Britain's Last Gasp of Joy and Splendor
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AUTHOR'S COLUMN

Do World Leaders Dare Ask?

This Marvelous Miracle—Human Consciousness

As Goes the Farm So Goes the . . . ?

About Our Cover

The PROCESSION ROUTE—Prince Charles and Princess Diana return from St. Paul's Cathedral, after the wedding, along Fleet Street, Strand and the Mall to Buckingham Palace amid cheers of joy from immense crowds.

Cover photo by Gamma/Liaison

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The most costly nonspecialty automobile is the Rolls-Royce. In early 1962 I bought one in London. I was spending probably more time in England then, because of the English campus of Ambassador College, than at Pasadena.

I paid £11,000 for it. Extravagance? Perhaps some thought so, but it was the least expensive car I ever owned. Now, after using it for nearly 20 years, I sold it for £14,000.

Most people seem to think whatever costs less is the better value. That is not true of material goods, nor of spiritual values. I have always believed in conscientious quality, whether in material commodities or character values.

When I was a boy of 19, I was sent by a big lumber company to be timekeeper and paymaster in its lumber mill in southern Mississippi. It was my first trip of any distance away from home in Des Moines, Iowa. The vice president of the lumber company called me to his office to give me some sound advice as a young man starting out in life.

That was in January, 1911. Of course travel then was primarily by train. Always, he advised, when possible travel by Pullman car. It would be cheaper in the long run. It would put me in the company of a better class of people. It would be safer. It would be cleaner. Always, unless one could not afford it, stay, in traveling, at the leading or best hotel in any city. If necessary to economize, ask for a lower-priced room. But the same advantage obtained as on trains. We are influenced by every person with whom we come in contact. I have since traveled on daycoaches, and stayed in second-class hotels—but only when I could not afford better. This millionaire did advise me, also, to live within my means. If I couldn’t afford the best, take what I could afford, but strive to succeed and get to be able to afford the best.

When Ambassador College was built in Pasadena, it was indeed a financial struggle. I did not go beyond what we could afford. But, as God made it possible, I did try to build the best! You see, I was not really building this college. Christ IN me was. I was merely His instrument. But I knew that whatever God did, it was written of it, "God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was VERY GOOD."

God believes whatever we do should be the best possible. But as Christ’s instrument, I knew Jesus said we should not start to build something without enough to finish it. I saw how King David had wanted to build a temple for God’s worship. It was to be the finest building on earth, and would cost today billions of dollars. I wanted to build at Pasadena an auditorium at the present headquarters of God’s Work. I didn’t think God would want a building here even remotely as costly as Solomon’s temple at Jerusalem. It would not be a really large auditorium, but one seating 1,250. But I did want it, and believed Christ IN me wanted it to be the FINEST in character and quality.

I prayed about it. I wanted God’s direction. I knew He would not have built here a building of inferior or cheap quality. I also knew He would not be building it through me if there was not enough money to complete it. I asked, if He wanted me to proceed, to provide in advance assured finances to complete it. I refused to start it until God had supplied complete financing. I did proceed with architects’ plans and specifications. I found it was going to cost $11 million. That seemed impossible, even beyond providential provision. Nevertheless, I refused to proceed without being provided financial ability to complete it. I had to wait two years.

Then the miracle happened. God provided 100 percent financing. It seemed an unheard-of and unprecedented thing, for banks and insurance companies do not provide such financing for churches or colleges. Yet God provided 100 percent financing before I, shovel in hand, broke ground.

The Ambassador (Continued on page 43)
Why did Britain stage it? The royal wedding of the Prince of Wales was the most colorful and glorious show any nation could produce. The answer has significant connection with the Second Coming of Christ.

The grand and glorious royal wedding cost the Queen and Britain several millions of pounds. Britain is now in economic depression. One would think the nation could ill afford so extravagant a show of pomp and ceremony at this time. Yet that is undoubtedly the very reason the government did afford it.

No other nation on earth could put on so glorious and colorful an extravaganza. It was a spectacle unparalleled.

The British have the equipment: the gorgeous horse-drawn state postilion landau, open carriages and state horse-drawn coaches in bright gold trim, with red-coated gold-braided coachmen riding both fore and aft. All were drawn by two or four of the finest horses—with horsemen in brilliant uniforms and costumes parading at a trot down the Mall, lined with brilliantly uniformed armed-service men, and accompanied by gaily uniformed mounted police, on the flag-bedecked procession route.

The bright sunny July morning provided a spectacle seldom witnessed. There were several such coaches. They paraded British royalty. Earlier, by motorcar, had proceeded many of the crowned heads of Europe, Crown Prince Akihito of Japan, and the Crown Prince of Jordan, brother of King Hussein—both of whom I know personally. Also of my acquaintance were Prince Rainier and Princess Grace of Monaco. King Baudouin and the Queen of Belgium were there. Although I do not know them, I am well acquainted with the King's father, King Leopold III, whom I hope to visit again.

The service was held at St. Paul's Cathedral, officiated by the dean of the cathedral and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Robert Runcie. Assisting were the Roman Catholic Cardinal and the head of the Methodist Church in Britain. The spectacle in St. Paul's, all shown on color television, was equally brilliant.

The precise timing of everything, the professional dignity with which it was all executed, neared perfection.

It was estimated that a million people lined the Mall and Fleet Street, leading from Buckingham Palace to St. Paul's, and shouts were loud, vociferous and enthusiastic. It was a tremendous psy-
chological and emotional uplift to the whole of Britain.

And it was my guess that was the very reason the British government, and the television companies went to the extravagant lengths in presenting this magnificent wedding show to the entire world.

The British people are sorely depressed. My plane landed at Luton airport. Near the airport are the large British works of General Motors. Just recently they laid off another 6,000 employees. Unemployment and inflation are at a near all time high. Times in England are bad.

People are discouraged. What could pick up their spirits right now more than such a display of glorious pomp and ceremony at so happy an occasion as a popularly approved wedding?

Not in the memory of this generation has a popular Prince of Wales, heir to the throne, married a universally approved English girl. The former Lady Diana, daughter of an earl, had just celebrated her 20th birthday a few days before the wedding—just out of her teens. She had been a kindergarten teacher, endeared to little children. She is bright, cheerful and happy in appearance, and tremendously popular in England.

But there is still far greater significance to this elaborate wedding. I do not know whether the present generation of the royal family know and believe it, but I've been informed that the royal family of two or three generations ago did know that the British sovereign is in fact a continuation of the dynasty of King David of ancient Israel. That dynasty continued to the time of Zedekiah, last king of Judah, overthrown by Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. The throne was moved by the prophet Jeremiah, through a daughter of Zedekiah, to Northern Ireland. It was overturned a second time and taken to Scotland. A third time and moved to London. It will be once more overturned by Jesus Christ, at His approaching second coming to earth, and moved to Jerusalem where Jesus Christ will sit on that throne, ruling over all nations of the earth.

This is all explained and scripturally accurately documented in my book The United States and Britain in Prophecy.

"One would think the nation could ill afford so extravagant a show of pomp and ceremony at this time. Yet that is undoubtedly the very reason the government did afford it."

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him a perpetual covenant, unconditionally, which God cannot and will not break! This covenant is even more amazing, and less understood, than the unconditional covenant with Abraham!

“I want you now to plant firmly in mind the specific nature and character of the covenant the Almighty made with David. For it is a vital link in the purpose and mission of Christ—an important key to Bible understanding!

“In II Samuel 23:1, 5, we find: ‘Now these be the last words of David... God... hath made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things, and sure.’ In other words, a covenant that shall endure forever and cannot fail!

“Turn back to the seventh chapter of II Samuel for more specific details. God gave David this covenant promise at a time when David was much concerned over the Ark of the Covenant dwelling in a tent. David wanted to build a great temple at Jerusalem.

“And it came to pass that night, that the word of the Lord came unto Nathan, saying, Go and tell my servant David, Thus saith the Lord, Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in?... When thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels [Solomon], and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever. I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: THY THRONE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED FOR EVER’ (II Samuel 7:4-5, 12-16).

**Points to Notice**

“Notice carefully these points:

1) David’s throne was set up and established with Solomon, David’s son.

2) The throne—David’s throne (verse 16)—was established forever in Solomon (verse 13). Observe that this nowhere says that when Christ comes, God will establish it in Him forever. It says it was to be established forever in Solomon.

3) What if Solomon, or the children of Israel, disobey? Would that cancel this covenant? Verses 14-15 plainly say that if they commit iniquity, God will chasten them with the rod of men, but will not break this covenant. The throne shall go on forever just the same!

4) Notice particularly, in case of disobedience, God will not take the throne away as He took it from Saul. How did He take it from Saul? Saul’s dynasty ended! No son of Saul ever sat on the throne. But Solomon’s dynasty would not end. The punishment for disobedience would be chastening at the hands of men.

5) Since God did firmly establish this throne with David and with Solomon, if David’s throne ceased from existence, even for the length of one generation, could we say it had been established forever as God here promised?

“Here is the fact as little realized as any in the Bible! Almighty God made an absolutely binding—just how binding we shall see!—covenant with David, unconditionally guaranteeing that there should never be a single generation from that time forward when there would not be a descendant of David, in unbroken dynasty sitting on David’s throne, ruling over children of Israel! It was the promise of a continuous, unbroken dynasty—all generations forever—that was guaranteed.

“This is hard to believe! Yet God promised and unalterably guaranteed just that! There were no conditions. Nothing that would happen could prevent it. The sins of the people were not to change it. The promise stood immutable!

**The End of the Record**

“But where is that throne today? “The history of the Bible records a line of kings, all descendants of David in continuous dynasty, down to King Zedekiah. But in the year 585 B.C. this last recorded king ever to sit on this throne was captured by the armies of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, his eyes were put out, he was taken to Babylon, and there died in a dungeon!

“Moreover, all his sons were slain! All the nobles of Judah who were not already imprisoned or enslaved at Babylon at that time were killed, so that none could remain to sit on the throne of David! The Chaldeans destroyed Jerusalem, burned the Temple and the king’s houses, took the Jews, a captive, slave people to Babylon.

There is certainly no record of any king of the line of David ruling over Judah from that day to this. However, the line of Jehoiakin to Jesus survived in Babylonish captivity—so Jesus was a descendant of David.

“Some will say, however, that this throne is established today in Christ. But Christ has not yet taken over this throne! He pictured Himself as the nobleman (Luke 19:12) who went to a far country (heaven) to get for Himself a kingdom, and, who, after receiving the right to the Kingdom, would return. Jesus Christ will not sit upon the throne of David until His second coming to earth, yet in the future!

“But what of the nearly 600 years between King Zedekiah and the birth of Christ? Who was reigning over the Israelites and sitting on David’s throne during those generations? If no one, then we must conclude God broke His Word, or the Scripture has been broken!

“The answer is a mystery more astounding than any tale of fiction! The Bible reveals it, step by step.

“But, then again, some will point to the expression ‘I will establish’ (II Samuel 7:13) and conclude that possibly God meant at the second coming of Christ He would establish that throne forever. And still that will not do. From whom would Christ take over David’s throne if that throne has ceased these centuries?

(Continued on page 44)
Trends are now underway that, when fully ripe, will radically alter the political landscape of Europe.

In Western Europe, opposition is growing toward America’s new tough stance vis-à-vis Moscow. Neutralism and anti-Americanism—or at least anti-Reaganism—are on the upswing.

At the same time, in Eastern Europe, Poland’s astounding revolution threatens to shake the Soviet Union’s postwar satellite empire to its foundations.

Where are these trends leading? Will the two halves of Europe ever meet? If so, what then?

Reaction to Reagan

For years West Europeans complained about a lack of leadership on the part of the United States. Washington’s policies, especially during the Carter administration, often changed unpredictably.

Ironically, the new, determined administration in Washington hasn’t solved the leadership crisis. Rather, it is meeting with surprising resistance on the other side of the Atlantic. Influential political circles on the Continent complain about President Ronald Reagan’s alleged uncompromising, hard-line approach toward Moscow.

Mr. Reagan’s suddenly announced decision in early August—while most Europeans were on vacation—to put the controversial neutron bomb into full production, only added more fuel to the fire of transatlantic suspicion.

The neutron bomb, of course, is nothing new. It had been earlier proposed for production and eventual deployment in Europe. However, after securing West Germany’s critical approval, former President Carter abruptly reversed his decision in April, 1978. He decided not to order it into production, he said, on “moral grounds.” Soviet propaganda had labeled the bomb a “capitalist” weapon—one designed “to kill people, not destroy property.”

Soviet concerns, then and now, are understandable. The neutron or “enhanced-radiation” bomb is a purely defensive, limited range weapon designed specifically to thwart a Warsaw Pact armored assault on Western Europe. The weapon, once available, would neutralize the four-to-one tank advantage the Soviet-led forces have over NATO defenders.

Predictably, the Soviet Union heatedly denounced Mr. Reagan’s decision. But the President dismissed the Soviet objections in his characteristically direct manner.

“I can understand their anguish,” said the U.S. President. “They are squealing like they are sitting on a sharp nail, simply because we now are showing the world that we are not going to let them get to the point of dominance where they can someday issue to the Free World an ultimatum of ‘Surrender or die.’ And they don’t like that.”

Generation Gap

The problem for Washington is that many in Europe increasingly do not agree with what they claim is Mr. Reagan’s “dangerous anti-Soviet rhetoric.” This is especially true among young people.

The politicians in Western Europe are dealing with a generation that was born, for the most part, after the Berlin blockade of
1948. This generation was in its childhood when the Berlin Wall was constructed—20 years ago this past August.

These people have matured during the period of detente—or official relaxation of tensions between East and West. They simply do not choose to believe their elders when they caution that it is necessary to upgrade defenses to redress the growing military imbalance in Europe.

To the politically active left, the United States now represents the greatest threat to peace in Europe, far greater than the Soviet Union. Conveniently overlooked are the 160 SS-20 missiles, each with three warheads, that the Soviets have targeted on every major city in free Europe.

**Unfortunate Timing**

The neutron bomb decision was inevitable, given the realities of the military equation in Europe. Yet the timing of it has fueled renewed opposition to another project: the modernization of NATO’s nuclear forces. Pending acceptance by West Germany and at least one other European NATO partner, 572 Pershing 2 medium-range missiles and land-based cruise missiles are due to be deployed by 1983.

The 1979 agreement is now in jeopardy because of the neutron bomb go-ahead.

In West Germany, the left wing of Chancellor Helmut Schmidt’s Social Democratic Party is pressuring the chancellor to renege on his agreement to accept the missiles.

In the Netherlands, the neutron decision makes it virtually certain that any future government in The Hague will refuse to accept cruise missiles on Dutch soil.

Italian cooperation may also be in doubt. Italy had originally been considered as the other continental country that would accept the new NATO missiles (West Germany insisted that one other NATO partner had to accept them or it too would bow out). On August 7, Prime Minister Giovanni Spadolini announced that indeed, 112 of the NATO missiles would be based in southeastern Sicily. Shortly afterward came Mr. Reagan’s unexpected neutron bomb decision. This provided Italy’s powerful Communist Party with propaganda leverage against Mr. Spadolini’s weak parliamentary coalition.

**Differing Views on Soviet Threat**

There is a growing schism between Washington and key Allied capitals over the entire range of East-West relations. Many Europeans simply do not share the perception held by the majority of Americans regarding the nature of the Communist threat to Europe and elsewhere.

This non-meeting of minds was very much in evidence at the recent seven-nation economic summit in Ottawa attended by this author.

One of the biggest disagreements at the summit occurred between the American and West German delegations. President Reagan personally told Chancellor Schmidt of his serious reservations over a massive 3,000-mile-long $15 billion Soviet-West European pipeline designed to transport Siberian gas to the nations of free Europe by the mid-1980s. If approved by all parties, it will probably turn out to be the biggest deal in the history of East-West trade. The West Germans are to play the major Western role in the project.

Mr. Reagan could not convince Mr. Schmidt to reduce the scope of the project, which, the U.S. President fears, could lead to dangerous West German dependence upon Soviet fuel sources, and pull Bonn closer to Moscow politically.

Equally serious is the rift that is bound to widen between the United States and the new Socialist government in France. Despite the person-to-person pleasantries in Ottawa between Mr. Reagan and President François Mitterrand, the political differences between them are bound to lead to friction later. For no two Free World leaders could hold more differing views of modern society.

