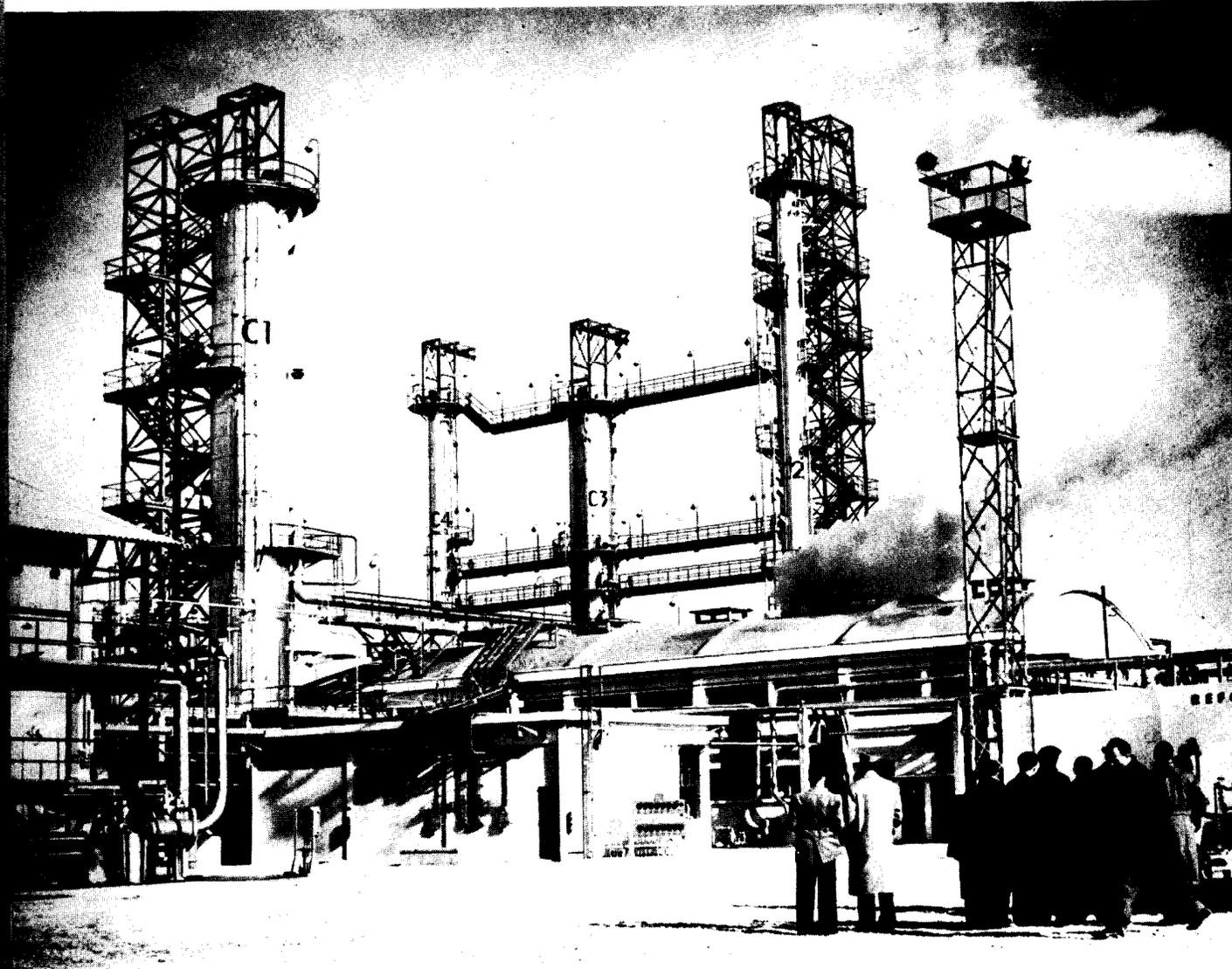


the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding

VOLUME XXV, NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER, 1960



Wide World Photo

WORLD'S BIGGEST SUCCESS STORY! *Western Europe now leads the world in production, with the United States second and Russia third. Everywhere are signs of Europe's smashing victories in the present TRADE WAR. Here you see an oil refinery near Marseilles, France, being inaugurated. This phenomenal economic growth of Euromart is fast becoming a political key to the formation of a European Union. Read the facts in this issue.*

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VOL. XXV NO. 9
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BE SURE TO NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY of any change in your address. Please inclose both old and new addresses. IMPORTANT!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"It Hit Me Right Between the Eyes!"

"I just finished reading about 'The Man Who Couldn't Afford to Tithe.' Believe me that is something I had been wanting to do but something kept getting in the way. It hit me right between the eyes. I knew I was supposed to, but said I could not afford to. This will be my first time tithing although I've been in church nearly two years now. Since I've been listening to you and taking your Bible course I found out that I wasn't much of a Christian."

Man from Chicago, Illinois

Never Before Paid Tithes

"Here is our tithe. We feel you are the one to send it to. We have never before in our life paid a tithe. I was reading about the man who couldn't

afford to tithe and even though I had known for years about tithing it just seemed to be put off and aside until today. The article made a very deep impression on me and I am going to try God's way."

North Carolina

"I Stole from God"

"I read your article 'The Man Who Couldn't Afford to Tithe' and it put me to shame. I just kept putting it off, finding some excuse to keep the money—promising, to myself, the next time I had money available I'd surely send part of it. Yet when that day came it was ignored by other excuses. Yes, I stole from God like you said in Mal. 3:8—I failed to tithe, and I am sorry. Perhaps I should defend myself for not tithing, but truthfully I can't find an excuse that would hold water. It was strictly selfishness on my part."

Man from Chicago, Illinois

It Really Pays to Tithe

"Since I have started to tithe the Lord has prospered me in the way of a higher salary. I was making just \$1.50 an hour. A man knocked on my door and offered me a job at \$2.75 an hour, so I accepted and now he says from now on out we are partners (in the interior decorating business). My young son said, 'It really pays to tithe.'"

Man from Kansas

Income Tripled

"I have been tithing only for a few months. My pay for last week was nearly three times the pay I made earlier this year."

Man from Walla Walla, Washington

Student Minister Questions Faith

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"Your program on KIRO has been making me question my faith, what little I seem to have, very severely. I am trying to serve as a student minister for a church in . . . Canada. I am in my first year of university and have very little Bible background. As a result, I am very weak in my faith and find it extremely difficult to give my congregation the Word of God. I do not believe in the Bible literally but am trying to take the whole truth that the Bible gives. You

have helped greatly through your programs to shed light on much truth, but I can use ever so much more help."

From Alberta, Canada

Editor's comment: This is not an uncommon experience. Many pastors doubt their own faith, but they try to hide it from the people.

"Can't Go On Without the Correspondence Course"

"I am writing to ask you to please send me the Correspondence Course again. Please, for my peace of mind and soul, may I start again? I've put off writing this letter for quite a while but can't do so any longer. When I missed out on the first test by my own carelessness and knew I wouldn't be getting it any more I cried. It has been working on me till I can't go on without at least trying to start again. If you refuse me I have no one to blame but myself."

Woman, Salineville, Ohio

Editor's comment: This is a wonderful letter. Many of you have been making the same mistake this woman did! Write for the Correspondence Course!

"Fingers Cramped"

"Today I started to study my Bible lesson about 8:00 A.M. and was so interested in it I didn't realize time at all until I looked at the clock to see if it was lunch time and it was 3:00 P.M. . . . One [previous] day I became so interested that I didn't realize time until 10 minutes after 1:00 A.M. When I tried to stand my legs were numb and my fingers so cramped I could hardly let go of my pen. Anyhow, that proves the lessons are not dull. I have searched so long to learn the truth that I cannot seem to stop once I get a lesson."

From Lynwood, California

I Met Your Baptizing Team

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"What a glorious day this has been! My wife and I met your baptizing team in Oroville, Washington and were baptized. Oh, what a joy to hear at last someone actually 'preaching the word.' The radio is good and the reading also but nothing so far has compared to sitting and seeing and learning from a fellow man speaking the truth. If that is

(Please continue on page 22)

Struggle for SURVIVAL

In the last issue, you read of the frightening threat to our nation's future in the huge TRADE WAR under way in the world! In this shocking sequel you will see the frightening gravity of this economic battle, and what your Bible says it means to YOU.

by Garner Ted Armstrong

“THE CHALLENGE we as a nation face today is the *greatest in our history*. . . . If we fail, it will cost us, not just our jobs, but probably our freedom, our lives and the future of our children!”

This statement, quoted in the last issue, came from Mr. Leland A. Watson, President of the Maico Electronics Company. The *challenge* to which Mr. Watson referred is the challenge in the gigantic *trade war* which is already under way!

In the last issue, you saw the startling facts of the COLOSSAL ERROR of Western planners in believing they could build up Europe, and especially Germany, as a strong “bulwark against the East” in order to help contain communism!

You saw how such fanciful planning had *backfired*—and how foreign competition from a resurgent, booming Western Europe which led Walter Reuther, president of the United Automobile Workers and chairman of AFL-CIO's Committee on Economic Policy to say: “Today we are no longer engaged, as a nation, in a competition for advantage over other countries. Our struggle is for survival!” (*New York Daily News*, March 29, 1960).

You saw the actual *statistics* gathered from around the world by the Ambassador College News Gathering Agency, of the skyrocketing foreign industries, pouring foreign-made goods into the United States at an ever-increasing rate, while United States exports tumble!

Now, in this article, you will see how truly WORLD-WIDE is the scope of this frightening economic battle which is under way, and what your Bible says is going to be the outcome!

Trade War Was Prophesied!

For *years*, as was explained in the last issue, the WORLD TOMORROW program and the pages of *The PLAIN*

TRUTH magazine have been shouting the alarm to a heedless, gullible nation of impending economic *disaster!*

This warning has *not* been purely based upon economic trends, but upon the clear, specific prophecies of your Bible!

We, the peoples of the United States and the British Commonwealth of Nations, are a part of ISRAEL! This is one of the greatest keys to the understanding of Biblical prophecy, a key that has become *lost*, hidden from most until recent years. This key to prophecy is made plain in the startling booklet “The United States and the British Commonwealth in Prophecy.”

In one prophecy, found in Deuteronomy 28, Almighty God lists certain specific *curses* which would overtake His people Israel if they continued in their rebellion against His laws, going the way that seems “right” to *them*—trying every political scheme possible to escape God's Divine rulership.

Notice it!

“But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Eternal thy God, to observe to do all His commandments and His statutes which I command thee this day; that all these *curses* shall come upon thee, and overtake thee . . .” (Deut. 28:15).

God says we have NOT hearkened unto the voice of the Eternal our God—we have *forgotten His laws* (Hos. 4:6), and He says He has FORGOTTEN US!

Instead of *obeying* the very laws of God which were designed to bring peace, happiness, national prosperity and all the things we want, we have ignored God's laws almost *completely*, and our national sins and crimes have risen to unprecedented, gigantic, dizzying heights!

God pronounced certain *specific* curses which would overtake us!

“ . . . and *cursed* shalt thou be *in the field* [our produce]. Cursed shall be thy

basket and thy store [our manufactured goods and surpluses]. Cursed shall be the fruit of thy body [our mounting genetic disorders and childhood diseases], and the fruit of thy land, the increase of thy kine [cattle], and the flocks of thy sheep.

“Cursed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and cursed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

“The Eternal shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do, *until thou be destroyed* . . . because . . . thou hast forsaken me!” (Deut. 28:16-20).

But not only did God prophesy we would have mounting crop failures, drought, famine, diseased crops and cattle, increasing sickness and disease among our populace, but He also foretold of dangers from *without!*

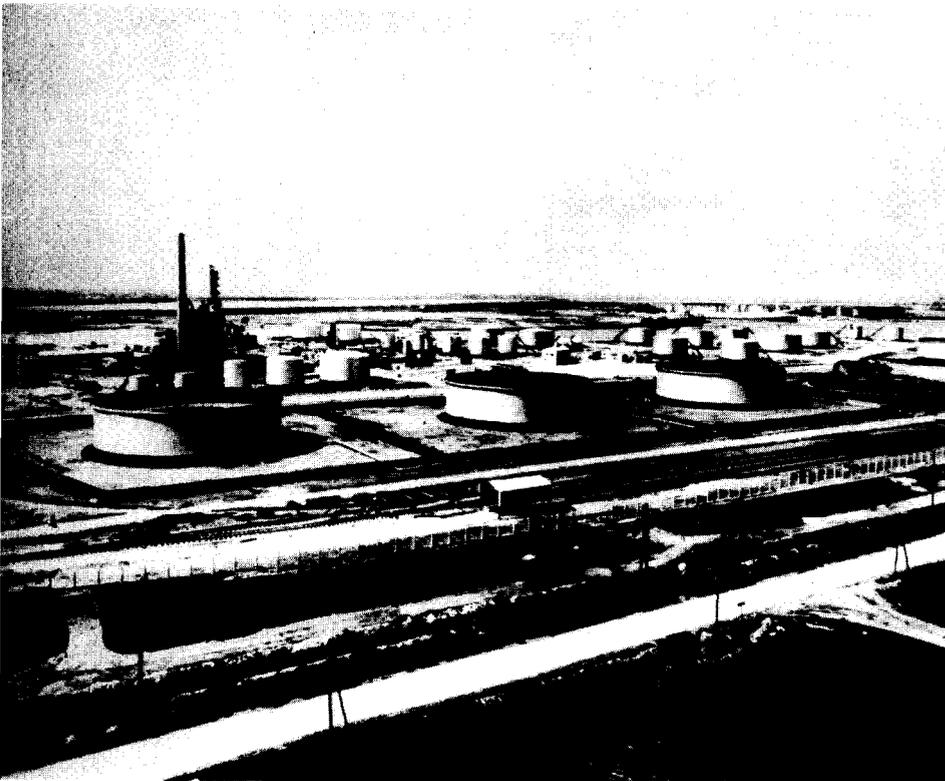
“The Eternal shall bring a *nation* against thee from far, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flieth; a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand, a nation of fierce countenance, which shall not regard the person of the old, nor show favor to the young, and HE shall *eat the fruit of thy cattle*, and the *fruit of thy land*, until thou be destroyed: which also shall not leave thee either corn, wine, or oil, or the increase of thy kine, or flocks of thy sheep, until he have *destroyed thee!*” (Deut. 28:49-51).

Notice! Though written in the language of the day, this archaic King James language specifically says God is going to bring *foreigners* against His land and His people, who will destroy our national economy! Cattle, land, corn, wine, oil, all these are descriptive words picturing our *marketable commodities* and *produce*.

Battle Underway Already!

Many foreign nations are already beginning to do just that!

