

The Good News

International Magazine of The Church of God





More About Our Cover...

The third site for the Festival of Tabernacles in 1963 was Jekyll Island off the coast of Georgia. Having this new location relieved the overcrowding of facilities at Big Sandy. It also enabled many brethren to attend from the East Coast who would not otherwise have been able to come. The large tent in the background comfortably seated the 4500 present. A millionaires' playground in a setting of near-tropical splendor was one of God's blessings for keeping the Feast! Our God is Good!

What our READERS SAY...

God Blesses Obedience

"When I sent my last tithes I had been laid off from my job. Since then I have received my last pay, amounting to \$210.00 and my vacation check amounting to \$246.00, and besides all this I received another job with a slight decrease in base pay but a far greater chance for advancement than my last job."

Man, New Jersey

Proof that Tithing Pays Off!

"My husband is a carpenter working for a small town contractor along with six other carpenters. There are also several independent carpenters in this town. We started tithing last November; shortly after one other carpenter working for the contractor also started tithing. As you may know, we had an extremely hard winter in Kansas with weeks of sub-zero weather. So far as we know, my husband and this other carpenter were the only two carpenters in town that had inside work and therefore worked steadily all winter long. It was only after the severe weather ended that they finished this particular job and lost very few days afterwards because of bad weather. Incidentally, the other carpenter I mentioned was the only other one to receive a raise at the same time my hus-

band received his. We know that tithing pays!"

Couple, Kansas

Woman Preacher!

"My husband and I both got so much good out of *The PLAIN TRUTH*. We both were ordained last June 10, then he passed away suddenly with a heart attack. I have been left alone to carry on. We have used material from *The PLAIN TRUTH* for our sermons."

Woman, Indiana

• *Have you read our article on "Should Women Preach?"*

Tithing

"About one year ago I was giving for God's Work and I had money left over after paying my usual bills. Then I stopped, and my extra money stopped too. This proves to me that God keeps His Word. So here is a tithe—more will follow."

Man, Indiana

Minister Tithes!

"I am tithing to you. I am a minister and have come out of the Assemblies of God. I am preaching more Bible truths since I have started taking your
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The Good News

International magazine of
THE CHURCH OF GOD
*ministering to its members
scattered abroad*

VOL. XII

NO. 11

Published monthly at Pasadena, California.
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change in your address. Please inclose both old
and new address. IMPORTANT!

TWENTY THOUSAND KEEP THE FEAST!

Here is a picture-and-fact report from the ten locations around the world where the Feast of Tabernacles was kept. May it inspire you and make you more prayer-conscious of God's people and Work world-wide!

"**W**EATHER scientists are baffled and awed by hurricane Flora. Nothing quite like it ever happened before since the Weather Bureau started keeping hurricane records in 1870 . . . What baffles them is Flora's peculiar conduct during a four-day period when it practically **STOOD STILL** and aimed blows unceasingly upon Cuba after devastating a large part of Haiti . . . 'WE JUST CAN'T EXPLAIN FLORA'S BEHAVIOR,' Dr. Robert M. White, the Chief of the U. S. Weather Bureau, said today . . . Flora is the *first hurricane in recorded history that got stalled* in a small Caribbean region for more than 24 to 36 hours" (*Star News*, October 9, 1963).

The reason scientists and the Chief

of the U. S. Weather Bureau were baffled by hurricane Flora's behavior is that some 4,800 of God's people were keeping the Feast of Tabernacles in Jekyll Island off the coast of Georgia! Although this was perhaps the most unusual occurrence of God's direct intervention in the weather during the Feast this year, it was by no means unique—God intervened in nearly every location where the Feast of Tabernacles was being held.

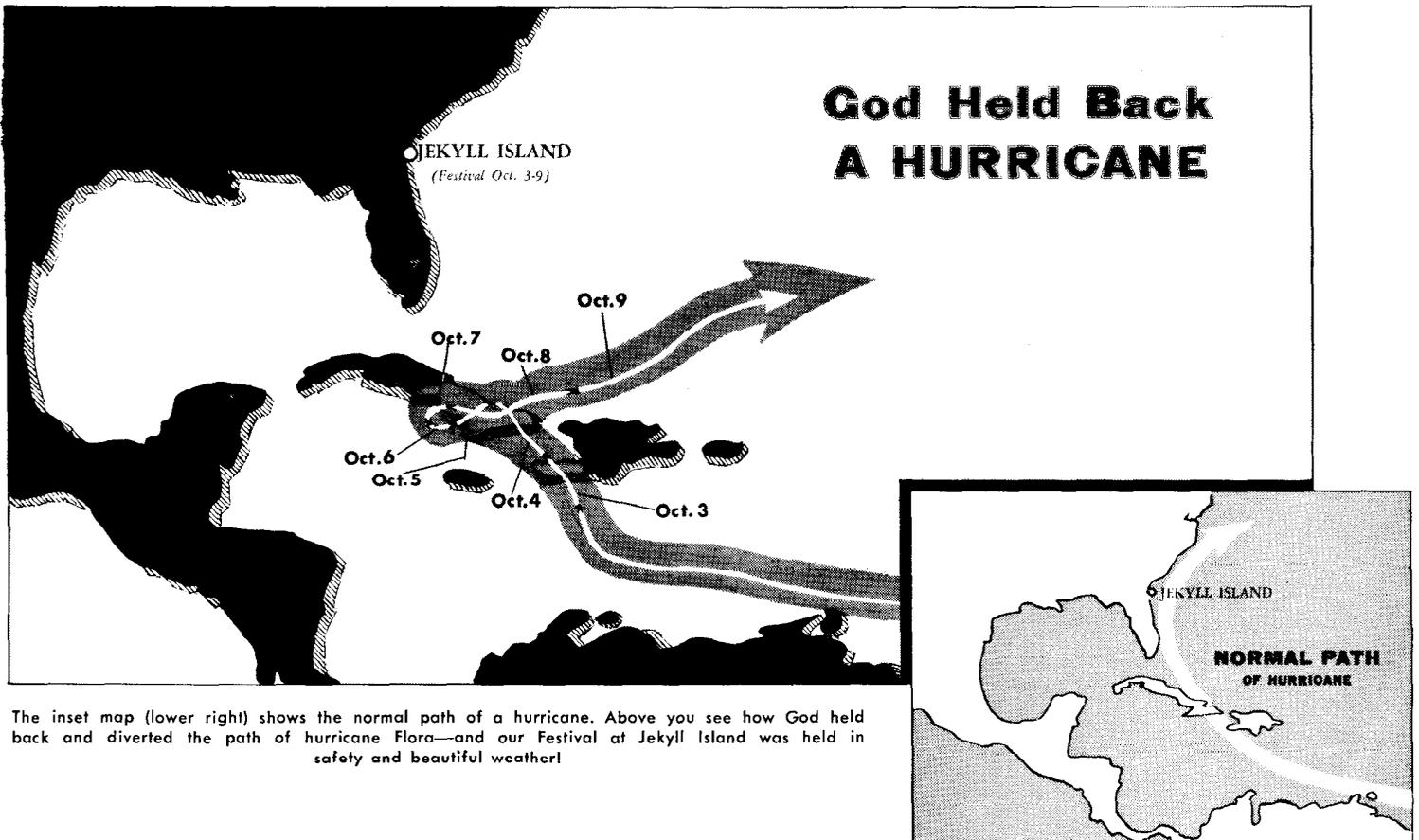
God's blessing in every way was showered on the people keeping His Feast this year. Every year we always say it is the best—and every year that statement is true. We look forward to next year's Festival being better—but we will have to experience it to find out *how* God will make it better!

With all of the reports in from around the world it is very apparent that the *same Spirit* of the same God was guiding the meetings in all ten locations. The theme, summed up in nearly the same words by everyone was: the **REALITY** of God's coming Kingdom; and our direct, specific, personal *responsibilities to qualify* for rulership in it. From everywhere the same report comes of the more powerful, piercing, yet warm and inspiring sermons given by God's ministers this year than ever before.

Here are the reports from around the world!

JEKYLL ISLAND

Jekyll Island, Georgia, has been associated with the names of the great



The inset map (lower right) shows the normal path of a hurricane. Above you see how God held back and diverted the path of hurricane Flora—and our Festival at Jekyll Island was held in safety and beautiful weather!



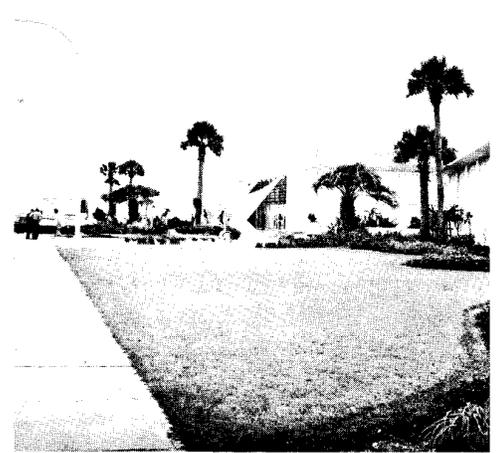
and the near-great ever since its discovery in 1566. Its sparkling white beaches have marked the shuffled trail of bare feet and echoed to the muffled groans of the last shipload of slaves to be brought to the United States from Africa—resounded with the sounds of the laughter and gaiety of the opposite side of the picture during the days of J. Pierpont Morgan, Rockefeller, Pulitzer, McCormick, Gould and the Astors. This island, once considered *reserved for the elite* of the business world, was the setting God chose for His people to observe the Festival of Tabernacles for the eastern part of the United States.

The lush growth of palmettos and stately wide-spreading oaks festooned with Spanish moss were perfect examples of the beauty which will be shared by all the world in the Millennium pictured by the Feast.

For three weeks before our arrival, heavy winds buffeted the island. These winds would have greatly complicated the erection of the huge 250 by 90-foot tent for the daily meetings. However, *the night before the tent arrived*, the winds died to a refreshing and cooling breeze. The next day, within a matter of eight hours, the tent was up and in shape for the meetings.