Mr. Reagan espouses the principles of free enterprise, with a reduced role of government in the marketplace. Mr. Mitterrand, on the other hand, has vowed to further nationalize the French economy so that it will be, when his program is completed, essentially a state-directed one.

Furthermore, the world view of the French Socialists is 180 degrees away from that of the Reagan team. The Reagan administration views the world essentially as an East-West ideological struggle, between the Free World and Communist expansionism. The French Socialists, while denouncing direct Soviet aggression such as in Afghanistan, view the world essentially from a North-South or rich-poor perspective. They do not see Third World revolutionaries as auxiliaries of Moscow.

**Neutralism Spreading**

All across Western Europe (with the notable exception of France) neutralism is a rising tide. In some cases, neutralism amounts to little more than unilateral disarmament.

The British Labour Party, for example, is on the verge of adopting a policy calling for unilateral abandonment of Britain’s nuclear deterrent and the withdrawal of all (Continued on page 42)
A WORLD AT PEACE!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

I have continually said that Jesus did not come the first time on a "soul-saving crusade." This is not yet the time when God is trying to save the world. Rather, we are now near the end of the 6,000 years during which God sentenced the world to go its own way, form its own governments, its own religions, its own ways of life.

The first man, Adam, rejected God and God's government over him and his descendants—this whole world. God has intervened into this world of man, swayed by Satan, and called to Him a few—such as Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Moses and Elijah. He sent Christ to announce His coming Kingdom. He sent His apostles to proclaim that good news. In A.D. 31, Christ raised up His church—the church of God—for the purpose of standing back of the apostles getting out the true gospel. But when the gospel was suppressed after a few decades, the church met with such violent persecution that it decreased in size, and ever since has been what Jesus called "the little flock."

The Cause of Today's Evils
In Ephesians 2:2, Satan is called "the prince of the power of the air." The human spirit in each human person is directly in tune with Satan's wavelength. Satan does not broadcast in sounds or pictures. But through the spirit in every man, he infuses attitudes of depression, discouragement, vanity, lust, greed, competition, strife, resentment, discontent, rebellion, frustration. He is working in people in this way. He is the source and cause of all of today's evils.

But soon now—in our living generation—Christ will return as King of kings and Lord of lords, to rule all nations with the government of God.

One of the very first things to happen will be the putting away of Satan (Revelation 20:1-3). Now think of it! Satan will be gone! Christ will be here! Rivers of living water (Zechariah 14:8) will flow out from Jerusalem—that is, instead of this evil spirit pervading the entire atmosphere, affecting everybody, causing all evil, the Holy Spirit of God will infuse the atmosphere.

Christ will be here in person. The government will be government of love. People will begin to love one another—to help one another. The government of the Kingdom of God will bring world peace!

Great supernatural physical changes will happen to the earth. Deserts will become rich, fertile, crop-raising soil. Even the topography of the earth will be changed; great mountains will be leveled. Beauty will spring forth everywhere, not only in nature on the earth, but in people's lives—it will show on their happy faces.

But will Christ rule alone, by Himself—a one-man rule with no one under Him?

Of course not. Let me explain. I have said the first man, Adam, rejected God's government over him—not only for himself but for the whole human race that sprang from him. It was man who made the decision. Instead of accepting God as Ruler, as the source of basic knowledge, Adam decided, for his family—which is all humanity—to produce his own knowledge of what is good and what is evil. He took of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, rejecting the "tree of life" (the "living waters") or the Holy Spirit that would have impregnated him with eternal God-life.

And so, since that was man's decision God sentenced the human race that sprang from Adam to 6,000 years of being cut off from the possibility of receiving the Holy Spirit that imparts life eternal. In effect, God said, "Go form your own governments, your own religions, produce your own
knowledge and systems of education for 6,000 years."

But God did reserve the prerogative to intervene when and where necessary for His purpose. God was not trying to "save the world" spiritually. Those uncalled by God throughout history were neither lost nor saved—yet!

The few who received salvation and begettall of eternal life were called and chosen by God. Noah did not seek out God and beg for salvation—God called Noah. The same is true for Abraham, Moses, the prophets of Israel. The Kingdom of Israel was not offered spiritual salvation—but only physical, material and national benefits for obedience.

Christ came to announce His coming Kingdom of God—to be ushered in after man's 6,000-year sentence had ended. Jesus called and taught His disciples His message of His Kingdom; He sacrificed Himself for us; His apostles went out proclaiming the good news. Christ "added to the church" as many converted Christians as needed to stand back of the apostles, in diligent and earnest prayer, in encouragement, in tithes and offerings. In their own lives, they were to overcome Satan and Satan's ways and thus qualify to help Christ govern the world in the Kingdom of God—after the 6,000 years (Revelation 3:21; 2:26-27).

During this 6,000 years God has called no one to spiritual salvation except those He called to back up the apostles getting out the gospel; they were also called to qualify, by overcoming Satan, to sit with Christ on His throne in the Kingdom of God.

The new world tomorrow is going to come in our time! But remember, it won't become utopia all at once. When the Supreme Ruler, Jesus Christ, comes again to earth already crowned as King of kings, in all the vast power and glory of Almighty God, nations actually will resist Him at first. He is coming to rule by divine force. How ironic that the nations will have to be forced to be happy, prosperous, physically fit and well, living abundantly and joyfully!

How Utopia Will Come
But now let's be specific! Let's see just how tomorrow's utopia is to be ushered in. Remember, this wonderful world-state will not be achieved all at once.

Every major step of these soon-coming events is laid bare before our eyes in biblical prophecy.

The same Jesus Christ who walked over the hills and valleys of the Holy Land and the streets of Jerusalem more than 1,900 years ago is coming again! He said: He would come again. After He was crucified, God raised Him from the dead after three days and three nights (Matthew 12:40; Acts 2:32; I Corinthians 15:3-4). He ascended to the throne of God, headquarters of the government of the universe (Acts 1:9-11; Hebrews 1:3; 8:1; 10:12; Revelation 3:21).

He is the "nobleman" of the parable, who went to the throne of God—the "far country"—to be coronated as King of kings over all nations, and then to return to earth (compare Luke 19:11-27). He is in heaven until the "times of restitution of all things" (Acts 3:19-21). "Restitution" means restoring to a former state or condition—in this case, restoring God's government to earth, and thus, restoring world peace and utopian conditions.

Present world turmoil, escalating war and contention, will climax in world trouble so great that, unless God intervenes, no human flesh would be saved alive (Matthew 24:22). At its very climax, when delay would result in blasting all life from off this planet, Jesus Christ will return! This time He is coming as divine God! He is coming in all the power and glory of the universe-ruuling Creator! (Matthew 24:30, 25:31.) He is coming as King of kings and Lord of lords (Revelation 19:16) to establish world supergovern­ment and rule all nations "with a rod of iron" (Revelation 19:15; 12:5).

All crime and organized rebellion will be put down by force—divine supernatural force. Christ will then set His hand to reeducate and to "save" or spiritually convert the world.

Think of it! The glorified Christ—coming in all the splendor, the supernatural power and the glory of God Almighty; coming to save mankind alive; coming to stop escalating wars, nuclear mass destruction, human pain and suffering; coming to usher in peace, abundant well-being, happiness and joy for all mankind!

Resurrected Saints
As the resurrected Christ ascended to heaven in the clouds, so He shall return to earth in the clouds (Acts 1:9-11; Matthew 24:30). Just as He is returning (I Thessalonians 4:14-17), the dead in Christ—those who have received and been led by God's Holy Spirit (Romans 8:11, 14), including all the prophets of old (Luke 13:28)—will rise in a gigantic resurrection and be made immortal. Those then living who have the Spirit of God shall be instantaneously changed from mortal to immortal (I Corinthians 15:50-54), and, together with those resurrected, shall rise to meet the descending glorified Christ (I Thessalonians 4:17) in the clouds in the air. They shall be with Him forever (John 14:3). They shall—with Him—come down out of the clouds and stand with Him.

(Continued on page 35)
As the threat to economic survival grows, do we dare ask the all-important question that would bring about the cure?

Look at your daily newspaper. Notice the space devoted to economic news.

We're most concerned, it seems, about how to make our lives more comfortable.

We're so concerned with our lifestyles that we somehow have forgotten we have contributed to the economic malady we call inflation. Does the following ancient experience sound like what you face? "Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages, earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes [inflation]."

This apt description comes from a business source you wouldn't expect: the Bible. It is found in Haggai 1:6.

Few realize that the world's best-seller—the Bible—is a book containing the most important business principles available to man. And one of the first things this book of business reveals is to look to the cause instead of fighting the effects.

A Problem That Touches Us All
You and I are well-acquainted with the ravages of inflation and its opposite, massive recession. As the hot wind of rising prices blows across the nations, every facet of our lives is affected. We can't buy all the things we want. We have a harder time making ends meet.

Inflation must be cooled down. But how?

Walk into a public library. Browse through the business and economic section. You'll find volume after thick volume promoting this theory and that theory to slow rising prices. Inflation is no new creation of modern times. We must realize that this malady is a problem thousands of years old.

As long as the inflation rate is moderate—2 to 3 to 5 percent—we resign ourselves to it and say, "That's not too bad." But, if suddenly inflation blasts through the roof, we start pointing fingers at others. "Somebody's got to do something!" And so we look to people with power—to isolate the source of inflation and stop
it. What has happened in the Western world? People look to governments and political ideologies for solutions. "This policy will stop inflation," one says, while another says, "No, labor costs are the problem." As soon as we think we've got our problem pinpointed, another person says, "We've got problems with management."

**Classic Mistake**

It seems that dealing with our economic problems is similar to holding a soccer ball under water—as soon as you think you've got it under control, it pops up somewhere else.

While management, labor costs, stagnation in capital investment and the like, and especially excessive money supply contribute to inflation, there is one added problem. **We are the problem.**

We want our high-standard-of-living quarters—with electronic entertainment—but we don't want to work hard enough for it!

This is the key element that few world leaders dare talk about publicly. Where are world leaders who dare ask: If we want to prevent the world's economy from slipping further—and stave off major economic disasters—are we willing to cut our standard of living and work harder?

Employers must be willing to **pay more** for diligent, competent work and improved safety of workers.

Employees must be on the job, **producing,** rather than striking, working longer—as in a war—because we are in a war with the cause of inflation, which is greed. Joint employee-employer effort and cooperative spirit to increase productivity and cut unit costs is the fastest and only way to destroy the enemy.

Some individuals have already done this. They have been following the advice of *The Plain Truth.* And they are reaping the benefits. But the vast majority neglect this viable solution. Have you ever watched personal ratings in the popularity polls of an elected official cascade into an abyss when he or she starts talking about "tightening our belts"? Have you wondered why?

Look what the Bible reveals! "The heart [basic human motivation] is deceitful above all things..." (Jeremiah 17:9). In this statement is all-important knowledge that precious few know! The Bible reveals man to be a selfish being. Our basic drive is toward *ourselves*—not for the well-being of others.

Editor-in-chief Herbert W. Armstrong pointed up more than 45 years ago a principle that economic leaders ignore: "There is only one way that...money can be collected [in taxes] out of a larger sum than the present...billions of national income," he wrote, "and that is to INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF MONEY ACTUALLY EARNED AND PRODUCED.

"This can be done in only two ways," he continued, "(a), inflation, and (b), by actually earning and producing more on the PRODUCING end, and not on the SPENDING end!"

With a self-oriented nature, we humans want to "get" instead of "give." We contribute to the cause, not the solution. Instead of producing more, we use "plastic money"—the omni-present credit card—to stretch our payments and seemingly bolster our standard of living.

The proof of this comes in the form of falling productivity.

In the most modern, affluent nation on the face of the earth, U.S. factories are falling behind smaller, sometimes ill-financed companies outside the United States.

Why? Because Americans—whether professional or clerical, management or labor—are paying a terrible price for a shift in attitude.

Through the media, we have "reeducated" ourselves. We have been told we "owe it to ourselves" to buy whatever we want, whenever we want and however we want.

But we've lost sight of the basic principles that insure national success! And other Western nations are fast following in the United States' footsteps!

It's time we wake up!

Most don't realize that successful business principles are spiritual principles. The problems we face are spiritual in nature. But man pursues physical solutions to spiritual problems. Is it any wonder we find ourselves in such an economic mess?

**The Lost Generation**

An unfortunate case in point is the remnant of the late sixties' and early seventies' "counter-culture." Remember the old slogan, "Tune In—Drop Out"?

Instead of "hitting the books," thousands of Americans used college campuses as a place of foment and political rhetoric. With the Vietnam War as a backdrop, thousands and thousands of young minds closed themselves to preparation and advancement. Instead, they rejected elements of society and set out in a very loose and destructive fashion to "save the world."

What most didn't realize at the time was the terrible economic consequences that both the nation and the young people would soon face! Eschewing academic preparation, young people instead directed their precious time and energy towards experimenting with sex, hallucinogenic drugs and false philosophies to a greater or lesser degree. Within three years, many of these people suddenly woke up to find themselves out of the picture. Untrained, with no skills or experience, these young people had condemned themselves to unskilled, menial labor for the most part, or jobs that led nowhere. There's no market for street-corner political philosophies, they found.

And even more tragic is that nations that allowed this phenomenon to today the loss of brilliant, trained, experienced minds to run (Continued on page 38)
This Marvelous Miracle

HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS

by John Ross Schroeder

HUMAN BEINGS have been given the wondrous gift of consciousness. We are aware of ourselves and our environment. We are able to appreciate the aesthetic beauties of the earth. We can readily perceive the past—or think we can—and the present and the future. We have the ability to perceive good and evil.

But what are the origins of human consciousness? How and when did we come to have this marvelous gift?

Man Looks at the Problem

Evolutionists have proposed to explain the origin of the physical being called man. But evolution offers no viable explanation for the existence of consciousness—not even the vastly inferior animal consciousness that was before man's. Eminent scientist and Nobel prize winner, Sir John Eccles, has said:

"The genetic code and natural selection explains quite a lot. But not how I came to exist. It doesn't explain even the origin of consciousness, even animal consciousness. If you look at the most modern texts on evolution you find nothing about mind and consciousness. They assume that it just comes automatically with the development of the brain. But that's not an answer" (International Herald Tribune, March 31, 1981).

But if evolutionists cannot really explain the existence of consciousness, the Holy Scriptures do.

God Gives the Answer

The biblical book of Job contains some of the most beautiful poetic language in English literature. But the intrinsic worth of this ancient work goes far beyond mere beauty of language. It records a conversation that the man Job had with the Creator God.

The Almighty had asked the patriarch Job: "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know!" (Job 38:4-5, RSV).

These verses reveal that intelligence vastly superior to man's was present at the time of creation. Further, the same verses show that God possessed by his very nature the marvelous attribute of consciousness. Man was nowhere around at the time. He took no part in the creation work.

Centuries after Job died the prophet Isaiah was privileged to record God's Word to the children of Israel in a similar vein. "Thus saith the Lord, your Redeemer, who formed you from the womb: I am the Lord, who made all things, who stretched out the heavens alone, who spread out the earth—Who was with me?" (Isaiah 44:24).

God needed no help from any man to make the heavens and the earth. For the duration of this present age man must content himself as an intelligent observer of an already accomplished fact—the creation. However, this need not detract man from fulfilling his incredible human potential. In truth, the entire earth, as we now see it, was itself prepared for the advent of man.

Origin of Human Consciousness

But how did man come to be conscious of himself and of his surroundings? The biblical book of Genesis records the simple answer: "Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being" (or a "living soul"—KJV) (Genesis 2:7).

Man is made of dust. He is earthy. And with the breath of life—the oxygen we breathe—he became a living soul. He did not have a soul inside him. He became a living soul—made of dust and breathing air with its physical life-giving oxygen.

This living, breathing man is a phenomenal creature. And it is the attribute of human consciousness that results from his breathing into his physical being oxygen that accounts for the presence of this
phenomenon of man. Man is able to comprehend the complex interrelationships of space, time, mass and energy.

But of all the earth's conscious creatures that breathe, man is truly unique. He is self-aware, self-conscious—able to bring his mind to bear on the transcendent questions of life, death and his own ultimate fate. An extremely wise man once wrote: "The living know that they will die, but the dead know nothing" (Ecclesiastes 9:5). The inferior animal world has no inkling of approaching death. This knowledge is uniquely man's.