As was reported in the last article,



Wide World Photo

Storage tanks and cracking towers expand the industrial skyline of Belgium's low lands near Antwerp. This refinery includes docks for ocean-going tankers and facilities for direct delivery of bunker fuel to ships. This industrial development is a part of Euromart.

Western Europe, put on its feet by U.S. tax dollars, is now booming in unprecedented prosperity, capturing world markets at a dizzying pace, virtually encircling the globe with a steady stream of top-quality manufactured items, capturing the imagination and the affections of nations around the world!

In the meantime, although importing staggering amounts of foreign-made goods *into* our country, the United States finds its export balance dropping into an alarmingly *low* position, with the United States manufacturers crying out for *higher tariffs* to discourage foreign manufacturers from sending more goods into our borders!

The World's Biggest Success Story!

In the issue of *U.S. News and World Report* for July 11, 1960, the startling facts of the real extent to which Western Europe is booming ahead were revealed!

The article in this top-most news source exploded the theory that Russia is running away with the economic race, while the United States lags—but said "it is *Western Europe*, not Russia, that

is leading everybody!"

Again, the story is the same—as reported in the last issue—that our Western economy, geared to a high standard of living, high wages, fewer work hours, more "fringe benefits" and "hospitalization plans" *cannot* compete with top-quality goods produced by European manufacturers who are paying, in some cases, less than one-third our wages!

"What has been happening in Europe amounts to an economic rebirth . . . in country after country you find phenomenal growth and potential for even greater growth.

"Nothing quite like Europe's present rate of growth has been seen in modern times . . . by *resisting wage increases*, European manufacturers are *underselling* U.S. producers in one line after another. As a result, exports are skyrocketing. France increased exports in the first quarter of this year by 49 percent over the same period last year. Germany showed a 23 percent gain. . .

"Europe's exports, including those of Britain, have grown from 20 billion dollars in 1950 to nearly 44 billion by

1955—more than double. . .

"Since 1953, industrial production has risen by 70 percent in the Common Market, against 30 percent in Britain and only 20 percent in the U.S. The exchange reserves of the Common Market countries have risen from 9 billion dollars in 1956 to nearly 13 billion today, while U.S. gold reserves have dropped from 22 billion to 19 billion."

Shocking? *More than shocking*—these statistics prove the United States and Great Britain are facing the gravest peril in their entire histories, and that peril is heightening day by day!

This same article, published in *U.S. News and World Report*, went on to say: "Germany's reserves . . . are *twice* those of Britain! Italy . . . is in the midst of the biggest boom in all of Western Europe. Industrial production has been expanding at *DOUBLE* the rate in the U.S. The steel industry, now working at *full capacity*, is at production levels which are one-third higher than a year ago. In the auto industry, more than 150,000 vehicles were produced during the first quarter of this year—a 50 percent gain over a year earlier. . .

"Much of the Italian boom is being fed by exports. Here are some examples of the gains in the first quarter, compared with a year earlier: textiles and clothing, up 61 percent; chemicals, up 56 percent; rubber products, up 79 percent; machinery and engineering products, up 38 percent.

"Summed up Prime Minister Fernando Tambroni in June: 'Our rate of production expansion is so fast as to put us in first place among the nations of the West'" (*U.S. News*, July 11, 1960, emphasis ours).

Our Economy Is Sick!

What does this stupendous economic resurgence in the formerly dazed, beaten nations of Western Europe mean?

Perhaps it is best summed up in the words of the Baxter Economic Report for June 24, 1960. "It is my belief that a serious trade crisis is now developing in London and that this will lead to a large outflow of gold and money from London in the last six months of this year. . .

(Please continue on page 19)

The Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong

Persecution and opposition increase, as the "Three-Point Campaign" gets under way. This is Installment 31.

"YOU'LL never get far, Mr. Armstrong," said a resident of the Jeans neighborhood whom I met on the roadside one day. It was during the time I was holding three meetings a week at the Jeans school house, 12 miles west of Eugene, Oregon. This followed the six weeks' meetings at Firbutte school and formation of the new Church of God which met at the Jeans school.

"Why do you say that?" I asked.

"Because you are preaching exactly what the Bible says. The Bible corrects and reproves people. People don't want to be told they are wrong. People don't like correction. What you preach is too strong for them. People will never support it."

I smiled.

"If I looked to *people* for support, I would have to preach what people want to hear," I replied. "I have learned that by experience. But I was not called to this ministry by *people*. I was not taught the Gospel I preach by *people*. *People* did not put me in the ministry—Jesus Christ did. I am not employed by *people*, or any organization of men. I have been called, and sent with His Gospel, by Jesus Christ. He is my employer. I rely on HIM for support. He has written that He will supply all my NEED. I believe He is able, and will do it!"

The man stared at me incredulously. He was speechless.

But now, nearly 37 years later, I can report that Jesus Christ *did* support His work through His servant. He did supply its needs—almost infinitesimal at first, increasing gradually, yet always increasing. True, God works through human instruments. He has moved on the hearts of those He could make willing to become Co-Workers with Him and with me in this work, now grown great and world-encompassing.

Eugene Campaign Starts

After the arrival of my wife and children in Eugene, a few busy days were spent cleaning up the Old Masonic Temple on Seventh Avenue. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher, and perhaps one or two others in the Church, joined in this clean-up operation.

The "Three-Point Campaign" was ready to leap ahead on all three points. The broadcast had started the first Sunday in January, 1934. The Plain Truth, mimeographed, made its first appearance February 1st. And now, the first of April, the meetings were started in downtown Eugene, in the old Masonic Temple.

As mentioned before, meetings still were being held three times a week out at Jeans school house—Tuesday and Thursday nights and Sabbath mornings. Consequently the meetings in downtown Eugene were held on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday nights. This was our first experiment in holding public evangelistic meetings three times a week. These meetings were carried on for five and a half months. We learned by this experience that meetings held only three times a week are not as fruitful as meetings held consecutively six times a week.

Later, we were to learn that the same is true in broadcasting. A once-a-week broadcast, or even three times a week, does not produce results comparable to daily broadcasting six or seven times a week.

For this Eugene campaign I mimeographed handbills and announced it on the radio program. An attendance of approximately 100 was maintained up until the final two weeks. But this was much lower than later campaigns with consecutive six-nights-a-week services.

Here, as in the Salem meetings with Elder Oberg, the whooping, shouting, aggressive "pentecostal" people were

much in evidence at the beginning. But by this time I had learned that they were primarily concerned with working up an emotional demonstration. They were not interested in learning God's TRUTH, obeying God's commands, and yielding their lives to be *changed* and transformed according to God's Word by a living Christ who does His saving work within us. A few vigorous sermons on *obedience* to God, and on overcoming, and living by every Word of God soon discouraged them. Most of them stopped coming.

"Pentecostal" Incidents

A large "pentecostal" church carried a full hour and a half broadcast on KORE of their Sunday night service. During one of these broadcasted services their pastor said that if any of their members desired to visit any other church it would be quite all right, with the exception of the services I was holding. But he warned them against attending our meetings.

Shortly after we had moved into the house on West Fourth Avenue, three of the "pentecostal" people who had attended the tent meetings held in 1931 by Elder Taylor and me came to our home. They were a middle-aged husband and wife and the sister of one of them. One of the women claimed to have a disease or sickness of some kind. They asked me to anoint this woman and pray for her healing.

I invited them into the house.

"Why," I asked, "when you people claim to have the baptism of the Holy Spirit and say that I have not—when you claim to be on a much higher spiritual plane than I—when your pastor and your church denounce me, and say I am not God's minister—when you claim that your 'pentecostal' preacher has God's spirit and power and that I

do not WHY do you come to me for anointing and healing instead of your own pastor?"

"Hm!" they snorted, "who'd we go to over *there*?"

"Well," I pursued a little further, "in I John 3:22 God says that whatever we ask we receive of Him *because* we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. This obedience to God's commandments is a distinct *condition* to being healed. You people do *not* obey God's commandments, although you attended our tent meetings in 1931 almost every night for six weeks, and you heard the truth about this made very plain. Now either you are deliberately rebelling, and refusing to obey God, or else you have been so blinded in your carnality that somehow the truth never really got through to you although we made it very plain—and you just never did really *see* it. Which is it?"

"I guess we just didn't see it, brother," came the answer.

"All right," I said. "I can't read your mind and heart as God can. I have to take you at your word. Since you claim you have not come to consciously understand the truth, and have not knowingly rebelled and disobeyed, I will anoint you."

The minute I began to pray all three, true to "pentecostal" heathen and unscriptural custom, began to try to drown out my voice by their loud expressions of "O praise you, Jesus! HALLELUJAH! Glory to God!" etc. etc., in a babylon of noisy confusion. Then immediately the woman I was anointing went into a wild, loud, uncontrolled laugh. This seemed to be a new fad at the time among "pentecostals" in Oregon. They called it "the holy laugh."

Instantly I put my hands on her head, and in a loud voice called on God, by authority of Jesus Christ, to SILENCE this work of Satan, and cast the demon spirits out of my home!

Instantly, as if struck by a flash of lightning, the woman's hysterical unnatural laughter was silenced, as were the shoutings of the other two. All was quiet.

They rose to their feet.

"Well, anyway," sneered the supposedly "ill" woman. "I've been healed, so

there!" And quickly they left the house.

On another occasion a member of this "pentecostal" church came running up to me on a Eugene street one Sunday morning.

"We've had a dozen men out looking everywhere for you," he gasped breathlessly. "Please come quick! Our pastor's wife fell over backward 'under the power' during prayer, and she's unconscious, and we can't revive her. Our pastor sent us out scouring the town to find you. Please come and pray for her, that she will revive. We're afraid she is dying!"

I hurried over to this "pentecostal" church. There they were, probably four or five hundred of them, wringing their hands in despair, all crying out in confusion for God to revive the stricken woman.

I called out in a voice of authority for them all to be quiet. Then in very brief and few words I asked God to have mercy on their foolish heathenism, and revive this woman. I leaned down, laid my hands on her, and she revived. I took her by the hand and lifted her up, and then strode out of their church while an awed silence reigned.

I have never been quite able to figure out why so many, through the years, who have denounced me and claimed to be spiritually superior themselves, have come to me for prayer when they needed someone close enough to God that a prayer would be answered.

This happened repeatedly in association with the ministers of the "Sardis" church. Even when their dominating leader, A. N. Dugger, was present along with three or four other ministers, and we were asked to anoint some sick person for healing, Mr. Dugger or the others would invariably call on me to do the anointing and lead in prayer. Yet they did all in their power, by fair means and foul (usually the latter) to persecute and discredit me, and to stamp out the broadcasting work.

Visiting Jail

During the meetings in the old Masonic Temple, someone told me of a man in the county jail whom he requested that I visit. The prisoner was the "black sheep" brother of a very respectable man.

This prisoner seemed to welcome my

visit. He was scheduled to be released from jail in a couple of days, and promised to attend the services. Two nights later he came to the meeting, with a girl he introduced as his wife.

As I believe has been mentioned previously, in those days I followed the evangelistic custom of giving "altar calls." It was one of those things I thoughtlessly took for granted without checking for proof of any Biblical or divine origin. All of us have carelessly *assumed*, taken for granted, accepted and followed more customs, ideas and ways than we realize. As the years have raced by I have learned to be much more careful to check and *prove* all beliefs and practises. Later, when I researched again over the ministry of Jesus, of Peter, Paul, and the other apostles and evangelists of the New Testament, it became plain that they never practised or instituted any such custom. So we dropped it immediately.

But at this time I was still giving the usual evangelical altar calls. And this young man and woman both came up. They appeared quite repentant. I spent some time with them afterward. They exhibited a spirit of willingness to obey God completely, and to embark on a new life of overcoming through faith in Christ as Saviour, living by every word of the Bible. Next day I baptized them.

But I learned a serious lesson through this experience. Later we discovered that these two were not married. Actually they had gone through a ceremony of marriage, but it was bigamy. The girl had previously married another man in another state, from whom she had not been divorced. She had a little two- or three-year-old daughter whose father was a third man to whom she had never been married. From that time we have been very careful to check the marriage, divorce, and remarriage status of all candidates for baptism. God intended that we learn by experience, beside direct instruction.

I told this girl she would have to leave this man.

"Well," she replied, "I will, then, as soon as I can get a job."

"No," I said firmly, "you must leave him *now*!"

"But I can't leave him now," she pro-

tested. "I have no other place to go."

"You come along with us, then," I insisted. "Mrs. Armstrong will put you in our spare bedroom for tonight, and

tomorrow we will help you make permanent arrangements."

She was a weakling, and so was this man. So she gave in to our firm insis-

tence. Next morning Mrs. Armstrong went into her room to call her to breakfast. The bed was empty. The window was open. The girl had climbed out the

RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

TO THE U.S. & CANADA

WABC—New York—770 on dial—9:30 a.m., Sun., E.D.S.T.; 11:30 p.m., Mon. thru Sat.
 WNTA—Newark, N.J.—970 on dial—9:00 a.m. Sun.—8:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.—9:00 p.m. Sat.
 WIBG—Philadelphia—990 on dial—12:30 p.m. Sundays.
 WEAW—Chicago—1330 on dial—7:00 p.m., Sundays, 7:00 a.m., Mon. thru Sat.
 WWVA—Wheeling, W. Va.—1170 on dial—10:30 a.m.; 11:15 p.m., Sun., E.D.S.T.; 10:00 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.
 WCKY—Cincinnati, Ohio—1530 on dial—5:30 a.m., Mon. thru Sat., E.D.S.T.
 WSM—Nashville, Tenn.—650 on dial—12 midnight Mon. thru Fri.; 8:30 p.m. and 1:00 a.m., Sun., C.D.S.T.
 WLAC—Nashville, Tenn.—1510 on dial—7:00 p.m., daily; 5:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat., C.D.S.T.; 10:30 a.m. Sun.
 WPIT—Pittsburgh, Pa.—730 on dial—7:00 a.m. daily.
 WCAE—Pittsburgh, Pa.—1250 on dial—6:30 p.m., Sun., 8:30 p.m., Sat.
 WKYR—Keyser, W. Va.—1270 on dial—5:30 a.m., daily.
 WGUN—Atlanta, Ga.—1010 on dial—Mon. thru Sat. 11:00 a.m., Sun. 4:00 p.m.
 WMIE—Miami, Fla.—1140 on dial—8:30 a.m. Sun.; 11:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 WGBS—Miami, Fla.—710 on dial—10:30 a.m. Sun.
 CKLW—Windsor, Ontario—800 on dial—7:00 p.m. Sundays.
 WJBK—Detroit, Mich.—1500 on dial—9:30 a.m., Sun.
 XELO—800 on dial—every night, 8:00 p.m., M.S.T., 9:00 p.m. C.S.T.
 XEG—1050 on dial—every night, 8:30 p.m. C.S.T.
 WFAA—Dallas, Tex.—570 on dial—6:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat. At 820 on dial—9:30 a.m. & 8:30 p.m. Sun.
 KTRH—Houston, Tex.—740 on dial—7:00 p.m., every night.
 KFMJ—Tulsa, Okla.—1050 on dial—12:30 p.m., every day.
 KBYE—Okla. City, Okla.—890 on dial—10:30 a.m., Sun.; 12:30 p.m., Mon. thru Sat.
 KWTO—Springfield, Mo.—560 on dial—7:30 p.m. daily.
 WEW—St. Louis, Mo.—770 on dial—1:00 p.m., Sun.—12:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 KWOC—Poplar Bluff, Mo.—930 on dial—6:15 p.m., Mon. thru Fri., 7:00 p.m., Sat.
 WKYB—Paducah, Ky.—570 on dial—12:00 noon, Sun. thru Sat.