The workmen had no sooner finished tying down the last of the ropes when the prefabricated stage began to arrive. As the stage was being laid out by the carpenters, other trucks arrived to disgorge their burden of chairs. Then came the piano and organ and the sound equipment—all flowing smoothly

LEFT: Mealtime during Festival of Tabernacles in Georgia. BOTTOM: Time to register! Entrance to building used for registration and other business at Jekyll Island.



Building used for registration and dining hall during Festival at Jekyll Island, Georgia.

and without any complication in preparation for the first day's services.

Texas Experience Pays Off

As streams of people began pouring into the area, a problem began to arise. Hundreds who had failed to request reservations for camp space began overflowing the limited facilities of Cherokee Camp Ground. But the years of experience in Big Sandy camping began to pay off. Mr. Judy, from the Akron church, took his assigned position in charge of the camping area and began directing the people on how and where to set up their tents. By the time everyone had arrived and was settled, nearly SIXTEEN HUNDRED of God's people had settled themselves in an area normally laid out for a third that number!

Several families settled in the Jekyll Island Club House which once hosted President William McKinley, while dozens of other families filled the island and began to spill over into the adjoining areas of Brunswick and St. Simon Island.

More Than Expected

As the time came for Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong to open services, the

people were still pouring into the canvas tabernacle. The 3,800 chairs were soon filled and people began spreading blankets to sit on the ground just outside the upturned canvas sides.

Out of those present nearly one-third responded to Mr. Armstrong's query concerning how many were present for their very *first* Festival of Tabernacles! On hearing of the overflow crowd, the motels of Jekyll Island made available another 350 to 400 of their own chairs to supplement those which had originally been ordered. Although over 4,000 chairs were finally made available, throughout every service there were people who remained outside.

By the end of the Feast, nearly 4,800 had registered, far exceeding the top figure of 4,000 we had anticipated for this area. On Sunday after the Festival began, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong left for Big Sandy, Texas, for the Tabernacle Grounds there. Mr. Roderick C. Meredith was at the same time flying from Squaw Valley, California, to Jekyll Island to take charge for the remainder of the Feast.

The highlight for the last day was the ordination of Mr. Virgil Cox to the rank of Local Elder. The evident answer from God to the daily prayers of His people keeping the Feast in Jekyll Island was even physically evident in the miraculous way in which He brought hurricane Flora to a complete halt and maintained the calm, beautiful and

balmy climate throughout the Festival of Tabernacles in Jekyll Island.

SEVEN THOUSAND AT BIG SANDY

From Mexico to Canada and from the Mississippi to the Rockies, nearly 7,000 of God's people came to keep the Festival of Tabernacles on His own grounds in East Texas.

More than *three thousand seven hundred* of these people camped *right on our own property* in tents, booths and trailers. The Tent City was a very inspiring sight. Many of the brethren had purchased the specially offered tents. The neat, orderly rows of tents was a very moving sight—a real pattern and example of God's people learning to live together in the coming World Tomorrow!

Opening the Festival, Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong introduced all the ministers there to serve the 7,000 in attendance. Each minister in turn in-

troduced his congregations and told a bit about each. Then, all of those who did *not* have a local church raised their hands. In past years, this has been nearly one-half of the congregation. But as the years have gone by and as God has provided more ministers to raise up churches, this number has diminished. And yet there were still *many hundreds* who are unable to attend a local church.

Recreation for all ages was plentiful to add to the enjoyment of the Feast. Beautiful Lake Loma—constructed right on our own grounds by our own crews and volunteer labor of local church members—provided swimming for all who wanted to take a nice cool dip and be refreshed from the near 100-degree temperature which prevailed throughout most of the Feast. There was also horseback riding, hiking, hunting, fishing, skating and many individual activities.

An added blessing for all of the brethren who were at Big Sandy was

the perspective they were able to get of how the new college which is scheduled to begin next fall, will look. Already, five new homes for faculty members have been built around Lake Loma. These beautiful homes have been provided for God's ministers and faculty members in a most miraculous way. *These homes have been built without one single cent of downpayment or cash outlay!* Because of the integrity of the Work of God already established in that area, the builder was perfectly willing to let the rent payments alone take care of the financing for this much-needed housing project.

One of the recreational highlights of the Festival was the Ambassador College Chorale concert. In addition to the members of God's Church who were there, special guests from the surrounding cities with whom the Work of God does business were invited. The more than 100 of these guests expressed their appreciation and enjoyment over the very splendidly conducted concert. The first portion of the concert consisted of special, selected songs sung in formal attire. The second half of the concert was a humorous light operetta,

ABOVE: God's people gathered outside tent used for meetings at Festival in Jekyll Island.
BELOW: Brethren enjoy fellowship and a leisurely walk during break between services.



Brethren gathered to hear God's Word at Festival of Tabernacles in Jekyll Island, Georgia.





The Mikado, by Gilbert and Sullivan.

The Ambassador Chorale also provided many inspiring hymns and anthems as special music during each of the preaching services.

During the Festival, our architectural firm sent two representatives from Los Angeles to Big Sandy to begin preliminary work and the planning of a *master plan* for the coming college

England for a short stay there to take care of the many responsibilities and plans concerned with the Work of God in England. Although Mr. Armstrong will probably be back on campus here in Pasadena by the time you read this article, do remember that he and many others in God's ministry are having to travel enormous distances all the time in the interests of His Work. *Don't*

as in many of the other areas, it was very apparent that God was intervening in the weather—providing us with warm sunny days that made the mountain air twice as invigorating and the Festival a physical as well as a spiritual success.

The sermons God inspired came in 1-2-3 punch fashion, unavoidable, inescapable, driving everyone to his knees to overcome carnality. There were many occasions for rejoicing—even physically—with the many facilities afforded by the Squaw Valley area.

We were all rather concerned for the first few days of the Feast because Mr. Charles V. Dorothy and his family, with their newborn daughter, had been



Brethren disperse for afternoon break after receiving spiritual food during services at Big Sandy Festival of Tabernacles.

campus at Big Sandy. Brethren, remember to pray about this! Many of the faculty members of Ambassador College scattered in three areas in the United States met with over 300 prospective students—from our own church families alone! Unless we start this college in Texas, we will not be able to take nearly as many as we would like as incoming freshmen for the next college year.

At the close of the Festival, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. Armstrong left for

forget this much-needed portion of your prayers for Mr. Armstrong.

SQUAW VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

Mr. Roderick C. Meredith, the Second Vice-President of the Church and college, had the job of opening and conducting the services for the Festival of Tabernacles in Squaw Valley, California.

The total registered at the Feast in Squaw Valley was about 5,400. Again,

Scene from the "Mikado"—an operetta performed by the Ambassador Chorale at the Festival.





A panoramic view of the brethren during mealtime, at Big Sandy, Texas, during Festival of Tabernacles.

unavoidably delayed in Mexico where he was terminating his studies for a Doctor's Degree this summer. But on Sunday, October 6, he arrived safely and delivered the sermonette in the afternoon, and we were all happy to hear not only of his safety but of the fact that he had been successful in gaining his Doctor's Degree. So from now on he will be referred to as *Dr. Dorothy*—and this degree will help greatly in his new job as Dean of Instruction at Ambassador College in Big Sandy, Texas.

One of the most moving occurrences of the entire Feast was the taking up of the offering on the Last Great Day. As far as can be determined from all

the records that have been kept throughout the history of the Work—it was the greatest single offering given by God's people in this time! Nearly *forty-five thousand dollars* was given by the fifty-four hundred people present! It was *almost double* the first day's offering—and we all hope it will prove the proper incentive to the brethren around the world to recognize the real need of God's Work, and to spur individual sacrifice to accomplish the fulfillment of that need.

Although God provided beautiful weather all during the Festival of Tabernacles, as soon as His people left the valley it began to snow—the very day after the Feast was over.

Twelve Local Elders Ordained

One of the big highlights of the

Festival this year was the ordination of twelve Local Elders! As Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong said during the ordination of nine at Big Sandy, "One of the biggest needs in God's Church today, is the need for more ministers."

That need is being supplied more and more each year!

Mr. Leon Ettinger conducts the Ambassador Chorale during a special music service at Festival of Tabernacles in Big Sandy, Texas.



Brethren at Big Sandy take time out to bask in sunshine and enjoy Lake Loma.

The ordination of these twelve men now raises the number of ordained Elders in God's Church today to *NINETY-SIX!* Of course, these men are spread in offices and churches *around the world*. Only ninety-six ministers to take care of the entire world is not very many. However, there are

probably *more ministers* now serving God's people in His True Church than at any time in the past several hundred years.

Remember, Christ said, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he *WILL send forth laborers* into his harvest" (Matt. 9:37-38). As you continue to pray that God will supply this need, God *will provide* more men qualified to serve.

All of the twelve men ordained this Festival were ordained to the office of

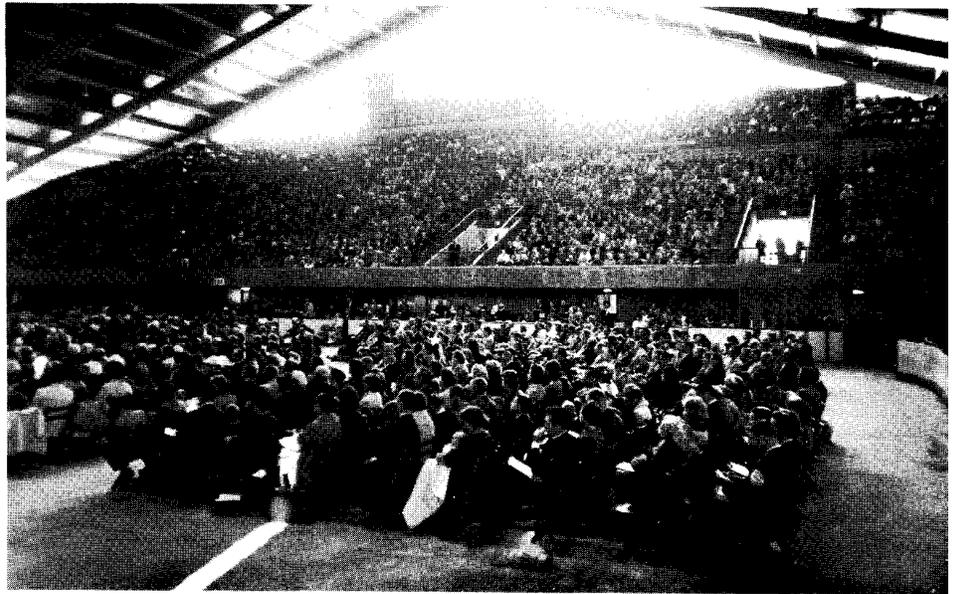
the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the

necessarily *preach*—that is, give sermons—however, he must be fully qualified to *teach, instruct* and *inspire* God's people as he visits with them. On the



This warm, brotherly friendship prevails at all God's Festivals!

