Prophecy – No Longer a Dirty Word

The INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL

How Liberated Can You Get?

Who Will Feed the Hungry Millions?
the world's great religions, the intellectual institutions of higher learning, and great governments.

And yet modern science cannot find the answers nor solve our fatal problems. All religion has failed utterly to make this a better, happier world or show us the way to world peace. Higher education, intent on constant knowledge production, does not know and cannot teach us the answers! Governments, supposed to be benefactors of their peoples, are more and more being overthrown because dissenters conclude that they have failed.

What is wrong? Where are the answers? Could this whole world have been deceived?

Is it possible that even the best minds, being deceived, have rejected or ignored the right answers and the truth?

The true answers do exist. But they have not been given by religion. Science has never discovered them. Higher education has never known nor taught them. And they are even further from the field of politics and human government.

Forty-eight years ago I was challenged — both on a point in religion and on the theory of evolution. I was then certainly a "biblical illiterate." But this dual intensive research took me not only into the writings of Darwin, Haeckel, Huxley

(Continued on page 11, col. 1)
MIDEAST ON BRINK OF NEW WAR
Rumors of renewed fighting in the volatile Middle East are causing anxiety in the industrialized Western world.

WORLDWATCH—
Reporting from Armageddon
News Editor Gene Hogberg discusses growing threat of atomic weapons in Mideast.

THE INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL...
The Missing Dimension in Knowledge
The first installment of a new and illuminating book by Herbert W. Armstrong.

How Liberated Can You Get?
Can one successfully look into the Women’s Movement and not become “mesmerized” by emotional battle cries?

PROPHECY—
No Longer a Dirty Word
Forecasting the future has become serious business, and prophecy is now a respected scientific tool of the Establishment.

IN BRIEF—
A behind-the-scenes account of Herbert W. Armstrong’s visits with dignitaries and heads of state, by Stanley R. Rader.

GARNER TED ARMSTRONG SPEAKS OUT!
The Deadly International Monetary Game, as viewed by radio-TV commentator Garner Ted Armstrong. (See Radio-TV Log, page 13.)

Orchids & Onions
Readers react by throwing their favorite vegetation at the editors.

WHO WILL FEED THE HUNGRY MILLIONS?

With drought in Africa, food shortages in Bangladesh, and a 27-day global grain reserve — the lowest in 30 years — the world faces a food scarcity of unprecedented dimension and duration. There is “a very real threat,” says American Senator Charles H. Percy, Republican of Illinois, “of a worldwide food crisis far exceeding in impact the energy crisis.”

The world has now come to the place where “50 million people, perhaps more, could perish from famine” in a single year. So says Nobel Prize winning agronomist Norman Borlaug.

World food authority Lester Brown of the Overseas Development Council adds that the world has entered into a period of more or less chronic food scarcity. The soaring demand for food, he stresses, has begun to overrun the production capacity of the world’s farmers and fishermen.

Population growth is putting 70 to 75 million more mouths to feed on the planet earth yearly, about 200,000 each day. These figures translate into a demand for millions of extra tons of grain each year.

If the problem of worldwide famine is to be dealt with — at least on a short-term basis — American agriculture will have to play a major role. The United States remains the chief producer, and more importantly, the number one exporter of food and agricultural products in the world.

In recent years, American farmers have produced around a fourth of the world’s combined wheat and corn crops and three fourths of the world’s soybeans. The United States has been the largest cash exporter of these other farm products and by far the largest single source of food aid.

The big question now is: Can the United States provide food in sufficient amounts to make more than a mere dent in what threatens to be a runaway situation?

Late in 1974, the United States Department of Agriculture called on American farmers to “go all out” in a drive toward full production to refill the nation’s grain bins and pump more food into the world’s commodity pipeline.

Based on preliminary estimates, USDA officials predict the 1975 wheat crop will be a record 2 billion bushels, a ten percent increase over 1974 production. Yet, despite cautiously optimistic predictions of an increased U.S. food output (tainted as it is by the need for far more fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides), two elements stand to seriously discolor it.

First of all, the world has become dangerously over-dependent upon the United States and a mere handful of other food exporting nations. Then there is the second, all important yet many times overlooked element — the weather. With all the modern technology and dogged determination to produce bumper crops, man is still very much at the mercy of the weather. Weather can either be the ace or the joker in the deck of cards when it comes to production.

Only last year the worst weather in three decades plagued the United States — excessive rains, drought, then early frost. The bed weather cut into the expected 1974 U.S. harvest by 7% to 8%. The falloff was unfortunately timed. It came when American food reserves already were at the lowest in a quarter of a century.

Weather experts warn that more climatological upsets could be in the offing this year. Some fear that the agricultural boom-years of the past two decades are over and that long-term unfavorable climatic changes are occurring around the earth. So once again the question must be asked: “Can the U.S. provide?” Or will the crushing (and often thankless) task become the proverbial “Mission Impossible”?

Seven years ago in a book entitled Famine 1975! brothers William and Paul Paddock warned that population growth would soon overtake the ability of the less-developed countries to feed themselves. The authors foresaw the United States, as the principal food surplus country, facing terrible choices about which countries to feed. They suggested that the only realistic policy would be to do nothing for the hopelessly poor and overpopulated countries, such as India, and concentrate only on those who might be able to sustain themselves if they stopped their population growth.

The crunch is that population rates have not trailed off since the book was written. In fact, India’s rate has risen from 2.3% a decade ago to 2.6% now. The assessments of brothers Paddock and Dr. Handler sound callous. They are not pretty. But they are cruelly realistic and should shock a largely apathetic citizenry in the Western world still more concerned about the price of food rather than its availability.

plain truth
Mideast on Brink of New War

Threat of Total Embargo Worries West

The shaky truce of the Middle East is undergoing new strains. Not even the incredible Dr. Kissinger may be able to defuse the situation.

The Israeli military remains poised for any eventual Egyptian President Anwar Sadat warns that the Middle East is a bomb ready to explode at any moment.

Mr. Sadat's Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy didn't do much to calm jittery nerves with his demand in December that Israel "must freeze its present population and pledge not to increase the number of its immigrants for 50 years."

The fuse of the Mideast time bomb burned down a few inches more shortly after the Fahmy disclosure when it was revealed, according to an unnamed Arab source, that the Arab states have decided to impose a total embargo on Western Europe and Japan as well as the United States in the event of another war with Israel.

The sources said that the decision was reached in October at a secret session of the Arab summit meeting in Rabat, Morocco.

The move is designed to increase pressure on the United States to force Israel to give in to Arab territorial demands, to prevent Israel from launching a first-strike blitz in a new war and to cripple Israel by cutting off U.S. weapons.

During the Mideast War last year, the Arab producers cut off direct oil supplies to the United States. But Japan and Europe, with the exception of the Netherlands, were affected only by a percentage cut in production. In a total embargo, European and Japanese industry would grind to a halt in a matter of days without Arab oil.

