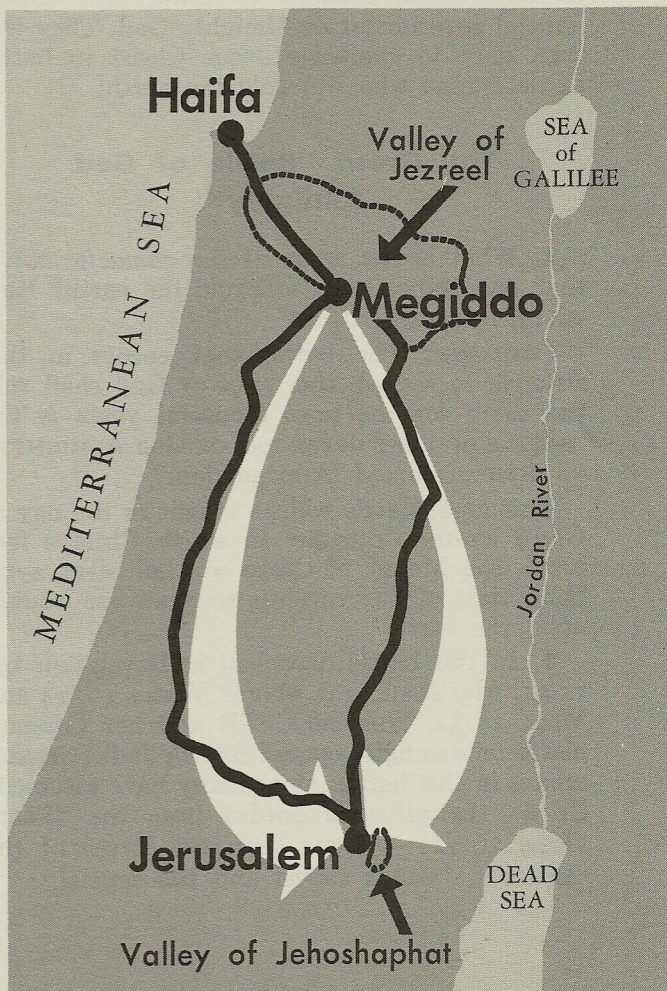
The Hebrew prefix "Har" means hill or mountain. The hill of Megiddo was strongly fortified in the days of King Solomon (I Kings 9:15).

"Armageddon"—Palestine

Bible prophecy reveals that just before God intervenes in human affairs, armies will gather in the Valley of Jezreel, around Megiddo. They will then converge on Jerusalem to fight against Jesus Christ who is coming to enforce peace on a rebellious, war-torn world.

Ambassador College Photos





It was a literal fortress rising above the surrounding plain. The fortress hill Megiddo serves as a *type*, or forerunner, of the bristling fortifications that shall soon envelop the whole surrounding area.

Historians have said that more battles have been fought in the Valley of Jezreel than anywhere else on earth. However, this is where the armies only *gather* in the very near future. From this natural gathering place, the armies spread southward toward Jerusalem. The actual battle takes place in the ENVIRONS OF JERUSALEM *against Jesus Christ!*

Jerusalem will be the focal point for the armies of *all* nations. Here the coming reborn Holy Roman Empire and its allies will make their *final* stand. There, too, will be the vast armies of the "East" mentioned in Revelation 16:12.

The nations, already engaged in an all-out struggle for *world* dominion, will be angry and furious when they see Christ has come to intervene in human affairs. They will call Him the Antichrist. So instead of fighting against each other, the forces of Fascism, False Religion and Atheism will turn their attack *against Christ*.

In a frenzy of rage, these nations will prepare to unleash all of the nuclear destruction at their disposal in an attempt to thwart the supernatural government of Almighty God. They will even dare to challenge Jesus Christ in battle to determine who will rule the earth!

