

THE PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding

MARCH 1980



NOW PROPHESED!
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THE
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding

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ABOUT OUR COVER

Soviet military authorities have been extremely reluctant to allow photojournalists into Afghanistan since their military assault on December 25. This photo of a Soviet-made Afghan tank is one of a few rare photos taken about the time of the Soviet military intervention into the mountainous republic.

François Lochon—Gamma/Liaison

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Personal from...

The Key to Human Survival

IF YOU and I were discussing the matter of what subject I should write about in this month's Personal, you might say, seriously, "Mr. Armstrong, in view of the deadly seriousness and the *urgency* of this time, I think you should write on the most urgent problem in all our lives right now—the question of *whether*, and *how*, we may survive!"

I would agree. The one **BIG QUESTION** in all our lives, right now, is that of human **SURVIVAL!**

But I hasten to add, survival *alone* IS NOT ENOUGH! We must have survival in **PEACE**, in happiness, in joy, in prosperity and plenty, and in abundant well-being for **ALL!**

And that's a pretty big order! If anyone has the answer, for the sake of humanity he'd better speak out! I am prepared to give the **ANSWER**—and it is going to be **PLAIN SPEAKING**, without pulling any punches! It's *time* for **PLAIN SPEAKING!** You are *betting your life* on someone coming up, in time, with the right answer!

To get to the crux of the problem immediately, realize first that these existing conditions and evils are merely the **EFFECT!** For every effect, there has to be a **CAUSE**. Our problem of immediate urgency is to find the **CAUSE**, not only of present evil conditions, but also of what is the not-being-used **CAUSE** of peace, happiness, and abundant well-being!

If we are going to learn that **CAUSE**, we need first to ask: What has made **MAN** as he is? How did humanity come to be on this earth? Or, going back even further, how did the earth, itself, come to *be*?

That may seem like going a long way back. But this futile search for **PEACE** goes a long way back—as far as history goes—or farther. Man's troubles, evils, and wars extend back to the beginning—or prior to the beginning—of history. To find the right answer, we need to go back even to **PRE-HISTORY!** That takes us even to the question of **ORIGINS—of BEGINNINGS!** And we shall come to the right answer quicker by beginning at the beginning!

Many scientists have devoted their lifetimes to researching and studying this question. Many scholarly

books have been written setting forth the results of these lifetime studies, purporting to tell the story of the origin of the earth and of mankind upon it. Yet is it not significant that their studies, theories, and hypotheses *fail to tell us* **WHY** man is as he is, or **HOW** he got that way, **WHY** man seems always to be befuddled with unsolvable problems, **WHY** he is always in trouble, **WHY** humanity is harassed with so many evils, and **WHY** these evils are fast increasing?

This is no light matter. Ignoring humanity's present dilemma will not cause it to go away. Human **SURVIVAL** hangs in the balance! We need the *right* answer—and we need it **NOW!**

And we can know!

The fruits of the speculative assertions of science have not been peace, happiness, universal prosperity, and abundant well-being. The world, instead, is **SUFFERING!** It is very sick!

To come to a knowledge of the **RIGHT ANSWER**, we need to understand what is wrong with the scientific method. **WHY** have the findings of modern science **NOT** produced peace and universal happiness? What has been wrong with the scientific method?

The world has had science, of a kind, for a very long time. But what we know as **MODERN SCIENCE** began its dramatic rise roughly 170 years ago. Even then, the new knowledge in the fields of science and technology developed very slowly at first.

Until this advent of modern science, the world had gone along for thousands of years virtually on an even keel—with no material progress to speak of. It was primarily an agricultural world, using primitive farming methods. The cast-iron plough was not invented until 1797. The disc plough was not invented until 1896, when I myself was alive and a growing boy! The first harvester came in 1836.

Abraham Lincoln once explained how mechanical and industrial progress could not develop until the invention of printing, about 1450 by Johannes Gutenberg in Germany. Even so, there was not much development in printing until the beginning of the 19th

century. Suddenly, German inventors emigrated to Great Britain to patent their inventions in paper making and the rotary press, which immensely increased productivity in printing.

Think of it! Through those long millennia the world was virtually without means of transportation or communication! Transportation on land was by foot, mule, horse, camel, elephant or in vehicles drawn by these animals. By sea, it was by slow-moving sailboat. Fulton didn't invent the steamboat until 1803. And the telephone, to provide communication, did not arrive until 1876. The telephone was in its infancy when I was a boy.

In my own lifetime, we have whipped past the machine age, the jet age, the nuclear age, and the space age. Much of the acceleration of inventions was stimulated first by the printing press, which made possible a greater diffusion of knowledge and exchange of ideas, and then by more rapid means of transportation—the steam engine, the steamboat, the automobile, the airplane. And finally, the telephone, telegraph, radio, TV.

But what was the original impetus?

With the emergence of "modern science" around the beginning of the 19th century, scientists assured the world that man had progressed to the point where he then could dispense with the superstitious crutch of religion and belief in God. Now humanity could rely on the *new* messiah—modern science.

"Given sufficient knowledge," said the scientists, "we shall solve all of humanity's problems and cure all the world's ills."

To replace religion and belief in God, scientists and educators had substituted the doctrine of evolution. The tools modern science used in the production of this new KNOWLEDGE were a stepped-up use of those man had employed since the dawn of history—rejection of revelation as a source of knowledge and the use of observation, experimentation, and human reason.

So the production of KNOWLEDGE increased at a constantly accelerating pace. The world's total fund of knowledge virtually *doubled* in the one decade of the 1960s!

But, paradoxically, as knowledge has increased, *so have humanity's* problems, troubles and evils, at almost an equal rate of acceleration!

What's wrong with the dictum that knowledge is the sole need for solutions? We are face to face with the stern FACT that increasing evils have escalated alongside increasing knowledge! That is not to say that the increased knowledge *caused* the growing evils. It does mean that the knowledge produced *did not cure* existing evils, *or prevent new evils!*

The ANSWER becomes plain. There was *something wrong* with the knowledge being produced, or else the needed MISSING DIMENSION in knowledge was not being discovered.

To the dictum of science that given sufficient knowledge, mankind's problems would be solved and hu-

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Ignoring humanity's
present dilemma will not
cause it to go away.*

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manity's ills cured, I add this: Solutions come from the *right* knowledge that supplies the *right* answer—the true CAUSE of both the evils and the CAUSE that would produce peace and joy and every GOOD result; and, secondly, solutions come from the application of that knowledge. For I have always said that knowledge is of value only to the extent that it is *used!*

In this feverish development of knowledge production, scholars in universities have been placing great emphasis on *academic freedom*. Academic freedom is defined as the independent judgment allowed teachers, scholars, scientists, and students in the pursuit of knowledge.

Science as a whole and higher education have exercised the academic freedom to postulate a creation without a Creator. They have engaged in the activity of knowledge production with total rejection

of any possibility of the miraculous, the supernatural, the existence of God—or anything outside the realm of the material. They have utterly rejected revelation as a source of basic knowledge!

When I engaged in research on the theory of evolution, I studied Darwin, Haeckel, Huxley, Vogt, Chamberlain, and other exponents of the theory. But also I looked at the other side of the question. But I would venture to say that most of those whose higher education has been acquired during the past half century have been taught and have accepted without question the evolutionary theory, *not having examined with any seriousness* the biblical evidences of special creation. The world's "best seller" has been dismissed *without a hearing*.

Is it not human to err?

Could it be *possible* for the most highly educated minds to have been intellectually misled or deceived? Could they, viewing only *one side* of the question, be infallible, entirely above making mistakes? For many years now, I have observed that errors almost always come when a person starts with a false basic premise—carelessly assumed as self-evident and taken for granted without question—and then builds on that false basic hypothesis.

Suppose we now appropriate the academic freedom to question that which educators have dismissed without examination.

Is it possible for us to find the EXPLANATION of why MAN is as he is, WHY the world is filled with evils? Is it possible for us to discover the CAUSE of all human suffering, anguish, unhappiness, and inequality? Is it possible to find the CAUSE that would produce peace, happiness, abundance, and prosperity—the CAUSE which world leaders have apparently overlooked? Is it possible to find the key to human survival?

The answer to the preceding questions is "YES!" Yes, it is possible to answer these basic questions that have haunted man as long as he has existed. Yes, there is an answer to these questions that deal with man's very survival. If you want ANSWERS to these questions, write for our booklet *Why Were You Born*. It's free for the asking. □

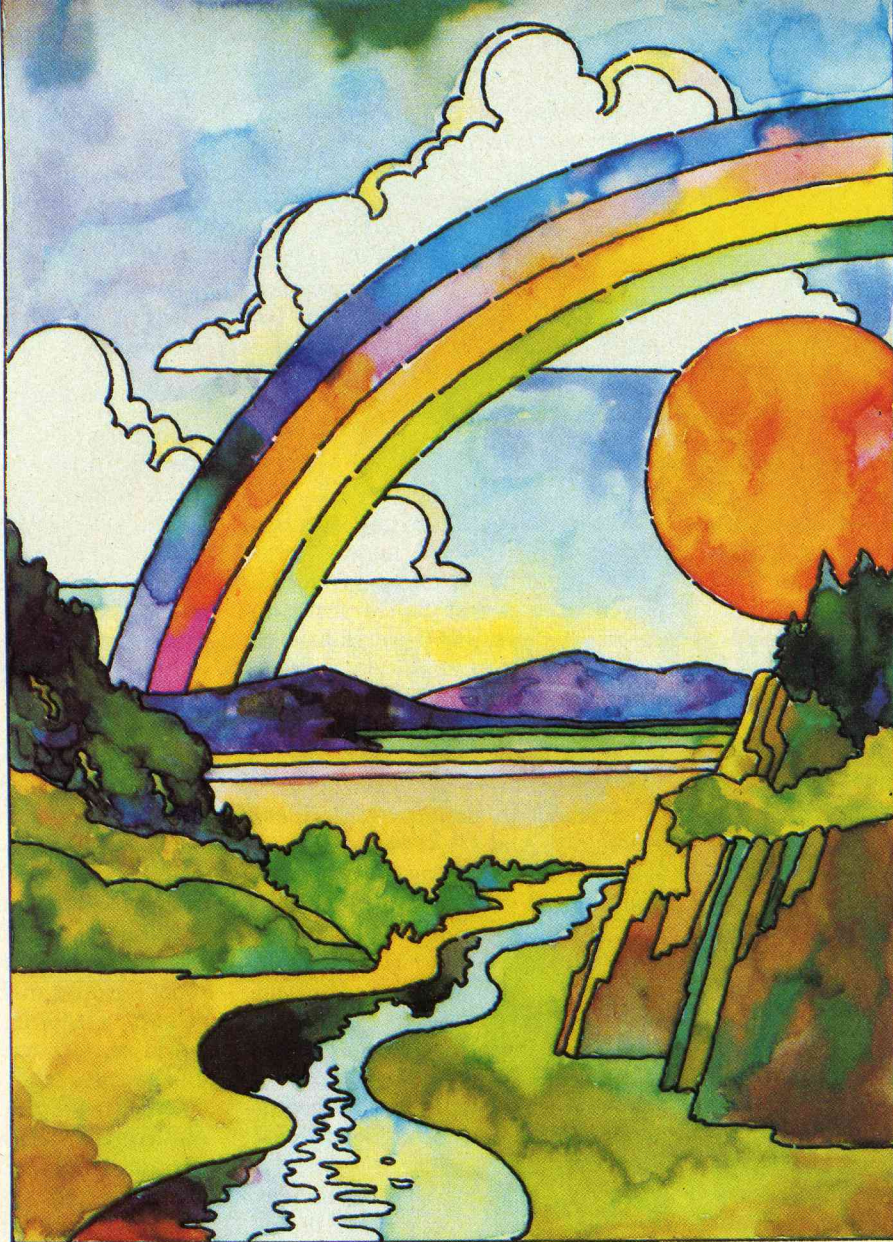


Illustration by Terry Smith

WHAT IS NOW PROPHESED!

Will the next two decades bring human extinction—or the dawn of a new world of peace and incredible achievement?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

SUDDENLY this world has become different! It was never like this before. Look at the change in the last 80 years—then LOOK at the change in the last 10. What will *another* 10 years be like?

When I was a boy, our family transportation was a horse and bug-

gy. Horse-drawn streetcars had just been replaced. Telephones were rare, hanging on walls. Only a few downtown streets in cities were paved. Automobiles were a curiosity—we called them horseless carriages. They were steered with a stick instead of a steering wheel.

Gaslights dimly illuminated city streets. A man, riding horseback, rode past with a lighting stick to turn them on at dusk and again to turn them off at dawn. Our home was dimly lighted by kerosene lamps.

No man had ever flown. Orville Wright's first 12-second, 120-foot

flight did not occur until after I was 4½ months into my 12th year. Television was unheard-of. Compare this with the startling advances of the last few decades. And with the mounting racial strife in Africa, mass demonstrations in Iran, riots, looting and mass VIOLENCE worldwide. And threat of all-out world-girdling NUCLEAR WAR.

And now, as we enter the decade of the 1980s, Russia is on the march through Afghanistan, calling up massive reserves with vast armies mounting on borders of Iran, spearheading south to control the Indian Ocean, threatening Western Europe.

Suddenly, as we enter the 1980s, it's an entirely new world.

Again I ask: WHAT will this world be like in *another* 10 years?

What Scientists Prophecy

Numerous world-famous scientists and economists see a stern picture of the future. They see—today—the masses of illiterates in India, Africa—more than half the world's population in the depths of ignorance, poverty, squalor and degradation; the population explosion and the coming food war; the breakdown of family life—the very BASIS of a progressive and thriving society; the spiraling increase in crime; the fast-spreading breakdown of law and order.

All this they see, and tell us humanity's one great problem, now, is the QUESTION OF SURVIVAL.

Ask these sober scientists and economists HOW LONG we may continue in this present trend. Some will guess, perhaps 10 more years—others think less than 10—some give us a little more. But that's only relative. It's still a question of SURVIVAL!

There Is Good News Ahead

But humanity WILL SURVIVE! There is GOOD NEWS for the future. It is reported by a major news source most people—and most scientists and economists—have utterly overlooked.

There is a master plan already worked out. And it will bring to this earth PEACE! There is a master plan to solve the vast problems of illiteracy, starvation, poverty and squalor. It entails vast agrarian reforms, eco-

nomics reforms, reforms in governments, and *practical* plans to bring about disarmament and world peace.

Many scientists and world leaders know, in general, what it will take to bring this solution. Today, many far-seeing leaders put their fingers on the one great change that can now save humanity alive. What they don't know is how to implement it.

With one voice, these men say the solution now demands a WORLD GOVERNMENT.

There is one thing wrong with this solution. That world supergovernment would have to be given the power of a world police force to enforce its laws, and it would have to maintain the ONLY military force in the world—all nations would have to surrender their armies, navies and air forces to this one SUPERSTATE.

In a word, *every* nation would have to surrender its national sovereignty absolutely. And WHAT MAN could be accepted by all as WORLD RULER? It would, mind you, be a world POLICE STATE. Would the Soviet Union give up its struggle to harness the whole world with communism and accept an American capitalist as their world ruler? No, I'm afraid not in a thousand years!

Would the United States accept a North Vietnamese or a North Korean? NEVER!

There is only one way the nations could get together on a world supergovernment.

Within nations, each individual has to be willing to give up his personal sovereignty. He must submit to the laws of his government or suffer the consequences. Of course, individuals in all countries are given certain personal liberties, not prohibited by law.

So it must be with NATIONS—if there is to be a world supergovernment—if humanity is to survive! If there is to be this world supergovernment all individual nations must first give up their private selfish goals, their dreams of world conquest—of spreading *their* particular kind of government around the world.

One important news magazine said this can happen only if there is "a strong Hand from someplace" that would intervene.

So there is the world's dilemma.

Many leaders are agreed the world's only hope is a world supergovernment. At the same time, they confess frankly that world supergovernment is absolutely unfeasible and utterly IMPOSSIBLE!

And where does that leave you? Does that leave you with nothing but gloom and doom for the future?

Two Alternatives—and Only Two

You *have* to face it—either there is now no HOPE—either all humanity soon will be erased from this earth—or there does exist that "strong Hand from someplace" with supernatural power to INTERVENE in world affairs—to literally take control from the human great powers of this world and to SAVE humanity from itself!

You need to *wake up*—and to realize this means YOUR LIFE—and the lives of your children, your family, your friends and neighbors. The one great problem facing every one of us is HUMAN SURVIVAL. And the only alternative to extinction—SOON—is world government!

I sat in the press gallery in the Opera House at the San Francisco, (Calif.) Conference in 1945, when world leaders were drawing up the charter for the United Nations. There I heard the leading statesmen of the world warning that this United Nations they were forming was "THE WORLD'S LAST HOPE." One hour, in plenary sessions, they were uttering this solemn warning; the next hour in group conferences with leaders from other nations they were fighting for their own special advantage.

The United Nations has proved NOT to be that super-government.

This Is Real—It Involves You

Hiding your eyes from the existing facts won't save your world for you—and YOU alive in it! This directly concerns the life of every reader of *The Plain Truth*—and the countless other millions who *ought* to be reading it.

This is REAL! It's HERE! There isn't much more time! It's now far later than you think. And—yes, I realize it—this is the ONLY VOICE in the WILDERNESS of today's desperate situation that dares to SPEAK OUT!

THIS YOU MUST FACE. There are
(Continued on page 42)



Gamma/Liaison — Alain Mingam

AFGHANI TRIBESMEN CHALLENGE SOVIET POWER

GRAVE NEW THREAT TO THE FREE WORLD

While the United States was bogged down hopelessly in Iran, the Soviet military machine moved dramatically into neighboring Afghanistan. The Red Army is now within a three-day's drive from the crucial oil reserves and transport lanes of the Middle East.

by Gene H. Hogberg

ISRAELI Prime Minister Menachem Begin called it "a turning point in the world's history." Egyptian President Anwar Sadat warned, "The battle around the area's oil stores has begun." London's *Daily Telegraph* called it a "power-political earthquake that threatens to change the map of the Middle East and southern Asia."

All were referring to the full-scale Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. This mountainous, moonscaped nation, historically a buffer state between Russia and southwest Asia, is the strategic gateway to the oil-rich Middle East.

A neutral Afghanistan—called by some the "cockpit of Asia"—is no more. Significantly, Soviet fighter-bombers are now stationed less than 350 miles from the strategic Strait of Hormuz—the funnel through which passes half of the Free World's oil imports.

Slowly, but surely, a communist "ring of steel" is being tightened around the Middle East. Where—and when—will the Soviets strike

next? Will they ever be met by superior force? Has America—has Europe—finally awakened to the danger?

Moscow Reacts with Force

Nothing could possibly contrast the fortunes of the United States and the Soviet Union more than the events unfolding in the Middle East.

In an attempt to secure the release of its embassy personnel held hostage in Iran, Washington has chosen a policy of "restraint." Foreswearing military action, President Jimmy Carter has instead leaned on the weak reeds of the United Nations, the World Court, and "world public opinion." Nothing has worked.

The Soviet Union on the other hand, decided to act *fast* to preserve its flagging interests in neighboring Afghanistan. Nearly two years ago a coup brought an autonomous yet pro-Moscow leadership to power in Kabul, Afghanistan's capital. Successive leaders, however, were unable to bring to heel unruly Moslem tribesmen who were drawing inspi-

ration from Moslem resurgence in Iran.

The situation got so bad that by the end of 1979 Moscow felt compelled to move in forcefully to take direct command of events.

The Soviets showed they were willing to endure the muted scorn of the world to protect and advance their own interests. This occurred while President Carter called upon Americans to bombard Tehran—with Christmas cards!

The world is taking notice of the vast difference in the way the two superpowers react to danger. Says one Asian diplomat, "Asians may fear or dislike the Russians, but a lot of us respect a nation that is not reluctant to use its power."

By projecting its power, the Soviets are at last near an age-old dream: the acquisition of warm-water ports on the Indian Ocean. (See article on page 35 for the historical background behind the crisis in Afghanistan.) Only faction-ridden Iran and truncated Pakistan (half its former self) lie in the way. Any

further moves, however, may take a while.

The Soviets will have to digest Afghanistan first, no small matter. After doing so, and before proceeding onward, Moscow may launch a new "peace offensive" in an attempt to lull the Free World. Detente, after all, began four years after Russia's forceful venture in Czechoslovakia in 1968. The Kremlin may once again orchestrate the "Russian Tango"—three steps forward and two steps back. But the thrust is, nevertheless, relentlessly forward.

Near Future Favors Moscow

The Soviet leadership knows that time and events are on its side.

American weakness in Iran pushed forward the Soviet timetable for Afghanistan. A Soviet bloc journalist admitted: "If the United States had acted with more force in the Iranian situation, the Soviets would never have moved into Afghanistan. The question they asked was, 'Why should we not go ahead?' There was no good answer."

The Soviets also know that Pakistan represents another dilemma for the United States and the West. Its strongman leader, President Mohammed Zia-ul-haq, executed his popular predecessor, Ali Bhutto. Unpopular with his people, Mohammed Zia may not last long.

Pakistan's rulers will undoubtedly consider whatever aid is offered them by President Carter. Nevertheless they know Washington's sudden interest in them is not heartfelt. It is only a reaction to the Afghanistan crisis. (Previous U.S. military aid had been cut off because of Pakistan's attempt to build atomic weapons.)

The most ironical twist of all is that the Afghanistan invasion and the subsequent attempt to shore up Pakistan have occurred at the very time that Indira Gandhi has been returned to power in India. Mrs. Gandhi downplays Soviet intentions in southwestern Asia—but professes alarm at a strengthened Pakistan, India's chief foe.

As if to prepare for the eventual dismemberment of both Iran and Pakistan, the new Afghan regime lost no time in propagandizing support for separatist movements among the Baluchi people. The Baluchi

homeland stretches from southeastern Iran into Pakistan. A separate "Baluchistan" under Soviet control would be the key to Moscow's obtaining an Indian Ocean port of its own.

The Prize: Much-needed Oil

A takeover of Iran, or portions of that country, would be a grave development indeed for the Free World. "The price in political, economic and military terms," reports *Time* magazine, "would be enormous. It would place [the Soviets] in a position of being able to turn off the oil tap for Western consumers almost at will when the oil shortage starts to really bite later in the 1980s. It would also put them in a position of having immediate access to the Gulf's rich petroleum reserves when, in the next few years, the U.S.S.R.'s domestic output of oil is expected to start falling short of its internal needs."

The Soviet Union is currently self-sufficient in oil and a significant supplier of petroleum to both Eastern and Western Europe. But not for long; several recent studies estimate that the Soviets will become a net-importer of oil by the mid-1980s. "The Soviet oil crisis," reports the Australian news magazine *Bulletin*, "will coincide with their period of strategic superiority." In other words, by mid-decade—the so-called "window of peril" period confronting the Western world—Moscow will be able to exert maximum pressure on the Middle East.