Local Elder. In the New Testament Church, Jesus Christ reveals different ranks of authority in His ministry. Paul explains that the ministry is "for



Nearly five thousand five hundred of God's people gathered at Squaw Valley for the eight day Festival of Tabernacles.

knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" (Eph. 4:12-13). In Verse 11 he shows that within the government of the Church some are "apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers." Each of

other hand, many Local Elders do bring sermonettes, conduct Bible studies and even preach full sermons. One of the most important functions of any Elder is the anointing of and praying for the sick.

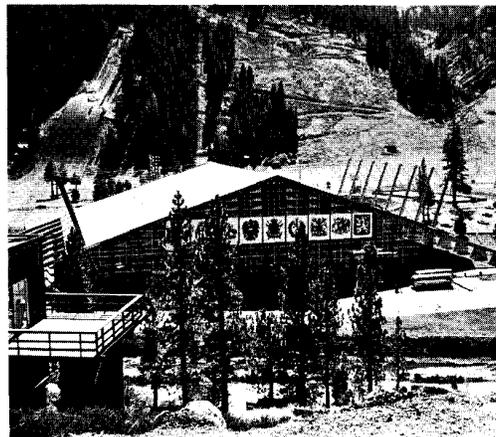
Many of the Local Elders hold down full-time jobs in business, factory and farm. They *freely give* of their time to visit in the evenings, after Sabbath services and on Sundays. They take off their time to *serve* God's people.

Meet the Twelve New Elders

You need to know a little about each of these ordained men, and through the pages of *The GOOD NEWS* you *can know* all of God's ministers more personally. When you see them at the Festivals and in your local churches you will know those who labor among you—I Thessalonians 5:12.

At the Festival in Squaw Valley, two were ordained. Mr. Richard Pinelli of the Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada church and Mr. Leonard Schreiber of the San Diego, California church.

Mr. Pinelli is a graduate of Ambassador College and is married to an ex-Ambassador coed. They have a new
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Magnificent Blyth Arena at Squaw Valley—meeting place for God's people in the Western states.

these offices is able to *serve you* in a different way.

The Local Elder is the man who serves you in a local church under the direction and supervision of a higher ranking minister. A Local Elder might not

Can You MURDER by STATE Command?

Is there any power or authority which can overrule God — and change His commandment to read "Thou MUST kill"? Is there any scripture which even implies that God would sanction killing if it were required by a GOVERNMENT? If killing were all right, what about other crimes — would ANY crime be acceptable to God as long as the STATE was responsible? Were the Germans on trial for war crimes right after all — and INNOCENT because the STATE was responsible?

by Leroy Neff

HAS GOD commanded Christians to FIGHT for home and country? Has He commanded to kill, destroy and maim?

Many theologians believe He has, because of their misunderstanding of Romans 13.

The reason theologians have come to this *wrong* conclusion concerns the command to be *subject* to the *higher powers*. They say that if the higher governmental powers *require us to fight*, then *we must fight*. Such false reasoning and *interpretation* of scripture means that if these powers require us to *kill*, to *extort*, *rob*, or *maim*, then *we must obey*!

If this *reasoning* is carried even further it would mean that no matter what violation of law or scripture is required of the soldier by these "*higher powers*," it must be done!

We have already seen clearly that this is obviously foolish and contrary to all other scripture. *It is not what Paul meant by this chapter!*

False Ministers Twist Scriptures

Such *wresting* of the scriptures is not new! Notice Peter's admonition and warning against the wrong interpretation of Paul's writings even in his day.

"Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him IN PEACE,

without spot, and blameless" (II Pet. 3:14).

The false teachers that wrest the teachings of Paul are the ones who are not *at peace*. *They do not preach PEACE*. They have *falsely taught* that fighting is not a sin, and that Paul in Romans 13, instructed the Christians to fight. Therefore they are to *blame* for the sin of fighting by their own congregations.

In the very next verse Peter continues by stressing that *long-suffering*, or in other words, *patience*, is needed for salvation. We must be *patient* and let God fight our battles. We should not take matters into our own hands; *God is our Avenger*.

"And account that the long-suffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are *some things hard to be understood*, which they that are unlearned and unstable WREST, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their *own destruction"* (II Pet. 3:15-16).

What About Romans 13?

In view of this warning we must not put our *own* interpretation and ideas into Paul's instructions. Just what does he *really* teach in Chapter 13?

"Let every soul be *subject unto the higher powers*. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are *ordained* of God" (Rom. 13:1).

The Apostle Paul instructs here that we are to be subject to these higher powers since they are ordained or ordered by God (Verse 1). He is referring to the higher governmental powers over the citizens of a country. This point in the text is understood correctly by almost everyone.

Just as Daniel was told—God *does permit* the establishment of *human government*. God even *sets up* the rulers of these very governments to carry out His own purpose. God showed this important point to the Prophet Daniel revealing to him that He even *sets up the basest or lowest of men over the kingdom of the world* (Dan. 4:17). To see how true this is we only need to read of the lives of some of the past world rulers such as Alexander the Great, Antiochus Epiphancs, the Caesars, and such modern-day despots as Hitler and Mussolini, Khrushchev and Castro.

Paul does not show in Romans 13 that God *approves* of all that these men have done! God is not responsible for their *sins* and *crimes* against mankind! God has made it possible for these men to rule, but, they have MISUSED THAT RULE! They will pay for their own personal *crimes* and *sins* as all scripture and prophecy show.

In Verse 2 Paul shows that if we resist such a power, we resist God and will receive the penalty for our wrong action. Rulers are not a terror to *good works*, but to *evil works*. Evil works are simply violation of *law*. Rulers within the state are in office to maintain law and order, and to punish the lawbreaker. In order to do this they carry the "sword" (Verse 4) to put down lawbreakers *within the state*.

We should be obedient to these rulers and *live at peace* within the society and the state as well as we are able.

We must show proper deference and *respect* to these rulers who have been put over us. The requirement of the Christian regarding government is aptly translated in the Revised Standard Version in Verse 7.

"Pay all of them their dues, taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, *respect to whom respect is due*, honor to whom honor is due."

No command is given here delegating a Christian to take the sword or to go into military service! *Carrying the sword* to maintain peace and order in the community is **CONFINED** to the *higher power* (Verse 4) and *not to the Christian!*

Paul continues his instructions and makes it *crystal clear* that our subjection to the powers that be *does not include killing* others. He knew that some people would **PERVERT** and **TWIST** *this very chapter!* To guard against this he included certain points that these theologians either ignore or reject. They do not read the *whole chapter*. Notice the next verse:

"Owe no man any thing, but to **LOVE ONE ANOTHER**: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law" (Verse 8).

"Thou Shalt Not Kill"

That is as far away from *fighting* under the "higher powers" as you can get.

Paul really means by this statement that loving one another as a Christian *excludes* the killing of others! *Verse 9 proves it*: "THOU SHALT NOT KILL." This should make it crystal clear!

Paul continues in this same place, Verse 10:

"Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: therefore *love is the fulfilling of the law*."

From these comments it is *plain* that Paul nowhere in *this scripture* (or for that matter, *any scripture*), tells the Christian that he must take up the sword *under any circumstance* even if required to do so by the higher powers. The truth is plain if you read the *whole chapter* and do not put your own *interpretation on one or two sentences*.

To further stress this point, notice how the Apostle Peter handled a similar problem. When he was told by the *higher powers* to disobey God, he replied: "*We ought to obey God rather than men*" (Acts 5:29).

The true Christian is further instructed on this same point to be subject to the powers that be, and to be ready for every *good work* (Tit. 3:1). He should be *gentle, meek; not fighting or brawling* (Verse 2). We must be subject to or submit to worldly authority, yet we can obey only in those things *not in conflict* with the laws of God. But we must be willing to submit to punishment when we cannot obey man's *God-defying laws*. And, we must take any such punishment patiently.

The Cause of War

History is a *chronicle of wars*. It has been said that every nation is either preparing for war, in war, or recovering from a war.

Man has not yet learned that wars *have never solved his quarrels or problems!* Wars only bring misery, pain, death and destruction. They cause, and are caused by, *hate and evil, wrath and envyings*. These are works of the flesh! (Gal. 5:17-21). Exactly opposite to these works of the flesh is the life of a Christian who has God's Holy Spirit!

In spite of all the wars of mankind, **NONE HAVE BROUGHT PEACE**. If any war did bring peace, then *there would never have been another war!* No war between the nations of this world will ever bring peace! They are utterly wasteful and useless.

What is the real *cause* of war? Politicians and students of international relations have a multitude of ideas, but most are wrong. God knows, and His Word gives the root cause *plainly and clearly*.

"*From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your LUSTS that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not because ye ask not*" (Jas. 4:1-2).

Here is the *reason* why all mankind continually suffers the terrible scourge of war. Man is not satisfied with what he has. He craves for more! He lusts after what his neighbor has, not content with what he has produced and with what God has given him. This violates God's command, "*Thou shalt not covet*."