The Great "Battle of God Almighty"

1. What is the name of the *climactic battle* that determines who will rule the earth? Rev. 16:14, last part.

COMMENT: The battle that ensues in this struggle to see whether MAN or GOD shall rule the earth for the next thousand years is the "BATTLE OF THAT GREAT DAY OF GOD ALMIGHTY" — often *misnamed* "Armageddon."

This great battle will be fought in the day of God's wrath — the day in which Christ's feet touch the Mount of Olives and all seven symbolic vials of the seventh trumpet are poured upon the earth.

2. In this battle described in Revelation 19:11-21, who shall fight whom? Verses 19, 14 and Matt. 25:31. Will the USSR and her Communist satellites fight against *British* and *American armies* in this battle, as so many have assumed? Or do the atheistic hordes from the "East" (Rev. 16:12) — along with the forces of the "Beast" — attack *Christ* and His *angels*?

COMMENT: The "Beast" (the coming Fascist dictator in Europe) and his allies and the Communist Russians and other Oriental hordes of Eastern Europe and Asia — though at war with each other — will suddenly turn their armies against JESUS CHRIST and His ANGELIC ARMIES. That is the *plain truth* of your Bible!

3. Against what city will the nations be gathered? Zech. 14:1-4.

COMMENT: The armies which will have *gathered* at "Armageddon" proceed to battle Christ and His angels in the environs of Jerusalem.

4. But exactly *where* does the Bible say this battle will take place? Joel 3:1-2, 9-14. Compare verse 13 with Revelation 14:18-20 and 19:15.

COMMENT: "Jehoshaphat" means "Judgment of Jehovah [or more correctly the *Eternal* or *Yahweh*]" (*Peloubet's Bible Dictionary*). The FOCAL POINT of the battle against Christ will be in the Valley of Jehoshaphat, also called the "Valley of Decision" in the Bible. This valley is a deep ravine having very steep sides, and borders the city of *Jerusalem* on the east. According to *Unger's Dictionary of the Bible*, the Valley of Jehoshaphat, which is situated between Jerusalem and the Mount of Olives, is *now* known as the "Kidron Valley" (page 564).

Furthermore, Zechariah 14:1-4 plainly says that Christ will fight earth's opposing armies when He returns and stands upon the Mount of Olives which is just *east* of Jerusalem. And Revelation 14:20 specifically states that the *blood* of these enemies — symbolically represented by the juice of grapes being pressed out in a winepress — will flow "*without* [outside] the city." There will be so much bloodshed that the blood will rise as high *in some places* as horses' bridles!

The "Wages" of War

In Revelation 17:14 we learned that Jesus Christ shall "*overcome*" the nations that dare to fight the newly arrived Ruler of the world. But exactly *HOW* will Christ overcome them? What will be the outcome of this climactic battle for world rule? The answer is given in the twelfth and fourteenth chapters of Zechariah.

1. What happens to the nations gathered against Jerusalem at Christ's coming? Will Christ strike many with a *plague* that shall consume their flesh? Zech. 14:12, 15.

COMMENT: Zechariah 14:12 is even plainer in the *Revised Standard Version*: "And this shall be the plague with which the Lord will smite all the peoples that wage war against Jerusalem: their flesh shall rot *while they are still on their feet*, their eyes shall rot in their sockets, and their tongues shall rot in their mouths."



Matson Photo Service

MOUNT OF OLIVES — This is the very mount from which Christ ascended into heaven in 31 A.D. (Acts 1:9-12). At His return, He will descend to the same mount and it will split in two, creating a great valley (Zech. 14:4).

This rotting of their flesh off their bones will happen almost instantaneously — “while they are still on their feet.”

WHAT A DIVINE RETRIBUTION against the armies that will fight against Christ! What a demonstration of the DIVINE POWER with which the glorified Christ will RULE all nations! REBELLION against God’s Law and God’s RULE must, and speedily *will be put down!*

2. And just as God dealt with the people at Babel, will Jesus Christ cause *confusion* in the minds of both man and beast? Zech. 12:4. Will they fight blindly and briefly among themselves and utterly *destroy one another*? Zech. 14:13. Will they be cut to pieces? Zech. 12:3.