Ironically, President Carter decided, as partial punishment for their Afghanistan incursion, to halt the sale to the Soviets of sophisticated American oil drilling equipment and technology. Moscow had counted upon this technology—the world's most advanced—to develop its difficult Siberian oil fields. This decision could therefore boomerang. Without access to such technology Moscow will have even more reason to penetrate the Mid-east oil depots.

"And over this oil," notes U.S. columnist Michael Novak, "many wars, revolutions and disruptions are certain to be fought during the 1980s and 1990s. . . . *This oil is life*. Some must have it or die. Willingness to die

for it is not likely to be as scarce as the oil itself."

Greatest Fear: Saudi Overthrow

The Soviet power play sent shock waves throughout the oil sheikdoms of the Persian Gulf. Many of the wealthy but otherwise powerless Gulf states are frightened. Moscow is advancing their way, and the United States appears, to them, to be too indecisive, too undependable. They can't lean upon Washington for support.

Meanwhile, Soviet agents have been working to destabilize the Gulf region. It is now believed by Western intelligence experts that the Soviets were directly involved in the recent insurrection at the Grand Mosque in Mecca, the holiest shrine of all Islam located inside Saudi Arabia.

A senior Saudi Arabian official reported to the *New York Times*, that the takeover at the Grand Mosque was accomplished by 500 disciplined, heavily armed guerrillas.

Contradicting initial reports, the official downplayed the role of fanatics interested only in religious issues. Fanatics formed part of the force, he said, but they had been co-opted by well-trained guerrilla leaders who had a far different motive.

"I think it was sponsored by international organizations, probably Russians, to undermine the stability of Saudi Arabia," said the official, who was directly involved in the government's handling of the incident.

West European intelligence sources further confirm that some of the rebels were trained in South Yemen, a troublesome Soviet client state on Saudi Arabia's southern perimeter. Guerrillas from around the world are educated in that former British protectorate in the art of political terrorism.

The noted Soviet affairs columnist for London's *Daily Telegraph*, Robert Moss, commenting on the aborted assault, said "It is safe to assume that the Mecca rising will not be the last move in the Soviet power play for control of the oil-rich Gulf area."

Indeed, there have been recent reports of additional Cuban and Soviet military "advisers" being flown into South Yemen from nearby Marxist Ethiopia. The Saudi government has filed an urgent plea with

(Continued on page 44)

Part Two:

A Voice Cries Out Amid Religious Confusion

How could the world have become so mixed up? Out of this spiritual wilderness, a voice cries out in clarity and power, with the reassuring truth of the world's only and sure hope!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Editor's note: We are printing here, serially, the new book by Herbert W. Armstrong with the same title as this article. The book will appear in bookstores later this year.

Chapter 2

HOW THE SEVEN TRUTHS WERE REVEALED

HOW IN THIS age of religious confusion could one come to know these seven basic truths that decry this world-gripping conglomeration of beliefs?

Why are people in Thailand Buddhist, those in the Arab world Islamic? Primarily, of course, because they and those around them grew up being taught, and automatically accepting, those faiths. To expect one of them to discover the TRUTH (hidden from them and also contrary to the teachings of child-

hood and maturity which engulfed them) would seem to be expecting the impossible.

Why do most people believe the things they believe? Few, indeed, ever stop to ask themselves in retrospect how they came to accept the beliefs that have found lodgment in their minds.

The Source of TRUTH

You probably have seen pictures of the statue "The Thinker." A man sitting alone, leaning forward, elbows on his knees, his hand supporting his head. There, supposedly, he sits in deep thought, hour after hour, day after day—just thinking!

Supposedly that statue depicts the manner in which some of the religions of the world came into being.

But "the Thinker" had nothing to think *from!* No foundation for his thinking. No facts on which to base his conjectures.

The human mind is not equipped to manufacture truth with no basis for that truth!

However, few, it seems, really *think!*

Most people accept carelessly what they are taught from childhood. And, coming into maturity, they accept that which they have repeatedly heard, read, or been taught. They continue to go along, usually without question, with their peers. Most people do not realize it, but they have carelessly *assumed* what they believe without question or proof. Yet they will defend vigorously and emotionally their convictions. It has become human nature for people to flow with the stream—to go along with the crowd—to believe and perform like their peers around them.

Further, most people stubbornly refuse to believe what they are unwilling to believe. There's an old saying, "He who is convinced against his will is of the same opinion still."

I was no different. Of myself, and of my own volition, I would never have discovered these GREAT TRUTHS.

But then, the prophet Moses never would have discovered the truths he wrote—the first five books of the Bible. It required a miraculous act of

GOD, in the incident of the burning bush, to open his mind and to reveal to him the things of GOD. Even on being confronted by the very voice of God, Moses protested. But God's command was irresistible and Moses yielded.

The apostle Paul, centuries later, never would have come to know or reveal for us God's TRUTHS of his own will. He was "breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord" (Acts 9:1). But the living Jesus struck him down blind, brought him to his senses and instructed him both in knowledge and in what Christ determined he should do. Christ in Person revealed to him many of the TRUTHS you will read here.

How, then, did I come to understand the precious knowledge of the TRUTH? Certainly not "on my own," or because I sought it or because of any virtues above other humans. But Jesus Christ struck me down in a manner quite different from the apostle Paul's experience, yet nonetheless painful and effective.

Such basic TRUTHS are *revealed*, not thought out in any human mind. They come from God, not man! And in all biblically recorded cases, the initiative was God's!

And let me add, at this point, that the sentence above is the crux of the whole matter. The world is full of religions which originated in the imagination, reasoning and speculating of certain humans. But they had no true basis to reason from. The TRUTH IS REVEALED FROM GOD!

But, does not everybody have access to biblical truth? Yes, people *suppose* the churches teach what is revealed in the Bible.

So I give you, now, a brief synopsis of the experience by which Jesus Christ struck me down, so to speak, and revealed ASTOUNDING TRUTHS! Biblical truths *not* believed or taught by the churches!

The Awakening—Spark of Ambition Ignited

I was born of ordinary but stable and upright parents, with an ancestry in the Quaker faith. I have my genealogy all the way back to Edward the First of England, and a line extending back to King David of ancient Israel. My forebears emigrated from

England to Pennsylvania with William Penn, a hundred years before the United States became a nation.

I had been reared from earliest childhood in the Quaker faith, but religious interest in those formative years was passive.

At age 18 I virtually dropped all interest in religion, and ceased attending church. I had, at 18, put myself through an intensive self-analysis, coupled with a survey of the occupations and professions to determine where I belonged—to avoid being the proverbial square peg in the round hole.

Even at that age I had observed that most people were simply victims of circumstance. Few had ever planned intelligently their future lives. Many or most had stumbled into whatever job they found open. They did not choose where, in what part of the country or the world, they should live. They had been buffeted about by circumstance. Those who went to college chose whatever course or profession that appealed to them at the time.

But when I was yet only 16, a summer-vacation employer had, by praise for work well done and general encouragement, aroused the fire of ambition within me. Ambition is not only the desire for accomplishment, it includes the will to *pay the price!*

This self-analysis at age 18 led me into the advertising profession and a business life. I studied diligently, "burning the midnight oil" instead of seeking youthful pleasures.

I became unusually successful. I worked hard, had a reputation as a "hustler." I studied diligently, worked toward self-improvement. All this, of course, developed great self-confidence, which was later to be replaced by a different kind of confidence—FAITH in Christ.

I selected the jobs where I would learn, and "sold myself" to my employers, choosing fields that threw me into contact with successful men.

In 1915 I established my own business as a publishers' representative in Chicago, Illinois. I managed to represent the nine leading bank journals of the United States—journals read by chief officers of banks. I did business with the presidents of many of the nation's largest indus-

trial corporations in the Middle West. I attended state and national bankers' conventions, got to know many of the leading bankers of South LaSalle Street and Wall Street, New York. I was making an income, below 30 years of age, equivalent to approximately \$175,000 per year measured by today's dollar value.

Business Disintegrates

Then came the devastating flash depression of 1920. It was not long-lived, but disastrous for the year. My big advertising accounts were in the farm tractor and implement and other manufacturing fields, rather than the metropolitan banks. All my big-commission clients, including such corporations as Goodyear Tire & Rubber, J.I. Case, Moline Plow, Emerson-Brantingham and Dalton Adding Machine, went into receivers' hands. One nationally known corporation president of my acquaintance committed suicide. Through no fault of my own, my business was swept out from under my feet by forces beyond my control.

Out of Portland, Oregon, where I had moved with my family, I established an advertising service for laundry owners. The laundry industry was 11th in the country in dollar volume of business, yet the most backward. I teamed with an efficiency expert, in my judgment top in the nation in his field. I took on only clients who allowed us to put their businesses on a new efficiency basis—both in the quality of laundering service and in business methods, which I supervised. I had to be able to make promises in the advertising that my clients would fulfill.

But in 1926 a national advertising agency based in the east sold the Laundry Owner's National Association a bill of goods—to put big-space advertising in the national women's magazines. The association had power to obligate every member to a commitment for this magazine advertising equal to approximately 85 percent of the justifiable advertising expenditure each local laundry could make. I knew nothing of this until it was a closed deal. I had been doubling and trebling the business volume of each of my clients. My business was growing. Again a highly

successful business was swept out from under my feet through causes over which I had no control.

But there was a reason—God was taking away my advertising business.

Disturbing Dual Challenges

Then, in the fall of 1926, at age 34, it seemed that the roof had caved in and I was crushed! I was assailed by very disturbing dual challenges.

My wife, after nine years of happy marriage, began keeping the seventh-day Sabbath instead of Sunday!

I was aghast! I was angry. To me that was religious fanaticism! What would business contacts think? But she claimed to have found this teaching in the Bible.

All the arguments came instantly to mind. They were of no avail.

"But the Bible says," I protested, "Thou shalt observe SUNDAY!"

"Can you show that to me in the Bible?" she asked.

"Well, no," I replied. "I don't know much about the Bible. My interests and studies have been in the area of business. But all these churches can't be wrong—they take their beliefs from the Bible, and they all observe Sunday."

"If," she smiled sincerely—but to me exasperatingly—"you can show me where the Bible commands Sunday observance, I'll go back to it."

There was no dodging the challenge. My marriage depended on it!

Coincidentally, a sister-in-law, newly married and fresh out of college, hurled at me a second humiliating challenge.

"Herbert Armstrong," she accused contemptuously, "you are just plain *ignorant!* Everybody who has any education *knows* human life has come by evolution."

I was proud. I had not neglected study and education. I thought I knew the facts about evolution, and I didn't believe in it. But now I had to admit I had never pursued a thorough, in-depth research of the question.

Following on the heels of my wife's "fanaticism," this challenge was humiliating. This double jolt to my pride hit me immediately after the second time my business had been destroyed. The effect was devastating. It was utterly frustrating. Nev-

ertheless I was determined to prove both my wife and sister-in-law wrong.

The dual challenge drove me into a determined almost night-and-day research. That intensive study continued for six months before I found the proved answer. Yet the study has never ceased to this day.

Both challenges focused on a common starting point—the book of Genesis in the Bible—although that was only the beginning.

These challenges came at a period in life when I had ample time on my hands. I plunged with intense concentration into the study.

Researching the Bible and Darwin

I did not begin the research in Genesis. First I delved thoroughly into the works of Darwin, Lyell, Haeckel, Huxley, Spencer, Vogt, Chamberlin and More, and even into the earlier works of Lamarck and his theory of "use and disuse," which preceded Darwin's "survival of the fittest" hypothesis.

Immediately those writings appeared convincing. (They necessarily are, to have won virtual universal acceptance in the world of higher education.) I readily understood how the field of education had been gripped in the clutch of the evolutionary concept.

Evolution is the atheist's attempted explanation of the presence of a creation without the preexistence of a Creator.

This initial stage of my research rudely shook my faith in the existence of God. It brought me to realization that I had *assumed* the reality of God, because from childhood I had heard, and therefore assumed, it. For a while my head was literally swimming. Was all I had ever believed mere myth and error, after all? Now I was determined to know the TRUTH! My mind was being cleaned out from ideas and beliefs previously taken for granted.

Of all the writings on evolution, Dr. More alone had culled out many discrepancies in the theory. Yet he, too, went along with the doctrine overall.

But now I had, first of all, to prove or disprove the existence of God. It was no casual or superficial study. I continued in this research as if my

life depended upon it—as, in actual fact, it did, as well as my marriage. I also studied books on the other side of the question.

Suffice it to say here that I did find irrefutable PROOF of the existence of God the Creator—and I found proof positive of the fallacy of the evolutionary theory. The overwhelming array of college brainwashed minds to the contrary notwithstanding. I had the satisfaction of winning the admission of one PhD thoroughly steeped in evolutionary thought—who had spent many years in graduate work at the University of Chicago and at Columbia—that I had definitely chopped down the trunk of the evolutionary tree. Like Dr. More though, she had been so thoroughly brainwashed in evolution she had to continue in what she had acknowledged was PROOF of its falsity.

Also I had the enjoyment of being able to cause my sister-in-law to "eat those words" branding me as "ignorant." All of which was mere vanity on my part, which I had not yet eradicated.

I had proved the reality of THE GREAT MAJESTIC GOD! But my wife's challenge was still tormenting my mind. Already, in the evolutionary research, I had studied Genesis.

I knew each of the world's religions had its own sacred writings. Once God's reality was proved, I had expected to continue in the pursuit of comparative religions to see if any such sacred writings proved authoritative. Through which of these—if any—did GOD speak to mankind?

Since I had to research the Sabbath question anyway, and already I had delved into Genesis, I decided to continue my study in the Bible.

A Doctrine at a Time

I came across, early, the passage in Romans 6:23: "The wages of sin is death . . ." I stopped, amazed. "Wages" is what one is paid for what one has done. Here I was staring at a statement diametrically opposite to my Sunday school teaching (prior to age 18).

"Why," I exclaimed, "how can that be? I was taught in church that the wages of sin is EVERLASTING LIFE in an eternally burning hell."

Another shock came on reading

the last part of the same verse: "but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

"But," I questioned in disillusionment, "I thought I already had eternal life—I am, or I have—an immortal soul. Why should I need it as a gift?"

I researched the word *soul* by means of a Bible concordance. Twice I found the expression, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4 and Ezekiel 18:20).

Then I remembered I had read in Genesis 2 how God said to the first humans, "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

In Genesis 2:7 I read how God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man (dust—matter) "became a living soul." This stated plainly that a soul is physical—formed from matter. I found that the English word *soul* is translated from the Hebrew *nephesh* and that in Genesis 1 fowl, fish and animals—all three—were *nephesh* as Moses was inspired to write.

Next, I happened to read where Jesus said, "And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man" (John 3:13). I researched the heaven and hell teaching further. I saw where the inspired Peter, on the day he received the Holy Spirit, said, "For David is not ascended into the heavens. . ." (Acts 2:34).

In this in-depth study of the Bible, I had the use of all the biblical helps—concordances, Greek-English and Hebrew-English lexicons, commentaries, Bible dictionaries and religious encyclopedias. The latter three of these, I found, were the works of scholarly but carnal minds. In historical facts and matters of a material and physical nature, they give help in research, but in God's revelation of spiritual knowledge I found them of little help.

I also used, in questionable passages, the Hebrew Old Testament and the Greek New Testament, with the lexicons. And I used every translation or version then, 53 years ago, so far published—especially the

Moffatt, Ferrar Fenton, Smith-Goodspeed, American Revised and the Williams New Testament.

My Experience Utterly Unique

My research was totally different from that of students in a seminary. They absorb what they are taught in the doctrines of their denomination. Education has become a matter of memory training. The child, and the adult student as well, is expected to accept and memorize whatever is taught.

For example, in an elementary grade one of my grandsons was once asked by the teacher, "Who discovered America?"

"The Indians," promptly answered the grandson. The teacher was astonished.

"No, Larry, don't you know that Columbus discovered America?"

"No, Ma'am, the Indians were already here to greet Columbus when he finally arrived."

The lad was given a zero for his answer and severely instructed to always remember that the book says Columbus discovered America!

A pupil, or a student in high school or university, is graded on memorizing and believing what he is taught by the textbook, the teacher, instructor or professor.

In the first dummy copy of the magazine *The Plain Truth*, which I put together in 1927—seven years before the magazine was actually published, I had an artist draw a picture of a schoolroom, with children sitting at the desks, each with a funnel stuck into his or her head. The teacher was pouring out of a pitcher ready-made propaganda into each child's head.

A student enrolled at a Methodist seminary receives Methodist doctrine and teaching into his head. A Catholic student studying in a Catholic seminary is taught Roman Catholic teachings. A student in a Presbyterian seminary is given Presbyterian doctrines. A student in Germany studying history is instructed in one version of World Wars I and II, but a history student in the United States is taught an altogether different version.

But I had been called specially by the living GOD. I was trying to prove the very opposite of what I found

clearly and unmistakably to be what the Bible SAYS! I was taught by Christ what I did not want to believe but what He showed me was TRUE!

Jesus Christ is the *personal* Word of God. He, in person, taught the original 12 apostles and the apostle Paul. The Bible is the SAME Word of God IN PRINT today. Thus it was the same Jesus Christ who taught both the original apostles, beginning A.D. 27, and 1,900 years later, beginning 1927, myself.

And let me add here that my study of God's revelation of truth has never ceased. Later Christ used me in founding three liberal arts colleges—including one in England. Through constant study, teaching and collaboration with spirit-minded faculty members in theological courses, my mind has remained OPEN. And knowledge of God's revealed truth has increased.

But in my initial six-months intensive in-depth study I was undergoing a process of UNlearning—discovering that church teachings had been the diametric opposite of Bible TRUTH!

JOY in Defeat

This is not the place for a lengthy, detailed account of my intensive search in the Bible, bent on proving to *my* satisfaction that "all these churches can't be wrong, for their teachings came from the Bible!" The essential point here is the simple fact that I did find irrefutable PROOF of the divine inspiration and supreme AUTHORITY of the Holy Bible as originally written, as the revealed Word of God. Even all the so-called contradictions evaporated upon unbiased study.

Yet, to my utter dismay and chagrin, I was forced to "eat crow" in regard to my wife's supposed "fanaticism." It was not what I *wanted* to believe *then!* But by that time I had taken a severe beating. I had to accept PROVED truth, contrary to what I had wanted to believe!

And I can say now, with the apostle Paul, "that the gospel which is preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ. . . . But when it pleased God . . . to reveal His Son in me . . . immediately I con-

(Continued on page 41)

THROUGHOUT much of human history, men have envisioned utopias of peace and plenty—and, on occasion, leaders have attempted to implement their visionary utopias. All such experiments have failed.

But why shouldn't man live in a better world?

The forecast for today is gloomy. Granted, there are some isolated pockets of comparative freedom left on earth. But real freedom is on the run in our world. The light of creative liberty is about to be snuffed out if world trends are allowed to continue. The shadow of a technological and spiritual tyranny looms large over planet Earth.

Men's dreams of utopia are being shattered. What is needed is a totally new age, ushered in this time by supernatural power.

It is so hard to envision a world radically different from the one in which we now live, or from the ones in which man has lived in the past.

Could you envision a world, for instance, in which the chief law was called "the law of love"? A world in which individual human beings and whole nations selflessly try to fill another's need?

Can you picture a world in which even the very nature of animals—of carnivores—is changed so they "eat straw like an ox"? A little farfetched, you say? The dreams of ancient visionaries who could not face the terrible realities of their world?

Not at all—these divine visions given to prophets of old are a coming *reality*. Such a world is coming—and perhaps sooner than we expect!

Can you envision a world in which prejudice is banished? Can you picture in your mind's eye a time when men will dwell together in peace for the first time in human experience? Such a world is coming.

Can you encompass in your present thinking a world in which all human beings will be treated justly by a God Ruler who is "not a respecter of persons" whether that person is rich or poor, young or old, male or female, black, brown, white

WORLD'S MOST ACCURATE NEWSCAST

or yellow? That's the kind of world God promises mankind.

Can you feature a world in which all people would have *dignity*? That seems to be the one thing so many are denied in our world—simple dignity. For multitudes, each day is filled with hunger, poverty, humiliations and embarrassments. Our overcrowded, competitive, dog-eat-dog world is not the place to find dignity among men.

Today we are preoccupied with the business of survival. God's world—the new age—will be different. We will no longer have to strive for every mouthful of food and wonder where the next meal is coming from. There will be plenty for all.

In a sense, the nations deserve everything they are getting today. We've all missed the mark in terms of moral and spiritual perfection. Human beings are tragically imperfect in their conduct. "Man's inhumanity to man" is sickeningly true. Nations have behaved like brute beasts toward each other throughout most of history. What people have never killed, plundered, raped, pillaged, burned, tortured and warred, all in the name of political power, or religion or ideology?

Yet, in another sense, humanity deserves a millennium of peace and plenty. The pain is becoming, inevitably, too much. Humanity has been to the well too many times and it's running dry. The human spirit is shriveled and the light of hope is about to go out. Humankind would soon destroy itself in one last, bloody, global battle unless a strong Hand

from somewhere takes charge of the human scene and provides new hope.

Someone did come along with the answer. It was in the form of a forecast. Jesus Christ—nearly two millennia ago—came with an announcement about a marvelous future age in which the Kingdom of God would rule the earth, and peace would break out everywhere.

Jesus foresaw a world of peace—a world where every man and woman

would have dignity, no matter their color or ethnic background. This coming world will have no racial bigotry. It will have no tyranny, no sexual prejudice. It will be a beautiful *new* age in every sense of the term.

In that new age, Jesus Himself announced that He will be "King of kings" and "Lord of lords." Instead of abusive human rule, He will administer "*justice* for all." The only laws that will exist will be God's laws—designed from the beginning to bring about love and justice.

Survival will no longer be the chief occupation of the majority of mankind. Each human being will be free to strive for fulfillment of his or her maximum potential. The purpose for which God put man on earth! Each person will be enabled to rise to the highest level of achievement of which he or she is capable in a spiritual atmosphere conducive to growth.

We, too, foresee, with Jesus, in the pages of *The Plain Truth*, this new age coming in our lifetime. We pray, "Thy kingdom come." We yearn for the true utopia. We convey to our readers hope—for God will soon establish His Kingdom on this good earth, and peace will break out everywhere.

Those of us who entertain this hope teach our children the values of the new age—the world tomorrow. We teach them the *real* meaning of love. You, too, can participate with us in reaping now in advance a foretaste of the harvest of joy that is someday to be shared by all!

—Brian Knowles

'THE WORLD TOMORROW' RADIO AND TV LOGS

Herbert W. Armstrong analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of 'The World Tomorrow'

THE WORLD TOMORROW RADIO LOG

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

ALABAMA

‡WYDE, Birmingham — 850, 7 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

ARIZONA

KIKX, Tucson — 580, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:35 a.m., Sun.