KIZ—Denver, Colo.—560 on dial—10:45 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sat.
 KCPX—Salt Lake City, Utah—1320 on dial—7:00 p.m. nightly except Friday at 8:00 p.m.
 KIDO—Boise, Idaho—630 on dial—9:05 p.m., daily.
 KFYR—Bismarck, N. Dak.—550 on dial—7:00 p.m. every night.
 WNAX—Yankton, S. Dak.—570 on dial—8:00 p.m. nightly.

HEARD ON PACIFIC COAST, ALASKA AND HAWAII

KGO—San Francisco—810 on dial—9:00 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.—10:00 p.m. Sun.
 KABC—Los Angeles—790 on dial—9:30 p.m., Sun.; 7:25 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.; 8:00 p.m., Sat.
 KHJ—Los Angeles—930 on dial—7:30 p.m., Sunday.
 KRKD—Los Angeles—1150 on dial—7:00 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.; 6:30 p.m. Sat. and Sun.
 KBLA—Burbank—1490 on dial—7:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. daily.
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window and gone back to her "man."

However they were soon forcibly separated again. They had bought furniture and furnishings for a cheap rented house on contract at a local furniture store. This young man had then sold much of it for cash, and failed to pay his installments at the store.

Helping a Weakling

This fellow was in jail again. He called to me for help. On visiting him again in jail I learned what had happened. He promised to be good this time, if only I'd get him out. The furniture merchant said he understood the fellow had a brother of some means.

"If you will go to his brother and get him to pay up the furniture bill, we will withdraw the charges," said the furniture merchant. "We don't want to be hard on the boy. We are business men. We only want our money."

I had no automobile in those days, but I travelled some distance to see the fellow's brother.

"Mr. Armstrong," he said after I explained the situation, "you may think I am a hard hearted brother, but I'm not. I'm going to do what I know is best for my brother's own good. If I pay this and get him out of jail it wouldn't be thirty days until he would be back in jail again. My brother hasn't had enough punishment to learn his lesson yet. I think he needs this thirty days in jail to think it over."

He did think it over, and managed to keep out of jail for a year or so, after which I lost contact with him. But he and the girl were too weak to remain apart. They quarreled and fought when together, but they could not resist being together.

Rejecting all advice and counsel from me, the girl obtained a divorce from her first husband, and then had a justice-of-the-peace second wedding with this ne'er-do-well fellow, which at least legalized their adulterous living in the sight of man's law.

Whatever finally became of them I do not know. Mrs. Armstrong and I spent a lot of time trying to help them get straightened out, but they were the type Jesus spoke of in Luke 8:13 in the parable of the sower. They listened to and received the Word of God willingly,

but had no "root" or backbone of character, and as soon as temptation came along were too weak to resist.

The quotation "God helps them that help themselves" is not found in the Bible, as many believe, but is a saying of Benjamin Franklin. Yet it does express a Scriptural principle. Long ago I learned that I cannot carry others into the Kingdom of God on my shoulders, or drag them in. I can only point the way, proclaim the truth, give counsel and advice, aid in many material ways, and pray for others. I can give aid and help—but each must stand on his own feet before God, and by strong motivation yield to allow God to transform him and mould him into God's own holy character. God does it by the power of His Holy Spirit. But we also have our part in denying ourselves, in overcoming, and in DOING! It is the DOERS, not those who hear only, who shall be justified through Christ's blood and enter finally into His Kingdom (Rom. 2:13).

Nevertheless, this experience I have just related did cause a deal of reflection and study of the Bible to inquire *how* God is going to deal with human weaklings such as these. We find the answer in the parable of the pounds, and the parable of the talents.

In the parable of the pounds all ten of Christ's servants appear to have had equal ability, and each was given an equal portion from God at the start. The one who by overcoming and growth in grace and knowledge of our Lord multiplied what he started with ten times was given the reward of ruling over ten cities. He who multiplied five times, over five cities.

But in the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30) God gave to each,

at the start of his Christian life, *according to his natural ability*. To one He gave five talents, to another two, and to another only one—according to the natural ability of each. The man with five talents doubled his spiritual stock-in-trade. Likewise, although the man with two produced less in number than the one with five, he also *doubled* what he started with. He did as well, *in proportion to his ability!*

Consequently we find it revealed that to whom much is given, much is required. To whom little is given, less is required. In other words, God judges each individual *according to how well he overcomes, yields, develops and grows, according to what he has to do with!*

This unfortunate couple of weaklings were not born with as much intelligence and strength of character (potentially) as many others. Consequently God does not require as much of them. But He *does* require of them as much effort *in proportion* to ability! We do have our part in the developing of the Christian life and character.

So-Called "Bible Organization"

During these late winter and spring months of 1934 the opposition of Elders Ray and Oberg did not cease. I had rejected receiving further the \$3 weekly "salary" from the Oregon State Conference after the memorable "All-Day Wrangle" meeting in early August, 1933. But this alone did not appease their wrath against me.

At the bi-annual General Conference meeting of the "Sardis" church at Stanberry, Missouri, which probably was held in August, 1933, Elder Andrew N. Dugger had lost his previous iron control of the church by one vote. Thereupon Mr. Dugger promptly bolted the Conference and organized a competing "Church of God" under what he termed "the Bible form of organization."

He managed to induce half or more of the ministers in the church to join him in this new "Organization," on the argument that they were now re-establishing the Bible form of organization. Among those joining with him were Elder C. O. Dodd of Salem, W. Virginia, an Elder McMicken, Elder Alexander of Kansas, Elder Severson, and Otto Haerber

(Please continue on page 16)

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The Eighth Commandment

Modern thievery is at an all-time high—and still rapidly INCREASING. It is permeating nearly every phase of our society. Read God's ANSWER to this growing problem!

by Roderick C. Meredith

THE F.B.I.'s crime clock indicated a major offense was committed every 20.3 seconds in 1959.

Forcible rape led the way last year with an increase of 13 per cent. Robbery and burglary followed closely with increases of 12.7 per cent and 12.6 per cent respectively. The F.B.I. said the increase in crime was five times as great as the population increase!

We live in a society that is sick and dying. We have lost the right values! We have cut ourselves off from God. As we have seen in the previous articles in this series on God's Ten Commandments, obedience to God's law in THE WAY to peace, to happiness, and to the abundant life.

But with our increasing disobedience to God's living laws, we are suffering the consequences in physical as well as in spiritual ways. In God's Law, the most important thing is our RIGHT relationship with Him—covered by the first four commandments—and the protection of the home, the family and human life itself—covered in the next three commandments.

The rebelliousness of the human mind is remarkably evidenced by the fact that human laws have reversed this order of importance. At the present moment, there are far more laws on the statute books protecting property than there are to protect human life, the home, and the true worship of God.

It is true that it is not given to human beings or courts of men to legislate upon the true worship of the Living God. Yet it is an appalling FACT of our modern society that the lack of any respect or worship of Almighty God is hardly counted as sin at all in public opinion.

And this sin of REBELLION is the root from which all others grow!

And so—in spite of the multitude of laws protecting property—men CUT

OFF from the true God are stealing in many devious ways more than ever before in human history!

The Commandment

After the God of Heaven thundered from the top of Mt. Sinai the commandments ordaining the true worship of Him, and laws protecting the most sacred human relationships—the home, the family, and human life itself, God gave the eighth commandment. This is God's law protecting all private property and possessions: "Thou shalt not steal" (Exodus 20:15).

Because men do not think the God who gave this commandment is REAL—and do not fear to disobey His Law—we have more literal theft than ever before. But we also violate the eighth command in hundreds of ways through a "watered down" system of morality.

After discussing some debased scheme by which to cheat a business competitor or customer, executives shrug their shoulders and say: "Well, that's just business."

Or, after a deception involving false measurement, poor quality or misleading advertising, a businessman will say: "What's the difference? If I don't do it, somebody else will."

When cheating the government or falsifying an income tax return, the common American phrase to solve one's conscience is: "Let Uncle Sam sweat this time. The government is taking too much money anyway. So what?"

Yes, SO WHAT? Is that "just business?"

Well, it also happens to be GOD'S business—and He has set in motion a LAW stating: "Thou shalt not steal."

When you break God's LAW—it breaks you!

For God's laws are living, moving things—like the law of gravity. When you transgress them, the punishment is

automatic—and it is SURE.

The Right to Property

According to God's Word and His Law, there are only two right ways in which you can come into possession of anything.

The first is by a free gift of another person, or from God Himself. The second is by honest labour, which earns something as a legitimate return.

Any other way is theft—the taking from another that which belongs to him.

The eighth commandment recognizes the legitimate acquisition of property, and forbids theft. It is important to note that, in principle, the eighth command FORBIDS all forms of communism which deny man's right to property.

It also forbids international THIEVERY in which nations forcibly confiscate and steal the property and possessions of others. And, to our lasting shame, ALL nations stand GUILTY of breaking God's Law in this respect!

In principle, gambling is also a violation of the eighth commandment. A man who gambles, whether in play or in serious business, puts into his pocket money for which he has done no honest work. By this very fact he robs the man from whom he receives, and violates God's law of love.

Yet, throughout Britain and America today, professing "Christian" people gamble in lotteries, sweepstakes and many other ways to the tune of MILLIONS of dollars! This lust for possession without toil, this act of trying to get something for nothing, is a blatant denial of the teachings of Christ.

And it is a well-known fact that wherever any large amount of gambling takes place, the traffic in dope, in prostitution, and in organized CRIME almost immediately skyrockets!

Young people today are learning to

STEAL in an immensely large and organized fashion. Not only are they purloining articles by the thousands from stores, shops, schools and even churches, but they regularly organize an intricate system of CHEATING on tests and exams in schools and colleges.

Because it is generally looked on without too much alarm, this practice is growing at an unprecedented rate. But what the young people may not have been told is that "cheating" is *taking* a score or grade illegally—and is STEALING. It is *directly breaking* the eighth commandment of God!

Organized THEFT in Modern Industry

The Industrialist or merchant who uses false weights and measures or a poor quality of material or workmanship to deceive the public is just as GUILTY of breaking the eighth commandment as a common thief! He is trying to get something more than a legitimate return for his product.

Viewing the illegal excess he hopes to receive, he is trying to get that extra *something* for NOTHING. In principle, he is simply STEALING!

Yet, in how many *thousands of cases* this type of lawlessness and deception is practiced God alone knows.

Another little realized method of thievery is the modern practice in growing and preparing foods. Through refusal to let the land lie completely idle every seven years as God commanded (Lev. 25:3-4), and through the use of water soluble chemical fertilizers, many farmers are *robbing* the soil of the nutrients which would bring forth health-producing food. Instead, the foods produced on these devitalized fields have been ROBBED of the natural vitamins, minerals and food elements which God intended should be there.

In effect, the people forced to eat these foods are *robbed* of health, vitality, and in some cases of life itself! Witness the recent trend toward vitamin pills and capsules, toward "enriched" bread and milk with vitamins artificially "added." These artificial vitamins—which in many cases your body *cannot use*—would NEVER be necessary if the foods we eat had been properly grown and processed in the first place!

The *same condemnation* is due the processors of food who through greed for "filthy lucre" remove the health-giving elements from the foods we eat. Or, in thousands of cases, they add chemical "preservatives" to foods which are absolutely *dangerous* to the health of those who eat them.

Needless to say, there is not time or space here for a complete explanation of this principle. But it is important to realize that MILLIONS of human beings in our "Christian" civilization are suffering the effects of man-made deficiency diseases. These are brought on partly because of personal *ignorance* of what to eat and partly because of SIN and GREED on the part of food manufacturers who have *knowingly robbed our foods of lifegiving elements!*

For all those who STEAL in this or any other similar fashion, there is a day of solemn JUDGMENT coming.

Thievery Through False Advertising

One of the great commercial SINS of our age is the common practice of *false advertising*. The consumer is led to expect that a certain "pill," for instance, will cause him to lose weight, gain weight, increase his potency, restore his thinning hair, or whatever the case may be. And, in most cases, this statement is a direct, willful LIE without any doubt.

Such a practice is, in effect, STEALING from the people who pay money to achieve the promised result.

In many cases, the victims of these gigantic frauds are not only robbed of money, they are robbed of *health, happiness and peace of mind*. Many a "respectable" businessman and community leader has attained his position largely through this type of *mass deception and theft!*

Our nations and peoples need to WAKE UP! Just because a sin can be made outwardly to appear "respectable," remember that GOD is the *real* Judge.

The Almighty has this to say: "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators . . . nor thieves . . . shall inherit the kingdom of God" (I Cor. 6:9-10).

Lest any misunderstand, remember

that it is God's *will* that His servants *prosper* in material wealth—as long as they gain it *honestly*, and *don't set their hearts upon it*. The apostle John wrote: "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest *prosper* and be in *health*, even as thy soul prospereth" (III John 2).

Tarnished Wealth

However, we must also learn that an industrialist's wealth which is tarnished by an unnecessarily high death rate in his plants or factories is ill-gotten gain—and he is branded in the light of God's law as a THIEF, if not a murderer!

The principle behind the eighth commandment is broken again and again in the relations of *capital and labor*. James was inspired to warn the dishonest employer: "Behold, the hire of the labourers . . . which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries . . . are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth" (James 5:4).

It is also equally true—and *especially so in this era of corrupt unionism*—that many a workingman ROBS his employer! He does this by taking his wage and yet withholding his full share of honest labor. And that is STEALING!

All too often one laboring man tells his fellow: "Slow down, buddy, you're working too hard. If you keep on working like that, we'll *all* have to work hard around here!"

British and American laborers, often spending from a third to a half of their working time on "tea breaks," "coffee breaks" and "cigarette breaks," are causing our industries to be *badly beaten* in the world-wide trade war now going on. It is affecting the DESTINY of the American and British people!