The theory of the proposed shutdown is that the United States would be forced, under an oil-sharing agreement, to divert much of its own domestic production to its allies to prevent a general economic collapse.

Thus the ultimate question every nation now slumped over the Arab oil barrel must face is this: What would it do if another oil embargo or a huge price increase pushed its economy to the wall of utter ruin?

Well, it has now "officially" been made clear to the Middle Eastern oil powers that military seizure of their oil fields is far from out of the question despite explicit denials of some officials in Western nations.

By quietly but intentionally less than 'vital' means, the United States' administration last week signaled the newly rich oil powers that more than empty words of warning may confront the Arab grip on the West's petroleum line.

The message from none other (Continued on page 4, col. 1)

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Miki unsuccessfully sought the premiership in 1951 and 1962 and the upper house of the Diet in 1965, 1969, 1972 against Kakuei Tanaka. He has been reelected 14 times.

Miki has also opposed large Japanese military expenditures, modernizing the faction to the point of split, fighting the U.S. government's seizure of Arab oil facilities in 1972 against Kakuei Tanaka. He was consequently kept out of politics during the postwar U.S. occupation.

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Europe's Inconclusive Summit

by Ray Kosanka and Henry Sturcke

PARIS — Europe is not yet weak enough to unite. That's the real message here at the conclusion of the summit conference of the nine member nations of the European Economic Community. Having agreed beforehand not to disagree during the conference, the Nine produced a final communiqué that covered safe ground and stuck mainly to positive generalities. But the assembled heads of state were the assembled heads of state able to come to grips with the real menace threatening Western Europe — the danger of a major economic depression.

Belgian Prime Minister Leo Tindemans — so far the most outspoken on Europe's economic prospects — declared publicly that the disturbing parallel between the post-War II Europe could not be ignored. Yet despite the seriousness of their economic plight, the Nine are not yet under sufficient pressure to lay aside their national projects and parochial interests to approach their enormous problems on a common level.

At the conference relatively unimportant side issues occupied much of the delegates' time. Lip service was paid to vague, talk-off ideals such as a directly elected parliament by 1978, an economic and monetary community, a united Europe of the nine and a common European foreign policy.

While these minor accomplishments are perhaps substantive in terms of overall European stability, they border on meaninglessness in Europe's present state of mounting unemployment and inflation.

The soaring cost of energy, of course, is the key factor in the gloomy economic picture. Yet, in Paris, the Nine were unable to come up with a meaningful united approach toward the oil production nations and vis-a-vis other major oil consumers, most notably the U.S. In fact, in the twelve-page final communiqué released in Paris, only 19 lines were devoted to the critical issue of energy. The strong

Might of Germany. Only Germany has been able to hold the inflation rate to a near manageable level. Moreover, the huge reserves of all eight other EEC members added together do not approach the formidable mass possessed by Bonn.

As a result of West Germany's continual good showing, leadership within the Community is passing to the Bonn government almost by default.

While, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt did a remarkably tasteful job at the Paris Summit in not flexing German economic muscle, the voice of Germany could soon become an important factor in European affairs if — or when — its proposal read: "The heads of Government have invited the Community Institutions to work out and to implement a common energy policy in the shortest possible time." This sounds fine except it's what was said at the flimsy Copenhagen Summit one year ago! An important undercurrent at this conference, sensed but not stated, was the growing economic government chooses to use it.

In fact, the present scene in Europe reveals a rudderless continent, moving off the known after a summit conference that was for the most part reluctantly and unenthusiastically held. What is still lacking is the idealism, dynamic leadership or direct action needed to confront the threatening realities of the moment.

48TH PARALLEL - (Continued from page 3)

free of the growth hormone DES.

Only recently Ottawa imposed quotas on American cattle and beef imports. The new move attempts to restrict the amount of beef going northward by as much as 65 percent of the 1973 level. That has sent angry shockwaves throughout the U.S. cattle industry already squeezed by inflation and a sluggish domestic market.

Under pressure from the cattlemen, President Ford, after the fall 1974 election, signed a retaliatory import measure restricting Canadian live cattle and hogs and dressed beef and pork.

Canadian cattlemen, picking up the battle cry, complained that the action was more severe than Canada's own quotas. The manager of the Canadian cattleman's association said angrily: "There is no way Canada will ever enter into what we consider a naked threat.

Economic losses on both sides of this quota war are estimated to be about $100 million.

The livestock issue is not the only irritant that has erupted lately. Another war the "Booing" of the U.S. egg market with more than

WORLD PRESS LOOKS AT... Europe's Plight

The meeting of the nine European leaders at the summit in Paris in early December provided a striking demonstration of Western Europe's political weakness. Deterioration of worldwide economic conditions, shocks created by unilateral actions of member nations, stagnation within the EEC, the near-bankruptcy status of Britain and Italy and finally the Arab oil embargo have stopped the progress of the Market in its tracks.

Will only the threat of complete breakdown at some future date face the nations of Western Europe into the unity their leaders claim is still their goal?

Here are some comments on Europe's plight from major European and American news sources.

Adrift and Leaderless

"The European political scene is a mosaic of weaknesses...it is a Continent adrift, in peril, and without a leader. Manifestly disheartened, the European electorate has constructed a vicious political circle. It elects governments that are either so weak or so fragmented that the leaders must exhaust their energies in sheer survival, with neither authority nor power to handle basic problems.

Here are some comments on Europe's present state of mounting unemployment and inflation.

"Fundamentally Sick"

"Europe is in a profound crisis. This crisis will not be resolved in two days at a summit conference. Europe is sick, and she is fundamentally mentally sick. For several years, she has experienced an economic and monetary crisis. On top of that, there is now the oil crisis. Each partner has reacted in its own way to the oil crisis, and according to its means, in different directions. The Common Market is therefore sick. Will it be capable of surviving the crisis?"

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President Giscard d'Estaing of France plays host to fellow Common Market heads of state in Paris.

Accordingly, Ottawa is drawing up stricter pricing regulations with respect to the limits of foreign investment. Energy Minister Donald Macdonald's decision to cut oil exports to the U.S. is another move in the same direction. Canadian oil to the U.S. will be reduced to 650,000 barrels a day, down from the 1.1 million barrels a day of last year. The supply will be cut off entirely by the end of 1982. President Ford tried in vain to persuade Prime Minister Trudeau to extend the deadline.

America imports about 18% of her oil from Canada. If America is unsuccessful in efforts to become self-sufficient in energy, the loss of Canadian oil could precipitate a severe fuel crisis in the U.S. — not unlike last year's embargo of oil from the Middle East.

Canada and the United States have historically been among the closest of the world's major nations — perhaps closest. The recent economic squabbling raises doubts about the future of that partnership. Will the continuing crutches of inflation and recession reduce the two neighbors to ever more bickering over the dwindling means of economic growth? Depending on the outcome.

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As a result of West Germany's continual good showing, leadership within the Community is passing to the Bonn government almost by default.

While, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt did a remarkably tasteful job at the Paris Summit in not flexing German economic muscle, the voice of Germany could soon become an important factor in European affairs if — or when — its proposal read: "The heads of Government have invited the Community Institutions to work out and to implement a common energy policy in the shortest possible time." This sounds fine except it's what was said at the flimsy Copenhagen Summit one year ago! An important undercurrent at this conference, sensed but not stated, was the growing economic government chooses to use it.

However, the present scene in Europe reveals a rudderless continent, moving off the known after a summit conference that was for the most part reluctantly and unenthusiastically held. What is still lacking is the idealism, dynamic leadership or direct action needed to confront the threatening realities of the moment.

Supranational Character Eroded

"Time and again EEC Commis­sion President Walter Hallstein, and his successor Jean Rey of Belgium, reminded the world that the EEC was not a mere trading bloc but a political entity destined to change the face of Europe. But since their departure, the supranational character of the community has been so eroded that the current president of the commission, Francois-Xavier Ortoli, seems little more than the respected head of a vast and complex bureaucracy.

Selfish Nationalism Revived

"The philosophy of the founding fathers was that the creation of a common market, with all that implies in the way of common economic policies, was needed to prevent the inevitability of political union. In fact, this was an effective motive for the first stage of the EEC, but recently it has been undermined by inflation which has reinvigorated and sharpened the selfish, every man for himself instincts of national governments."

The Guardian of Manchester, December 14, 1974

Magic Dried Up

"Those days when magic glue existed to make, perhaps, a federal Europe are gone. Under M. Gis­card d'Estaing, France is trying, with fulous donuts whenever the opinion polls look particularly bad, to bury the hatchet with America. The appointees in Germany and Benelux for a united Europe of the future, although still passably held by some, are now very shop worn. Despite the precise-looking commitment to direct elections to the European parliament, monetary and economic union, and so on, this summit of the nine European community members put the stamp on the idea that Europe will remain a loose confederation of nation states."

The Economist, London December 14, 1974

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The incredible human potential... The missing dimension in life -

It's positively astounding! It has remained undiscovered by science! No religion has revealed it! Higher education has never taught it! It is possible the whole world has been deceived - as to the awesome purpose of human life - as to the way to world peace and how it will come? And could it be true that the real gospel message Christ brought from heaven revealed this missing dimension - but was suppressed? This is the eye-opening story of the real gospel message of Jesus Christ - of how this missing dimension was withheld, and the whole world deceived.

PART I

Does it come as an astonishing shock to learn that the most important dimension in all knowl­edge - the answer to the greatest mystery - the mystery of human life - has never been taught - as to the reason for our existence? Yet this message from the living God, if humanity had received and needed it, would have saved this whole world from nearly all of its troubles and its miseries.

The very word "gospel" means "good news." That message, when truly understood, will solve all the problems and purposes so stupendous - so awesome - that it appears it could be totally beyond belief.

That message reveals facts about humanity that are the most important purpose for which mankind was put on earth, where we are going, what is the way to world peace, happiness and universal prosperity, what are the true values, what is the awesome human potential, and how it may be achieved.

Answers to these questions form the most important knowledge ever made accessible to man. Yet man has spurned and rejected it.

First, by its very nature, it fully grasped, reveals what science has been utterly unable to discover. It reveals what religion in this world knows nothing of. It reveals what those who have not known or taught it reveals.

It reveals the most wonderful and saving message that ever came to man. It reveals the knowledge most vitally necessary to men.

It was the most monumental good news ever revealed by our Maker to his creation! Why would men have wanted to reject it - hate it - put to death the messenger who brought it? Yes, why?

The purpose of this article is to reveal men now deceived and to make plain the important news really was. And it.

The article is concisely written. And all important revelation from the living God was not again postponed to the minute of its present century.

First, today, most of humanity has never heard the glorious true gospel. And even those millions who have heard it have been drugged and stupefied by false religions and "gospel" that they only become confused. The truth - indeed, is stronger than any fiction! Prepare yourself to read this astounding truth - hard to believe, yet true.

The Arch-Deceiver

It is not intellectually fashionable today to believe in the actual existence of a devil. But scripture explains this.

Biblical prophecies plainly say that in our time, the world's whole world would be deceived. Notice one prophecy in the book of Revelation, chapter 12, verse 9.

And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world.

This Satan is revealed as the arch-deceiver who has deceived the whole world. But how did he manage to deceive the human race?

In the 4th chapter of Genesis he is shown as the deceiver of mother Eve. Through her, he caused the first man, Adam, to commit the first sin by a human.

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, Satan was still here on earth as the god of this world (II Cor. 4:4). He is also the "prince of the power of the air" (Eph. 2:2), holding sway over the whole of mankind.

Christ's message revealed the advance news of the total abolition of Satan's power over the world and his banishment from the earth. It revealed that Christ was coming as his successor to the rule of all nations. In Satan's mind, it was necessary for him to go all out to prevent anything going to world going to world.

But how could he do it?

First, he moved to destroy the Christ child and thus prevent his growing up to proclaim that message.

Satan connived to set up a powerful Gentile religious leader with whom to carry his Babylonian mystery religion. He set up a pope in a pope in a pope (this迷信) then ye are my disciples indeed and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. But ye will seek to kill me, be ye not of the truth, ye believe me not, and if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

In due time, the Romans crucified our Lord. Then Christ's apostles went out. As he had told them, "... and the truth shall make you free."

Christ's apostles went out, as he commissioned them, to proclaim his message to the world. God's church was raised up (Acts 2:42) to back the proclaiming of the message. The church began to grow.

Satan connived to set up a powerful Gentile religious leader with whom to carry his Babylonian mystery religion. He set up a pope in a pope in a pope (this迷信) then ye are my disciples indeed and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. But ye will seek to kill me, be ye not of the truth, ye believe me not, and if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

That, I know, is a breath-taking reversal of events. Even Jesus' enemies, more than 2000 years later, to believe. But none of this, it is true.

The Counterfeit "Gospel"

In the Samaria, north of Jerusalem, lived a Gentile people whom the Jewish Christ's day was spared, calling them "Gentiles," They had been moved there from areas of the "Mystery Babylonian Empire about 700 B.C. by Shalmaneser of Assyria (II Kings 17:18, 21-24). They had brought with them into the heart of Samaria their own Babylonian religion. It spread to the 8th chapter of Acts you'll read of their religious system, and he shall be a sign among the nations.

Christ raised up the church of God to stand back of the proclaiming of his gospel by his apostles in A.D. 31. By A.D. 33, after a most amazing initial growth, a great persecution set in on the Church's God's church (Acts 8:1). At that time, A.D. 33, Simon the sorcerer had himself baptized along with multitudes of others. He then tried to buy an apostleship in God's church from the apostles Peter and John with money - but of course was refused and rebuked.

Thereupon this Simon appropriated the name of Christ, calling his Babylonian mystery religion "Christianity." Satan swayed this man and used this instrument to persecute and all but destroy the true church of God. Before the end of the first century - probably by A.D. 70, he managed to suppress the message Christ delivered from God.