3. Will this severe punishment be God’s *righteous* judgment of these rebellious armies? Rev. 19:11. Is this simply another example of the inevitable *result* of SIN? Rom. 6:23.

COMMENT: *Every* unhappiness — *every evil* that has come (and will come) to mankind has been the *direct result* of *transgressing God’s Law*. Rebellious humanity will reap the “wages” of sin!

4. After Christ’s victory over His enemies, what will He do to the Beast who will have led the military and political revival of the Roman Empire in Europe? Rev. 19:19-20.

5. Will the great False Prophet meet the same fate of his military cohort? Verse 20. Does yet another prophecy verify his fate? II Thes. 2:8.

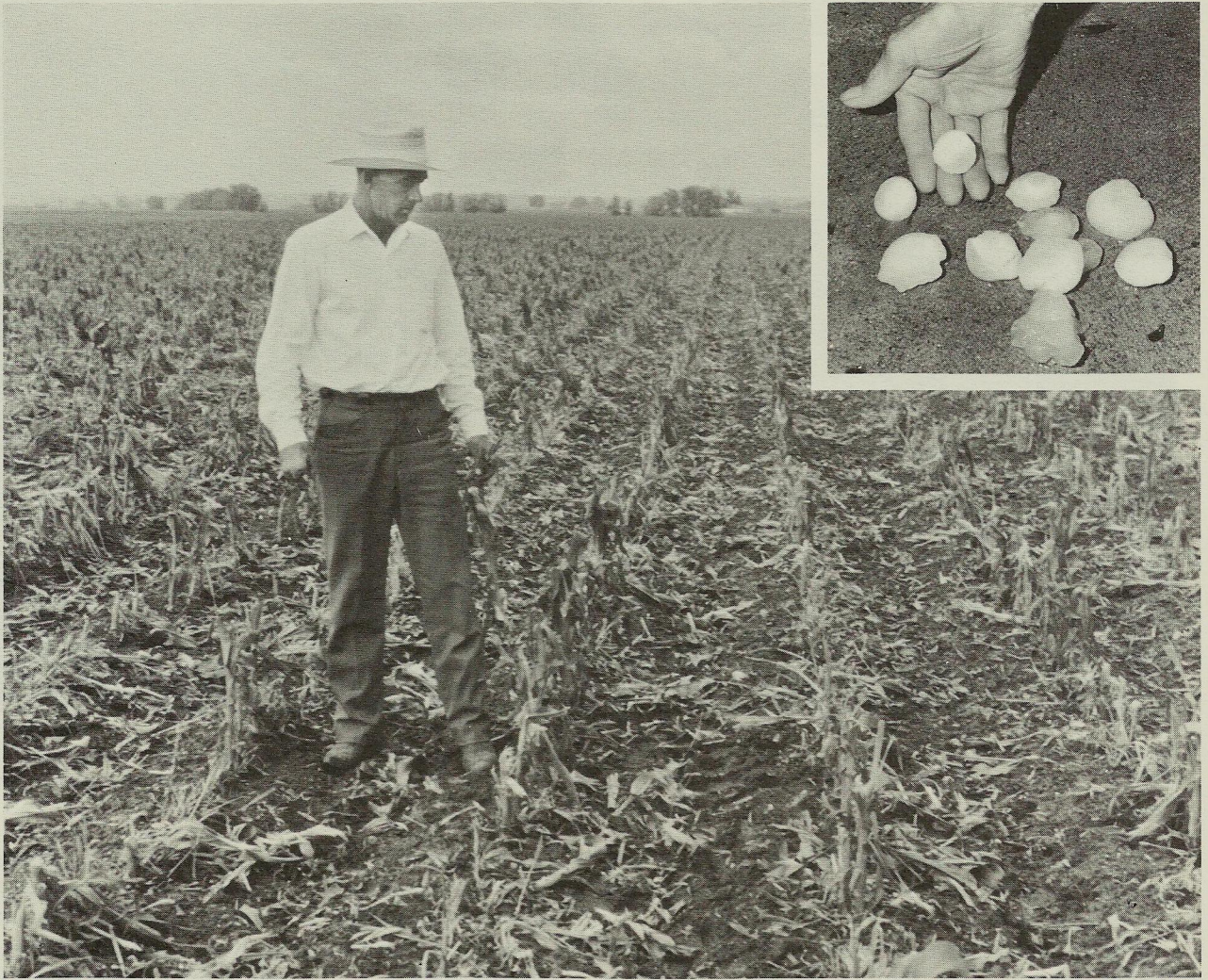
6. In conquering the “ten kings” mentioned in Revelation 17:12, will Christ have begun to fulfill the prophecy of Dan. 2:42-44?