CALIFORNIA

‡KFRE, Fresno — 940, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8 a.m., Sun.

KIEV, Glendale — 870, 11 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

KLAC, Los Angeles — 570, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7 a.m., Sun.

KGUY, Palm Desert — 1270, 6:15 a.m., Sun.

‡KFBK, Sacramento — 1530, 11:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 p.m., Sun.

‡KNBR, San Francisco — 680, 9 p.m., Sun.

KUNA-FM, San Luis Obispo — 96.1, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WRC, Washington — 980, 8:30 a.m., Sun.

FLORIDA

‡WAPE, Jacksonville — 690, 8:30 a.m., Sun.

‡WINZ, Miami — 940, 12:05 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

WIOD, Miami — 610, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

GEORGIA

WPLO, Atlanta — 590, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

HAWAII

KKON, Kealakekua — 790, 6 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

ILLINOIS

‡WMAQ, Chicago — 670, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 6 a.m., 10 p.m., Sun.

WMBD, Peoria — 1470, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.

WTAY, Robinson — 1570, 10:25 p.m., Sun.

WTAY-FM, Robinson — 102.4, 10:25 p.m., Sun.

INDIANA

WSBT, South Bend — 960, 11:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 4:30 p.m., Sun.

IOWA

‡KXEL, Waterloo — 1540, 11:45 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 5 a.m., Sun.

KANSAS

WIBW, Topeka — 580, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

KENTUCKY

‡WHAS, Louisville — 840, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

MARYLAND

‡WPOC-FM, Baltimore — 93.1, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

MASSACHUSETTS

‡WITS, Boston — 1510, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7 a.m., Sun.

MICHIGAN

‡WDEE, Detroit — 1500, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

MINNESOTA

‡KTCR-FM, Minneapolis — 97.1, 6 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

MISSOURI

KMBZ, Kansas City — 980, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10 p.m., Sun.

KGBX, Springfield — 1260, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9 a.m., Sun.

NEW MEXICO

*KOB, Albuquerque — 770, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

NEW YORK

WBEN, Buffalo — 930, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

‡WOR, New York — 710, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 6:30 a.m., 11:30 p.m., Sun.

‡WHAM, Rochester — 1180, 11:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 11 p.m., Sun.

WSOQ, Syracuse — 1220, 6:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

NORTH CAROLINA

WSOC, Charlotte — 930, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

OHIO

WSLR, Akron — 1350, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 p.m., Sun.

‡WCKY, Cincinnati — 1530, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:15 p.m., Sun.

WBBG, Cleveland — 1260, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.

WMNI, Columbus — 920, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

WCWA, Toledo — 1230, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8 a.m., Sun.

OKLAHOMA

‡KVOO, Tulsa — 1170, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

OREGON

‡KWJJ, Portland — 1080, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 p.m., Sun.

PENNSYLVANIA

WHP, Harrisburg — 580, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.

KQV, Pittsburgh — 1410, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7 a.m., Sun.

RHODE ISLAND

WEAN, Providence — 790, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

WGNG, Providence — 550, 9 a.m., Sun.

TENNESSEE

WREC, Memphis — 600, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

TEXAS

KPRC, Houston — 950, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.

*‡WOAI, San Antonio — 1200, 10:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10 a.m., 7 p.m., 11 p.m. Sun.

UTAH

‡KSL, Salt Lake City — 1160, 5:30 a.m., Sun.

VIRGINIA

WCPK, Chesapeake — 1600, 12:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.

WNIS, Norfolk — 1300, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

WASHINGTON

KGRG-FM, Auburn — 89.9, 12 noon, Sun.

WEST VIRGINIA

WKEE, Huntington — 800, 6 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

‡WWVA, Wheeling — 1170, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

WYOMING

KYCN, Wheatland — 1340, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

Canadian Stations

ALBERTA

CHFM-FM, Calgary — 95.9, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFCW, Camrose — 790, 11:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKYL, Peace River — 610, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CIOK, St. Paul/Bonnyville — 1310, 7:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

*Denotes time or station change

‡Denotes 50,000-watt wide-area station

CKTA, Taber — 1570, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
CFOK, Westlock-Edmonton — 1370, 7:05 p.m.,
Mon.-Fri.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

CKQR, Castlegar — 1230, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFCP, Courtenay — 1440, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKGR, Golden — 1400, 8:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKGF, Grand Forks — 1340, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKTK, Kitimat — 1230, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJJC, Langley — 800, 6:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKMK, McKenzie — 1240, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHUB, Nanaimo — 1570, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKOO, Oliver/Osoyoos — 1240, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-
Thurs.
CHPQ, Parksville — 1370, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKOK, Penticton — 800, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Thurs.
CJAV, Port Alberni — 1240, 10:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKPG, Pr. George — 550, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHTK, Pr. Rupert — 560, 6:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKCR, Revelstoke — 1340, 8:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKXR, Salmon Arm — 580, 8:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKSP, Summerland — 1450, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
*CFTK, Terrace — 590, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJVI, Victoria — 900, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

MANITOBA

CFAR, Flin Flon — 590, 8 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJAR, The Pas — 1240, 8 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHTM, Thompson — 610, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKJS, Winnipeg — 810, 12:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

MARITIMES

CKIM, Baie Verte — 1240, 6 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKNB, Campbellton — 950, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKVO, Clarendville — 710, 6 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFNB, Fredericton — 550, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKGA, Gander — 730, 6 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKCM, Grand Falls — 620, 6 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHCM, Marystown — 560, 6 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKCW, Moncton — 1220, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKCL, Truro — 600, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJLS, Yarmouth — 1340, 8 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

ONTARIO

CKPC, Brantford — 1380, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CING-FM, Burlington — 107.9, 10 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJSS, Cornwall — 1220, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJKL, Kirkland Lake — 560, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKGL-FM, Kitchener — 96.7, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKLY, Lindsay — 910, 9 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFPL, London — 980, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
CJTT, New Liskeard — 1230, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFCH, North Bay — 600, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKAR, Oshawa — 1350, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
*CFGM, Richmond Hill — 1320, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-
Fri.
CHAS-FM, Sault Ste. Marie — 100, 12:30 p.m.,
Mon.-Fri.
CJQR-FM, St. Catharines — 97.7, 11:05 p.m.,
Mon.-Fri.
CJSD-FM, Thunder Bay — 94.3, 7 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKGB, Timmins — 680, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKLW-FM, Windsor — 93.9, 6:30 a.m., Sun.

QUEBEC (In French)

CKCH, Hull — 970, 7 a.m., Sun.
CFMB, Montreal — 1410, 1 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; (in
English) 5 p.m., Sat., Sun.
CKCV, Quebec City — 1280, 7 a.m., Sun.
CJSA, Ste. Agatha — 1230, 8:45 a.m., Sun.
CKLD, Thetford Mines — 1230, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
CHLN, Trois Rivieres — 550, 7 a.m., Sun.

SASKATCHEWAN

CKSA, Lloydminster — 1080, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
*CJVR, Melfort — 1420, 8 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
*CHAB, Moose Jaw — 800, 6:30 p.m., Sun.
*CJNB, North Battleford — 1050, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-
Fri.
CKBI, Pr. Albert — 900, 10:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
*CJME, Regina — 1300, 6:30 a.m., Sun.
CFQC, Saskatoon — 600, 8 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

THE WORLD TOMORROW TELEVISION LOG

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

ALABAMA

WAPI, Birmingham — 13, 7 a.m., Sun.

ARIZONA

*KPNX, Phoenix — 12, 7 a.m., Sun.
KZAZ, Tucson — 11, 7:30 a.m., Sun.

ARKANSAS

KARK, Little Rock — 4, 10 a.m., Sun.

CALIFORNIA

KPWR, Bakersfield — 17, 4:30 p.m. Sun.
KTTV, Los Angeles — 11, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
KTVU, Oakland — 2, 10:30 a.m., Sat.

CONNECTICUT

WATR, Hartford — 20, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WTTG, Washington — 5, 7 a.m., Sun.

FLORIDA

WCIX, Miami — 6, 7 a.m., Sun.

ILLINOIS

WCIU, Chicago — 26, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WFLD, Chicago — 32, 7 a.m., Sat.

INDIANA

WKJG, Ft. Wayne — 33, 11:30 a.m., Sun.
WISH, Indianapolis — 8, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WSBT, South Bend — 22, 11 a.m., Sun.

IOWA

KWWL, Waterloo — 7, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

KANSAS

KGLD, Garden City — 11, 12 noon, Sun.
KARD, Wichita — 3, 12 noon, Sun.

KENTUCKY

WLEX, Lexington — 18, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

LOUISIANA

WAFB, Baton Rouge — 9, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WWL, New Orleans — 4, 7 a.m., Sun.

MAINE

WGAN, Portland — 13, 6:30 a.m., Sun.

MARYLAND

WBFF, Baltimore — 45, 12 noon, Sun.

MASSACHUSETTS

WHYN, Springfield — 40, 9 a.m., Sun.

MICHIGAN

WUHQ, Battle Creek — 41, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WJRT, Flint — 12, 8 a.m., Sun.
WILX, Lansing — 10, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

MINNESOTA

WTCN, Minneapolis — 11, 6 a.m., Sun.

MISSOURI

KMTC, Springfield — 27, 6:30 a.m., Sun.
KNDL, St. Louis — 30, 11 p.m., Sun.

NEBRASKA

KCNA, Albion — 8, 8 a.m., Sun.
KWNB, Hayes Center — 6, 8 a.m., Sun.
KHGI, Kearney — 13, 8 a.m., Sun.
KSNB, Superior — 4, 8 a.m., Sun.

NEW MEXICO

KGGM, Albuquerque — 13, 6:30 a.m., Sun.

NEW YORK

WTEN, Albany — 10, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WUTV, Buffalo — 29, 11:15 p.m., Sun.
WOR, New York — 9, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

NORTH CAROLINA

*WRET, Charlotte — 36, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WNCT, Greenville — 9, 11:30 a.m., Sun.

OHIO

WAKR, Akron — 23, 11:30 p.m., Sun.
WLWT, Cincinnati — 5, 11:30 a.m., Sun.
WTVG, Toledo — 13, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

OREGON

KPTV, Portland — 12, 11 a.m., Sat.

PENNSYLVANIA

WIBC, Pittsburgh — 11, 10:30 a.m., Sun.
WSBA, York — 43, 12 noon, Sun.

RHODE ISLAND

WPRI, Providence — 12, 11:30 a.m., Sun.

TENNESSEE

WKPT, Kingsport — 19, 12 noon, Sun.

TEXAS

KTVV, Austin — 36, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

WASHINGTON

KXLY, Spokane — 4, 11 a.m., Sun.

WISCONSIN

WVTV, Milwaukee — 18, 10 p.m., Sun.

“O Death, Where Is Thy Sting?”

For centuries thinkers have examined the evidence of Jesus' empty tomb—and drawn one major conclusion about the resurrection. Here is a new look at that conclusion.

by Lester Grabbe

PHILOSOPHERS, sages and theologians have speculated for centuries about the question of life after death. If you die, will you live again? Or do you die to this life only to continue in another state? Is one's life span, however long or short, all there is? Or is there hope beyond the grave?

In the Words of Johannes Brahms

More than a century ago Johannes Brahms described these questions in the words of the Bible set to the music of the German *Requiem*: “Behold, all flesh is as the grass, and all the glory of man is as the flow'r of the field. The grass is wither'd, and the flow'r thereof is fallen.”

Whether in German or English, the sober statement penetrates to the very depths of the soul when accompanied by the haunting beauty of the second chorus.

It makes no difference what your status in life is. Great or small, rich or poor. All come to the same end and all go to a common grave.

The ancient wise man Job cried out in his sickness: “Why did I not die at birth . . . then I should have been at rest. . . . There the prisoners are at ease together; they hear not the voice of the

taskmaster. The small and the great are there, and the slave is free from his master” (Job 3:11, 12-13, 18-19, Revised Standard Version).

Throughout history some have seen this universal human experience as denying any hope of existence beyond this present life. For example, the ancient Epicureans viewed the world as purely materialistic—a random conglomeration of atoms. Death, they thought, comes about as the gradual dissolution of these atoms in the individual. An important part of their philosophy was devoted toward abolishing the fear of death, yet they gained few adherents during the centuries that the Epicurean school lasted.

Others have thought it unimportant to look beyond the present life. Perhaps at no time in history has there been more interest *in this life alone* than in this latter part of the 20th century. Even among those who profess some sort of religious faith. This is not surprising in light of the obsession with “other worldly” concerns in times past.

Yet, by contrast, strong social currents in the 1970s have demonstrated the human need for religious and eschatological security. Think, for a

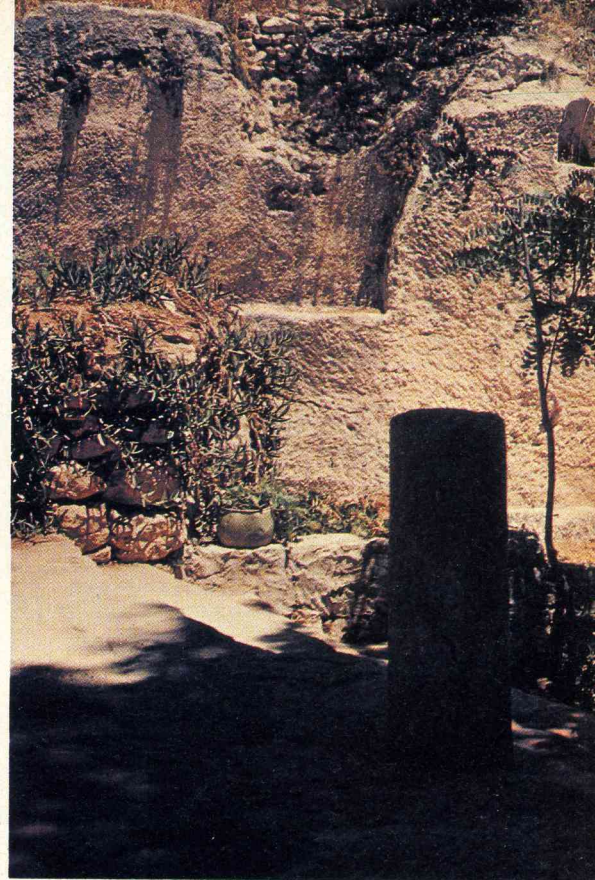
moment, of the return to Muslim fundamentalism in Iran and other parts of the Arab world; the interest in oriental religion in the Western world; the stubborn persistence of Christianity, Judaism and other religions in officially atheistic communist countries.

This longing for and hope in life beyond the grave still rests within the bosom of the majority of this world's population. Little wonder that among the different religious and philosophical systems one special idea has found an important place: *the resurrection of the dead.*

Yet how many professing Christians know that belief in a universal resurrection of the dead has been held in common by a number of the major religions of antiquity and the present?

A Look at Islam

The prophet Mohammed emphasized a resurrection of all the dead, a time in which all would rise from their graves at one time to stand before God. As in most religions, the resurrection is viewed as a time of judgment, with those who have done well having nothing to fear. The
(Continued on page 37)





Plain Truth Photo

What Most People Don't Know About Easter

Is Easter of Christian origin? Don't be too sure! You may be surprised to learn what Easter is all about.

by Clayton Steep

EASTER EGGS, Easter bunnies, Easter bonnets—what do they have to do with the story of Jesus?

Stop and think for a moment! Can you see any logical connection between brightly colored eggs, cotton-tail rabbits, new hats and the account of the life, the death and resurrection of Jesus?

Certainly no basis exists in the Bible for drawing any such connection. Nor for that matter is there any example in the Bible of Christians attending Easter sunrise services, eating hot cross buns, putting ashes on their foreheads or observing Lent.

Yet Easter is considered the most important Christian holiday. It is supposed to be the high point of the religious year. Why then are we unable to find modern Easter traditions revealed and explained in the Bible as the practice of the Church Jesus founded?

If Easter traditions don't come from the Bible, where do they come from? Should we participate in them? Would Jesus participate in them?

The Meaning of "Easter"

It is no secret. Almost any dictionary or encyclopedia reveals that the word

Easter is derived from the name of a pagan goddess. For example, *Webster's Collegiate Dictionary* shows that the word *Easter* comes from the name of an old Teutonic goddess of spring.

Notice what an editorial in *Christianity Today*, a popular magazine of mainstream Christendom, admits, "The derivation of the word *Easter* is somewhat uncertain, but it had to do with a pagan festival and seems to have been connected with an Anglo-Saxon spring goddess named Eostre" (issue of March 28, 1975).

For more than a thousand years before Jesus' birth a festival to Eostre was celebrated in the spring. It was the season of the budding of new life—the resurrection of nature after the dead of winter. It was a feast of regeneration. Throughout the inhabited world in ancient times spring festivals and various sex rituals were observed to honor the fact that the sun's welcome rays were once again imparting life and warmth.

The exaltation of fertility played a prominent part in the festivities. That is where the egg and the rabbit came into the picture.

Early in history the egg became a

symbol for sex, reproduction and life. The egg represented a resurrection and afterlife and was used to cast magical spells (*Funk and Wagnalls Standard Dictionary of Folklore, Mythology and Legend*, p. 341). Centuries before Jesus was born, colored eggs were used in religious worship.

The hare and rabbit, being among the most fertile animals known, were also included in sex and fertility rites. "The hare represented abundant life and the fertility of the earth. . . . Because hares were born with eyes open, they were sacred to the 'open-eyed' moon in Egypt, and thus connected with Easter, as the date is set by the moon's orbit to this day. The Germans made the hare sacred to the goddess Eostre, and said that on Easter Eve it would lay eggs for good children" (*A Treasury of American Superstitions*, p. 361).

As Jesus died and was resurrected in the spring, professing Christians in the second century and later, saw in these pagan spring rituals natural symbols of Christ's resurrection to new life. So they merely "borrowed" some of the heathen customs. This in spite of the fact that God strictly commanded His people not to use pagan customs to worship Him. The

Hebrew prophet **Jeremiah** wrote in strongest terms that we should not notice how pagans worship their gods and “inquire about their gods, saying, ‘How did these nations serve their gods?—that I also may do likewise.’ You shall not do so to the Lord your God. . . . Everything that I command you you shall be careful to do; you *shall not add to it or take from it*” (Deuteronomy 12:30-32, Revised Standard Version).

Let us consider some other “Christian” customs that have been adopted from heathenism.

Lent and Easter Sunrise Services

One of the many gods of the pagans who has influenced present-day religious practices was Tammuz. It was believed that he died and was resurrected. He was a counterfeit messiah. To mourn his death a period of weeping with intermittent rejoicing was held annually—a kind of Lenten season.

“Among the pagans this Lent seems to have been an indispensable preliminary to the great annual festival in commemoration of the death and resurrection of Tammuz, which was celebrated by alternate weeping and rejoicing” (Hislop’s *The Two Babylons*, p. 105).

That’s where Lent came from. There certainly are no instructions in the Bible that Christians should observe it. Nor is there any biblical authority for the practice of attending Easter sunrise services either. In fact, the Bible shows just the opposite!

God pointed out to Ezekiel some of the customs practiced by the sinful ancient nation of Israel. Ezekiel wrote: “He [God] said also to me, ‘You will see still greater abominations which they commit’ . . . and behold, there sat women weeping for Tammuz [a period of “Lent”!]. Then he said to me, ‘Have you seen this, O son of man? You will see still greater abominations than these.’ . . . [There] were about twenty-five men, with their backs to the temple of the Lord, and their faces toward the east, worshiping the sun toward the east” (Ezekiel 8:13-16, RSV).

What Ezekiel saw was the observance of a Lenten period and a sunrise service. Such heathen prac-

tices God called “abominations.” He doesn’t want us to imitate them.

Hot Cross Buns and the Easter Ham

“The traditional foods of Easter supper are also steeped in ancient legend. The hot cross buns, believed by many to be a purely Christian emblem, were baked with crosses—a pagan symbol—long before it had any Holy Week significance. The first crosses appeared on cakes associated with the worship of the Greek goddess Diana. Let us not forget the pig, which offers its ham as a traditional Easter dish. This animal has always been a symbol of good luck and prosperity among Indo-Europeans” (*News World*, March 26, 1978).

There is nothing Christian about hot cross buns! (See Jeremiah 7:18, where God once angrily complained to Jeremiah because His people were engaged in family activities involving pagan religious cakes.)

As far as what God has to say about eating ham on Easter—or on any day, for that matter—refer to Leviticus 11:7 (also see the article that appeared in last month’s *Plain Truth* entitled “Is All Animal Flesh Good Food?”).

The Easter Parade

Even the Easter Parade has suspicious origins.

“To imitate Nature’s emergence in her own gorgeous new attire of delicate green, in ancient times, when Easter was New Year’s Day, people cast off their old clothes to start the new year right. Therefore the custom of wearing a new outfit on Easter is a holdover from this time.

“The custom of wearing new clothes prevailed also in northern Europe as it was considered discourteous and therefore bad luck to greet the Scandinavian goddess of Spring, or Eastre, in anything but a fresh garb, since the goddess was bestowing one on the earth. Needless to say, the Easter Parade on Fifth Avenue, New York, is the most famous survival of this old custom.

“There is an old superstition that wearing three new things on Easter assures good luck throughout the

(Continued on page 39)

Jesus kept the Passover. Millions today keep Easter.

Does it matter?

What do Easter eggs, sunrise services and Lent have to do with Christ’s resurrection?

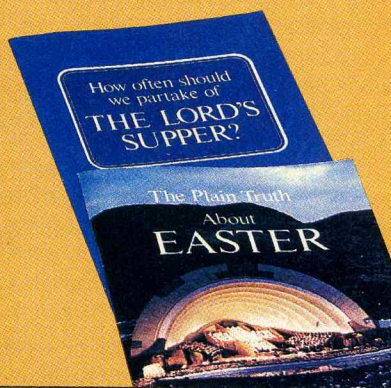
Do you know what the Bible commands Christians to observe? God’s commanded observances reveal a fabulous but little understood master plan involving *your* awesome human potential.

Read the fascinating story of how God’s Truth was suppressed nearly two thousand years ago. You’ll also discover:

- The mysterious Chaldean origin of Easter
- Lent observance began centuries before Christ
- How Easter crept into the church
- Why early Christians kept the Passover *after* Christ’s death
- How and when to observe the Lord’s supper—God’s way

Request your free copies today of the booklets: “The Plain Truth About Easter” and “How often should we partake of THE LORD’S SUPPER.”

Return the reply card today or write: THE PLAIN TRUTH, BOX 111, Pasadena, CA 91123.