The eighth commandment of Almighty God has a message for *both* capital and labor.

To capital: "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work."

To labor: "A fair day's work for a fair day's wage."

The Command Applied Positively

The definite, positive application of the eighth commandment is stated in the New Testament letter to the Ephesians (Please continue on page 19)

Needed: A SUPREME AUTHORITY!

Revolt and rape in the Congo. The flames of anti-American hate whipped white-hot in Cuba. Red China now ready to plunge at India. Where is to be found the power to stop this violence?

by Herman L. Hoeh

THIS world is not merely divided—it is being torn asunder! Never in human history have we faced such international crimes and brutality as stalk the earth today.

Red China is trying to keep secret its unbelievable genocide—the mass-murder of Tibetan men, women and children—in final preparation for her delayed plunge into India. Who will stop her mad plan to conquer Asia?

In Cuba, the Revolutionary Government continues its seizure of foreign investments—stealing right under the nose of Uncle Sam. Where is the authority that dares to stop this little upstart Dictatorship?

And from the Congo come reports of savagery and rape never equalled in Africa in modern times. Negro troops—*who for years have seen their White superiors live with native women*—thought independence would grant them the same “privileges” with White women. When it did not happen that way, they mutinied and raped in indescribable horror. Religious reporters have tried to cover up the real facts. Protestant and Catholic missions have no more been able to change the heart of the natives than they have been able to change the heart of the European businessmen who have developed the country.

Where is the final authority that can end the strife in the Congo?

Not the United Nations!

Look at what the U.N. has done. Wherever the forces of the United Nations have gone *the world has remained hopelessly divided*. There is no exception. In Korea the U.N. failed to unite the country. Korea is a tragic, festering

wound on the world-soul. In Indo-China, the same story was repeated. The country is hopelessly divided.

In Palestine, Jew and Arab are still at each others' throats. No final, supreme authority in the United Nations here either! And now in the Congo comes another crisis. And the Congo, too, is plagued with division. Rich Katanga province demands the preservation of its independence. The new native government in Leopoldville refuses to concede that its territory is divided.

Where is the supreme authority that can bring real peace to Korea, to Indo-China, to Palestine and the Congo?—and to the rest of the world?

Have we not learned from history that no human government has ever succeeded in bringing lasting peace?

Let us admit it! The world is so completely divided—separated by a veritable “Iron Curtain”—that there is no possibility of workable world government of man's creation.

Human beings are not willing of themselves to relinquish their independence to an all-powerful Supreme Authority.

“Why,” asks the doubter, the skeptic, the atheist, “doesn't God—if there be an all-powerful One—step in and take over Supreme Authority and bring us harmony and peace?”

He WILL!

Here is what news analysts and commentators, politicians and preachers do not understand. The world today is divided because God has decreed it! The Creator and Supreme Ruler of the universe has a great Purpose—and that Purpose demands that man be permitted to go his own way for 6000 years, to set

up his own governments, to establish his own religions, to seek to bring peace without God and without His Law.

Then, just before man would destroy all human life, *God will intervene!*

It is because men have cut themselves off from God, have rejected His Law—as God knew they would do—that we have this divided world, tearing itself apart at the seams, suffering from all kinds of festering political sores.

There can be no unity, no lasting harmony without God's Law. God's Law is a law of love because God is love. No human government can stop the present violence, except temporarily, because human beings do not know the way to unity and peace.

Notice the shocking description of man, of our politicians and statesmen: “There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way . . . with their tongues they have used deceit . . . whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: their feet are swift to shed blood: destruction and misery are in their ways; AND THE WAY OF PEACE HAVE THEY NOT KNOWN” (Romans 3:11-17).

Here are pictured the Communist leaders, the upstart dictators in Cuba and elsewhere, the horribly bitter souls of the new Congo leaders! Certainly there is no basis for peace and harmony in these nations!

Even the “sweet talk” of Western leaders is not solving world problems, but multiplying them! “THERE IS NONE THAT DOETH GOOD, NO, NOT ONE” (Romans 3:12, last phrase). Our leaders seemingly have no genuine purpose other than preserve a tottering *status*

quo. They know not the way to peace!

The only hope is divine intervention by the God whom the doubter, the skeptic and the atheist taunt. Divine intervention by the Supreme Authority over all the universe.

The Almighty God *will intervene* in world affairs. That is the very message of the gospel—the good news which Jesus brought. But the good news of God's soon intervention in human affairs is the very message which the religious leaders have sought to hide from the people. The theme song of religion for too long has been, "God is in His Heaven and all is right with the world."

But all is not right with the world. Religion did not save the Congo despite all the missionaries. The religion of Cuba has not saved its people from dictatorship. And the reason, plainly stated, is that the religions of this age are the religions of man—not the truth of God.

God's Final Warning

Now, at the close of 6000 years of human history, just before God takes all power and authority away from mortal man forever, God's last warning is being sounded around the world. It is the thundering proclamation of the same good news of God's Kingdom which God sent by Jesus Christ 19 centuries ago!

The religious and political leaders hated that message. They crucified Christ so they could continue unhampered in their own customs and traditions. Make no mistake about it—the world hates that message as much today as it did then. The world does not want to hear about God's intervention in human affairs. It will try to stop the good news of the World Tomorrow when God's Kingdom will come and His Will shall be done on earth as it is now being done in Heaven!

The only reason that World War III has not started is simply that "this gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached [and "published" (Mark 13:10)] in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the *end* come" (Matthew 24:14).

Before God intervenes in human affairs, man is being given this last opportunity to accept voluntarily the Supreme Authority of the Almighty

Creator. And if the world will not accept God's rule voluntarily—which, of course, it will not do—then God will allow the nations to plunge heedlessly toward world suicide. Then, suddenly, before the final button would be pushed by mortal flesh to snuff out all human life, God shall forcibly take away all power and authority from man and shake man to his senses!

The atheist may taunt God now for allowing all this human suffering. But then he shall realize to his chagrin that if God would not have intervened at the very moment He did, all humanity would have been wiped out.

It is now time that we awake to the seriousness of this age and of this decade! The only reason that God has not allowed the Congo to return completely to jungle—the only reason Katanga province is being preserved—is so the good news of the World Tomorrow can still be sent to Africa via Radio Elizabethville. Thousands hear the program every week. Hundreds—natives and Europeans—are having their lives changed, are voluntarily yielding themselves to the government, the law, the authority of God's Word, the Holy Bible.

The only reason Red China has not engulfed portions of India—which communist leaders planned to do this past spring and summer—is so that this Message can still go to the most populous nation where the English language is spoken. When this warning Message has been sounded, when those people have no more excuse, then nothing will stop Red China from inundating India! Prophecy reveals what is coming—and the only event restraining its final fulfillment is the special event *prophesied for now*—the preaching and publishing of this Gospel to all nations.

No other work is fulfilling this prophecy—because no other work has the true Gospel which Jesus Himself preached. The competing denominations and sects of this world are preaching about Christ while they reject His Message. They have seized upon His Name to cloak their own traditions!

It is high time we wake up, get on our economic feet and help complete the proclamation of the good news of the World Tomorrow, when God will be the Supreme Authority over all the earth.

Divine intervention is humanity's only hope. God *will* bring us peace!



Wide World Photo

This photo, made before Congo independence, shows welfare center for natives in Leopoldville, Belgian Congo, where women learn to knit. They had ignored needlework and knitting until taught by Europeans.

Why RELIGIOUS DECEPTION Rages Today

Here is the eleventh and final installment of this surprising series on "Satan's Great Deception."

by Dr. C. Paul Meredith

IN THE last ten astounding articles of this series we were shocked to learn that the teachings of Christ's apostles were cleverly *changed* by the secret introduction of *similar* pagan customs. We traced these pagan customs back to their origin. We found they commenced at the tower of Babel, over 4,000 years ago.

At Babel, Nimrod and Semiramis founded CIVILIZATION, based on a false way of life—man's rule *without* God (Genesis 11). They were used, as Satan's pawns, to counterfeit Christ's teaching over 2000 years in advance.

Satan has continued to use these SAME TEACHINGS to deceive the earth down to this very day!

Satan Knows He Has But a Short Time!

In previous surprising installments we have seen that Satan knew Christ was to come once to die for the world, and a second time to rule the world. To fool the people, Satan counterfeited Christ and His teachings over 2000 years in advance, through the harlot queen Semiramis.

God, the Supreme Ruler, has purposely allowed that, from the time of Christ's first coming to *announce* His future rule of this earth, until the time He would return the second time to *begin* His rule, Satan would be permitted to intensify his efforts to deceive and rule this present world through the same old Babylonish system of Nimrod and Semiramis!

God has allotted six thousand years for Satan to rule and deceive this earth. The demons knew this time was not up when Christ came the *first* time. They asked Christ, "Art thou come hither to torment us before the time?" (Matt. 8:29.)

Satan was well aware of the impor-

tance of Christ's first coming to this earth. He knew hundreds of years in advance what it would do to his *own rule!* Note this prophecy! "A great red dragon . . . stood before the woman . . . to devour her child as soon as it was born" (Rev. 12:3-4). It was primarily *Satan's idea* to destroy Christ and save his own kingdom. Herod, who sought to slay the infant Jesus, was only a tool of Satan. Later Satan tried to influence Christ to *worship* him when he tempted Him in the wilderness (Matt. 4:8-9). Had Christ yielded, the devil could have retained his rule! Christ would not have ruled this earth as God's representative, for He would instead have been serving Satan (verse 10). Had Christ yielded to Satan's temptation, Christ would have had to pay with His own life for His *own sin* (Rom. 6:23).

But Christ resisted! And He thereby made salvation possible for humanity.

When Satan saw Christ "caught up unto God" (Rev. 12:5), he knew he was defeated.

Satan became wrathful with Christ's Church. And especially is he angry *today!* God warns of Satan's *deceptions* now! "Woe to the inhabitants of the earth . . . for the Devil is come down unto you having *great wrath*, because he knoweth that he hath but a *short time* . . ." (Rev. 12:12).

The Devil knows his period of rule is now almost up—he has but a *short time*. He is even now casting out a *torrent of false doctrines*. He would have succeeded in destroying the early True church entirely had it not been for divine, supernatural intervention (verse 6). Even so, only a "remnant"—a *very small number*—are to be left keeping the commandments of God. "The Dragon" (Satan, see verse 9) "was wroth . . . and went to make war with the remnant of her seed which keep the commandments

of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Rev. 12:17).

God watches over this earth in as far as his overall plan and immutable laws are concerned. But Satan is allowed to rule it through suggestion until Christ's second coming. Satan now is *intensely* active and he has all but a remnant—a *very small number*—deceived!

Perversion of the True Church Teachings

Have you ever noticed Ephesians 2:19-20? This scripture tells us that the *household of God* is "built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone."

Do you really grasp the meaning of this? Whatever Christ or the apostles of this original Church taught or did, we must do today if we are going to belong to the household of God! *If Satan could counterfeit or otherwise delude people from following these original, true Church practices, he would destroy their hope of salvation!* He would thus strike at the *very foundation* of the purpose of God's creation—Sons of God who are to rule with Him! No wonder Satan started to strike at the teachings of God from the very time of Adam and Eve!

We have already seen how the *Mysteries* of Semiramis—the *pagan* counterfeits of Christianity—were *everywhere* when the true Church was founded. Did these seep in? Paul wrote the Thessalonians "the *Mystery* of iniquity doth already work" (II Thess. 2:7). Semiramis' *Mysteries* had started to infiltrate the teachings of Christ and the apostles. But they *did not infiltrate the headquarters church at Jerusalem* during the time the apostles were there. This Church of God, whose practices are recorded in the New Testament for our

benefit, became the example for all to follow. *Both* Christian Gentile and Jew scattered abroad "became followers of the Churches of God which in Judea are in Christ Jesus" (I Thess. 2:14).

Yet notice what happened!

Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, page 389, says, "It was natural that the primitive tradition of a church which was founded [little more than] forty days after the death of Christ, and was governed almost as many years *under the immediate inspection of His apostles*, should be received as the *standard of orthodoxy*."

The Bible tells us, as we have seen, that this church was to be the *standard* or foundation for *all* future churches of the *True* God. What they did, *we* are to do. Gibbon, the authoritative historian, discovers this same fact.

Where, then, were the Mysteries creeping in? In the *outrlying* churches. In the church at Ephesus—idolatrous practices (Rev. 2:6); in the church at Pergamos—the doctrine of Balaam (Rev. 2:14); in the church at Thyatira—idols (Rev. 2:20). These are a few of the examples pointed out to us by the Bible.

How did this perversion of the gospel come about? Here is the answer of history! "The Jewish converts who laid the foundations of the church, soon found themselves overwhelmed by the increasing multitudes that from all the various religions of polytheism [religions having many *pagan* gods] enlisted under the banner of Christ" (Gibbon, vol. I, chap. 15). Edward Gibbon further states that these pagans, when they first associated with members, asked the upright Christian members to *tolerate their pagan practices*. Later, after they became the greater in number, *they* became intolerant of the *true* teachings. Thus paganism crept in.

Are Majority Deceived Today?

Are all to enter the Kingdom of God *now*? Doesn't the Bible say, "The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the Kingdom of God is preached, and *every man* presseth into it?" (Luke 16:16). "Doesn't this mean all *must* be saved now or be lost forever?" some ask. This would be true *if* the Bible did not have *other* scriptures

amplifying this same subject. Scripture shows that God, as part of His great purpose, has allowed the spiritual blindness of the vast majority now. *God* has given the Gentiles over to a reprobate, or blinded mind (Rom. 1:28). The *god* of this age—Satan—has been allowed to blind the minds of those who do not believe (II Cor. 4:4). All of Israel (except a very small number) are now blinded (Rom. 11:7) and have been given over to their own laws that are not good (Ezek. 20:25).

Did you know that Christ spoke in parables lest this blindness should be removed from the people of his day? (Mark 4:11-12.) But in the 1000 years of the world tomorrow God says He will remove all blindness. "He will destroy . . . the face of the *covering* cast over all people, and the *veil* that is spread over all nations (Isa. 25:7). But you personally can, if you are repentant, pray to God that He will remove this blindness from you (Matt. 7:7).

Since the beginning of this world, God has *called* only a few in various times. God removed the blindness from them and they saw the truth and accepted salvation. Enoch, Abraham, and David are examples. The few are called now (I Cor. 1:2). For what purpose were they called? Christ will use them—as well as the New Testament Church—to rule and instruct the unsaved when He comes (Rev. 2:26, 5:10).

How False Churches Arose From Apostatizing Congregations of True Church

"Just how, step by step, did the pagan customs get into the churches of today?" you ask. We shall now see the unbelievable answer. The professing Christians of apostolic and post-apostolic times ". . . found a new occupation in the government of the church. . . . The *ambition* of raising themselves or their friends to offices of the church was *disguised* by . . . laudable intention" (Gibbon, vol. I, chap. 15). Selfishness was beginning to assert itself in a strong way within the early church.

