THE NEXT GERMAN CHANCELLOR?
CANDIDATE STRAUSS TALKS WITH MR. ARMSTRONG
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ABOUT OUR COVER

In April 1970, Franz Josef Strauss (newly announced candidate for the chancellorship in next year's West German elections) visited the campus of Ambassador College in Pasadena, California. There he met with Herbert W. Armstrong, shown at right on our cover. For the significance of Mr. Strauss's candidacy, read the article on page 4 of this issue.

Photo by Alfred Hennig

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Why so many different religions in the world? No two agree. Yet I suppose most feel that theirs is the one and only right religion.

And then there are the millions, religious and nonreligious, who, through modern education, accept the theory of evolution. Evolution is a theory unproven, and by its very nature unprovable. Therefore it is another faith or belief, even though most of its adherents may not think of it as a religion.

Why do people believe whatever they do? How did they come to believe it? Do you know that most people never stop to ask themselves those questions? Of course most who accept a religion were simply brought up to believe the particular religion of their parents, or of their part of the world. They never made an examination of it, or of other religions, to prove whether it is true. And that is true of most who accept the evolutionary theory of origins. That is, they were taught it in school — in college or university — and they simply went along with the others who were being taught it, and simply assumed it to be truth.

But something must be lacking in all religions! For none has really made this a better world. None has shown us the way to a lasting world peace. None has shown us the way to universal happiness, prosperity, and abundant well-being.

Not one of these religions—nor the evolutionists—nor modern science—has been able to explain why man is as he is—with the almost awesome human mind that can send men to the moon and back, but can’t solve humanity’s problems here on earth.

Do you know that there is a source that does explain all this? There is a source that can be proved to be true — and the only source that can give us the answers. It is the source the Christian religion is supposed to follow, but doesn’t! It is a source not followed by the Eastern religions—a source rejected by modern science. This very rejection is the reason that modern science offers no solution for humanity’s greater problems—the way to lasting world peace—the way to universal happiness, prosperity, and abundant well-being.

You can prove the existence of God, the Creator of all, the Ruler of all, and the Great Educator, whose revelation of basic knowledge is the foundation of all knowledge, understanding and wisdom.

You can prove the authenticity and the authority of the revelation of that Supreme God—which revelation we call the Bible. Why not write for the free booklet titled Does God Exist?

Why is there so much missing knowledge? Or, why is the most vital and important knowledge missing? And on the other hand, why is there so much misknowledge—so many fallacies, fables, untruths being taught in the guise of fact or of truth?

Let me tell you, when you really let the true answer to those questions come into your mind, you’ll be on the way to understanding this whole riddle of life—and the reason for the really terrible and sickening conditions that exist on this earth today.

Let me tell you some of the vital factors of knowledge that have been hidden from this world—yes, hidden from the world’s leading educators, hidden from modern science, hidden from all religions, hidden from statesmen, heads of state, and the world’s rulers, hidden from the public—yes, and hidden from you!

One vital factor of knowledge hidden from the world is knowledge of the cause of a lasting world peace—and, conversely, knowledge of the cause of the lack of it!

Another vital factor of knowledge hidden from the world is the true meaning of life—the purpose for which humanity was put here on the earth. Another is the reason why man can invent such marvelous machines, can fly to the moon, yet can’t solve his own problems here on earth.

The Bible is our Maker’s (Continued on page 38)
Part Seven: 7 PROOFS OF GOD’S TRUE CHURCH

Where is the one and only true Church today—the Church founded by Jesus Christ in A.D. 31? Seven major eye-opening proofs identify it unmistakably.

by Herbert W. Armstrong

The first five proofs of the true Church appeared in the February, March, April, and May Plain Truths. The first and second installments of proof number six appeared in the June/July and August issues. In this article—part seven of the series—proof number six continues.

Proof Six (Continued):

WHAT AND WHY THE CHURCH?

What about the “loner” Christian who says, “I will serve Christ in my own way”? What about the one who leaves God’s Church to have his own private relation with Christ—to get his own salvation—without giving his part of the Church’s effort to send the true gospel into ALL THE WORLD?

Or, what about the one who follows a man because of that man’s personality, charisma or attractiveness, or some other group?

Stop and THINK!

Is Christ going to marry a number of differing groups, not in complete harmony with each other—yet all “professing CHRIST”?

Jesus said, “He that is not with me [and since He is the Head of God’s one and only Church, He plainly meant with Him where He is working—in God’s one Church] is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad” (Matthew 12:30).

Jesus Christ is going to marry THE ONE AND ONLY TRUE CHURCH—not a number of scattered groups or scattered individuals.

God’s law and way of life may be summed up in the one word “LOVE”—which is outflowing—the way of “GIVE”—while Satan’s way is that of “GET.” The one who tries to get his salvation apart from the one Church Christ is going to marry is on the “GET” way. Those loyal in the Church are GIVING of their prayers, loyalty, encouragement and support to Christ’s chosen apostle in GIVING the good news to the world—its only hope!

In other words, he that seeks to get his own salvation without giving his part in the team effort of the Church—or who follows a man or some other group—is surely NOT BUILDING ON THE ONE SURE FOUNDATION of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone.

Again, “Except God build the house, they labour in vain that build it . . .” (Psalm 127:1).

The Church is the HOUSEHOLD OF God and a BUILDING—the glorious Temple to which Christ shall come!

How Well Organized?

Notice again how well organized is the one true Church for getting the GREATEST COMMISSION to the whole world:

“In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord” (Ephesians 2:21). Again: “From whom the whole body fitly joined together and com-
had long before been taken out of their land as slaves. A comparatively small contingent was sent back to Jerusalem 70 years after Judah's captivity by King Cyrus of Persia under governorship of Zerubbabel to build the second temple. Some of these Jews were still in Judea when Malachi wrote, but the two nations, as a whole composing ancient Israel, were not there. This was not Mosaic Law—this was prophecy for our day!

Malachi continued, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Eternal, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (verse 10).

Jesus Christ is going to marry the one and only true Church—not a number of scattered groups or scattered individuals.

That is not "Old Testament stuff," as God's true Church KNOWS—and because it has TITHEED, it has had God's blessing and prosperity.

Speaking of tithes, Jesus said, "... these ought ye to have done..." (Matthew 23:23); Hebrews 7:4-12 binds tithing in the New Testament. I Corinthians 9:1-14 definitely upholds the principle of tithing and giving.

Knowledge of God's Master Plan

Of all the religions—and of all the denominations and sects in Christianity—God's true Church alone has understanding of the master plan of God for His spiritual creation of man. This is forcibly reminded every year in the Church by the seven annual holy days and festivals Christ instituted in the Church.

Small as the Church is in numbers—Jesus spoke of it as the "little flock" and said that as they had persecuted Him so would they His Church—nevertheless the Church's great annual autumnal Feast of Tabernacles is the largest church conclave, convention or festival held on earth!

As God made the weekly Sabbath for man (Mark 2:27) when man was made, so He gave His Church seven annual Sabbaths and seven annual festivals when He first established the Church. In Acts 7:38, you will find the Old Testament congregation of Israel called "the church in the wilderness." It was composed of the human-born children of Israel; the Church of the New Testament is composed of the begotten children of God. As the Old Testament church was called the congregation of Israel, so the New Testament Church is called the Church of God.

To the Church—both Old Testament under Moses and New Testament under Christ—God gave these annual occasions to emphatically remind His people, annually, of His master plan.

No other church or religion, to our knowledge, observes these festivals or knows their tremendous MEANING!

It has been stated before that as the physical creation of man began with the physical Adam, so the spiritual creation of man begins with the spiritual Christ.

The first of these annual festivals is the Passover, observed on the eve of the fourteenth day of the first month of the sacred year. This is the year's most solemn service, on the anniversary—as a memorial—of the death of Christ to reconcile those called to God.

This is immediately followed by the next seven days—the Festival of Unleavened Bread. All leaven must be put out of members' houses, and nothing leavened may be eaten. Leaven is a symbol of sin. It emphatically reminds God's called-out ones daily for seven days through their stomachs that we must put sin out of our lives. Also it is a memorial, on the (Continued on page 44)
FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS MAKES HIS BID

West Germany's "man for emergencies" is in the running for the chancellorship next year. His campaign against Helmut Schmidt, says London's Daily Telegraph, promises to be a "titanic duel."

I hope the German people will never be in such bad shape that they think they have to elect me federal chancellor.

Bavaria's number-one political figure made that oft-quoted statement to the West German news magazine Der Spiegel in May 1971.

"Good times" are still here for West Germany, at least in comparison with the sluggish economies of the rest of the free world. But perhaps Franz Josef Strauss, described by Newsweek magazine as "without doubt the strongest single political talent in Germany," senses something that his countrymen are not yet aware of—that rough days are just around the corner, and that his "hour" is about to arrive.

Wins Out Over Younger Rival

After a tense seven-hour-long inter-party caucus on Monday, July 2, the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Socialist Union parliamentary candidates voted 135 to 102 in favor of Strauss as their chancellor candidate. Strauss, who will be 64 in September, won out over his rival CDU favorite, Ernst Albrecht, the fast-rising 49-year-old premier of Lower Saxony.

The outcome was a slap in the face for Helmut Kohl, national chairman of the CDU (and unsuccessful chal-
lenger to Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in 1976) who had championed Albrecht's cause.

The Strauss victory was attributed in no small degree to widespread dissatisfaction within the conservative coalition ranks. Kohl was often considered "faceless," though his loss in 1976 was a close one. One British newspaper said the Strauss nomination was a clear case of the tail wagging the dog, since the Bavarian CSU wing of the coalition, run by Strauss, has only 53 deputies in the Bonn Bundestag, compared with 200 for the CDU, which covers the rest of the country.

But it is doubtful whether the tail had to do too much wagging. Disenchanted Christian Democrats began rallying to Strauss as soon as he threw his hat into the ring, some five weeks previous to the party vote. It is obvious that they wanted a "strong-man" image to present to the country instead of the weakness and disunity that has pervaded CDU national headquarters in Bonn in recent years.

"One can think of Strauss as one wishes," editorialized the Hamburg daily Die Welt on July 4, "but scarcely anyone will contradict the thesis that, with him, the [CDU/CSU] Union has selected its most competent politician as federal chancellor Schmidt's challenger."

But Can He Win?

The big question now, of course, is how Bavaria's minister president (governor) will fare in the big contest next year against the popular Schmidt.

There is no doubt that if the election were to be held in the very near future, Strauss's chances would be two—slim and none. One recent public opinion poll indicated that the Bavarian challenger would get only 31 percent of the vote, with 58 percent going to the Chancellor.

But mid-summer 1979 is not October 1980 (when the national elections are scheduled to be held). Much can happen between now and then—and, looking at world conditions, especially with regard to skyrocketing oil prices and a declining world (and probably by then West German) economy, a marked shift in Strauss's favor will very likely occur.
This prospect was examined by the British newsmagazine The Economist in its July 7, 1979 edition: "Mr. Strauss has always seen himself as a saviour to whom the German nation would turn in extremes. Admittedly, on the economic front, with real growth expected to run at about 4% this year, and inflation at less than 4%, Germany can hardly be said to be in extremes now. But OPEC's latest oil squeeze will make Germany's economy, like everybody else's, look worse next year. That will not help Mr. Schmidt; and it may put a different complexion on Mr. Strauss's uninhibited pro-nuclear [power] views.

"The east-west context may also look different by October next year. The western alliance is just starting to wake up to the dangers of a dozen years of Soviet rearmament, and of too blithe an acceptance of the Soviet definition of detente. Mr. Strauss's anti-Soviet convictions may seem to lack popular appeal in Germany at the moment. But by October next year...a clarion call for the defense of the west, and Mr. Strauss is good at clarion calls, could be a vote-getter then."

The critical importance of world events over the next year was also examined by Theo Sommer, writing in the German weekly Die Zeit, July 6, 1979: "Who says that Strauss is really going to lose the congressional elections? Yes, the polls speak against his victory.... But what would happen if the economic development would escape the grip of the chancellor? In case inflation and unemployment would rise next year, economic growth would diminish, with every gas pump becoming an advertising sign against the coalition government. What if his party would continue to move away from Helmut Schmidt more toward the left? [Then] the Free Democrats would swim toward the right.... Then we would have chancellor Strauss."

It is known that Schmidt's Social Democrats would like to move the election forward in the year. They believe that Bonn's economy will progressively decline through 1980, working to Strauss's advantage. But it is unlikely they will be able to succeed in any such move. The federal president has the power to set the election date. The catch is that, since May 23, West Germany has had a new president, Karl Carstens, a Christian Democrat. Carstens also happens to be a good friend of Strauss. Significantly, Strauss announced his candidacy the day after Carstens was elected president.

From Disgrace to Kingmaker

There are some West Germans who describe the Bavarian strong man as a Stehauflmaennchen, one of those tumbler-toys, rounded and weighted at the bottom, which, no matter how often knocked over, bounces right back again. He certainly has had his share of ups and downs.

Franz Josef Strauss was born on September 6, 1915. As a young man he excelled both in athletics and academic activity. He was Bavaria's junior cycling champion in addition to being the most brilliant classical student of his generation. During World War II, he was conscripted into the German army, serving mainly on the eastern front. Unlike several post-war West German leaders, Strauss has a completely unblemished non-Nazi past, never having been a Nazi Party member.

After the war, Strauss was a founding member of the Bundestag (Parliament) in 1949; minister of portfolio in Konrad Adenauer's cabinet at age 38; minister for atomic questions in 1955; and defense minister from 1956-62, during which time he presided over the forging of the new German army.

It was in 1962 that Strauss suffered his most severe personal setback. He was held responsible for police raids on the offices of the Hamburg news magazine Der Spiegel, which had published an article on NATO, allegedly betraying state secrets. In the ensuing uproar, Strauss was accused of lying to the Bundestag and had to resign from office in disgrace.

The incident would have destroyed lesser men. Strauss tumbled so low that virtually no public figures took his side. He went into retreat in his native Bavaria, seeking the advice of Catholic priests and his wife. He analyzed his past mistakes, determining how to rebuild his career without making the same mistakes.

In 1966, the "new Strauss," still leader of the CSU, was instrumental in toppling Dr. Ludwig Erhard's CDU/FDP government (1963-1966). Strauss's Bavarian CSU engineered the victory of Kurt Kiesinger over Erhard, as well as guaranteeing Strauss a place in the new government, called the "Grand Coalition" of Christian and Social Democrats (CDU/SPD). Die Welt said: "Strauss was in reality the kingmaker."

Thus in 1966, Strauss returned to the government as finance minister for the next three years until Social Democrat Willy Brandt formed a new coalition government with Walter Scheel and his Free Democrats in October 1969.

Visit to Pasadena

After leaving the government, Dr. Strauss (he has a number of honorary doctorates) resumed his world (Continued on page 42)
Otto von Habsburg, 66, the eldest son of the last Austro-Hungarian emperor, was elected June 10 as one of West Germany's 81 representatives to the enlarged and strengthened European Parliament in Strasbourg, France. His victory at the polls could have a wide-ranging effect on the future of the entire European continent.

Von Habsburg's candidacy was one of the main issues in the election campaign leading to the June balloting, in which voters in the nine nations of the European Community went to the polls to choose, for the first time, directly elected candidates to the European Parliament. He is possibly the most controversial of all the 410 members who will enter the new assembly.

The election of the one-time archduke resulted from a 60 percent victory by the Christian Social Union (CSU) slate in Bavaria. The CSU, led by controversial politician Franz-Josef Strauss, is the Bavarian branch of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), the conservative opposition party in West Germany. Strauss, a long-time good friend of von Habsburg, strongly endorsed his candidacy.

NEWLY ELECTED representative Otto von Habsburg (center) is pictured with his father—Emperor Karl of Austria-Hungary—and with the 1000-year-old crown of the Holy Roman Empire.