SODOM- The Untold Story

Who hasn't heard of the fiery judgment on the ancient people of Sodom and Gomorrah? Yet how many understand that homosexuality was not the sole cause of God's judgment on those cities? Read here the full story and its warning for civilization today.

by Donald D. Schroeder



Gustave Doré

WHY WAS Sodom destroyed? Immorality—even homosexuality—was common in other cities of the world at the time. Yet, unlike Sodom and Gomorrah, they were not destroyed. Why?

A Facade of Material Well-being

Sodom and Gomorrah were prosperous cities. Their citizens were building, buying and selling—good economic indicators (Luke 17:29-30). Because of the availability of the whirl of materialism and pleasures, and continuing prosperity, the inhabitants of these cities were blind to grave social sicknesses.

Inside these two boom towns and other nearby cities, the number of individuals having knowledge of and respect for the true God and His laws was almost nil. There were not even 10 men of good character in the city (or plain) or Sodom (Genesis 18:32).

Apparently only Lot, a nephew of Abram—the father of the Israelites, Jews and Arabs—was deeply grieved

by the social values and practices of Sodom.

The Life-style of Sodom

Sodom was infested with many moral, social and spiritual evils. Ezekiel, a prophet in Israel centuries later, warned his nation against the sins that cost the lives of the inhabitants of Sodom. "Behold, this was the iniquity of . . . Sodom, *pride*, fulness of bread . . . *idleness* was in her and her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. And they were *haughty* and *committed abomination* before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good" (Ezekiel 16:49-50).

There you have it! The whole social fabric of these cities had rotted. In Sodom it was chic to boast of one's life-style, especially if one was involved in the latest absurd fad or practice. It was *avant-garde*.

It did not shock sensibilities if one was lazy, heedless of the needs of the impoverished or engaged in idolatrous worship of the most licentious type. All of these life-styles and practices were tolerated. "Do your

own thing," was the boast and attraction of Sodom, "and be proud of it."

But the Creator God of heaven, the Judge of all, saw matters differently. As He looked down from the throne of the universe He saw a Sodom that had degenerated to a bottom line society in every social responsibility. The Sodomites had utterly perverted everything that was decent and good.

The sexual and social values of Sodom were not bounded by any stable spiritual, legal or social rules. Life-styles and goals could be whatever individuals wanted them to be. Rules and values could be broken as easily as they were made. One did not have to be concerned if his thoughts were base or wrong. After all, who could say what was "right" and what was "wrong"?

In that social atmosphere sex abuse, depersonalization, alienation and lack of responsibility for one's actions were the result.

It was not only the "swinging" or "gay" life, it was the "get" life—"I'll get what I want." Contrast this free-

wheeling life-style with the laws of God that govern the social, the spiritual, the sexual life of humanity. God's laws give boundaries to right and wrong actions and attitudes. They give direction and protection to the achievement of wholesome human, social and spiritual needs and goals.

Bottom Line Society

Most noteworthy of Sodom's contribution to human experience was their "code" of sexual ethics. The incident of Lot and his visitors only show the tip of the social climate prevalent in Sodom.

Promiscuity was so universal and base that the males of Sodom, *young and old alike* (Genesis 19:4) tried to force perverted sexual relations on total newcomers to their city.

It was not just the refuse and scum of a bad section of town that threatened Lot and his guests. People from "every quarter" of the city, "small and great," were infected with depraved sexual values and tried to get in on the excitement (verses 4 and 11).

Some, today, try to deny any sexual assault was involved in this incident. They say God was angry over the Sodomites' inhospitality to strangers. The context, however, clearly shows the sexual nature of their assault.

Lot was so appalled by what the Sodomites had in mind that he offered—quite cowardly, but to him a lesser evil—his two daughters, "which have not *known* man." This Hebrew expression is regularly used in the Bible for sexual relations.

The inhabitants of Sodom had sunk to a low estate of craven, jaded lusts. They did not hesitate to resort to violent, abusive criminal assault against Lot and his guests to fulfill their desires. Not even after they were miraculously blinded!

The Sodomites were not ashamed of their social values and actions. In their smug and self-assured pride the inhabitants of that whole plain of Sodom had accepted what to them was an enlightened and free morality. The Sodomites felt no man was in a position to determine what was right or wrong for all. They became infuriated against Lot when he, a relative newcomer among them,

judged their doings as wickedness (Genesis 19:9).

Nothing Left "in the Closet"

This vivid account of Lot and his visitors has given rise to the widespread idea that homosexual practices *alone* were what stirred up God's wrath.

The truth is, all types of perverted sex and corrupt manners were "out of the closet." Such were notoriously common and paraded about everywhere—even in public streets and especially at night. (Lot was concerned about what might happen to God's messengers if they stayed in the streets at night.) There was utter disrespect for any standard of normalcy.

In the New Testament, Jude 7 clearly reveals that the Sodomites were "giving themselves over to *fornication* and going after *strange flesh*." The original Greek word here translated *fornication* is *ekporneuo*. It means to be *utterly sexually unchaste*. It includes all kinds of sexual immorality or unlawful lust.

The Revised Standard Version translates this verse, "... Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise acted immorally and indulged in unnatural lust. . . ." It was a full spectrum of sexual immorality—incest, adultery, wife-swapping, premarital sex, bisexuality, homosexuality, sadomasochism, bestiality and every other kinky sex act the human mind has conjured up.

In other words, Sodom and Gomorrah had pulled off the final coup of their sexual revolution. To use the terminology of today, there was absolutely no discrimination based on affectual or sexual preferences or sexual orientation.

God's laws on sex and marriage were ignored or rejected. And the inhabitants of Sodom were so far from God, His laws and purpose for human life, they were proud and haughty about their unencumbered and unrestrained morality. That is, until their lives and cities were swept away without a trace.

The Tragic Outcome

Look at the tragic outcome of the values of Sodom, because the process is going on today!

Then, as now, individuals ap-

proached others with all kinds of lustful, selfish objectives or feelings—perhaps even mixed in with desires to fulfill common human wants such as the need for appreciation, affection, being special to someone and expression of erotic feelings.

The cities of the plain of Sodom chose a path they thought was right in their ignorance of God's laws. But they quickly found that their misdirected and unbounded desires and possessive lusts drove wholesome and lasting relationships away from them. True happiness had vanished.

Because their outlook was perverted they didn't know why their desires and fantasies met with frequent rejection, abandonment or abuse from others. It was because others were also equally unprincipled. All were seeking to fill the vacuum of their lives in an endless search for new sexual partners or new ultimate sensual experiences to give purpose to their lives. They wanted to excite increasingly jaded emotions.

Selfish interests were of paramount concern. Sex and sensualism became an inordinate focus of concern, the major goal in life, the only thing many could get excited about.

Children increasingly became ensnared with these attitudes. As such attitudes grew in the populace, the Sodomites increasingly were unable to value another individual's personality or feelings. They could not perceive the damages that their perverted desires would have upon their own personality and human development, much less that of others.

Increasingly, humans became impersonal objects to gratify whatever lusts or desires one had—by force if necessary.

As individuals abused each other, it led to further alienation, loneliness, hostility and revengeful sadomasochism. Many victims suffered deep feelings of abandonment, despair, hopelessness and depression. In turn, these feelings fostered high usage of alcohol, drugs and thoughts of suicide.

The result of the Sodomites' way of life plunged the people into increasingly distorted, debased human character. God saw their character. He saw their progeny becoming completely perverted. He had to

intervene. If they had gone on, it would have been improbable they could ever achieve God's great purpose for them in a future resurrection. So God, in His mercy, intervened with a catastrophic punishment and cut off their lives.

A Lost Generation?

Were the Sodomites' lives worthless? Did they live in vain? Is there any more help from God for the Sodomites? Is there any hope for any who are caught in similar sins today?

The terrific answer is, Yes!

But it is a matter of understanding God's plan for man!

The Sodomites, like the vast majority of mankind who have ever lived, were allowed by God to be blinded to the Creator's laws and great purpose for human life. The Sodomites were cut off from contact with God by their sins (Isaiah 59:1-2). God allowed them (as He has most of mankind) to reap the consequences of their own way under Satan's sway of selfishness, lust and self-aggrandizement.

Sin—the breaking of God's law (I John 3:4)—damages (arrests, limits or prevents) full human maturity and godly development. It damages the proper development of values, outlook and goals in life.

Sin, and sexual sin in particular, distorts wholesome feelings to one's own and the opposite sex. It subtly destroys health and minds. It works to destroy respect and appreciation of the God-ordained family unit. It undermines the proper example and teaching adults should be giving to children.

But these evils will all be corrected.

God loves human beings. He recognizes their potential as members of the God Family despite their sins. He is "not willing that any should perish [eternally], but that all should come to repentance" (II Peter 3:9). God's great master plan for humanity means all who sinned and died in ignorance will have their opportunity to repent and change the way they think and act.

This is the good news! Even the Sodomites will have their opportunity for salvation in a future day of resurrection and judgment. And they are going to listen. Jesus Christ spoke

of this period of time. Verbally chastizing a city in His time for having rejected God's message, He said:

"For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have continued until today. But I tell you, it shall be more enduring for the land of Sodom on the day of judgment than for you" (Matthew 11:23-24, The Amplified Bible).

The Sodomites will have more mercy because they sinned in ignorance. Whereas many in the time of Jesus professed to know God's laws but did not keep them.

The people of Sodom will come to understand why they sinned as they did. And they will receive from God the gift of the Holy Spirit to overcome their sins.

Yes, the Sodomites will live again—to be resurrected into a world where Satan will not be allowed to tempt them and where sinful cultures will not exist to lure them back into sin at every corner. They will live in a yet future era when God's Spirit will be made freely available to all who want to overcome their sins and go God's way.

This future time of salvation for most of humanity who have lived and died is little understood. But you can understand—if you know the meaning of the annual Holy Days God revealed to ancient Israel. These divinely ordained days picture an early small spiritual harvest of individuals called in this age to have an opportunity for salvation.

This small spiritual first harvest of those who are now called to spiritual salvation is followed by a large, late harvest culminating in a last great annual Holy Day. This Great Day pictures a time of salvation for all who—like the Sodomites—never truly had an opportunity to know God's ways.

This astounding good news is contained in our free booklet *Pagan Holidays—or God's Holy Days—Which?* and in the reprint article "Is This The Only Day of Salvation?"

Coming—Fantastic Era of Learning!

Look at what the Sodomites will yet learn in their day of salvation!

They will learn that God is the author of sex, that He established right and wholesome marital and

sexual relationships and laws. They will learn how these laws and ways promote optimum human and spiritual development. They will learn that a proper marriage is a God-plane relationship.

They will understand why God gave laws prohibiting prostitution, fornication (or whoredom or harlotry), adultery, homosexuality, rape, incest, transvestism, bestiality and other sexual uncleanness.

They will understand why God put humans on the earth. Human experience is a testing ground and ultimate opportunity to develop godlike character.

Finally they will appreciate God's ultimate mercy to them. They will learn why God is so concerned about the direction of all human sexual and social development.

An Example for Today

The societies of Sodom and Gomorrah did not start out as immorally as they ended. They became that way through the increasing acceptance of values and attitudes that did not discriminate between good and evil. It is not exaggerating to say that many nations today are well on the way to becoming new Sodom and Gomorrah!

The fate of Sodom and Gomorrah should be a warning to all. The events that shattered those cities more than 3,850 years ago, Scripture warns us, are "set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire" (Jude 7).

Said the apostle Peter, "And [God] turning Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample [example] unto those that after should live *ungodly*" (II Peter 2:6).

It is a clear example, not an unclear or muddled one as some are trying to make the account of Sodom and Gomorrah appear.

Coming issues of *The Plain Truth* will cover vital topics in this important area of human sexuality. Topics such as the purpose of sex and marriage, modern moral trends, attitudes and problems, prophecies to major nations because of such trends, how humans form sexual preferences, overcoming sin God's way and proper sex education. You will want to read them all. □

...Already Beginning

WORLD UPHEAVAL IN THE

1980s



What will the 1980s be like? What does the next decade hold in store? Few understand the seriousness of the crises which loom immediately ahead.

by Jeff Calkins

THE DECADE of the 1980s, states Irving Kristol, writing in the *Wall Street Journal*, "promises to be an absolutely ghastly period."

Mr. Kristol is not alone in his gloomy prediction. London's *Economist* magazine declares in an editorial: "It is going to be a bumpy 1980s." And Lewis Lapham, editor of *Harper's*, laments, "As the decade of the 1970s expires amidst a chorus of recriminations, the prolonged anxiety of the past 10 years gives way to a *feeling of pervasive dread*" (emphasis ours throughout).

Herman Kahn, a professional "futurologist" at the renowned Hudson Institute in New York, says this about the 1980s:

"I foresee: Continued—perhaps wild—inflation, prolonged uncertainty in energy supply, a rash of terrorism, nuclear saber rattling, a rash of assassinations, an intense confrontation between Russia and China, a collapse of the Eurodollar markets."

And Mr. Kahn is considered one of the *optimists* in the futurology profession!

Will this avalanche of gloom

descend on us? One way to know is to understand this principle: the crises of each decade are the product of key events in the one immediately preceding.

This principle has held up since World War I. Thus World War I saw the defeat and imposition of tough reparations terms on Germany. These in turn led to inflation and unemployment in Germany in the 1920s, which led to Hitler in the 1930s.

In the English-speaking world, World War I helped to lay the economic foundation of the tremendous credit and monetary expansion of the 1920s and "beggar-thy-neighbor" attitudes toward international trade.

Both led to the Great Depression of the 1930s, when credit was cut off by the central banks, and nations everywhere resorted to high tariffs to keep out foreign goods.

World War II, of course, was in part a response to the Depression, and in turn led to the economic expansion and heavy emphasis on international trade in the late 1940s and 1950s. Soviet expansion at the end of World War II created the Cold War climate of the 1950s.

The 1960s were a worldwide reaction to the Cold War as well as a product of *boredom* which accompanied the prosperity of the '50s.

The 1960s thus became a kind of shorthand for a time of rebellion, riots, bombings, destruction of values, morals and traditions. Many commentators now view the 1960s as an "unmitigated social disaster." The 1970s saw the social revolutions among the young of the 1960s become the new status quo.

We must now ask: What was it about the 1970s that will shape the 1980s? What was sown in the previous decade that will be reaped in the next?

Winds and Whirlwinds

"For they have sown the wind," declares the prophet Hosea, "and

they shall reap the whirlwind..." (Hosea 8:7).

One of the most frightening aspects about what was sown in the 1970s is its parallel to what was sown in the 1930s.

As a prosperous 1920s was followed by the Depression of the 1930s, and world war in the 1940s, so were the "go-go" economics of the 1960s followed by the "stagflation" and "slumpflation" of the 1970s. If the pattern holds, in the 1980s there will be WAR!

Just as the 1930s saw the incredible buildup of Adolph Hitler's military machine, so did the 1970s see the military strength of the Soviet Union increase faster than anything before it.

As the American Security Council, a prestigious private organization concerned with defense matters, pointed out in 1977, "The Soviets are spending three times as much of their gross national product as the United States—actually spending 50 percent more than the United States for arms. *Such a rapid and intense armament program has not occurred since Hitler's armament of Germany before World War II.*"

The same warning was made by the former chief of U.S. Air Force Intelligence, Maj. Gen. George Keegan, who was interviewed by *The Plain Truth* at the Washington headquarters of the American Security Council: The Soviet Union has made the "most extensive military preparations" in peacetime of any country in world history. And Eugene Rostow, former Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs under Lyndon Johnson, called the Soviet buildup "without parallel in modern history."

Voices of Warning

In the 1930s it seemed almost that the lone voice on the world scene warning of the Nazi buildup was that of Winston Churchill. "I say there is a state of emergency. We are in danger, as we have never been in danger before," Mr. Churchill said

The sheer number of world crisis points is astounding. In the Middle East (1), the thorny issues of a homeland for the Palestinians and the status of Jerusalem remain unsolved. Central Europe (2) is threatened by overwhelming Soviet superiority in conventional weapons. There is the grave threat of Soviet interference with oil traveling through the Persian Gulf (3), one of the reasons why the U.S.S.R. was tempted to intervene in Afghanistan (4). The Soviets have also moved in Ethiopia (5), Mozambique (6) and Angola (7), all strategic points on the Middle East oil route. A cutoff of oil would have a devastating impact on Japan (8). The 1980s will also see the vulnerability of America's ICBM missiles (9), continued movement of vast amounts of oil through the Panama Canal (10), potential famine in India (11), war in the Sahara (12) and further war and starvation in Cambodia (13). All together, not a reassuring picture of the 1980s.

As the decade of the 1970s expires... the prolonged anxiety of the past 10 years gives way to a feeling of pervasive dread. . . .

of the German military buildup in 1936.

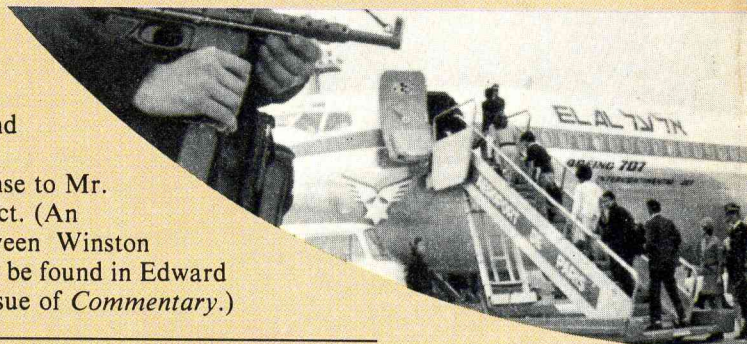
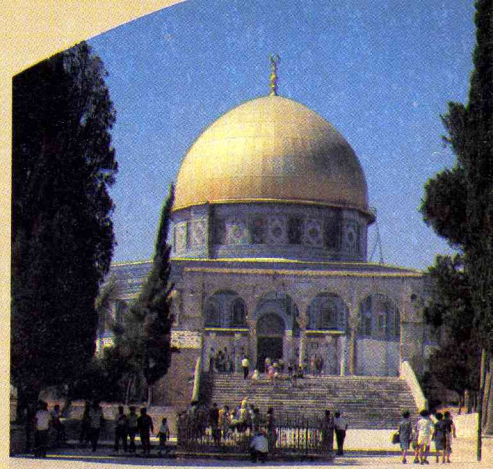
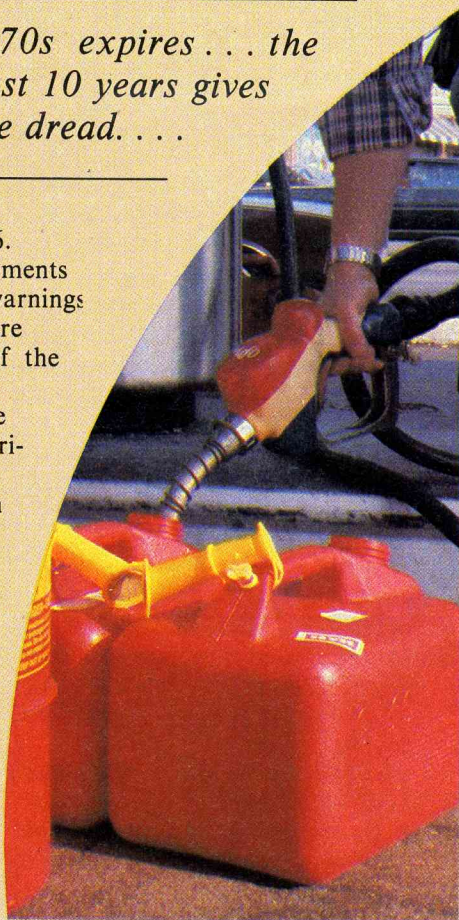
Ironically, many of the same arguments used to brush aside Mr. Churchill's warnings about Nazi Germany in the 1930s were heard in the 1970s about warnings of the Soviet military buildup.

Mr. Churchill's critics said that the Nazis only wanted "parity," not superiority, much the way that many in the 1970s claimed that the Soviet Union only wanted to be "equal," not superior to the United States. (The Soviet Union, however, has long since attained superiority over the United States in terms of the actual sum total of military equipment.)

Critics also said that Mr. Churchill ignored Germany's need for a "two front army," much the same way that many in the 1970s explained away the Soviet's military buildup by saying that the Soviet Union needs to protect itself from both China on the one side and NATO on the other.

There were also claims that Churchill imputed aggressive motives to the Nazis where none really existed. For example in 1935, a fellow member of Parliament criticized him "for having permeated this entire speech with the *atmosphere that Germany is arming for war.*" Likewise, in the 1970s many leaders in charge of foreign policy in the Western nations, despite Soviet support of revolutionary movements all over the globe, continued to insist that the Soviet leaders were a "cautious" and "unadventuristic" group.

The 1970s also saw its own counterparts to Winston Churchill, including, interestingly, his own grandson who also used his seat in Parliament to warn of an enemy arms buildup. Others, such as Eugene Rostow, Paul Nitze, former SALT negotiator, Daniel O. Graham, former head of Defense Intelligence, Gen. Keegan, and in Britain, Lord Chalfont, a former high official in a Labour government, and current Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, all warned of the enormous increase in Soviet arms. And like the response to Mr. Churchill in the 1930s, Western governments were slow to act. (An excellent discussion of the *many* parallels that exist between Winston Churchill's warnings in the 1930s and those of the 1970s may be found in Edward Luttwak's article, "Churchill and Us," in the June, 1977, issue of *Commentary*.)



"One of the most frightening aspects about what was sown in the 1970s is its parallel to what was sown in the 1930s."