Gibbon shows that the churches and their daughter congregations which had been founded through the work of the apostles began to form themselves into larger and larger groupings. *Faithful*

members were ex-communicated. The size of the town within the boundaries of a group of churches had much to do with the power exercised by this group.

Naturally Rome, being the largest city, became the headquarters of this system of pseudo-Christianity. In the struggle for influence there arose among the elders at Rome a Roman "pontiff" who gradually became the supreme head of these congregations. In order to increase church membership and power, a patronizing attitude was taken toward *both* pagans and "Christians." "Worship, at first very simple, was developed into elaborate, stately, imposing ceremonies having all the outward splendor that belonged to heathen temples. . . . The Imperial church of the 4th and 5th centuries had become an entirely different institution from the persecuted church of the first three centuries. In its ambition to rule it lost and forgot the spirit of Christ" (Halley's *Pocket Bible Handbook*, p. 671). The *true* teachings of Christ were cast aside!

"To conciliate the pagans to *nominal* Christianity, Rome, pursuing its *usual* policy, took measures to get the *Christian and pagan festivals amalgamated*, and, by a complicated but skillful adjustment of the calendar, it was found no difficult matter, in general, to get paganism and Christianity—*now far sunk in idolatry* . . . to shake hands" (Hislop's *The Two Babylons*, p. 105).

The parent of present day religion was taking form!

The famous advice of Pope Gregory I was that "by all means they should *meet the pagans half-way*, and so bring them into the Roman Church" (Hislop, p. 113). Note this was to be done by a *fusion* of fragments of truth with overwhelming error.

"If, in the beginning of the fifth century, Tertullian or Lactantius [early Catholics] had been suddenly raised from the dead, to assist at the festival of some popular saint or martyr, they would have gazed with astonishment and indignation on the profane spectacle which had succeeded to the pure and spiritual worship of a Christian congregation" (Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, vol. V, chap. 27).

Indeed, the forerunner of *present day* churches had *departed far* from the

practices of the church in Judea which the New Testament describes for us. But let us consider more evidence of the paganism of this *Transition Church* which stands midway in the *path* of the development of Protestants and other churches of today. These contradicting and competing churches claim they go *completely back* to the *original New Testament church* but they hide the facts that they observe festivals and practices derived from paganism which are found in the Roman Church.

Paganism supposedly "disappeared" in the Roman area about 450 A.D. "So rapid, yet so gentle was the fall of paganism, that only twenty-eight years after the death of Theodosius, the faint and minute vestiges were no longer visible to the eye of the legislator" (*Gibbon*, vol. V, chap. 28). Where did paganism go? Gieseler's *Ecclesiastical History*, vol. II, p. 40, 45, has the answer. "In exact proportion as paganism has disappeared from without the church, in the very same proportion it appears within it."

Hear what *Hislop*, p. 224, has to say: "The system, first concocted in Babylon, and thence conveyed to the ends of the earth, has been modified and diluted in different ages and countries. In *Papal Rome only* is it now found nearly *pure and entire*." The system is a "Mystery" as we have seen. How does it masquerade? "It (Rome) . . . admits Christian terms and names; but all that is *apparently* Christian in its system is *more* than neutralized by the malignant paganism that it embodies" (*Hislop*, p. 282).

Mankind on the earth today is deceived by the Christian sounding names that Satan has put on practices of his own devilish system! Indeed Satan is active—more active than ever!

Small Church of God and Great False Church

We have now seen how the old Babylonian system of Semiramis and Nimrod engulfed the true teachings of Christ and the apostles within a relatively short time after Christ's death. We have read that only a remnant—a very small number—are to keep the commandments of God (Rev. 12:17).

Down through the centuries have come two different churches, side by side, described by the Bible. One is the true

little church, always persecuted—"If they persecuted me they will persecute you" Christ said in John 15:18-20. It has been so scattered that it has seemed almost invisible—the members often not knowing each other (Acts 6:1, 8:1; Rev. 12:6, 15; Dan. 12:7; Ezek. 34). These are they who keep the commandments of God.

But the other is the *Great Church*—that *Great False Church* described as a *great whore* (Rev. 17:1) who has wielded *great power* in this, Satan's world (verse 2, 15). She will continue to do so with suddenly increasing power now for a short time (verses 12, 18). She is described as the mother who has given rise to many protesting denominations (verse 5).

Daughter Churches Blinded!

The woman sitting on the beast in Revelation 17:3 is a world-ruling Church. On her forehead is the name, "*Mystery Babylon The Great, The Mother of Harlots*" (verse 5).

Who are the Harlots? What offspring has the mother Church given rise to? It is well known that they are Protestants—"a name given to the party who adhered to Martin Luther during the Reformation in 1529 and protested, or made a solemn declaration of dissent, from the decree of the Emperor Charles V and the Diet of Spire . . . The name now applied generally to those Christian denominations that differ from the Church of Rome and sprang from the reformation" (Roach and Robertson's *New Practical Reference Library*, vol. IV, subject, "Reformation").

This same source says of this Reformation that it "is a term applied to a revolt in Europe in the sixteenth century against papal supremacy and certain doctrinal tenets of the Church of Rome."

This started similar movements in Hungary, France, England, and Scotland at that time. From these, the various modern Protestant groups have arisen. This, then, is where the Protestant churches of today have originated. They did not begin with Christ!

The Protestant churches come out from Papal Rome where the system first concocted in old Babylon is "now found nearly pure and entire" (*Hislop*, p. 224). By protesting against "*certain*

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doctrinal tenets" (Roach and Robertson's *New Practical Reference Library*, vol. IV, "Reformation") they claimed to get back to the teachings of the New Testament. But they did not do so!

The matter is *easily* proven. All one has to do is take his New Testament and check point for point what the *true* church kept and what these competing churches are now keeping. Satan has the world's churches deceived now!

Many a church today claims to be founded on "the ancient, original, apostolic Christian Church in its present-day form and appearance" (Karl Kretschmar's *What Lutherans Teach*, p. 3). But doctrines foreign to the original true church are followed, and doctrines followed by the original church are *not* observed.

We have seen how Satan, knowing that his time for ruling this earth is now short, quickly substituted the deceptive doctrines of Semiramis' Mysteries for the true doctrines that Christ and the apostles taught. But we have also seen in Scripture *the way* by which the few

now called can recognize deception.

Satan, using the churches that arose after the apostles' time, was able to deceive the world, but the original church at Jerusalem has given us *The Bible* despite all Satan's attempts to have it stamped out.

What God Requires of You

Are you fulfilling God's requirements for salvation? The very fact that you are reading this shows that God is revealing Himself to you. What should you now do?

Consider these facts! The household of God is "built upon the *foundation* of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone" (Ephesians 2:19-20). Note that what Christ and the apostles said or did was the *foundation* for the household or Kingdom of God. If one desires to enter the Kingdom of God, composed of spirit beings, he *must* build his actions on *this* foundation. *God has* commanded it! Paul, inspired by God, commanded this to the Ephesians—converted Gentiles—after the death of Christ. It is for *everyone* and is for *us now*.

Make this comparative "spot check." Beginning with the Book of Acts, there is much concerning how the disciples of Christ founded and conducted the New Testament church. Obtain a Bible concordance and try to look up the word "Christmas" or "Sunday" or "Halloween." (You need not look up these words for they do not appear once in your Bible!) By contrast, look up the word "Sabbath." Then look up the word "Pentecost." Was it being kept? As Christ formed the chief part of this "foundation," the things that He observed are to be kept also. So include the four gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, in this *word* research. The practices observed by Christ and the apostles were the *final* instructions to this world. It is time you quit being *deceived* by false teachers! It is time to wake up to the shocking fact that the churches of today have departed from the doctrines of the "ancient, original, apostolic Christian Church"!

And it is time to do something about it! Quit these foolish, heathen customs masquerading under Christ's name and begin to OBEY your Bible!

Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong

(Continued from page 8)

of Hawthorne, California whom I knew as a good friend. Mr. Haeber had not, I believe, up to this time been ordained as an elder but was an influential member.

Mr. Dugger had been accused of dictatorship, bossism, and even crookedness. I had not as yet met him, and did not judge. Nevertheless his new form of organization tended to divert criticism. He claimed the original Twelve Apostles were intended to form the top governing permanent Board of the Church as Christ organized it. He called this Board "The Twelve." Mr. Alexander, Mr. Haeber, and Mr. McMicken, I believe, were put on the "Board of the Twelve," (although there never were twelve). But Mr. Dugger kept his own name off of that supposedly governing Board, thus avoiding the accusation that he was "running things" as the head.

Next, taking the "seventy" which Jesus appointed for a one-time special mission (Luke 10), Mr. Dugger, with Mr. Dodd and Mr. McMicken, set up "The Board of the Seventy" leading ministers. On this Board they appointed as many names as they could, even including—as later appeared—several not even members of the church. There never were seventy, however. On this Board they had placed my name, and also those of Elders Oberg and Ray of Oregon. Elder Severson was, I believe, also on that "Board."

Finally, noting that the early apostles had appointed seven deacons to take care of the "business" of waiting on tables and serving proselyte widows (Acts 6: 1-4) Mr. Dugger devised a Board of Seven to handle the BUSINESS of the Church, making himself Chairman of that Board. The difference was that the early Apostles' seven deacons merely relieved the Apostles from the physical "business" of waiting on tables, serving food, and otherwise serving physical needs of widows; while Mr. Dugger's "Board of Seven" handled all Church

income and finances! Therefore it actually carried all the real power to govern. Mr. Dugger had control over the salaries of "the Twelve."

Persecution Continues

This "Bible form of Organization" appealed very much to most of our brethren in the Willamette Valley of Oregon. There were still two factions in the valley—one of them still loyal to "Stanberry" as it was called, the other—which had incorporated as the Oregon Conference—being enamored of the new "Organization." Immediately this group went eagerly in with the Dugger movement, which had set up headquarters at Salem, W. Virginia.

Mr. Dugger claimed "World Headquarters" as Jerusalem, Palestine, with United States Headquarters at Salem, West Virginia. Thus this became known as the "Salem church." The brethren I had worked with in the Oregon Conference went fully into the "Salem" church, including Elders Ray and Oberg—the Runcorns, Milas Helms, J. J. McGill, Yancey McGill and the entire McGill family.

In those days one Biblical subject I was completely befogged on was the matter of church organization and government. I *knew* the "Stanberry" pattern of a General Conference was not Scriptural. I *knew* that voting by human preference was unscriptural. I saw plainly that Christ *chose* His Apostles—that they and the evangelists, in turn, chose and ordained elders in local churches. Consequently in the church now meeting at Jeans school house, since I was the evangelist God used in raising up this church, I chose and appointed Mr. Elmer E. Fisher as deacon, remaining as Pastor myself.

But just what truly was the Biblical form of organization I did *not* at that time see clearly. I was really confused on the question. I had grave misgivings about Mr. Dugger's professed "Bible

form" of organization. I talked it over with Mr. and Mrs. Fisher, Mr. Claude Ellis, and others of our Church at Jeans. Mr. Fisher was not "sold" on it, either. He advised going slow.

Meanwhile Messrs. Ray and Oberg were exerting every effort to keep me out of the new "Organization." One of the basic doctrinal points of the "Salem" organization was abstaining from "pork" and observing rigidly the law of the "clean and unclean" of Leviticus 11. Mr. Ray now tried to kill me with the new "Organization" with his anti-pork argument.

Consequently Mr. Fisher, Mr. Ellis, the other members at Jeans and I decided we would simply leave the answer in God's hands. We would pray and ask God to show us in this manner: If the "Salem" re-organization did accept me as "one of the 70" in spite of the opposition of Messrs. Ray and Oberg, we would go in. Otherwise we would remain independent. The "Oregon Conference" was now virtually abandoned, since its members had gone in with the "Salem Movement."

The Test

For some months the status quo remained. Neither acceptance nor rejection came from "Salem." Then one day Otto Haerber came to the office I had set up in an ante-room in the old Masonic Temple, accompanied by Elder Alexander from Kansas.

I had never met Mr. Alexander before. But since I had heard a great deal about him, and read much about him in the Church paper, the *Bible Advocate*, I was happy to meet him. I was steering the conversation along the general lines of getting acquainted, asking about the work in Kansas and general conversation.

Suddenly Mr. Haerber interrupted, rather sternly.

"Mr. Armstrong," he said abruptly, "apparently you do not quite grasp the importance of this meeting. Mr. Alexander is one of 'The Twelve.'" Mr. Alexander is a very important man! His time shouldn't be wasted by mere friendly conversation. Mr. Alexander is the man who has the power to bring about your acceptance on the Board of the Seventy, if you can satisfy him about

your stand on the clean and the unclean' meat question."

I had met many "important" men in the business world, and I had not sensed anything in Mr. Alexander's appearance or personality that was overawing.

"Well!" I exclaimed. "I had not realized! I beg your pardon for wasting your valuable time. I will tell you my stand on this question in one or two minutes.

"Point number one: I read in Scripture that *sin* is the transgression of the Law. In Romans 7 Paul says the law it is sin to transgress is *spiritual*—a spiritual, not a physical law. Point two: Jesus Christ, speaking of spiritual defilement in Mark 7, says that physical food entering a man's stomach from without cannot defile him *spiritually*, but that which comes from within, out of the heart—adulteries, murders, thefts, covetousness—*transgressions of the Ten Commandments*—defile the man *spiritually*. Point three: The 'clean and unclean' laws of Leviticus 11 are *physical*, not spiritual laws.

"Point four: Christ preached the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. He commanded the Apostles, and us today, to preach the KINGDOM of God. That is the GOSPEL I am commanded to preach. Point five: Paul says plainly in Romans 14 that the Kingdom of God is *not* meat and drink, but righteousness, which is obedience to God's Law.

"Point six: Therefore I do not *preach* to the unconverted meat and drink because it is not the Gospel. *But*, on the other hand, the physical body *is* the 'temple of the Holy Spirit,' and we are taught not to defile it, even *physically*.

"Finally, point seven: I realize fully that there were both the clean and unclean animals long before Mosaic Law—even prior to the flood—and therefore from creation. God did not create the unclean animals for food. Just as many plants and weeds are poison and not food, so unclean animals were not made to digest properly or nourish the human body. They are not "creatures of God" intended for food. They are not sanctified—or set apart—by the Word of God. Peter's vision of the unclean animals in the sheet was given, it is distinctly stated in Acts 10, to show him that he should not call any *man* unclean—not to make

unclean animals clean. Therefore I do *teach* every convert and every church member that they must not eat the unclean meats. We do not eat them in our home. Not one of our church members—not one of my converts—is eating unclean meats. But I teach it as a *physical* matter of health, not as a spiritual matter of the true Gospel.