A Vast Difference

There is a vast difference between human self-awareness or consciousness and animal consciousness. It has been said many times before in the pages of this magazine that comparative brain size simply does not account for the great gap in mental powers. The physical human brain is only slightly superior to the brain of a dolphin or a chimpanzee.

Recall that we quoted the words of Sir John Eccles earlier in this article. He also stated: "Chimpanzees succeed, of course, quite well, at the lower levels of language expression. They can ask for things and get them... but they don't describe... They don't argue... They have no value system. They don't make moral decisions... They don't worry about tomorrow. They don't know they're going to die."


What then accounts for the existence of man's much greater mental powers? Again biblical revelation gives us a simple answer. The young man, Elihu, made this observation in the book of Job:

"But it is the spirit in a man, the breath of the Almighty, that makes him understand" (Job 32:8). Physical human brain alone simply does not explain mankind's enormous powers of intellect.

The spirit in man, which enters a human being with its first breath, imparts human mind power to the physical brain. It is that spirit that gives man the capacity to understand. The spirit in man, however, is not the commonly believed "immortal soul."

The spirit in man has no consciousness apart from the human brain. The spirit in man cannot perform any mental functions such as thinking or reasoning or knowing, apart from the human brain.

The Spirit in Man Vital!

Human self-awareness is only possible through this nonphysical component the Bible calls "the spirit in man." It is as Sir John Eccles has written: "If my uniqueness of self is tied to the genetic uniqueness that built my brain, the odds against myself existing are 10 to 10-thousandth against."

In other words the presence of organic brain tissue alone simply cannot and does not account for the existence of human consciousness.

Consider the multiple gifts associated with human consciousness. Laughter, for instance, is uniquely human. There is no real counterpart in the animal kingdom. Only man is able to appreciate the unexpected or incongruous circumstances that bring about laughter.

Man is also able to admire beauty or to scorn the lack of it. To appreciate beauty requires meditation and contemplation—qualities not normally ascribed to animals.

Take family life. Animals simply do not marry. They raise their offspring according to preset patterns. But human beings rear their children according to certain standards of behavior that are capable of being deviated from. The marriage ceremony and the state of marriage belong exclusively to the human family. Our free booklet Why Marriage!—Soon Obsolete? explains the institution of human marriage in great detail.

Now we come down to the most vital attributes of human consciousness. Man has moral sense; man can perceive good and evil; man is the only creature on earth truly capable of free will. He can make a decision for good or ill. He has the capacity to build character—or to destroy it! These unique attributes bring us closer to the real reasons for human existence.

Meaning to This Life?

Sir John Eccles' observations about human consciousness automatically led him to ponder the most basic and important of all questions. "What does this life mean? We find ourselves here in this wonderfully rich and vivid conscious experience and it goes on through life; but is that the end?..."

And Sir John later added: "This whole cosmos is not just running on and running down for no meaning." All of his life this eminent scientist has struggled to understand the mystery and meaning of life and labels his quest for understanding as "essentially religious."

And indeed it is! Human consciousness is not the product of a lucky accident. It is fraught with a great purpose and enormous meaning. And understand this—man's mind is a great paradox. With all of its innate complexity and intricacy, it has not solved its own problems here on earth. If the human mind took man to the moon, it also created the means for his total destruction.

You see, man's mind was made incomplete. The human spirit lacks an essential ingredient. It was made to be joined to another spirit—God's Spirit!

How the human being can receive the Spirit of God is revealed only in the Bible. No other source devised by man's thinking, reasoning or speculation can answer this greatest of all human needs—to be in contact with the eternal Life-giving Spirit of God.

Isn't it time you asked yourself why evil exists? Why is God concerned about human beings? Why were you born?

We publish an attractively printed booklet titled Why Were You Born? answering just these questions. Why not write for it? It will open your mind to an understanding you never had before. The booklet is gratis!
AS GOES THE FARM
SO GOES THE . . . .

by Michael A. Snyder

The wizened old gentleman brushed the sweat off his tanned forehead and looked hard at his friend.

"You know, Flavius, I just can't make it anymore. Everytime I take my stock to market, one of the big boys undersells me and I take a loss."

Flavius nodded and said, "Yes, I know." Swallowing hard, he added, "That new property tax pushed me back in the red—just when I thought I was going to break even! My broker is coming out this afternoon to look over my land. I guess it's just a matter of time before that big conglomerate down the road swallows me up."

Sound like farmers today? Well, consider. The setting is actually in the late stages of the Roman Empire!

History reveals, not surprisingly, that taxes, big business and foreign competition eventually forced small Roman farmers out of business. And as internal corruption and other restraints shackled Roman agriculture, other national problems ground the country down until . . . of course, you know the story.

History Repeating Itself

Today, a popular bumper sticker seen widely in the midwestern United States reads: "Farming is everybody's bread and butter."

And in this mechanized, material-oriented Western world, there is no truer statement! Many have heard the joke about the little girl, who upon visiting a farm for the first time, asked her mother why these people didn't just buy all their food at the grocery store.

Few realize today that the Western agricultural world is gripped in a prophetic crisis nearly parallel to the Great Depression of the 1930s! Look at the situation in the United States—a nation widely considered to be the breadbasket of the world.

Chemical fertilizers were hailed as the miracle of the century in the 1950s and 1960s. Farm production doubled and tripled from the artificial stimulants. The only problem was that nobody thought the world would ever run short of oil—the main element of chemical fertilizers. Or that fuel-guzzling power tractors would ever have shortage problems with the thousands of gallons they need—every year.

Dean Kleckner, president of the Iowa Farm Bureau, commented on the problem this way: "All these economic problems have culminated to make this the most serious crisis on the farm since the Great Depression."

In the United States, the typical view of the farmer is of an old sage peering out from a tattered straw hat. But in reality, the individual American farmer must be a sophisticated businessman armed with multiple tens of thousands of dollars in equipment that may include computers and complex testing gear.

The dollar value of the equipment needed to start a farm would boggle most minds. Buying two tractors, a combine to harvest the crops and related equipment costs more than a good-sized farm did 15 years ago. And can you imagine paying the interest at today's rates on the loans to purchase all that equipment?

Now you can begin to see what farmers face when drought strikes, or when grain lies unsold because of an international grain embargo. And on top of all this, urbanization of the United States now claims territory roughly the size of Connecticut every year! A former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture observed that an area
AMERICA'S FOUNDING FATHERS understood the role of agriculture as seen in the views below—but do we understand it today? (From Toilers of Land and Sea, vol. iii in the Pageant of America series.)

Do We Realize What's Happening?

William Jennings Bryan once said, “Burn down your cities and leave our farms, and your cities will spring up again as if by magic; but destroy our farms and the grass will grow in the streets of every city in the country.”

Will we follow the route of the Roman Empire? Already super-powerful agriculture conglomerates account for fully 80 percent of all gross sales, while only comprising 20 percent of all U.S. farms!

And what's tragic is that more than half of the nation's farmers are forced to subsidize their incomes. The average individual U.S. farmer only earns 50 percent of his income from his farm!

And if that's not enough, farm families cannot control their own product! International sales are carefully controlled by the government. While one can see the strategic need for this control, problems exist. For instance, the early 1970s' grain sale to the Soviet Union was miscalculated. So much grain was sold that an artificial feed shortage was created. Since livestock farmers are unsubsidized by the government, they had to absorb the higher costs through their unprotected pocketbooks.

The whole world needs to be concerned about the prophetic problems faced by the American farmer, who supplies much of this world with food and agricultural products. Today, one third of the prime 400 million acres in the United States are used for export production. America exports 60 percent of its wheat, more than half of its soybean crop and almost one third of its annual corn (maize) yield. A major portion of the poor nations of the world survive only because of this major ability of the United States to export foodstuffs.

Accordingly, a Roman Empire situation in America, where the farming economy would collapse, could spell disaster for much of the world!
There is a way to personal success and happiness. It is not complicated. It is not mystical. And it really works!

As a teenager who was taught that to be manly is to be unemotional, I was brought to tears one night in an unusual way. I shall never forget it.

It was a gorgeous summer evening in the American Midwest. I was walking thoughtfully through the warm darkness, hearing the crickets chirp. I was looking at an almost full moon, which illuminated the open spaces between the trees with its gentle light.

Harry's folks were gone, so I came on around to the sliding glass door, which opened out onto the patio. Suddenly, my musings were halted. I realized that the beautiful music I had been hearing so faintly before was coming from the piano just inside the sliding door, which was open.

There, his upturned face partially bathed by the moonlight that filtered through the trees and into the room, sat Harry at the piano bench. He was playing beautifully and most fittingly in that quiet, luminescent scene Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata." It was the most memorable rendition of that piece that I had ever heard. For Harry was completely blind.

Mistakes Exact Penalties

I watched for a moment and my eyes welled up with tears as Harry's unseeing eyes stared at the very moon to whose beauty this piece has been dedicated. And I was forced to realize that blind Harry—the fellow we helped here and there around school since he learned to read Braille, the boy whose alert and inquiring mind literally hungered for the chance I had to read, to learn—was born blind for a reason.

Common knowledge in the town had it that the reason was a mistake one of his parents made...
before his conception. And so Harry was born blind. He was paying a penalty because someone else broke a law—or, more likely, probably denied that such a law even existed.

But that law existed all right, and still does. It goes like this: “Thou shalt not commit adultery.” Those who frequently break this law often contract venereal disease. And that may lead to blindness in children, or to some other deformity. Harry knows.

The hundreds of times that Harry was “down” emotionally, the countless hours he brooded and suffered, the times he poured out his heart to me and others, the many, many times he got drunk to “forget”—all these bear ample testimony to those who are willing to understand that a law was broken and a terrible penalty was incurred.

Harry knows. He paid much of that penalty—along with millions of others.

The Whole World Suffers

Not only are the individual sufferings of those like Harry increasing, but intelligent men everywhere know that they are living under the giant shadow of nuclear war. Yes, we have more knowledge than any previous generation. But that merely increases our capacity to kill and destroy one another.

Noted American columnist Sidney J. Harris once summed it up in these words: “The problem is this: that intellectual knowledge is additive, while moral knowledge is not. What this means is that each generation knows more than the last, but acts no better . . .”

“Moral knowledge does not seem to increase from generation to generation. All we learn from the past is to commit the same mistakes in greater volume and with more consequences.”

With the advent of nuclear warfare, this scandalous lack of moral and spiritual values in modern knowledge assumes frightening proportions. At this point in human history, we cannot afford to keep making the same mistakes over and over. Yet, in spite of having to live with the ever-growing reality of cosmocide, modern education, science and philosophy have come up with virtually nothing to alleviate this dangerous situation.

Find the Cause

Is there no way to bring an end to all war? An end to mounting crime, violence, broken homes, teenage pregnancies, babies born blind because of venereal diseases, mounting drug abuse and deep personal frustrations nearly everywhere?

It sounds like quite an order. But the genuine solution to these problems is as absolute as it is practical. Many are busily trying to find solutions to the above problems. They are sincere men and women. Often, they do a certain amount of good—in a very limited way and for a limited time—within an overall framework that never changes. They treat a few of the symptoms of war, crime, violence, broken homes. But they are not getting at the real cause of these tragic ills.

There is a cause for every effect. Far beneath the immediate provocations, there is a single, basic cause or underlying reason for mankind’s basic ills. One way of putting it would be to say that it is the way human beings live. The way of greed, of get. But there is an opposite way that would genuinely insure peace and happiness, if it were only applied.

A “Law of Liberty”?

To most people, certainly including many in the field of religion, “law” has a foreboding connotation.

As a society, we tend to have negative feelings about law. It should not be so. For the great Creator, the God of your Bible, revealed a way of life based on law. It is a way that most professing Christians have heard practically nothing about.

Yet it is the way that would solve all the world’s major problems. It is the way of love, of giving.

The Son of God, Jesus Christ, was asked, “Master, which is the great commandment in the law?” He answered, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets” (Matthew 22:36-40).

Notice! All other laws of God hang on or are outgrowths and magnifications of these two great spiritual principles. There are 10 Commandments in God’s great spiritual law. The first four tell us how to love and honor God; the last six tell us how to love our neighbor.

Man needs these laws today. Mankind is sick from neglect and consequent disobedience to these great principles of love and concern for others.

Again, Jesus was asked: “Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?”

He answered, “Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself” (Matthew 19:16-19).

Jesus, in answering, named some of the Ten Commandments—particularly, in this case, those telling man how to love his neighbor. For the religious leaders of that day had become overly strict with respect to the first four commandments. But they were weak and lax in regard to the last six.

Whenever Jesus spoke of the law of God—or “the commandments”—He was always referring to that great spiritual law that has existed from the beginning, the Ten Commandments, which were set forth in codified form at Mount Sinai. He came to “magnify” and expound this law to its full spiritual intent and glory (Isaiah 42:21).

The living Christ inspired James to write: “For whatsoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou
commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law. So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty" (James 2:10-12). There are points to the Ten Commandments. If you break even one, you have broken the whole law.

Note also that it is called the law of liberty. How can a law bring liberty? Let's understand.

How It Works

The last six of the Ten Commandments tell us how to love our neighbor. How could these points of the law bring liberty?

Open your own Bible to Exodus 20, verse 12 and see for yourself: “Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.” Magnifying this commandment, Jesus Christ inspired the apostle Paul to write: “Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right” (Ephesians 6:1).

“Wow!” some parents might exclaim. “If our children really honored and obeyed us, what a relaxed, peaceful, happy life we could have as a family! Why, we could take them places without fighting and frustration. We could have pleasant family gatherings and meals at home. The children would help with the dishes, housework and chores. And, so very importantly, they would respect us and respond to our wishes concerning the kind of friends they run around with, the places they go, the things they do—even the way they dress, fix their hair and so on. Think of all the hours of worry and frustration we would be spared if our children really honored and obeyed us.”

Parents, does it sound too good to be true?

Don’t kid yourself! Don’t say it is impossible or out of date. To some extent that commandment was obeyed in millions of homes in past generations all over the world. Even today, though they may break many other spiritual principles, millions just follow that principle to a great extent in homes in the Orient, parts of Western Europe and other areas of the world. Not in all homes. Not perfectly either, of course.

But to the extent that this law is obeyed, parents have rest, confidence and an amount of joy in their home and family, even though their standard of living may be low. Many parents are simply following this principle of God’s revealed law without fully realizing where it came from.

But like the law of gravity, this law works. You can’t reason around it, act like it does not exist or avoid it.

Liberation for Both Parents and Children

Obviously, if parents everywhere would teach their children to respect these principles, there would truly be a “Parents’ Liberation” movement of unparalleled proportions!

Parents could then concentrate on teaching, training, loving and having delightful family activities with their children. They could quit worrying about teenage delinquency, juvenile delinquency, drug addiction, drunkenness, premarital sex and pregnancy and a veritable host of other youthful maladies. Millions of heartaches and tears would be spared mothers and fathers everywhere.

But what about the young people? How would this law work for them? Would they feel oppressed and thwarted? Would their personalities fail to blossom if not given complete and unlimited expression?

Absolutely not!

Remember the promise: “that thy days may be long upon the land.” How many millions of young people today are dying before their time either figuratively or literally because they have not been taught to honor their parents?

How many are taking drugs and are damaging or wrecking God’s highest physical creation on earth? How many are serving their lusts—whether in illicit sex, gambling, crime or a host of other related activities, which, for the vast majority, lead to unnecessary suffering and premature death?

Within a well-regulated, loving but disciplined family, young people could have the true freedom they yearn for and talk about, but that somehow always eludes their grasp. By honoring and obeying their parents, they need not end up as addicts, penitentiary inmates or young people with broken marriages, broken hearts and broken dreams.

The “law of liberty” alone can guarantee all the blessings mankind yearns for!

An End to War?

In Exodus 20:13, the Creator who gives us life commands, “Thou shalt not kill.” This is the second commandment that shows us how to love our neighbor.

Again, Jesus Christ magnified the law and revealed its spiritual intent. He said: “Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you” (Matthew 5:43-44).

First, then, the New Testament magnification of this command shows that we are not to kill anybody, any time, for any purpose.

God would fight our battles were we to learn to believe in Him, obey Him and trust Him as our shield and protector.

Can you begin to imagine the liberty this suffering world would enjoy if—suddenly and unexpectedly—everyone started obeying this law and you could count on it?