Global Conflict in Gestation

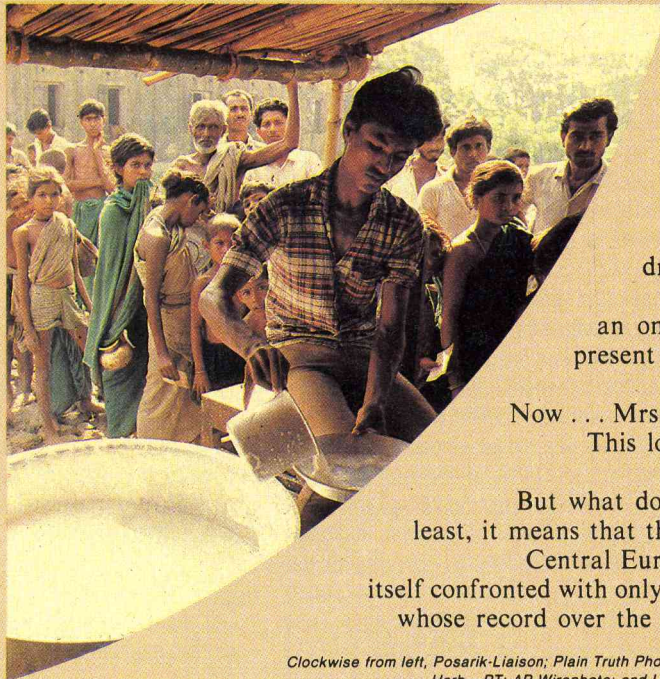
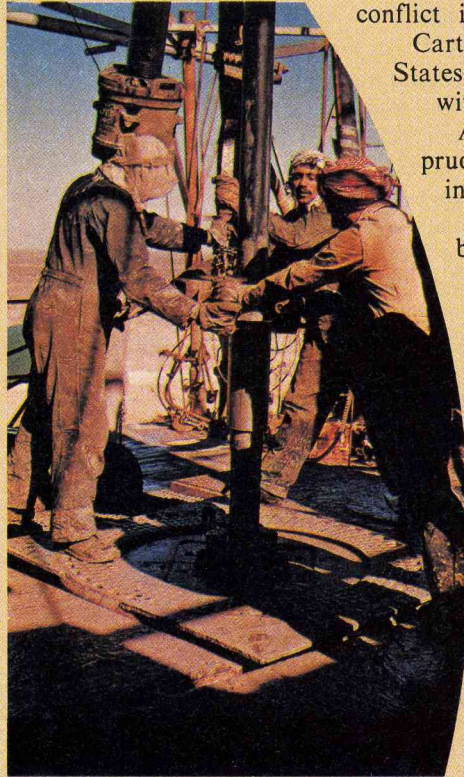
As Gen. Keegan told *The Plain Truth*: "A global conflict is now in gestation . . . I think Jimmy Carter is the last President of the United States in my judgment who has time remaining within which to alter the perceptions of the American people and to make a few prudent rational nonprovocative investments in defense [Gen. Keegan specifically mentioned the B-1 bomber, which was vetoed by President Carter] that would hold this evolving situation in abeyance."

Another respected authority who sees how the 1970s have been likened to the 1930s is Richard Pipes, director of the Russian Research Center at Harvard University: "In some respects the democracies today confront a situation not unlike that which they faced in the 1930s: a totalitarian regime bent on expansion through the use of force."

Recently England's Prime Minister Thatcher, delivering the Winston Churchill Memorial lecture in Luxembourg, warned of the Soviet's overwhelming military superiority in Central Europe. *Pravda*, in exquisite irony, responded by saying Mrs. Thatcher had tried "to put on Churchill's trousers."

Pravda then ridiculed the idea that the Soviet three-to-one superiority in tanks, or 200,000 superiority in manpower, or equivalent superiorities in fighters, bombers and chemical warfare, posed any real threat to Western Europe. Soon after, London's *Daily Telegraph* drew the same analogy as *Pravda*, but in a far different light, in an editorial: "There is an ominous similarity between the '30s and the present time. Then Winston Churchill gave his warnings of the growing Nazi threat. Now . . . Mrs. Thatcher is uniquely placed to give a lead. This looks like *Europe's last chance to safeguard peace and freedom by firmness.*"

But what does this striking parallel mean? At the very least, it means that the 1980s will see matters come to a head in Central Europe. It means that Western Europe will find itself confronted with only three choices: 1) Rely on the United States, whose record over the 1970s in coming to the aid of its allies was



Clockwise from left, Posarik-Liaison; Plain Truth Photo; Courtesy—Federal Reserve Bank of New York; Taconis—Magnum; Herb—PT; AP Wirephoto; and UPI. Clockwise from left center, UPI; Wide World; Hennig PT; and USAF.

“Going into the 1980s, the Western world has come to the point where an Arab oil embargo would ignite a cataclysmic chain of events.”

nothing short of abysmal. 2) Give in to Soviet pressure and become a vassal of the Soviet Union. Or, 3) as Gen. Charles de Gaulle always maintained, develop its own independent military and nuclear forces.

Look for Europeans to choose the last option!

As Europeans realize more and more that they will be either subordinated to or invaded by the Soviet Union, Bible prophecy reveals that Western Europe, as heir of the ancient Roman Empire, will establish its own defense force and take an independent stance in the world. Listen to the *Daily Telegraph's* European spokesman Peregrine Worshtorne on this issue: “So perhaps the prewar generation was *correct after all not to rely on the United States.*

“When even pro-American Europeans are compelled to reach this conclusion, then surely the time has come for something to be done about it. In fact, the obvious reaction, which may be long overdue, is for Western Europe to look more and more to its own defenses and its own interests, *if need be in defiance of the U.S.* Such a world could well be intensely dangerous.”

Indeed, Bible prophecy proclaims that Europe and the Soviet Union *will* eventually find themselves *at war* at the close of this world's civilization and the time of God's intervention to bring world peace through sending Jesus Christ again.

The entire ninth chapter of Revelation describes in symbol a final war between a unified Europe and a great Eurasian power. And Daniel 11:44 describes how “tidings out of the east and out of the north” [which could be none other, given the geography of Palestine, than the land of Russia] shall “trouble” the leader of a united Europe, who “shall go forth with great fury to destroy.”

The Other Whirlwind

The 1970s set in motion another chain of events which is leading to conflagration in the 1980s: world dependence on Middle Eastern oil.

Thus when Irving Kristol peers into his crystal ball for the 1980s, he acknowledges what *The Plain Truth* has proclaimed for decades: “*The Middle East is the most obvious source of trouble. . . . Oil at \$50 to \$75 a barrel is not too far down the road, and chaos in that region might well result in no oil being available at any price.*”

The 1970s have indeed laid the foundation for absolute “chaos in that region”!

Europe and Japan have always been dependent on Middle Eastern oil, and were able to reduce their dependence upon it only marginally in the 1970s (Britain and Norway—who found their own oil—excepted). The United States, on the other hand, instituted policies that had the perverse effect of increasing its dependency on Mideast oil!

In 1971 price controls were put on the entire American economy. By 1974, they had been removed, except for the price of *domestically* produced crude. While the world price went through the roof, American domestic crude prices were held down. That gave oil companies an incredible incentive to go out and buy Middle Eastern oil while holding back on production of relatively less profitable domestic oil. American dependence on oil imports was less than a quarter of its daily consumption at the beginning of the decade. But imports shot up to a full *one half* of daily consumption by 1979. As the 1980s begin, American dependence on imported oil has reached the point where the economy simply cannot tolerate an Arab oil embargo as it had in 1973.

Going into the 1980s, the Western world has come to the point where an Arab oil embargo would ignite a cataclysmic chain of events. Experts are absolutely apocalyptic in their description of the situation: According to Walter Levy, an international oil consultant, if *any* Mideast country halts its oil production, the United States and the Western world “have had it.”

James E. Lee, president of Gulf Oil, declares that “if OPEC cuts back production substantially or if prices rise too drastically, it could plunge both the developed and underdeveloped world into depression!” And Sheik Ahmed Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arabia's moderate oil minister, has warned of an *economic collapse worse than the Great Depression* that will strike the West if the flow of oil from the Middle East is ever halted.

Another possibility leading to the same result is that the Soviet Union might gain such influence in the Mideast that it, or its proxies, could shut off the oil. “Soviet control of the oil tap in the Middle East would mean *the end of the world as we have known it since 1945,*” declares James R. Schlesinger, former head of the U.S. Department of Energy.

Vulnerable Europe and Japan

Significantly, it is Western Europe and Japan that face the most upheaval should the flow of oil ever be shut off.

Mr. Schlesinger is quite blunt: [If the control of the Persian Gulf fell into hostile hands] “Given their dependency on that part of the world Japan and Western Europe *would have to change their orientation.*”

A few years ago, *Business Week* magazine forecast the same geopolitical developments. Should the oil-producing countries of the Middle East fall under the sway of other Islamic militants or the Soviets, “the strain on U.S. military alliances with Europe and Japan, in turn, would weaken the political framework of the Western economic system.”

Again, Bible prophecy is right on target. It foretells that in the time just before the return of Christ, a united Europe and Japan would have a different political orientation than the United States.

The Ignored Issue

The threat of another Arab oil embargo remains because of continu-

(Continued on page 30)

Unmasking a Conspiracy Against the Newborn

Who would have guessed that from the moment of birth infants are often deprived of their right to emotional maturity. Here is how it happens—and what must be done about it.

by Craig Jackson

FROM THE very beginning of life most infants in the Western world face a virtual conspiracy against emotional maturity.

The newborn infant usually is taken from its anesthetized mother, washed and weighed. After a few brief minutes with mother, the infant is placed in a crib in the nursery, where it spends most of the first few days of life—alone.

Yet it is in these first critical minutes and hours of life that we form our initial emotional attachment to another human being. The crucial importance of close contact between the mother and her child right after birth has been prevented or denied for more than a generation.

Doctors, nurses and psychologists are only now becoming aware of this tragedy.

What Real-Life Experiences Reveal

When mothers in hospitals (whatever happened to the home births?) are allowed direct skin-to-skin contact with their newborn children, they respond to this early, intimate contact with their babies differently from mothers denied such needed contact. A remarkable study reported, “they held their babies face to face, talked to, fondled, kissed, caressed, and smiled at them more than the other mothers.”

Not surprisingly, “babies of early-contact mothers gained more weight, cried less, and smiled and laughed more than the other infants.” It was also found that premature babies, who are separated from their mothers for long periods after birth, are more likely to be abused than full-

term babies (*Psychology Today*, “The First Day of Life,” December, 1977).

In our “enlightened” modern society where only 20 percent of mothers experience natural childbirth, babies generally are taken from their mothers just at the time when they most desperately need to be together. Both mother and child suffer from this early hindrance to emotional bonding through touching.

And yet, this early separation of mother and child is only the beginning of a pattern that carries on into later life.

In many families, parents allow their children to mature without those all-important physical expressions of life—the warm hugs and caresses that show them they are appreciated and cared for. There are families in which embracing is habitually withheld except in cases of prolonged absence or family tragedy. There exist families whose children have rarely if ever seen their parents embrace each other or show physical affection.

Children of such families grow up feeling insecure, inhibited, afraid of being hurt, and therefore afraid of seeking intimacy with others. They may have a hard time in their dating and marriage relationships. They may feel cold and emotionally flat, without knowing why. Later, as parents, they will have hangups about expressing love to their own offspring.

This is not to say that there is no love in such nontouching families—the love is there, usually, but it seems somehow stunted, repressed or hidden. (However, hidden love is not

much better than no love at all.)

Humans who are deprived in infancy and childhood suffer drastically from it. From surveys of prisoners and of 49 different primitive cultures it has been concluded that deprivation of physical affection “is the principal overriding factor . . . in the development of alienation, psychopathy, violence and aggression, and . . . drug abuse and alcoholism (*Behavior Today*, May 15, 1978).

The study is frightening: by depriving infants and children of physical love, parents may, in a sense, produce warped adults who are unable to relate to others—or who are even predisposed to violent or criminal behavior!

Lack of love and affection in the earliest years have long range negative effects. Perhaps you yourself come from a family background that was cold, unemotional, and lacking in displays of physical affection. Perhaps you were ignored or even abused as a young child. As a result, you may find in yourself certain fears or inhibitions that you have found it difficult to overcome.

So, remember, mothers—and fathers—by cuddling, embracing and loving your baby or toddler, you are giving him or her the foundation that you may have lacked—the knowledge that he or she is loved, accepted, secure. You can give your children inner resources that will make them more confident, more properly assertive, more affectionate and outgoing as adults.

Don't be afraid to add the human touch to the life of an infant—and see the joy that flows from one simple act. □

The field of reproductive science is expanding at an astonishing rate. New techniques and sophisticated instruments are producing remarkable results—and, at the same time, remarkable moral dilemmas.

by Clayton Steep



“It is hard to speak about restraint in a culture that seems to venerate very little above man’s own attempt to master all”

Dr. Leon Kass

BOUNCY little Louise Brown—soon to be 2 years old—is an apparently normal and healthy child, though her life began in a 1-by-2-inch glass tube.

For Mr. and Mrs. John Brown of Bristol, England, the birth of Louise was the realization of a dream. After all, three years previously they had been told by doctors that they could never have a child. Then they were referred to Doctors Patrick Steptoe and Robert Edwards, who successfully brought about Louise’s conception in a glass tube. The rest of the story was told and retold by the media.

Actually, experiments with *in vitro* (test tube) fertilization began with animals in the 1930s. In 1961 an Italian doctor filmed some of his work with human eggs. But his efforts were not well received by either the religious or scientific communities. Other work has been done, but without a great deal of public awareness. Now, however, due largely to the success of Doctors Steptoe and Edwards, Pandora’s box has been publicly opened, and there seems to be no way to close it.

Dr. Steptoe plans soon to engineer the birth of a human child to a surrogate mother. In other words, a human embryo, which has been conceived in a laboratory, is to be put into the womb of a female “third person”—not the woman who supplied the egg. If the experiment is successful, the child will be born to a woman who is not its real mother!

Genetic Engineering and Cloning

In the field of genetic engineering there have been some stunning breakthroughs. Being able to single out an individual gene among the millions in a human cell suggests a time when it would be possible to select in advance the eye color, stature and IQ of a test-tube child. Manipulating the genes would produce custom-made results.

Just recently the General Electric Co. has been in the news for trying to patent a man-made bacteria. This microorganism is of value because it “eats” oil spills.

Another area of biomedicine that

has sparked a lot of interest is cloning. Cloning is an asexual (sexless) method of reproduction. A single cell is taken from somewhere on the body of a male or female. The nucleus is removed from the cell and put into an ovum, which is then allowed to grow much like a normal embryo. The result is supposed to be a carbon copy of whoever or whatever gave the cell.

Dr. Christopher Pelge, a leading Cambridge scientist, has recently stated that experiments now under way on animals indicate that in a few years human cloning, and even reproduction after death, as long as cells are available, will be possible.

Disturbing Questions

Volumes have been written debating the pros and cons of the rapidly expanding field of biomedicine. Some warn of a monstrous moral, ethical and legal genie that cannot be forced back into the test tube. They denounce the specter of technicians with culture dishes creating new life forms or making God-like decisions concerning the life, death and likeness of human beings.

Concerning the work already being done with human cells, there are indeed profoundly disturbing questions. For example, what happens if a 7-day-old embryo in a glass tube is found to be defective? Does it still have a “right to life”? When is a human embryo human? What if defects don’t show up until the baby is born? Vance Packard, in his book, *The People Shapers*, asks: “If we permit the implant of *in vitro* human embryos in women, are we prepared to kill monsters, imbeciles and hopelessly defective humans born from such research?”

“I think the potential is there for serious anomalies should an unqualified scientist mishandle an embryo,” Dr. John Marlow, an American gynecologist who observed the Steptoe-Edwards experiment first hand, remarked in *U.S. News and World Report* (Aug. 7, 1978). Many ask just who is going to police all the “unqualified” scientists in the world.

The legal ramifications of manipulated human reproduction will be

TEST-TUBE BABIES

Revising Genesis?



immense. How can a person conceived artificially ever find his true "roots"? Who is he really? Exactly *who is* a baby born from a surrogate mother? Who is legally responsible for the child?

Many feel that mechanical tinkering with conception dehumanizes the moment of creation. Abortion and the pill have been decried by some because they allow sex without having children; the present interest in artificial conception and/or birth is viewed by others as a design for producing children without having sex! Both approaches are seen as posing problems for the beleaguered family unit.

Again from Dr. Marlow: "I think what has been done in Britain [test-tube fertilization] poses many problems to society, and some of our traditional and very important concepts of mother, father, child will be challenged" (*ibid.*).

"We're on a slippery slope," cautioned geneticist Robert J. Berry. "Western society is built around the family; once you divorce sex from procreation, what happens to the family?" (*Time*, July 31, 1978).

Regarding the effect surrogate mothers would have on the family institution, *U.S. News and World Report* (Aug. 7, 1978) stated: "Beyond the legal entanglements are fundamental questions about how this will affect the mother-child relationship and the early bonding that social anthropologists have considered so important to child development.

"At the same time, surrogate pregnancy is seen as a final step in the biological liberation of woman. This could have a widening impact on the role of women in terms of jobs and education as the sexual gap between men and women narrows. Like men, women could 'sire' children without the responsibility of pregnancy and childbirth."

Is Restraint Possible?

Advocates of continued research and experimentation, however, are quick to point out that they are interested only in bringing about progress for mankind.

Discoveries have already been

made that, it is hoped, will lead to the elimination of presently incurable genetic diseases, help to conquer cancer and even slow down the aging process. New, more productive strains of livestock and plant life could be created. And, of course, we must not forget the already achieved goal of providing a child to a childless couple.

All of these aspirations seem so right. Admittedly, there is a calculated risk. But can't science regulate itself? Won't it know when and where to stop?

Dr. Leon Kass, biochemist and professor at the University of Chicago, has expressed misgivings that so many steps have already been taken—with the best of intentions. "At least one good humanitarian reason can be found to justify each step," he says. "The first step serves as a precedent for the second and the second for the third, not just technologically but also in moral arguments. Perhaps a wise society would say to infertile couples: 'We understand your sorrow, but it might be better not to go ahead and do this'" (*Newsweek*, Aug. 7, 1978).

But he has noted, "It is hard to speak about restraint in a culture that seems to venerate very little above man's attempt to master all."

Man's attempt to master all. That is what we are really dealing with. Notice this: "To restrict cloning-related research would mean closing the door on an important area of knowledge. To continue to probe the secrets of the cell, however, is perhaps to uncover the secret of human cloning. And, given the nature of man, if it can be done, it will be done" ("Clones: Will There Be 'Carbon Copy' People?" *The Reader's Digest*, March, 1979). Compare that last sentence with Genesis 11:6: "Now nothing will be restrained from them [mankind]."

"The issue is how far we play God," complained British MP Leo Abse at the time of Louise Brown's birth.

The World's First "Human Experimentation"

The Bible records the very first experimentation by humans. God

had provided in the Garden of Eden for the first humans' every need—physical, material and spiritual. It was not necessary for them to experiment for themselves in order to find the best way to live. All they had to do was obey His laws and they could have lived abundant lives, free from want, unhappiness and suffering. The "tree of life" symbolized God's way—the way that leads to eternal life.

Also growing in the Garden was the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil." To eat of this tree symbolized rejecting God's revelation of the right and good way to live and choosing instead to come to "know" good and evil by personal experience and experimentation. It was the hard way—the "school of hard knocks"—the way of suffering, sin and death. God had warned Adam and Eve not to eat of that tree.

Satan, however, came along and lied to Eve, telling her that if she and Adam chose the way of experimentation, they would be as gods. They would be able, Satan said, to judge for themselves what is right and what is wrong. They would, using the expression of Mr. Abse, be able to "play God." So they experimented: they tasted the forbidden fruit to see what would really happen. The experiment brought forth immediate results—all negative!

The disobedience of Adam and Eve cut them and all their descendants off from God. Ever since that time, blinded mankind has been trying to find the way to true happiness by experimenting—with very little success.

Not only has mankind not found happiness after nearly 6,000 years of experimentation, but as a result of man's experiments, he is about to reap the whirlwind in the form of a cataclysmic time of tribulation that will come close to annihilating all life from planet Earth (Matthew 24:21-22).

Out of control biological experiments may well play a part in the final cataclysm. The Bible does foretell a time when swiftly moving disease epidemics will wipe out millions of lives (Deuteronomy 28:21; Ezekiel 5:12; Matthew 24:7). It doesn't take

(Continued on page 39)



Jehangir Gezdar—Woodfin Camp & Associates

Again...

FAMINE STALKS NORTHERN INDIA

by Jeff Calkins

JUST WHEN it was thought that India had solved its chronic food problems, a severe drought has raised the specter of water shortage and famine.

Twenty million people are short on water, while in some villages there is no water at all. Cattle are dying in the fields. The value of the lost crops exceeds \$4.3 billion. Many farmers, heavily in debt to pay for irrigation equipment, face loss of their farms to their creditors.

So far the drought, called by some the worst of the century, has not caused much increase in actual starvation in India. But six million people, according to conservative government estimates, are going hungry. Most of them live in rural areas where Indian officials have not yet set up fair price shops to distribute government food supplies. Some villagers have even been reported foraging for roots and pawning jewelry to buy food.

The drought has directly affected 14 of India's 31 states—and they include the key food-producing areas. Worst hit is Andhra Pradesh, where crop losses have reached 60 percent, and more than half of the irrigated land is now barren. In the Punjab, where record crops have

been piled up for several years now, officials put the loss at 20 percent.

Hard Hit Reserves

The drought has had a devastating effect on India's painstakingly built-up food reserves. India began the year with 19 to 20 million tons of stored food. But summer crop losses totaled 12 million tons, drawing down the reserve by a like amount. As the dry spell lingered, anxious officials predicted that winter crop losses would exhaust the remaining 7 million tons. "I may sound alarmist, but this estimate is near the truth," said Bhanj Pratap Singh, State Minister for Federal Rural Reconstruction.

India's 19-million-ton food reserve represented *four straight years* of good harvests. Never had so much food accumulated in India. But one bad year has wiped out at least the bulk of it.

The drawing-down of India's food reserve is even more tragic when viewed in terms of India's annual food needs. India's 630 million people normally consume, in a non-famine year, 120 to 130 million tons of grain. *After four good years* with adequate rainfall, India had managed to accumulate only 15 percent of its annual food needs.

This was a remarkable accomplishment by historical standards, but woefully inadequate in the face of an expanding population and the continual potential for drought in the Asian subcontinent. A year in which overall production only slumped by 10 percent, according to the latest UN figures, has substantially eliminated the gains of the previous four.

The 1979 drought came at a time when India was making great strides in food production. Besides building up reserves of 19 million, the amount of land being irrigated has doubled over the past five years, and literally hundreds of thousands of irrigation pumps have been produced and installed. (However, in many cases, field channels have not yet been dug to get the pumped-out ground water to the crops.)

The government had also started a food-for-work system whereby rural laborers work on irrigation projects and are paid in grain, easing much of the unemployment and economic hardship caused by this year's drought.

But serious problems continue to plague Indian agriculture. Some experts believe that as much as 25 percent of India's food reserve may have rotted, been eaten by rats or pilfered. Even more serious, many

farmers had no fuel to run their irrigation pumps at the most critical times of the harvest. Some farmers even tried to hijack diesel-carrying trucks from the highways to get fuel for their pumps. At the same time there was a shortage of electricity to run electric pumps because the drought cut into production of hydroelectric power. While allocations for agriculture eventually were increased, it came too late to salvage many crops.

Thus, at least part of the recent draw-down in India's food stocks seems tragically *unnecessary*.

Long Range Importance

The 1979 drought has important prophetic significance, namely, its devastating effect on the country's painstakingly built-up food reserve. Just when agriculture specialists were beginning to think that India might be able to see its way clear from the threat of famine, its limited food reserves have suffered severe depletion.

Who hasn't heard of the "four horsemen of the Apocalypse"? One of them, the black horse, symbolizes famine: "And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny [a day's wages circa A.D. 90], and three measures barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine" (Revelation 6:5-6).

Bible prophecy warns of *world-wide* famine in the time period leading up to the return of Jesus Christ. Matthew 24:7 reads, "and there shall be famines . . . in diverse places."