"That, in few words, Elder Alexander, is what God's Word *says* and teaches and what I believe. Now I'm very sorry I wasted your valuable time, and since it is so valuable I shall not take up more of it. Good day, Gentlemen."

And I opened the door.

Actually, I snapped out this explanation of my stand probably at a faster pace than most readers have been able to read it. It left Mr. Alexander a little bewildered. But he could not deny, refute, nor question a word of my explanation.

"Well, Mr. Armstrong," he managed to say as they were leaving, "it seems to me you believe the same way the church does, only you may have a little different way of stating it."

A short time later, I received official acceptance of my appointment as one of the ministers of "The Seventy" from Salem, West Virginia.

Co-Operating—Not Joining

Thus we of the Church of God meeting at the Jeans school house, still dubious about this new "organization," decided to go along with it in co-operation, but we did not "join" in the sense of becoming an integral part of it.

I then began to send in regular minister's reports. We co-operated fully as brethren in Christ. But I did not accept salary or expense money from them. None in our local church put himself under their authority. We kept ourselves free to obey God as set forth in the Scriptures, should any differences come up. And they did later come up!

After the experience of being ordered to baptize contrary to the Scriptures and the renouncing of the \$3 weekly "salary" we were firm never again to be placed in a position where we might have to obey men rather than God.

Actually, although we did not know it then, Christ Himself had started the "Philadelphia" era or phase of His

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Jesus said, "This Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached (and published—Mark 13:10) in all the world for a witness unto all nations" (Mat. 24:14) *at this time, just before the end of this age*. A PRICE *must be paid* for the magazine, the broadcast, the Correspondence Course, or other literature. But HOW? Christ forbids us to *sell* it to those who receive it: "Freely ye have received," said Jesus to His disciples who He was sending to proclaim His Gospel, "freely GIVE!" "It is *more blessed*," He said, "to GIVE than to receive."

God's WAY is the way of LOVE—and that is the way of *giving*. God expects every child of His to give free-will offerings and to tithe, as His means of paying the costs of carrying His Gospel to others. We, therefore, simply trust our Lord Jesus Christ to lay it on the minds and hearts of His followers to give generously, thus paying the cost of putting the precious Gospel TRUTH in the hands of others. Yet it must go *only* to those who ask for it for themselves! Each must, for himself, *subscribe*—and his subscription has thus already been paid.

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Autobiography

Church with the organization of that little Church of God now meeting at Jeans school, following the meetings in the Firbutte school, and following the rejection of the salary and authority of men resulting from the "All-Day-Wrangle."

Result of Eugene Meetings

The meetings continued for two months in the second-floor hall of the Old Masonic Temple, just off the main street, Willamette, on West Seventh Avenue. But Mr. Chambers, owner of the building, had made arrangements for remodeling and permanent occupancy of the hall beginning June 1st. I managed to rent a hall on the second floor, on the east side of Willamette Street between Seventh and Eighth, beginning June 1st. Meetings continued there for three and a half months, closing the middle of September.

The down-town meetings had continued in Eugene five and a half months. Results actually were less than in other five or six weeks' campaigns where services were held six nights a week. Definitely we learned that holding meetings three times a week on non-consecutive nights does not build up or sustain an interest comparable to every-night

services. This was an important lesson.

Nevertheless, there was a harvest. There always was a harvest. That was a main reason for the opposition from the other ministers in the two branches of the "Sardis" phase of the Church. No one in the Church of whom I could inquire knew of any "fruit" whatsoever having been borne at any time by any of the other ministers then in the Church. Their jealousy, antagonism, competitive spirit, opposition against the only work God was blessing, eloquently testified to the reason—carnality—lack of real conversion and yieldedness to God. God can use only those who have surrendered to become instruments in His Hands.

I do not remember now how many had appeared to have repented, and believed, and how many had been baptized during and at the end of these meetings. It seems it was around ten to fifteen. But several of these were of the type Jesus referred to in His parable of the sower: the largest number compared to the wayside. Jesus Christ sowed the "seed"—the Word of God—by my voice. These were the ones who came and heard, but did not understand nor believe; and Satan took the truths they

heard out of their hearts, *lest* they should believe and be saved (Luke 8:12). Those stopped attending before the close of the meetings. Some compared to the stony ground, including the young man and woman already mentioned. They received Christ's Gospel with gladness and joy—but had no depth of character, and endured only for a while. Others compared to the ground covered with thorns—the cares of this world and desire for worldly amusements caused them to drop out.

Nevertheless, even though few if any of those brought in during those meetings proved to be the "good ground" which endured, there were some ten or fifteen additional ones making the start of a Christian life. A new Sabbath School was organized for these, meeting at our home on West Fourth Avenue on Sabbath afternoons. The Sabbath morning services continued out at Jeans School house. Often several from there came in to Eugene for the afternoon class at our home.

The next installment will cover the campaign at Alvadore, the purchase of the church building in Eugene, and rapid growth of the broadcast work.

THE BIBLE ANSWERS

Short Questions

FROM OUR READERS

Is the Book of Mormon the prophesied "stick of Joseph" mentioned in Ezekiel 37? And does the "stick of Judah" really represent the Bible as some claim?

Here is a vital, yet little understood, prophecy.

Is the "stick of Joseph" the *Book of Mormon*? Some believe this to be the interpretation of Ezekiel 37, but *is it true?* What is this chapter speaking about?

The truth is, this chapter is speaking *neither* about the *Book of Mormon* nor the Bible. It is a prophecy concerning NATIONS—not books! It is a prophecy for the near future—of the house of Israel being once again united to the

House of Judah *after Christ returns*.

Notice the plain statements of scripture!

Begin with the 15th verse. The illustration of the *two sticks* shows *two houses*, or *nations*, Israel and Judah, being once more UNITED, under Christ, in the land of Palestine. Notice the proof in verse 22, "And I will make them ONE NATION in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and ONE KING shall be king to them *all*: and they shall be no more TWO NATIONS, neither shall they be divided into TWO KINGDOMS any more at all . . ."

Contrary to the fantastic notions taught by one religious group, the 16th

(Please continue on page 32)

The Eighth Commandment

(Continued from page 10)

sians. "Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth" (Ephesians 4:28).

On the one side, stealing is *condemned* in this passage. On the other, *working* and *giving* are outlined as the WAY OF LIFE the positive application of God's command dictates.

Property and possessions are to be gained by *honest work*—not merely to satisfy personal desires and needs—but so that any excess may be freely GIVEN to the brother in need. In the real intent or "spirit" of God's Law, a man not only steals by *taking* from another that which is his, but by refusal to work in order to *share* and GIVE to others in need!

The true Christian should be: "Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to *hospitality*" (Rom. 12:13).

As God's begotten children, we are to become *like Him* (Mat. 5:48). And Jesus said: "My father *worketh* hitherto, and I *work*" (John 5:17).

God's kingdom is a *creating*, a *working*, a *producing* kingdom. God creates and works *in order to give and share with others!*

For the inspired James wrote: "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father . . ." (James 1:17). And so the very *nature* of God—which we all MUST come to have if we are to have eternal life—that nature is *working*, *producing* and GIVING. It is the very *antithesis* of stealing in any and every form!

The *positive* lesson of the eighth commandment is also summarized in these all-inclusive words of Jesus, the Christ: "*It is more blessed to GIVE than to receive*" (Acts 20:35).

If, through God's Spirit, we can truly learn to *live by* those words, we will have indeed fulfilled the spirit of the *eighth* commandment!

Next month, we will consider the *ninth* commandment of God—a principle that reveals His Divine *character* more than you have probably realized. Be sure to read next month's article.

Struggle for SURVIVAL

(Continued from page 4)

"Great Britain is going through a political and economical revolution. *You and I will never recognize conditions in England when that revolution is completed.* This is not a matter of years away, but a matter of URGENT, IMMEDIATE ACTION!"

Speaking of the resulting sickness of the United States economy, in the light of such unprecedented developments, the Baxter Economic Report said, "The whole world is scrambling for German and Japanese money because they are low-cost producers. When you are a high-cost producer, and when a nation pays out 34% of the total income in the form of taxation, all experience and history indicates that we are *very sick indeed!*"

Yes, our economy is SICK!

Without realizing it, we are a gullible, heedless nation, willing to glut ourselves on our own bloated prosperity, seeking the sensual thrills and attractions of the moment, heedlessly unaware of the frightening trends under way everywhere in the world right now, which are going to spell our ultimate *collapse*, unless we, individually and as a nation, can WAKE UP, and repent of our national crimes and sins, before it is everlastingly *too late!*

Germany Enjoying Unheard-of Prosperity!

Here, to add to the bewildering figures quoted in the August issue, are further statistics of the huge economic

comeback of West Germany!

"The World Bank has just picked up a big piece of change in Germany. A borrowing of 240 million dollars—half in dollars, half in marks—was arranged with the German Central Bank on July 13. This is the largest single borrowing by the World Bank since it sold 250 million dollars worth of bonds in the U.S. market back in 1947" (*U.S. News and World Report*, July 25, 1960).

Here, translated by Ambassador College German Department students, from a top newspaper in the Ruhr is a startling quotation: "Germany was the largest contributor to the World Bank during the last two years!" (*Die Welt*, July 6, 1960).

"Professor Erhard, the Economic Minister, said in Cologne yesterday that the present volume of orders for goods exceeded the productive capacity of West German industry between 20 and 30 percent" (*London Times*, July 4, 1960).

Think of it! That means that German production has literally "bumped against the ceiling" and that the present orders for German-manufactured goods are exceeding the productive capacity or ability of West German manufacturers to *meet* those requirements!

And, while joblessness is increasing by leaps and bounds in the United States, with many manufacturers going out of business as a result of foreign pressure, notice this startling quotation: "Nuremberg, Germany, July 6 (AP) The Federal Labor Office reported today . . . about half a million jobs are going begging . . . adding that foreign labor must be imported to fill the vacancies" (*St. Louis Post Dispatch*, July 6, 1960).

And from the Orient Too!

But this surprising economic comeback is not limited *alone* to the European nations—but is, in many respects, not only being matched but *surpassed* by the revitalized nation of Japan!

Can your mind envision it?

Just a few short years ago, the nations of Germany, Italy and Japan were the beaten, whipped, dejected, *losers* in the gigantic World War II! Their countries lay in smoking ruins, their people broken in spirit, saddened and sorrowful over the absolute UNCONDITIONAL SURREN-

DER of their nations to the assembled military might of the Western allies!

Today, those same nations are no longer the beaten, whipped, dejected peoples they once were! Far from it—*those very three* are spearheading the massive drive for economic control, with industrial capacities unheard-of in their national histories!

"Japanese industrialists are preparing to fight Britain for the economic lead in Southeast Asia. The battle will be fought in Burma, Indonesia, Siam, Malaya and Singapore.

"The hub of the attack spins on a slogan which the Japanese think will hurt Britain most: 'Asians must buy from Asians' [remember the co-prosperity sphere?]

"Kiyoshi Kimura, 40-year-old head of the Japanese Export Trade Recovery Organization, explained why Southeast Asia looms so large in Japanese ambitions. He said: 'Like Britain, we are an island race. We must trade or perish. And we don't intend to perish.'

"Curiously enough it is the Americans who have inadvertently encouraged the Japanese to mount this economic blitz on Britain by their decision to give loans to nations of Southeast Asia" (*New York World Telegram and Sun*, March 2, 1960).

In an article entitled "The Deluge" appearing in *Newsweek*, August 1, 1960, came this startling quotation:

"U.S. sporting-goods manufacturers are so worried that they're taking their case to the Tariff Commission this week, will ask for higher import duties (currently about 15 percent on most sporting goods). Their main gripe: they aren't getting a fair share of the burgeoning \$2.1 billion sporting-goods market. They point out, for example, that sales of tennis rackets went up 21.9 percent last year, but sales by U.S. manufacturers decreased 2.5 percent . . . Japanese tennis rackets, for instance, sell for \$2 to \$10 versus \$10 to \$30 for the American-made variety. Baseball gloves range from about \$3 to \$10 versus \$8 to \$40; golf balls, from about \$4 to \$9 a dozen versus \$9 to \$15. *The big reason for the low prices: LOW JAPANESE WAGES—22 to 30 cents an hour!*" (*Newsweek*, August 1, 1960, emphasis ours).

Exactly! Because these countries are operating at a much lower *standard of living, wage costs* can be kept MUCH lower than those in the United States, and producers of consumer goods are able to manufacture top-quality commodities at *much lower prices* than those we are able to produce.

"Janome Sewing Machine Company, Ltd., Japan's largest manufacturer of sewing machines, has purchased the second largest U.S. maker, New Home Sewing Machine Company, which has headquarters here . . . New Home Sewing Machine Company is a subsidiary of Free Sewing Machine Company. As part of the agreement, Free Sewing Machine Company will cease to do business" (*Los Angeles Times*, July 21, 1960).

Yes, some American manufacturers are *going out of business*—or being *bought out of business* by Japanese or other foreign manufacturers!

"Washington—Japan has become an important exporter of bicycles to the United States . . . the Japanese shipped 27,671 bicycles here in the first five months of this year compared with 1,847 in the same period of last year"

(*Christian Science Monitor*, July 16, 1960).

What kind of an increased percentage would *this* startling statistic be? Think of it! *Twenty-seven times over* in just one year!

"An official at Kaiser Steel Fontana Plant said employees are still being laid off because of declining steel orders in the face of competition from foreign markets. William J. Gleason, manager of export sales at Kaiser, said . . . The United States, as a whole, seems to be losing ground in the struggle to gain a larger share of the steel market.

"He says the latest figures indicate an *increase of a million tons* of imported steel this year to boost the total to 5½ million tons.