Von Habsburg's candidacy, however, did not go uncontested. The Social Democratic Party (SPD), in power in Bonn under the leadership of Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, vigorously attacked von Habsburg, charging that he was unfit to be a representative of West German democracy and labeling him a "racist," a "reactionary," and a "monster." Schmidt termed him "a bad visiting card for Germany."

Who is this man who has drawn such heated accusations and generated such widespread controversy? Though fairly well known on the Continent, von Habsburg is little known in the United States and elsewhere. In months to come, however,
his views may well cause the entire world to stand up and take notice of the dramatic developments unfolding on the European Continent.

Former Archduke

Just to look at him, von Habsburg does not seem very “menacing.” Lean, bald on top, with a graying moustache, he is mild-looking and bears a pleasant smile and demeanor. He immediately strikes one as being intelligent and cultured. Yet many who have met him comment that he exudes a sense of tremendous energy, drive, and purpose.

Otto von Habsburg was born in Austria in 1912, the eldest son of Emperor Charles (or Karl) and Empress Zita of Austria-Hungary. Charles lost the thrones of Austria and Hungary when the Central Powers were defeated at the end of World War I—only two years after he had succeeded his grand-uncle, Emperor Franz Josef I.

Exiled to Switzerland in March 1919, Charles was formally deposed by the Austrian National Assembly one month later, at which time all the family properties in Austria were confiscated. In 1921 he twice tried to regain his throne, but failed. In 1922 Charles died in exile on the island of Madeira, and his eldest son, Archduke Otto, assumed the leadership of the imperial family at age 10.

In 1932 Hitler offered Otto the opportunity to return to the Habsburg throne if he accepted the Nazi ideology and promoted it in Austria. Otto flatly refused. But his ambition to regain the Habsburg throne did not wane. In 1936, he declared, “I am ready at any hour to return to the Fatherland.” But in 1938, Adolf Hitler annexed Austria to Germany in the infamous Anschluss (“union”). Otto spent the major portion of the war in Washington, D.C.

Today, von Habsburg no longer pursues his royal claim. In 1961 he renounced the restoration of the Austrian throne, resulting (in 1966)—after a number of legal and political battles—in his receiving permission from the Austrian Supreme Court to reenter Austria. He now has an apartment in Innsbruck for use on visits there.

Last year, von Habsburg was granted West German citizenship by Bavarian authorities. He explained in an interview with the Austrian Broadcasting Network that he had sought it because it offered him the opportunity to work for a unified Europe; specifically, to run for a German seat in the elections for the European Parliament. (Only citizens of the nine member nations of the EEC were eligible as candidates. Austria is not a member.) At the same time, von Habsburg received permission from authorities in southern Austria to keep his Austrian passport.

Von Habsburg is married to a German princess, Regina of Saxe-Meiningen. They have seven children—five daughters and two sons, ranging in age from 15 to 26. His eldest son, Charles, is 19. Their home lies about 25 minutes by train outside Munich in the village of Pöcking, not far from the Austrian border.

Among other achievements, von Habsburg has earned a doctorate in political science from the University of Louvain in Belgium. He lives mainly as a writer and journalist, producing a regular column expounding his conservative views on world affairs. The column is syndicated to newspapers and magazines worldwide. He has also occasionally written articles for the Saturday Evening Post. He is in constant demand as a speaker, and is a wide traveler, speaking seven languages fluently. He is the author of over a dozen books on political science, world affairs and history, including The Social Order of Tomorrow and Politics for the Year 2000.

Von Habsburg says he has no regrets about giving up his imperial claims. Though he prefers to be called simply “Dr. Habsburg,” many of his supporters—especially elderly Habsburg loyalists— persists in referring to him as Kaiserliche Hoheit (“Imperial Highness”). He never uses the title of “Archduke,” which he once bore as a youth.

United Europe

Regarding the charges made against him by Germany’s Social Democrats and others, von Habsburg recently observed: “If they are going so hard on me, it is because they can’t handle someone who is on the conservative side and who has no Nazi past. If they can’t do better than the sneering undertone they employ for me, then I feel sad for them. This sounds rather arrogant, but I suppose I could turn out to be an important part of the Parliament.”

During his recent election campaign for the European Parliament, von Habsburg delivered some 165 speeches in the towns and villages of Upper Bavaria, traveling more than 35,000 miles in campaigning. The main message in each of his speeches was simple: The threat from Soviet Communism is ever present and constantly growing; countries of Western Europe must find a new resolve and a new unity to meet the threat. A brake must be applied quickly to the foolhardy policy of detente.

The main theme of von Habsburg’s life has been the urgent need for European unity. He views the recent European election as “a starting point toward a greater Europe.” During the campaign he said he would attempt, if elected, to represent not only the views of Bavaria, but of West Germany and “the whole of Europe” in the European Parliament. He emphasized that it should not be forgotten by the Parliament that Europe is a divided continent.

In a recent interview with the weekly West German newsmagazine Der Spiegel, von Habsburg observed: “The Europe of the nine is a starting point. Just like the Italian unification in the 19th century started with the part of a state, Piedmont, so shall the greater Europe evolve from this Europe of the nine.”

 Asked “Where, then, does your Europe end?” von Habsburg answered: “It extends to the borders of Russia.” To the question, “Does that mean that you intend to expel the Soviets from Eastern Europe?” von Habsburg replied: “That means that we have a feeling of solidarity for the Europeans on the other side of the Yalta line, that we have to stand up for the right of self-determination of these Europeans with all peaceful means. It is for us an unbearable thought that decolonization is appli-
cable exclusively for Africa and Asia and not also for Europe.”

In an interview some years earlier, von Habsburg asserted: “Right now politically the only thing one can do in the West is to see to it that the West be united as fast as possible— that we have the United States of Europe here, in order to give all those nations [in Eastern Europe] who are now separated from Europe an alternative when the time comes—God knows when it’s going to come, but it will come one day.”

Von Habsburg is also president of the Pan-European Union, an organization dedicated to a united Europe imbued with traditional values. The movement seeks to motivate public opinion toward the goal of full European unification.

One-Man Rule

On other topics, von Habsburg’s views are equally outspoken. On the subject of European security, he strongly advocates less reliance by Western Europe on American military muscle, citing the negative impact of the Vietnam defeat on U.S. resolve and reliability.

On the United Nations, he has declared that the organization is dominated by “anti-European illiterates, despots and cannibals.” He has said that he is “a full supporter of Rhodesia” (and a “great admirer” of outgoing Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith) and “a supporter of not attacking South Africa.”

Possibly von Habsburg’s most controversial suggestion has been his recipe for dealing with national emergencies. In the April 1978 issue of his conservative publication Zeitbühne, he suggested that in certain emergency situations (such as nuclear blackmail or other major acts of terrorism) governments should let a strongman take over for a period of nine months, allowing him to suspend laws and “take all measures necessary for the maintenance of the life of the population.”

As could be expected, vocal criticism of this one-man-rule scheme was swift in coming. Von Habsburg has answered his critics by saying that he was “just throwing out ideas.” He also notes that his critics fail to mention that he insists on an independent judiciary to go along with his strongman. And the strongman, according to his plan, would be selected by the national parliament; in the case of West Germany, both the Bundestag (Lower House) and Bundesrat (Upper House) would together select him.

Interestingly, von Habsburg counts Bavarian leader Franz-Josef Strauss among “the few full-blooded politicians” who “in the case of serious national crises are able to accept responsibility because of their clear-sightedness and indomitableness.” Von Habsburg says he is “personally pretty close to his [Strauss’s] ideas in many ways on the European unity subject.” Strauss, incidentally, recently became a candidate for Chancellor of West Germany in the elections scheduled for next year.

Habsburg Dynasty

The House of Habsburg (also seen as “Habsburg” or “Habsburg”) was one of the greatest of the formerly sovereign dynasties of Europe. The name Habsburg is derived from the castle of Habichtsburg (“Hawk’s castle”), built in 1020 by early ancestors of the royal house in the Swiss Aargau (overlooking the Aar river).

The zenith of Habsburg power came in the 16th century under Emperor Charles V. Chosen by electors in 1519 at the age of 20, Charles was crowned Holy Roman Emperor by Pope Leo X in October 1520. He ruled until 1556 and is considered to have been the greatest monarch to bear the imperial crown since Charlemagne. He was the last emperor to vigorously attempt to realize the medieval idea of a unified empire embracing the entire Christian world.

The Habsburg dynasty was, according to Bible prophecy, the fourth of the prophesied seven resurrections of the Roman Empire. As longtime readers of this magazine will know, there remains yet one revival of the Roman Empire to come, which will consist of a union of ten nations under the overall leadership of a strongman called in prophetic language “the Beast.”

Some have suggested the possibility that the evolving united Europe might one day have a royal head. Regarding the possibility of a Habsburg restoration, Otto has observed: “It would be unrealistic, plus the fact that I have signed this declaration [renouncing Habsburg claims], and that ends that. Once I sign something I keep it. Or at least I try to.”

“But if monarchist sentiments were permitted to flourish, and did,” one writer remarked a few years ago, “there is no question that Archduke Otto would offer a uniquely attractive prospect for leadership.” Otto himself has observed that he “can still conceive that a united Europe would be made up of monarchies as well as of republics.”

Christopher Hollis, in the foreword to von Habsburg’s book The Social Order of Tomorrow, points out that Otto “would like to see Europe resume her essential unity, and in the symbolism of that unity he thinks that the imperial crown of Charlemagne and of the Holy Roman Empire might well have its part to play.”

Inter-European unity has long been a quest of the Habsburg dynasty. Otto himself often speaks of the similarities between the Holy Roman Empire of the Middle Ages and his view of a coming United States of Europe. In this regard, Otto has stressed the importance of religion in the formation of a united Europe. He regards Christianity as Europe’s bulwark: “The cross doesn’t need Europe, but Europe needs the cross.”

Last April he was received by Pope John Paul II, and discussed at length the subject of European integration.

Observers of the efforts toward European unity have often noted that a lacking vital ingredient on the European scene is a charismatic leader and organizing genius—a new Charlemagne, a modern-day Frederick Barbarossa, a second Charles V. Would it not be interesting if a scion of this same stock were eventually to assume such a role—or at least exert a powerful influence in one way or another, whether or not he himself were to be the new European “Charlemagne”?

As one observer once put it: “Otto von Habsburg is a man for all seasons. Perhaps a season approaches.”
Your Best INVESTMENT

Is money the "root of all evil"? What is money anyway? Where did the idea originate? What about interest rates and "paper gold"? Does the Bible condemn wealth and riches? Where does wealth come from in the first place? Most important of all, what will happen to that wealth within your lifetime? What is the true source of wealth? What is your best investment?

by Jon Hill

Money matters! Walk into a bank and your whole manner changes. An aura of awe makes people use hushed tones in the marbled mausoleums of Mighty Money! The building itself exudes an atmosphere of absolute confidence—if not the confidence of solid stone, brick, marble, thick polished oak, high-ceilinged basilicas of the old-fashioned banks, then it is the modern confidence of concrete, steel and glass with clinical and controlled luxury displayed in plush carpets and pieces of modern art.

As a customer you are treated with friendliness, politeness and sincerity—but always with a certain reserve, a certain understandable and fully expected distrust on the part of the moneylender toward the money-needer. It's something we take for granted.

You have confidence that the bank is adequate to supply your need. You hope the bank will have enough confidence in you to risk supplying your need. You know certain securities will have to be produced to bolster the bank's confidence in your ability to repay—your land, your home, your life insurance, your auto, your ability as a wage earner... all will be freely open to scrutiny, as of course will your past record of bill paying—your credit rating.

It's not that debt is not respectable. Debt is demanded. It is a red ink society from the impossible national debt to individual insolvency. Everybody does it!

It's hard—no, difficult, if not near impossible—to make ends meet, to live within your means. But that's all right. Nobody else can either. In fact, since the early thirties, when the government decided it would be better to mortgage the future than to pay for the present, a climate was created in which it is uncomfortable not to be in debt.

Nationally speaking, that mortgage on the future is just about due to be paid—and when all the notes come due at once we're going to discover a fantastic and horrible truth: The richest nations on earth are bankrupt! But that comes later in this article. Let's get back to you.

Does God Condemn Money?

Despite some misquote of the Bible you may have heard about money being the root of all evil, let's prove unequivocally at the outset that neither God nor His Word, the Bible, condemns money. There is nothing unholy or inherently evil in money or a bank. As with all things, God's principle is: It is not the thing which is evil, but what is done with the thing; the attitude toward the thing.

What the Bible does say is, "For the love of money is the root of all evil..." (I Tim. 6:10) Even this is poorly translated in the King James Version and is better understood as rendered by J. B. Phillips: "For loving money leads to all kinds of evil, and some men in the struggle to be rich have lost their faith and caused themselves untold agonies of mind."

No, God is not against money of itself. Abraham, the father of the faithful, the friend of God (James 2:23), was a very rich man (Gen. 13:2) and was familiar with the use of money (Gen. 23). David, a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22), during his lifetime gathered up tons of gold and silver, precious stones and costly jewels (1 Chron. 29). Though there were many poor men God used in the history of this world, there were just as many, if not more, rich men in His service—if that surprises you, check your Bible and prove this truth.

The paradox of the problem of riches is solved by the principle mentioned in the same sixth chapter of Timothy quoted above. Most of the
chapter talks about how to be rich. It does not condemn the wealth itself. Again in the Phillips translation, beginning in verse 17, let's read a summary of the principle: "Tell those who are rich in this present world not to be contemptuous of others, and not to rest the weight of their confidence on the transitory power of wealth but on the living God, who generously gives us everything for our enjoyment."

Remember that in the same example Jesus gave to the disciples to explain the difficulties a rich man would have in gaining the Kingdom, He also said that "with God all things are possible" (Matt. 19:23-26).

Why All the Mystery?

Money is mysterious to many. It's simple enough to see that if you have enough of it you can buy anything (almost) that you want. But what is money? Why do some people have more than others? Just how complicated is the system? What's the history of the mystery?

As with nearly every major facet of our society—medicine, education, law, farming, government—banking finds its recorded beginnings in Babylon, inextricably entwined with religion because priest-kings ruled in ancient times.

In an agricultural economy, barter was sufficient as a means of exchange. As men gathered themselves into cities and began to deal with one another in many capacities, they no longer raised flocks, herds and crops. So they needed something to represent wealth—something portable, precious, protectable.

Gold and silver quickly came to represent, in certain weights, a given number of cows, sheep, donkeys, etc. Words you may be familiar with such as "capital," "capitalism," "fee," "rupee" are all words which derive from "cattle," or a cow-standard society. Many other forms of representation have been used—salt, feathers, dogs' teeth, fishhooks.

In today's modern world we may enjoy a laugh at someone who would think salt was money (are you worth your salt?), until we would try to convince him that a column of figures in the electronic memory of our local bank's computer is what represents our true wealth!

Back to the Beginning

As people gathered into cities and their horde of representative wealth (gold and silver) became larger, protecting it became a problem. Many a house had a secret chamber for the master's money—perhaps in a hole dug into the floor, perhaps a secret hiding place behind a tree, under a hedge, three feet deep in the earth of the little walled garden to the rear. At any rate, it was secreted in as safe a place as the master could think of—you can bank on that!

Bank?

Right, you guessed it! Look up the word in the big dictionary of the local library sometime. A bank is a mound or rise of earth. One basic meaning of the word is also "to cover"—you bank a fire by covering it with ashes so it won't all burn up while you sleep. Then when you want to start the fire in the morning you remove the covering—you make a withdrawal from your fire bank. Sometimes we become ashamed of the humble beginnings of our dignified institutions—why?

These private banks (holes in the ground) were not as safe as desired. People didn't respect each other's private property, but being a superstitious lot they feared their many gods and wouldn't think of violating the temples. So, for a price, the local high priest would allow the storage of the representative wealth (money) in his temple treasury to ensure its safety. In fact, the very word "money" derives from the Latin and comes from the Roman mythology that Juno invented money.