On this basis, India appears to be one of numerous areas which will suffer the ravages of famine in coming years. Indeed, only India's bulging grain reserves prevented famine this year. India is now, once again, exposed to this danger. If a 10 percent crop decline in one year can wipe out the better part of the hold-over from four exceptionally good years, what horrors will be in store if the drought continues? □

1980s

(Continued from page 24)

ing Arab and Moslem unhappiness with Western conduct. While the Camp David Accords were supposed to have been a harbinger of peace for the Middle East, too few Westerners realize that the real fundamental conflicts in the Mideast are still festering, still able to precipitate another Arab oil embargo.

The Camp David Accords did not give the Arabs and Muslims what they want most from any Mideast settlement—a Palestinian homeland and the return of East Jerusalem!

Thus it was only a year ago that both conservative Saudi Arabia and radical Libya separately declared that the oil weapon still could be used to prod the West into creating a Palestinian homeland.

The Saudis in particular are very interested in the recovery of East Jerusalem. As custodians of Mecca, they feel it is their special duty to protect the Islamic holy places in Jerusalem. Saudi Arabian Finance Minister Mohamed Abalkhail is explicit about the kind of Middle East settlement Saudi Arabia wants:

"The question of a comprehensive peace treaty that recognizes Palestinian rights and returns the Moslem holy places in East Jerusalem is so important to us, so emotionally felt by us, that it is the *core of the problem*. Solve that and all other problems disappear. Obviously we would give you more oil."

The Awful Eighties

Where does this leave us? Where are these trends converging?

The key events of the 1970s that will shape the 1980s are already in motion. The clear implication is that the places on the earth that will grab world attention in this decade are Europe and the Middle East! Exactly what Bible prophecy predicts!

Military confrontation seems inevitable in the 1980s. In Europe, the Soviet's ability to overrun the continent will force a united Europe to become a military superpower.

In the Middle East, the dependence of almost everybody on the region's oil (including, by the mid

1980s—according to some CIA forecasts—even the Soviet Union!) is also building to a crescendo of war. Mani Said al-Otaiba, president of OPEC, says bluntly, "If there is another world war, it will be over petroleum."

And, based on the military facts, if there is to be a Western military intervention, it probably won't be started by the United States! The man who should know, former chief of U.S. Naval Operations, Adm. Elmo Zumwalt, said that the United States could not use military force in the Mideast because the U.S. military is "too weak" to do it.

Nevertheless, events are building to some kind of military conflagration! Peregrine Worsthorne views the state of the Middle East as a conflict between resurgent Islam and Western Christendom. Note this passage:

"Until this new threat from resurgent Islam is first understood in the context of the implacable motives behind it, which *transcend reason* and materialism and *encompass religious revenge and rage*, can the proper and appropriate answers be found. Among those answers must be *possible use of armed force*. For to encourage resurgent Islam to assume it can get away with what amounts to a new style *jihad* [holy war], without its *militancy being met by ours*, this would be to *condemn Christendom* to an ignoble fate, as much invited as deserved."

In another corner of Europe, Christian Democratic leader Franz Josef Strauss has criticized severely the present German government's soft line toward the Arab oil nations. Germany, says Mr. Strauss, is practicing "the politics of cowardice."

A European military incursion into the Middle East looms as a real possibility in the 1980s. Bible prophecy, which describes such an incursion, would be confirmed.

Conflagration and war involving Western Europe and the Middle East are now much more likely because of what was set in motion in the 1970s. Such events mean that the return of Jesus Christ to establish His government on the whole earth and bring world peace is that much nearer. □



Michel Artault - Gama

10/79

And Now— WAR IN THE SAHARA

An intense struggle, having worldwide implications, is raging in one of the most desolate regions of West Africa. Yet few have even heard about it or know why it is occurring.

by Keith W. Stump

ALITTLE-KNOWN war is, at this moment, being waged in the deserts of Africa's Western Sahara. The vital interests of the United States and the Soviet Union are intimately involved. At stake is ultimate control of the Mediterranean Sea, North Africa and the entirety of Southern Europe!

The 4-year Saharan war has sud-

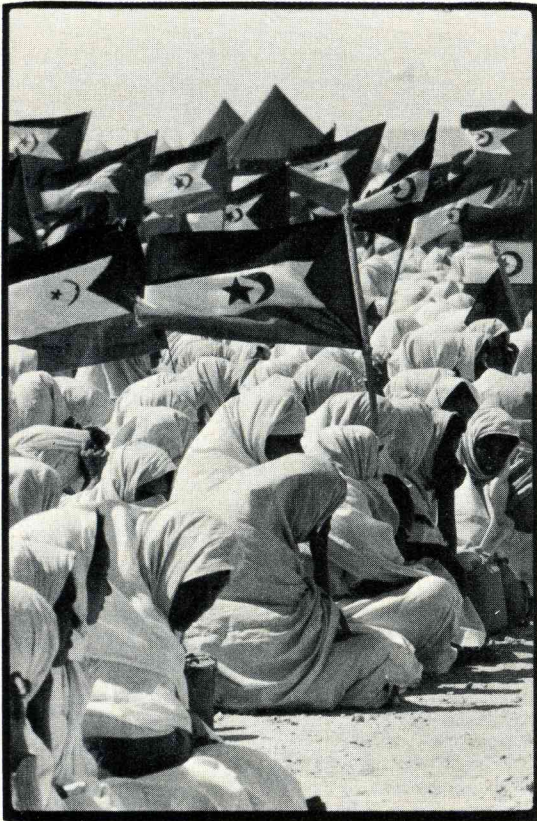
denly intensified. It could erupt at any time into a full-scale regional conflagration.

On the surface, Western Sahara—known until recently as Spanish Sahara—appears an unlikely focus for a geopolitical struggle between East and West. It is a wedge of barren desert real estate on North Africa's Atlantic coast.

The population is a mere 75,000

nomadic tribesmen, known as Sahraouis. The region is rich in phosphates, uranium and other important minerals. But its mineral wealth plays only a secondary role in the crisis.

Why has this seemingly unimportant territory become the center of a violent contest between competing North African forces? Why are the United States and the Soviet Union



Jean Decosse - Gamma

2/79



Jean Claude Trancolon - Gamma

2/79



Jean Decosse - Gamma

10/79

DESERT CONFLICT: Moroccan soldier holds advance position on hill in Western Sahara (previous page). Left to right: Polisario supporters gather for parade; guerrillas inspect captured Moroccan equipment; Polisario leaders meet near Tindouf; a Polisario supporter; Mirage F-1 aircraft of Moroccan Air Force at El Aiun, capital of Western Sahara.

so intensely interested in the outcome?

More Than an Independence Movement

The controversy began to brew in October, 1975. Remember Morocco's much-publicized Green March (named after Islam's traditional color)? More than 100,000 Moroccan civilians, armed only with the Koran, marched south into the Spanish Sahara to demonstrate peacefully their claim to the colony. For centuries the region had been part of the Moroccan Empire.

Spain—occupier of the territory for nearly a century—finally gave in

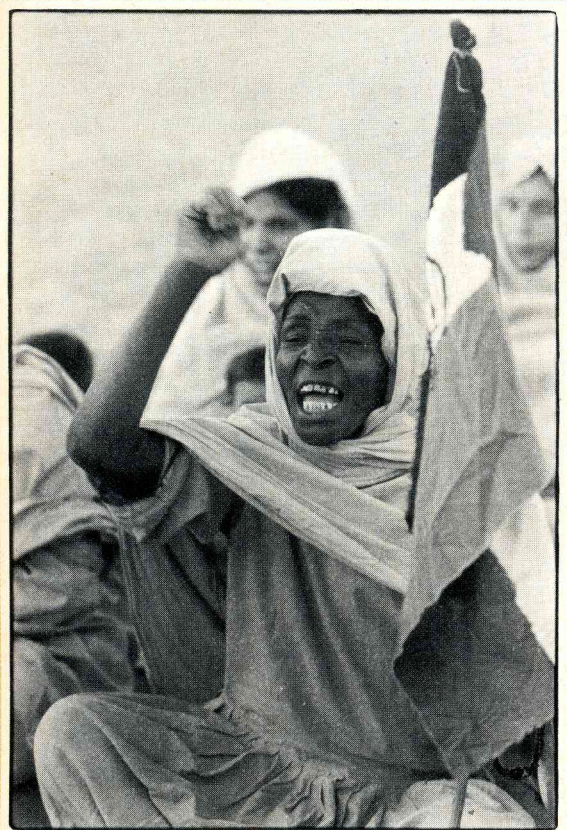
to Moroccan pressure and pulled out of the region early in 1976. The Western Sahara was then partitioned between the bordering countries of Morocco and Mauritania. Morocco received the northern two thirds; Mauritania the southern third.

But the partition agreement was not to everyone's liking. Neighboring Algeria, which has close ties to the Soviet Union, strenuously objected to the arrangement. In response, it took under its wing a Marxist-oriented Western Saharan independence movement known as *Polisario*. Polisario's ranks are composed of former soldiers in the Spanish colonial army, Moroccan malcontents, disgruntled

desert nomads and Algerian sympathizers.

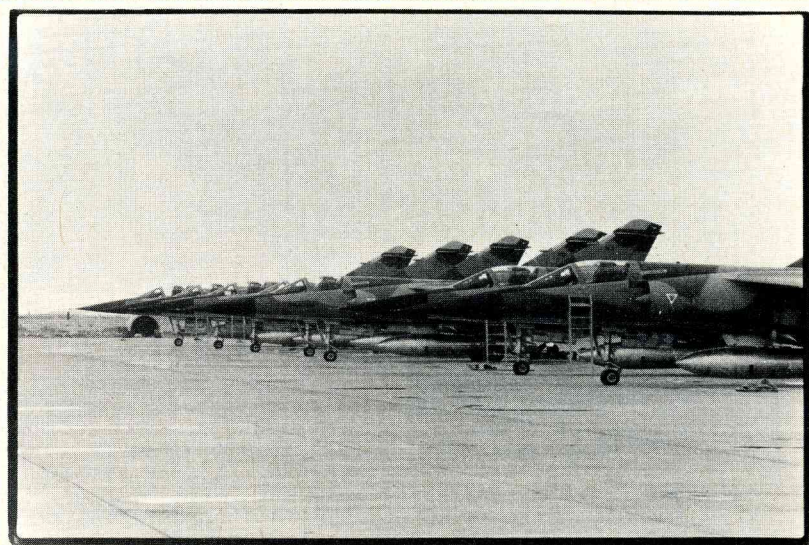
They view their chief adversaries, Morocco and Mauritania, as illegal occupiers of the Saharan territory. Based in the Algerian desert mining town of Tindouf, Polisario guerrillas are now engaged in full-scale guerrilla war to attain independence, under their control, for the Western Sahara.

Polisario's political arm—the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic—is a sort of government in exile. It is recognized today by some 35 countries, as well as by the Organization of African Unity (OAU). Most countries, however, have declined



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10/78



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10/79

Based on prisoner interrogations and battlefield evidence, it is confirmed that Cuban troops are participating in the fighting directly alongside the Polisarios. Cuban and Vietnamese advisers have reportedly been seen in Tindouf.

Kremlin Master Plan

King Hassan has been outspoken in his analysis of the Saharan conflict. He charges that the conflict is actually part of a Kremlin master plan to gain control of the Mediterranean as well as North Africa!

"The Sahara matter is not just another conflict between the Maghreb countries of Algeria and Morocco," he declared. "It is a Kremlin dossier. We are fighting a war that is part of a Russian plot against Europe itself. . . . We [Moroccans] are the key to the Mediterranean Sea and to Southern Europe."

Western analysts and strategic planners have not been blind to this possibility. They regard it as vital for American policy that King Hassan remain firmly on his throne in Morocco. The loss of such a pro-Western Arab moderate would be a crippling blow to U.S. Mideast policy. The result would be a radical leftist state along the strategically important northwest African coastline—with ominous implications.

"The Russian tactics in Africa are like the tactics of a parrot climbing a

tree," King Hassan observed in a recent interview. "First came Angola, then Congo Brazzaville, then Ethiopia, and afterward the Sahara. Step by step. If they get the Sahara, the Russians will have a window on the Atlantic, as they have always wanted, and the key to the Mediterranean. The American Sixth Fleet will have to sail back home and leave these seas to the Russian Fleets."

King Hassan observed that the United States appears to be so paralyzed by its Vietnam experience that it hesitates to help imperiled friends.

In the wake of the fall of other pro-U.S. rulers in Iran and Nicaragua and Washington's abandonment of Taiwan, the Saharan crisis is being viewed as a major test of U.S. resolve to stand by its longtime allies. At stake is America's credibility in the eyes of governments resisting leftist forces which serve the strategic interests of the Soviet Union.

With these considerations in mind, President Jimmy Carter has asked Congress to approve the sale to Morocco of Bronco armed reconnaissance aircraft, Cobra attack helicopters, F-5E fighter planes and antitank missiles.

Morocco's King needs these weapons to beat back the Polisario insurgency, or at least to be strong enough to negotiate should that ever become a possibility. Even with the approval of Congress, which has veto power over arms sales, delivery of the armaments is months away. The dilemma

publicly to take sides in the controversy.

Battle Lines Form

In August of 1979, Mauritania withdrew from its section of the former Spanish Sahara. Its government signed a peace treaty with Polisario, dropping out of the fight because of the high economic cost of the war. In response, Morocco moved its troops into the vacated area. The fight has thus become a bitter contest between the Algerian-supported Polisario and the troops of Morocco's King Hassan II.

Algeria's apparent interest in the creation of an independent Saharan state stems from its desire for an Atlantic Ocean outlet—either by outright annexation or through a Polisario state under its tutelage.

But Algeria is not the only power behind the Polisario. In an interview, Morocco's King Hassan angrily charged that Libya, too, is providing the guerrillas with communist-made arms, and that Cuba's African expeditionary force is training the guerrillas and directing their attacks.

COMMANDER OF THE FAITHFUL

AT THE center of the Saharan conflict is Morocco's dynamic, 50-year-old King Hassan II, who has ruled his nation's 18 million people since 1961. King Hassan is a moderate Arab and longtime friend of the United States. He has been a consistent supporter of Western causes.

For example, in April, 1977, and again in June, 1978, King Hassan dispatched Moroccan troops to embattle Zaire to help suppress an invasion of that country by leftist insurgents based in Angola. Soviet-Cuban plans for the region were thwarted. In 1977, King Hassan played a middleman role in setting up Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. In the following year he was a staunch defender of the Camp David agreements between Israel and Egypt in the face of strong Arab opposition.

King Hassan is a scion of the 300-year-old Filali (or Alawi) dynasty of Morocco. He traces his lineage directly to the prophet Mohammed through Hasan, the prophet's elder grandson. King Hassan bears the prestigious title *Al Amir Al Mouminin*—"Commander of the Faithful." He is regarded as one of the most



KING HASSAN II

influential of Arab leaders. He and Jordan's King Hussein I are the only rulers in the Arab world who can claim direct descent from Mohammed.

One of history's great survivors, King Hassan has narrowly escaped numerous attempts on his life, as well as one Algerian-backed abortive coup. Some of today's Polisario guerrillas are the same conspirators who once attempted to overthrow him at home.

The king has managed to effectively rally all-party support within his country for his Western Saharan policy. Recent war gains have served further to bolster his popularity.

in Washington is how to counter rising Soviet influence while at the same time preserving its relations with the Third World.

Some powerful members of the U.S. Congress are worried that delivery of arms to King Hassan could escalate the conflict, provoking the Polisarios into seeking more sophisticated weapons from their suppliers. Yet, U.S. leaders admit, to stand by and do nothing could ultimately spell doom for King Hassan and promote the further spread of Soviet and Marxist influence in Africa.

Peaceful Solution?

Washington has not officially recognized Morocco's claim to the dis-

puted area. It backs a referendum among Western Saharan tribesmen as a possible solution to the dispute. Polisario opposes the idea. Little wonder, for Morocco, which has been spending some \$200 million a year to develop the region and assist its inhabitants, would undoubtedly win any referendum held.

A negotiated solution will be difficult to achieve. Most analysts find it hard to envisage an honorable way out for any of the parties involved at this stage of the game.

Mediation efforts by Saudi Arabia's King Khalid, Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba and Yassir Arafat of the Palestine Liberation

Organization (PLO) have thus far proved fruitless.

Crisis Looms

The potential dangers inherent in the situation have prompted Western leaders to view the Saharan crisis as extremely serious, if not grave.

Firstly, war could erupt between Algeria and Morocco at any time, especially if Morocco were to institute a policy of hot pursuit of Polisario guerrillas across the border into Algeria, as has been proposed. The same could result if Polisario forces were to be directly reinforced by Algerian army troops—a distinct possibility. Such a war could ignite the entirety of North Africa. As the conflict escalates, the threat of a superpower confrontation would become great.

Algeria's economy is a wreck. Morocco too is in dire economic straits. Yet neither country could hardly resist entering an all-out war if the situation became sufficiently inflamed.

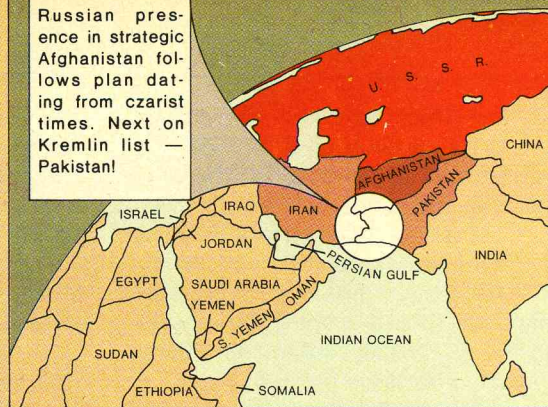
Moreover, both Algeria and Libya could use their oil to pressure third party nations into either taking or refraining from taking actions with regard to the conflict. Algeria and Libya jointly supply more than 8 percent of U.S. oil imports—more to Western Europe. The economic ramifications could be significant.

Secondly, Polisario guerrillas view the Western Sahara as a springboard toward their ultimate goal of overthrowing the Moroccan monarchy. Were they to be successful, a radical Arab regime would undoubtedly be installed in Rabat, Morocco's capital. Marxists would gain yet another African foothold—on the southern shores of the strategic Strait of Gibraltar! Morocco has a two-seas shoreline—on the Atlantic as well as the Mediterranean. The military implications, pointed out so forcefully by King Hassan, would be enormous.

The Saharan conflict in an already divided and seething Moslem world adds yet another element of instability into that volatile region. Politically it could light a fire that would set all North Africa ablaze. □



Russian presence in strategic Afghanistan follows plan dating from czarist times. Next on Kremlin list — Pakistan!



BEHIND THE CRISIS IN AFGHANISTAN

At stake is control of a strategic "choke point" of life-and-death importance to the West!

by Keith W. Stump

THE CRISIS in remote Afghanistan is no mere local struggle. Massive Soviet military presence in the country leaves no doubt on that score.

Soviet intervention began with a year-end coup in Kabul, Afghanistan's capital. The Kremlin thrust a hand-picked protégé—Babrak Karmal—into power. Former president Hafizullah Amin, pro-Soviet but ineffective in putting down rebellious antigovernment Moslem tribesmen, was ousted, then executed.

On the heels of the government overthrow followed a large-scale airlift of Soviet combat troops and military equipment into Afghanistan. Additional men and matériel poured directly over the 1000-mile Soviet-Afghan border. The Soviets insist the new Karmal regime invited them in to restore order.

These moves tightened Moscow's grip on Afghanistan to such a degree that the country has become, for all intents and purposes, a Soviet satellite.

But the Kremlin's designs go far beyond that limited objective. To Soviet policymakers, Afghanistan is but a *stepping stone* toward a far greater prize.

The Soviet Union's move into

Afghanistan may well be the first step toward a new strategic balance—in the Kremlin's favor—in the Middle East and South Asia. In the words of the Chinese news agency Xinhua, Moscow appears determined to "rule the roost in Asia."

Crossroads of Central Asia

What's really behind the Soviet action in Afghanistan? What does it portend for the West? It is the latest chapter in a centuries-old struggle for domination of this pivotal corner of the world. A brief look at the history of the region leaves little doubt as to the ultimate intentions of the Kremlin.

Afghanistan has been entangled in power-bloc rivalries for centuries. The mountainous, landlocked country at the gates of the towering Hindu Kush range is larger in area than Spain and Portugal combined. It is strategically positioned in the heart of Asia, between the Middle East, Central Asia and the Indian subcontinent (see map). This pivotal location has exerted a decisive influence on the country's history since antiquity.

Afghanistan became an early crossroads of caravan trade and cultural exchange. The old silk route between Europe and the Far East led

through its perilous mountains. But more importantly, *the vast majority of the great historic invasions of the Indian subcontinent were made through its mountain passes.*

Perhaps the best known of these passes is the historic 35-mile-long Khyber Pass, the "Gateway to Central Asia," connecting Kabul with Peshawar, in what today is Pakistan. *No other pass in the world has had such continuing strategic importance.*

The region was first conquered in 516 B.C. by the Persian king Darius I (the Great). Nearly two centuries later, in 326 B.C., Alexander the Great and his Macedonian army conquered the area—then known as Bactria—on their way to India.

The conquering Arabs took Afghanistan in A.D. 652, introducing the Islamic faith. Today some 99 percent of the country's 17 million people are Moslem, primarily of the Sunni branch.

In 998, Mahmud of Ghazni, a Moslem conqueror of Turkish extraction, assumed control of the area, using it as a base for this thrust into India. The Mongol conquerors Genghis Khan (about 1220) and Tamerlane (late 1300s) overran Afghanistan in the course of their conquering marches into India. Tamerlane's descendant, Babur—founder

of the Mogul dynasty of India—made Kabul his capital in 1504. He used Kabul as his base for the conquest of India.

Because the country has been overrun throughout its history by various conquering peoples, the ethnic backgrounds of the different segments of the population are widely varied. Afghanistan today has a diversified population consisting of Pathans or Pushtus (60 percent), Tajiks (30 percent), Uzbeks (5 percent) and others including Hazaras and Turkmen.

Big-Power Rivalry

A unified state covering most of present Afghanistan was established in the 18th century by Ahmed Shah Durrani. He was crowned *amir* in 1747, the year of the overthrow of Persian rule.

It was around the beginning of the 19th century that the history of Afghanistan became influenced for the first time by European powers. Afghan rulers found themselves involved in a dangerous game of Central Asian diplomacy played by the British masters of India and czarist Russia.

British policy was to maintain Afghanistan as a friendly independent power, which would act as a buffer between British-dominated India to the south and expansionist Russia in the north. Western fears of a Soviet drive into Afghanistan thus date back long before the rise of communism in the Soviet Union.