Consider the fantastic liberty and blessings that would be automatically enjoyed by millions of
young men—and all peoples—in every generation if there were no war. They would not have to interrupt their education and family life to go off and be taught to hate, fight and kill. Hundreds of thousands of them would live—instead of die—and be able to have normal families and children. Additional millions would not have to be deformed and crippled for the rest of their natural lives as a result of war-related injuries.

Thinking men deeply and fervently realize the whole war syndrome is almost like a civilized form of insanity. Yet all the reasonings, all the philosophies, all the leagues among nations and treaties of men have been unable to stop war. Only when mankind comes to know and deeply fear—reverently respect—the God of the Bible and His command against war, will this continuing tragedy come to a final end.

Liberty?
If the world could merely be liberated from this one tragedy—war—what an outflowing of blessings and what peace of mind there would be!

Remember that Jesus’ statement did not merely tell us to quit killing one another. He said, “Love your enemies ... do good to them that hate you...” Often, we forget to emphasize this aspect of God’s perfect “law of liberty.” Instead of merely thinking, “Don’t kill,” let’s begin to think “How can I help my neighbor live?”—that is, live a truly full, abundant and meaningful life.

What about your neighbor whose lawn mower won’t work properly? If you have the ability to repair it, why not volunteer your services instead of smiling to yourself as you watch him fussing and fuming in despair?

What about the grumpy waitress who won’t bring your water because she is frustrated and overworked? Could you be understanding and perhaps try to cheer her up? Do you realize that in our mixed-up society, she may very well be a woman who has been deserted by her husband, is having to support two or three little children and is now half way through her second job during a 16-hour work day in order to keep her fragmented family together?

Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). In following the positive expression of the sixth command, do you try to give life, love and happiness as you go along? If all of us did, think of the peace, the joys, the deep and lasting friendships and the fantastic liberty of freedom from frustration, fear, loneliness and apathy that we would all enjoy.

This is the ultimate liberty of which God speaks!
Are you willing to recognize the Ten Commandments for what they are—a fantastic expression of love and concern from the Creator of your mind and human emotions? Are you willing to surrender your life to the true Jesus Christ of the Bible, who magnified these laws so wonderfully? Of course, you will be able to obey the intent and purpose of God’s law only if Jesus Christ, through His Spirit, is living within you (John 15:5).

World Government Based on True Liberty
It will not be many years before a government will be established on this earth based upon these very laws. “But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem” (Micah 4:1-2).

Yes, this “law of liberty” will be the foundation for the rule of Jesus Christ in the soon-coming World Tomorrow. Men will learn to serve, to help and to give to one another as God’s law instructs.

What a day it will be!
Among other things, men shall not “learn war any more” (Micah 4:3). The Creator will even remove the wild and vicious nature from all creatures at that time (Isaiah 11:6-9).

How Man Should Live with His Neighbors
Again notice Isaiah 32:2: “And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest...” This expresses very poetically—if we make allowances for the English translation of 1611—the love, the protectiveness and the kindness we can expect from fellow human beings in the World Tomorrow.

In the coming World Tomorrow—guided by the “law of liberty”—when a little girl meets a man on a lonely street or out in the woods, he will be to her as a “hiding place” or a “covert” from the tempest. If she has fallen down or is lost, he will help her and, if need be, bring her home again.

In that day, our wives and daughters—and we ourselves—will have a feeling of safety, security and outgoing warmth toward our fellow man, a feeling that is rare indeed in the society in which we live today.

The leading nation in the world will be a “land of unwalled villages ... having neither bars nor gates” (Ezekiel 38:11). Just think, no more robbery, no more rape and, consequently, no more locks, bars, gates, security guards, policemen or defense establishments. Neighbors, as in Isaiah 32, will be willing to help and serve and protect others from accidents. What a different world that will be!

Then, and only then, will the whole world be truly liberated. It will be liberated, not by screaming fanatics, but when all nations and all men learn there is a living God and start fashioning their lives according to the law of liberty revealed in His Word.

Meanwhile, you have your chance to do it now and become—through Christ in you—a ruler in that soon-coming world.

Write for your free copy of our vital booklet The Ten Commandments. Learn more about how to live the way all the world will soon be living. □
A Nation That Sets an Example

SWAZILAND

by John Ross Schroeder

It is not often we present this kind of article to our readers. We thought you should know the story of a special nation in Africa.

In vast parts of Africa famine has brought simple existence to a knife-edge of survival. The promise of her enormous amount of natural resources has been betrayed by drought, international intrigue, tribal and racial strife and political ineptitude. Many severe disappointments are besetting this continent of faded dreams.

On such a continent and in such a world, how could Swaziland, one of the smallest countries in southern Africa, play any part in modern thinking?

For one thing the King of Swaziland is the world’s longest reigning monarch—clocking up 60 years on the throne. H.M. King Sobhuza II celebrated his Diamond Jubilee early this autumn. It is an anomaly and a paradox that such a long-reigning king could be on a continent better known for its coups d’etat. The proverb says: “When a land transgresses it has many rulers; but with men of understanding and knowledge its stability will long continue” (Proverbs 28:2, RSV). That is why Swaziland continues to be the most consistently stable country in Africa.

But our story does not end here. One’s ruling philosophy is much more important than mere length of reign. When the Plain Truth’s Editor in Chief Herbert W. Armstrong visited King Sobhuza II some time ago, he found the King firmly believes that strife and commotions do not do anybody any good. He believes in cooperation and coexistence between nations and neighbors. His Minister of Agriculture, A.K. Hlophe has said: “We are all human beings made by Almighty God; as each organ in the human body has a function, so has each human being in the world.”

Since the various organs in the human body do not fight and compete with one another, the obvious implication is that men and nations, whatever their ethnic origins, should help and
Swaziland, with its capital Mbabane, sits astride border of two nations of widely differing philosophies.

I am in the one man who has a thousand acres of beets. It seems to me that is one of the orders—one of the necessary things—that goes with the Presidency.” This comparatively unknown saying perhaps best describes also the King’s feelings toward the little man. The rolling hills of Swaziland are often landscaped with little 10-acre farms, each with an attractive little farmhouse and a large market garden.

Of course, Swaziland is not the Garden of Eden and it is not the Millennium. It is a nation existing in this present age of man and it is plagued by the knotty problems that beset this present evil world, among them that consequence of tourism: gambling. Nevertheless, inasmuch as King Sobhuza II, his ministers and his people do follow certain sound and right principles—of giving instead of getting—that are found in the Bible, this little nation has much to teach the rest of Africa and indeed the world.

Swaziland stakes its hopes on the land more than on modern industry. Former U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt once said: “Perhaps somewhere down in my heart, I am a little bit more interested in the ten men that have a hundred head of cattle apiece, than I am in the one man who has a thousand head of cattle. And perhaps I am a little more interested in the ten men who have a hundred acres of beets than cooperate with each other. The King of this small African country has pointed out that the black and white keys on a piano are both needed to make perfect harmony. That simple analogy perfectly illustrates the King’s feelings on race relations. Bounded by South Africa on three sides and by Mozambique on its eastern side, tiny, landlocked Swaziland has no easy road to travel when it comes to race relations. It has taken a great deal of patience and wisdom on the part of the King and his ministers to maintain comfortable relations while being caught in between these two political opposites. Swaziland—rich in agricultural resources and blessed with a stable government—has become one of the most prosperous small nations of Africa since its full independence in 1968. British and South African investment has helped develop iron and coal mines, sugar refineries, pulp paper mills and citrus, sugar and cotton plantations. The country also attracts more than 100,000 tourists a year to its game preserves, mountain scenery, golf courses and entertainment spots.

What day is it?

Different religions observe different holidays but . . .

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DOES IT MATTER to God Almighty which days we observe as "holy"? The Bible is very specific about the subject. Did you know that God’s plan for every individual—including you—is revealed in His annual holy days? Discover the surprising truth for yourself.

Request your free copy of the booklet Pagan Holidays or God’s Holy Days—Which?

Send me my free copy of Pagan Holidays or God’s Holy Days—Which?

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THE  "SECRET RAPTURE":
Lift-off or Letdown?

by Clayton Steep

Some believe it will be the ultimate "great escape." And that it could take place at any moment. But what does the Bible say?

Many an average person on the street may never have even heard of it until watching religious programs on television or reading the newspaper. The "rapture"? What's that?

But large numbers of churchgoers in various religious denominations hear all about it—often. They live in constant expectation of it. "Christ may come tonight and snatch the church away to heaven," the minister assures in revival meetings, in Sunday church services and on television.

Such a snatching away or "rapture" of the church, it is claimed, will be the next great prophetic event. And it may take place at any moment.

It is generally supposed to happen this way: Strife, crime, evildoing in the world will become increasingly worse. Civilization will plunge headlong toward a time of intense trouble. Suddenly, just before the world arrives at a period of calamity called "the tribulation," we are told, Jesus will return invisibly and snatch away—"rapture"—all "born-again" Christians. Some add all dead Christians—and, some say, all babies and young children. Jesus, we are assured, will take them to heaven, from world turmoil, for perhaps 3 1/2 or seven years. It will be a sudden, yet secret event. No one will see it happen. Only the effects—empty cars, empty houses, workers missing from their jobs—will be apparent.

Some suggest what the newspaper headlines will be the day after:

"Millions Mysteriously Vanish!"
"Graves Found Open and Empty"
"Massive Traffic Snarls Due to Missing Drivers"
"All Children Have Disappeared!"

They go on to describe how all the people who are left on earth will have to go through 3 1/2—some say seven—years of terrible trouble and punishment. Then, according to this teaching, Christ will return from heaven once again, bringing all His saints with Him. This time it will not be in secret. The whole world will see it happen.

That's the way the "rapture" is usually presented. But is that how Jesus announced He would return?

The return of Jesus is spoken of again in 1 Corinthians 15:51-52:

"Behold, I shew you a mystery [the mystery is not a quiet rapture as some say it is. Notice!]: we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be (Continued on page 28)
WE ARE DESTROYING THE LAND THAT FEEDS US!

by Donald D. Schroeder

More essential than oil! Man's precious physical resource — fertile topsoil — is being destroyed at rates alarming to experts!

IT COULDN'T be happening at a worse time.

Just when the world is experiencing its greatest population growth in history — when the world food supply must nearly double — vast acreages of the earth's most productive croplands are losing fertility through erosion, misuse and neglect.

Sufficient moisture in many areas and record crops have lulled many to sleep. We are failing to understand the tragedy developing in croplands around the world or under our feet.

Soil expert after soil expert warns of intensifying destruction of vital soils in rich and poor nations. "Land is simply dying in place" because of increasing demands put on the soil, says one worried United States' soil official.

Here is what is happening to the soils of the world. Here is how their destruction — unless quickly reversed — will dramatically affect your life and pocketbook.

Life of a Nation

The soil of a nation determines the life of a nation. Cropland is the foundation of civilization itself. The fertile topsoil layer in most countries is often less than a foot thick. Yet on this thin layer of soil is grown the food and fiber that supports all life and much industry.

When soils flourish, nations and civilizations flourish. When soils die, civilizations die with them.

Make no mistake in failing to grasp this critical fact of life: fertile soil is a living organism. Just as a human individual can be injured or killed by several means, so fertile, living soil can be injured or killed.

It can be abused, stripped naked, strangled, drowned, starved or poisoned.

The warning signals of abused, sick and dying soils manifest themselves through serious erosion, through waterlogging or excessive salinity, through falling productivity and through sick and disease-plagued crops, livestock and humans.

Alarming World Trend

The destruction of world croplands is already well advanced. In 1977, the United Nations Conference on Desertification reported that one fifth of the world's cropland is experiencing a degree of degradation that is intolerable over the long run. The U.N. report estimated the productivity on this land has been reduced by an average of 25 percent.

"We are pushing the limits of the planet now in terms of available farmland," says Douglas R. Horn of the American Farmland...
Food officials feel the dramatic increases in food production of the 1960s and 1970s are over. The soil has been abused and mined. It will not sustain past high yields.

Trust. "All the best land on this earth that could be put into production is in production. The rest," he observes, "is marginal."

Especially threatening to the world food stability is the rapid destruction of fertile soils in the leading food-exporting nations, particularly North America.

Soil erosion, salt buildup, falling or polluted water tables are stripping away fertile North American farmland at rates threatening the future of the region as the food granary of the world. Soils in other leading food exporting nations—Argentina, Australia and South Africa—are also being rapidly degraded.

In 1975, the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, supported by a consortium of American universities, warned that "a third of all U.S. cropland is suffering soil losses too great to be sustained without a gradual but ultimately disastrous decline in productivity."

A few years ago the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service estimated that on 40 percent of the United States' cultivated land, farmers each year lose an average of seven tons of topsoil an acre. This is well above the amounts of soil that natural processes create each year.

"Ten years from now, Americans will be just as worried about the loss of prime farmlands as they are today over shortages of oil and gasoline," warns one soil expert.

The productivity of Canada's cropland is similarly being reduced. Here much of the problem is the continual substitution of marginal land for prime land. Prime land is being lost to urbanization. The land being added is far less productive.

Australian conservation officials are even more worried about ways to reverse massive soil spoilage than North American or European officials. Australian soils are much more shallow. On the average they are only four or five—or fewer— inches deep.

Work done by the Queensland Department of Primary Industry shows that in wheat growing areas, soil is often lost at an annual rate of 50 tons per hectare (a hectare is 2.47 acres). If that rate continues many of Queensland's grain-growing soils will be depleted before another two decades. Another study shows 65 percent of the pastoral and agricultural land in New South Wales needs conservation work. Only five percent of that area has been protected through conservation.

In Western Europe, the opportunities for new land reclamation are negligible. West Germany is losing one percent of its agricultural land every four years. European cities are growing at the expense of some croplands.

In Italy, two million hectares have been abandoned in the last 10 years. The farming methods used on this marginal land have led to deterioration of the soil so that land is consumed in the literal sense of the word. Similar problems plague other southern European soils. Farmers there are struggling to maintain productivity.

Destruction Far and Near

In the Soviet Union, attempts to regain food self-sufficiency are not only jeopardized by frequent bad weather but by soils that have lost some of their inherent productivity.

The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) estimates the Northern African tier of countries—Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Libya—are losing 100,000 hectares (a quarter of a million acres) of range and cropland each year. The ever-growing Sahara Desert is expanding westward into Senegal and eastward into the Sudan.

Ethiopia is literally going down the river. A U.S. government official reported several years ago: "There is an environmental nightmare unfolding before our eyes. . . . It is the result of the acts of millions of Ethiopians struggling for survival: scratching the surface of eroded land and eroding it further; cutting down trees for warmth and fuel and leaving the country denuded. . . . Over one billion . . . tons of topsoil flow from Ethiopia's highlands each year."

Fed by human pressures on their fringes—overpopulation, overgrazing, overplowing and deforestation—virtually all of the world's major deserts are expanding. This multiplication of human and livestock populations is intensifying desert-like conditions from the Middle East to northwestern India, as well as in many parts of Africa.

The salty kiss of death that widened many past civilizations now threatens many irrigated lands of the earth. FAO estimates that half of the world irrigation projects started since 1950. Many of them are already dangerously saline.

Waterlogging and excessive salinity now plague most Middle East irrigated lands. In Iraq and Pakistan one can witness vast, glistening white expanses of heavily salted

KILLED, STRIPPED, GUTTED—millions of acres are destroyed or lose productivity every year due to human carelessness or neglect (see previous two pages). Full-page photo: the onslaught of careless urban development. From left to right: water failure; irrigated land killed by salt buildup; water-erosion stripped roots; water-logged, poorly drained citrus; productive land reclaimed by desert after prohibitive well-pumping costs; overworked marginal land; gullied soil; uncontrolled creek bank erosion.

What Is Living Soil?

Did you know fertile and healthy soil is very much alive? In a thin film of fertile soil there may be 100,000 protozoa, two billion bacteria and 30 million fungal plants. In poor soil there may be few.

Under the forest floor, in fertile cropland, in your garden, is a silent (to us) beehive of activity of microscopic life — and death. It’s the story of the eater and the eaten. This complex living community of organisms changes mineral and humus matter so its nutrients can be available to nourish plant and animal life of many kinds.

If you could closely look at some soil organisms, for example, you would see them attach themselves directly to plant roots. The result is symbiotic relationships beneficial to both. One example is the nitrogen-fixing rhizobium in legumes such as soybeans and alfalfa.