We are not to be partakers in the *lusts* of wicked rulers and the *wars* they cause. "Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, *abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul*" (I Pet. 2:11). Lust is an exact opposite of Christian love, which we must have. War and strife in the home, in the community, nation, or world is *against the soul* or life of all those involved. It *hurts* all persons concerned. We are commanded to abstain from the vanity and lust which causes such war.

The TRUE Christian Warfare

We have seen proved in many ways that Christians are not to participate in the wars of this world. And yet, a Christian is already in an unusual kind of warfare!

But *what kind of a warfare* is this? The Apostle Paul answers, "For though we walk in the flesh, we do *not war after the flesh*" (II Cor. 10:3). In other words, we do **NOT make war** like the nations and people of this world. "The weapons of *our warfare* are not carnal [physical], but mighty through God . . . Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and *bringing into captivity*

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Are You *STILL* Counting the Cost?

Here, from one of God's ministers just returned from a nationwide baptizing tour this summer, is a pointed lesson each member of the Body of Christ needs to learn.

by David Albert

“AS THE RESULT of your repentance of your sins, and your acceptance of Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour from your sins, I now baptize you into the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in the name of, which means by the *authority* of, Jesus Christ, for the remission of your sins. Amen.”

This summer hundreds of new brethren heard these words shortly before they were plunged into the symbolic watery grave. Seconds later they were raised from this “grave” and helped to the shore of the river, lake, or stream and they then received God’s Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands. Tears were streaming down the faces of many as we welcomed them as brethren into the Church of God.

Does this sound familiar, brethren? It certainly should to every baptized member of God’s Church. No doubt you can easily recall the time and place of your baptism, the names of those who performed your baptism, and can still hear those words.

Counting the Cost

But you will also remember, brethren, that the actual baptism is only the final outcome of long hours of counseling. All of these new brethren were first challenged to *count the cost!* They were told in plain words that this Christian life is *not easy!* They were soberly warned of the very real danger of “falling away” and the unpardonable sin. Doctrines such as tithing, the Holy Days, God’s way of divine healing, the plain truth about divorce and remarriage and many others were thoroughly explained. On the average over *fifty per cent* found they were simply

not ready—or in many cases *not willing*—to be baptized. Finally, those who *were ready* were taken to a suitable place where the baptism was performed. In the course of the counseling many learned for the first time what it *really* means to count the cost. They learned it the same way you learned it—the same way the followers of Jesus Christ learned it nearly 2,000 years ago.

Luke Fourteen

In the fourteenth chapter of the book of Luke, Christ makes plain the cost every person must pay if he wants to be His disciple or follower. In Verses 15 through 24 He shows how God looks at those who “make excuse” (Verse 18). Notice that God calls them just that—*excuses*, not reasons!

How many excuses we hear on a baptizing tour! Most fall into one of the three categories listed here—*property* (Verse 18), *job* (Verse 19), or *family* (Verse 20). But once in a while someone will come up with a real lame, even humorous excuse, like the man who didn’t think he could quit chewing tobacco because if he did *his teeth would all fall out!* He gave this *same excuse last year!*

How does the Almighty God view such carnal-minded reasoning? Notice Verse 21, “So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house [God] being ANGRY. . . .” God is not persuaded by these weak excuses, and neither are His servants! God is *angry* when a man puts *anything*—from foul tobacco in *any* form, to his own wife—higher than God and His priceless calling to eternal life! Yet how many people do put cigarettes or chewing tobacco ahead

of God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ! And how many husbands put the opinion of their wives ahead of baptism, the forgiveness of sins, and God’s Spirit!

Human nature was no different in Christ’s day. That is why He turned to the crowds of people that followed Him and said, “*If any man come to me, and hate not*”—that is, love not less by comparison (see Matt. 10:37)—“*his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.*”

Have YOU as a member of the Church of the Living God *really* come to understand that verse? Of course, almost *any* professing Christian would *claim* that he or she loved Christ more than any living human being—but would his *works* confirm this (Tit. 1:16)? How about when there is a conflict between what someone else says and what God says? Take God’s Sabbath commandment, for example. Hundreds had to face this test this summer. When your boss or employer, the man who gives you your check every Friday, says you must work until five o’clock on Friday but the Sabbath begins in the winter at four forty-five—who comes first?

When your teen-age son works in a gas station on the Sabbath, or your daughter is cheer-leader and goes to the basketball games Friday nights, but GOD SAYS in Exodus 20:10 that your son and your daughter must also keep the Sabbath—then who comes *first?*

Or when an unconverted mate insists on your going to the show or doing the shopping on the Sabbath—again, who comes first? God? Or man?

Many—over *half* of those counseled

—were unable or unwilling to meet these and similar challenges. But God's Word is plain! "We ought to obey God rather than men!" (Acts 5:29). And again, "Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?" (Isa. 2:22). Can any *man* give you eternal life? No! Then why put man before God who alone can give this gift (Rom. 6:23)? This also breaks the First Commandment by setting up man as an idol before the True God. This is why Christ said we must love men less than God.

Your Own Life Also

But even when you have succeeded in putting every other person on earth below God, you are still not through by any means! Hardest of all for any man is, "his *own* life also." The *first* thought is that Christ meant we must be ready to die for Him. And this is true—but *how*? Are most Christians at this time called upon to face a firing squad or some other life or death situation shortly after baptism? No, in fact very few have "resisted unto blood" for their beliefs; none have been stoned, shot, or tortured to death. Then *how* do we love less our own lives?

We must do so in many LIVING ways!

Last year, for example, we met an old, hog farmer who loved his own *way of life* as a hog farmer more than he loved Jesus Christ. He was simply unwilling to quit raising hogs, quit working on God's Sabbath. It was very disappointing to see that this year also he *still* loved *his own way of life* more than Christ—and though he *knew* the Truth, he still could not be baptized.

Christianity, as Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong has often explained on the broadcast, is a *way of life*, and it is very different from the way of life each of us has lived in the past. It is *far different* from the way of life—the day-in, day-out manner of living—of the average farmer, businessman, housewife, schoolteacher, truck driver, doctor, lawyer, soldier, nurse, secretary. Think of all the ways the Christian way of life conflicts! There are smoking, make-up, tithing (first, second, and

third!), divine healing, clean and unclean meats, the truth about divorce and remarriage, the Sabbath and Holy Days, and a host of other differences. The average man or woman has to *choose* which way of life he or she lives most (Deut. 30:19).

"But it's hard!"

So God sets before us this choice between *His* way of life governed by His divine laws and our *own lawless* way of life, and commands us to *choose His way*—LIFE! And what is the reaction of so many people? Do they greet this as a wonderful salvation and deliverance from their own miserable ways? Yes, some *few* do. But how many did we hear this summer who bemoaned their plight and cried, "Oh, it's so *hard*!" Or, as many phrased it, "That won't be *easy*!"

Granted, God's way is not an easy way! Jesus Christ did not promise us an easy, downhill battle all the way! Rather He promised us persecutions, trials, and tests. He said that there is a broad, easy way that many would take to destruction; but that the way to eternal life is strait and narrow—that is, rough, rugged and difficult is the road to eternal life. (Read Matt. 7:13-14 and Luke 13:24!)

And Christ made this same point very clear here in the context of Luke 14. Notice Verse 27, "And whosoever doth not bear his cross [or stake], and come after me, cannot be my disciple." We must bear our stake just as Christ bore His! His was not easy to bear either! Yet He *willingly* and gladly did so for us—and that, brethren, is one of the most vital keys.

Are You Willing?

One of the greatest lessons of all gained from our tour and observed in the lives of literally hundreds of people is summed up in one verse—John 7:17. Here Christ stated plainly, "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." Or, as most modern translations render this verse, "If any man *is willing* to do his will,

he will know the doctrine. . . ." (see R.S.V., Williams, Lamsa).

One man we counseled, when confronted with God's Holy Days and the second tithe, replied, "Oh, those were all done away!" Why? Because he had proved that point? No, never! But because he was not *willing to go* to the Feasts or save the second tithe. And this was the deciding factor in so many counselings. It wasn't just how much the person *knew*—many *know* the Truth—but how much were they willing to *do*? That was the question.

Some people we met had faithfully put into practice all they had learned as they learned it. These were ready for baptism in almost every case. Others had long since known more than they were willing to do. The amount of knowledge was usually *not* the important thing. Faithful *doers* of the Word could be trusted to put new Truth into practice. Faithless hearers of the Word could not.

It was always a joy to counsel with and baptize the active doers of the Word. But it was painful to see people compromising with God's Truth and excusing themselves in their sins. Their lives were always full of such curses—and all of their own making. They still hadn't learned the most basic lesson of the Bible—disobedience results in curses and death, but obedience yields happy, joyful blessings and life!

How About You?

Finally, in Luke 14:28-30 Christ said, "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and COUNTETH THE COST, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and *is not able to finish it*, all that behold it begin to mock him, saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish."

The point is, brethren, you *have* laid the foundation which is repentance from dead works, faith toward God, baptism, and the laying on of hands (Heb. 6:1-2). You have *chosen* God's way of life, and in baptism you have already *promised* God you would faithfully
(Please continue on page 16)

Can You Murder?

(Continued from page 10)

every thought to the obedience of Christ" (Verses 4 and 5). In the Christian warfare, even every wrong thought must be brought into captivity and subjection. We *must* control our thoughts in obedience to Christ. We must *rule* our thoughts, not let our thoughts or our desires and carnal nature rule us.

A Christian is a soldier of Jesus Christ but he does not become entangled with the affairs of *this life*. "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a *good soldier* of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the *affairs of this life*; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier" (II Tim. 2:3-4).

A true Christian cannot be a good soldier of Jesus Christ and still be a soldier in the wars of this world!

This *spiritual warfare* is explained in detail by the Apostle Paul. In Ephesians 6:11-18 he tells us to put on the whole armor of God. That armor is *not physical*, consisting of the military weapons of man, but consists of *spiritual weapons*. Instead of guns, bullets, bombs and machines, the Christian's weapons are truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation, the Spirit and Word of God, and praying always.

The warfare of a Christian is not against the people of this world (flesh and blood, Verse 12), but it is against the fallen wicked spirits who influence nations and people in positions of power.