The truth of the matter is that both Juno, with her panoply of gods and goddesses, and the invention of money came from Babylon! The Romans continued the temple-money practice in the temple of Juno moneta: So what was coined became called "money" and the place where it was coined was called the "mint!"

Back to Babylon

In order to portray graphically how this whole banking system developed in history, consider the following pseudo-historic but wholly possible scenario of the past.

As the gold or other representative wealth began to accumulate in the private coffers and under the protective custody of the high priest in the temple, the priest-king (let's call him Baal Nimrud—Rude for short) put together an interesting plan (about 2200 B.C.). He noticed that at no one time did everyone call for the wealth sequestered in the safety of the temple vaults. He also noticed that intelligent and capable men who had real property (land, cattle, houses, slaves) often lacked the cold gold to finance a venture that would turn them from middle-class into rich men.

Putting these two factors together, he became a banker. He called the men aside (those whom he had first checked out to be sure of their securities) and told them the deal he had in mind for them. If they would pledge their property in lieu of the repayment of the gold he would lend them (should their venture fail), Rude would finance their plans. Rude arbitrarily picked thirty percent as the yearly amount of interest that should be paid to him for the use of the gold.

The first farmer took the gold from Rude. After pledging his property in lieu of repayment at the stipulated terms, he took the gold to a local businessman, contracting to have an irrigation system built and enough seed supplied to plant a crop. That businessman took the gold to the temple for safekeeping.

Rude then offered the same chunk of gold on the same terms to another farmer who wanted a house built. The builder brought the gold to the temple for safekeeping! Rude then offered the same piece of gold to a local merchant, contracting to have an irrigation system built and enough seed supplied to plant a crop. That businessman took the gold to the temple for safekeeping.

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By this time Rude added another idea to his plan. Since the gold was heavy, cumbersome to carry—even dangerous to transport—Rude convinced his next customer (sticking to the same terms for the loan) that it
would be safer for all concerned if he just issued a clay tablet receipt for the amount of gold that the gold represented. The clay was easier to carry. It bore the imprint of the high priest’s own signet ring and would be accepted as if it were gold by all local businessmen.

So Rude’s convinced customer took his clay receipt (which represented gold, which represented wealth) to the boat builder and had ten barges built. The boat builder accepted the receipt, gave it to a lumber supplier and in addition went to Rude and requested a loan, for expansion of his operation, of an equal amount (also indicated by a clay tablet receipt) and put his business in hock for security.

**Nimrud’s Pound Gained**

To make a long story short, Baal Nimrud found that within the year he was able to lend the same bar of gold ten times. Let’s say it was a ten-pound bar. At the end of the year Rude was still in possession of the original gold bar itself. In addition he owned one farm and a half interest in a caravansary (two of his debtors didn’t make it). In addition to that, he had been paid eighty pounds of gold by the eight debtors who succeeded with the help of the loan, plus of course the twenty-four pounds of gold in interest.

Rude’s ten pounds had gained him one hundred four—not bad! Of course the original ten-pound bar was not really his—it was only left there for safekeeping by a merchant from Ur, but he hadn’t called for it in the course of the year. And if that merchant ever did call for his bar, Rude figured he could talk him into taking a clay receipt for it, leaving the actual bar in safekeeping (?) in the temple!

The ten ten-pound bars (plus a little) that Rude now actually owned were not worth just ten times the original bar he had speculated with—to Rude they were worth much more! He had already learned by observation that only about one out of ten of the people who had money in the temple for safekeeping ever actually requested to have their gold back at any one time. This meant he could use nine-tenths of the money at any one time any way he wanted.

And now that the idea of accepting clay receipts was catching on, there was no way to tell how far he could bluff his way. As long as the people had confidence in the clay receipts, he could continue to amass great wealth at very little actual risk or expenditure.

**Good for the Economy**

Rude even talked himself into thinking he was performing a real public service in the process of gathering all the real wealth of the people into his own coffers. There were more jobs. Every type of shop and industry had been given a shot in the arm. There was bustling activity everywhere.

Rude began to see that he could control the entire economy. If his system began to destroy itself because people couldn’t any longer sustain the exorbitant interest rate of 30 percent, he could postpone the ultimate day of reckoning by lowering the rate, say to 20.

Baal Nimrud realized, of course, that sooner or later the economy would collapse. In order to pay their debts, the society as a whole would become sellers, and there would unfortunately be no buyers. They would storm the temple in angry protest when the word leaked out that the clay receipts couldn’t be redeemed for gold; that they weren’t worth the mud they were written on. The people would lose their confidence, their faith in him (or his sons or grandsons), in the clay money, in the temple. But if he exercised just a little caution he could make it work during his lifetime—and that is what counted to him!

History shows plainly what did happen. Not just to Nimrud’s economy, but to all those who followed in his footsteps. Usually the economy collapsed in 100 to 150 years. The economy slipped from gold-backed to silver-backed to lead-backed money. Whatever metal was the backing was hoarded until there was not enough of it available to conduct the economy (tight money). So a cheaper, more available metal or medium of exchange (easy money) would be substituted, etc., etc., until ultimate collapse.

Babylon went this way. Assyria, the Greeks in their time, and the Romans all trod the same road. Numberless other economies: ditto.

The key to the downfall was the exorbitant (though exhilarating at the time) interest rate.

**Confidence**

According to the Federal Reserve Bank: "Money is the confidence people have that they will be able to exchange such money for real goods and services whenever they choose to do so." This is why money becomes a god to many people—money becomes that in which they have their trust, their confidence. It’s really very simple: Money is confidence. This is why the words “trust” and “fidelity” are often used as part of the very names of banks!

Money is what people mutually agree is at a given time. If they all agree that it is gold, then money is gold! Gold is certainly the dominant money idol in the pages of history. Many is the man, or whole society of men, who has striven greedily and died for the sake of gold! But the gold is not to blame. Just as much suffering has gone on in the process of the greedy getting of stones and bones, silver and lead. It doesn’t make much difference whether you call it “Federal Reserve Note” or “rusty nails” (which have been used for exchange purposes) — whether you term it “Special Drawing Rights” (the “paper gold” currently being used to settle international debts) or whether you agree to settle for elephant tails as they readily did in the past in Portuguese West Africa.

As long as the people you do business with agree to accept your “money,” it doesn’t matter what it is. And equally important, when the people you trade with no longer have confidence in your medium of exchange, you can become a “rich” bankrupt. Confidence is the important key!

There are two schools of thought at the extremes of money theory. One feels that only a solid (which word comes from a Latin coin, *solidus*) gold-backed monetary system can bring stability to the financial world.
Their confidence is in gold. At the other pole of thought is the basic thesis upon which the Western world has its confidence—the productive capacity of the society itself. This school has been followed diligently since the early thirties.

A fellow by the name of Keynes (pronounced ‘Cain’s’) put this theory into words in an essay entitled Auri Sacra Fames: “Almost throughout the world, gold has been withdrawn from circulation. It no longer passes from hand to hand, and the touch of the metal has been taken away from men’s greedy palms. The little household gods, who dwelt in purses and stockings and tin boxes, have been swallowed up by a single golden image in each country, which lives underground and is not seen. Gold is out of sight—gone back into the soil. But when gods are no longer seen in a yellow panoply walking the earth, we begin to rationalize them; and it is not long before there is nothing left.”

While succinctly pointing out the fallacy of trusting in and worshipping gold as the money god of the past, Keynes didn’t seem to realize that he was substituting a new god for the old god! And so today’s money worshipers bow down before the image of nothing, whereas their predecessors bowed down to the image of gold!

Since the Keynesian theory is what we are living under, let’s examine it briefly. Perhaps the key is provided by the highly respected international advisor on finances, Dr. Harry Schultz. In his circular letter of October 30, 1969, he states: “Once man introduced money he was substituting a new god for the old god! And so today’s money worshipers bow down before the image of nothing, whereas their predecessors bowed down to the image of gold!”

Funny Money

So we find ourselves in a rather ludicrous situation. If you have any money in your pocket, take it out and take a look at it. Since American currency is the hinge of international financing, let’s see what it says on our American money. On the top of one side of the paper money you will notice that it says, “Federal Reserve Note.” I am now looking at the face of what we call a five-dollar bill. It also says, “This note is legal tender for all debts, public and private.”

But what does that mean? “The trick in the Federal Reserve Notes is that the Federal Reserve Banks lose no cash when they pay out this currency to the member banks. Federal Reserve Notes are not redeemable in anything except what the government calls ‘legal tender’—that is, money that a creditor must be willing to accept from a debtor in payment of sums owed him. But since all Federal Reserve Notes are themselves declared by law to be legal money, they are really redeemable only in themselves! To put it briefly, they are an irredeemable obligation issued by the Federal Reserve Banks” (A Primer on Money, Banking and Gold).

A few more quotes from this basic book will help us understand the money we use a little better. “In short, the money we use every day, the money that we are all happy to accept in payment for goods sold, services rendered, and debts incurred, is intrinsically worthless: It has no tangible backing, in the strict sense of the word” (p. 105).

“When we look back over the ground that we have covered and ask what the dollar is really based upon, we would have to say that it exists essentially on promises and bookkeeping machines” (p. 107).

“These trends have had another curious corollary. Whereas the public has been feeling more liquid, the banks have actually been moving into an increasingly illiquid condition. This partially reflects sufficient confidence on the part of the bank officers that the American economy is now so stable that wholesale withdrawals of cash from the banking system, as happened in the 1930s, are highly unlikely. But it also reflects the belief of bankers that most of the money in time deposits will stay there instead of moving into demand deposits where the odds are much greater that it will soon be withdrawn. Of course, none of these trends need lead to difficulty so long as current patterns prevail. They suggest, however, that a reversal of current patterns, prompted, perhaps, by rising demand for money occasioned by an inflationary cycle, could ultimately cause a monetary crisis as intense as anything witnessed in our earlier history” (p. 154).

“To return to the point from which we have started: money and gold have no use or value in themselves. On the contrary, their value derives only from what we can buy with them” (p. 166).

And today your hard-earned dollar or pound is buying precious little by comparison. The concluding installment of this article will show you your best investment in this era of shrinking currencies. (To Be Continued)
THE BRITISH LEAVE MALTA—WILL RUSSIA MOVE IN?

For 179 years British forces were stationed on Malta. But early this year the last ship of the Royal Navy pulled out, never to return. How long will it be before another nation seeks to control this strategic island fortress? Here is an on-the-spot report from one of our correspondents.

by Robert C. Boraker

Once again Britain has lost another strategic military base. In a retrenching process dating back to 1947, British forces have progressively pulled back from India, Suez, Cyprus, Aden and Singapore. Earlier this year the time came for the final pullout from Malta, the crossroads of the Mediterranean, the heralded "unsinkable aircraft carrier" of World War II fame.

On March 31, Britain’s last seven-year defense agreement with the government of Malta expired. After a ceremony at Malta’s Grand Harbor, the last British naval vessel, a guided missile destroyer, ‘H.M.S. London, sailed for home.
Malta’s mercurial Prime Minister Dom Mintoff bluntly labeled the British departure as Malta’s “Day of Freedom” (the nation gained its political independence in 1964). Still, many Maltese are wondering how free they will be, and what price they may have to pay, for severing the last links with Britain and other NATO nations in the defense of the West.

When I arrived in Malta one week after its “Day of Freedom,” the harbor where British naval vessels anchored for nearly two centuries was empty. All that was left on the dockside at Vittoriosa was a new monument depicting a Maltese dock worker bidding farewell to a British sailor who has taken down Britain’s flag for the last time. Another worker is shown raising Malta’s own flag in place of the Union Jack.

Ironically, on one corner of Malta’s flag is the George Cross (Britain’s highest civilian award for valor), which was awarded to Malta’s entire population in 1942 by King George VI after a particularly brutal siege of Nazi bombing raids. The Maltese had to run to their limestone cave bomb shelters as often as twelve times a day. The king applauded these brave and nearly starving people for their “heroism and devotion that will long be famous in history.”

President Roosevelt also honored the Maltese for their courage when he visited the country in 1943. On the wall of the Palace in Valletta, the capital, is an inscription citing this presidential citation, which reads in part: “Malta’s bright story of human fortitude and courage will be read by posterity with wonder and gratitude through all the ages. What was done in this island maintains the highest tradition of gallant men and women who, from the beginning of time, have lived and died to preserve civilization for all mankind.”

But today’s 320,000 Maltese can’t live forever on their nation’s cour-
ageous past. Terminating the British military presence means a loss of employment for five percent of the work force and a loss of one-fourth of the foreign currency received. What does the future hold without the income—amounting to $70 million annually—from the British?

History of Conquests

Malta consists of a small but strategically important group of islands in the central Mediterranean Sea located approximately fifty miles south of Sicily and about 220 miles north of the shores of Africa. It has been a strategic outpost for thousands of years.

The Maltese have rarely been their own masters. Rather, Malta's history has been filled with a long succession of conquerors and overlords, beginning with the Phoenicians and ranging down through the Carthaginians, Romans, Byzantines, Vandals and Goths, Arabs, Normans, the Knights of St. John (a militant Catholic order who stopped the advance of the Ottoman Turks), the French and, finally, the British.

It was during the Roman period that the apostle Paul was shipwrecked on "Melita" (Acts 28:1)—the ancient name for Malta.

After the British helped the Maltese defeat the French in 1800, they were asked to remain and take over rulership of the island. The Grand Harbor became the headquarters of Britain's Mediterranean Fleet. Work at the naval dockyard and income from servicemen spending their wages became the main source of Malta's wealth.

Britain ruled Malta until full political independence was granted in 1964. The withdrawal of British military and naval personnel which began at that time created economic and political problems. Through various incentives, the government has tried to attract industry from all over the world, particularly from Europe.

Drilling for offshore oil was also begun, but the dividing line in the territorial waters between Libya and Malta has yet to be resolved. Unless this project is successful, oil supplies must continue to be obtained from Libya.

New development has been concentrated on the manufacturing of textiles and consumer goods. A booming tourism industry has been encouraged by the building of new hotels and airline facilities.

The drydocks once used for Royal Navy vessels have been modernized and expanded so ships can be built as well as repaired. A giant dock for supertankers is now being constructed under the supervision of mainland Chinese engineers.

Will Neutrality Work?

The Prime Minister, Dom Mintoff, has worked hard to make Malta a neutral country. His aim is to erase the centuries-old image of Malta being nothing but an island fortress under the domination of foreign powers. He wants his country to find its true identity and place among the nations of the world.

Reflecting the current government's strong left-of-center orientation, technical and financial assistance has been received from East European countries, Libya, and China. Yet the government claims it will follow a neutral course in its foreign policy. It does not intend to permit use of its port facilities by either the U.S. Sixth Fleet or by any of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact countries.

Mintoff has said that Malta should act as a bridge between Europe and North Africa. But this bridge-of-peace concept hasn't gotten very far. Europeans and Africans apparently don't want Malta acting as their mediator.

Whether or not Malta can maintain a truly neutral position remains to be seen. The departure of the British, as mentioned earlier, was celebrated as Malta's "Day of Freedom." I saw signs everywhere which marked the occasion. Some of them read: "A Freed Malta" and "Freedom in Peace."

Malta is indeed free from Britain, but will some other nation, true to Malta's history, try to exert influence on this small archipelago in the Mediterranean?

Libya is certainly one contender. Colonel Muammar Qaddafi and a retinue of five hundred officials from Tripoli came to join the March 31 celebration festivities. One sign on the boulevard leading into Valletta depicted the hands of Libya and Malta both supporting the island.

The looming shadow of Qaddafi—who, with Libya's oil revenues, helps support nearly every radical "liberationist" movement in the world—is significant enough. A greater fear in the minds of some Western military experts is that the Mintoff-Qaddafi partnership could open the door for the Soviet Union to play a far more ominous role in the Mediterranean. Thus close ties with Libya's Colonel Qaddafi could lead Malta into a situation where freedom from Britain is exchanged for servitude in a satellite relationship to Libya or Russia. Britain will no longer be there to provide a defense against unwanted intruders.