Other soil organisms act independently of plants and are free-fixers of nitrogen or other nutrients in the soil. While some organisms need humus and oxygen to survive, others are anaerobic — they don’t need free oxygen. They gain energy by working on mineral matter.

When these organisms die, the minerals and proteins of their bodies are made available to plants or other organisms.

Now consider another vital factor in living soil — humus.

Decayed plant and animal wastes we call humus or organic matter. Humus feeds the majority of microorganisms in the soil. Without the presence of humus and the activity of microorganisms we could not have renewal of topsoil from the subsoil below.

Humus and substances from microorganisms help cement soil particles in clusters or aggregates. This clustering creates pockets of air and gives good soil a crumbly, airy texture you can feel with your fingers. It discourages encrustation. The open air space in soils is critically important. It allows plant roots and microorganisms to breathe, instead of suffocate. Rains are absorbed deeper and faster into such soils rather than running off.

God made humus to play a vital role in soil quality and fertility. Humus-rich sandy soils hold more water and hold it nearer plant roots instead of letting water and nutrients leach out. Heavy clay soils need to be rich in humus, too, for them to be easily broken up and workable. Humus-bonded soils are more resistant to water and wind erosion. They better resist periods of droughts and floods. Heavy emphasis on use of chemicals and fertilizers in farming makes soil surface particles more erodible, and deeper soil particles denser, harder to work.

In fertile soil earthworms proliferate, as do other small soil creatures. Did you know that earthworms are like farmers in the soil with a hoe or plow? — only they charge nothing for their services! Earthworms pull in and mix humus in the soil. They bring up subsoil particles and mix sand, silt and clays in a loam of tons of rich castings on every acre. These workers of the soil are additionally invaluable as they help aerate the soil and make pathways for deep-seeking plant roots. A sign of sick soil in temperate zones is lack of worms.

Good farmers and gardeners respect the life of the soil. They protect their precious resource by returning sufficient humus, animal wastes or composts to the soil. This is the law of return essential for maintaining healthy soils.

Good farmers use appropriate conservation practices. They rotate crops. Crop rotation prevents rapid soil depletion. Crops used one year may be shallow rooted, drawing most of their nutrients from that level. The following year the good farmer plants deeper rooted plants, which draw much of their nutrients from another level. The soil is used more evenly and efficiently.

Under a good rotation system, different crops will use different amounts of essential nutrients for their growth, or they will add something to the soil helpful to another crop. Some legumes, like alfalfa for example, are nitrogen fixers and their roots reach deep into subsoils for nutrients and thus place humus matter (their roots) in them. This helps condition subsoils for later use as topsoils.

The law of return means that nutrients taken out of fertile soil must be given back in a constructive and useable form. Modern man’s agricultural practices more and more are ignoring this cycle to the destruction of soils and humans supported by them. Modern man throws organic wastes away, he buries or burns them or washes them into rivers or oceans. He pours on powerful concentrations of chemicals. He pollutes his land and water supplies while the primary physical resource of his civilization — soil — languishes and erodes away.

Whether we are only a small gardener or a big farmer, it is critical that we all learn to care for the soil as a living organism.

ORGANIC MATTER in soil tends to neutralize or buffer both excessively alkaline and acid soils. Soil samples determine pH (acidity or alkalinity) that affects availability of soil nutrients.
Soil crisis is developing throughout the midwestern United States. Few realize its significance. The state of Iowa, for example, is the richest single piece of agricultural real estate in the world. Yet tons of Iowa's precious topsoil are being blown and washed away faster than natural soil building can replace it.

Iowa had 12 to 16 inches of marvelous topsoil when tillage began 100 years ago. But soil erosion has dwindled topsoil in many areas to 6 or 8 inches. A precious heritage is being destroyed.

"Our best land is in the Mississippi delta," say Iowa farmers. This soil loss will affect, sooner than many of you realize, vital U.S. crop production. Why? Because productivity is directly related to the depth of surface soils and subsoils.

The earth that is eroding in Iowa and elsewhere in the American Midwest is the darker, more humus-laden soil. It is the kind of soil most able to hold water and nutrients. Some soil loss is tolerable, as long as it is little more than the amount of soil being annually regenerated by microbial activity and plant decomposition. But agricultural officials estimate Iowa loses almost 10 tons of topsoil an acre each year.

On some Iowa farms topsoil losses are several times this shocking state average.

"Without soil we're nothing," says one Iowa soil conservation official. "Many farmers really don't believe there is a finite amount of soil," he says. This official found it hard to convince farmers that their topsoil is in danger and that they must alter their methods of tillage.

Much of Iowa's erosion is subtle because it is sheet erosion. That's in contrast to more noticeable rill or gully erosion. Sheet erosion is caused by water or wind traveling across the surface of land and removing soil fairly evenly, almost like peeling a sheet of paper from a giant pad. One ton of soil an acre is only about the thickness of a sheet of heavy paper. Ten sheet thicknesses of soil may not seem like much but it is devastating year after year.

Dr. Min Ameiya, an Iowa soil and abandoned cropland. Salinity is rapidly killing soils in the productive Imperial Valley of Southern California, and soils in Mexico and in Argentina.

Another U.N. report highlighted soil deterioration and cropland losses in the Andean region of South America. In Colombia alone, erosion robs more than 400 million tons of fertile topsoil a year—a precious resource the economically struggling nation cannot afford to lose.

The Nepalese government estimates that country's rivers annually carry 240 million cubic meters of soil to India. This loss is described as Nepal's "most precious export."

Soil erosion is creating an ecological emergency in Java (part of Indonesia). It is one of the world's most populated islands. Deforestation and misuse of hillside areas are destroying land faster than reclamation programs can possibly restore them.

The New China News Agency recently reported a shortage of fuel for cooking is forcing China's 800 million peasants to strip vegetation from large tracts of land. The result is serious soil erosion and growth of deserts.

Many food authorities see little chance to increase cropland areas worldwide. Instead, urban expansion, shopping centers and growing industry gobble up sizable amounts of prime lands. Highways of concrete and acres of asphalt parking lots eat up more.

Each year thousands of additional acres of once-productive valleys are flooded behind new dams.

And just when even greater increases are needed from the world's existing soils, food authorities point out that food production increases are leveling off, despite ever-increasing amounts of fertilizers poured on them. Many food officials feel the dramatic increases in food production of the 1960s and 1970s are over. The soil is beginning to rebel. It has been abused and mined. It will not sustain past high yields.

**The True Cause**

God created the earth and the living soil upon it. God commanded mankind to "dress and keep it," not pollute and destroy it (Genesis 2:15). But from the beginning, man rebelled against his Creator. He chose to live by the "get" way of life, instead of God's "give" or "love" way.

The destruction and killing of the world's soils is the result of human individuals and nations living the wrong way of life. Wrong agriculture takes—gets—more from the soil than is being returned—given back—to it. Man is not giving back essential elements and nutrients and giving it the tender care, protection and rest it needs to keep it fertile and workable.

Selfishness and short-sightedness, along with population and economic pressures, are causing farmers throughout the world to throw many sound agricultural and conservation practices to the wind. Instead, man substitutes soil practices that damage or ruin soils for short-term profits.

Today, rapidly fading from mind or altogether forgotten are concerns for maintenance of organic matter such as manures and decayed plant life in the soil. Organic matter, or humus, helps maintain proper tilth, or soil structure, so plants and soil organisms breathe properly and feed properly.

Farm animals don't even exist on many farms anymore to assist in this job. Often manure is piled up on huge cattle feedlots where it
Agronomist, says farmers have been able to mask the damage caused to soils by using hybrid seeds and applying more and more chemical fertilizers to get higher yields. They fail to see the day of reckoning drawing near, he warns.

"The farmers see they are getting bigger crops and wonder what we are making a fuss about," says Dr. Ameisha. "It's hard to get them to look 20 years down the road and take steps to make sure they will have land to farm."

The American agricultural export boom has intensified U.S. soil erosion. As export prices rose in the 1970s, the U.S. government stopped paying farmers to keep land idle. Farmers planted fence to fence. They brought marginal lands into production and often raised two crops instead of one.

Chemical fertilizers made it possible, some farmers thought, to eliminate legume rotations and cut the hard work of spreading manure. Continuous corn (maize, for our non-American readers) was planted in many areas and chemical insecticides were poured on to handle the bugs that thrive under such conditions.

When everything went to corn and soybeans in Iowa in 1973, there was an erosion explosion. Soil losses increased 22 percent in the 1970s because of such intensive farming.

A vicious cycle of destruction is now in motion on many soils. Bad farming increases soil hardpan and encrustation. Soils choke up, they harden so roots and water can't go down deep. Farmers are forced to use heavier machinery to pull plows and break up subsoils. But the heavier equipment often causes even greater land compaction.

Crop rotation, green manuring (plowing under various crops—especially grasses and legumes—to replenish soil nutrients and improve soil structure) and fallow cycles are being reduced or eliminated.

Monoculture—growing one cash crop instead of rotating different cash crops—is becoming the rule. Farmers must use more and more poisonous herbicides, fungicides and pesticides to control the weeds, pests and crop diseases produced by such farming. These poisons then pollute the soil and run off with eroded soil to lakes, rivers and water reservoirs. Who is not affected by such practices?

Other sound soil conservation practices are being abandoned. In the 1930s, protective shelterbelts of trees were planted on many United States soils to act as windbreaks. They are now rapidly being torn down.

Many farms are run by tenant farmers or distant owners. They have no stake in soil but in getting what they can from farmland, then moving on or selling croplands for a profit, often for nonfarm use.

A southwestern Minnesota farmer said soil erosion in his area is so bad it is now called "the black desert." "Thousands of shelterbelts are being ripped out," he said. "Farmers are so greedy for land that half an acre of protective trees are not worth anything anymore. Half an acre of dirt is. It's sad."

Under the lure of high food prices marginal land is being plowed up and fertilizers poured on to make it produce. New hillside land often is not being properly terraced as it should be. The yields from such land is unstable and plummets with any inclement weather.

Mankind seems locked into this tragic pattern of "get" agriculture. Food authorities say if chemical fertilizers and pesticides were stopped, world food production would plummet one third. What a dilemma mankind is in! We all are
living on whatever good qualities world soils still have. These are rapidly being mined out or destroyed. What will happen when fertile soil resources are used up or eroded away?

What if massive fertilizer shortages occur for some reason? Crop production will tumble! No modern technology will be able to save mankind quickly after he has destroyed his fertile soils!

God Must Intervene

The Creator set laws in motion to produce and maintain healthy soils. To produce healthy livestock and human beings. Many fail to see the relationship between sick soils and sick animals and human beings. God warns in the pages of your Bible what happens to individuals and nations that break his way of life and his agricultural laws.

"Cursed shalt thou be in the field. Cursed shall be thy basket and thine store. Cursed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy land, the increase of thy kine [cattle], and the flocks of thy sheep. Cursed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and cursed shalt thou be when thou goest out." Why? "...because... thou hast forsaken me [the Creator]" (Deuteronomy 28:16-20).

God says, "...thou hast polluted the land... Therefore the showers have been withholden, and there hath been no latter rain" (Jeremiah 3:2-3). Do farmers and city dwellers see our weather problems at all related to what we are doing to our soils and croplands? Hardly!

God commanded the ancient nation of Israel to rest their land every seventh year to allow it to regenerate and restore fertility (Leviticus 25:2-7). But modern man in his greed forgets future generations while seeking his own immediate wealth. He commonly does not let land rest properly and destroys the soil.

The Creator warns nations that abuse their precious soil through overworking, "...your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste. Then shall the land enjoy her sabbaths, as long as it lieth desolate... As long as it lieth desolate it shall rest; because it did not rest in your sabbaths, when ye dwelt upon it" (Leviticus 26:33-35).

Only the restoration of God's government on earth through the return of Jesus Christ will save humanity from the disastrous dilemma that is occurring to the croplands of the world. Jesus Christ must return with full divine authority to force nations and individuals to preserve and increase the most precious physical resource humans have—fertile soil.

Under God's government, everyone will be given an inheritance of good land (Zechariah 3:10). It will remain a family inheritance and families will have a large stake in maintaining and improving its fertility. They will not wander off in mass to urban centers for employment.

Food production on tenderly cared-for land will skyrocket. So fertile will be the soil that this wonderful prophecy will find fulfillment: "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper..." (Amos 9:13). And "...the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose" (Isaiah 35:1).

The alarming destruction of croplands and the increasing woes of starvation will be no more! God speed that day! □

SECRET RAPTURE

(Continued from page 21) changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound [here is the same event we have already read about], and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

Here again, Christ's Second Coming to meet His saints will be accompanied by sound—a great sound. Furthermore, it all happens at the "last trump," blown by a mighty angel.

When is that last trump or trumpet sounded?

Time Order of Events

It is important at this point to briefly note the order of events leading to Christ's return. We find these events laid out in the book of Revelation—the last book in the Bible. The entire period included in the prophecy is divided into seven segments, each covered by a "seal" (5:1).

The first four seals are, in order, false prophets, wars, famines and disease epidemics (6:1-8). The sixth of these seals consists of great signs in the heavens. These heavenly signs come right after the tribulation, which is the fifth seal (see Matthew 24:29).

Still no trumpet has sounded. After the heavenly signs comes the prophetic "Day of the Lord" (Joel 2:31). This is the seventh seal. It is the time when God intervenes directly in human affairs. Here is where trumpets—seven of them—finally come into the picture (Revelation 8, 9, 11:15-19).

The seventh of these is the "last trump" the apostle Paul referred to in I Corinthians 15:52. It is not sounded, as the book of Revelation shows, until the climax of the day of the Lord, which is the Second Coming of Christ. The trumpets sound after the heavenly signs, which in turn come after the tribulation, not before, as those who believe in a rapture claim.

Here is where many have erred. They claim there are two "last" trumps—one "last trump" when Jesus is supposed to return silently and secretly to rapture away His followers, and another "last trump" after the period of tribulation, when Jesus returns visibly to earth with His saints.

But this is not what the Bible says! There cannot be two "last trumpets."

The last trump is just that: the last trump. There can be only one "last" trump, just as there can be only one last person standing in a line. The "last trump" is described in the Bible in Revelation 11:15: "And the seventh angel sounded [the seventh and last prophetic trumpet mentioned in the Scriptures]: and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his
Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.”

In no way is this talking about a “secret rapture” where the saints are silently, noiselessly, whisked off to heaven. To the blowing of the last trumpet and great voices, Jesus returns to this earth to conquer and then rule all nations.

“The shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives [on earth! That is where Jesus will be, and that is where the saints will be also]...and the Lord my God shall come, and all the saints with thee [because they have just met Him in the air]. ... And the Lord shall be king over all the earth....” (Zechariah 14:3-5,9).

Christ’s return and the resurrection of the saints mark the beginning of 1,000 years of divine government on this earth—some call it the Millennium, a word derived from the Latin for thousand years (Revelation 20:4-7).

But somebody is sure to ask about 1 Thessalonians 5:2, which says “the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.” Does this verse prove Jesus will come secretly? This verse is not speaking of how Christ returns. It is plainly speaking of the day of the Lord when God first intervenes in world affairs by great signs and wonders after the great tribulation and after the heavenly signs (Joel 2:31). The day of God’s intervention followed by Christ’s return will surprise the world as does a thief in the night. But when these events happen, everyone will know. “Behold, he cometh with clouds: and every eye shall see him....” (Revelation 1:7).

Way of Escape

Matthew 24:29-31 reveals that when the “elect” (defined as true Christians in Colossians 3:12 and other scriptures) are gathered together at the sound of the seventh or last trumpet, the great tribulation and the heavenly signs will already have passed! How can some read right over these verses without understanding them?

Does this mean Christians will have to go through the tribulation? Not necessarily! Many will escape (Revelation 3:10). But not by a fictitious “rapture.” The Church—those who “keep the commandments of God and have the testimony [gospel] of Jesus Christ” (Revelation 12:17)—is promised protection. Not up in heaven, though. Rather, it will be a special place on this earth (verses 14 and 16)! But others will have to be purified in the tribulation (Revelation 3:18 and 12:17).
INTERNATIONAL DESK

But Why Riot In Switzerland?

W hy, of all places on earth, should people riot in Switzerland? In Northern Ireland, we have come to expect mobs to take to the streets in frustration over a hunger striker’s death.