The "lost century" in the history of the true church of God. There was a well-organized conspiracy to blot out all record of church history during that period. A hundred years passed, and surrounding areas two years later, to believe. But none of this, it is true.

By A.D. 58, when the apostle Paul wrote his letter to the Galatians, many already were turning to this new counterfeit gospel.

About A.D. 58, Paul wrote: "Marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ unto another gospel: which is not another (it was not good news); but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ" (Gal. 1:6-7). To the Thessalonians, about A.D. 54, Paul warned: "Remember that through me the gospel was not proclaimed in secrecy" (I Thess. 2:1-2). And through me the gospel was not proclaimed in secrecy, but openly and in the power of God.

But notice, they were proclaiming a counterfeit gospel - but a counterfeit religion - the ancient mystery religion. In the 8th chapter of Acts you'll read of their religious system, and he shall be a sign among the nations.

As to the name of Christ. They called their Babylonian religion "Christianity." But they not only appropriated a counterfeit gospel but a counterfeit religion - the ancient mystery religion. In the 8th chapter of Acts you'll read of their religious system, and he shall be a sign among the nations.

The True and The False Church

In Revelation are pictured two churches, each of which go under the name of Christ. One, pictured in the 12th chapter, portrays the true church of God, small in number, reduced through persecution and martyrdom, but obedient to God's law, hated by Satan. The other, in the 17th chapter, called the "Mystery, Babylon of the Nations, Mother of Harlots and Abomination of the Earth" (verse 5). In either case, the Babylonian mystery religion stepped in "mystery" - abolishing God's law.

During the time of Paul's ministry, these same Simon the sorcerers were troubling the Corinthians. Paul wrote to the Corinthians: "I am among you in spirit, rejoicing at your godly jealousy; for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ." Thus, after his resurrection, is to be "hallowed to Christ, spiritually. But I, fear lest by any means anybody be beguiled through his vanity, or through deceitfulness of lying, or through any means be beguiled by Eve through his subtilty, because Satan is transformed into the simickness that is in Christ. For if he [a minister of Simon Magus] can deceit the hearts of simple as to the'WAY to...
United Nations—Another "League of Nations"?

by Raymond McNair

What has the U.N. accomplished during the past thirty years? Will it last till the end of this century? Or has it already wasted the ultimate rigors moritas of the U.N.? With the passing of the League of Nations in 1945, the League of Nations gracefully expired. As a world peace organization it had been ineffective in the baldrick of World War II. The League was created in 1920 for the express purpose of preventing future wars. But after abortive attempts to bring peace to the nations, it proved to be impotent.

When Japan invaded China in 1931, the League took no effective action. When Italy conquered Ethiopia in 1935, the League stood by helplessly. When Germany gobbled up Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Poland in the World War II, the League did nothing. And even though the League expelled Germany in 1939, it had no real power to prevent the U.S.S.R. from conquering the helpless Finland. National self-interest prompted Japan to withdraw from the League in 1932, Germany followed the same route in 1933.

Then, the League of Nations proved powerless either to prevent or stop real wars. By 1939 men had lost faith in this organism of world peace. They turned to their own national peace efforts. But at the end of World War II, the bleeding nations were weary. Over forty million civilians in Europe were eaten up in that nightmarish carnage. Men were once again sick and hungry. But how could they prevent future wars?

Once again, it was obvious to many that the world needed some kind of super-government if international peace were to be maintained.

The world's elder statesmen worked long and hard to create an effective instrument of peace, and in 1945 the United Nations was born. This was man's best attempt so far to build an instrument which, hopefully, could keep peace among the nations. Many believed it to be man's last hope at preventing future global wars. Since its inception, it became sure that this organization, like the League of Nations before it, was ineffective as an instrument of peace. It proved to be a divided organization—divided between the Communist and Democratic nations. No house divided cannot stand. A long, drawn-out cold war heightened antagonism within the U.N.

The U.N. proved unable to prevent the Arab-Israeli wars of 1948, 1967, and 1973. Likewise, it was unable to prevent, or, by itself, even shorten the Vietnam War. Neither was it able to do anything impressive in the Congo, Vietnam or any other major area of real estate. The more recent 1974 war in Cyprus once again helped the U.N. prove itself powerless.

In 1974, the General Assembly voted to suspend South Africa from the General Assembly of the rest of the year. And then, if to add insult to injury, the U.N. took the unprecedented step of inviting the leader of a non-nation, Yasser Arafat, to speak before the General Assembly.

In his speech Arafat said he was bearing an "olive branch" in one hand and a "freedom fighter's gun" in the other. Through millions of TV viewers got a glimpse of Arafat's speech. It made one wish to have really seen any sign of an "olive branch." Today the real voting power of the 138-nation U.N. is held by the "Third World" countries.

Today, it now looks like these smaller nations have usurped control of the U.N.—especially its General Assembly.

Many fear that tiny Israel will be expelled from that assembly because most of the 138-member nations of the U.N. are openly pro-Arab.

To its credit, the U.N. has accomplished much good in the area of culture, education and economics. However, the U.N. continues to be used as a sounding board for various nations to hammer out their propaganda.

The U.N. has the form but not the substance or power to keep the peace. It has a beautiful skeleton framework, but an enough muscle on its bones to really make it work.

How long will it be before the world recognizes that the U.N. cannot of itself ever bring world peace? 

Satan Up: God Down?

The Center for Policy Research tells us that belief in Satan over the last decade is up at least 10%, while belief in God has declined 10%. Between 1963 and 1973, the percentage of those who believed in Satan jumped from 37 to 48 percent, while another 20 percent believed that Lucifer "probably" exists.

Meanwhile, the ranks of believers in God declined from 77 to 69 percent, with the number of avowed atheists doubling.

The Toronto Sun Syndicate

"One lump or two?"
PROPHECY—
No Longer a Dirty Word

by Robert L. Kuhn

Ten years ago you would have been labeled a nut, a crackpot, a charlatan, a weirdo — for so foolishly or naively dabbling at the edges of society. Today you could be a scientist, an economist, a psychologist, a theologian — a highly respected member of your profession, investigating the forefront of human knowledge.

You are a prophet. You predict the future.

The Future Comes of Age

The future isn’t what it used to be. It has invaded the present. What will happen has suddenly become terribly relevant to what is happening.

Though mankind has always been interested in the future, never before has the future so seriously concerned all strata of society and so dominated the present.

A virtual tidal wave of future-oriented books have flooded the market: computer simulations, technological forecasts, scientific projections, socio-political predictions, eco-environmental extrapolations, innovative futuristic approaches, wildly original conceptual ideas, transcendental philosophical musings, theological speculations, and even science fiction.

The approaches vary, but the effects are the same: human beings, uncertain of their prospects in this overpopulated, over-missiled world of the last quarter of the twentieth century, have become obsessed with the future.