Another Lost Sea Gate

Whatever may happen in the future, one thing is certain: Britain has lost access to another vital piece of real estate that once enabled her to control the seas. As we have explained many times in the past in the pages of this magazine, Abraham's descendants—the British and Americans—would, in their rise to national greatness, come to possess the vital geographic passageways of their enemies. These passageways would be given as a blessing and heritage from God.

God made specific promises to Abraham and to his descendants which have long since been fulfilled in the British and American peoples. God prophesied: "I will indeed bless you, and I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore. And your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies" (Gen. 22:17, RSV).

This promise was repeated to Abraham's daughter-in-law Rebekah when her brother and mother were inspired to say: "Our sister, may you increase to thousands upon thousands; may your offspring possess the gates of their enemies" (Gen. 24:60, New International Version).

A "gate" is a narrow passage or an entrance or exit. When speaking geo-
graphically, a “gate” refers to the key entrances to the world's oceans and control points along the way of the major global shipping lanes. Examples of such sea gates are the Suez Canal, the Strait of Gibraltar, Aden, Malta, Singapore and the Panama Canal.

In their rise to national prominence, Britain and the United States acquired control of almost every strategic land and sea gate in the world. World War II hinged upon control of these “gates,” which kept open the lanes of oceanic commerce to help defeat the Axis powers.

Today, however, Britain has lost most of those vital land and sea passages. This has happened because God has withdrawn the blessings He promised to Abraham's descendants. Britain and America are now beginning to suffer the curses God promised for disobedience. (See Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28.)

Worst Possible Timing

The loss of Malta as a British and NATO military base is more significant than most people realize. Britain has left behind the Luqa airfield, an important staging post for the RAF's medium range transport. Also gone is the marine surveillance squadron, which kept track of most of Russia's submarines in the Mediterranean.

But perhaps the worst blow fell upon the Royal Navy. Malta was a vital base for the protection of the 480 British merchant ships at sea in the Mediterranean on any average day.

British sea power, to the dismay of officials at NATO's southern command headquarters in Naples, Italy, has now virtually disappeared from the Mediterranean, once called a “British lake.” Russian sea power is replacing it.

These same officials believe that a Soviet attack into Western Europe is far more likely to occur in NATO's soft underbelly than against the well-defended north German plain. (Malta, after it withstood the Axis pounding, served as a vital staging area for the Allied invasion of Sicily and Italy.)

The departure of the Royal Navy from Malta and the Mediterranean, according to the NATO commanders, could not have come at a worse time. The dispute between Greece and Turkey over Ankara's invasion of Cyprus in 1974 already had rippled a giant hole in NATO's southern defense perimeter. Since then, Greece has pulled out of NATO's integrated command, and Turkey has lapsed into an economic morass.

Troubles are brewing in North Africa as well. Libya, according to a report in London's Daily Telegraph of May 24, 1979, has offered the Soviet fleet the use of port facilities in Tripoli, Benghazi and Tobruk—facilities which the British handed over to Qaddafi ten years ago. Scores of Russian MiGs are already parked on former RAF airbases in Libya.

The Red Navy desperately needs bases in Libya, Tunisia, or Algeria—or Malta—in order to compensate for being thrown out of Egyptian ports in 1975.

The Soviets are picking off former British sea gates one by one. “The lesson of Aden is noted,” reported the Daily Telegraph of February 8, 1978. “Shortly after the RAF and Royal Navy evacuated their bases there [in 1967] the Russians moved in.”

Russia's Strategy

Western analysts know that the ultimate Soviet objective is to cut the vital sea lanes upon which the Western world depends for its raw materials.

Oil from the Persian Gulf is either shipped through the Suez Canal or around the African Cape. The Soviets are already entrenched at strategic points along these shipping lanes—the Horn of Africa, Aden, Ethiopia, Mozambique and Angola. Whoever controls these oil routes will control the economic lifeblood of the West. If the Soviets had a base in Malta, another strategic point along the oil lifeline would be under their control.

Western Europe depends upon the Middle East and North Africa for some 80 percent of its oil. On any given day, over 300 tankers carry 25 billion barrels of oil in various directions through the Mediterranean—past roving Red Navy vessels.

General Sir Walter Walker, former NATO Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Forces, described the potential danger when he recently wrote: “NATO and Europe depend on their sea lines of communication for their very survival, and unless they can keep them open they will starve, and their industry and fighting forces will grind to a standstill” (The Bear at the Back Door, p. 200).

NATO must have a multinational navy in order to be an effective deterrent in the Mediterranean. The loss of British facilities on Malta will make that need all the more difficult to fulfill.

The Maltese people don't know what their future will be like without Britain's help. Despite their desire for independence, the majority didn't want the British to leave completely. They distrust the Libyans and the influence they are exerting. And they are becoming ever more wary as they see the Soviet navy steadily altering the balance of power in the Mediterranean.

On the night before their departure, British sailors and Maltese wistfully sang together: “We shall meet again, don't know where, don't know how...”

March 31st was truly a sad day for Malta, Britain and the Western world—and another milestone along the road of Bible prophecy.
May a Christian Break the Letter of GOD'S LAW?

What is the difference between the “spirit” and the “letter” of the law? God wants you to keep His commandments. Satan wishes you to break them. How does the devil deceive the world—and some Christians—into breaking God’s law?

by Raymond F. McNair

Some think you only need to keep the “spirit” of God’s law. Others believe you must always obey the strict “letter.” Both views are incorrect.

Does God want you to keep the “spirit” or the “letter” of His commandments? Or does He want you to keep both the “spirit” and the “letter” of His law?

Some believe the keeping of God’s Ten Commandments is unnecessary for salvation. Many professing Christians believe they should keep nine of the commandments, the exception being the Sabbath command.

Still others profess to believe in “the Ten,” but break the first and second commandments by reverencing idols, break the fourth commandment by substituting a counterfeit sabbath, or break other of “the Ten” by their actual belief and practices.

A Deceived World

Your Bible reveals that Satan has deceived the “whole world.”

And the Founder of Christianity warned: “Take heed that no man deceive you” (Matt. 24:4). Furthermore, He foretold that “many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many” (verse 11).

Paul also sounded the alarm: “But,” said he, “evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived” (II Tim. 3:13).

The apostle John, even in his day, had to warn of “many antichrists” (I John 2:18). He therefore admonished: “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world” (I John 4:1).

Peter also foretold great apostasy: “But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies…” (II Peter 2:1).

Would they be successful in leading multitudes into error? “And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of” (verse 2).

False teachers, with cunning deceptions, would become so diabolically effective, said Christ, that “if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect” (Matt. 24:24). Already, some of the “very elect” have listened to “false teachers” and have been caught off balance.

The Ten Commandments

Is obedience to the Ten Commandments necessary for salvation?

What did Jesus say?

When a young man asked Him what he must do to receive eternal life, He told him to “keep the commandments” (Matt. 19:16, 17; cf., Mark 10:17-19).

Christ mentioned five of the Ten Commandments (Matt. 19:18, 19), and then quoted one of the two “great” commandments (see Matt. 22:36-40): “Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself” (Matt. 19:19). Of course, the other five commandments were just as binding as the five which Christ specifically enumerated.

Furthermore, Jesus knew some would falsely teach that He came to “do away with” the commandments of God. He said: “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil” (Matt. 5:17).

Then He warned: “Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but...”
whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven” (verse 19).

Which of the commandments do you look upon as being the “least”? Is it the fourth commandment? The second? The third?

Christ did not do away with the law of God—rather He magnified it and made it glorious: “He [Christ] will magnify the law, and make it honourable” (Isa. 42:21).

But how did He magnify the law of God? Notice how Christ enlarged the sixth commandment: “Ye have heard,” said Christ, “that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill. . . . But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment . . .” (Matt. 5:21, 22).

“Whosoever hateth his brother,” said John, “is a murderer . . .” (I John 3:15).

Here is how Christ magnified the seventh commandment: “Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart” (verses 27, 28).

Now what “law” or “laws” was it that Christ came to magnify? Did He come to enlarge or magnify the “ceremonial,” “sacrificial” or “ritualistic” laws—as are found in the law of Moses? Or did He come to magnify the “spiritual” law—commonly called the “moral” law—the Ten Commandments (Rom. 7:14)?

The Law of Moses

It is true that the entire “law of Moses” as given in the Old Testament is not totally applicable to Christians today. But this doesn’t mean that all of the laws contained in the books which Moses wrote are meaningless today. Christ made the two great commandments of Leviticus 19:18 and Deuteronomy 6:5 just as binding on New Testament Christians as they were for those under the law of Moses: “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and [you shall love] thy neigh-

bour as thyself” (Luke 10:27).

God’s law is upheld all the way from Genesis to Revelation. “Abra-

ham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my law” (Gen. 26:5). Abraham mixed his faith (his belief) with works—with active obedience: “Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?” (James 2:21, 22.)

And yet there are those who think Christians only need “faith” or “belief”—with no works. God’s Word says we need to have both faith and works mixed together (James 2:14-22).

The New Testament reveals that it is not necessary for a believer to observe the entire “law of Moses.” But this does not mean that none of Moses’ commands are binding on the Christian!

A council of the New Testament Church (A.D. 49) concluded (among other things) that it was no longer necessary to keep the whole law of Moses. At that time certain men were teaching that Christians must be “circuitised after the manner of Moses” in order to be saved (Acts 15:1).

They taught that the “law of Moses” in its entirety must be kept: “But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the [entire] law of Moses” (verse 5).

The apostles, under divine inspiration, decided it was no longer necessary to practice circumcision, which was part of the Mosaic law.

They then wrote letters to all the churches explaining this matter: “Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, Ye must be circuitised, and keep the law [of Moses—verse 5]; to whom we gave no such commandment” (verse 24). The Gentile converts were informed what they should do to please God (verses 28, 29).

The question of obedience to God’s Ten Commandments was not even brought up at this council. Rather, they disputed about keeping the law of Moses with all its ablations, rituals, carnal ordinances, sacrifices, etc.

Later, Paul explained that “gifts and sacrifices” could not make the practitioner “perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation” (Heb. 9:9, 10).

Jesus taught men to worship God from the heart: “God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24).

Meaning of “the Law”

Many people get confused concerning the meaning of the word “law.” The Hebrew word for law is torah, and the Greek word is nomos.

The word “law” (torah or nomos) is very broad and can mean many different things. It can refer to the Word of God, to the five books of Moses (the Pentateuch), to the Ten Commandments; or it can refer to sacrificial, ceremonial, ritualistic or carnal “law(s)”—all depending on its context.

When Christ said He did not come to “destroy the law,” He was referring to the eternal “spiritual” (or moral) law of God—not to the ceremonial, sacrificial, ritualistic or carnal laws contained in the “law of Moses.”

Likewise, when Paul spoke of the “law” he sometimes referred to the Ten Commandments, and at other times he plainly pointed to the “lesser” laws contained in the law of Moses.

Notice how Paul refers to the Ten Commandments in the context of Romans 7:1-25. Paul commented: “I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet” (verse 7).

“The law” here mentioned clearly refers to the Ten Commandments. Of this law, Paul says: “Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good” (verse 12). Furthermore, he plainly says: “For we know that the law is spiritual . . .” (verse 14).
Yes, the Ten Commandment law is "spiritual" and it is "holy," "just," and "good."

Paul is not talking here about the ritualistic, ceremonial, sacrificial or carnal laws contained in the law of Moses. Rather, he clearly means the Ten Commandments (verse 7). The "lesser laws" contained in the law of Moses were a "yoke"—but not the Ten Commandments. Rather, they are called the "perfect law of liberty" (James 1:25). James also refers to the second great commandment as a "royal law" (James 2:8).

Clearly, in chapters one and two, James is referring to the "spiritual" law of God as contained in the two great commands, and as further amplified in the Ten Commandments.

Did James think any of the Ten Commandments were "done away"? "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend [transgress] in one point, he is guilty of all" (James 2:10). The Ten Commandments are like a chain having ten links. If one link (or one point) is broken, the whole chain is broken.

How many points are there in this law of which James spoke? He mentions the commands against adultery and killing (verse 11). Then he says that this "law of liberty" is the law by which we will be judged (verse 12).

The Fourth Commandment

The Bible clearly enjoins God's people to keep the Ten Commandments. Many "Christians" at least profess to keep nine of the ten, but the fourth commandment is the one that causes many to stumble. This in spite of the fact that Jesus Christ and His apostles kept God's Sabbath. From a practical point of view, it was made for man—not just for the Jewish people. God shows that this day was given as a day of physical rest and relaxation, as well as a day of spiritual rejuvenation through worship of one's Creator.

Those who teach against keeping God's Sabbath must ignore the examples of Christ and Paul. They vainly assume you can "keep" the other six days "holy" when God has not made them holy. Remember, you can't keep water hot or cold until it is first made either hot or cold. Likewise, you can't "keep holy" that which has not first been made holy—and man doesn't have the power to make anything holy! Only God can make something (including time) holy!

Only Keep the Spirit of the Law?

Some have concluded that we need only keep the spirit of the law but not the letter.

What about it? Should a Christian observe God's law according to the letter, the spirit, or both?

The Bible makes it amply clear that we are now to "worship God in spirit and in truth," but this does not mean we are to ignore the literal commandment—flagrantly violating the letter of the law.

Christ taught that we must not only not murder, but learn to keep the spirit of this commandment—we must not hate—must not murder in our minds and hearts.

Not only must we not commit adultery, but we must learn to keep this commandment according to its intent—we must not even lust in our hearts. When we lust after a woman, we thereby commit spiritual adultery. And when we hate someone in our hearts, we thereby commit spiritual murder (I John 3:15).

In order to keep the commandments in our minds and hearts (according to the true intent and purpose behind the law), we must also keep the law in the letter. Can we commit literal adultery or murder and yet obey the spiritual intent of these commandments? Of course not.

And the same applies to the fourth commandment. Truly, we should keep the Sabbath in the spirit—not
“doing our own thing” on that day. We are to cease from our physical labors—just as God did after His six-day creation (Gen. 2:1-3; Heb. 4:4).

In other words, we must learn to keep the Sabbath in the spirit, according to God’s original intent, but we must also keep the literal seventh day. We cannot keep the Sabbath in our hearts, and at the same time do our normal work or business, pursue worldly pleasures or other activities not in keeping with the spirit or intent of that holy day.

Of course, there might be times when one would have to break the “no-work” letter of the Sabbath in order to keep the spirit or intent of that day. Examples would include emergencies or saving human life on that day—even if it meant doing hard work.

Saved by Grace

No amount of good works or commandment keeping, no kind of legal observance (whether the Ten Commandments or the ceremonial, sacrificial or ritualistic laws) can possibly justify us. Keeping any law cannot forgive us for the past sins (the violations of the spiritual law of God) which we have committed.

This is where the sacrifice of Christ comes in. Christ’s substitutionary death was sufficient to pay the penalty for all the sins which mankind has ever committed or will commit. Therefore it is truly “by grace [that] ye are saved” (Eph. 2:5).

Grace means something which is freely given. It is by God’s free gift of forgiveness that our guilty past is wiped clean. It is by His free gift of the Holy Spirit that we receive the strength and power to live a godly life in the future.

So it is by His grace (His free gift) that we are saved—not by our own works. But many other scriptures show that we must obey God—we must have good works: “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them” (Eph. 2:8-10).

A Commandment-Keeping Church

Though no amount of commandment keeping will save anyone, nonetheless God commands obedience. We are told to keep His commandments.

Jesus Christ inspired His servant John to write: “And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him” (I John 2:3, 4).

But the Christian is to go beyond what is commanded—to go beyond “duty” (Luke 17:10). “And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight” (I John 3:22). Furthermore, this same apostle was inspired to reveal that God’s true Church would be a commandment-keeping Church (Rev. 12:17; 14:12).