The unprecedented violence in Britain last summer was blamed on the economic woes and resultant unemployment in that country. In Iran, the faithful riot in religious fervor. In poverty-stricken societies of Asia and Africa, food shortages cause riots. In South America it’s politics. But why riot in Switzerland?

If any place on earth could be said to “have it made,” it’s this landlocked little country in central Europe. Switzerland is one of the freest democracies on earth. The inflation rate is less than 3 percent and unemployment is almost nonexistent. The Swiss standard of living is one of the highest. Food shortages are unheard of, and there is complete freedom of religion. The political and social conditions that send the citizens of other countries on the rampage just do not exist in Switzerland.

Yet It Has Happened!

And yet, several times in the last few months, angry groups of youthful demonstrators calling themselves the “forum of the discontented” have shattered the calm of Zurich’s elegant banking and shopping districts. With stones and iron bars, they broke the windows of exclusive shops and boutiques. Banks and public buildings were sprayed with graffiti from aerosol paint cans.

Street battles ensued as the police battled the mobs with tear gas and rubber bullets.

Older Swiss people looked on in shock and disbelief. This was the kind of thing that happened abroad, in “less civilized” places. But not in Switzerland!

Switzerland has been an island of peace and sanity on a continent that has twice in living memory torn itself apart in bloody wars. Since World War II, it has skillfully managed to have the best of both worlds—the high standard of living of an industrial society, while avoiding some of the worst problems that usually come with it, like slums and pollution. Swiss banks remain the standard by which all others are measured, and the Swiss franc is good as gold. The popular image of the country is one of majestic mountain scenery, picturesque valleys, quiet towns, clean little villages and happy, healthy people.

Compared to most places on earth, it is hard to find anything wrong with Switzerland.

The Swiss have, in a sense, achieved the goals that most people still have to pursue. The world’s average man—a semiliterate peasant with too many children, and not quite enough of anything else—would cheerfully settle for the Swiss standard of living. That is what makes the Swiss demonstrations so puzzling—yet also so significant.

When a well-fed, well-educated, potentially wealthy young Swiss breaks a jewelry shop window and scatters the contents (without bothering to loot), what is he trying to say?

When a young Swiss mother, with a chubby healthy baby, drags an expensive fur coat in the dust of a Zurich street, what is she asking for?

In a world where one billion destitute people struggle daily to stay alive, why are those who can take their daily bread for granted so unhappy?

We need to take a closer look at the Swiss demonstration. And the participants need to take a close look at themselves. Why are they so discontented?

Frustrated with Frustration

They seem to be frustrated rebels looking for a cause. The riots lack any cohesive plan. There are no definitive leaders—one of the slogans is “power to nobody.”

The demands are vague and uncoordinated; they have difficulty focusing on specific things that are wrong. Some young people do point out the hypocrisy of a neutral nation that keeps itself in a state of constant readiness for war. Switzerland has been neutral since the 16th century. Swiss citizens are forbidden to participate in war—anywhere. The nation carefully avoids any alliances or associations that might lead it into armed conflict. Although the Swiss play host to many of the organizations within the United Nations, they did not join themselves.

But do not confuse neutrality with pacifism. All able-bodied citizens are considered part of the militia until the age of 50.

The rifle and a neatly pressed uniform stay in constant readiness in many Swiss homes. “The Swiss do not have an army; they are an army,” explained one president. While not engaging in war, the Swiss have little tolerance of the conscientious objectors in their midst. Few nations on earth are so war conscious. The strategic passes, tunnels and bridges stay permanently mined, ready to block the progress of an invader. There is almost an obsession with fallout shelters—already facilities exist to accommodate 50 percent of the population, and all new homes and apartments must by law make provision for adequate shelter. By the year 2000 Switzerland plans to be able to protect its entire population from the effects of nuclear war.

(Continued on page 39)
The Neglected Key to PERSONAL PROSPERITY

by Jeff Calkins

It is time we rediscovered a key to prosperity too many have thoughtlessly thrown away!

WOULD YOU believe it?

If you want to go from a relatively middle-class life (by North American and European standards) to a much poorer existence, one of the quickest ways to do it is to get a divorce!

On the other hand, if you want to enjoy at least some amount of material prosperity—the odds are much better for you if you have a happy family life.

The root cause of prosperity, of course, is God. Obedience to His laws brings blessings. One of these laws is tithing—but there is another part of God’s great law of love that—though seemingly unrelated to personal finances—is equally important: that part which protects the family.

Have you ever thought what the role of the family is in the creation of prosperity?

High Importance of Family

First, let us see just how important family life is in God’s plan.

When God created mankind, He established human families through the institution of marriage. “It is not good that the man should be alone,” God said (Genesis 2:18). So God created woman, and the first family came into existence.

Later, as the human race grew, the chief divisions within mankind were based on separate families, grown large into tribes and nations, as revealed in the 11th chapter of Genesis.

When God codified His law for the Israelites, He gave several provisions that directed the family: “Honour thy father and mother,” “Thou shalt not commit adultery,” “Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s wife,” all seek to protect the family relationship (Exodus 20:12, 14, 17).

Additional statutes deal with family law, emphasizing the values of respect toward parents and
faithfulness in marriage. The Bible’s emphasis on family is present at its beginning and end. In the beginning, in Genesis, God establishes marriage for Adam and Eve. At the end, in Revelation, Christ returns to marry His Bride, the true Church.

Perhaps because secular economists do not pay much attention to these doctrines they do not realize just how important families are to prosperity!

**Time and Patience**

The key is time. When a man marries and has a family, his view of time changes. He is less likely to live for the moment, to dissipate his income in riotous living, or leave his job or work willy-nilly to pursue some personal whim. In short, he is more likely to become a responsible, productive member of the community. The insurance companies, of course, recognize this truth, granting lower rates to married than single men, all else being equal.

Marriage, and especially children, orient people to the future. One begins to think of children’s education, of the family’s material welfare. Suddenly, it becomes important to work and save toward the future, to develop economic skills and produce a steady income.

Of course, not all men do right, economically, by their families. One of the most terrible woes in this present evil world is when a man, otherwise able, does not heed the biblical rule to “provide for those of his own house” (1 Timothy 5:8). The world is full of stories of drunken or profligate fathers who squander their earnings while their families suffer. Clearly, marriage and family are not enough by themselves to make a man a responsible, productive citizen. And, of course, there are many, many single persons who are very responsible and productive people. (Such people are likely to be the children of responsible, stable, productive families!)

But, as George Gilder points out in his recent and highly perceptive book Wealth and Poverty, an intact, stable family unit is a virtual requirement to lift people from poverty to prosperity. The main motivation for a poor man, in particular, to faithfully work and save over a period of years is family responsibility. One of the reasons for the prosperity of Northern Europe, after 1600, relative to the rest of the world, was that men were expected to support their families by themselves. Consequently, people delayed marriage and children until they acquired some savings or economic skill.

One of the most fascinating statistics, author Gilder reports, is that one of the key features that distinguishes poor communities from others is the greater relative presence of unmarried people! Poor communities often have more than their share of unmarried people. Such people often live hand to mouth, “unable to plan or save or keep a job.” Again, the key is time. Studies of certain poor people in modern societies show that they often live for the present, the now. They do not care about the future. Mr. Gilder stresses that for men in the world, it often takes family responsibilities to make a man future oriented. The proverbial “carefree” life of single men, by contrast, shows their present orientation. Why forego pleasure today for the sake of tomorrow? For many men in this world, the only reason would be their families.

Now consider the astounding findings of two recent surveys. _Town and Country_ magazine interviewed the men who are at the top of America’s top 100 companies. It found 95 percent of these highly successful men are still married to their first wives!

A specialist at the Harvard Medical School, George E. Valliant, was puzzled by the survey: “I have to confess this is unexpected,” he said. “I would have thought the cost of success in such huge corporations might have gotten in the way of their marriages.”

Actually, the results shouldn’t be puzzling at all. Stable marriages created order and gave purpose to these men’s lives that many single or divorced do not have. Stable home life actually liberates drive and productivity in a man, because he becomes future oriented. Rising to the top of a major corporation requires a great deal of diligence, preparation, patience and steady performance of work. A future-oriented married man is more likely to have these qualities than the single man whose focus is on living for today.

Secondly, of course, a man who is willing to exercise the necessary character to keep his marriage intact (particularly in these permissive times!) is also likely to have the character and self-discipline to achieve better success (therefore economic success) in a large corporation.

_Town and Country_’s survey is confirmed by another study by University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Graduate School of Management. It found 89 percent of 1,700 top executives had been married only once, and 95 percent of these were currently married.

Such statistics accord with findings of the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin, cited in George Gilder’s book. The Institute reports husbands work 50 percent harder (meaning number of hours and weeks a year in paid employment outside the home) than bachelors with comparable age, education and skills.

“The effect of marriage,” Mr. Gilder concludes, “is to increase the work effort of men by about half.”

On the other hand, a divorced man is more likely to undergo a drop in income, and is more prone to take to drink, drugs and crime. After divorce, men are more prone to mental illness, and “self-destructive” diseases, such as cirrhosis of the liver. Divorced men are far more likely to commit suicide than their married counterparts. No doubt much of this self-destructive
conduct stems from the increased loneliness and shrinking personal horizons.

The Woman as Head of Household
Of course, the beneficial effects of an intact family—and the destructiveness of divorce—aren't confined to men.

While there is some movement in the divorce courts today to award child custody to fathers, the most common result of a failed marriage is a woman trying to raise her children by herself. The same result occurs, also, in cases of illegitimacy.

Thus the breaking of God's law—whether in terms of adultery or some similar sin that causes marriages to break up—or premarital sex—both lead to the same evil result. Aside from the social evils, the economic consequences are horrendous.

Illegitimacy and single-parent families are recipes for economic hardship and poverty. The hard truth of economic life in this universe is that a female-headed household will almost always not prosper.

For example, Money magazine presented a profile of a newly divorced, middle-class mother of two. As a highly qualified, real estate salesperson, she was able, by herself, to earn at a yearly rate of around $36,000 to $40,000. Nevertheless, she was going into the hole about $500 a month, and her spending wasn't particularly extravagant either!

If newly divorced, middle-class professional women have a hard time making ends meet, how much worse must it be for the vast majority of single mothers who earn much, much less!

The fact of life in this world is that children will tend to make it more difficult for a single mother to pursue her career, or even just make a decent living. She must not only be mother, but homemaker and breadwinner as well. Such incredible demands on her time and energy cannot help but hurt her ability to earn a living.

Illegitimacy and divorce—both are bad results of breaking God's law—go a long way toward explaining much—maybe most—of the poverty in Western societies today.

For the poor, in particular, such sins virtually insure that they will remain perpetually mired in their poverty.

Experience of Ethnic Groups
Some poor people—usually immigrants—go from being almost penniless to being middle and upper class in two or three generations. But why do other poor people stay poor?

Poor immigrants to the United States are renowned for their family loyalty. They begin small, family businesses. Usually each member works for far, far below the minimum wage—but the family prospers because the value of the business goes up, just like the value of a cared for home goes up. After a number of years, the immigrant family is typically worth more than other families who were content to work for shorter hours at higher wages.

There is a delightful comedy-type song, played on some of the popular radio stations, which captures the essence of why family unity and loyalty is one of the key elements of prosperity. It is the story of an Italian immigrant mother admonishing her son to work hard, be cheerful and stay in school. The lines, "What'sa matta you, gotta no respeck?" do more to explain why Italian families in the United States have achieved a great deal of economic success in the United States than do a hundred monographs in academic journals!

By contrast, ethnic groups who do not typically show family unity or loyalty are the poorest, by far. When more than half of all U.S. black children are illegitimate, or when a large percentage of all black children in America witness the breakup of their parents' marriage, there is almost no way they are going to prosper. Yet black immigrants in America who have come from the West Indies, whose families are typically intact, make more than the national average! But native-born blacks, a community with extremely high rates of single mothers and illegitimacy, earn among the least of all major ethnic groups.

The Scourge of Divorce
Illegitimacy, that is, the failure to obey God's law in the area of premarital sex, is perhaps the main reason the poor stay poor, at least in the Western world.

And divorce, generally the result of failure to obey God's law after marriage, is probably the chief reason why middle-class people become poor.

The exact rate of divorce in American society is somewhat unclear. Comparing this year's divorces with this year's marriages often yields too low a figure, since they are not the same marriages. Business Week reports that about a third of all marriages "survive." The number of divorces yearly, we know, has doubled in the past decade. In any case, the figures are pretty bad.

What it means is untold personal economic hardship for millions of people. New divorce laws make divorce easier—but the economic devastation remains the same, or worse. And the costs of divorce can be devastating.

With the laws the way they are now in many places, divorce is almost as complicated as dissolving a business. As Charles J. Fleck, presiding judge of the nation's busiest divorce court, in Cook County, Illinois, declares, "A simple case can... end up with two bankrupt persons."

Even if a family doesn't own its own home or have much money, a divorce still may entitle the wife to the one major asset the husband does have, his pension rights. Dividing up those rights (which are rights to a future income) now can require the services of costly lawyers and accountants, as well as forcing the sale of property at a potentially bad time.

When families do own their own
homes, affairs can become even more complicated—and costly. With inflation and increased home values, a couple can easily go from being two people in one very nice home to being one person each in a small, cramped apartment. Divorce can also mean forcing sale at the wrong time, payment of real estate commissions, prepayment interest penalties, and, if one or both spouses tries to buy again, more loan fees, commissions and probably a higher interest rate. Any number of real estate agents will tell you divorce is one of the main reasons for selling homes today.

Taxes can also take a heavy toll because of divorce. Assets often must be sold to pay off one spouse’s property rights, and the government may want to tax any profit on that sale.

Then there are, for a middle-class family with any substantial assets at all, the really heavy cost: lawyer’s, accountant’s and appraiser’s fees. Straightforward divorce cases sometimes cost $5,000, complicated divorces (for the rich) can run as high as (hold your breath) $250,000! Nationwide in the United States divorce law is a $3 billion industry, amounting to about $3,000 a divorce.

And after the divorce, the costs go on. Two residences, two cars, duplicate household expenses, utility bills, two sets of furniture, all are usually required when one would have done before. A couple can go from being relatively prosperous, middle-class homeowners to each eking out a rather poor existence in a small apartment, all because they were not willing to do what was necessary (basically, have a giving attitude toward one’s mate) to keep their marriage together.

No wonder one survey reported in Parade showed, after one year of divorce, 60 percent of the men and 73 percent of the women felt they had made a mistake in divorcing!

The End of Poverty

Only through keeping the family units intact has any ethnic group ever risen out of poverty. When a community is made up of single mothers struggling desperately to raise their children on a low income, and rootless, single men who have no purpose in life other than to enjoy the present, there will be squalid, grinding poverty.

Stable families are a principle of economic success. Young men from such families grow up realizing that a man should support his family—not live a footloose existence as a pimp, drug dealer or robber. While it is not fashionable to say it in an era like today where people dogmatically insist there are no real sexual differences, young men do have inner need to express their innate aggressiveness somehow. In this world today, in particular, being responsible husbands and fathers channels that energy into generally constructive pursuits—steady work, career building and saving. (See generally Wealth and Poverty, chapter six.)

In the World Tomorrow, the one Christ will establish upon His return to set up God’s Kingdom over the whole world, people will be taught God’s laws concerning the family. That world will not have the suffering—or, at least, hardship—of a woman trying to raise her children by herself. Illegitimacy and divorce will almost disappear from human experience. And it will be an incredibly prosperous world.

In the meantime, in this world today, the biblical laws can be put to work for anyone. Keeping your marriage intact doesn’t guarantee abundance, of course. But it will help. Interested readers should write the editor in chief, requesting our free booklet, Why Marriage! and reprint articles, “Seven Steps to a Good Marriage,” and “The Care and Feeding of Marriage.”
The new world tomorrow is going to come in our time! But remember, this wonderful world-state will not be achieved all at once.

**WORLD PEACE!**

(Continued from page 8)

therefore, that very same day, on the Mount of Olives (Zechariah 14:4-5).

These changed, converted saints, now made immortal, will then rule the nations—nations of mortals—under Christ (Daniel 7:22; Revelation 2:26-27; 3:21).

The New World Government

Now notice just how the new world government will function!