7. Is it possible that these ten independent kings, now stripped of their power, will have their lives prolonged and be brought to trial for war crimes? Consider Daniel 7:12 where the “rest of the beasts,” mentioned after the fourth beast is slain, could hardly be other than the “ten kings” that are left.

Human Civilization Totally Overthrown!

The armies of Fascism and of the “East” will have now been conquered and an enormous death toll will have been taken of all the inhabitants of the earth. However, many CITIES of this world’s civilization will *still be standing*. Notice the final event which will conclude the seven symbolic vials of God’s wrath.

1. Will God leave these cities standing and erect new ones around them? Or will most buildings of this world’s system be *leveled* to make way for Christ’s new world order? Rev. 16:18-21.



Ambassador College Photos

HAILSTORM DAMAGE — The destruction wrought by a severe hailstorm today is tiny compared to the devastation that will result from the last of the Seven Last Plagues. Inset: Notice that some of the hailstones that pounded this farm are "only" the size of golf balls. Imagine the effect of 130 lb. hailstones!

Is this the SEVENTH symbolic vial of God's wrath? Verse 17.

COMMENT: The weight of these hailstones will be one talent, or about 130 pounds! This great hail and earthquake will *level* most man-made structures of the world!

2. The last four of the seven last plagues will have had a terrible effect on this world and its inhabitants. But after experiencing all of these terrifying plagues, will rebellious humanity have learned to FEAR God? Rev. 16:21, last part. Or will humans still want to *cling* to and *bewail* the destruction of the old false religious and political system of this present evil world? Rev. 18:2, 8-9, 11, 15-19. Of what does this vile system consist today? Rev. 18:3-5, 13, 23-24.

3. Though Christ will have conquered the UNITED opposition of the world, will *all* nations be *friendly* to Him and His government? Or will

He *begin* His rule among ENEMIES? Psalm 110:2.

4. Will Christ become *discouraged* with His task of ruling and educating the world? Will He quit because it will take TIME and PATIENCE? Isa. 42:4.

COMMENT: Man's desire to cling to the *present* civilization of this world shows that it will *take time and effort* on the part of Christ and the resurrected saints to RE-EDUCATE people in the wonderful World Tomorrow. They will gradually learn that GOD'S WAY IS BEST AFTER ALL!

5. What does God, who knows there are *better* things ahead, command His people to do *now* concerning this world's corrupt Babylonish system? Rev. 18:4.

COMMENT: Those who now heed God's warning message will receive His divine protection from all the wrath to come!

Jerusalem — Future Model City

Notice how Jerusalem will ultimately have the greatest influence of any city on the destiny of mankind in the world tomorrow.

1. What will Christ make of Jerusalem when He returns to set up the Kingdom of God on the earth? Zech. 8:3. Will it be an *example* to the world? Isa. 62:1-2, 7. Will Christ choose Jerusalem as the CAPITAL of the earth? Jer. 3:17.

COMMENT: Jerusalem means "City of Peace." Jesus Christ, the "Prince of Peace" (Isa. 9:6), will take control of the "City of Peace." He will make it the capital of the earth — the *world headquarters* of His government.