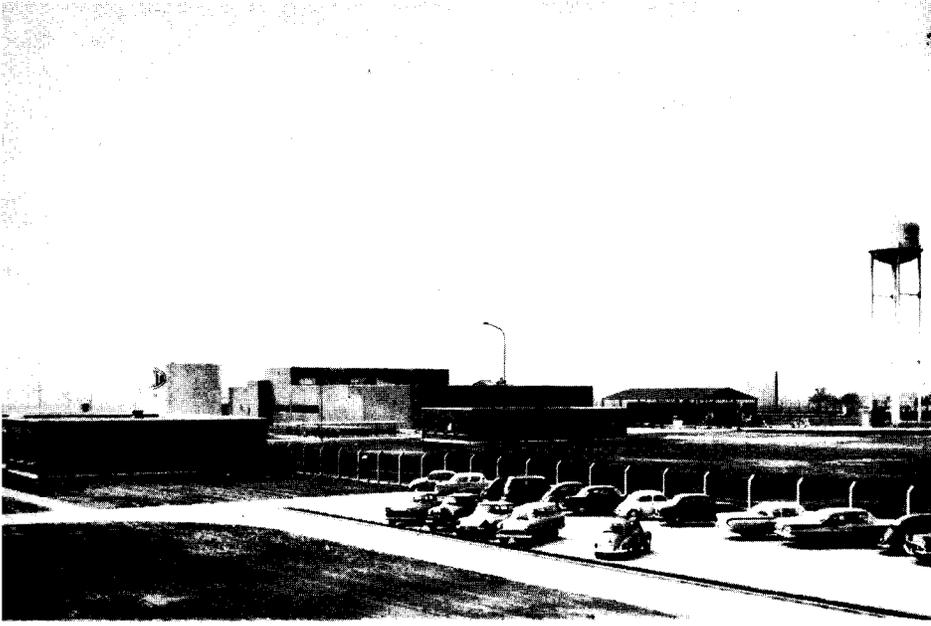
"Gleason said 3,500 employees at Kaiser could be kept busy the year round producing the amount of steel being imported on the West Coast from the Orient, Australia and Europe" (*L.A. TIMES*, June 20, 1960).

We have *failed* to recapture foreign markets lost as a result of the recent disastrous steel strike! Instead, *America continues* to lose ground because of

The first foreign built car designed especially for the American car market. These cars, sprinkled with snow, are being loaded for shipment to U.S. ports.

Wide World Photo





Wide World Photo
 General view of Du Pont De Nemours plant at Malines, Belgium. In Belgium as in every other Euromart nation industrial expansion is everywhere visible, as in this picture of administration buildings, manufacturing units, laboratories and warehouses.

increased foreign steel imports flooding into the United States market at an alarming rate, undercutting and underselling United States steel by a wide margin!

"Japanese TV sets will soon invade the American market in large numbers . . . black and white AND color. Key to possible success: setting up of service stations and parts outlets . . . and granting of warranties.

"Results: big price war" (BABSON'S WASHINGTON FORECAST, July 4, 1960).

And so it goes! From around the world, from Europe *and* from the Orient, come the rumblings of the ominously building, black, threatening clouds of a gigantic *trade war!*

Just as God said, we are being literally *besieged* on the economic front.

Frankenstein Monster!

These facts are but a *few* of the great, mounting pile of evidence shouting the news to a heedless people of impending national calamity!

We have had time, in these two brief articles, but to "barely scratch the surface" of the all-encompassing, worldwide TRADE WAR that is mounting in intensity every single week!

Perhaps one of the most amazing statements of all was made by Congressman H. Allen Smith, as published

in the GLENDALE INDEPENDENT, August 2, 1959!

The article reported, "The billions of dollars America has sent overseas in economic foreign aid may have 'created a Frankenstein monster powerful enough to crush us.'

"As background for the statement he points out that 'industrial conditions throughout the world have changed rapidly and radically in a way that may hold grave consequences for the United States.'

"He is of the opinion, 'it could mean mass unemployment and enormous industrial displacement in this country at some future date.'

"He emphasizes that 'many nations have used American dollars to build industrial systems that are invading American markets both abroad and at home at an alarming rate.'

"He supplements this observation with: 'This combination of modern, streamlined American production methods and cheap foreign labor is deadly. It is causing displacement of United States products in almost every area of the globe, including our own country.'

"'At the same time the establishment of common markets in Western Europe has set a trend which can ultimately squeeze American goods out of the picture entirely.'

"The menacing events taking place in the field of world trade have largely been overlooked by the American people because of the huge domestic demand created by our increased numbers and higher standard of living.

"There was a time when Japanese-made products were largely gimcracks sold in our dime stores. But today, practically every drugstore in the country is featuring Japanese cigarette lighters, cameras and other products that compete with American-made goods.

"There was a time, also, when American automotive manufacturers laughed off the competition from foreign-made cars. There is no laughing today. In the last seven years imports of foreign cars have jumped from 20,000 to 400,000 and the trend is still upward.

"Perhaps the most dramatic and serious example is in the steel industry. In 1920, American companies produced nearly 60% of all the steel in the world. Today, our share in the world market is about 28%. Our shipments to Italy fell five billion dollars in two years. England has cut her imports drastically. Our steel has been virtually cut off in South Africa and is slipping badly in Argentina.

"One American firm built a new plant close to one of its largest buyers only to find that German steelmakers, nearly 5,000 miles away could offer the same product at a much lower price. The Japanese can buy scrap on the West Coast, send it to Japan for manufacture into steel reinforcing bars and then ship them to the United States for sale at \$30.00 a ton less than our own firms can make them.

"In Japan, a steelworker costs his employer 46 cents an hour; in the United States, a steelworker costs \$3.10 an hour on the average.'

"These are just a few examples. The plain fact is that in industry after industry, U.S. products are being priced out of foreign markets. During 1958 alone, American exports fell off 3.5 billion.

"If this trend continues, our gold reserves will diminish, the stability of our currency will be threatened and our industries will be forced to make large cuts in production. This will mean unemployment and a tremendous loss

of income to the American family at a time when it has become used to living on a high-level standard.

"It wasn't too long ago that foreign countries needed U.S. dollars to ease the post-war 'dollar gap' and re-establish their own economies, but that time has ended." (GLENDALE INDEPENDENT, August 2, 1959).

Yes—exactly as was explained in the August issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH*—we have *bought and paid for*, with our tax dollars, a *union* of foreign nations which, as Congressman Smith has said, is a "Frankenstein *monster* powerful enough to crush us!"

We have listed this lengthy quotation because it presents an able *summary* of much of the present economic picture.

Meanwhile, the average citizen in the United States indolently and lazily follows his own day-to-day pursuits, heedlessly ignoring the fantastically threatening danger signs—wondering, perhaps, about the latest baseball scores, next weekend at the beach or the lake, or next summer's vacation!

Almighty God is indicting our nation for our tremendous, monstrous, mounting national crimes and sins!

He has *said*, in plain—straight-from-the-shoulder prophecies, that He would bring foreign nations upon us which would break our national *economy*, and would ultimately place us in a state of *siege*!

A Siege Coming!

But you might ask, "How can a siege occur with the modern methods of warfare?"

The answer is simple!

Through *trade war*!

If U.S. goods are no longer bought *anywhere* in any foreign markets, and we are *unable to sell*—that would be a very serious situation, indeed!

But, what if we were also UNABLE TO BUY?

Think of it! With the United States headed toward severe drought in the future (as your Bible prophecies!), with mounting and increasing crop failures, disease in our cattle, and *internal* economic disaster, what if the United States would desperately need to BUY, from *foreign producers*, the *basic neces-*

sities of life, foodstuffs, raw materials, etc., in order to survive?

Then, what if, true to the Biblical prophecies, the present-day trade war becomes not only economic but POLITICAL in nature?

That would spell the complete DOOM of our peoples!

And God says this is *exactly* what is GOING TO HAPPEN—unless our peoples repent!

"And he shall *besiege* thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustedst, throughout all thy land: and He shall *besiege* thee in all thy gates throughout all thy land, which the Eternal thy God hath given thee" (Deut. 28:52).

God prophesies that a foreign nation will *besiege* us!

But the siege will not be *military*—but *economic*!

Think of it! God describes impending NATURAL disasters—calamities in the weather, rapidly spreading disease epidemics in our lands! "A third part of thee shall die with the pestilence [disease epidemics in unheard-of proportions!], and with FAMINE shall they be consumed in the midst of thee . . . I shall send upon them the evil arrows of famine, which shall be for their *destruction*, and which I will send to destroy you, and I will increase the famine upon you, and will break the staff of bread, so will I send upon you FAMINE and EVIL BEASTS [RABIES spreading like wildfire among our domesticated animals—wild animals attacking humans] and PESTILENCE and BLOOD shall pass through thee, and I will bring the sword upon thee, I THE ETERNAL HAVE SPOKEN IT!" (Ezek. 5:12-17).

Do you see? God says our people will be made prostrate—helplessly in need of foodstuffs, clothing, shelter, and other items. But—instead of HELPING us, God says our present "lovers," or our "bought and paid for friends" in foreign nations, will WITHHOLD the needed help from us!

Notice! "I called for my lovers [foreign allies], but they deceived me . . . they have heard that I sigh [our national economic disaster]: there is none to comfort me!" (Lam. 1:19-21). "As for us," the people will say then, "our

eyes as yet failed for our vain help—in our watching we have watched for a NATION [NOT our God!] that could not save us!" (Lam. 4:17).

THAT is the meaning of the prophesied *siege*.

With the "United States of Europe" and Japan reaching UNHEARD-of economic prosperity, with great, terrible national calamities and catastrophies in the form of disastrous weather conditions, crop failures, destroyed surpluses, huge, rampant disease epidemics afflicting nearly a THIRD OF OUR PEOPLES, our industry lying prostrate, our people CALLING OUT FOR HELP TO FOREIGN NATIONS—God says they will TURN AGAINST us!

He says there will BE no help coming! He says they will WITHHOLD the needed foodstuffs and help from us in our time of DIRE need!

Yes—as much as we might like to IGNORE it, as much as we might HOPE it isn't true, a SIEGE IS COMING! You are being WARNED, *right now*! God says YOU don't need to be trapped in it—He says there is a WAY of escape for YOU, if you're willing to take it. If you haven't yet read it, write immediately for the free article on "What is REAL Repentance?"

LETTERS TO EDITOR

(Continued from page 2)

a sample of the output of Ambassador College then it certainly must be a wonderful place."

Man from British Columbia, Canada

And here is another letter:

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"The two you sent to baptize me are truly dedicated young men. They spent four hours here answering my questions, instructing and baptizing me. They are, without question, true ministers of God; every question answered without hesitation and proved by the Bible. I have never had an experience like it. I wished they could have stayed longer. I almost wept when they left, and I wanted to kiss both but was afraid they might be offended. How I wish I could live close enough to go and ask the true ministers of God when I do not understand."

From Iowa

The Bible Story

by Basil Wolverton

CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE

CROSSING THE RED SEA

ALTHOUGH the crowd around Moses remained silent, there were many who wanted to speak out and demand to know just how the Egyptian army encamped nearby would disappear. But at that moment something happened to the cloud that was gradually changing into a fiery mass.

It moved northward over the Israelites—then stopped in a spot midway between the Israelites and the Egyptian army! (Exodus 14:19-20.)

The Long Night Begins

When the people saw how the fiery column had placed itself between them and their pursuers, their frenzy turned into awe. Still there were those who were fearful of Pharaoh's army, regardless of God's fiery sign in the sky. Even after the base of the blazing pillar settled right down to the ground there were many who were unable to be calm as long as they knew that Egyptian soldiers were so close.

However, the very presence of the pillar of fire behind them made it possible for most of them to lie down and sleep, realizing that God was watching over them.

Back in Pharaoh's camp there was sudden confusion. Observers had been ordered to keep their eyes on the Israelites to make certain that there was no sign of their breaking camp during the night. When the observers reported that the campfires of the Israelites had suddenly gone out, Pharaoh was notified.

"It could be a trick," one of Pharaoh's officers remarked. "Perhaps they wanted us to think that they were camping for the night. Now they may be trying to escape through the mountains."

"Perhaps their campfires just naturally died down," another officer spoke up.

"Not all at once!" Pharaoh snapped. "Whatever is going on, I won't let these Israelites outsmart me. Alert my best chariot drivers and warriors to be ready to go within the hour. We will attack tonight!"

There was great excitement among the Egyptians because of the sudden order from their king. But the desire for a night attack died down when observers came in again to report that a very heavy fog had suddenly settled in from the south, and was covering almost all the area between the Egyptians and the Israelites.

"It is so heavy and thick that our forces could become lost and separated in it," one observer reported to Pharaoh.

In a way this was good news for Pharaoh, who reasoned that the sudden fog was the cause of losing sight of the Israelites' campfires.

"They can't possibly move on through the rough area along the sea south of here," Pharaoh declared to his officers. "With night coming on and a fog, they are hemmed in at our mercy. Let us wait until tomorrow to attack, when we can better observe the grand triumph of herding them into the sea!"

What the Egyptians didn't realize was that God was using the cloud pillar in the sky in such a way that the north side of it was composed of heavy fog to curtain off the Israelites and confuse their pursuers. At the same time, on its south side, the pillar was like a towering torch that lighted the Israelite camps for the amazing action to come.

Now that the fears of many of the Israelites had been lessened, the people began settling down for the night. They didn't know yet that it wasn't God's plan for them to spend the whole night where they were.

Everyone Ready!

Just a little while after the pillar of fire and clouds moved behind the Israelites, God told Moses what to do next. Moses obeyed, and riders were quickly sent out to the long lines of people, telling them to be ready about midnight to move on. This order caused more excitement. Some of the people decided that they were about to be attacked, and wanted to leave at once. Others complained because they would lose their sleep. Many didn't wish to leave the warmth of their fires that soon.

Puzzled at Moses' order to move on in the middle of the night, several of the elders came to inquire what direction would be taken.

"We shall move to the east," Moses replied.

"But the Red Sea is to the east!" they exclaimed.

"That is where we shall go," Moses said. "I shall let you know when to start

the people moving toward the beach.”

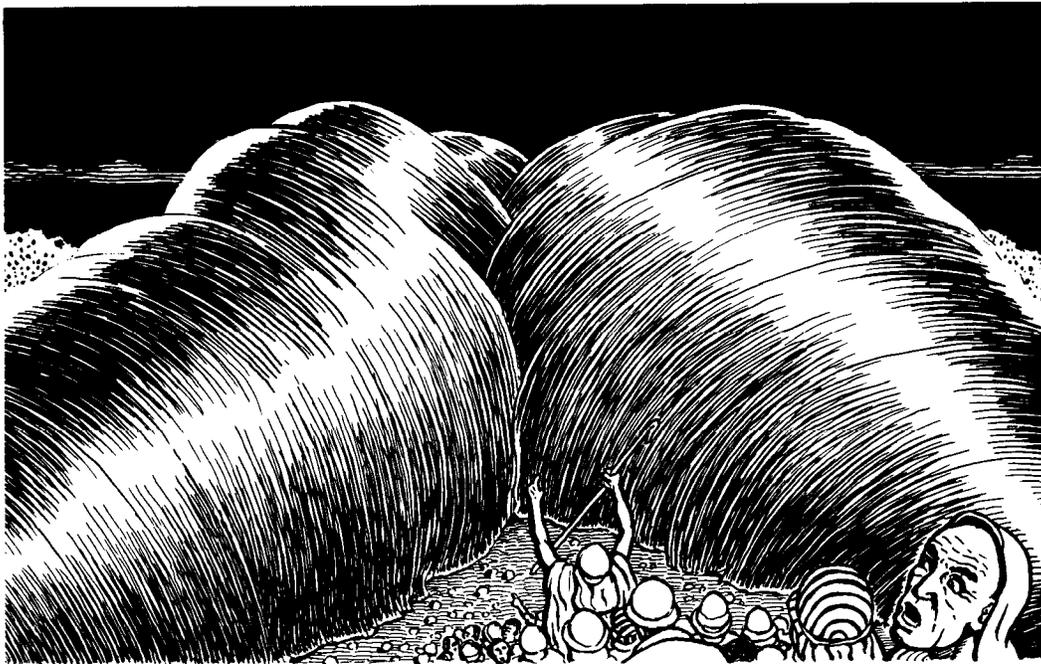
Curious to follow Moses and his officers, a perplexed mass of people later edged toward the dark waters to their left. Moses dismounted and gazed with Aaron upon this body of water which was a very long gulf, several miles wide, shooting up from the main body of the Red Sea. In the light from the blazing cloud, as thousands of people in the foremost ranks watched, Moses lifted up his shepherd's rod and held it out toward the water.