Is commandment keeping important? Does God intend that we keep His Ten Commandments—all ten?

Will we be blessed if we keep His commandments—or will we, as some would have you believe, be under a terrible curse? What does God say? “Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city” (Rev. 22:14). Notice that this verse does not say, “Blessed are those who keep some of his commandments.”

When Jesus told the rich young man to “keep the commandments,” He clearly referred to the spiritual (or commonly called “moral”) law of God (Matt. 19:16-19).

Will we repent of sin—repent of breaking God’s spiritual law? God commands us to repent—to quit sinning—to quit breaking His law (I John 3:4).

David, a man after God’s own heart, was inspired to say: “O how love I thy law! It is my meditation all the day” (Ps. 119:97).

And Isaiah also knew that obedience to the law of God is the only way to peace, happiness, prosperity and eternal life: “O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! Then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea” (Isa. 48:18).

The Plain Truth September 1979
Throughout all creation, there are perhaps no more striking witnesses for the creative genius of God than the winged wonders known as birds. From their unique skeletal structure to their intricate and beautiful feathers, from their specially designed digestive and nervous systems to their marvelously constructed bills, birds display wide-ranging miracles of anatomy. Shown on these pages are just a few examples of one awesome aspect of bird anatomy: their remarkably varied bills.
MECHANICAL MARVELS carefully designed for obtaining food, bird beaks occur in hundreds of forms. Clockwise from upper left: Flamingo has built-in filter sieve in its bill which sifts small shellfish and other bits of food from the mud of shallow water; mallard duck has strainer bill; cross-bill uses beak to pry apart pinecones and extract seeds; hummingbird has beak shaped like a syringe for extracting nectar; pelican has mechanical scoop for catching fish and holding food to feed the young; bald eagle has incisor beak for tearing apart prey; ivory-billed woodpecker (center) has hard chisel-like beak for hammering into trees to find insects.
What About BAPTISM?

Are you sick of yourself—your way—the world’s way? Do you abhor what your life has been? Do you want to change? Are you changing? If your answers are “Yes!” then there is something more you must do.

It is time to take positive action, when finally you come to see just how far short you fall—how utterly unsuccessful and useless you are compared to Christ. The beginning of repentance is seeing the self for what it really is. To determinedly begin constructive changes—to embark on growing in good character—is the natural consequence.

Is this happening to you? If you grasp the fact that you really need to change, and are in the process, you must seriously question: “What’s next?” God commands another step!

That next step is baptism!

Absolutely Free Gift

Baptism brings together, in symbolic grandeur, three wonderful gifts: 1) the precious BLOOD of Christ, 2) the WATER of regeneration, 3) the HOLY SPIRIT. Everything in this magnificent picture is absolutely free! There is no way to pay for it. It cannot be earned.

Christ generously offered His body and blood in the supreme sacrifice. This offering is great enough to cover the sins of all mankind. Staggering as it may seem, all of your sins may be washed away in the blood of Christ (Heb. 10:10; Rev. 1:5).

Baptism is an essential “doorway” in the corridor to salvation.

Christ Commands You!

Jesus Himself has set the pattern. His followers baptized even more people than did John the Baptist (John 4:1).

Later, after His resurrection, He pointedly commanded His disciples to preach the gospel worldwide and to baptize all believers (Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:16).

On the day that the New Testament Christian Church was established, conscience-stricken converts implored the apostles to tell what must be done to get right with God. On the authority of Christ, Peter gave an immediate, decisive, conclusive but simple answer, “Repent, and be baptized” (Acts 2:38). Three thousand were baptized that day.

Philip continued the same practice (Acts 8). Paul, much later, carried right on without deviation from the established example (Rom. 6:3-5, Col. 2:12). Ever since that fateful day, God’s ministers have held to exactly the same ceremony.

No one—ever—has been given authority to change any part of the procedure. For any man, or group of men, to introduce any change is totally unwarranted.

There has been no scriptural change whatsoever. We should still be practicing the very same rite, in the very same way, for the very same reason, on the very same kind of people today!

Nonetheless, men have introduced human ideas, human changes.

Sprinkle or Splash?

God could have inspired another word than the Greek baptizo to be used in discussing this important topic if He had not wished to perfectly picture the THREEFOLD meaning of WASHING, BURIAL AND RESURRECTION (Rom. 6:4-5).

For example, the words ekcheo, proscheo and katcheo all come from the root cheo, which means to pour out. They are used in such scriptures as John 2:15, Acts 2:17-18, Revelation 16:1-4, Hebrews 9:13, 19, 21; 10:22; 12:24; and 1 Peter 1:2, where it means, as it always does, to sprinkle. Some churches pour or splash water at their “baptisms,” erroneously thinking this is what God means when He says baptizo.

Another word, rantizo, is used in Hebrews 9:13, 19, 21; 10:22; 12:24; and 1 Peter 1:2, where it means, as it always does, to sprinkle. Some churches sprinkle (rantizo), thinking they are baptizing (baptizo). The words just do not say the same thing. They are entirely different!

God inspired the Greek word baptizo to be used in every case when His Scripture deals with BAPTISM. This word is never translated by the En-
The Greek word is a bit more distinct and should better have been translated "into." Christ is simply stating that baptism places the convert in—or into—the family name of God. Remember, Peter has told us those who repent and are baptized will receive the Spirit of God (Acts 2:38). Those led by the Spirit of God are the sons of God (Rom. 8:14). The receipt of the Holy Spirit makes the converted person part of the family of God. "... We are the children of God... joint-heirs with Christ..." (Rom. 8:16-17).

In Whose Name?

Christ is not ashamed to call us brethren (Heb. 2:11). These words depict a family relationship! We are made a part of the family of God. It is natural then that we are to have the name of God. We are baptized into the very same name—it is also a title—which describes the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The name is God's! One name fits the entire family. Having this one name does not at all detract from the wonderful name of Jesus.

When we have God's Spirit, we are His and Christ is in us (Rom. 8:9-10). We now have the same mind and we think like He does (Phil. 2:2, 5). Christ lives in us (Gal. 2:20). We now begin to live like the rest of the family of God, for we have been placed in—put into—it!

Jesus built His Church and set up an organized ministry to run it (Eph. 4:11-13). His chosen ones act in His stead. What they do is as if it had been done personally by the Christ (John 13:20). He impressed this fact firmly insofar as baptism is concerned. Jesus did not baptize. He had His disciples do it for Him—in or by His authority (John 4:2). They acted in His stead or in His name! No baptism is legal except it be done by the authority of Jesus Christ—in His name!

**Spiritual Counsel**

Christ has given this responsibility to His ministry. Not all who think themselves ready for baptism are. It demands mature profound evaluation. It must not be taken lightly. It's not for children. John the Baptist sent many of the Pharisees of his day a-packing when they presented themselves to him. He unabashedly advised them to go do the things which would prove to him they were actually ready (Luke 3:7-8).

Even if you have already been baptized, seriously consider that it may not be valid. Such has happened to others. Simon Magus believed the message the deacon Philip preached. But his subsequent baptism proved to make a dunking only. When the more discerning Peter and John surveyed the situation, they summarily refused to lay hands on the unrepentant Simon (Acts 8:13, 21-23).

But note that the now more experienced Philip correctly decided the Ethiopian eunuch was ready for baptism (Acts 8:36-37). Just so, Ananias told Saul (who became the apostle Paul) that it was now time for him to be baptized (Acts 22:16).

God's ministers have spiritual discernment (I Cor. 2:14; 12:10). They are qualified to determine whether or not the convert is truly repentant and ready to be baptized. More than likely there is a true minister of God living near you who would be more than happy to help you evaluate your spiritual condition. He can help you to better understand yourself and what God expects of you. If you want his valuable counsel, write immediately and tell us. We will place you in contact just as soon as we possibly can. □
Christians Have Lost Their POWER!

Probably you, too, are spiritually powerless! Here is the shocking truth! Read why your prayers are not directly—miraculously—answered!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

The chances are that even you, if you believe you are a Christian, are today on mighty dangerous ground! You'd better stop—and check up!

Open your Bible! Take a look at the real Christians back in the days of Peter, John, and Paul—and compare! Take a look at the power in the original true Church—in the lives of those Christians. See how your life stacks up!

...But Are You Sure?

You think you are under God's grace? Safe and secure for all eternity?

Well, listen! “Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall!” So warns God's Word (1 Cor. 10:12). It's time to realize you are going to be finally judged by the very Word of God. You need to see to what standard you must measure up.

Jesus told His disciples just before He ascended to heaven that they should receive power when they were converted. “Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you,” He said (Acts 1:8).

Do you have that same power today? Did you ever study closely to see what that power is? Have you ever been concerned about how you may receive it?

Have you ever checked to see whether you need it? It's time you did, for without it you are not truly Christ's!

What We Do See

Of course many of you professing Christians see that you must accept Jesus Christ as personal Savior to be saved.

You may even see that you must repent of transgressing God's law—His spiritual law, as summarized in the Ten Commandments—because sin is the transgression of the law.

Perhaps you've gone far enough to realize why you were born—you've learned God's great purpose being worked out here below.

You may see that today all nations are spiritually drunk on the false pagan doctrines of the modern spiritual “Babylon”—that all nations are deceived—that the truth has been turned upside down.

You may see that even the churches are deceived, and have turned away from the truth and embraced fables.

You may realize that grace has been turned into license!

You may even have progressed so far as to comprehend that God is molding our lives until we shall be literally born of Him—His character created within us—this mortal becoming immortal—this human becoming divine in the very Kingdom of God.

But haven't you overlooked, or failed to “see,” the power of the Holy Spirit of God within you?

You may have come to see how evil and paganized this world has become, and to be disgusted with its ways.

You may recognize that you must forsake your way, and turn to and live God's way! Yes, you may fully understand that Isaiah said: “Seek ye the Eternal while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts” (Isa. 55:6-7).

But have you overlooked or neglected verse 1: “Ho, everyone that thirsteth, come ye to the waters...” Thirsty for what? Which “waters”? Why, the very “waters” Jesus spoke of:

“If any man thirst,” He said, “let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly [innermost being] shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Spirit was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified)” (John 7:37-39).

Have you ever fully realized that the Holy Spirit is something that was not born in you? We hear a lot today about tapping your own inner hidden
resources—the dormant powers within your mind. Modern religions are springing up calling that sleeping, dormant, latent part of your mind “GOD!” But the Holy Spirit is something you have not had—something you must receive from God! Something infinitely greater and more powerful than any powers within you—something from the great God who created you—who created the entire vast universe and all that exists!

It is the essence—the very life—the nature of God. But it also is something from God, which He gives you from Himself, which is actually a part of Himself—and which imparts power!

Do you know what that power is? Has that power come into you, so that you can wield it?

You, as a professing Christian, may have come to realize, to see, to comprehend, many of these things—to have accepted them—but is this power actually being manifested in your life? Are you sure you know what that power is?

What Is This Strange Power?

First, let me tell you what this power is not.

It is not an emotion physically worked up through the senses. It is not something that you can generate, or work up, yourself.

It is not falling over backward “under the power.” It is not being robbed of all power, as some people who have accepted the counterfeit emotional religion are, while “under the power.”

It is not something that makes people shout, shriek, jerk, laugh insanely and uncontrollably, or go through ridiculous and childish antics in a meeting where the preacher generates a fake, false “power” and a counterfeit spirit by constantly calling for loud emotional responses of “Hallelujah!” “Praise the Lord!” “Amen!” etc., in response to his oft-repeated: “All who believe it say ‘amen!’” etc., etc.

To know what it truly is, look into your Bible!

Jesus is our example, and we find this power first of all in His life. It was nothing physically inherent within Him. He said: “I can of mine own self do nothing” (John 5:30).

But, He said, “the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works” (John 14:10).

The Father dwelt in Jesus by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit imparted power. What was that power?

The inspired Peter, bringing salvation to the Gentiles for the first time, explained: “God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him” (Acts 10:38).

Notice, that power in Jesus did none of those things that are done today by the very ones who most loudly profess to have the power of the Holy Spirit. He used that power, going about quietly, unobtrusively, not shouting, bragging, falling helpless “under the power,” or any of those “wildfire” things—but doing! Yes, His was a life of doing—but doing what? Doing good! Serving, helping, other people! There was divine power—with it He performed miracles—He healed all that were sick—He cast out demons, and had discernment to know when a person was demon-possessed.

His was the power of the Creator God! The very same power that produced all creation—when “He spake!” God is a miracle-working God! With that power, which came from the Father, and was in Jesus, He stilled the storm, He turned water into wine, He fed five thousand with only five loaves and two fishes!

The Power of the True Church!

Now notice that power in the original Church, before the apostasy set in, and before the degeneracy of our day.

Soon after being filled with that power from God, Peter and John went up together into the temple at Jerusalem, at the 3:00 p.m. hour of prayer. They entered through the gate called “Beautiful.” At the gate a beggar, crippled from birth, asked for money.

“Look on us,” said Peter. “Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk”!

Grasping the beggar’s right hand in perfect faith, Peter lifted him sharply to his feet. The beggar was healed instantly. He leaped up, and then walked with Peter and John into the temple, leaping as he went, shouting out praises to God (Acts 3:1-8).

Jesus, powerless of His own human self, was filled with the divine power of the Creator. The very supernatural power of God did the work of God through His human body. Jesus said, “The works that I do in the Father’s name, they bear witness of me” (John 10:25). And again, “If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do . . . believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him” (John 10:37-38).

Today that same Spirit—that same supernatural power—utilizes the collective body of the true Church of God as God’s human instrumentality, through which God accomplishes His work here on earth. In that way the true Church is also the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:27).

And Jesus said: “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do . . .” (John 14:12).

That same power of God was in Peter and John. It did the work of God in proclaiming Christ’s gospel.

God’s Power in Action!

The miraculous healing of the beggar aroused the antagonism of the priests and Sadducees until they seized Peter and John and threw them into prison for the night. The next day, these religious leaders threatened them, commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

Then these true Christians went immediately to their own group of believers. And here is a point I want you to get. They were human. They had none of this power inherent within themselves. They, themselves, were not the source of this dynamic power. It had come from God.
And the important point is this: We do not receive enough of this divine power all at once to last forever.

Remember, Jesus said this power of God shall flow out from our innermost being! (John 7:38.) This power of God is active—dynamic! It is not static. You cannot get a supply of God's Spirit, and then bottle it up within you. This power comes into you from God daily! It circulates—from God, into you—and then on out from you in love, in faith, in joy, in patience—even in performing miracles.

You might have been imbued with this power yesterday and depleted of it today!

A Refilling of Power

The threatenings of these chief priests and elders, after a night in prison, apparently left Peter and John a little depleted of faith and the confident power of God. Yes, they were human!

They went to their brethren in Christ. When they reported what had happened, all their brethren were shaken. They, too, being human, must have felt a sudden sense of spiritual inadequacy—a lack of power! But they sensed and knew their need. They knew the source of constant refilling of this power of God within them! They didn't delay! They went immediately to the source of their divine power!

“And when they had heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is. . . . And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, by stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus” (Acts 4:24, 29-30).

Yes, suddenly this company realized their own human inadequacy—realized their need of renewed power from God. They didn't run from their difficulty! They didn't cower and tremble in fear. They didn't give up their Great Commission. They went directly to the source of their power. They yielded themselves into God's hands, as His servants, anew. They urgently, intensely, cried to God to fill them with His power—to give them boldness, faith, power of speech. They asked God fervently and believingly to heal and perform miracles.

Was there any God listening? Was there any response? Listen!

“And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spake the word of God with boldness! . . . And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus” (Acts 4:31, 33).

We Need It Today

Do you, today, have the same power the original Christians had? They were just as human as you! The real question, then, is this: Do you yield yourself as fully—surrender your will as unconditionally to God—pray as often, as earnestly and intensively, as they? If you do you will be filled with as much of the divine power as they—for God is no respecter of persons!