The British had no illusions about Russia's ultimate objectives. The czar's designs, they well knew, went far beyond the limited goal of extending Russian influence over Afghanistan.

The geographical facts speak for themselves. Russia's northern coast on the Arctic Ocean has long been a source of great frustration for the country. Though one of the longest coastlines in the world, it is almost entirely icebound in winter. For centuries, Russian czars have dreamed of a warm-water port on the Arabian Sea—just 300 miles to the south of Afghanistan. Afghanistan would be the logical first step toward that goal.

Britain eventually fought two wars

in the 19th century to check the southward expansion of the czars. The British sought to secure a stronger position in the Punjab region of northwest India to prevent the extension of the Russian sphere of influence to the India borders—and beyond.

Attempts by Afghani amir Dost Mohammed to exploit Anglo-Russian rivalry led to the First Afghan War (1838-42). The British succeeded in taking Kabul and setting their candidate on the throne there. Shortly after the British evacuated the country, however, Dost Mohammed regained his throne.

In 1877, British relations with the Afghans once again broke down. The amir, Shere Ali, began to make friendly overtures to the Russians. He received a Russian mission at Kabul, while at the same time refusing to receive a British one. Shere Ali's failure to respond to a British ultimatum sparked the Second Afghan War (1878-80).

Anglo-Indian forces occupied Afghanistan and took charge of the Khyber Pass, the key point in British control of the Afghan border. Shere Ali was ousted and replaced by pro-British amir Abdur Rahman Khan. In return for an annual subsidy from the British, the amir agreed to British control of Afghanistan's foreign affairs. Russian objectives were thwarted—for the moment.

The Walking Bear

The czars, however, were not about to abandon their long-cherished goal. Rudyard Kipling—Britain's celebrated poet, novelist and short story writer—saw this more clearly than most of his contemporaries. In 1898 he composed a political poem entitled "The Truce of the Bear" in which he warned Britain against czarist intentions.

In the poem Mr. Kipling likened Russia to a bear, whom he called Adam-zad. The poet made it clear that a bear's nature and resolve to crush its foes never changes—even when the bear might, as a ruse, feign friendliness or even capitulation. The man in the poem succumbed to the seemingly peaceful overtures of the bear, with dire consequences:

"Nearer he tottered and nearer, with paws like hands that pray,

From brow to jaw that steel-shod paw, it ripped my face away!"

Mr. Kipling's conclusion: "Make ye no truce with Adam-zad—the Bear that walks like a Man!"

After a brief Third Afghan War in 1919, the British recognized Afghan independence and local rule was established. The emirate was changed to a kingdom in 1926.

In 1973, a military coup—the first of many—ended the monarchy. A Soviet-Afghan dialogue began within a month. The Walking Bear had at last gotten his foot in the door.

Next Target—Pakistan!

By virtue of the recent events in Afghanistan, the Soviets are now in a position to exert heavy political pressure on neighboring Pakistan—the next step toward their ultimate objective.

Pakistan is composed of four provinces, two on each side of the Indus river. The two provinces on the eastern side—Punjab and Sind—are in the firm control of the Pakistani government in Islamabad. The two provinces west of the Indus—North-West Frontier and Baluchistan—have for many years been in a state of unrest.

Afghanistan could now be used by the Soviets as a base from which to make contact among ethnic minorities in those provinces—and probably in Iran as well. Of primary importance is the long-simmering independence movement among the Baluchi tribesmen of western Pakistan. The Baluchis there have long sought to unite with their fellow tribesmen in southern Afghanistan and eastern Iran to form an independent state of Baluchistan.

Strong evidence points to deep Soviet involvement in this effort to carve out a separate Baluchi state. A pro-Soviet vassal state in Baluchistan would effectively extend USSR influence all the way south to the Gulf of Oman (see map). The Kremlin would at last have the warm-water ports on the Arabian Sea, which it has sought since the days of the czars!

Moreover—as an added bonus—

the Soviets would be in a position to control the major oil supply lines from the Persian Gulf. Half of the noncommunist world's supply of oil moves through the narrow Strait of Hormuz—the vital chokepoint for oil moving from the Persian Gulf to the Arabian Sea. The security and survival of the Free World would be threatened!

Strategic Surrender

Russia's historic goal of a warm-water port is now closer than ever to realization. Her military action in Afghanistan demonstrates clearly that when the Soviet Union's interests are sufficiently involved, she lets nothing stand in her way. Not "world public opinion"—and certainly not the United States.

Once again, Washington has failed another test of national resolve—doing little more than "expressing concern" over the Kremlin's use of military force. Only days after the Soviet invasion, Washington had all but conceded Afghanistan to Moscow. America's response, "Keep hands off *Pakistan*."

Washington's writing off of Afghanistan may prove, in retrospect, to have been one of America's major blunders ending the 1970s. Afghanistan is the pivotal center of Central Asia. It is considered by some geopolitical analysts as the keystone of the so-called Rimland region. This is the designation given by Yale Professor Nicholas J. Spykman in 1944 to the strategically important territories on the outer rim or border of the Eurasian landmass.

"Who controls the Rimland," Dr. Spykman declared, "rules Eurasia; who rules Eurasia controls the destinies of the world." He warned further that no single hostile power or coalition of powers must be allowed to dominate the Rimland. But Washington seems to have ignored the message.

With Afghanistan in the Soviet orbit, the Kremlin is one step closer to achieving its age-old goal. And America—the pride of its power irretrievably broken (Leviticus 26:19)—is one step farther down the road toward strategic surrender as a world power. □

O Death

(Continued from page 14)

reward of the righteous is expressed in those physical delights important to the culture of the prophet Mohammed's time and situation. It is hope for a life better and more fulfilling than the present one.

To Mohammed, the resurrection was the conquest of death as "at the resurrection, the dead will have no knowledge of the time which has elapsed since dying; in fact, they will think that they have just awakened from a deep sleep." The Quran indicates "that at death the individual lapsed into a state of complete unconsciousness, unaware of the decay of his body, and that from this state he would be suddenly awakened by the trumpet heralding the Last Judgment" (S.G.F. Brandon, *The Judgment of the Dead*, p. 144).

Long before the prophet Mohammed, the religion of Persia (Iran) was Zoroastrianism. It, too, was a monotheistic religion which apparently had some influence on intertestamental Judaism. While this religion was largely displaced by Islam, it still survives in modern Iran and India.

The resurrection played an important part even in Zoroastrian belief. It was at the general resurrection that man was reconciled to God. There was a judgment followed by reconciliation of the individual to God and the renewal of the entire world. It is expressed in the following manner in a work which seems to go back to the Avesta, the Zoroastrian holy book:

"All men become of one voice and administer loud praise to Auharmazd [God] and the archangels. Auharmazd completes his work at that time, and the creatures become so that it is not necessary to make any further effort about them. . . . and all men become immortal for ever and everlasting" (Bundahishn 30:23-6).

The Eastern View of Life

The place of the resurrection in Christianity and Judaism is basically well known and need not be described. But it is also true that certain religions, especially those of the Far East, do not have a concept of resurrection. The main reason for this is their view of reality. The world

process they see as cyclical—that is, essentially timeless—with no end or consummation of world history. There is no awareness of the need for a resurrection of the dead.

With due respect for the insights of these various religions, one must still recognize the evidence of modern science that the world and the universe are not timeless and eternal. A cyclical view of the world and life on it is unsupported by present knowledge.

Rather, greatest interest and intellectual excitement has surrounded the supportable view that world history is leading to a culmination, an ultimate fulfillment of some eternal plan or destiny. It is from such a basis that hope springs. Things don't have to be what they are today. They can be improved. The future will be better than the present mundane life. A cosmic plan is being worked out in history.

To look to the future with optimism is indigenous to human nature, regardless of whether history and present world conditions justify this hopefulness. As contemporary thinker Wolfhart Pannenberg wrote of man: "All other creatures live entirely in the present. . . . All human interest is concentrated on the future. It is not natural for men to live only for today" (*What Is Man?*, p. 41).

Resurrection Philosophically Justified?

Wolfhart Pannenberg is one of the most provocative men of recent times. His grasp of Christianity is an intellectual one. A theological philosopher, he presently holds a chair at the University of Munich in West Germany. His statements about man's awareness of the future have just been quoted.

Dr. Pannenberg argues further there is something beyond death, and the most appropriate metaphor for the expression of this is the resurrection of the dead. Conversely, Dr. Pannenberg argues that the concept of the immortality of the soul—so popular in many religious circles—is *inappropriate*, for the following reasons:

The idea of the soul's immortality comes from the ancient Greeks. It rests on a distinction between body and soul, a concept which has been overturned by modern anthropology. Furthermore, to propose an immortal

soul fails to take account of the real seriousness of death. For an immortal soul would mean that there is no death, whereas life beyond death requires the revival of the individual who died; that is, a resurrection. Human existence is possible only in community with others, so that, in addition, a general resurrection is necessary for true life.

Dr. Pannenberg recognizes that a resurrection may presuppose a radical transformation, even a new creation, as it were. Yet there is still a clear connection with oneself and one's life before death.

But is this hope in a resurrection—in your resurrection—in the resurrection of all mankind—only an empty hope? No, for evidence exists of the resurrection. The resurrection of all mankind at the end of history has been anticipated in the resurrection of Jesus.

The Facts Surrounding the Resurrection of Jesus

The culmination of history is the time when God brings all the dead from their graves and makes them live again. This is the hope of the living for their dead, and the hope with which the living approach their own end. There is only a futile hope if there were no resurrection. So now, look at the evidence.

This evidence lies in the experience of Jesus Christ who died on the cross and was buried before the eyes of His disciples. This Jesus was reported to have been raised from the dead by women who visited the tomb. On their initial testimony this is a foretaste of the final resurrection at the end of history—a real reason for hope.

But isn't belief in Jesus' resurrection only a matter of faith?

Dr. Pannenberg takes into full account the skepticism of the historical inquirer. Historians would generally consider the gospel accounts insufficient because they are usually dated some years after Jesus' death. Dr. Pannenberg accepts this skepticism, with one exception. Some researchers, he points out, would exclude the possibility of a resurrection from the start as contrary to physical law. Dr. Pannenberg argues this is illegitimate since it substitutes dogma for sound argument and is,

furthermore, contrary to the caution of many physical scientists on unusual phenomena.

Irrefutable Evidence

Dr. Pannenberg argues there are two strands of evidence in early Christian literature which withstand the scrutiny of historical criticism:

1. *The appearances of the risen Jesus to His disciples.*

Most scholars consider Paul's writings some of the earliest of the New Testament. Yet he himself was converted soon after the crucifixion, according to his own testimony. Therefore, when he enumerates the witnesses to the resurrection, he is basing this on eyewitnesses from whom he heard testimony within only a few years after the events. Furthermore, he also personally witnessed a similar appearance of the one resurrected from the dead.

Despite attempts to psychologize them away, there is no other explanation for these appearances to so many individuals over an extended period of time than an actual manifestation of the resurrected Lord. The phenomenon of mass delusion is inapplicable here.

2. *The empty tomb.*

Although Paul does not mention the empty tomb, the early Christian community would have been impossible without it. The faith of the disciples had been shattered by the crucifixion. Stealing the body away would have accomplished nothing. Nor would it have explained their later willingness to die for their faith.

The Pharisaic polemic did not deny the empty tomb. Rather it attempted to explain it as theft of the body by the disciples. Thus, there is no early evidence contradicting the empty tomb by either disciples or enemies. The very existence of early Christianity is based on the evidence of the empty tomb: "The consideration of the historical situation of the first community in Jerusalem . . . cannot be understood without the tomb having been found empty" (Pannenberg, "Did Jesus Really Rise From the Dead?" *Dialog* 4 [1965], 134).

"Blessed Are the Dead, Which Die in the Lord"

Death is thus revealed as having already been conquered. It was con-

quered by Jesus of Nazareth through the power of God. Death is still our enemy; we will die. Yet that is not the end.

Jesus' resurrection has already anticipated and confirmed the hope and the promise of the resurrection of *all* the dead at the end of human history. Without this evidence our hope—our faith—would be only so much wishful thinking. Now in addition to faith there is evidence—historical evidence open to scientific inquiry.

As the sixth chorus in Johannes Brahms's *Requiem* expresses it with such fierce emotion from I Corinthians 15:

"Behold, I shew you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the sound of the last trumpet: for behold, the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall all be changed.

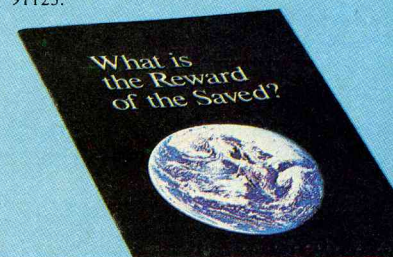
"Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" □

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Easter

(Continued from page 16)

year. It is interesting also, that in early times, the Easter "bonnet" was a wreath of flowers or leaves. The circle or crown expressed the round sun and its course in the heavens which brought the return of spring" (*A Treasury of American Superstitions*, p. 362).

Yes, the Easter Parade and the Easter bonnet also have roots in heathen traditions! They have nothing to do with the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ!

God's will regarding religious customs is summed up in one command, "Learn not the way of the heathen" (Jeremiah 10:2)! We should not celebrate Easter with all of its pagan trappings.

Following Jesus' Instructions

"But," some will say, "we use Easter Sunday to commemorate once every year the resurrection of Jesus. Certainly that is biblical."

No, actually it is not! Jesus told his disciples to commemorate His *death* once a year on the occasion of the Passover—not His resurrection! Christ's resurrection is to be exemplified *every* day of the year in the lives of Christians (John 14:19; Galatians 2:20).

Too many people have it backwards. They remember Christ's resurrection one day out of the year. And the rest of the year they go about their daily lives unaware that Christ is alive—as though He is still dead.

The Apostle Paul told gentile Christians, "For as often as you eat the bread and drink the cup [once a year on the evening of the Passover], you proclaim the Lord's *death* [not His resurrection] until he comes" (I Corinthians 11:26, RSV).

There is no command or example in the Bible to justify the celebration of Easter.* The evening before His crucifixion, Jesus established the

*Someone is sure to bring up Acts 12:4 in the King James Version of the Bible. Here the translators erroneously used the word *Easter*. All other serious translations of the Bible, Catholic and Protestant alike, correctly use the word *Passover* in this verse.

New Testament Passover for Christians (Matthew 26:19). He commanded His true followers down through the ages, "This *do*, in remembrance of me" (I Corinthians 11:25).

His instructions were faithfully followed by the early Christian Church, as history proves.

Notice what the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 11th edition, article "Easter," says: "There is no indication of the observance of the Easter festival in the New Testament or in the writings of the Apostolic Fathers. . . . The first Christians continued to observe the Jewish festivals, though in a new spirit, as commemorations of events which those festivals had foreshadowed. Thus the Passover, with a new conception added to it, of Christ as the true Paschal Lamb and the first-fruits from the dead, continued to be observed."

For a complete account of how Easter was foisted upon the "Christian" world, be sure to request our free booklet *The Plain Truth About Easter*. You will be amazed. Also, for a full explanation of a Christian's responsibility regarding the Passover, write for your free copy of the booklet *When and How Often Should We Observe the "Lord's Supper"?*

It is high time to discard the religious traditions and customs of the world and to return to the ways ordained by God! □

TEST-TUBE BABIES

(Continued from page 28)

too much imagination, in view of warnings from scientists themselves, to suspect that some of these diseases may be created in laboratories accidentally or on purpose for germ warfare.

Treat the Cause, not the Effect

The reason given for continued research in reproductive science, in spite of the risks, is to overcome infertility, genetic defects and diseases in humans, animals and plants.

Worthy ideals.

But we need to ask ourselves *why* these problems exist in the first

place. If such problems did not exist then there would be no need to run the risks of experimentation with cloning, genetic manipulation and related fields.

Back to the beginning. When God created Adam, Eve and all living things, they were all physically perfect, though spiritually incomplete (Genesis 1:31). Disobedience to God's laws brought curses, degeneration and disease. God warned Adam and Eve that the day they rejected His way of life and began to experiment for themselves, they would begin to degenerate and die (Genesis 2:17).

Later in history God repeated the principle to ancient Israel: "But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes . . . then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you . . . Cursed shall be the fruit of your body, and the fruit of your ground, the increase of your cattle, and the young of your flock" (Deuteronomy 28:15, 18, Revised Standard Version).

Broken laws have brought the penalties of infertility, birth defects, degeneration and disease.

The solution is *not* to try to get around the penalties with test tubes and genetic tampering. The solution is for mankind to repent of breaking God's laws—laws governing the physical as well as the spiritual—and ask for forgiveness and healing. Then the *cause* of the problem will be eliminated.

"And if you obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments . . . all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you . . . Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, and the fruit of your ground, and the fruit of your beasts, the increase of your cattle, and the young of your flock . . . And the Lord will make you abound in prosperity, in the fruit of your body, and in the fruit of your cattle, and in the fruit of your ground" (Deuteronomy 28:1-2, 4, 11, RSV).

Now isn't that what we want? That's what we could have had all along had we obeyed God. In reproductive science, as in all other fields, catastrophe in human experimentation and research will ultimately lead to one colossal discovery: God's way is right after all! □

LIBERTY TO RUMMAGE

by Stanley R. Rader

YOU'D think that living in a society where the government holds 4 billion records on private individuals, where private agencies such as credit bureaus hold countless more, where our lives are an open book, and we constantly are being watched, scrutinized and examined, that the U.S. legal system—founded on the idea of the dignity of the individual—would provide some defense into prying. In some ways, of course, it does.

But in one very important way, our legal system makes things much, much worse.

Many people, accustomed to seeing Perry Mason on television expose the real murderer in the course of a courtroom trial, never imagine that *all* the information about a given case is gathered before trial through a time consuming legal procedure known as “discovery.” The idea is that a court orders just about every and anybody who has even the remotest connection with a case to answer any questions even *remotely* relating to it, which are put to him by any of the parties, and to turn over *all* “relevant” papers. The theory is that everything about everything should be flushed out before trial—so there are never any Perry Mason-type “surprises” in the courtroom.

The upshot of our current system of discovery is that, if you are unlucky enough to get yourself involved in a lawsuit, you'll soon conclude that you no longer have a private life. If *any* detail is relevant, it's going to become part of a public record.

Over the course of, like as not, several years, you will practically be drowned in an endless sea of depositions (cross examinations by the other party's lawyer, under oath, as in a courtroom, but without a judge to ride herd on irrelevant and frivo-

lous questions) and interrogatories (written forms to fill out, which you must answer or go to jail).

These sets of written questions can go on for hundreds of pages. Many lawyers don't draw them up themselves, they simply copy them from books. As such, the system is seriously abused. *Business Week* magazine, for example, summarizes discovery with this appropriately acid language:

“A typical practice is ‘pushing,’ tying up opponents with months of deposition taking, and harassing the other side with interrogatories and requests for documents that are repetitive, irrelevant, intrusive and sometimes nonsensical (lawyers joke about interrogatories that ask five-year-olds if they are married).”

“Justice delayed is justice denied,” is an old maxim denoting an obvious truth. The discovery system, by contrast, is responsible for some of the ridiculously long court cases which now plague American justice.

In one case, the famous IBM anti-trust case, discovery has produced (hold your breath) 30 million pages of documents. More than 64 million documents have had to be pulled from IBM's files. True, *U.S. vs IBM* resembles less a court case than the Thirty Years War, but similar abuses can be found throughout our legal system.

Vital Rights at Stake

The problem is not just that our unrestrained everything-you-ever-wanted-to-know-about-your-opponent rules of discovery have turned modern law into what *Time* magazine calls a “Serbian bog” (after a mythical place in Milton's *Paradise Lost* where whole armies got lost). Rather, it is that vital rights and freedoms are all too often wiped out at the same time.

Both American and English courts are acutely aware of individual rights and human dignity when the defendant is charged with a criminal offense. But in civil suits important constitutional issues often go unnoticed.

As I pointed out in the May 1979, issue of this magazine, the framers of the U.S. Constitution well remembered the infamous *general* search warrants used by British Crown officers. These warrants allowed the officers to burst unannounced into private homes and businesses and go rummaging around until they found anything that looked “suspicious.” Because of such odious behavior, the framers incorporated what is one of the most important (and in criminal law most widely used) clauses in the Bill of Rights—the 4th Amendment's provision for freedom from unreasonable search and seizure. Later the U.S. Supreme Court declared that the underlying idea behind this Amendment was the “right to privacy.”

We should understand here why the right to privacy is so important. It is not some perverse legal loophole to let criminals go free. It is absolutely vital to human dignity itself, because the right to privacy is, along with a few other freedoms (freedom of religion, freedom of speech and the right to own private property), one of the absolute requirements for the exercise of every other freedom.

The right to privacy guarantees to the individual a measure of sovereignty against man's government. It puts “off limits” to man's government large and important areas of human life over which *only God* has a legitimate claim.

This is why discovery as a legal procedure is important to you, even if you never set foot inside of a courtroom. By means of discovery, areas of life over which man's government *has no business* do indeed become the government's business, and no area of life can ever be “sacred” against such encroachment.

Whose House Will Be Safe?

Martin Dockray, a law professor at the University of London, points out in the distinguished British law jour-

nal *Public Law*, that some of the more unrestrained, liberal kinds of discovery we have today amount to nothing more than general search warrants issued to someone to go about "rummaging" through someone else's belongings.

The tragedy is that under our current system, there is really no way to protect your affairs from intrusive prying. All someone has to do is file suit against you and, upon his bald suspicion that you have wronged him, he gets to go rummaging around through your private affairs. Vital human liberty is lost.

Thus, as British Justice Lord Camden declared in 1765, "If suspicion at large should be a ground of search . . . whose house would be safe." The point is, no one's!

God's Way of Discovery

As any reading of the Bible, particularly in the Old Testament, will show, *justice* is an important subject with God. Not surprisingly, God gives us an outline of *His* kind of discovery in His Word.

Numbers 5:11-31 describes what some biblical scholars call the "trial of jealousy." This was a provision in the laws God gave Israel for the situation that has plagued all human justice from the time of Cain and Abel—how does an *innocent* party prove a negative.

Thus, if a husband suspected his wife of adultery and she were innocent, it would of course be practically impossible to prove she *didn't* do it. She could never really remove the taint of suspicion. If such a case came up today, no doubt the wife would have to fill out endless interrogatories asking her where she spent every last hour of her time for the previous several years!

But under God's laws the wife could prove her innocence once and for all in a comparatively short time. Essentially, the husband would pay the equivalent of a filing fee (verse 15), and the wife would take an oath (verse 19) and drink some water (verse 24). Afterwards, her guilt or innocence would be conclusively proved once and for all by what God would make happen to her physical body (verse 27).

God's principle is that justice—the vindication of the innocent and the punishment of the guilty—be swift (Ecclesiastes 8:11). In the world tomorrow, God Himself will supernaturally assure that whatever information is necessary to settle a dispute is available without dragging every last irrelevant detail of someone's life into the open.