In the past decade — really since the late 1960s — a steadily increasing public interest in the future has directly paralleled the advent of serious interest by professionals in widely diverse fields. Physical scientists are predicting what will happen to the earth’s depleted resources; social scientists are predicting what will happen to man’s hypertense society; economists are predicting what will happen to man’s stagnating capacity to produce goods and services.

Forecasting the future has become serious business — and prophecy is now a respected member of the Establishment.

Parapsychology and the Occult

But it’s not only in the traditional sciences that prophecy has suddenly become culturally significant. Triggered by the downfall of man’s total confidence in technocratic materialism, the past few years have witnessed the strange and paradoxical revival of widespread interest in the supernatural.

Both in parapsychology — the scientific study of ESP (extra-sensory perception) — and in many religious, quasi-religious and occult groups, prophecy is having a progressively greater impact on the general public.

In parapsychology the technical term precognition is used to describe awareness of future events or situations by nonphysical means. Precognition is currently being seriously and intensively studied by trained investigators around the world. As a result, the number of scientists who believe that the human mind can nonphysically apprehend the future has been rapidly growing.

Though the general public is largely unconcerned with these technical (and esoteric) studies in the sciences, economics or parapsychology, public interest in prophecy is high. Increasing numbers of people gorge themselves with the virtual smorgasbord of occult prophecy — mediums, ouija boards, tarot cards, I Ching, the popular prophets like Edgar Cayce, Jean Dixon, etc., and especially astrology. How many millions consult their daily horoscope can only be estimated — but it surely must exceed by many times the number of those who read their Bibles.

For such enormous appeal to continue, one is tempted to conclude that there must really be something there — and the accuracy (albeit occasional) of occult prophecies does seem to transcend the physical.

[Note: Accuracy would not make the occult "good," only real; and not everything real is good!]

Human beings have an innate desire to know the future. In our day, this desire has almost become an obsession.

Prophecy in Religion

Many religious organizations have been quick to join the bandwagon. Some of the "new" Eastern-oriented religions (really quite old) that have recently invaded the West have...
complex and frightening prophetic ideas of the future (sometimes only fully known to insiders), often regarding their own ultimate recognition and supremacy.

Until recently, mainline Christianity has largely (and ironically) ignored prophecy — when, according to its professed scriptures, it should have been leading the pack with continuous emphasis on prophecy as instructed by its claimed founder (Matthew 24, Mark 13, Luke 21, Revelation, etc.).

However, a growing segment of fundamentalist and evangelical Christianity has recently become more concerned about prophecy — actually since 1967 when interest was substantially enhanced by the Israeli capture of the old city of Jerusalem in the Six-Day War. In the past seven years, a large number of books and magazines have been published regarding all facets of biblical prophecy. And even more recently, with the specter of worldwide economic catastrophe, and Middle East geopolitics poignantly present in most people’s daily consciousness, biblical prophecy has taken on new significance. (Even those people who vehemently reject the direct inspiration and/or the literal interpretation of the Bible are reluctantly being forced to admit that world events in the last quarter of the twentieth century will annoyingly make the Bible “seem” accurate.)

Though interest in prophecy has become universal, both the approaches to prophecy and the specific prophecies themselves widely diverge from one group to another. But strangely, the general conclusions of these widely diverse forms of prophecy converge — all agree that humanity is heading for its most calamitous, most tremendous, most perilous period of time in all human history. We are, as William Irwin Thompson put it, at the “edge of history.”

Prophecy in Prophecy

It will be a time of great confusion — religious and prophetic confusion to add to the confusion created by the economic and geopolitical chaos in the years ahead. The buzz word of the day will change from “alienation” to “hysteria.”

Bible prophecy — and now actual fact — shows that an increasingly distraught and anxious public will turn its attention to prophecy in the years ahead. Human beings, especially in catastrophic times, will desperately desire to know the future. And where there is a demand, there will be a supply: where there are buyers, there will be sellers. Prophecy will be provided, cheap and in abundance.

The last quarter of the twentieth century, as we approach the year 2000, will herald the greatest avalanche of prophetic statements, utterances and proclamations that the world has ever seen. As illogical and irrational as it would have seemed to a “logical” and “rational” society a few years ago, this is now coming to pass. To have then prophesied that prophecy itself would soon become commonplace and eagerly accepted by our modern masses would have sounded absurd. Yet prophecy now lives; it has been resurrected.

What about the current and soon-coming prophecies themselves? Some will be partly right; most will be mostly wrong. To the confusion of everybody, or almost everybody, “For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect” (Matt. 24:24).

Humanity’s best minds have advanced various themes to characterize the last quarter of the twentieth century: an energy crisis, an ecological watershed, a population-food crisis, a war-peace crossroads. They are all right. But incomplete. Prophecy, and eventually religious fanaticism on an unprecedented worldwide scale, will dominate the scene so completely that other human events will become insignificant in comparison. Long thought to be dying, religion in general and prophecy in particular will make the greatest comeback in world history.

And that’s what the Plain Truth has been saying for over 40 years. Prophecy has been one of the primary themes of the Plain Truth since its inception in February 1934; and prophecy will continue to be a primary theme of every issue in this new, more comprehensive, more urgent, more frequent format.

Subjects to be covered in future issues include: the uniqueness of the 20th century, alternative futures, incredible predictions, the rupture of history, the coming transformation, as well as all aspects of prophecy: scientific, philosophical, theological, religious, occult; the history of prophecy, the prophecy of history, when prophecies fail and the dangers of prophecy.

The Plain Truth staff will be analyzing every significant world trend and event. Personally I (and others) will be following developments in prophecy and religion, reporting them in these pages. All the forms and varieties of prophecy and religion in today’s world will be analyzed in the context of biblical prophecy.

In other words, we will be watching “prophecy in prophecy.”

The watch promises to be spectacular!
How to Survive Scarcity
by Ron Horstewell

Scarcity is not really a new word. We in the United States have practically forgotten such a term existed, but, believe it or not, it's been right there in your Webster's all along. I know; I just checked it to be sure.

Now all of a sudden the old standbys we use to describe the American economic scene — "plenty," "surplus," "growth" and the like — sound archaic. In fact, scarcity has achieved such threads proportions, at least in the minds of consumers, that we might well consider it a new word after all.

What most people don't know is that scarcity is one of the fundamental concepts behind a science (or perhaps more appropriately, an art) that's much in the news today, economics. If you browse through a high school or introductory college economics textbook, one of the first few pages the author will probably go to quite some trouble explaining that the basic concept behind economics is not money but scarcity. In fact, there will likely be a definition somewhat like that found in Samuelson's famous text:

"Economics is the study of how men and society end up choosing, with or without the use of money, to employ scarce productive resources that could have alternative uses, to produce them for consumption..."

In short, economics is the study of how men allocate scarce wealth — how they handle scarcity.

In the supposedly free market economy, if a shortage of some commodity develops, it is only logical that consumers will bid the price of that commodity upward. This is why the Mona Lisa is so valuable — because there's only one.