This same power of God operated actively, continually, in those early original Christians. They actually did do greater works than Jesus—until even the shadow of Peter passing over the sick healed them! They did the very Work of God!

The Work of God, which God started in the individual body of Jesus, was carried on through the collective body of disciples, now becoming the Body of Christ—the true Church of God!

Then the great apostasy set in. The apostate false church (Rev. 17:1-5) rose up in A.D. 33, two years after Christ started His true Church. It professed to be Christian, taking on Christ's name. This professing Christian church turned away its ear from the truth and turned to fables (II Tim. 4:4).

But there continued, also, God's true Church, pictured in Revelation 12—persecuted by Satan and his great false church of Revelation 17. No longer was this persecuted Church able to proclaim the true gospel to all nations—to the whole world—in great power.

But Jesus had said, prophetically, that just before the end of this world—right now—"This gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come!” (Matt. 24:14.)

Today God is opening gigantic doors—the doors of radio, television, and the printing press. Doors of mass communications. The original, true gospel of Jesus Christ—the same gospel He brought from God and taught—is broadcast into every continent around the world! It is hitting this world with terrific impact—with tremendous power!

This very Work of God for our day is foretold in the prophecy of Revelation 3:7-13. But there is revealed that we, today, are a people of but little strength—little power! (verse 8)—within ourselves—though we have faithfully kept God's Word! The impact of this Work of God today is going out only through the power of God! Are you having your part in this very Work of God?

But—let's face it—we do not have within ourselves, as God's instruments for His Work today, anywhere near the power of God that activated that original first century Church!

For that very reason, the living Christ says (Revelation 3:8) He has opened to us the gigantic door of mass communication! The magnified power of the microphone and the printing press. Yet that is only physical mechanical power! The real power that makes God's Work vital and alive is the Holy Spirit of God!

We need to present our bodies a living sacrifice to God! (Rom. 12:1.) We need to receive a greater transforming—and to be less conformned to this present evil world! We need to repent! We need to more earnestly seek God! We need to put on the whole armor of God, as we are admonished in Ephesians 6:10-18! Perhaps some of us need to fast and pray—as Jesus did!

Have you enough of the power of God flowing dynamically into, and out from you? You need to seek a much closer contact with your God!
IN BRIEF

CALE AND EFFECT
IN PALESTINE

by Stanley R. Rader

Why is the United States caught up in a crosscurrent of conflicting forces in the Middle East? Why are there no easy answers to the Arab-Jewish strife over Palestine? Why is the Western world being strangled by OPEC? How did we get ourselves into the Middle Eastern muddle? What are some of the basic root causes of the problem?

First, let's take a look at some of the unhappy effects. Begin with the stark fact that inflation has been virtually out of control ever since the 1973 oil debacle. Economies in the Western world are in a constant state of subjugation to the shifting sands of OPEC pricing policies. Add to our current economic woes an gasoline shortfalls the continual question of how many arms to give what Middle Eastern nation in what proportion. Then mix a "little" terrorism into the problem to get the pot to really begin to boil. For instance, a bomb explodes in the arrival area of Brussels airport and bullets are pumped into a nearby restaurant. An event entirely unrelated to the Mideast? No! Just one more piecemeal incident in the warfare of terror precipitated by the PLO quarrel with the recent Israeli-Egyptian accord.

Leaving aside the ugly acts of terrorists, how much should one support friendly or would-be friendly dictators in the area? Western diplomacy left a lot to be desired in the Iranian crisis.

I confess that it's very easy to be a Monday-morning quarterback by simply pointing out the unfortunate impact of the various and sundry problems in the Middle East. Far more important is a genuine quest to understand the fundamental causes of unrest in the area!

For more than fifty years, the Editor-in-Chief of this magazine has dedicated his life to promoting better understanding between all peoples. In so doing, he has stressed that there is a basic cause for all human conflict, whether it be conflict between private parties, conflict between classes, or conflict between sovereign nations.

Mr. Armstrong has based his conclusions on many, many years of observation and travel, as well as upon study and research. He has managed to isolate the basic root cause of human conflict in a very simple but profound statement: "Men and nations have been living throughout all recorded history according to the get principle rather than in accordance with the give principle."

The Middle Eastern conflagration is a classic case of violating the "give" way of life. First of all, much of the area's trouble, controversy and suffering has its roots in the Abrahamic relationship with Hagar. If you remember the story, Abraham was childless and his wife Sarah was already past the age of childbearing. Ishmael (the father of the Arabs) was Abraham's son by Hagar. Isaac (the great grandfather of the Jewish race) came along years later when Sarah conceived and brought forth a son long after her apparent menopause. This three-cornered triangle, with the inevitable jealousy between the two women, is a definite historical factor underlying some of the tensions in the Holy Land. You can read the intriguing story for yourself in the Old Testament book of Genesis (chapter 21).

Bringing the problem down to the twentieth century, Great Britain became a dominant force in the Middle East following World War I. This was concurrent with the general emergence of oil as the critical key to industrial success in the modern world.

British Petroleum (BP) eventually came to control the lion's share of Iranian oil. When the first Shah refused to part company with the Nazis during World War II, Great Britain and Russia conquered Iran in order to protect obvious oil interests. The Shah was promptly exiled! Then his son, the present Shah (now himself in exile), took the reins of government as a supposed puppet ruler. As Winston Churchill said: "We have chased a dictator into exile, and installed a constitutional sovereign." But this was not to be the case.

In 1951 the Iranian government expropriated the oilfields of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company (BP). The British subsequently ruled out the use of force because President Truman and Dean Acheson simply would not support it. The only reasonable alternative was a British boycott of Iranian oil. However, this policy was also to eventually fail because of a lack of American support.

But the British cannot blame it all on their brothers across the Atlantic. A memo published in 1975 showed the displeasure of Her Majesty's government with BP. It reads: "The principal reason why our advance information [before the takeover] was inadequate was the shortsightedness and the lack of political awareness shown by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company. They were far better placed than anybody else to make a proper estimate of the situation but, as far as I am aware, they never even seriously tried to do so." BP's corporate managers simply did not grasp the fact that European dependence on Middle Eastern oil was a highly strategic political issue and not exclusively economic in nature.

(Continued on page 35)
TOMORROW'S WORLD
A Global Garden of Eden

by Richard Rice

I was struck with awe and exhilaration at the breathtaking view before me. Standing on the front porch of our country home and surveying the lush green countryside for miles around, I was moved with inspiration and gratitude. A much needed rain from a rumbling thunderstorm had fallen all night. And now a sparkling new day had dawned.

A crisp morning breeze began to nudge the clouds away, allowing rays of brilliant sunshine to filter through. The air was clean and fresh and the smell of spring was everywhere. As the sun radiated its warm reflections to the earth, pristine droplets of water glistened on tender plants and tree leaves.

The birds were singing lustily and the farm animals began to stir. As far as the eye could see, all of the creation was new and vibrant with life. A rich carpet of glittering green grass had appeared and healthy crops were sprouting.

Rose buds and flowers began to unfold their petals in emblazoned color. The earth was coming alive!

It is times like this, when we can see God's creative handiwork bursting open with life and beauty, that prophecies depicting the world tomorrow become so clear and meaningful.

Beyond today's threatening clouds of doom and despair, a golden age of peace and prosperity will dawn.
The whole earth will become a veritable paradise—a global Garden of Eden—and all mankind will share it together.

The Good Life

Let's momentarily peer into the good life of tomorrow's world, when the scene described above will be duplicated the world over.

"The time will come when there will be such abundance of crops, that the harvest time will scarcely end before the farmer starts again to sow another crop, and the terraces of grapes upon the hills of Israel will drip sweet wine! I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel, and they shall rebuild their ruined cities, and live in them again, and they shall plant vineyards and gardens and eat their crops and drink their wine. I will firmly plant them there upon the land that I have given them; they shall not be pulled up again" (Amos 9:13-15, The Living Bible).

"...The wilderness of Lebanon will be a fruitful field again, a lush and fertile forest" (Isa. 29:17, The Living Bible).

"...The time will come that every human being on earth will hear the good news of God's Kingdom is all about!

Millions today, worldwide, are hearing on radio and television this encouraging message of hope proclaimed! But you are among the privileged few to be reading this advanced knowledge and to come in direct contact with the Work that is paving the way.

True Knowledge Encircles the Earth

Describing the utopian effect this priceless knowledge will have on those who hear and heed it, Isaiah writes: "For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. For you shall go out with joy, and be lead forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree..." (Isa. 55:10-13).

The time will come that every human being on earth will hear the good news and begin to know the true God.

"And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord..." (Jer. 31:34). "...For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Isa. 11:9).

A Righteous Ruler

What really good news! Once the whole human race has been educated in the ways of God, there will be peace and abundance for everyone on earth at last. Christ's rule will bring to the entire earth the welcome, fresh smell of spring. "Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein: then shall the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord...for he cometh to judge the earth" (Ps. 96:12, 13).

As David said in his "last words": "The Rock of Israel said to me: 'One shall come who rules righteously, who rules in the fear of God. He shall be as the light of the morning; a cloudless sunrise when the tender grass springs forth upon the earth; as sunshine after rain'" (II Sam. 23:3-4, The Living Bible). Are you actively preparing now so you can share in this coming wonderful world of tomorrow?
Is Christ divided? There are hundreds of denominations in America—and many other little groups and sects. Why? When did this confusion originate?

by Herman L. Hoeh

Previously, that same evening, Jesus had said to His disciples: "Ye shall be scattered" (John 16:32).

This persecution and scattering began early. Notice Acts 8:1: "And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles."

Nowhere is there any prophecy that the one true Church should become great and powerful, exerting influence in this world. Rather, Jesus called it the "little flock" (Luke 12:32). Despised, persecuted, scattered by the world—separate from the world! Scattered, but never divided. Always one Church, speaking the same thing—never many differing sects.

You haven't read much of the history of that Church. Even the historians never knew where to look for the true Church—for they didn't even know what the true Church is.

Broad Majority Deceived

On the other hand, in the world, all the prophecies foretold apostasy, deception, and division.

Jesus foretold the very first event to come on the world—great deception—climaxing, in our day now just ahead, in great tribulation!

"Take heed," He said, "that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am
Christ; and shall deceive many!” (Matthew 24:4, 5.) Notice carefully! It was not the few who were to be deceived—but the many. It was the few who were to become true Christians!

Jesus pictured this same condition when He said: “Wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it” (Matthew 7:13-14).

That isn’t what the world believes, is it? Probably that isn’t what you have always heard and come to assume. But it’s what Christ said! How deceived this world has become!

Satan is pictured in the Bible as the god of this world. He appears not as a devil, but as a god—as an angel of light. And in Revelation 12:9, you read of “Satan, which deceiveth the whole world.”

Yes, the many would come in Jesus’ name, proclaiming that Jesus is the Christ—yes, preaching Christ to the world. And yet, without realizing it, deceiving the world.

A Lesson to Be Learned
The apostles, instructed directly by Jesus Christ, constantly warned the Church about the great departure from the faith that would begin to occur at the close of their ministry.

Scarcely twenty years after the crucifixion of Jesus, the apostle Paul, in one of his first inspired letters, cautioned Christians not to be deceived by false preaching or by false letters purporting to be from the apostles. “Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day [the time of God’s intervention in human affairs when Jesus Christ will return to rule the nations] shall not come, except there come a falling away first” (II Thessalonians 2:3).

Apostles Knew What Would Happen
In Acts 20:29-30, the teacher of the Gentiles explains how the apostasy would begin. He gathered the elders (ministers) of the Church at Ephesus to deliver them a final message concerning their responsibility over the local congregations. “For,” said Paul, “I know this, that after my departing there shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. And of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things.” Why? “To draw away disciples after them.” To gain a personal following for themselves! To start a new denomination!

Do you catch the full significance of these two verses? The elders or ministers were especially assembled because, immediately after Paul would leave Ephesus, there would come within the local Church congregations false ministers, wolves in sheep’s clothing, to make a prey of Christians; and even from those elders already in the Church congregations some would pervert the doctrine of Jesus to secure a following for themselves.


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Jesus Christ did not found many denominations! Christ said, “I will build my church.” He did build it! One Church, commissioned to preach and to publish His gospel—the very message He brought from God.

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Gentile Deception Prophesied
Not only Paul, but also Peter, warned the churches that many would be misled. There were false teachers among Christians who would bring in heresies, “and many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of” (II Peter 2:2).

When Paul wrote his second letter to the Gentile-born Thessalonians, he instructed them against the “mystery of iniquity” which “doth already work” (II Thessalonians 2:7).

Notice, the cleverly disguised teachings of iniquity or lawlessness were at work in Paul’s day. The Roman world was being filled with numerous mystery religions which stemmed from the old sun-worshiping mysteries.

False teachers secretly professed to giving a hidden, yet easy, way to evade the consequences of breaking God’s law. Jude had to include in his letter the admonition that every Christian “should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. . . These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit” (Jude 3, 4, 19).

Jude says these preachers separated their followers from the body of believers. By the time John wrote his epistle, he had this sad note to include about those preachers who at first crept in unawares: “They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us” (I John 2:19).

True Christians Forced Out
Although numerous deceivers, called Gnostics, left the Church, drawing away disciples after them, there was an even more dangerous apostasy which infiltrated the true Church.

In instructing the evangelist Timothy, the apostle to the Gentiles instructed him to “reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts”—the congregations wanting to do what they please—“shall they heap to themselves teachers”—elect ministers who will preach what they want to hear—and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables” (II Timothy 4:2-4).

This was in the days of the apostles and evangelists. Many who fel-
lowshipped in the local congregations of the early Church, after about two generations, did not endure sound doctrine because they had not repented and received the Holy Spirit. They elected teachers who, for the sake of money, pleased their wishes by preaching fables—the enticing fables of mysticism and sun worship that were engulfing the Roman Empire. The letters of Paul were twisted by them to give another meaning than intended (II Peter 3:15-16).

But instead of leaving the local congregations and forming their own sects, as some Gentiles did at first, the false preachers remained within the congregations and soon began to expel the true Christians.

In the letter of the apostle John to Gaius, we read: “I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not. Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbidgeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church” (III John 9-10).

The true Christians, who alone comprised the true Church, being put out of the visible, organized congregations. They were the scattered ones of whom John said: “Therefore the world knoweth us not” (I John 3:1). In the Western Roman Empire, where Paul died, the state of Christianity was even more advanced along the paths of error. The name “Christian” was being borne away by leaders who crept into the fellowship of the Church of God and who, in the name of Christ, deceived the many into following their false teachings.

The Age of Shadows

Following the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70 and the deaths of the apostles, a strange phenomenon is witnessed. The true Church almost disappears from history, and false churches arise! Of this period the famous historian Gibbon says: “The scanty and suspicious ecclesiastical history seldom enables us to dispel the dark cloud that hangs over the first age of the church” (Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, chapter XV). The truth was obscured by error!

Historian Jesse Lyman Hurlbut gives us even more details in his book The Story of the Christian Church, page 41: “We would like to read of the later work of such helpers of St. Paul as Timothy, Apollos and Titus, but all these...drop out of the record at his death. For fifty years after St. Paul’s life a curtain hangs over the church through which we strive vainly to look; and when at last it rises, about 120 A.D., with the writings of the earliest church-fathers, we find a church in many aspects very different from that in the days of Peter and Paul.”

During that “lost century,” the true Church was lost sight of by most historians. Yet it has continued to exist from the time of Christ until the present. But few know where to look for it. For further facts about the true Church of God, request our free booklet This Is the Worldwide Church of God.

IN BRIEF

(Continued from page 29)

Though a general agreement was reached with the Shah in 1954, this turnabout of events marked the beginning of the end of British dominance in the Middle East. Other reverses were soon to follow.