Our war is also against the *carnal "self,"* bringing it under subjection, in obedience to God's ways. We cannot continue in lawlessness and disobedience to God (Rom. 6:23).

Even the Apostle Paul was in this fight to bring his body, that is his carnal physical desires, under subjection to Christ. He did not want to become a castaway, after having preached righteousness to others (I Cor. 9:26-27).

A Christian cannot participate in this *spiritual warfare*, as a citizen of a heavenly kingdom *and* at the same time participate in a *physical war* with one

of the nations of this earth. He cannot serve two masters, because he will love one and hate the other (Matt. 6:24).

Taught to Hate

A Christian must have real *spiritual love*. This is an exact opposite of what is needed for a good soldier of this world. As a matter of fact, military men know that *hatred* is necessary to make a good soldier. How can a man kill, cause violence, and fight under such extreme conditions as in warfare, unless he *hates* those he is fighting against?

Especially during the time of war, soldiers on both sides are taught to hate each other. There is always a great deal of propaganda given to the people, and especially to the servicemen in each country, which is *calculated to produce hate*. Officials of the military services *educate* their men toward this goal. This is exactly contrary to the teaching of Jesus Christ, "*Thou shalt LOVE thy neighbor as thyself*" (Mark 12:31). It is impossible to love your neighbor, whether a fellow citizen or citizen of another country, and at the same time HATE and KILL him!

The Apostle Peter stated: "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having COMPASSION one of another, love as brethren, be *pitiful*, be *courteous*: *Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing*: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing" (I Pet. 3: 8-9). A person participating in warfare is not following these commands that God inspired through the Apostle Peter.

Christ said: "Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, LOVE YOUR ENEMIES, bless them that curse you, *do good to them that hate you*, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you" (Matt. 5:43-44).

The spirit of military service is one of murder and not love.

From such scriptures as this and Matthew, Chapter 10, it is evident that some true Christians will not escape the *violence* and *persecution* of unrighteous men. But we should take such trials patiently and realize that a Chris-

tian may be subjected to violence, but *should not cause it*.

A Christian should look forward to the *joy* that is set before him in God's soon-coming Kingdom. Violence or severe trials will then seem insignificant by comparison (Rom. 8:18).

Vengeance Belongs to God

The Bible states that sin is the transgression of God's law (I John 3:4) and a Christian should not sin. One point of God's law states, "*Do not kill*" (Jas. 2:8-11). The correct meaning of this word "kill" is *murder*. In other words, the Christian is to do no murder. *That INCLUDES murder in war!* Just because killing is done on a *wholesale* basis in war instead of on an individual basis *does not make it right!*

Instead of harming others, it is better for us to be defrauded or harmed (I Cor. 6:1-7).

Before learning that God condemned committing violence, the Apostle Peter resorted to physical violence in trying to protect Jesus! He cut off the ear of the High Priest's servant. After this terrible mistake Peter was told about his mistake. "Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for *all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword*" (Matt. 26:52). This vital spiritual principle is again repeated in Revelation 13:10. There should be no doubt from these texts. Unless you want to perish by the sword *do not take up the sword!*

Christians are forbidden to take vengeance on others. *God is our Avenger*. He will avenge His own elect (Luke 18:7). That prohibits our participation in the vengeful wars of man. "Dearly beloved, *avenge* not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, *Vengeance is mine*; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him (*DON'T KILL HIM!*); if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good" (Rom. 12:19-21). It is not for us to take things in our own hands. God will take care of our problems for us. He *will* fight our battles for us. We

should show kindness and good to those who hate us.

Why Did Peter Take a Sword?

"Why did Christ instruct His disciples to buy swords if He did not believe in warfare?" some ask.

Was He going to use force to protect Himself? Does this particular scripture contradict all of the other scriptures that we have already seen, which show that God forbids us to fight?

Christ answered the question for such questioners in Luke 22:37: "For, I tell you, that which was written must be completed in me: 'That he was also ranked among the *outlaws*;' for indeed, what has been written about me will have fulfillment" (Fenton Translation).

The ONLY reason Christ instructed His disciples to take swords was that this SCRIPTURE might be fulfilled—that the Jews might have the *excuse* to falsely call Jesus an outlaw. Christ did not sanction the use of such weapons to injure others. In fact, *when Peter did use the sword*, Christ immediately rebuked him for it and healed the man who had been injured (Verse 51).

Christ did not want those swords to take life, "For the Son of man is not come to *destroy* men's lives, but to *save* them" (Luke 9:56).

Did Christ Whip the Moneychangers?

Some people may ask: "Didn't Christ whip the moneychangers out of the temple?"

Nowhere in the Scripture does it say that Jesus whipped anyone! People read their own ideas into the scriptures or such a question would not be asked. When He drove the moneychangers out of the temple He did not so much as lay hands on anyone, or do any physical violence in any manner whatsoever. The idea that some people have, that He lashed and whipped them is *completely false*.

Read the account in your own Bible (Matt. 21:12-13). The Scripture states that He "*cast out* all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers." It does not say He whipped or beat them! It does not say *how* He put them out.

He simply overturned their tables, not laying a hand on them, and then *commanded* them to leave, and they left because of the *authority* from God Almighty with which He spoke. In the language of the Bible, that is CASTING them out. He cast them out by an authoritative command of His voice.

This same event is also recorded in Mark 11:15-17. In this place the Fenton Translation makes more clear HOW He cast them out. It says, "Then Jesus . . . SENT OUT of the temple all the buyers and sellers." And in Mark 11:15, "Jesus . . . began to EXPEL the buyers and sellers."

When a child is expelled from school we do not assume he was beaten, whipped, and physically driven out of the building. Jesus explained that the temple was God's house, a house of prayer, and not of merchandise. What He did was not contrary to the other scriptures in putting out those who were *profaning* the temple.

It was to drive the sheep and the oxen out of the temple (not the people) (John 2:15) that Jesus made a scourge of small cords.

Can a Christian Use Force?

This brings up a question that is very often asked of those who will not fight in war. That is, do you believe in the *use of force*?

Just what is the Bible answer to this question? For that matter, just what is meant by the question? *It takes force to do almost anything*. It takes force to arise from bed, to walk, to write a letter, or even to eat.

The question usually is meant to determine how far a person would go in the use of force to act against or *restrain* another from doing harm.

In the previous scriptures we saw where Christ used force to drive the animals out of the temple. Probably the moneychangers *thought* he was going to use the same force on them; however, he *did not* use force against them.

On one occasion, as noted in Installment Two of this series, Jesus did not use force and avoided being killed by escaping from those who were trying to harm him. Revelation 12 shows that the Church of God had to flee during

the Middle Ages to escape persecution and almost certain death. The True Church will again have to flee or be killed.

From these examples it is plain that the thing to do in case of serious trouble may be to *flee* from such a situation, if possible. However, there may be times when this will not be possible.

In order to save a loved one, it is sometimes necessary to give, or at least offer our own lives instead. Christ gave His life for the Church, who is His affianced Bride. A true Christian should be willing to do the same for his wife or a spiritual brother, *if that is necessary*.

"Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and *we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren*" (I John 3:16).

This does not mean that we should meddle in the affairs of others or their fights. The Bible teaches that we should avoid such entanglements if possible.

"He who meddles in a quarrel *not his own* is like one who takes a passing dog by the ears" (Prov. 26:17).

This is a warning against being entangled in wars between the nations of this world, since the quarrels between nations are not our quarrels. If we enter into them, we will suffer the consequences.

A physical attack against one of God's true children is a rare thing; however, it has happened, and will happen again during the time of great tribulation ahead. It is the hypothetical case, or the situation that seldom happens that is presented to a Christian trying to take his stand against war. If he is questioned it is usually the *extreme* problem which is presented. The questioner may wish to determine how far the Christian will use force, and still stay within his own convictions or beliefs.

If we are living close to the REAL God—who rules this universe—we know that NOTHING will happen to us except by *God's own permission*. The true Christian KNOWS of his God's *existence* and POWER! Even if God *permits* temporary trouble to befall us, it is *for our good*.

"And we know that *all things work together for good* to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Rom. 8:28).

What should the Christian do in the extreme case of physical attack? Should he do nothing? Should he take the punishment and possibly death without doing anything?

The first thing a Christian should do is *pray*. The Bible instructs us to pray for our persecutors (Matt. 5:44). In that prayer, which would be a very *urgent* and *quick* one, we should ask God for His divine, supernatural protection, help and guidance, as well as to influence the attacker to leave. It is not necessary to kneel to pray in case of such an *emergency*. Our daily prayers should be spoken before God while *kneeling*; however, we should be so *close to God* at all times that we are in contact with Him, even at a fraction of a second's notice!

One woman in God's Church was threatened by her unconverted husband a few years ago. While in a rage he came after her with a butcher knife and said he was going to kill her. He probably would have, too! He had previously beaten her severely several times. She instantly prayed for God's immediate intervention. God did intervene and her husband doubled up immediately from intense pain in his stomach. He forgot all about killing his wife when Almighty God supernaturally protected her.

You can have that same divine protection if you remain close to God continually. He will fight your battles for you.

We should also try to *reason* with a violent person to keep him from doing such a terrible wrong.

If it is impossible to flee, and if a Christian and his wife are being attacked in their own home, the wife should try to flee to get help, or to notify the police. Maintaining peace and order is the purpose for the governmental powers as we already read in Romans 13:4.

If the attacker is trying to harm the wife, the man should try to come between them to save her.

A Christian must be willing literally to turn the other cheek in a time like

this, and should not render evil for evil (I Thess. 5:15).

But out of *love* it is *not wrong* to use temporary restraining force to hold such a person (if you are able to do so) until help from the police comes. This force should *in no way harm the individual*. It should in no way be from a motive of hate or anger, but in love, doing unto him, as you would want done to you if you were so insane and about to commit murder or severe injury to another person.