The ultimate reform of our legal system must wait until God establishes His government over the whole earth at Christ's return. However, until that happy day, there are a number of things that ought to be done, even in this darkened world. (See II Corinthians 4:4, Ephesians 5:11.)

Specifically, the kind of procedural safeguards for the right to privacy, which are currently afforded even violent criminals in the context of the criminal law, should be extended to civil cases. Courts should require a *very* high level of proof of the relevancy of some particular information before they force its disclosure. Certainly information, which as evidence "wouldn't stand up in court," should be off limits.

Most of all, what is needed is a change of attitude in the judiciary about discovery. Before discovery came into vogue, the idea was that if you were wronged, you already knew about it and had enough information deriving from that very fact to build your case. Today, however, the attitude is that all you have to do is just imagine you have been wronged, and this all by itself will be grounds for you to go "fishing" around someone else's private affairs until you finally find proof you really have been wronged.

No wonder our courts are overcrowded. People are allowed to sue even before they have something to sue about!

In a world that desperately needs safeguards against prying—a world which Bible prophecy demonstrates will become much more totalitarian in character before Christ steps in to establish His government—even small things, like reform of a judicial idea gone sour, would do a great deal of good. □

Voice Cries Out

(Continued from page 10)

ferred not with flesh and blood, neither went I [to a theological seminary, but I was taught by Jesus Christ, the Word of God (in writing)] (Galatians 1:11-12, 15-17)!

That is why I have said the experience I was painfully subjected to in this original intensive study was unique in human life and conduct in our time. I know of no world religious leader who arrived at his teachings in such a manner. This world's religious teachings did not come from God! Only God is infallibly correct!

I was brought, by the spring of 1927, to a complete MIND-SWEEPING! My mind had been *swept clean* of previous assumptions and beliefs—I had been brought through a painful experience.

Twice profitable businesses had collapsed, leaving me frustrated.

Then I was brought to acknowledge that whatever religious beliefs I had held were contrary to the truth of God. Not only what I had believed, but also the churches!

I had taken a beating! I had been brought to realize my own nothingness and inadequacy. I had been CONQUERED by the Great Majestic GOD—brought to a real *repentance*—and also brought to a NEW ROCK-BASED SOLID FAITH in Jesus Christ and in God's Word. I had been brought to a complete surrender to God and to HIS WORD.

I was baptized, and the infilling of God's Holy Spirit opened my mind to the JOY UNSPEAKABLE of knowing God and Jesus Christ—of knowing TRUTH—and the warmth of God's divine LOVE!

What I once hated I now loved. I found the greatest and most absorbing joy of my life in *continuing* to dig out those gold nuggets of TRUTH from God's Word. Now came a new enthusiasm in Bible study.

And I was led to find that one and only true Church of God, founded by Jesus Christ on the day of Pentecost, A.D. 31.

I now reveal to the reader SEVEN MAJOR TRUTHS that identify it, and emancipate the reader from today's spiritual wilderness of religious confusion. □

PROPHESIED

(Continued from page 4)

now two alternatives—and ONLY two.

1) Either the Creator GOD exists, and will *soon*, now, step in and INTERVENE in this world's affairs and SAVE ERRING HUMANITY FROM ITSELF — or:

2) Any one of six existing causes will ERASE HUMANKIND FROM THE EARTH!

The person who is unwilling to consider that the Creator GOD is a real, living, all-wise, all-knowing, all-powerful personal BEING, has only the CERTAINTY of existing world conditions fast closing in upon him!

But for the reader who is willing to listen, I give you not only your ONLY HOPE of survival, I give you your one SURE HOPE.

World's Most Accurate Newscaster

First, notice the published report of the world's number one Newscaster. This newscast was a FORECAST. And it's CERTAIN. I know, very few ever realized that Jesus Christ came as a NEWSman—reporting NEWS for the future. He spoke of 20th-century world conditions—and WORLD GOVERNMENT to come. The world has misunderstood, perverted, maligned His message.

The word *gospel* means GOOD NEWS. And His was news for the FUTURE. He described today's violent chaotic world. In the pivotal prophecy of the New Testament of the world's best selling Book, He graphically described the international chaos into which the world is rapidly plunging right now. He said the violence would explode into a world trouble so great, that unless God intervened, no human would remain alive.

Yet, He promised, the All-powerful God would intervene supernaturally to cut short this world chaos (Matthew 24:21-22).

NEWS—Past, Present, Future

No book has so great a sale as the Holy Bible. And no book ever was so unread, misunderstood, maligned, distorted, misrepresented. Those who profess to use it as the source of their religion promulgate doctrines dia-

metrically opposite from its teachings.

Few know that a whole third, approximately, of that Book is devoted to FUTURE NEWS of world happenings. News of the now soon-coming peaceful and happy WORLD TOMORROW—on through CENTURY 21. It's the BEST NEWS you ever read!

We look, now, at one pivotal NEWS DISPATCH within this volume, which covers dramatically a panorama of the dominating governments, past, immediate present and future.

Advance News Report

You never thought of this panoramic look ahead as a NEWS REPORT? It's time we recognized it for precisely what it is! And it's exciting!

Incredible though it seems—and would-be discreditors to the contrary notwithstanding—the evidence has demonstrated conclusively that this world-news report was written between 500 and 600 years before Christ.

It concerns the king of the Chaldean Empire that ruled the Western world from 609 to 539 B.C. His name was Nebuchadnezzar. His capital was the ancient glamor city and world capital, Babylon. One night this king dreamed a remarkable and frightening dream as reported in Daniel 2. It was one of those rare dreams that remain indelibly impressed on the mind after awaking. He thought it must have meaning.

So Nebuchadnezzar called in all his astrologers, his religious leaders, magicians, his chief advisers, his wisest men. He determined to test their clairvoyant powers.

"It was a terrifying dream, yet it's gone from me," he told them. "I want you to tell me what I dreamed. If you fail, I'll know you are fakes and phonies, and I'll have you all put to death."

But even with their lives at stake, his wisest men could not tell Nebuchadnezzar what he had dreamed.

Now among other nations that had been conquered by this great Chaldean king was the Kingdom of Judah, whose capital city was Jerusalem. These Jews had been taken as captives and transported from their homes in their cities, towns and countryside to the land of the Chaldeans,

where they were made slaves. But four outstandingly brilliant lads had been inducted into important government positions in Babylon. Among them was Daniel.

These four Jewish lads were seized, to be put to death along with the sorcerers, magicians and Chaldean "wise men." Daniel asked for time, promising that he would be able to tell the king his dream and its meaning.

The four Jewish lads prayed to their God for the answer. That night it was revealed to Daniel in a vision.

Report on "What Is to Be"

"Are you able to make known to me the dream and its interpretation?" asked the king when Daniel was ushered into his presence. "No wise men can show to the king the mystery," replied Daniel, "but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and he has made known to you what is to be.

"You saw, O king, and behold, a great image. This image, mighty and of exceeding brightness, stood before you, and its appearance was frightening. The head of this image was of fine gold, its breast and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.

"As you looked, a stone was cut out by no human hand, and it smote the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces; then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold all together were broken in pieces, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away . . . But the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth."

But what did it MEAN? Its MEANING was a NEWS forecast leading to the present world turmoil, and its imminent and SURE outcome! It is NEWS that vitally affects the life of every reader of *The Plain Truth*.

"This," continued Daniel, "was the dream; now we will tell the king its interpretation. You, O king, the king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, and the might, and the glory . . . you are the head of gold. After you shall arise another kingdom

inferior to you, and yet a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth."

Here was NEWS of the future. It was news reported in advance. And it happened! After the Chaldean Empire, the Persian Empire arose. It was inferior as a world empire intellectually, morally, and in honor of splendor and glory—as silver is LESS VALUABLE than gold. But, as silver is harder than gold, so was the Persian Empire stronger in military might.

Humanity was deteriorating. The Persian Empire fell before the swift conquering flight of young Alexander the Great, with his Greek and Macedonian army. Alexander expanded his empire farther east and west and south—greater in military strength, more in quantity—greater in area and population ruled—but inferior in quality, as bronze is of less value than silver, yet a harder metal.

Alexander wept, it is said, because he had no more worlds to conquer. He died young. His empire was divided into four divisions, each ruled by one of his four top-ranking generals.

Now continue this most unusual form of NEWS REPORT.

The Roman Empire Came

"And," continued Daniel, "there shall be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron . . ." This was the Roman Empire, which swallowed up all four surviving divisions of Alexander's Greco-Macedonian Empire, and spread out farther besides. It was the strongest military power in world history up to that time. And the two legs symbolized the *two divisions* of the mighty Roman Empire—with the eastern capital at Constantinople (today called Istanbul, Turkey), and the western capital at Rome.

But Daniel continued: "And as the toes of the feet were partly iron and partly clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle, but they will not hold together, just as iron does not mix with clay."

There are three other specific prophecies—FUTURE NEWS REPORTS—one in the seventh chapter of Daniel, one in the 13th and one in the 17th of Revelation, which also depict the future NEWS of this same succession of world empires. Putting all four prophecies together, it becomes

plain that the toes of this image represent a last, final resurrection—or rebirth—of the Roman Empire in our time!

Soon Coming United States of Europe

There is not space for details in this article. (Request our free booklet, *The Book of Revelation Unveiled at Last*.) But the two prophecies in the book of Revelation report clearly—*long in advance*—the fall of the original Roman Empire in A.D. 476, its restoration by Justinian in 554 and its history up to the fall of Napoleon in 1814.

Then Revelation 17:8 shows the partial revival of this empire under Mussolini—after he took Ethiopia, adding it to Italian Somaliland, Eritrea, Libya and Italy—officially naming it "the Roman Empire."

These prophecies depict detailed ADVANCE NEWS of one more, last revival of this empire, yet to occur, by a union of 10 nations in Europe.

This coming "United States of Europe" is the dream of many leaders—not only within Europe, but in Britain and America. The Common Market is only its beginning.

Every indication is that this ADVANCE NEWS will be *current* news. And it will completely STUN THE WORLD! Yet *The Plain Truth* has reported this news in advance for the past 46 years!

Can you envision what that will mean in the world's balance of power?

But these nations will not cling long or loyally together. The 10 toes of Nebuchadnezzar's image pictured this United Europe millennia in advance. They will not cleave together for long, even as iron and miry clay will not.

Then what shall happen?

This prophecy—and others—give you the NEWS long in advance!

Then Finally—WORLD Government

Continue Daniel's explanation to King Nebuchadnezzar.

"And in the days of those kings [these then who are to unite in Europe!] the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed, nor shall its sovereignty be left to another people . . . and it shall

stand forever . . . a great God has made known to the king what shall be hereafter. The dream is certain, and its interpretation sure" (quoted from Daniel 2, Revised Standard Version).

This is just one of several ADVANCE NEWS REPORTS that explicitly affirm there WILL BE a world government that shall bring this war-weary earth PEACE AT LAST.

Not by the help of men or of their human governments—but in spite of them. Other prophecies report, centuries and millennia in advance, almost every detail of today's rapidly worsening conditions.

Humanity WILL SURVIVE! There *will* be a happy WORLD TOMORROW. Mortal humans do have a stern lesson to learn first. Human bungling will bring accelerated world trouble before God-ignoring humanity will be willing to learn. But WE SHALL LEARN!

Few realize that 90 percent of biblical prophecy pertains to OUR TIME, and the time immediately ahead. And approximately a third of the Bible is prophecy! It has been neglected utterly. It has been terribly misunderstood, misrepresented. It is tremendously important! Especially now!

Earlier in this article I said Jesus of Nazareth was the world's greatest NEWSCASTER. Many, deceiving and being deceived, have represented His teaching as a sentimental religious teaching having no relation whatever to this life, this world, its nations, its governments, its society. THAT CONCEPT IS FALSE!

Jesus' "gospel" (and remember gospel *means* good news) was actually His ADVANCE NEWS REPORT of the KINGDOM—the GOVERNMENT—of GOD, soon now to bring us world PEACE. The KINGDOM of GOD is, simply the world-ruling GOVERNMENT of God. It is absolutely *not* a sentimental, ethereal, imaginary something "set up in the hearts of men." It is something REAL! It is SOON COMING!

And Jesus Christ was born to be the KING of that WORLD GOVERNMENT (Luke 1:30-33; John 18:36-37; Revelation 11:15; 19:11-16). As Jesus so promised His disciples that He would return—so, now soon He *will* return to RULE THE WHOLE EARTH and bring us peace at last! □

NEW THREAT

(Continued from page 6)

Washington to investigate the build-up in the former British protectorate—which now has an “unbreakable” 20-year friendship treaty with Moscow.

The South Yemen buildup could also presage a new assault on Oman to the East. With the collapse of Iran, the sultan of tiny Oman now finds himself to be the guardian of the Strait of Hormuz—through which a Free World oil tanker passes every 20 minutes of the day!

The “Carter Doctrine”

President Carter professed initial shock at the Afghanistan power play. He said that, as a result, his assessment of Soviet intentions had “changed most drastically”—a startling admission for a U.S. president, the acknowledged leader of the Free World.

The President claims that, after three years in office, he finally sees the light of Soviet intentions. But one wonders. On June 15, Mr. Carter said he believes that the Soviets must feel “chastened and surprised” by strong world condemnation of the Afghanistan invasion. This reaction, he felt, may restrain them from such aggression elsewhere.

The President also claimed on another occasion that the Soviet invasion violated “accepted rules of behavior,” to which columnist George F. Will replied: “The Soviets are playing by the ‘accepted rules’ . . . raw force is the rule because raw force works.”

Even by another definition, Mr. Will added, the Soviets are playing by the rules—their rules; “Rules they have proclaimed from rooftops. For 62 years Leninism has been the Soviet Union’s civil religion, teaching the inevitability of lethal conflict with ‘bourgeois’ societies in a struggle for the world. Yet for 62 years liberal societies have earnestly wondered what the Soviets ‘really’ intend. . . .”

In enumerating what some have dubbed the “Carter Doctrine” the President says that “we must now deal with the hard facts, with the world as it is.” He has jettisoned the first three years of his foreign policy, a program based upon shedding

America’s “inordinate fear of communism,” and pursuing the loftier goal of “human rights.”

The nation’s military posture—allowed during the 1970s honeymoon with detente to slip badly behind the Soviets—will get new infusions of spending. Yet, somewhat contradictorily, the President proclaims that until now “we have not been weak.”

Many observers feel that a real turnabout won’t be easy. “We didn’t get into this position overnight, says former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, “and we can’t get out of it with a few quick fixes.”

Other experts point out that there is little substance behind the rhetoric of the “Carter Doctrine.” Specific commitments are vague. Instead of seeking permanent ground bases in the Middle East (an offer from Egypt was rejected) Washington speaks only of “military facilities”—mostly naval—and an ambiguous “framework” of “cooperative security.”

The Soviets are not fooled. They are well aware of current U.S. weakness in armaments, strategy—and willpower. Reports the *U.S. News and World Report*:

“Kremlin rulers view as more bark than bite Carter’s threat to use force in the Persian Gulf, if need be . . . The only way Carter’s ‘hands off Mideast oil’ warning is seen getting through to Soviet bosses: He must deploy American forces—ground, air, naval—within striking distance of the crisis area . . .

“The Kremlin still respects American power. But—*what counts is U.S. performance.* And when Russia looks back over the last five years, it sees inaction in the face of Moscow-sponsored Cuban intervention in Angola and Ethiopia, inaction when Soviet-backed Vietnamese forces invade Cambodia, inaction when Carter spotted Russian combat troops in Cuba.”

The Cuba inaction last October, experts believe, convinced the Soviets they could safely move into Afghanistan. And Washington’s initial hesitation to use military power in the early days of the hostage situation in Iran also played into Moscow’s hands. Should the United States decide to act with force now, the Soviets could enter Iran on the pretext of protecting the country from an American invasion!

Russia has power. America has power, too—but is afraid to use it! The *pride* of its power has been taken away (Leviticus 26:19). Or, as, columnist James J. Kilpatrick put it: “It is useless to provide ourselves with arms if we lack the will to use them.”

Who Will Counter Soviet Thrust?

Soviet leaders—and they *can* be believed—have stated repeatedly, even during the decade of the ’70s, that detente in no way impedes the worldwide “class struggle” nor hampers their support for “national liberation” movements around the world.

Mr. Brezhnev explicitly outlined the purpose of detente to Eastern European Communist Party leaders at an East Bloc summit in Prague in 1973. His speech did not receive much attention at the time.

“Trust us, comrades,” Mr. Brezhnev was quoted as saying. “For by 1985, as a consequence of what we are now achieving with detente, we will have achieved most of our objectives in Western Europe. We will have consolidated our position. We will have improved our economy. And a decisive shift in the correlation of forces will be such that, *come 1985, we will be able to exert our will wherever we need to.*”

It should be plain to all that if anyone is going to firmly resist the Soviet inroads into the Middle East and other strategic areas of the world such as southern Africa, it is not likely to be the United States. Says the noted world expert on Soviet strategy, Brian Cozier:

“It is a lamentable fact that the Soviet Union takes a global view of strategy and that the U.S. does not—or no longer does. . . . The Russians know very well what they want. . . . The Soviets fight World War III permanently and by whatever means are appropriate.”

America has gone to sleep, strategically, and other areas of the Free World are not much more alert to the long-term danger at the present time.

Yet, as the pages of *The Plain Truth* have continually warned, Europe *will* arise from *its* slumber, to unitedly protect its endangered interests. *Europe only awaits strong, galvanizing leadership.* Editorialized the *Daily Telegraph*:

What Our Readers Say

Energy Crisis

In the December [1979] *Plain Truth*, Mr. [Herbert W.] Armstrong makes this significant comment about the automobile:

"Whoever you obey is your god. Whatever you serve is your god. It might be your automobile."

The annual survey by Hertz Corp. found that the auto claimed 25 percent of the average family income in 1978. Most of the driving is nonessential pleasure driving. Average car life is six years when it could and should be much more than 12 years.

It is now generally known that the oil of the world will last only a few more decades, but our country continues to use it at a rapidly increasing rate. The continuing waste of time, money and scarce natural resources to support the auto habit shows that we are virtually a nation of oilcoholics whose No. 1 idol is the automobile.

Earl W. Mutch
Chardon, Ohio

Papal Visit

Having read your editorial comments on Pope John Paul's visits to Poland and the U.S., I draw your attention to Greek sentiment on his recent visit to Turkey.

Greeks remember the nearly 400 years of religious repression under the Ottoman Empire. When Greece gained its independence with the help of the great powers—England in particular—from Turkey on March 21, 1821, immediately after, Greece formally readopted Christianity, after having suffered severe religious repression from the Turks.

Since then the Greeks, as a whole, have remained very strong in their Orthodox faith. They have never associated themselves with other nations' religious sects and, above all, they have never obeyed one infallible higher authority. This is a major point of disagreement.

The patriarch of Constantinople, in the person of Demetrios I, is a most highly respected church personality, with ecclesiastical power vested in him by the church hierarchy and also by the state

government. At the same time, however, he remains quite a distant figure who has no active participation in the life of the common man.

The traditional conservative Orthodox believer views the pope's visit to Constantinople as an effort to establish supremacy over the Greek Orthodox Church and to rule his personal life. That is something Greeks find difficult to comply with.

This traditional view is not by any means the prevalent one since the country is being swept by socialist principles which discourage the people away from religion, especially the younger generation.

The point of view most prevalent among middle-of-the-road folks is apathy toward religion. Many have given up their previous belief that the Greek Orthodox Church is the true Church of God and they couldn't care less what is happening in the worldwide field of religion.

George Kovanis,
California

"How can the West come to its senses? Only by recognizing that 'detente' was always a one-way street. It allowed Russia to move forward, ratchet-like, while the West lost ground. It was never a two-way process. The West must stop losing, before it has lost too much. This involves more than building up material strength—though that is essential.

"It also means finding a voice, which can be heard again throughout the world. Where that voice is to come from at present cannot be clearly seen. The most obvious place—Washington—is in some kind of palsy. But come it must. Millions want to hear it."

Perhaps that voice just might be

found in a political figure beginning to stir in West Germany—chancellor challenger Franz Josef Strauss (c.f. *Plain Truth*, September, 1979). In Dr. Strauss's view his government, as well as the entire Western world, has pursued a policy, which, step by step, "has fulfilled all Moscow's wishes." That policy, he reckons, has only encouraged Soviet expansion in the Middle East and Africa. In his view, it now has to be made clear to the Russians that they have reached the same point as Adolph Hitler when he marched into Prague in 1939.

The policy of detente says Dr. Strauss, was shortsighted. It failed to recognize that the West's life-lines were threatened, and to some extent already cut short, by the Soviet

Union's global, long-term offensive strategy.

Dr. Strauss, the British newsweekly *Economist* notes, is thinking seriously about how to counter the long range Soviet threat. "So Mr. Strauss is strongly supporting senior colleagues in the Christian Democratic Union and his own Bavarian Christian Social Union who would like NATO to extend its defense commitment beyond the borders of the North Atlantic pact. They want a NATO presence in the Gulf, and are talking vaguely about the need for the alliance to counter Soviet influence in southern Africa."

Continue to watch Soviet inroads in the Middle East—and especially the European reaction to them. □

Jesus died on Wednesday. He was resurrected on Saturday.

1 + 1 + 1 = 3

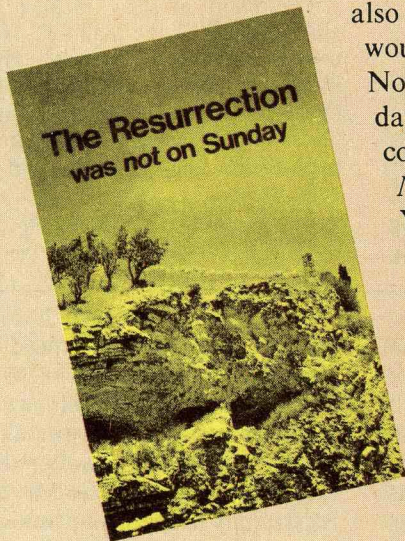
You can count on it.

Can you figure three days and three nights between sunset Good Friday and sunrise Easter Sunday?

If you can, you have a problem. Because in Matthew 12:40 Jesus said He would be "... three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." He

also said in verse 39 that this was the *only sign* He would give that He was the Messiah.

Now either Jesus was an imposter or the "Good Friday-Easter" tradition is in error. An enlightening and controversial booklet titled *The Resurrection Was Not on Sunday* makes plain the biblical truth. You'll read scripture after scripture refuting the "Good Friday-Easter" tradition. You'll discover that Jesus actually died on a Wednesday. He arose on a Saturday. Don't take our word for it. Check it out in your own Bible. It's as simple as one, two, three.



"... so shall the son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" (Matt. 12:40).

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