Being near the geographical center of the land surface of the earth, Jerusalem is the ideal *focal point* for world control. It will be rebuilt to absolute perfection. No city of the past will equal its splendor and magnificence! It will become the future MODEL CITY to set the *pattern* for cities throughout the world.

2. What shall go out to the world from Jerusalem and Mount Zion? Isa. 2:1-3. What will be the result? Verse 4.

COMMENT: From God's temple on Mount Zion in Jerusalem, God's Laws will go forth, bringing peace to the entire earth. From here in Jerusalem, Christ — and those true Christians who qualify now — will rule and bring peace, prosperity and eternal salvation to the whole world. This wonderful WORLD TOMORROW will soon be here!

Will you be qualified for a place in that new world?

Atheistic Oriental Hordes Attack Palestine

Now we come to the great battle prophesied in Ezekiel 38. This prophecy pictures the land of PALESTINE. It pictures the peoples of the United States of America, Britain and the northwestern democracies of Europe having been taken to Palestine after their rescue from captivity and slavery by Jesus Christ. Once again they will have become rich and increased with goods!

An atheistic union of nations will have been the greatest of the "kings of the east" mentioned in Revelation 16:12. Since modern nations often use many armies scattered on different battle fronts, only *one* of her armies will be destroyed in the Valley of Jehoshaphat, along with the armies of all the Fascist European nations which will have gathered against Jerusalem.

1. When the USSR sees the wealth of the nation Christ has founded in Palestine — in the

"mountains of Israel" (Ezek. 38:8) — what will she think to do? Ezek. 38:10-12. Will Oriental and even African allies join in this invasion? Verses 1-6. Be sure to read this entire chapter.

COMMENT: This invasion will not come until a little while AFTER the second coming of Christ. Many have blindly ASSUMED that when Christ comes, there will be no opposition. Every person and power on earth, they suppose, will simply submit meekly and instantly to Him and His power. But as we have already seen, that is *not* true!

2. How do we know the identity of the invaders mentioned in Ezekiel 38:1-6?

COMMENT: It is conclusively proved as *all* students of prophecy know, that "Gog" in the land of "Magog" (verse 2) is the great Soviet Union.

The people of *Meschech*, called *Moskhi* by the Greeks, became known as *Muskovs*. From this word "Muskov" the name of the modern city Moscow is derived. The descendants of *Tubal* gave their name to the *Tobol River* and to the city of *Tobolsk* in ASIATIC RUSSIA. And the margin of the *Authorized Version* shows the correct rendering of "chief prince" in verses 2-3 is "Prince of Rosh" — that is, *Russia*.

Notice the allies who come with Russia in this future battle. You will find "Gomer," "Togarmah," "Magog," "Meshech" and "Tubal" identified in Genesis 10 as the sons of JAPHETH, father of the Oriental and Eurasian races. Any Bible map will show that the descendants of Japheth migrated north and northeast into the territories occupied today by Russia and the Oriental races. Ethiopia and Lybia (or Phut), mentioned in Ezekiel's prophecy, are descended from Ham.

3. Will the main objective of these attacking armies be to take the wealth gathered in Palestine? Notice again verses 11-12.

COMMENT: Palestine, having been occupied but a short time, will still be a land of "villages," except for Jerusalem and a few other cities.

4. Some teach that Ezekiel 38 describes a Russian invasion of America. Is that really what is described in Ezekiel 38:8?

COMMENT: The "mountains of Israel" is an expression used in the book of Ezekiel which sometimes refers to the literal mountainous *land of Palestine*, as well as the *nations of Israel* — but NOT the United States of America! As mentioned before, captives of the various nations of Israel will have been brought to Palestine before these hordes attack.

5. Would this great *atheistic* nation, with her other Gentile allies, dare attack God's nation Israel if she believed that it was actually ruled by God's Divine Son? Will God allow this attack

so all atheists and heathen may recognize just WHO He really is, and may come to really *know* Him? Verses 16, 23.