It will not be a so-called democracy; it will not be socialism; it will not be human monarchy, oligarchy or plutocracy. It will not be Man's government over man. Man has proven his utter incapability of ruling himself!

It will be divine government—the government of God. It will not be government from the bottom up. The people will have no votes. It will not be government of or by the people but it will be government for the people! It will be government from the Top (God Almighty) down!

In the Kingdom of God all in government service will then be divine spirit beings. All officials will be appointed by the divine Christ, who reads and knows men's hearts—their inner character, their abilities or lack of ability. You'll find a description of Christ's supernatural insight into the very character of others in Isaiah 11:2-4:

"And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; and shall make him of quick understanding . . . and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprieve after the hearing of his ears [hearsay]: but with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprieve with equity for the meek of the earth . . . ."

Remember, God is the Supreme One who is love—who GIVES—who rules with outgoing concern for the ruled. His will be rule for the HIGHEST GOOD of the people! The most able, the most righteous, those best fitted for office will be placed in all offices of responsibility and power.

There will then be two kinds of beings on earth—humans and those made divine, who will rule the mortals. Some resurrected saints will rule over 10 cities, some over five (Luke 19:17-19).

But further, God has set in motion physical laws that operate in our bodies and minds, as well as His spiritual law. Sickness, ill health, pain and suffering will disappear. There will be, on the contrary, vigorous, vibrant good health. People will be filled with dynamic interest in life, enthusiastic interest in constructive activities bringing happiness and joy!

There will be real progress, cleanliness, no slums, no degenerate peoples or areas of earth.

All this will be accomplished under the New Covenant that Christ is coming to usher in. Did you ever read just what this New Covenant will consist of? Did you suppose it will do away with God's law?

EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE!

This is the covenant that Christ is coming to establish (Hebrews 8:10): "I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts."

When God's laws are in our hearts—when we love God's ways and in our hearts want to live by them—human nature will be put under subjection; people will live the way that is the cause of peace, happiness, abundance, joyful well-being! May God speed that day!

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Some scientists say you're worth $7.28.

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October/November 1981
What Our Readers Say

Education
I have just read your article in the May [U.S.] edition of The Plain Truth about the origins of modern education. Mr. Armstrong, your statement about people attending colleges for four or five years and leaving as a graduate of what I call an aimless life has never made more sense to me.

I taught for a semester when I graduated. I had a knife fight my first week. They heated metal pipes in the furnaces and attacked each other. They left school whenever they wanted. These were eighth grade students on up the scale. The school didn't care. The kids didn't care. The parents? Who knows? I never got to meet more than perhaps two or three parents.

College never taught me how to have parent-home conferences, how to counsel, how to handle the kid in the corner that's been on drugs so long he can't remember his name, how to handle uncooperative school administration, how to cope with other teachers that have the same habits as the kids.

I quit; I moved. Then I taught four and five year olds in essentially a government-funded day care. Discipline was not allowed. Raising the voice was not allowed. One of my five year olds continually brought knives. A small sample of tomorrow's public school children: that's what I got a glimpse of, and it still gives me nightmares.

I had to write this. Maybe just finally saying it all will help, thinking that someone out there heard me.

Mrs. Don Nagel
Marysville, Oklahoma

Depression
I am a registered nurse in a psychiatric hospital and found the article on mental depression very informative and anxiously await the follow-up article. I have found that God is the answer and would rather administer Him than the pills I am now using. I enjoy Mr. Armstrong's TV program.

Alice Cunningham, R.N.
Kings Park, New York

I would like to express my appreciation to Donald Schroeder for his articles on fear and depression. I found the first very helpful and the following ones even more so. They are all very well researched and written. My congratulations and thanks! I only hope others get as much from them as I have.

Margo L. Katzer
Nevada, Iowa

Would you please thank Donald D. Schroeder on my behalf for his article "Finding a Way Out of Fear and Depression." I had been feeling that I was reaching my breaking point with health problems. After reading his article, I realized I was focusing on the wrong values. And, if I trust in God's resources instead of my own, I have no reason to fear any other problems. Thank you for helping to restore my peace of mind. I have already reviewed the article a second time. This article is just one more example of the outstanding quality of your information.

Thomas C. Wise
Denver, Colorado

May I take this opportunity to say what a clearly readable and precise magazine I find The Plain Truth to be. In particular the recent article on "Fear and Depression" made me somehow perceive exactly what was wrong with my attitude to part of my life. I'd like to finish by saying that I trust some other readers in a like position to my own also derived comfort.

Peter R. Tanner
London

Family
I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your courageous and forthright article "What Price Your Birthright?" It was a very realistic and objective view of the battle between the traditional family and materialism. Please continue your work of research and writings along this crucial subject.

Michael Jameson
El Cajon, California

I just had to write and express my appreciation for that lovely article by Sheila Graham "Whatever Happened to Old-Fashioned Parents?" I was moved to tears when I read that tender article and realized just how much people are missing, with shackling-up marriages. I believe wholeheartedly that the Bible is an essential part of family life. Parents should teach children of God's love and instill high moral values in them. I believe in the old-fashioned family parents and hope one day when I have children that I'll teach them effectively with God's guidebook, the Bible.

Miss Indra Ragooonan
Trinidad, West Indies

Marriage
I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the staff on the article entitled "How Husbands Should
You may not be aware of one inaccuracy that appeared in the May issue in the article on noise pollution. The article gave db. ratings of various items. The inaccuracy is “a motorcycle at 50 feet, 100 to 110.” In order to be street legal in the state of California it can be a maximum of 83 db. There are a good number of people, myself included, who have spent many years in the motorcycle industry—people who are responsible, law-abiding citizens. We find the noisy 1 percent-ers as undesirable as everyone else. We have tried to “clean up” our image with the public. The 83 db. requirement is one of the many examples of the steps taken.

Roy T. Weaver
Corona, California

A Voice Cries Out

“What and Why the Church” is the most enlightening article I’ve read for years and years. Everybody should read it. It makes God real and alive.

Edna Nelson
Goodland, Kansas

I was reading your series “A Voice Cries Out,” when I got to the part about us not being born again right now. I was angry, mad, upset, scared of course, humiliated. No one likes to hear they’ve been deceived. Matter of fact I put your magazine down and wouldn’t read any more, but I started searching the Bible which I do when there is a question. Even though I was angry I found you clarified the truth about all this. I was really relieved.

Judy Taylor
Green Cove Springs, Florida

De-Sex the Bible

I have a few constructive comments on your article “De-Sexing the Bible.” Sexual permissiveness is growing among females. Women of this world have males as examples. After all, isn’t the male supposed to be the leader or head? Leaders are examples. If men are cursing, drinking, fornicating and getting away with it, then women are going to follow their example. Preachers have sugar-coated and excused the problem by saying, “It is woman’s place to set the moral climate.” If men would act the way God would have them to, there would be less social problems in this world.

Sherry Bogus
St. Joseph, Tennessee

Job Outlook

I would like to extend a hearty “BRAVO” to the author and staff for the article “Job Outlook in the World Tomorrow.” It is often difficult for young people to choose the proper occupation. I am presently studying at Duke University in North Carolina and thanks to your edifying article, I am more competent of choosing a proper occupation. I can now choose a discipline which I may strive to perfect in this world and actually use in the World Tomorrow. Many thanks for giving such valuable knowledge.

Maurice Parks
Durham, North Carolina

Britain’s Royal Family

I enjoyed the estimable article by The Honorable T.C.F. Prittie “The Real Value of Britain’s Royal Family.” One probably inadvertent error was in the article. It stated “Prince Charles’ investiture was only the second since 1616, and the only one in this century to take place in Wales.” Prince Edward (later King Edward VIII) had his investiture at Caernarvon Castle in Wales in 1911. I have a silver medal in commemoration of the event.

Robert O. McNiel
Roanoke, Virginia

• The Honorable T.C.F. Prittie and the editorial staff express their appreciation for Mr. McNiel’s correct observation.

I enjoyed reading your excellent article entitled “The Real Value of Britain’s Royal Family” in the June-July 1981 edition of The Plain Truth. The British Royal Family symbolizes unity at a time when the United Kingdom truly needs to be united. As for Prince Charles, I have always considered him to be an excellent spokesman for my generation. When the time comes for him to be King, I am sure that he will be an outstanding Monarch. Long live the Queen, and long live the British Royal Family.

Steve Maclin
Lancaster, Texas
WORLD LEADERS

(Continued from page 10)

their governments, businesses and industries.

This points up a basic problem in the crisis of leadership! Ask any management consultant about one of the basic causes of falling industrial productivity and he'll point to ineffective, poor management. And poor management leads to falling productivity, a primary root of inflation!

What if the lost generation had followed this precept: "In all labour there is profit: but the [time-wasting] talk of the lips tendeth only to penury [poverty]" (Proverbs 14:23)? Where would they be today?

Again, when people talk about the economy, they are really talking about you and me.

The basic problem with our economy is selfishness.

Labor unions fear concessions to employers. It's no secret that rich bosses used human toil as fodder for corporate income in the late 1800s and early 1900s. But today, management fears bad economic consequences from the organized strike.

What is required is a basic change in our attitudes.

Working Toward a Solution

The root cause of human economic problems, remember, is spiritual in nature. So let's look to the source of spiritual solutions for our answers: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might" (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

Yes, God commands zeal—a willingness to put forth extra effort—without being asked. We would immediately see the positive benefits if this divine principle of success were applied. From the management point of view, you would see people pulling together to get a job done, working in harmony. If you were part of labor, you would see your boss working to make your job easier.

But what do we have today? In factories, haven't you seen your fellow workers break equipment to get out of work? And haven't you seen management point the finger at others to escape blame for errors?

It's time to get away from this self-centered way of life. Instead, we need to develop concern for each other regardless of our position! God expects you to practice this element of success: "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others [have out-going concern for others' needs]" (Philippians 2:4).

Ever read or heard Acts 20:35: "It is more blessed to give than to receive"?

This is no sentimental, maudlin statement! This is a living law that millions break every day—and suffer the unfortunate consequences!

God is not some harsh monster that wants you to give up enjoyment and life. God wants you to prosper (III John 2) and He promises an abundant life (John 10:10) in return for obedience to these living laws of success.

Notice what happens to those, whether labor or management, who practice the "give" way: "The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth [who practices the

"give" way] shall be watered ..." (Proverbs 11:25).

Further, "One gives away, and still he grows the richer: another keeps what he should give, and is the poorer" (Proverbs 11:24, Moffatt translation).

Find out for yourself that these laws work! "Prove me now herewith" (Malachi 3:10), says your God.

If you're interested in learning more about the proven way to success, which will provide the ultimate solution to inflation, we have available a free booklet titled The Seven Laws of Success. We believe in the "give" way. By simply writing to the nearest address inside the front cover, we'll send you this booklet without charge or follow-up.

Remember, the "give" way is the only way that really works in the here and now. It is the way of thoughtfulness, of concern for our neighbor. It is the way that makes our neighbor, in turn, want to be more thoughtful of others and their special needs.

It's up to you. The way to real happiness and prosperity—will you take it? □

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The PLAIN TRUTH
Riot In Switzerland?

(Continued from page 30)

This preoccupation with survival and doomsday is one thing that the young people can focus on.

The cost of housing is another. Rents are high and accommodation is in short supply. This means that children usually have to live with their parents until they get married. But these are just symptoms. Few rioters would admit to being enraged just for these reasons.

Rather, it is the whole way of life that leaves them dissatisfied and unfulfilled. There is everything ... yet nothing. Listen to this young mother: "We are a frustrated people in an artificial society. Everything matters except man himself... I want to be a human being."

What does she mean by that? She isn't sure, but a young student pointed out, "We want to find out for ourselves how we should live."

Switzerland's democracy, one of the most stable in the world, frustrates them too. They claim that it "imposes the will of the majority on the minority"—an interesting variation to the usual complaint against government.

Most of the demonstrators are dropouts—eschewing the traditional role of the industrious worker and the work ethic. They have no plans, no goals and no idea what they should do with their lives. They don't know who they are, where they are going or what they want when they get there.

"I want to be!" a young demonstrator will cry. But be what? He doesn't know. In the midst of prosperity and abundance he is lost and bored.

Many older people, in the twilight of life, with the years of achievement and productivity behind them, also have asked themselves, is this all there is? Some of the world's most accomplished men and women have admitted to a feeling of emptiness. King Solomon of ancient Israel, whose intellectual, literary and architectural achievements were second to none, came to the conclusion, "All is vanity and vexation of spirit."

Switzerland's young people are saying the same thing, but not at the end of a life full of accomplishment. Rather, they have reached a state of ennui at the threshold of life... a life that promises them everything they need except a reason to be alive.

And so, thinking that they have nothing to look forward to but years of preprogrammed existence in what one critic called a "stagnant mountain pond"—they react.

The Swiss government, not used to dealing with this kind of crisis, tried to defuse the situation by meeting some of the rioters' more coherent demands. For example, an autonomous youth center was set up in Zurich. But that hasn't solved the problem. The frustrated young people in Zurich are looking for the purpose of life. Their government can't tell them that.

Life's Purpose

But they could know! They have had the answer all along. Few nations have defended the integrity of the Bible as defiantly as the Swiss. During the 16th century, Switzerland became an international rallying point for religious freedoms.

The Swiss, too, have chosen to live by many of the biblical principles that bring material prosperity and physical well-being. Diligence, attention to detail and quality, respect for the environment, cleanliness—these all have their own reward. But the Swiss have overlooked other vital teachings, principles and laws that add true quality and perspective to life. They are not alone in this—very, very few people have taken the whole Word of God at face value. But we will keep our focus on Switzerland. While most of the world has still to ask, "Give us this day our daily bread," the Swiss are learning that "man does not live by bread alone." Or, as Jesus also said, "A man's life does not consist of the abundance of the things he possesses."

Unless God intended (which He most emphatically did not) that the net result of our existence should be "vanity and vexation of spirit," there must be a dimension to living that King Solomon, the Swiss (and nearly everyone else) has missed.

There is! It is the fundamental purpose of human life. It is the common heritage of all mankind, and the key to solving the many problems that afflict all nations of the earth today—rich or poor.

If the human race knew why it was on earth, it could pursue the right goals in the right way. Then poverty, squalor, disease and frustration would vanish. Wealth, health, prosperity and happiness for all would be the by-product. But only a by-product, for these things are not an end in themselves—as the Swiss are finding out. The ultimate result of using that knowledge far surpasses the wildest dreams of the most visionary of futurists. There is a purpose for life—and it isn't anything to do with the things that the young Swiss are rejecting. They—and you—could find that purpose; it is revealed in the pages of the Bible. You can read it, free, in the book The Incredible Human Potential by Herbert W. Armstrong. Just write to the Plain Truth office nearest you.

It is sad to see the young people of Switzerland wrecking the shops and streets of their beautiful homeland. It is even sadder to see them wrecking their lives. Broken windows are easily mended. Broken lives aren't.

—John Halford
“THE WORLD TOMORROW” RADIO AND TV LOGS
Herbert W. Armstrong analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of The World Tomorrow

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
WVTM, Birmingham — 13, 7:00 a.m., Sun.
WJBF, Huntsville — 48, 6:30 a.m., Sun.

ALASKA
KATU, Anchorage — 2, 8:00 a.m., Sun.
KFQI, Fairbanks — 2, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
KNTV, Juneau — 8, 7:00 a.m., Sun.
LAND, Nikolai — 3, 6:00 p.m., Sun., Wed.
KFW, Sitka — 13, 3:00 p.m., Sun.

ARIZONA
KNAZ, Flagstaff — 2, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
KTOK, Phoenix — 3, 10:00 a.m., Sun.

ARKANSAS
KARK, Little Rock — 4, 10:00 a.m., Sun.

CALIFORNIA
KPLU, Los Angeles — 9, 6:30 p.m., Sun.
KTVU, Oakland — 2, 10:30 a.m., Sat.
KTVL, Sacramento — 4, 7:00 a.m., Sun.
KXLY, Spokane — 39, 7:30 a.m., Sun.

COLORADO
KTBV, Denver — 12, 11:30 a.m., Sun.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ENGLISH CANADA

MARYLAND
WBFF, Baltimore — 45, 10:30 a.m., Sun.
WHAG, Hagerstown — 25, 7:00 a.m., Sat.