This use of force might be termed *restraining force*, and not malicious force that would harm, injure, or hurt the other person. If it would be impossible to restrain such a person a Christian can only submit himself to injury and even possible death. Realize that God is our Father and He is not willing for us to have to suffer such things or to die *uselessly*, unless *necessary* for His sake, for the *sake* of the Gospel of Christ, or for *our own necessary lessons*. Those not accounted worthy to escape the *Tribulation* to come will need to have such trials to purify and make them right before God (Rev. 3:18-19).

Other extreme situations are sometimes portrayed to a Christian to try to get him to commit himself to doing hurt or harm to others in difficult situations.

A person might be asked: "What would you do if you were surrounded by enemy soldiers, your home broken into, several soldiers with guns and bayonets fixed in your own home about to ravish your wife and daughters and possibly kill them?"

But this is a poorly thought out, *fool-*

ish question! What could ANYONE do—Christian or not? Could you grasp a sharp bayonet with your bare hands? Would you take the rifles, submachine guns and knives *away* from all these trained soldiers? Would you heroically sacrifice your own life when it could do no EARTHLY GOOD—fighting against INSURMOUNTABLE odds? In all probability, ANY resistance in such a horrifying situation would merely lead the soldiers to commit FURTHER abuses, including TORTURE of terrible, bestial nature!

What the interrogator is trying to get you to do is to say *that in such extreme cases you WOULD take action and kill*. Such extreme situations are *highly improbable* in the first case. Secondly, *even the questioner*, if in such a condition could do NOTHING! Ask your questioner, "What would you do? Would you *fight back* with SEVERAL SOLDIERS in the room with *guns and bayonets*?" *Obviously*, with such odds an *unconverted* person could do nothing! A Christian CAN do something, and that is *pray!* Such action will bring *far greater help* than any from physical sources.

No, not even *your questioner* would fight in such a circumstance—and he, in all probability, is a *trained* fighting man. THINK THROUGH such questions as this. God will always give you the answer if you ask Him for it (Matt. 10:19)!

Essentially then, our use of restraining force would only be used in an unusual and extreme case, and then only out of love to restrain the person from injuring or taking life. In *no way* would we *harm* the offending person.

What Our Readers Say . . .

(Continued from page 2)

Correspondence Course through mail. I see the light on the Sabbath Day and my family and I are observing it. I am having trouble with certain things in the Bible. I want your literature on Easter, as I have found some in the public library but what I don't understand is how Christ died on Friday and arose on Sunday. If this is right He wasn't in the earth three days and

nights as the Bible says. I say He died on Thursday. I believe that you can help me to further my ministry. I have turned my papers and everything in to the Assemblies of God."

• *The help you need is on its way.*

Magazine

"I have wondered how you managed for the 30 years with no subscription (Please continue on page 23)

Your Bible Questions Answered

Please address any questions YOU would like answered
in this column to the Editor.

Why is the tribe of Dan not included in the one hundred and forty-four thousand described in Revelation 7?

The tribe of Dan settled primarily in Southern Ireland (as proven in Mr. Armstrong's booklet, "The United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy"). The people who settled in Southern Ireland were called the "Tuatha de Danaan" or "tribe of Dan." From their earliest history, and even as they are today, the Danites have a record of pagan worship and idolatry quite separate and distinct from the other tribes of Israel. This is clearly illustrated in the 17th and 18th chapters of the book of Judges, where ancient Dan went into idolatry, even stealing the idols they worshipped (Judg. 18:24, 30).

Today, the tribe of Dan is still given to idolatry following the traditions of their ancestors. They are, *as a nation*, an integral part of the false mystery system God labels as "MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT" in Revelation 17:5. This is a great false church, a worldly church, which has persecuted God's true servants down through the ages (Verse 6).

Notice in Revelation 2:20, this same false church is likened to that wicked "woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols." God says He will smite her children with death because they have known the "depths of Satan" (Verses 23-24).

Jezebel's children, then, are those who have been taught at an early age her abominable idolatries and filthinesses (Rev. 2:20) and are deep in her doctrine (Verse 24). This woman Jezebel symbolizes the Roman Catholic Church. Most Danites (Irish) are members of this false church from birth, attending her schools, festivals and idolatrous religious worship services.

This is the same false church God commands His people to "come out of" so they will not receive of the plagues He is going to bring on those who worship her (Rev. 18:4).

Since the nation of Ireland, the modern Danites, are in the "depths of Satan" and do not know God's true way, probably nothing less than the complete destruction of this false Roman church, combined with the presence and power of Christ's rule on this earth, will finally bring them to repentance.

Dan says to God: "I have *waited* for thy salvation, O Lord" (Gen. 49:18).

What is the origin of April Fools' Day?

April Fools' Day—or All-Fools' Day, as it is known also—is of very ancient origin, although its exact origin is obscure. The custom of playing practical jokes on friends on a particular day,

or sending them on fools' errands, was practiced from earliest times.

According to the 11th Edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, volume 2, page 231, "What seems certain is that it [April Fools' Day] is in some way or other a relic of those *once universal festivities* held at the vernal equinox, which, beginning on old New Year's Day, the 25th of March, ended on the 1st of April." The *Britannica* goes on to state, "This view gains support from the fact that the *exact counterpart* of April-fooling is found to have been an *IMMEMORIAL CUSTOM IN INDIA*. The festival of the spring equinox is there termed the *feast of Huli*, the last of which is the 31st of March, upon which the chief amusement is the *befooling of people* by sending them on fruitless errands."

From this authoritative source we see clearly that the practice of April-fooling long antedates Christianity. Its roots are buried in dimmest antiquity! Obviously, April Fools' Day is of *pagan origin!* It has been observed down to modern days from time immemorial in INDIA. In the Western World, also, it has been observed for centuries, al-

(Please continue on page 23)

Are You *STILL* Counting the Cost?

(Continued from page 12)

fully perform all the things mentioned in this fourteenth chapter of Luke.

But how about it? *Are you??*

Do you still offer up *excuses* in place of obedience? Do you ever allow any other human being to come before God and His laws—even as close as husband, wife, or children? Are you really laying down your *own* life daily so that you can say with the Apostle Paul, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet *not I*, but *Christ liveth in me*: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Gal. 2:20)?

Or does your *old* way of life still conflict with God's? "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death [the

death of the *old man*]: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in *newness* of life."

"Knowing this, that our old man [with his old way of life] is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth *we should not serve sin!*" (Rom. 6:3-4, 6.)

Do you sometimes think God's way is too hard? Or do you rather have the *willingness* to do His will Christ spoke of in John 7:17?

Finally, brethren, are you *still* an active, faithful DOER of the Word? Or just a passive, indifferent, faithless hearer? Why don't you check up and *examine yourself* (II Cor. 13:5) by rereading your CONTRACT WITH GOD in Luke 14? You need to know whether or not you are still *counting the cost!*



Left to right: Messrs. Robert Steep, Arthur Roesler, Edward Smith, Bill Quillen, Malcom Martin. Local Elders ordained at Big Sandy.



Left to right: Messrs. Rufus Turner, Robert Flores, Clarence Bass, Edwin Marrs. All ordained Local Elders during this Feast.

THE FESTIVAL

(Continued from page 8)

little boy only a few months old. Mr. Pinelli has been serving in the office in Vancouver ministering to God's people all over Canada. He has been visiting for some time in the local area as well as delivering sermonettes, counseling for baptism, and giving personal Bible studies in the homes of members and interested Co-Workers throughout Canada.

With Mr. Pinelli's ordination, there are now two fully ordained men serving God's people in Canada. *Two men* in a country of 18 million people!

Messrs. Schreiber and Cox

Mr. Schreiber of the San Diego church is a long-time member of God's Church in that area. His zeal, enthusiasm and leadership have directed God's ministers by his fruits to see that God has called Mr. Schreiber to this important office in His Church. Although Mr. Schreiber works full-time, he still finds many hours to inspire, encourage and help the brethren in the San Diego area. There was many an eye filled with warm and happy tears of joy, among the San Diego brethren in particular, at Mr. Schreiber's ordination.

In Jekyll Island, Georgia, Mr. Virgil Cox—an Ambassador College graduate—was ordained as a Local Elder. Mr. Cox, with his bride who was also an Ambassador student, is serving all of God's people in Alabama and Georgia under Mr. Arthur Craig. Mr. Cox came

to Ambassador three years ago after having completed some college work in East Texas.

He is a native of Louisiana and East Texas, and so his background will help him in understanding and serving God's people in this southern area of the United States, particularly at this time of conflict.

Again, brethren, remember to pray for all of God's ministers, but especially remember those in the South in view of the tremendous racial problems that are now happening—and are prophesied to increase in violence until the end.

There was particular concern for joy at the Festival in Big Sandy where NINE Local Elders were ordained.

First Latin Elder

Another *first* took place in God's

Mr. Richard Pinelli, graduate of Ambassador College. Newly ordained Local Elder.



Church in this endtime era as Mr. Robert Flores of the San Antonio, Texas congregation was ordained as a Local Elder. This is the first time God has provided a Latin Elder in this era of His Church. For many years, Mr. Flores has shown warmth and sincerity in serving and helping in every way. Serving as a Deacon, his fruits have shown that God has intended him to be an Elder with the increased responsibilities and opportunities to serve. Mr. Flores is one of the charter members of the church in San Antonio having attended ever since its establishment in 1956.

Three Negro Elders

A few years ago Mr. Harold Jackson was ordained our first Negro Elder. He is now pastoring the all-Negro church in Chicago, and has been raised to the rank of full *Preaching Elder*. However, in his growing ministry serving all of the Negro brethren, there has been a great need for more Local Elders. At this Feast in Big Sandy, THREE more Negro Elders were ordained. This was a particularly moving ordination—especially for the hundreds of colored brethren present. God has called these men to help serve their own people and to be leaders in the coming World Tomorrow, serving the colored peoples *throughout the world!*

From the deep South, also under the direction of Mr. Arthur Craig, Mr. Edwin Marrs was ordained. He will be serving all the Negro people in Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Certainly,



Mr. Leon Schreiber, member of the San Diego congregation — now an ordained Local Elder.

he will need your most urgent prayers as he serves in the still-segregated regions of the South.