COMMENT: Russia and the populous Oriental nations who do not know God or Christ, shall *still* have to be brought to submission after Christ returns.

The USSR is a Communist union of nations. Communism is *atheism* — it hates and resists God! When Christ begins His rule, with His chosen people restored to great wealth in Palestine, Russia will rise up with the most overwhelming armies ever assembled by man! She will succeed in marshaling the Oriental races into a gigantic invasion force and descend upon the people of Palestine like a cloud! (Verse 9.)

This will be the final effort of rebellious, God-rejecting man to conquer the world in the lust for power and material wealth.

6. How will God execute His *righteous* judgment against these invaders? Verses 18-22. Read also Ezekiel 39:1-20 for a more detailed description of the *results* of this great battle in which Christ, with His supernatural power, causes FIVE SIXTHS of these heathen armies to be slain.

COMMENT: Notice the way the Moffatt Translation renders Ezek. 38:21-23: "I will summon an utter panic against him [Gog], says the Lord the Eternal, till every man in his host shall draw the sword against his fellow: I will punish him with pestilence and bloodshed, I will rain on him and his hordes and all the nations in his train an overpowering flood, with hailstones, fire, and brimstone. I will let ALL THE NATIONS *SEE* MY MIGHT AND DREAD DIVINITY — to teach them that I am the Eternal!"

God's physical people Israel will not have to fight in this battle. They will have learned by then that God *fights their battles for them!*

Satan Restrained

We have now seen how Christ will dispose of several would-be world rulers who try to usurp the authority that rightfully belongs to God Almighty. But there is yet one more great plotter — unknown and unrecognized by most persons — who is secretly striving to maintain and strengthen his grip on this world!

Through those who unwittingly submit to his evil influence, he is cunningly guiding *human* endeavors to his own ends. Inspiring all of this world's would-be rulers is the greatest and most sinister evil power of all. It is SATAN THE DEVIL!

In Hebrews 2:5 we read this: "For unto the angels hath He not put in subjection the world to come, whereof we speak." In other words, the

World Tomorrow — the kingdom which Christ will set up on this earth — will *not* be under subjection to angels. Satan and his demons will be stripped of their power. These demons, and the devil who is their leader, *rule this present earth and influence its inhabitants to do the devil's will.*

Christ is coming to *change* this. God has allowed men 6,000 years to experience the wretched results of their own rule under the sway of Satan. But, in the coming Millennium, mankind will for the first time see the effect of God's rule over the earth, *without* the influence of Satan and his demons.

1. Did the devil offer Christ the kingdoms of this world? Matt. 4:8-9. Did Jesus *deny* that the kingdoms were Satan's to give? Does the Bible show Satan is the present "god" of this world? II Cor. 4:3-4.

2. When did Christ *qualify* to become this world's ruler? Was it when He refused to obey Satan and declared His obedience to God? Matt. 4:10-11.

COMMENT: Notice that Satan *obeyed* Christ's command! However, other Scriptures show it was not the time Christ was to begin ruling the world. He came the first time to *qualify* for world rulership.

3. Is Satan called a "prince"? Eph. 2:2. Has Christ *qualified* to become a prince? Acts 5:30-31. Over whom did John say Christ would become prince? Rev. 1:5.

4. Does Satan know that his rule over this earth is about to end? Rev. 12:12. *How* will Satan be dispossessed of his rule when Christ assumes His position as the new ruler of the world? Rev. 20:1-2. Doesn't this occur soon after Christ's victory at the Valley of Jehoshaphat?

5. How many SUPREME RULERS of the earth will there be after Christ has established His rule? Zech. 14:9.

6. Are the devil and his demons responsible for *deceiving* the WHOLE EARTH — causing nations to war and *rebel* against God and His Laws? Rev. 12:9. Compare this with II Cor. 4:4 and Eph. 2:2.