Or, to take a practical and recent example, if there is a partial failure of the soybean crop, then the price of soybeans and of products made from them will logically go up. People will have to either buy less soybean products or buy less of something else, a fact consumers should be quick to recognize and accept. Unfortunately they're not. Instead of acting like capitalists and realizing that soybeans, due to their new degree of scarcity are more valuable, they act like socialists and start expecting the government to bring down the price. It's always good to have a government around so you have someone to blame.

Certainly a price rise could be partially the government's fault. A price rise could also be the fault of a private interest that is so large it can partially control the market, but when a price increase is induced by a crop failure, an oil shortage, or some economically similar cause, there are only three alternatives consumers can pursue:

• Use political pressure to force the price lower. Such efforts will more than likely backfire, since, with a lower price, producers will not be motivated to produce and the scarcity conditions will persist. That's partially what happened when former President Nixon first applied price controls.

• Artificially force their own income up. If such action were possible it might do some good for the economy, however, it does little more than spread more demand. This causes the price of one product after another to rise and threatens the economy with runaway inflation.

• Accept the price rise, realizing that it means they will have no either buy less of that newly scarce commodity or less of something else in order to balance their budgets. But that's such an unsavory idea to most of us.

So it seems entirely conceivable that should the entire food production of the United States be wiped out by drought or pestilence, American housewives would be marching on Washington, with their little remaining strength, incensed that the government had gotten us into such a mess.

As painful as it may seem, the third alternative, the one that the best solution to inflation in a free economy. Just buy fewer of those items which are inflated the most but needed the least. But what of the consumer as it was meant to be used — in the marketplace, rather than on the sidewalks of the White House and Capitol Hill?

Roto-rooter Ratings
Who needs Nielsen?
A more representative rating system was discovered down at the Water Works. During advertising in the TV movie screening of Airport, city water pressure declined 28 pounds per square inch. Passengers could only muster a 22 pound p.s.i. drop, and third place went to The Good, The Bad and the Ugly with a 19 pound p.s.i. drop. That was the city's simultaneous toilet flushing, which usually struck during the commercial following the dramatic climax of the movie.

Man of Few Words
Extensive tape recordings of normal conversation reveal that 359 words make up 81 percent of all speech. The other 599,641 words in the English language appear less than once in every five utterances.

The Book Tells You Why!
The publisher of What You Should Know About Inflation regrets to announce that the old price of 95 cents should be overstamped to read $2.25. The price is too high to understand why you must pay such a high price has risen 137%.

WEEK ENDING FEB. 8, 1975
and the supporters of evolution, but also the descendants of Eve. In Genesis 1:27, the Creator God revealed basic knowledge to the first two humans He had just created. Connecting the Genesis account with the writings of Paul, Peter and John, as well as much of the Old Testament, was the same revelation of truth that the Maker had been teaching Adam and Eve.

That message covered the way to WORLD PEACE — and how it actually will yet come. It revealed the cause of all human troubles and evils. It revealed the incredible, awesome human potential that we as a species have — potential for which humanity was put here on earth. It revealed the missing dimension in knowledge! Yet all this revealed truth appears to have been completely scattered all through those four books, for a period of one thousand years. Then, in the first four books of the New Testament, it was revealed to the people of all nations the Announcement and to establish and develop programs that are meaningful, relevant and important to the nation and the people involved that they may live more full and abundant lives. Each year has been one of increased activity, and we look ahead into 1975 we realize that we will be in other countries with other people more than 75 percent of our time — spending more time in an aircraft than a professional commercial pilot.

People often ask me: “How does Mr. Armstrong do it? How can he keep up such a pace? How can a man approaching 83 years have the vitality and energy of one it his age?” In the Philippines recently, where Mr. Armstrong was interviewed by the national media and a live radio conference in Iloilo just prior to receiving an honorary doctorate degree. Mr. Armstrong admitted that the one determining factor in his vitality and comparative youth was the fact that he always had a mission to fulfill, and it is that determination to fulfill this duty that had permitted him to maintain the vigor and strength necessary for its accomplishment.

Still, it was very gratifying and inspiring to meet Maestro Artur Rubinstein recently in New York. Seldom, if ever, does Mr. Armstrong spend time with a man five years senior to him, and, in fact, the Maestro jokingly referred to Mr. Armstrong as a youngster, mere child, and reminded him that when he was 13 and Mr. Armstrong was 8 he would not have even spoken to Mr. Armstrong, the difference in their ages being so vast. Mr. Armstrong has kept his vitality and youth by dedicating his life not only to music, but also to its humanitarian aspects, using music, the universal language, as an inspiration to peoples everywhere and for bringing people happiness. Maestro Rubinstein visited Pasadena and gave a special recital at Ambassador College on January 15. If circumstances permit, plans are being readied for a television production which will show how both the Maestro and Mr. Armstrong have, in their separate spheres and in their own ways, brought so much to mankind, and are making daily important contributions to peace and better understanding among peoples everywhere.

Immediately after the concert Mr. Armstrong and I departed for our first extensive trip of 1975, a year that will include public appearances in major cities around the world before thousands of people, as well as important interviews with world leaders in these troubled capitals. In this column I will endeavor to give you the benefit of my personal observations of these world leaders and Mr. Armstrong, as well as my comments from time to time on the significance of events as they have occurred and seemingly will occur in the near future. Our first meeting of 1975 will be with King Hussein of Jordan and will take place immediately after both the Shah of Iran and King Faisal of Saudi Arabia have paid official state visits to Amman.

Then a Satan-inspired conspiracy arose among Gentiles living in the first century in the country of Samaria, north of Jerusalem, to SUPPRESS the message Christ had brought. Instead, they preached another gospel (see Galatians 1:6-7. If Corinthians 11:4) about the person of the messenger, Jesus Christ. It is true, what is called “the gospel” has been preached ever since — first, when it was preached to the world and is so being preached today — but his message is not, except in the Plain Truth and the Literature of the Worldwide Church of God. Actually, Jesus’ message — that revelation of the missing dimension in knowledge — was the original true gospel. But men living in the very first century, supressed it, and others, each generation deceived and following the tradition taught them, in the passing generation, have followed their exception ever since! But they did not know: they were deceived and else they could not have been deceived.

So it is, even as foretold in the Bible (Revelation 12:9), that ALL NATIONS ARE DECEIVED TODAY.

It’s absolutely amazing! It’s astounding! But it seems that each generation since the first century, taught and indoctrinated by those of the preceding generation, have followed in the deceptive tradition. Those in the Christian religion who have looked into the Bible have tried to make their inherited tradition square with the Bible. So it has become common to think the Bible must not be taken literally. They do not believe what it says.


In this first issue of the new Plain Truth appears the first installment of the book I am writing, cutting out from the Bible this revealed MISSING DIMENSION IN KNOWLEDGE — revealing the INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL. It MAKES SENSE — and no other explanation or revelation does! It will continue, serially, once each month.