MICHIGAN
WJTV, Battle Creek — 41, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WJRT, Flint — 12, 8:00 a.m., Sun.
WIXL, Lansing — 10, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

MISSOURI
KMTV, Springfield — 27, 6:30 a.m., Sun.
KONDON, St. Louis — 30, 11:30 a.m., Sun.

NEBRASKA
KGI, Kearney — 13, 8:00 a.m., Sun.

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

NEW YORK
WTEN, Albany — 10, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WUTV, Buffalo — 29, 10:00 a.m., Sun.
WNY, Elmira — 36, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

OHIO
WOR, New York — 9, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

OKLAHOMA
KOKH, Oklahoma City — 25, 10:00 a.m., Sun.

OREGON
KION, Portland — 6, 6:30 a.m., Sun.

PENNSYLVANIA
WPHT, Philadelphia — 17, 7:30 a.m., Sun.

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

UTAH
KUTV, Salt Lake — 2, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

VIRGINIA
WVEC, Norfolk — 13, 7:30 a.m., Sun.

WASHINGTON
KXL, Spokane — 4, 11:00 a.m., Sun.

WEST VIRGINIA
WOKH, Huntington — 13, 11:30 a.m., Sun.

WISCONSIN
WTVT, Milwaukee — 18, 6:30 p.m., Sun.

WYOMING
KWY, Casper — 14, 11:00 a.m., Sun.
KYCU, Cheyenne — 5, 10:00 a.m., Sat.

CANADA TELEVISION

BRITISH COLUMBIA
CKPG, Prince George — 2, 10:00 a.m., Sat.
CTFX, Terrace-Killiam — 3, 10:00 a.m., Sat.
BCIT-TV, Kelowna — 9, 9:30 a.m., Sat.

MONTREAL
CHEK, Vancouver-Victoria — 6, 7:30 a.m., Sat.

The World Tomorrow
HEADS OF GOVERNMENT of the Free World's seven leading industrial powers assembled in Ottawa, Canada, last July. Surface harmony prevailed at the two-day summit, but mounting political and economic frictions between the United States and its allies were not removed. Growing European-Soviet trade ties disturb Washington.

NEW EUROPE

(Continued from page 6)

U.S. bases. The Labourites also, if ever in power, would pull Britain out of the Common Market within 12 months after winning the election.

The Low Countries, notes strategic analyst Walter Laquer, are afflicted with what he calls "Hol­landitis." This malady, he explains, which began in the Netherlands, has resulted in aversion to all matters dealing with national defense, not just opposition to nuclear weapons.

To those afflicted with this "disease," America is viewed as the greatest threat to peace in Europe. According to a Belgian Socialist party leader, "We have become permanent vassals and nuclear hostages of the U.S." (No mention of being held hostage to the Soviets' city-flattening SS-20s.)

The twin giants of neutralism and anti-Americanism are coming together as well in West Germany, the most Americanized nation in free Europe.

The Protestant clergy is in the forefront of the growing movement. During a recent conference in Hamburg, attended by more than 100,000 young people, students conducted a "peace march." Parading such signs as "Rockets Out" and "Peace Without Weapons," the marchers portrayed Washington as the prime force behind world tensions and a new arm race. At the same time, the cover of Stern, West Germany's largest general interest magazine, showed an American nuclear missile piercing the heart of a dove of peace.

Aided by a massive influx of Communist propaganda, the picture is emerging in Germany of the United States as a warlike nation, without integrity, having an unjust society, corrupted by Vietnam and Watergate. On the other hand, the Russians are portrayed as difficult, but basically reasonable chaps.

Some intellectuals go so far as to say that Europe (and Germany) must not only protect itself culturally against American civilization, but must "Europeanize" the Soviet Union so that it can be spared Americanization and remain pure, uncorrupted by consumerism.

Summarized Alice Siegert, an American correspondent in Bonn: "If a balance sheet were struck, it would show without question that the majority of people here still have friendly feelings for the United States. But it also is a fact that Germans no longer look to the U.S. as the model country. And the political rift that is opening could be dangerous."

Nearly everywhere else Mr. Reagan's aides look in Europe, they see disturbing signals. Taking advantage of the situation, Moscow is conducting an all-out "peace offensive" on many fronts. For example, the Soviets are once again floating the idea of a "nuclear-free zone" for Northern Europe—complete with a "guarantee" that Soviet nuclear weapons would not be used against the Nordic countries.

Thus, the Soviets are making strides toward neutralizing ("Finlandizing") Western Europe.

In the East—Ferment

If neutralism in Western Europe is giving Washington bad dreams, Poland is giving Moscow nightmares.

What has been happening in Poland—the Soviet Union's most strategically located satellite—is nothing short of a revolution.

Political reforms have taken place at a dizzying speed in Poland ever since the Gdansk shipyard demonstrations in the summer of 1980. Yet every change, it seems, leads only to demands for more.

No one could possibly have foreseen a year ago that Moscow would tolerate the formation of a free trade union movement—in a supposedly "workers' state." Neither could anyone have foreseen that delegates to a Communist party convention (in Warsaw) would be selected by secret ballot—nor that the party boss himself at the congress would be selected by the same process.

Moscow, bogged down in Afghanistan and fearful of the grave consequences of direct intervention in Poland, has simply gritted its teeth and permitted all this to take place. The Kremlin has even postponed Poland's debts to the U.S.S.R. for the next five years, hoping this will help relieve Poland's staggering economic plight.

What Moscow is confronted
with in Poland is the first authentic upheaval on a national scale in a Soviet bloc country. The Kremlin finds itself in a "no-win situation." To send troops against Poland would be extremely costly. The Poles, Soviet leaders are convinced, would fight. Moscow would end up responsible for the resulting economic calamity—and, very importantly, the Soviet "peace offensive" in Western Europe would grind to a halt.

Yet, the changes underway in Poland—a free trade union coupled with greater democracy within the party—could produce a domino ripple throughout Eastern Europe and even the Soviet Union itself.

Indeed it is already spreading. There have been reports in recent months of labor unrest in Romania. Demands for economic and political reform also were heard this past summer in East Germany, up until now Moscow's most trusted satellite.

And Soviet citizens in Lithuania and the Ukraine are watching events in Poland very closely.

**What Can Moscow Do?**

The present Soviet leaders seemingly do not know what to do with Poland. It will likely be up to a future generation of Soviet leadership, less personally identified with the traumas of the Second World War, to think their own revolutionary thoughts about Eastern Europe.

Moscow's overriding concern is that of national security, coupled with maintaining the balance of power in Europe. Future leaders of the Kremlin might be forced to **risk a partial release of these captive states**, believing that, in a condition more like that of Finland, the East Europeans would prove to be better guarantors of Soviet security than they are as restless captives.

Such a transformation would completely alter the political map of Europe. Notes political affairs analyst William Pfaff:

"No fundamental change in the situation of Poland, or of the region, is imaginable without a realignment of security arrangements in all Europe. If Poland were to become internally autonomous, albeit communist, its ability to guarantee Russia's security would have to be underwritten by the other states of Central and Western Europe. Even a qualified Soviet military withdrawal from Poland would have to be matched by American withdrawals in Western Europe or changes in NATO deployment."

The Soviets cannot have it both ways. They cannot "win" Western Europe, without giving in somewhat in Eastern Europe.

But where would such a dramatic reshuffling of Europe—with America dealt out—lead?

### A "New Europe" Prophesied

Bible prophecy foretells that there is yet to come the final end-time restoration of the Roman Empire. It will be composed of a prophetic "ten horns," meaning 10 nations or ruling entities (Revelation 17:12).

The second chapter of the book of Daniel tells of the same time not far in the future—when the Kingdom of God, pictured as a great stone "cut out without [human] hands," will crush this final system of human government to dominate the world. Here this 10-nation system is pictured as a giant human figure, having feet "part of iron, and part of clay" (Daniel 2:33). Its toes—obviously 10—correspond to the 10 national units of Revelation 17.

The original Roman Empire was broken into two "legs"—the Eastern empire in Byzantium (later Constantinople, today Istanbul) and the empire in the West in Rome. Thus it is very possible that the restored end-time system will be composed of two distinct yet cooperative parts: the first "leg" comprising nations of Western Europe, the second incorporating nations freed from Soviet dominance in Central and Eastern Europe.

What is transpiring on both sides of the Iron Curtain today is the first step in the refashioning of Western, Central and much of Eastern Europe into a new, yet ancient, alignment. Out of the ashes of history will arise a new, end-time world power—to the consternation of both Washington and Moscow.

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**Personal from...**

(Continued from page 1)

Auditorium was completed on schedule, spring of 1974. It is generally considered by performing artist celebrities as the finest auditorium on earth, cubic inch by cubic inch. What is even more important to them, the acoustics are perfect—as by faith I knew they would be. And Ambassador Auditorium today is recognized worldwide as a center for the performing arts in Southern California, beside being the home for God's headquarters church.

The Ambassador Campus has three times won the award of being the most beautiful best-landscaped and best-maintained campus in the United States. I know Jesus Christ is pleased.

Quality and character cost a little more. It's the same in SPIRITUAL CHARACTER—the primary purpose of human life. The way to high spiritual character is not easy. Such character cannot be bought cheaply. One has to **PAY THE PRICE**! Jesus spoke of the easy way, the road most people travel. "For the gate is narrow and the way is hard, that leads to life, and those who find it are few" (Matthew 7:14, RSV).

A life of overcoming and building righteous, spiritual character is not easy. It's costly. But it leads to the TRUE RICHES—FOR ETERNITY!
BRITAIN

(Continued from page 4)

eries to exist? But God plainly promised He would establish that throne in Solomon: 'And I will establish the throne of his [Solomon's] kingdom for ever.' He was not speaking of establishing it many centuries later in Christ—at His second coming. The 'he' referred to is Solomon—not Christ, for God said: 'If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him' (II Samuel 7:14).

"But now I give you a scripture that ends all speculation as to when this throne was established: 'Hear me, thou Jeroboam, and all Israel; ought ye not to know that the Eternal God of Israel GAVE the kingdom over Israel to David FOR EVER, even to him and to his sons by a covenant of salt?' (II Chronicles 13:4-5.) The margin says 'PERPETUAL covenant.' This shows the establishing of the throne was then in the past! God gave, did give, this kingdom to David and his sons—not his Son, Christ, but his sons, plural—continuously forever.

Established for All Generations

"I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant, Thy seed [dynasty—Moffatt] will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations' (Psalm 89:3-4). Note it! This throne, established forever, was built up to all generations. God did establish that throne, beginning with David and Solomon. We have a record of it for a number of generations—as far as King Zedekiah, 585 B.C.

"It was established to all generations, continuously, perpetually, FOREVER! That term 'all generations' certainly must include those generations from Zedekiah to the birth of Christ. Who occupied that throne during those generations?

"Christ is not sitting on that throne now, but on the throne of Almighty God in heaven (Revelation 3:21).

"So what about this present generation? Where is there a descen-
dant of David today sitting in an unbroken line of kings on the throne of David, ruling over children of Israel?

"Can one wonder that men like Thomas Paine and Robert Ingersoll lost faith in the Bible? They saw these unconditional promises, but they could not see how they had been kept. Yet, if we have patience, we shall see!

"But to continue, in the 89th Psalm, with the 28th verse: 'My mercy will I keep for him for evermore, and my covenant shall stand fast with him. His seed [dynasty—Moffatt] also will I make to endure for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven.'

"Consider a moment the meaning of the word 'seed' in this sense. Moffatt's translation in modern English properly translates it 'dynasty.' The Revised Standard Version translates it 'his [David's] line'—that is, continuous line or succession of sons, generation after generation. This 'seed' is not the general population of the children of Israel. This is speaking of David's seed, or David's sons. His sons were to be kings. David was of the tribe of Judah, possessor of the sceptre, not the birthright, promise. His 'seed,' therefore, was the kingly line. So, literally, it means his dynasty, his line of successive sons.

"Now while his throne is enduring through all generations, as the days of heaven, consider the next verse: 'If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments; if they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments; then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes. Nevertheless my loving-kindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail. My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips. Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David. His seed [dynasty] shall endure FOR EVER, and his throne as the sun before me. It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven' (Psalm 89:30-37).

"This is speaking of those generations when his children may dis-

obey and forsake God's law. Some today are excusing their inability to locate this throne by saying the covenant was conditional—that because the children of Israel disobeyed God, the covenant was broken. But what does the Almighty say? If the children disobey and transgress, they shall be punished for their transgression—but not by the breaking of God's unconditional covenant with David!

"Some say Christ took over the throne. But He didn't. Instead He was crucified, resurrected, and ascended to heaven. He shall come, and soon now, to sit upon that throne as the King of kings and Lord of lords. But how could Jesus Christ, when He returns again to earth, take over and sit upon a throne that long ago ceased to exist?

Will Christ Come to a Nonexistent Throne?

"If the throne of David ceased with Zedekiah, then it does not exist today. And if it does not exist, how shall Christ sit upon a nonexistent throne? (See Luke 1:31-32.) And, since it was to continue through all generations, how about those many generations between Zedekiah and the birth of Jesus?

"The very important fact that the glorified King of kings is coming to sit on an existing throne is further affirmed by the prophet Jeremiah. In the 33rd chapter is a prophecy of events to occur at the time of Christ's coming in supreme power and glory! At the time of writing this prophecy, the prophet was imprisoned in Jerusalem. The armies from Babylon were taking the Jews captive. God said to Jeremiah, 'I will... shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not... concerning the houses of this city, and concerning the houses of the kings of Judah, which are thrown down...' (verses 3-4).

"Jeremiah knew the king's houses in Jerusalem were being destroyed—the throne of David removed from Jerusalem. He was, as will be shown later, to be God's agent in rooting out that throne from Jerusalem. God was now revealing to him a reassuring fact. The throne of David would, in
been saying, as they were 'prophe­
sated among many, if not all, nations — scattered individuals — but no longer a nation having its own government! And the Ten Tribes were supposed to have been 'lost,' or to have gone out of existence, or to be just part of the scattered individual Jews! Yes, so the Jews themselves have said — and so the world has said! But what does God say?

"Continue, next verse: 'Thus saith the Eternal; If my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed [dynasty] to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them' (verses 25-26)."

The Test of Bible Truth

"Strong words, those! Unless you can stop this old earth from turning on its axis — unless you can remove the sun and the moon and stars from heaven, says the Almighty, you cannot prevent Him from keeping His covenant to maintain continuously, through all genera­tions, forever, from the time of David and Solomon, a descendant of David in one continuous dynasty on that throne!

"He would not necessarily rule over all the house of Israel, or the Jews — but at least some of them, and enough to form a nation.

"This cannot be applied to mean that there would not have been a continuous throne, or that it applies only to the 'one seed' — Christ finally coming to rule. Notice, it says specifically, 'so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers [more than one] over' Israelites. It is speaking of continuous, multiple rulers — not one Ruler coming to sit on a throne that 2,500 years before had ceased to exist!

"The COVENANT promise to David is plain and definite. Either his dynasty has continued and exists today, ruling over the house of Israel (not the Jews), or God's Word fails!

"Remember again the sceptre promise, which includes this line of kings until it culminates in CHRIST at His second coming: 'The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver [margin, ruler's staff]

The recent royal wedding was that of an heir to that throne — provided Christ does not come and take it over before the Prince of Wales inherits it. Few understood the real significance of the recent royal wedding.
Read the surprising origin of...

CHRISTMAS, SANTA CLAUS AND MISTLETOE.

Christmas time is the most exciting and festivity-filled time of year for most people.

Gift-giving, mistletoe, Santa Claus and other yuletide celebrations... millions observe these customs annually. But how many really ask themselves the meaning of all these apparently disconnected legends and rituals? If Christmas is the chief of the Christian holidays, why do so many non-Christians observe it? Who put Christ in Christmas in the first place?

Now you can take a new, more objective look at the "Christmas spirit." The free booklet The Plain Truth About Christmas will open your eyes to the true origins of the world's most popular holiday. This complex set of traditions didn't just happen by accident. Somewhere, back in the mists of antiquity, all those yuletide customs had a beginning — and a purpose. What was that purpose? Does it mean anything today? Is it biblical?

The Plain Truth About Christmas challenges conventional thinking and sheds new light on these supposedly "Christian" practices. Discover why there is no Christ in "Xmas" — send for your copy of The Plain Truth About Christmas today!

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