There was a distant roaring sound. It grew louder by the minute, until it sounded to the people near the shore like a giant waterfall.

“Look!” someone shouted. “There’s a hole in the water!”

A great murmur went up from the seashore throng as thousands of the Israelites witnessed something so astounding that at first they couldn’t believe their eyes.

In the blazing light from the pillar of fire, a huge ravine was gradually appearing before them in the sea! It was as though some invisible, gigantic hand had scooped out a trough in the water all the way across the gulf to the east shore miles away! A wide expanse of muddy sea bottom was exposed to view. To the right and to the left of this giant trough were towering cliffs of water that seemed frozen in upright walls, but which actually flowed freely as though it were level.



Roaring like a gigantic waterfall, the water began to roll back before Moses' outstretched arms!

God had miraculously plowed a road right through the Red Sea gulf by which the Israelites could escape to the east!

"There is where we shall travel to freedom!" Moses called out.

After the Israelite officers and elders had somewhat recovered from their first shocks of surprise, some of them pointed out to Moses that it would be impossible for the people and their livestock to wade through the slimy, muddy sea bottom.

"We needn't be concerned about that," Moses explained. "It will be a little while yet before we leave here. Meanwhile, God will prepare the way for us."

Even before Moses spoke, a strong, dry wind had come up. It increased in speed, soon sweeping down through the water-walled trough with gale force.

The dry, howling wind continued for several hours. The dust and sand it blew up made the Israelites who were nearest the seashore uncomfortable. But although it was a slight hardship for them, it was the means by which God dried up a part of the sea bottom so that they could walk upon it safely. (Ex. 14:21.)

Shortly after midnight the wind died down. There was a strange silence, broken only by the peculiar sounds of throbbing splashes from the upright walls of water.

Then came the order to move on.

Crossing the Red Sea

There must have been many Israelites who hesitated to move on, even though they saw Moses and Aaron and their officers ride down across the steep beach and out upon the dried mud valley between the awesome walls of water.

Nevertheless, the ranks of the Israelites passed on to the left and descended into the bed of the Red Sea gulf. To the right and to the left the walls of water loomed higher and higher as the people approached the lowest and deepest part of the great trough. At that point the water towered upward about three hundred feet!

It required faith and courage to make this unusual descent into a sea bed. Moses and Aaron were good examples in faith and courage. Thus it was easier for the Israelites to follow, though many of them had trouble herding shying livestock through the water-walled chasm.

Most of the people were too intent on reaching the east shore to notice the many things of interest on the sea floor. Some, however, noted the objects in their path. There were fish, crabs, octopi and other saltwater creatures that had been stranded in the mud when the waters parted. Of course most of them were not alive, having been out of water for quite a while. There were also half-dried remains of strange underwater plants and the shells of sea mollusks that had long since died.

As for live fish, there were plenty of those, too. Here and there a fish would



At the lowest part of the dry seabed, the water towered hundreds of feet above the trudging Israelites.

swim right out through the upright water and fall to the ground below. But the Israelites were interested only in escape, and even the largest of the wall-piercing

fish went almost unnoticed.

Back in the camp of the Egyptian army, events had been taking place that were soon to mean much both to Pharaoh and the Israelites. The Egyptians had bedded down for the night, but their sleep didn't last very long.

It was that strong, dry wind that aroused the Egyptians to action. Some alert guard noted that the heavy fog to the south of them didn't seem to be affected at all by the high wind. Word of this was finally brought to Pharaoh. The Egyptian king had suffered through many miracles from God, and now he was suddenly suspicious.

"Something peculiar is going on," he remarked to his officers. "Send word out for all to be ready to move on at top speed!"

When at last the Egyptian army did move on to the south in pursuit of the Israelites, it immediately ran into what appeared to be a very thick fog. Actually it was the base of the cloud pillar that had been leading the Israelites, and which had settled to the ground to separate them from the Egyptians.

Confusion overtook the Egyptian forces. The inky blackness of a night fog made it almost impossible to move on without running into all kinds of trouble.

Furthermore, the strong east wind whipped in from their left, blowing stinging sand and soil into the eyes of men and horses. Pharaoh was furious. As he couldn't get at the Israelites, he felt



Here and there fish would dart out of the upright water and fall unexpectedly to the ground.

increasingly certain that they were fooling him in some way. Now he regretted that he had failed to attack them when they were first sighted.

"Our drivers can't see which way to go," one of the king's officers reported. "Our horses and chariots will be lost or ruined if we continue in this manner."

"Then have every man and horse halt where he is," Pharaoh ordered. "We'll stand where we are until daylight comes and the fog lifts. Then we'll rush those fleeing slaves and either march them back to slavery or push them into the sea!"

The Egyptians didn't have long to wait. The hot east wind gradually died down. Then the fog began to lift. Actually, God was lifting the cloud pillar to move it out over the Red Sea.

Now the first faint rays of morning made it possible for the Egyptian army to move. Pharaoh's spirits soared. He felt that the Israelites had to be somewhere just ahead in the uncertain gray of dawn, and that there was no way for them to escape. Here, at last, was his happy opportunity to get revenge on the people whose God had caused so much trouble for him and for Egypt! Here was his chance to prove that he, Pharaoh, the supreme king of Egypt, would at last be the conqueror.

"Charge!" Pharaoh yelled.

The order was relayed back to thousands of men and horses and chariots. The elements of the Egyptian army spurred forward in the growing dawn. It was the greatest battle force ever to be used since man had been put on Earth.

But it was not like one great army rushing against another army. It was one vast military force bearing down upon a helpless mass of men, women and children. It was a plan for large scale murder. That plan had been schemed out by a man who believed that he could triumph over the people God had chosen for a special work.

God, however, was allowing Pharaoh to do these things. He was using the Egyptian king to show both the Egyptians and the Israelites that there was only one Supreme God and Creator.

Riding in his special chariot near the head of the charging forces, the king of Egypt was one of the first to notice that the camp sites of the Israelites appeared empty. It was still early morning dusk, and difficult to see very far.

Minutes later the Egyptian chariots and cavalry thundered past a vast area of dead campfires. But here and there a campfire was still smoldering.

"Those smoking ashes prove they haven't been gone very long!" one officer shouted. "They might be hiding in the rocks and defiles ahead!"

"Impossible!" Pharaoh shouted back. "Millions of people and animals couldn't squeeze into those places! Turn left toward the shore! Perhaps a low tide allowed

them to file around those crags next to the water!"

The foremost part of the force veered to the left and clattered toward the water. Suddenly the king held up an arm as a signal to halt. Gradually the speeding army ground to a stop.

Pharaoh stood in his chariot, his head stretched forward and his eyes popping and blinking in disbelief and bewilderment at what he saw.

"It—it looks like a ditch in the sea!" an officer blurted out.

"I can't believe it!" the king muttered. "Calm water *has* to be level. But here it is *upright!*"

"I—I—I don't like this," a paling officer stammered. "It's too much like those mysterious plagues we went through. We'd better turn back before something terrible happens."

"Look, oh king!" a young lieutenant blurted out, pointing to the space in the sea. "I see them!"

Pharaoh and those about him stared hard into the water-walled valley. The growing light of morning revealed very faintly, in the distance, the rear columns of the Israelites moving slowly to the east between the divided waters!

Pharaoh was jubilant. He raised his arms to silence the excited officers.

"These walls of water must indeed be a miracle from the God of the Israelites," the king shouted. "But if the Israelites don't fear to pass between these two bodies of water, why should we? As long as the Israelites are between the waters, their God won't let the sea go back into place. We'll be just as safe in there as they are. We can overtake them shortly. Pass the word back to move on after them at once!"

Egyptians Plunge Ahead

There were many Egyptian soldiers who were so startled at sight of the hole in the sea that they quavered at the very thought of going forward. But Pharaoh believed that he saw victory in sight, and no one dared fall back at such a time.

Thousands of clattering hoofs and rattling chariot wheels set up a din again as the vast army rolled down the steep shore and into the yawning space in the waters. (Ex. 14:23.)

Although the sea bed was dry on the surface, there were huge tufts of sea plants and dips and ridges that forced the chariots to go slower. Nevertheless, the speed of the Egyptian army was much greater than that of the plodding Israelites. The distance between the two groups was narrowing so swiftly that it would be only a matter of a few minutes before the rear columns of the Israelites would be cruelly set upon by their pursuers.

Several miles to the east, at the same time, the head columns of the Israelites had already emerged from the gap in the waters, and were moving slowly along the east shore of the gulf. Those who had come through felt a great relief to be out of that watery maw. But a fear of Pharaoh's army still gnawed at many of them, even though Moses had told them that they would never see that army again.

As for the rear part of the mass of Israelites, they were spared the fright of seeing their pursuers move so close to them. The cloud by which God aided them had moved out over the trough in the sea. Just before it descended, it allowed Pharaoh to view his intended prey. Then it moved down so that its base touched the bed of the sea, thus keeping the Israelites from knowing that Pharaoh and his army were so close to them.

For a second time in a matter of hours the Egyptians were to have great trouble with that cloud. Pharaoh and his officers saw the growing fog-like condition ahead of them. But with the morning growing brighter, they didn't think that low cloudiness would slow them up very much.

Suddenly a sizzling bolt of lightning spat out of the sky. The Egyptians looked up to see that what had seemed to be a fog bank had abruptly turned into a seething, towering mixture of clouds and flames! For the first time the Egyptians had a good look at the thing that had led the Israelites by day and by night. They were so startled that many of them came to a halt.

"Tell them to keep going!" Pharaoh ordered his officers. "The Israelites are just ahead of us!"

The king's voice was lost in the loud rumble of thunder from the cloud. Chariots and horsemen that had come to a halt or slowed up were rammed by those who continued the charge. Sudden confusion swept across the whole Egyptian army. To make matters worse, there was a sudden heavy downpour of rain. Within minutes the ground was a slippery, muddy mess. Chariots skidded together, smashing wheels and injuring horses and drivers. Horses and chariots became mired in the mud. What only minutes before had been a mighty fighting force was transformed into a struggling, helpless mass of men, horses and chariots. (Verses 24-25.)

"Let's get back out of here while we can!" one of Pharaoh's head officers yelled. "We can't win in a fight against these Israelites and their God!"

Other officers shouted out their agreement to the idea of a hasty retreat on foot. Pharaoh was dismayed to realize that he was fast losing control of his fighting force. Even so, he kept trying to preserve order.

(To be continued next issue)

Short Questions

(Continued from page 18)

verse does *not* refer to the *Book of Mormon* or the Bible. It is referring to nations!

This prophecy has puzzled many who fail to understand that after the death of King Solomon, the twelve tribes of Israel split into two nations. Under Jeroboam, king of Israel, were the ten tribes of the "House of Israel," led by Joseph's son Ephraim, and under Rehoboam, king of Judah, were two tribes called the "House of Judah." This history is found in I Kings 12:16-21. We find these two nations constantly at war against each other, according to the record of II Kings 16:5-6 and elsewhere. Later in history the "House of Israel" itself became subdivided into lesser nations. See Ezekiel 2:3, in the margin, where we read, according to the original Hebrew text: "Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to rebellious nations that have rebelled against me."

Judah—the Jews—and *Israel*—the democracies of Northwest Europe and the English-speaking world — are pictured in this prophecy as two separate peoples or nations which God will join together once again at the second coming of Christ to form *one nation* as they were long ago. These two "houses" or nations are thus plainly interpreted BY THE BIBLE to be the "stick of Judah" (under the leadership of the tribe of Judah) and the "stick of Joseph" (under the leadership of the descendants' of Joseph—the English-speaking people).

This vital prophecy is picturing a momentous change in international relations and world government!

Why don't you have prayer on your program as is done on other religious broadcasts?

There is no other broadcast like "The WORLD TOMORROW." It is unique and different from others in many ways. There are no pleas for money. The literature is paid for in advance so that it may be sent *free* to those requesting it.

The reason why Mr. Armstrong does not pray on the broadcast is because *the Bible forbids it!* Notice the teaching of Jesus Christ: "And **WHEN** thou prayest,

thou shalt NOT be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men . . ." (Matt. 6:5).

Many of the people listening to "The WORLD TOMORROW" broadcast are *unconverted*. They are not interested in hearing a flowery prayer and sentimental words. We do not pray to be heard by the man on the streets. Instead, we follow Christ's instructions: "But thou, when thou prayest, *enter into thy closet*, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret . . ." (Matt. 6:6).

Jesus Christ said to *pray privately*—NOT on the street corners or over the air. Our prayers are for God to hear, *not the world!*

I have no one to talk to about spiritual matters, and this makes me very lonely at times. How can I overcome this loneliness?

When you begin to feel alone, and in need of Divine help, just think of the thousands of others who have the same feeling—then go to God in prayer and ask Him to relieve them of their distress and loneliness. Get your mind on their problems and you will soon forget your own!

Your natural loneliness can be dispelled to a considerable degree by adequate *daily communion with God*. God speaks to us daily if we study our Bible daily. We talk to God when we pray. If we follow the examples of Daniel and David, we will pray to God three times daily (Dan. 6:10 and Psalms 55:17). When we pray and study we are communing with our spiritual Father, who is personally interested in our happiness.

You should ask God to supply your needs and to make it possible, in His own time, for you to meet others who love His ways. Ask Him, also, to give you peace of mind so that you will be able to serve Him wholeheartedly.

When we look at life from a standpoint of spiritual fellowship, we find those who are *without God* have *much* more reason to be lonely than do those who are *without human friends* in Christ. People can give us only physical company and little encouragement, but God can give us everything we have need of. Remember, our fellowship is first of all with God.

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