Mr. Marrs originally moved to the South from Chicago where he had been serving very faithfully for a number of years. Because of his dedication and willingness to serve, he moved at his own expense and with his own occupation into the southern United States. However, after due time, it was necessary to have Mr. Marrs go into the full-time work of visiting and counseling. Now, his ordination adds to his ability to serve.

In the growing church at Chicago under the direction of Mr. Dean Blackwell and Mr. Jackson, the need for another Negro Elder was supplied by Mr. Clarence Bass. Mr. Bass has been a member of God's Church for many years. He has attended college and has only a little more work to do on receiving a Master's Degree in education. His education, his zeal to learn and to serve has qualified him for this new responsibility as Local Elder for the Negro brethren in Chicago.

In New York City where God has also called a large number of Negroes and where there are many racial problems, God has provided Mr. Rufus Turner. Mr. Turner was baptized in New York by a baptizing tour long before there was a local congregation there. After the church was established he became a very valuable aid in serving the Negro brethren. Because it is

almost impossible for any of our white ministers to visit in the Harlem area and other sections of New York, it has been necessary to have Mr. Turner working full-time in the ministry and visiting all of the Negro brethren in the Greater New York area. He also will need our very special prayers for wisdom and protection as he carries out his responsibilities in serving God's people.

Five More Local Elders

Another Ambassador College graduate to be ordained to the office of Local Elder was Mr. Bob Steep, who is now serving under Mr. Hal Baird in the Saint Louis, Missouri church and the Harrisburg, Illinois church. Mr. Steep was married to Miss Estelle Thurman, who has been librarian at Ambassador College in Bricket Wood, England. They were married the day before the Feast of Tabernacles ended and Mr. Steep was ordained the very following day. Two of the most thrilling experiences in any man's life took place in just two days for Mr. Steep.

Mr. Arthur Roesler of the Saint Louis, Missouri church, also serving under the ministry of Mr. Hal Baird, was ordained along with Mr. Steep. Mr. Roesler has also been a member for many years. His fine example of growth throughout these years has been inspiring and encouraging to all of the brethren who have known him. He now has a daughter in Ambassador College and another daughter who is anticipating coming to Ambassador in another year or two.

Next, was Mr. Malcolm Martin of the Houston, Texas area. Mr. Martin will be serving under Mr. Richard Prince, who is the local pastor. Mr. Martin has been serving in one capacity or another in the Houston church ever since its establishment in 1956. He was ordained to the office of Deacon over five years ago—and his wife has also fulfilled the office of Deaconess for nearly as long. His friendly smile and his helpful mannerisms have acquainted him with many hundreds of brethren who attend the Festival in Big Sandy every year as well as those in the local Houston church.



Mr. Virgil Cox, graduate of Ambassador College. Newly ordained Local Elder.

From Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Mr. Edward Smith was ordained to the office of Local Elder. Mr. Smith was among the few who attended the very first Passover service held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hammer in Gladewater, Texas, back in 1952. His was one of the pioneering families who helped establish the Festival in Big Sandy after God showed He was placing His name there. Mr. Smith has served faithfully in Oklahoma for many years although for quite a period of time he was without a local church. He has been a Deacon and can now serve as full Local Elder helping to anoint and pray for, as well as inspire and counsel those in the Oklahoma area.

This is the seventh Feast of Tabernacles for Mr. Bill Quillen—and it proved to be the most fruitful Feast of his life, as he was also ordained a Local Elder. Mr. Quillen has been serving in the Pueblo and Denver churches as a Deacon for several years. His wife, Lois, is a Deaconess. The help and service he has rendered in the past in the way of sermonettes and visiting, as well as the physical duties as a Deacon, will now be broadened to the capacity of Local Elder in the Denver and Pueblo churches. He will also be serving the brethren all over Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska along with Mr. Burk McNair, who is the local minister of the area.

These ordinations are certainly another sign of God's dealing directly

with His Church, and leading His ministers in the decisions that are made. The number of Local Elders to be ordained at the Feast was chosen by God—*twelve* men were ordained—making the total number of ordained Elders in the Church of God 96, which is 8x12!

HAYLING ISLAND, ENGLAND

Here in England nearly *one thousand* people from over FORTY-FIVE countries met on beautiful Hayling Island at the Sunshine Holiday Camp. In the South of England, the weather is generally cool and rainy at this time of year, but for just about every free day the weather was sunny and warm.

Because of an unexpected *forty per cent* increase over last year, about 150 people had to live at the elegant Sinah Warren Camp. This newer camp area is about a ten-minute drive from the Holiday area.

The main assembly hall at the camp has a seating capacity of just over 700.

Due to the overflow, additional seating for the meetings had to be found. That ingenious electronic marvel—television—was employed! The closed-circuit television system ran to *six sets* in three different rooms. The largest room had four sets and a seating for about 200 people.

Due to the facilities of this remote control camera, over 30 German-speaking people were able to view the speaker over the TV screen while Mr. Schnee or Mr. Walter Rupp translated the English sermons into German *simultaneously*. Most of these people were elated at being able to attend God's Festival, and especially to listen to the messages.

A glimpse toward 1964 shows that the anticipated increase will bring the total attendance for the Feast in England to about 1,350 people. Already plans are being made to find a new location for the Festival of Tabernacles. Holiday Camp has definitely been outgrown. Whether Wales, the Isle of Wight, or somewhere else will be chosen remains to be decided. The present site has certainly served its purpose, and this last Feast stands out above all

the others as we know the next Feast will be outstanding even above this!

AUSTRALIA

From every state in Australia except Tasmania and the Northern Territory—from New Zealand and the Philippines members of God's Church came to Blackheath, New South Wales, to observe the Feast of Tabernacles! From the Philippines came the Acting Director of the Manila office, Mr. Guy Ames.

For the third year, God revealed that we should observe the Festival in the beautiful and inspiring resort area of Blackheath in the Blue Mountains. As in past years, we had a fine percentage of increase in attendance with 575 present this year—this was a *seventy-four per cent* increase over the 330 attending a year ago.

Early in the Feast it looked as if we were going to have foggy and wet weather, but *God intervened* enabling us to have enjoyable, dry weather throughout the Festival. Several of the local townspeople who had remembered the fine weather during our previous Feast, remarked that they hated to see our meetings end because they knew the weather would then turn bad!

I know, speaking personally [Mr. C. Wayne Cole, the Evangelist in charge is writing this report.] and I am sure I can also speak for Mr. Winner and those giving sermonettes, that God gave very special inspiration and power

to each message. Many members, new and old alike, expressed their sincere appreciation for what they termed the most inspiring and helpful Feast ever. Many who were attending a meeting of God's people for the first time said this Feast was a *real eye-opener!* Some who obviously came just a little curious and apprehensive about what they would see and hear, expressed their *absolute thrill* at hearing the Word of God, expounding the divine Plan of God, so forcefully preached.

The theme throughout the Feast here was—put God first and learn to do it God's way! Emphasis was placed on everything being done both individually and unitedly according to the *system and order of God's government* and not with man's bungling confusion.

A most inspiring and profitable part of this Festival was a baptizing service where *forty-eight* persons were *buried with Christ* in baptism and begotten by His Holy Spirit to become members of the Body of Christ—instruments in this vitally important Work of God in this endtime. Also, considering the number of people present it was very inspiring and warming when, during the baby blessing ceremony, *fifty-seven* babies were blessed—with the *same blessing* that Jesus Christ gave to the little children of His day.

As added features, providing a well-rounded balance to this Holy Day season picturing the abundant life of the WORLD TOMORROW, games were planned for children and adults, walks

German brethren watch sermon on closed-circuit television. Mr. Frank Schnee (extreme right) translates simultaneously into the German language!





Brethren at Hayling Island, Great Britain. Both spiritually and physically, it was a brimful and overflowing Festival for our English and European brethren.

through the surrounding beautiful *bushland* were conducted, films and slides of areas around the world were shown in a fun show at which all could enjoy a hearty laugh.

As the Festival drew to a close, all attending were aware of the *personal* responsibilities to strive more diligently, to be a more profitable servant for Almighty God in preparation for the tasks ahead in the Kingdom of God.

THE PHILIPPINES

Mr. Pedro Ortiguero gives the following report: Our Feast of Tabernacles this year is the greatest ever in the Philippines. Eleven provinces were represented. Because of the great distances to travel, and the low income

of many of the brethren in this area of the world it was necessary to hold the Festival of Tabernacles in two places—San Nicolas and Kiara, in Luzon and Mindanao Islands respectively. I was in Kiara for the first part of the Feast and in San Nicolas for the last part of the Feast. The number attending Kiara was very interesting—777.

Compared to this large number in Kiara, the number attending San Nicolas was very small—only 58. This makes a total of 835 brethren attending the Festival of Tabernacles in the Philippines this year!

The brethren were very faithful with their second tithe. In Mindanao they sent their second tithes in ahead of time so that the leaders could purchase

cows, goats, chickens, rice, vegetables and other stuffs. Three big cows, a number of goats, many chickens and a large amount of clean rice were bought. The cows, goats and chickens were butchered one at a time and the supplies were distributed to the brethren daily as they needed them, and they cooked their own food in their booths. Three times during the Feast we all ate together and each family brought its own food prepared, and we all ate on the lawn outside the tabernacle. This same practice was also followed in San Nicolas.

Another thing that made the Feast very inspiring was *the weather*. Before the Feast in Kiara, it seemed the weather would be very wet, raining very hard in every place in Mindanao. We

prayed even before the Day of Atonement concerning the weather, and from the first evening service to the last that I was in Kiara, God gave fair weather and beautiful sunshine. There was no sickness in Kiara, but in San Nicolas several of the brethren were sick when I arrived—however, as soon as they were prayed for and anointed they all got well immediately.

MR. WATERHOUSE REPORTS FROM SOUTH AFRICA

Jesus Christ, the *living* HEAD of God's Church, has accomplished *another first* in His Church. He powerfully inspired and successfully led *ninety-three* of us through a wonderful Feast of Tabernacles here in Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa!