7. After Satan has been *restrained* and SHUT UP in the symbolic "bottomless pit," will it be possible for him to deceive anyone for the next 1,000 years? Rev. 20:3. Are Satan's disobedient demon henchmen to be restrained also? Zech. 13:2.

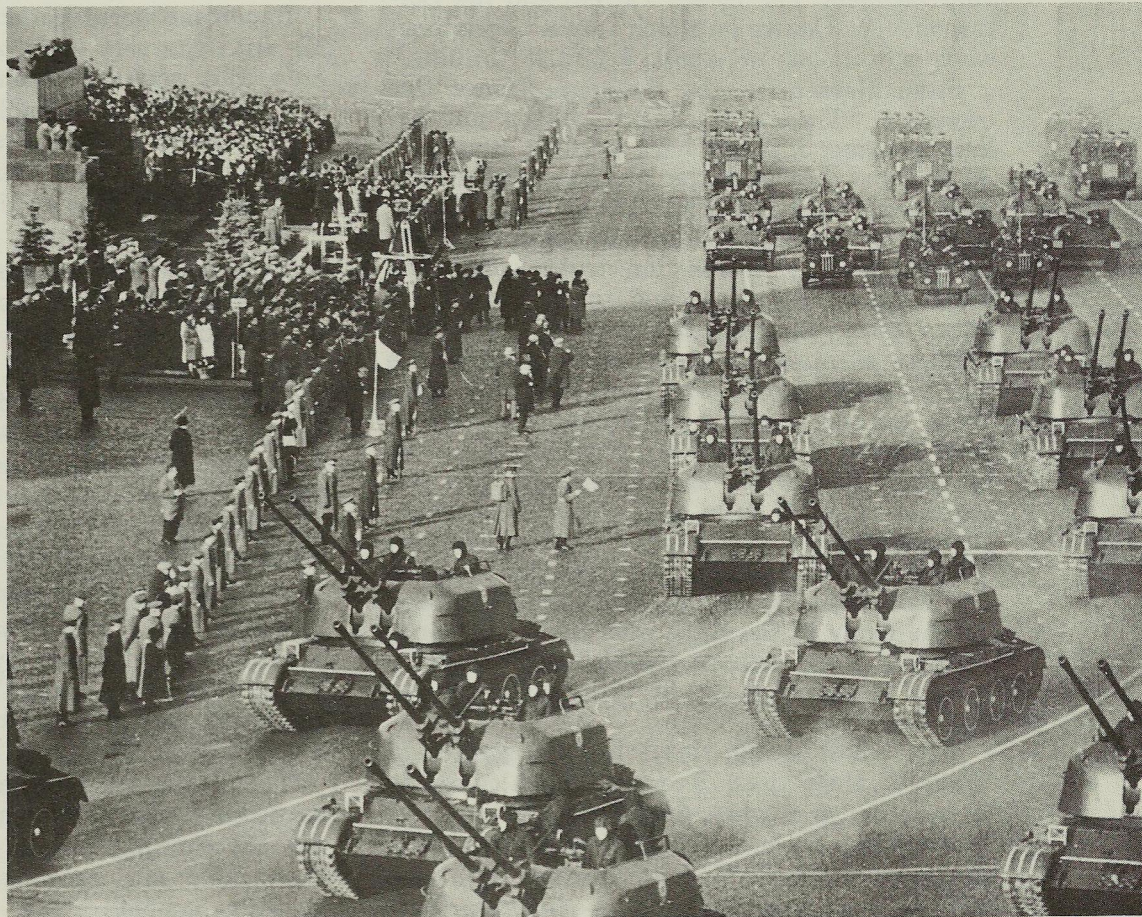
Man's Only Hope!

Jesus Christ MUST SUPERNATURALLY INTERVENE in the affairs of this world if mankind is to survive! Nothing less than *supernatural force*



These parading Communist troops and tanks in Moscow are only a small preview of the atheistic hordes that will invade Palestine after Christ has founded His nation. The Bible plainly shows that the modern-day Russians are the descendants of Meshech and Tubal mentioned in the prophecy of Ezekiel 38:2-13.