The importance of Western oil flow from the Middle East was not lost on the late Egyptian President Gamal Abdul Nasser. In his own words, “Petroleum is the vital nerve of civilization.” He boldly nationalized the Suez Canal in July of 1956, following the announcement by U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles that Washington was withdrawing its offer of a $56 million grant to aid in constructing a high dam on the Nile at Aswan. Nasser declared he would use Suez toll revenues to build the dam.

The British response was not long in coming. (Britain was a major stockholder in the Suez Canal Company.) Anthony Eden and Harold MacMillan were adamant in their desire to use force to oust Nasser from control. Prime Minister Eden went ahead with his invasion plans in spite of opposition from President Eisenhower, who had previously made the U.S. position clear to Sir Anthony.

Washington’s reaction was as promised. Brotherly advice was backed up by hard financial pressure. When the Anglo-Israeli invasion strained the pound sterling severely, American monetary help suddenly became contingent on an immediate cease-fire. Westminster had to acquiesce.

The British presence in the Middle East had suffered another severe regression. A vacuum was being created which America never fully filled. British withdrawal from east of Suez followed in the sixties.

From a Western point of view, the folding of the British umbrella must be looked upon as an important causal factor in the instability now plaguing the Middleast.

There is a cause for every effect. Men and nations do reap what they sow. When will mankind finally learn this most basic of all lessons? 

WHY WERE YOU BORN?

No brute beast ever thought of questioning the meaning of his own existence. Man alone needs to understand his own meaning. Where are you going in life? What’s it all about? Why was the human race placed here on this earth? Does man have a unique destiny so glorious that it is all but incomprehensible? Find the answers to these and other questions about the meaning of life in the exciting booklet Why Were You Born? For your free copy, write to The Plain Truth office nearest you.
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

### CALIFORNIA
- KFRE, Fresno — 940, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8 a.m., Sun.
- KIAX, Glendale — 870, 11 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
- KCHS-FM, Indio — 103.1, 7:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.
- KLAC, Los Angeles — 570, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7 a.m., Sun.
- KGUY, Palm Desert — 1270, 6:15 a.m., Sun.
- KFGB, Sacramento — 1530, 11:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 p.m., Sun.
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- KNBR, San Francisco — 660, 9 a.m., Sun.
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### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
- WRC, Washington — 980, 8:30 a.m., Sun.

### FLORIDA
- WAPE, Jacksonville — 690, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
- WKQI, Jacksonville — 1090, 12:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.
- WQIN, Miami — 940, 12:05 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.
- WIOD, Miami — 610, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
- WKIS, Orlando — 740, 7:30 a.m., Sun.

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

### HAWAII
- KKON, Kauai — 790, 5 a.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.

### INDIANA
- WMTS, Indianapolis — 1590, 10 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 6:30 a.m., Sun.
- WSBT, South Bend — 960, 11:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 4:30 p.m., Sun.
- WTAW, Robinson — 1570, 10:25 p.m., Sun.

### IOWA
- KIOA, Des Moines — 940, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
- KKX, Waterloo — 1540, 11:45 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 5 a.m., Sun.

- Denotes time or station change
- Denotes 50,000-watt wide-area station

### KANSAS
- WIBW, Topeka — 580, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

### KENTUCKY
- WHAS, Louisville — 840, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
- WKOI, Louisville — 1080, 9 a.m., Sun.

### LOUISIANA
- WGOO, New Orleans — 1260, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.

### 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.
- WSPR, Springfield — 1270, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

### MICHIGAN
- WWOE, Detroit — 1500, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.
- WTRX, Flint — 1330, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

### MINNESOTA
- KTSMF-FM, Minneapolis — 97.1, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

### MISSOURI
- KBMBZ, Kansas City — 990, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 11 a.m., Sun.
- KGBX, Springfield — 1260, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m., Sun.
- KIRL, St. Louis — 1460, 6 a.m., Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m., Sun.

### NEBRASKA
- KRNY, Kearney — 1460, 10 a.m., Sun.

### NEW MEXICO
- KBCQ, Roswell — 1020, 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 a.m., Sun.
- WSOQ, Syracuse — 1220, 6:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

### NORTH CAROLINA
- WBTC, Charlotte — 1110, 9 a.m., Sun.
- WSOQ, Charlotte — 990, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
- WNCN, Greenville — 1070, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., 10:30 a.m., Sun.

### 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.
- WNNI, Columbus — 920, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
- WCWA, Toledo — 1230, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8 a.m., Sun.

### OKLAHOMA
- KYVO, Tulsa — 1170, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.
- KXIO, Tulsa — 1300, 10 a.m., Sun.

### OREGON
- WBN, Portland — 1080, 9 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 p.m., Sun.

### PENNSYLVANIA
- WHP, Harrisburg — 580, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.
- WRCF, Philadelphia — 1540, 6 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.
- KQV, Pittsburgh — 1410, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7 a.m., Sun.
- WARM, Wilkes Barre — 590, 7 a.m., Sun.

### RHODE ISLAND
- WEAN, Providence — 790, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
- WQNG, Providence — 550, 9 a.m., Sun.

### SOUTH CAROLINA
- WSPA, Spartanburg — 950, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 6:30 a.m., Sun.

### TENNESSEE
- WDEF, Chattanooga — 1370, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 p.m., Sun.
- WREC, Memphis — 600, 11 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

### TEXAS
- KPRC, Houston — 950, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.
- WWOI, San Antonio — 1200, 10:15 p.m.-Mon.-Fri.; 10 a.m., 7:30 p.m., Sun.

### UTAH
- KSL, Salt Lake City — 1160, 5:30 a.m., Sun.

### VIRGINIA
- WCPK, Chesapeake — 1600, 12:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 5:30 p.m., Sun.
- WNNI, Norfolk — 1300, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
- WZAM, Norfolk — 1110, 8 a.m., Sun.

### WASHINGTON
- KGSR-FM, Auburn — 89.9, 12 noon, Sun.
- KAYO, Seattle — 1150, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

### WEST VIRGINIA
- WRCW, Charleston — 680, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.
- WREE, Huntington — 600, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
- WREE-FM, Huntington — 100.5, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
- WWVA, Wheeling — 1170, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

### WYOMING
- KTWO, Casper — 1030, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9 p.m., Sun.
- 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 — 910, 7:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
CIOK, St. Paul/Bonnyville — 1310, 7:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
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.
CKCR, Grand Forks — 1230, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKTA, Taber — 1230, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJVI, Victoria — 900, 10:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKMK, McKenzie — 1240, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

MANITOBA
CKBD, Brandon — 1230, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKOW, Portage la Prairie — 950, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKPR, Portage la Prairie — 1100, 12:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

ONTARIO
CKOL, London — 1230, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHML, Barrie — 1230, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHHY, Hamilton — 1230, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHCH, Hamilton — 1230, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

QUEBEC
CKCH, Hull — 970, 7 a.m., Sun.
CFMB, Montreal — 1410, 1 p.m., Mon.-Fri., 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 — 1100, 9:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKBI, Pro Albert — 1240, 9:30 p.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
KAZA, Tucson — 11, 7:30 a.m., Sun.

ARKANSAS
KARK, Little Rock — 4, 10 a.m., Sun.

CALIFORNIA
KMJ, Fresno — 24, 7 a.m., Sun.
KTVV, Los Angeles — 11, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
KTVU, Oakland — 2, 10:30 a.m., Sat.

COLORADO
KXPR, Colorado Springs — 11, 8:30 a.m., Sun.

CONNECTICUT
WGNR, Hartford — 20, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WTTC, Washington — 5, 7 a.m., Sun.

FLORIDA
WCIX, Miami — 6, 7 a.m., Sun.

ILLINOIS
WCUI, Chicago — 26, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WFID, Chicago — 32, 7:30 a.m., Sat.

INDIANA
WKJG, Ft. Wayne — 33, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
WISH, Indianapolis — 8, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WSBT, South Bend — 22, 10, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

IOWA
KWML, Waterloo — 7, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

KANSAS
KGLD, Garden City — 11, 4:30 p.m., Sun.
KARD, Wichita — 3, 12 noon, Sun.

KENTUCKY
WLEX, Lexington — 18, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
WHAS, Louisville — 11, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

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

MICHIGAN
WUHO, 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, 7:30 a.m., Sun.

NEBRASKA
WACO, Lincoln — 8, 9 a.m., Sun.

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

NEW YORK
WENY, Albany — 10, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WUTV, Buffalo — 29, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
WOR, New York — 9, 10 p.m., Sun.
WROC, Rochester — 6, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

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

OHIO
WAOR, Akron — 23, 11 p.m., Sun.
WLW, Cincinnati — 5, 11:30 a.m., Sun.
WSPD, Toledo — 13, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

OREGON
KPTV, Portland — 12, 11 a.m., Sat.

PENNSYLVANIA
WIBC, Pittsburgh — 11, 11 a.m., Sun.
WSBA, York — 43, 12 noon, Sun.

RHODE ISLAND
WPRO, Providence — 12, 11:30 a.m., Sun.

TENNESSEE
WRCB, Chattanooga — 3, 12 noon, Sun.
WKPT, Kingsport — 19, 12 noon, Sun.

TEXAS
KTXV, Austin — 36, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

WASHINGTON
KXLJ, Spokane — 2, 11 a.m., Sun.

WISCONSIN
WVTW, Milwaukee — 18, 10 p.m., Sun.
Personal from...
(Continued from page 1)

instruction manual—His basic revelation of necessary knowledge. And this book claims that ALL mankind, as a whole, is deceived! All nations are deceived. Listen! Let me show it to you. "The great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world" (Revelation 12:9).

Notice Jesus' warning: "For many shall come in my name saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. "And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. "For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows. . . . And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. . . . 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" (Matthew 24:5-8, 11, 24).

And notice the apostle Paul's warning to the Gentile Corinthians: " . . . the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them . . . . for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works" (II Corinthians 4:4; 11:14-15).

These passages represent Satan the devil as the arch-deceiver of mankind. Probably most people today are deceived into thinking there is no devil. The very arch-deceiver has deceived the world into thinking he doesn't exist and untold millions into thinking that God doesn't even exist.

Another important fact the knowledge of which has been hidden from the world is that there was once peace on this earth—peace worldwide—happiness, joy! Originally this world was populated with angels—not humans. And that's another bit of knowledge hidden from most people today. So let us now notice the very first verse in all the Bible: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Genesis 1:1).

The Hebrew words in which Moses originally wrote that sentence imply a perfect creation—not one in chaos and confusion, as described in the second verse. Many scriptures in other parts of the Bible reveal great world-shaking events that occurred between the time of the first and second verses of Genesis one.

In the book of Job the original creation is described as so perfect and so beautiful that the angels shouted for joy. God the Creator is described as asking Job: "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if thou hast understanding . . . When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" (Job 38:4, 7.)

There was worldwide peace on earth for some time after the earth was first created, because the government of God was being administered here then. For how long a duration is not revealed. It could have been millions of years. In any event it lasted until about 6,000 years ago.

When this earth was first created, God, the Creator-Ruler of the universe, set one of two highest-ranking archangels—a cherub—who was thoroughly experienced in the administration of God's government, as king to administer the government of God over the earth.

And all that, too, is knowledge hidden from the world today. And that involves also another important bit of hidden knowledge—the very origin of this Satan, the devil.

Notice what Isaiah reveals about this Lucifer or Satan. "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit" (Isaiah 14:12-15).

This superarchangel who became Satan (see Ezekiel 28:12-17) led one-third of all the angels—the whole earth's population—in his war of aggression. And he is deceiving the whole earth today!

As a result of this colossal earthwide mutiny and rebellion against the government of God, a physical destruction put this whole earth into chaos and darkness, and that's what we find described in Genesis 1:2: "And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters."

Then in six days God renewed the face of the earth: "Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth" (Psalm 104:30).

So now, notice the first thing God did in renewing the face of the earth: "And God said, Let there be light: and there was light" (Genesis 1:3).

It was on the sixth day of renewing the face of the earth that God created the first humans—when man was first put here on this earth—for a tremendous purpose which also has been withheld from public knowledge. "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth" (Genesis 1:26).

Satan deceived the first woman and got to Adam through his wife. Adam rejected God's revealed knowledge—just as humanity has been doing ever since—disobeyed the government of God, allowed the same attitude that Satan had to enter his heart—the self-centered attitude of vanity, lust and greed, of selfishness, of resentment against authority—especially the authority of God—of total unconcern for the good or welfare of others, of jealousy, envy and hatred.

And all humanity, under the sway of this active Satan, is traveling that path. And that is the very cause of all humanity's ills and evils in this sick, sick world today.

Happily, the time is coming, soon, when this whole world is going to be jolted into waking up to this vital knowledge, so long hidden from a sleeping and sick world!
Are you lonely? Tired of wrestling with marital or financial problems? Wish you had somebody to talk to? Maybe we can help. The Worldwide Church of God has a counselor in your area who's willing and able to lend an ear. He can patiently, discreetly and confidentially provide a sounding board when you need it most. He can give you encouragement, answer your questions about the Bible, and let you know when and where the Worldwide Church of God meets near you. (Now there's a place you'll find hundreds of friendly people willing to reach out—people just like you who share the hopes and dreams you share—people who could end up being the best friends you've ever had.) So whether you need confidential counseling or would just like to know where you could meet some happy, sharing people, pick up your phone and call now. There's no cost or obligation—we're here to serve you.

CALL (1)-800-423-4444* TOLL FREE
Or write us at the address nearest you (see inside front cover).* Residents of California, Alaska and Hawaii may dial 213-577-5225 collect.
WHY GESTAPO-LIKE RAIDS ARE ON THE INCREASE

A recent flurry of wanton government raids on churches, law offices and newspapers dramatize just how fragile our freedom has become. But why? What went wrong? What is behind the erosion of your liberty to be free from unreasonable government intrusion?

by Stanley R. Rader and Jeff Calkins

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he Worldwide Church of God isn’t the only group which has had to endure the wanton, brutal seizure of its own records over the past few years. Some cases in point:
• Recently officials from the California Attorney General’s Office spent seven hours rummaging through the files and records of a firm of attorneys. The attorneys were representing a religious group (the Morningland Church of Long Beach, California) whose headquarters were being raided at the same time.
• One hundred thirty-four FBI agents burst into three offices of the Church of Scientology in Washington and California and hauled away what one newspaper report described as “tons of stuff.” Since then, Church of Scientology offices in Riverside, California, have been raided by local sheriffs looking for evidence of alleged wrongdoing.
• The Supreme Court (Zurcher v. Stanford Daily) has upheld the search of newspaper files even if the newspaper itself is not suspected of breaking any law.
• In California, the Attorney General’s Office has attempted to seize the records of yet another religious group, the Faith Center Church of Glendale.

What these cases have in common is a willingness on the part of the government to seize the private property of individuals and churches in order to go on a fishing expedition. Yet until about twelve years ago this kind of conduct would have been struck down by the courts as blatantly illegal and contrary to the Constitution!

The Fourth Amendment of the Bill of Rights of the U.S. Constitution gives each person the right to be safe against unreasonable government searches and seizures. The Fourth Amendment simply reads: “The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.”

The moral to the story seems to be that once governments begin to disregard property rights, other human rights also are soon violated.

The Right to Property

The right to own private property is part of the very Ten Commandments of God. “Thou shalt not steal” (Exodus 20:15) and “Thou shalt not covet... any thing that is thy neighbor’s” (Exodus 20:17) mean that people must respect each other’s property.

God’s condemnation of human governments which seize the property of their citizens is poignantly brought out in the biblical account of Naboth and Ahab (I Kings 21). Ahab the king was the sovereign of Israel—the government, if you please. Ahab coveted a piece of property (a vineyard) lawfully owned by one of his subjects, Naboth. At first, Ahab considered lawful procedures for acquiring the vineyard, namely buying it from Naboth (verse 2). After Naboth refused to sell, Ahab’s wicked wife Jezebel appealed the coercive powers inherent in the fact that he controlled the government: “And Jezebel his wife said unto him [Ahab], Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel?” (Verse 7.) Jezebel then brought a false indictment against Naboth—a trumped up charge of blasphemy (verse 10)—and arranged for perjured testimony.
to convict him in a kangaroo court-like setting (verse 13). After Naboth was stoned, Ahab took possession of the property (verse 16)—an act which incurred the specific anger of God Himself (verse 19).