Meanwhile I continue proclaiming this same message in major public appearance campaigns in capitals around the world.

The INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL...
Only a few months prior to the 1973 Yom Kippur war, Western experts confidently predicted the Arab oil producers would never act multilaterally to use their oil as a political weapon against supporters of Israel. Leading magazines with such reassuring statements were still in fairly current circulation when the Arab oil producers did just that. Suddenly, it seemed that virtually unknown Arab sheikdoms, some of them barely entering the 20th century in development, were holding a scimitar directly over the jugular of much of the developed world.

Western Europe, almost totally dependent on oil imports, and Japan, wholly so, were quick to get the message. Diplomats scrambled to convince the Arabs of their governments' sincerest intentions to moderate their positions toward Arab countries, while stiffening their policies toward Israel.

Perhaps never before in history had the combined impact of embargo, followed by quadrupled prices of an essential commodity, brought such undreamed of results. No one could argue, when all the facts were known, that the Arab oil producers were receiving too little for their oil, or that at least some significant price hikes were long overdue. But the sudden quadrupling of oil prices sent country after country into a balance of payments deficit. In country after country soaring oil costs have dealt equally cruel blows. Italy and Britain have been posting deficits of enormous proportions, up to 2 billion dollars per month. How do such countries pay for their desperately needed energy requirements?

They borrow. Britain has borrowed from central European banks, as well as directly from Iran. But even borrowing has its limits, not only from unmanageable economies at home, but even from international sources equally concerned about the viability of those sound economies. Worried about the desperately shaky economy of Britain, Saudi Arabia recently served notice it would no longer accept sterling in payment for its oil.

So, while the Western industrial powers were incurring massive record-breaking deficits, the Arab oil producers were collecting record-breaking surpluses. For 1973, even including the last few months of that year following the Yom Kippur war, the oil-exporting countries were running surpluses of around $5 billion. By year's end, 1974, the figure had leapt to $65 billion.

At the same time, the eight major industrial nations were running up a total balance of payments deficit of $31 billion, while the same countries had achieved a $19 billion surplus in 1973.

So far, the only practical remedy has appeared to be borrowing back — recycling — the largest share of funds accrued by the oil producers.

Now, suddenly, even that picture has changed. The reason? Recent gold and monetary shuffling.

President Ford and President Giscard d'Estaing of France reached some significant understanding on the official price of oil at their meetings in the Caribbean recently, which brought immediate response in the form of thinly veiled threats from some oil producing nations.

Obviously, any bilateral or unilateral action on gold policy by nations with significant gold reserves would immediately result in devaluation of such nations' currencies, making them far more competitive in payments for imports.

The Shah of Iran, earlier quoted as saying he would knock down a total oil embargo in response to any such action, was later "explained" by a government spokesman in more moderate terms. But the Arabs were clearly worried, nevertheless. So long as the billions continued to flow into Arab hands, so long as the Western economies continued to wrestle with unacceptable "sieve economies," the Arabs seemed content.

With the possibility of sudden reform of gold policy, all that was changed.

In proposed an overall international agreement on gold and money policies.

Saddam Hussein, deputy chairman of the Ruling Revolution Command Council, said, "Any state, or group of states that takes steps that will worsen international inflation will be held responsible for them," meaning the United States and France, primarily since a dramatic shift from $42 an ounce for gold, as it is officially pegged, to, say, in the neighborhood of $200 an ounce, would immediately make the dollar enormously more competitive in buying power. Should this occur, it would seem the Arabs are threatening one of two actions, or both.

They could once again clamp down on oil exports, even to as little as 30% of present shipments, or they could simply raise current prices. According to the Arabs, the Western nations, up to 2 billion dollars per month, of Western Europe or of the super-giant of industry, Japan, will be found bereft of options in solving the continual drain of their financial reserves into Arab hands.

What 1975 may bring in the Middle East could quite literally be the spark which ultimately ignites World War III, unless something presently unforeseen prevents it.
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Food Taboos

Stronger Than Hunger

by Charles Vinson

The ultimate tragedy in the world food shortage is that some of the hunger has been self-imposed.

Africa, for example, sustains nearly as many cattle outside the Sahara as does North America — not high-grade beef and dairy cattle, of course, but animals well adapted to a tropical environment. These cattle are not generally used as a source of food.

Stretched across Africa's misdirection is the non-milk zone. In it all animal milk has traditionally been considered a vile body secretion as repulsive as urine; hence it is a sin to drink it. Generally it is used only as a potion by sorcerers. In some areas only adult males or other than children are allowed to drink milk. Healthy cattle are often kept as a status symbol, but not as a food source.

A similar situation occurs in East and South Asia, although milkable animals are abundant. Cattle owners have been known to refuse to kill an animal even though family members were starving.

The Indian subcontinent, with nearly one fifth of the world's cattle, is probably the most milk-shamed, prudish and puritanical area in the world. Unfortunately, cattle are sacred to the Hindus, India's dominant religious body. Animals, rather than people, are commonly fed special foods and honored with sacrifices of other animals. Cattle roam through city streets unattended, overgraze the land and become pests and vermin to humans and farmers. Further, while most Hindus reject beef, many will eat other food of animal origin whatsoever because their religion forbids the taking of any animal life.

Improving International Conferences

by Jeff Culkins

By tradition, major international conferences are nearly always staged in historical, cultural and pleasure-oriented resort cities. The aim in the run between sporadic speeches, Milton Friedman, the famed economist, once suggested that international monetary crises were deliberately manipulated by the heads of various central banks so that they would have a good excuse to hold a meeting in the Bahamas or Rio de Janeiro.

Assembling to discuss such urgent issues as war, peace, or world hunger, delegates usually find serendipity and sometimes roundabouts. The comfortable atmosphere produces three unfortunate effects: (a) the participants stall and delay in order to meet again next year — in another Faa City, (b) the participants are so worn out from extra-curricular activities, they quite often become incoherent and illogical, and (c) the holiday atmosphere created for the occasion obscures the gravity of the real life-and-death issues at hand.

Last November's largely unsuccessful World Food Conference in Rome was just such a study in contradictions. Delegates consumed generous portions of smoked salmon, fettucine with truffles, and steak in wine sauce — all while attempting to mall over the fate of the estimated 500 million humans poised on the brink of starvation.

The menu posted at the conference center itself offered a lavish array of food for the first day's lunch: four varieties of pasta, four kinds of meat, a choice of vegetables, dessert and wine, beer, mineral water, or cola drinks. All in all the display ran up a $5.1 million food and beverage bill.

Solutions?

Delegate inertia might be cured by a more appropriate choice of city for inaugural sessions. The setting is extremely important. For example, the following recommendations are offered:

1. The next population conference should be held in Dacca, Bangladesh.
2. The next food conference should be convened in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with a preliminary conference in Calcutta, India.
3. A meeting on international terrorism, would be most appropriately held in Bled, Northern Ireland, or Madrid, Italy.
4. Strategic arms limitation talks should be held in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The pre-conference planning is also important. Food conferences should require that each delegate fast a minimum of three days at the conference. Preliminary conferences would be much more effective if no housing assignments were made, thereby allowing delegates to sleep on the streets. CALcutta style. Peace conferences should ban military pageantry — no fanfare. This bare-boned approach might help deflate chauvinism and make all participants — regardless of race and nationality — realize they are really all brothers under the skin.