Even though small in number, God very definitely led us to know that He was intensely concerned with us by having Jesus Christ inspire the preaching and hearing in *every service* throughout the entire eight days of the Festival.

Each member was made aware of *his part* in this vital commission and of the *reward* and *glory* awaiting those who willingly strive to yield to God that Christ might produce abundant fruit through them. [Notice how, even though different words are used by these men who are giving the different reports, the *same theme* was inspired by God in all of the different areas where the Festival of Tabernacles was held this year—Editor.] And to show that *we can't put off doing our part*, He inspired sermons to show how near the "*Beast*" is to being resurrected, and how the "*woman*" is now preparing to get in control of it and resist and fight this globe-circling Work! We were shown the necessity of *preparing* for what lies ahead—of the dire responsibilities parents have of training their children that they might escape what is coming, and be prepared to be the outstanding *physical leaders* in Israel.

A very inspiring occasion on October 9—just as the Last Great Day began—was a baptismal service for *twelve* people. This service was witnessed by the majority of those keeping the Feast

in South Africa. And during the afternoon service of the Last Great Day there were *fourteen* children blessed!

Please notice, as I have referred to many times before, the numerical patterns that God has left as a stamp of His approval on the establishment of His Work here in South Africa.

It is comforting and NECESSARY TO KNOW that there is a Living and All-Powerful Jesus Christ at God's right hand in heaven who *does* see that His Work is carried to these foreign areas in spite of the opposition! Now, it is with gratitude that we can look back over the seven months since I have been here and see that by having had the opportunity of keeping all the Festivals this year, there is a very solid core around which I trust and hope Jesus Christ will add *growth* in the months and years ahead!

NORTHERN RHODESIA REPORTS

Mr. Mwambula reports from the heart of Central Africa of the keeping of the Festival of Tabernacles among the colored people there. A total of 171 attended their first Feast of Tabernacles.

There was considerable persecution because the government had set the very day of the beginning of the Feast of Tabernacles as a day for local citizens to register to vote during the coming

elections after independence. People had been warned that if they did not vote they would be *sought out and killed!* Despite this fact none of them registered, but faithfully attended the Festival of Tabernacles, and God protected them from any harm.

Mr. Mwambula reports that even though his wife was ill she gave birth to a fine baby boy and that both are coming along fine.

Besides Mr. Mwambula's preaching, these people were able to listen to *The WORLD TOMORROW* broadcast over Radio Elizabethville and Laurencio Marques during the Festival of Tabernacles. Don't forget these far-flung brethren—even though you may never see them until we meet one another in God's Kingdom.

TWO FEAST SITES IN THE CARIBBEAN

Our representative, Mr. Leo Joseph, was in charge of the Feast of Tabernacles held on the Island of St. Lucia—the second Feast of Tabernacles held by God's people there. Mr. Joseph reports: About four weeks before the Festival of Tabernacles we had continual heavy showers of rain, with thunder and lightnings. We also experienced *two hurricanes*, with fierce winds. But thank God there were no human casualties even though a great deal of damage was done. However,



The Festival of Tabernacles—Johannesburg, South Africa. Mr. Gerald Waterhouse, Evangelist in charge, is at extreme right of group.



The Festival of Tabernacles—Saint Lucia, British West Indies. Mr. Leo Joseph officiates (center, to the left). In the background is the Tabernacle.

on the morning of the *first day* of the Feast of Tabernacles the thick, dark clouds that had overshadowed us for the past four weeks *suddenly disappeared!* The first happy day of the Festival of Tabernacles began with the brightness of the beautiful sun, shining in full strength!

There were services twice each day except on the fifth day when we all took off for a beach party. There were *ninety-three* in attendance, 48 adults and 45 children. There was great joy from the first to the Last Great Day of the Feast.

We had everything in plenty to enjoy both physical and spiritual food that God supplied. There was also fun

and laughter, sports, games and dancing contests. The behavior of the children was very good. There has never been a time like this before among all God's people in St. Lucia.

Some of the brethren wished the Festival to continue. One member who was observing the Festival for the first time said, "If this Festival is *only a symbol* of what is going to happen in the future, I wonder how it will be when it comes into reality!" We remember all the people of God around the world, and hope and pray everyone had as happy and beneficial a time as we did during this Festival of Tabernacles!

Mr. Dibar Apartian, the Director of

the French Work, reports the keeping of the Feast of Tabernacles by the individuals with whom he is in contact in Martinique. Mr. Louis Jubert is in charge of this group and receiving continual instruction directly from Mr. Apartian.

Although there was a hurricane which caused havoc in Martinique—sugar cane being destroyed 100 per cent, banana trees and other fruit trees wrecked in large numbers, many houses leveled to the ground—God protected all of His people who were on that island and none of them suffered damage.

Seventy people kept the Feast of Tabernacles *for the first time* on the island of Martinique! Two sheep were butchered and eaten to supply ample need for this small group during the Feast. The meetings during the Feast were conducted mostly as Bible studies going over the booklets and literature from Headquarters, and then listening to the broadcast in the French language by Mr. Apartian.

Perhaps these reports from God's people around the world keeping the Feast of Tabernacles this year will enable you to remember them more personally and directly in your prayers—and it is certainly something to be thankful to our Heavenly Father for—that *twenty thousand people were able to keep His Feast this year!*

The Festival of Tabernacles—at Blackheath, New South Wales, Australia. Mr. Wayne Cole, Evangelist in charge of the Festival there.



Bible Questions

(Continued from page 16)

though the Western tradition is more difficult to trace in history. However, according to the *Concise Dictionary of Holidays*, "The tradition of setting aside some special day for making a fool out of other people has its roots in ANTIQUITY . . ." (p. 5).

Another researcher declares, "To find the practice so widely prevalent over the earth, and with so near a coincidence of day, seems to indicate that it has had a VERY EARLY ORIGIN amongst mankind" (*Book of Days*, p. 462).

Since the evidence is overwhelming that April Fools' Day stems from ancient pagan custom and tradition—and since the BIBLE, the Word of God, nowhere teaches Christians to partake in observing such a day of mockery, foolishness, jesting and ridicule—and since God actually CONDEMNS foolish jesting in His Word (Jer. 10:1-2; Eph. 5:4)—followers of Christ should have nothing whatsoever to do with this pagan custom!!

God thunders to true Christians, "Learn NOT the way of the heathen" (Jer. 10:2). Regarding worldly customs inherited from heathenism, God declares, "Wherefore come out from among them, and BE YE SEPARATE, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you" (II Cor. 6:17).

What is the purpose and meaning of the words that divide the 119th Psalm into sections?

Each of the words that divide this Psalm is the name of a letter of the Hebrew alphabet. *Aleph* is the first letter in the Hebrew alphabet, *beth* is the second, *gimel* is the third, and so on. All 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet in their alphabetical order are used, making a total of 22 divisions for this Psalm.

In the original Hebrew, each of these 22 divisions had 8 sentences. The 8 sentences that composed a section were

equivalent to the 8 verses we find in each section in the King James Bible. Each of these sentences in a particular division began with the Hebrew letter which heads that particular division.

For example, each of the 8 sentences in the first division, which was divided and called after the first Hebrew letter, *aleph*, begins with the letter *aleph*. Each of the 8 sentences in the second division begins with the letter *beth*, the second Hebrew letter. This continues through the entire Hebrew alphabet. This type of writing is called *acrostic*.

The reason the translators included this information in the 119th Psalm is that they wanted in some way to preserve and leave an awareness of the symmetry and poetic beauty that the original Hebrew expressed in the Psalms. The 119th Psalm is not the only Psalm that was divided poetically, but it is the only one which has these divisions retained in the King James Version of the Bible.

Readers Say . . .

(Continued from page 15)

price for the magazine and no price for the large amount of literature. This month of March I've received and responded to urgent calls for donations for my church, Seventh-day Baptist Mission, Bill James Hargus, Christian Crusade, Sam Morris (temperance radio preacher), Charles Fuller, Bible Sabbath Association radio broadcasts, W.C.T.U., besides the local Heart Disease Control & Polio Control drives. I've lost a five years' advance subscription to the *Protestant Voice* newspaper. Years ago they went bankrupt because they overspent on buildings."

Woman, Alabama

• *Sometimes we're amazed, too, how God always keeps His own Work going, without having to beg the public for support!*

Who Copies from Whom?

"Yesterday a Jehovah's Witness came to my door. We talked for a little bit and I asked her if she ever heard of you. This was her reply, 'Yes,

I listen to him, and he reads our books; in fact, he even uses our books on his broadcasts. He uses the very same subject right down to the very end, and then he draws his own conclusions. And it makes me so mad. He takes all the credit—he preaches from our books and then takes all the credit.'"

Woman, West Virginia

Shoe Money Grows

"I had been wanting to get a National Bible but didn't feel we could afford it. Well, a few days before the Feast of Unleavened Bread I was going into town to buy a pair of new shoes to wear to Portland for the Feast. We picked up the mail on the way and in it was your letter stating the pressing financial need at Headquarters. I put my new-shoe-money in the envelope and dropped it in the mail immediately. Well, God blessed me on the last day of the Feast with a gift of a National Bible. The return, in less than two weeks, on my small gift to God's Work, came back to me just about triple."

Woman, Oregon

Cup Running Over

"Today I praise the Lord for the check which my husband first handed me—his tithe for the first time in his life. God also sent His ministers to me and at last I can go to Sabbath services. I went to services last week. All I can say is 'My cup runneth over.'"

Woman, California

Chaplain Commends Loyalty

"I am writing in reference to a member of your Church and a Conscientious Objector. First, let me commend him for his loyalty to his faith. I am convinced that he is sincere in his convictions. I have made available a private room for his study and devotions on Saturday. This young man had told me that he will not accept an assignment for combat training even if it means going to the stockade. I seek your advice as to how I, as a Chaplain, may be able to help him, and I encourage your support of him on a very personal individual basis."

Protestant Chaplain, Georgia