C T K Photos



can STOP the nuclear holocaust threatening civilization. Christ is coming to put down human *misrule* — to establish the government of God on earth.

Only God has the *power* to dispose of Satan, that great DECEIVER who has misled the world about God's Truth, and made sin so attractive. Only GOD has the power and authority to overcome power-mad leaders who, under the inspiration of Satan himself, are planning to bring the earth under their rule *regardless of the cost*. God alone has the wisdom to judge *righteously* and administer true justice.

AND ONLY GOD CAN CHANGE HUMAN NATURE!

Now is *not* the ONLY time of salvation in God's plan. God tells us, "In an acceptable time I have heard thee, and in a day [not "the" day]

of salvation have I helped thee . . . to *establish* the earth, to cause to inherit the *desolate* heritages" (Isa. 49:8).

Your Bible shows that this earth will soon become nearly desolate *because of man's sins*. But after the terrifying events prophesied in your Bible, God's new world order will be established. It is after this that He will really set His hand to SAVE humanity, giving *everyone* a chance to become a member of His world-ruling Family!

Jesus Christ is soon to usher in a vastly superior civilization under the perfect government of God. This is the Gospel — the *good news* Jesus brought to mankind. You have just finished reading and studying it in your own Bible. You have proved it for yourself. The question is — WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?

an open letter from

THE STAFF

(Continued from page 2)

Market area reports, "I am most grateful to you for all that you have done for me by sending me your booklets, *The PLAIN TRUTH*, and the Correspondence Course on which I spend sometimes whole afternoons of study. I find it thrilling."

From Nassau, in the Bahamas, comes this comment: "I am a student at college, and believe you me, I surely have a lot of studies to do at times, but from the amazing truth I have discovered from the Bible through the Correspondence Course, I will have to *budget my time* to continue my search for truth concerning prophecies of our times and spiritual guidance in my every day Christian life."

These enthusiastic letters come from people like yourself, people who want to know more about the real meaning of life, and the truth of their Bibles! They have *already* learned how to use their time wisely in Bible study. You can see that many of them study long hours, really engrossed in the new truths they are learning.

But what if studying isn't *easy for you*? Do you have difficulty setting aside time *each day* for the study of the Bible with the Ambassador College Correspondence Course? Sometimes do you let several days slip by without studying as you should?

What most people need is to *organize*, to "budget" their time! Everyone of us needs to learn to *put first things first!*

How often have you heard it said, "Our life is composed of time"? God is concerned with HOW WE USE OUR TIME! Each day — each hour — is

made up of decisions. What will we do with the time we have, what now and what next after that?

Everyone has the very same amount of time. We are all *multibillionaires* in the most valuable commodity we could possibly own — TIME. But time is SCARCE! IT IS *PERISHABLE!*

Important world leaders wake up each morning with the very same 24 hours to spend *you have*. But HOW they spend their time and HOW YOU SPEND YOURS probably differs a *great deal!*

You don't see the President of the United States frittering away the precious hours of the day. He is known as a driving, energetic worker.

Do you realize that God created *you* to become a WORLD LEADER? Perhaps you have never thought of it quite that way before, but the World Tomorrow will NEED real leaders!

God created you with the capacity to take advantage of every opportunity that comes your way, to use your time wisely. How you use your time will drastically affect the course of your life in the next few short years — and perhaps *for eternity!* How we use our time *now* will determine to a great extent what we will do for eternity in God's Kingdom!

That's why it is so important *not to neglect* a single day of Bible study with the Ambassador College Correspondence Course. Times are moving ahead at lightning pace. You don't want to get behind in these vital lessons.

The next lesson you'll receive will require your immediate and thorough study. So be ready for the exciting lessons to come by studying your Bible with *each* and *every* lesson of this revealing course.