The chicken was first domesticated in Southeast Asia; yet today, chicken flesh and eggs are often avoided by the more primitive inhabitants in that region and in some parts of Africa too. Eggs are equated with excrement. Chickens may be used for feathers, cock-fighting, sacrifice and magic, but not for food. Many believe that eating chickens or eggs destroys fertility or hampers sexual performance. Some men believe eating poultry products makes them effeminate.

Fish is an inexpensive and reasonably plentiful source of protein in many areas. Yet large numbers of ill-fed peoples reject certain or all kinds of fish. In parts of Africa it is thought that fish are unclean or possessed of evil spirits. Eating them allegedly invites disaster. The taboo is so strong that many church leaders, rather than prepare fish for employers.

Simple unwillingness to change eating habits is one of the most prevalent food taboos. Most people naturally refuse to include in their diet any foods they know to be illegal. Because an outsider insists they ought to. Starving, non-acclimated Asians have in times shunned gifts of wheat or millet because they weren't used to cooking them. That may sound food-wise but it is a food taboos.

Women avoid them, thinking they might cause dwarfism, deformity or character flaws in their sucking children.

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The pre-conference planning is also important. Food conferences should require that each delegate fast a minimum of three days at the conference. Preliminary conferences would be much more effective if no housing assignments were made, thereby allowing delegates to sleep on the streets. CALcutta style. Peace conferences should ban military pageantry — no fanfare. This bare-boned approach might help deflate chauvinism and make all participants — regardless of race and nationality — realize they are really all brothers under the skin.
Parents Smoke—Children Suffer

Mounting evidence indicates that parents who smoke expose their children to numerous health hazards.

Researchers at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine have found that children of smoking parents are subjected to double the risk of death from pneumonia or bronchitis during the first year of life. The London

The BIBLE—A Contemporary Book?

by Lester Grabbe

I recently returned from the 110th annual convention of the Society of Biblical Literature, held in Washington, D.C. Hundreds of scholars from North America and abroad gathered for five days to read and discuss papers, conduct seminars, consult on professional matters, tour the city, and be abreast of the latest research by their colleagues.

The basic message of salvation has never been obscure. The way of life which leads to eternal life has always shone clearly from the pages of that book of books.

But in such an ancient piece of literature, there are many questions concerning text and form, which help keep the young and forever new. There are differences of approach to the Bible and differences of opinion about its origin, preservation and continued value. But the majority of biblical scholars, whether liberal or conservative, are convinced of its relevance to the 20th century.

The Society of Biblical Literature promotes research into various disciplines relating to biblical study. Sections and seminars were devoted to such diverse topics as Pauline Studies, Septuagint and Cognate Literature, Studia Apologetica of the Apostles, Early Rabbinic Literature, Midrash, Form Criticism, Textual Criticism, Masoretic Studies, Hebrew and Cognate Literatures, and Targumic Studies. While some of these may sound somewhat esoteric to the average man, they all have potential value for a better understanding of the Bible.

The shirt-sleeve sessions of the society are a prime source of interest to scholars and professional theologians. But from those academic discussions come new understandings which filter down into the commentaries, religious magazines, and finally to the religious public. A biblical truth may have its life in the way it may have had its origin in an archaeological dig as well as an additional dimension to the midrashic efforts of a Uguritic scholar pore over texts of a long forgotten people.

The Bible lives! Its very vivacity is witnessed by our entire modern Western world with roots deeply embedded in the Judeo-Christian heritage. Even those who want to overthrow the Bible cannot deny its own heritage.

The pages of the Plain Truth continually demonstrate how the biblical message is not only relevant, but ever vitai, to contemporary man. Future issues will also carry articles showing how modern research and scholarship contribute to making that message more lucid and more universal.

No Reckon for God in the World's First Atheistic State

by Gerhard Marx

One of the basic freedoms guaranteed by the American constitution and practiced by other Western nations is the freedom of religion. The freedom to embrace the faith of one’s choice and live in a country where this privilege is respected is one that should be a part of every individual’s life. But where is the person who doesn’t have the freedom to worship as he or she wishes?

Just a “Little White Lie”?

by Ted Herlofson

Lying and dishonesty are commonplace in today’s “sophisticated” lifestyle. We hear and read lies so often that very early in life we cease thinking of them as such. They become an integral part of our existence. To think that a small lie could be all that important in the sophisticated seventies is a concept that is almost quaint. It’s an idea that is so old-fashioned that it is useless to recite the last time you heard—or told—one.

Still, it is obvious that we do find them insidious; the glib politician making campaign promises he has no intention of keeping, or the fast-talking salesman assuring you his product will last a lifetime when it obviously won’t last a year. In such cases, we usually hope rather than believe.

Other forms of lies are less obvious, more innocent appearing: the community planning issues with its ability to slant and shape the news; television, radio, and television that are designed to build believability; or the hero of your favorite television thriller who lies to entrap a gang of hoodlums.

During the Nixon administration, the two highest political offices in the United States were emptied, due to the break-in at the Watergate. Many in that administration had been so entrapped in their own web of lies that there was no other recourse but to leave office.

There simply is no such thing as a little white lie. Whether it’s a great big dirty black lie or an intentional shading of the truth, degree is incidental. A lie is a lie is a lie. It is an intent to deceive.

Unless each individual comes to the place where he or she is willing to speak the truth, God says he will never enter into covenants. To point the person, God inspired the double emphasis in the book of Deuteronomy that those seven things he hates most. Lying is mentioned twice (Proverbs 6:16-19).

God loathes deceit, lies and hypocrisy that taint the voice of truth. Begin, right now, talking, thinking and living a life of integrity. Here is always the best policy.

The 10 Commandments—Backbone of Western Law and Morality

by John R. Schroeder

Most of the other artifacts of the Old Testament Jewish state were discarded in the Christian era. The ten commandments in the first five books of Moses, however, have been preserved and used by the Western world for over two thousand years. They were the law codes of ancient Israel, the ancient Israelite nation which was later to become the nation of the Jews.

For deep insight into the historical significance of the commandments, you need the wisdom of God who inspired the law codes. The commandments are the law codes of ancient Israel.

The Ten Commandments exist in ten separate, distinct and independent places in the Old Testament.

The Ten Commandments are the backbone of Western law and morality.

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Wayne Cole

Minneapolis, Minn.
Minneapolis Convention Center
April 16-18
Garner Ted Armstrong

Fargo, N.D. Civic Auditorium
April 25-26
Sherwin McMichael

Pittsburgh, Pa. Syria Mosque
May 2-3
Garner Ted Armstrong

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