Moreover, the Bible goes on to point out that one of the inherent evils of human governments is their tendency to seize what is not lawfully theirs! Thus the prophet Samuel, upon learning that the children of Israel were rejecting a theocracy in favor of a human sovereign, told them: “This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will take [seize] your sons.... And he will take your daughters.... And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your olive yards....” (1 Samuel 8:11-14).

The Tribulation

In the early 1970s, when the Communist Salvador Allende came to power in Chile, he sought to crush all opposition. But he also wanted to preserve the appearance of democracy. So instead of just ordering the army to shut down all opposition newspapers, he tried to do the same thing in a more insidious manner. He had the government socialize the banks, the utilities, and the paper mills. He still allowed a “free press,” but that press soon found it couldn’t keep publishing because the government controlled everything the opposition newspapers needed!

Of course, many people aren’t really all that concerned when the government forbids individuals to own things like banks and pulp mills. But we soon discover that free newspapers rely on those paper mills, and when government owns everything, government is able to dictate what a newspaper will say. And such a horrendous result is a direct consequence of the government’s failure to respect the right of other people’s property.

Clearly, freedom of the press is bound up with freedom to be secure from government seizures of property. This shows us how the distinction between “human rights” and “property rights” is a false one. Precious freedoms having to do with intangible things like speech, thought and religion cannot be exercised without material things like paper, ink, presses, radio and television facilities, and even means of transportation to meet people. Take away these material things and there is no freedom of speech, press or religion!

This is why the pervasive, smothering government control of economic life has its prophetic aspects. In the famous “mark of the beast” prophecy of Revelation 13, we find what is, in fact, a nightmarish, overregulated society: “And he [the beast] causeth all.... to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name” (Revelation 13:16-17).

The time of the tribulation will be a time of a “famine...of hearing the words of the Lord” (Amos 8:11). It will be a time of outright religious persecution (Revelation 6:9-11) under the aegis of a resurrected Roman Empire. And it will be a time, as we have just seen, when all economic transactions will be closely regulated by the “beast” power.

Now consider: The famine of the hearing of God’s Word is a result of government seizure of the property necessary to propagate God’s Word. Control over all economic transactions makes it impossible to buy such things as paper, ink, or airwaves. And what, after all, is religious persecution but the ultimate in government “consumer protection,” paternalistically denying the individual his own free choice in the religious marketplace?”

Even today, in this pretribulation era, in a secular society, there are those who would use the state to deny to others the free exercise of their religion, usually under the excuse that people need to be “protected” from “harmful” choices. They fail to realize that the very basis of a free society is the free choice of individuals. In a free society, adults are treated like adults, and they do not need Big Brother “protecting” them from what Big Brother has not put his official government-regulation seal of approval on.

It is no coincidence that the true Church of God has only been able to preach the gospel of Christ’s Kingdom to a mass audience in free countries. (To many unfree countries, God has had to send His Ambassador to the nation’s top leadership.) If, as in East Germany or Bulgaria, for example, the government doesn’t permit private ownership of radio or television stations (almost always in the name of the public “welfare”), then God’s Church, or any other church for that matter, cannot even buy time to air its message. There is a direct relationship between freedom of speech and the right to own property.

God’s Church has a God-given duty to preach the gospel (Matthew 24:14; 28:19). In these end times, it has a unique opportunity to bring the gospel to the whole world—something which, because of the sheer physical size of the globe, has never before been possible! But it is only possible because we live in an age when the physical property of mass media can be privately owned. When courts allow the seizure of private property, they not only threaten the Great Commission of Christ to His Church, but lay the groundwork for the most compacted period of totalitarian horror the world will ever see (Matthew 24:21).

Many in the United States are very zealous over the right of privacy and the right of free speech. They should be! Without such rights, God’s Work could not be done here. But many of these same people have neglected to be as zealous over the right to own property. Now they are discovering that when government denies property rights, other civil or human rights will not escape.
Dr. Strauss again emphasized before *The World Tomorrow* television cameras (this time in Germany) the same theme: “We must achieve, we must bring about and we must realize West European unity before the Soviet vision of the Europe of tomorrow comes into reality.” That vision would be an American-free Europe, dominated by Moscow with no Western European unity.

### Has Seen America Slide

Since these interviews, much, of course, has transpired on the world scene. The American half of the “twin pillars” of the Atlantic Alliance has suffered a humiliating military defeat in Vietnam and a paralysis of executive authority through the Watergate episode. Since then, the Soviet Union has advanced its cause around the world, virtually unchecked by Washington.

Worst of all, the United States is in the midst of a severe crisis of leadership. In the wake of the recent chaos in Washington—especially the unprecedented forced resignation of President Carter’s entire cabinet—U.S. prestige has sunk to a new low, as reflected in the zooming price of gold.

Leading Europeans—and undoubtedly Strauss as well—have little confidence that America will either solve its nightmarish energy dilemma or recover enough confidence to resume its leadership of the non-Communist world. The idyllic “American dream” which enamored many Europeans to the U.S. society is finished. As evidence of that, a recent cover of *Der Spiegel* had a cartoon of a countryfied President Carter standing atop an empty oil barrel in front of a sign reading U.S.A.—LAND OF UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES. The President was shown glumly painting out the un from unlimited.

### Need For Nuclear Defense

Franz Josef Strauss has continuously pointed up the Soviet menace—and the need for Europe to eventually control its own nuclear defense force. Strauss, reported the Sunday Telegraph on July 9, 1979, “has a nightmare vision—which his frequent visits to Peking will not have dispelled—of the Western world enfeebling itself by its sheer apathy, disunity and materialism, and eventually falling, like some rotten-ripe plum, into the Kremlin’s hands.”

As Germany’s chancellor, continued the Sunday Telegraph, “he will go for a tougher and more disenchanted view of detente; a strengthening of NATO’s defences and a much stronger European profile within that alliance, including a new European nuclear profile.”

A German government with Strauss at the helm would also pursue, as he has said, “an African policy that corresponds with real German interests.”

These interests, in his view, do not involve the overthrow of moderate forces in southern Africa and the mollycoddling of Marxist revolutionaries. Continued access to the mineral riches of the African subcontinent and protection of the strategic Cape Route—avenue for much of Europe’s oil supply—are vital to Germany’s interests.

### Dramatic Campaign

The West German national campaign promises to be one of the most exciting political battles in the post-war history of any country of the free world: The popular, witty, confident Chancellor Schmidt against his Bavarian challenger, considered to be one of the most dynamic extemporaneous public speakers of modern times.
THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT of the seven leading free world industrial nations gathered for their annual summit in June 1979, this time in Tokyo. Around the table, clockwise from lower left, are: Prime Minister Helmut Schmidt of West Germany; Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira of Japan; Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti of Italy; Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Britain; President Valery Giscard d'Estaing of France; President Carter of the United States; and Prime Minister Joe Clark of Canada. The summit participants failed to come to grips with the challenge of surging world oil prices, shrinking away from taking politically tough decisions. Franz Josef Strauss called the summit "an ineffective foothill."

London's Financial Times, commenting recently about Strauss's notorious "lack of oratorical self-control," said this: "Herr Strauss in full oratorical flight is a wonder—scattering ironic abuse like shrapnel amid opponents too shocked for a fast response. (Herr Strauss's delivery, the Bundestag calculates, averages 311 syllables in 20 seconds against a parliamentary average of 288.)"

"Exciting" is perhaps too mild a term to describe the campaign to come. Die Zeit predicts that the Strauss-Schmidt battle will be a "pitiless confrontation." The Neue Ruhr Zeitung says of the CDU/CSU and its new flag-bearer: "Its new Matador will discipline it for the 1980 Bundestag election, and with it, carry on an election with the utmost tenacity."

The first round of this political slugfest, in fact, has already begun. In a dramatic move, Chancellor Schmidt, a Lutheran by profession, paid an informal visit to Pope John Paul II at the Vatican on July 9. It was an obvious attempt to curry Vatican support for his Social Democratic Party. Traditionally, Vatican sympathies have sided with the Christian Democratic parties in Western Europe, which trace their origins to the Vatican policy of helping stem a threatened Communist tide in the early years after World War II.

One issue certain to come up in the campaign is the question of West Germany's military defense. The Soviet Union, which holds the German armed forces, or Bundeswehr, in high regard, wants to negotiate substantial cuts in its size in the ongoing East-West mutual force reduction talks in Vienna. Stopping off in Moscow recently enroute to Tokyo, Chancellor Schmidt indicated his willingness to consider a sizable cutback.

Strauss, who more than any man can lay claim to being the architect of the Bundeswehr, is certain to voice his opinion on this issue and others loud and clear!

Between now and October 1980, Plain Truth readers should keep a close eye not only on the election campaign in America, but on the more exciting—and perhaps more pivotal—one in West Germany. As The Plain Truth said in its September 1968 issue: "To a great many people—especially to Bavarians—Strauss seems to possess the answers. He is swift, decisive, tenacious—unpredictable, powerful. He gets things done. He is surrounded by an aura of power—a mysterious presence that cannot be denied, whether liked or disliked. It remains to be seen just where that power will take Germany."
anniversary of Israel's exodus out of Egypt. Egypt also is symbolic of sin—and Israel was taken out by God with miracles, as He delivers His people today from the bondage of sin. There are two annual holy days in this festival—the first and the last of the seven.

The third annual festival is the Feast of Firstfruits, called in the New Testament of the Bible “Pentecost,” because this is the one set-apart time of year when the Church counts to calculate the proper day. It is 50 days, counted beginning on the “morrow after the weekly Sabbath” which occurs during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. “Pentecost” is simply the Greek for “fifty-count.” This pictures the coming and indwelling of the Holy Spirit, begetting the “firstfruits”—those relative first few called to spiritual salvation. The Holy Spirit came on the very fiftieth day—the first time the Holy Spirit was given to a group, which formed the Church of God. This annual festive occasion reminds God’s people yearly that they are merely the first to be called to spiritual salvation; that the world, except the few called, is cut off from God—neither “saved” nor “lost”—just not yet called! Therefore not yet judged.

Another incidental proof of the identity of the one true Church is the knowledge, that with the foundation of the Church of God, “the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God.” Those called into God’s Church are now being judged. Others are not—yet!

These annual festivals are built around the annual harvest seasons in Jerusalem. The first three portray the early grain harvest, typical of the first early spiritual harvest in the conversion of man. The last four correspond to the final great autumnal harvest. They all come in the seventh sacred month.

Festival number four is the Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah in Judaism), on the first day of the seventh month of the sacred calendar. The Feast of Trumpets pictures and reminds the Church yearly of the second coming of Christ to reign over all the earth.

**Largest Convention on Earth**

The fifth festival is the Day of Atonement, called in Judaism Yom Kippur—a solemn fast day. No food may be eaten from sunset to sunset. It pictures to God’s people restoring man to at-one-ment with God. The world, cut off from God these 6,000 years, has been deceived and led by the god of this world, Satan. Jesus Christ qualified to replace the former Lucifer on the throne of the earth. When He comes as King of kings, Satan shall be deposed, bound, shut up (Revelation 20:3) for 1,000 years. Without Satan, who has worked in the people of the world (Ephesians 2:2), humanity at last may be made at one with the true Creator God!

The sixth festival is the Feast of Tabernacles—a seven-day festival, with the first day the sixth annual Holy Day. The Feast of Tabernacles (or Booths) is followed by an eighth day, a one-day holy day—making in all an eight-day festival.

This pictures the millennial reign of the Kingdom of God, ruling all nations for 1,000 years. During this millennium, all living will be called to repentance and faith and eternal salvation through the reigning Christ—with no Satan to overcome. More of the details of this time will be given under proof number seven, to follow.

This seventh and final holy day begins at sunset just as the Feast of Tabernacles is ending. As stated earlier, small though the Worldwide Church of God may be in numbers, this is the largest church convention or conclave held annually on earth—with festival sites all over the world.

**When the Billions Shall Be Called**

The final eighth day (the seventh festival) brings to mind again every year what is in God’s master plan for the billions of people who have lived and died since Adam—cut off from God—unjudged—neither “lost” nor yet “saved.”

They will be resurrected after the millennium in a special resurrection (Revelation 20:11-13). This is also described in Ezekiel’s prophecy of the “valley of dry bones” (Ezekiel 37). All previously uncalled will be resurrected mortal, and with the 7,000 years of humanity now history, will face up to what their experience in sin really proved. All then will be called to repentance and eternal life.

**Final Fate of the Incorrigible**

There shall then be one more resurrection—of those who were called to salvation, but rejected it—the incorrigible wicked. They will be resurrected mortal to realize their fatal decision. They will be “cast into the lake of fire.” This is the second death (Revelation 20:14-15). This “lake of fire” is pictured by Peter in his second letter.

“This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets [Old Testament], and of the commandment of us the apostles [New Testament] of the Lord and Saviour: Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

“For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the
The Name of God's true Church is The Name of the True Church shall be stubble: and the day that shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts (Malachi 4:1-3).

Malachi adds, of that final destruction of the willful rebellious into unconscious (Ecclesiastes 9:5) annihilation:

"For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.... for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts" (Malachi 4:1-3).

The Name of the True Church
The Name of God's true Church is important—but not alone the exclusive proof of identification, because a small number of professing Christian sects use the name. Yet the one and only original Church founded A.D. 31 by Jesus Christ most certainly will have the true name!

God names things and people what they are. The "church in the wilderness"—the Old Testament church (or congregation) was named the "congregation of Israel" because it was composed of the physically born children of Israel. The two-letter word of denotes ownership or origin.

The New Testament Church organized by Christ is called, twelve times in the New Testament, "the Church of God," sometimes with a modifying word or phrase such as "the Church of God, which is at Corinth," or the "Churches of God in Judaea." Today it is known as the Worldwide Church of God.

The English word "church" is translated from the Greek ekklesia, and the Greek word used in the original writing of the New Testament means, simply, a group, an assembly, etc., without specific reference to a church. At Ephesus, for example, the city council—political—was called an ekklesia, with no religious connotation at all.

The only factor that makes the word "church" sacred is when it refers to the Church of God—in other words, the group, congregation, assembly or church that belongs to God. It is God's name connected with it that lends sanctity to the name.

For example, the name "Roman Catholic Church" means a universal (catholic) church of Rome. The "Lutheran Church" is that group or body of people following or established by Luther. The "Methodist Church" means (in its name) a group or body of people following a certain method. The "Baptist Church" by name means a group or combination of groups who believe in baptizing and who follow John the Baptist. The name "Congregational Church" simply implies a group of people who believe the lay people ought to have the authority. The name "Presbyterian Church" means an associated group who believe the "presbytery" of officiating clergy have the authority.

The name "Church of God" means that group of "called-out ones," called out from this world, who look to God as the authority—and who submit to government from God through Christ, through (on the human level) apostles chosen by Christ—not elected by the people!

So there is vital meaning to the name of the true Church. And the name is important!

In Jesus' last prayer to God before being crucified, He prayed, "I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world.... And now... I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name...." (John 17:6, 11-12).

(To Be Continued)
Can the existence of God be demonstrated to the rational mind? Is there any tangible evidence at all that a supreme Being really does sit at the controls of the universe? Belief in the existence of a deity is the basic assumption upon which all religion is built—but what is the basis for such belief? Is it mere outmoded superstition to believe in God? These questions have troubled every generation of mankind. Our free booklet Does God Exist? will provide you with a solid basis for believing in the existence of a divine Creator God. Be sure to obtain your free copy by returning the literature request card in this issue, or simply write to The Plain Truth at the address nearest you.

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