Can U.S. Bring Peace to Lebanon?
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ABOUT OUR COVER

A gouache rendering of George Pratt Shultz, economist, educator and now U.S. Secretary of State. Mr. Shultz, president of Bechtel Corporation since 1975, is thoroughly familiar with the Middle East and has a close working relationship with Philip Habib, U.S. troubleshooter in the crisis in Lebanon.

Ken Joudrey, artist

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Which Is Your Greatest Interest—People, or Yourself?

TIME—the weekly newsmagazine, made a survey to learn which subject in Time interested most readers. Results? A single page carried weekly, called “People”—was most read. The publishers of Time thereupon started a new magazine, called People. It grew almost instantly into a mass circulation in the millions.

People are most interested in other PEOPLE! But are YOU more interested in other people than in YOURSELF?

Let’s talk about YOU!

What are YOU like? What is your life like? Is your life like most people’s?—sluggish, half alive, only half awake to real possibilities for material success in this world—sound asleep to your real ultimate incredible potential—of what you may be, ultimately and spiritually?

Is your own favorite subject YOURSELF? Seriously, it ought to be! God Almighty had you born for a very great PURPOSE. Any interest you may have in the lives of other people—whether celebrities, movie stars or great personages in the world—cannot affect the PURPOSE God has in YOUR LIFE. And YOUR LIFE is of utmost importance to God! Only YOU can accomplish the PURPOSE God has in your life.

People are so quick to appraise others, and so slow to judge themselves.

Which movie star will win the Oscar? Which man (or woman) ought to be the U.S. President? Who’s going to be “athlete of the year”? Some movie stars end up suicides. Some presidential candidates wound up ignominiously. All athletes become too old, “over the hill”—or they are on their way out of competition. Your interest in their lives won’t lift you to the ultimate supreme potential for which the Great God had you born.

Of course you can derive inspiration, ideas and help from the lives of others. I did. At or after age 16, I became interested in the life of one of my favorite people—Benjamin Franklin. I read his autobiography. It gripped my interest. I read it a second and a third time. It helped and inspired me. Even my own autobiography has interested a goodly number of people—and I hope helped many.

Also at age 16 a summer-vacation employer infused me with ambition to make something of my life—to become a real success. Ambition is not only desire for accomplishment, it includes the application of the will to drive the self on to greater and continuous EFFORT! I began working at it—arousing myself to greater and greater EFFORT—driving myself on when it would have been easier to just let down and drift along. I was then driving myself toward worldly materialistic success. I was 34 when I first learned something of the AWESOME spiritual potential ahead of me—IF I APPLIED MYSELF TOWARD THAT INCREDIBLE GOAL, which is God’s ultimate supreme purpose for every human! I counted the cost. The cost was going to be very high—in determined effort and application when it would be easier to just “let down,” in opposition, in sacrifice, in persecution, in driving persistence in face of seemingly impossible obstacles.

Now, for 55 more years, I have persevered toward that goal—in hard work, living a life of SERVING and giving instead of GETTING, in enduring criticism, opposition, persecution, almost every discouragement—but I have laid up UNBELIEVABLE spiritual riches in happiness, service and spiritual accomplishments in an IMMORTAL LIFE to go on continuously for ever and ever! As I said in a recent “Personal” just as Howard Hughes did take something with him when he died, and so do we all, I have been laying up

(Continued on page 40)
The threat of nuclear annihilation is prompting religious bodies and their leaders to cooperate as never before in search of an elusive world at peace.

Look back on the important events of this year. What do we see? Fear of war dominated the front page of newspapers. Fighting in the Middle East and the South Atlantic grabbed headlines for weeks on end.

But another event occurred—not at all divorced from the crucial issue of war and peace—which was of immense importance. That was the historic visit of Pope John Paul II to Britain in late May and early June.

Many in Britain are still reflecting upon the events surrounding that unique occasion. And with good reason: Its greatest impact is yet to be felt.

Furthering Ecumenical Drive

The first day of his precedent-shattering visit to Britain, John Paul II declared in London's Roman Catholic Westminster Cathedral, "Today for the first time in history, a Bishop of Rome sets foot on English soil."

A moment or two later, the Pope stated a major—if not the principal—reason for his journey: "My deep desire, my ardent hope and my prayer is that my visit may serve the cause of Christian unity."

Thus, John Paul's excursion to Britain closely paralleled his historic three-day visit to Turkey in November, 1979. At that time the Pope held a three-day religious summit with Greek Orthodox Patriarch Demetrios I. On that trip—"My first ecumenical visit" he called it—the Pope showed he was determined to put an end to what he has called the "intolerable scandal" of the divisions within the Christian-professing world.

Unprecedented Service

The highlight of the Pope's six-day visit to Britain (he visited Scotland and Wales, as well as England) occurred the second day. It involved the visit of the Pope to Canterbury Cathedral, the very headquarters of the Church of England, which broke off from Rome four and a half centuries ago.

Joining the Pope was his host, Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, and leaders of a dozen Orthodox and Protestant churches.

The Archbishop, in his opening remarks, emphasized that the service was "a celebration of a common vision." What followed shortly afterward was another first for an Anglican church—a sermon by a Pope.

In his message, the Pope appealed to those present as well as the millions watching on television to accept the commitment "of praying and working for reconciliation and ecclesiastical unity."

The Pontiff told the large congregation in the cathedral that church unity "transcends all political divisions and frontiers." He said that his visit to the cathedral was a day "that centuries and generations have awaited."

After the service a Common Declaration was signed by the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury which proclaimed: "We commit ourselves anew to the task of working for unity with firm faith, renewed hope and ever deeper love." They announced a new joint commission to explore ways to foster further cooperation between the two churches.

Time Ripe for Papal Visit

It is unlikely that a visit by a Pope to predominantly non-Catholic (and somewhat nonreligious, though Protestant) Britain could have been arranged even as recently as 10 years ago.

Down through the centuries of division, feelings against the papacy in parts of Britain have run very deep. Observers agreed that it was not the institution of the papacy, still held suspect by many non-Catholics, but the personality of (Continued on page 39)
Once again fighting in Lebanon has grabbed the headlines. But what of the future of this battle-scarred region?

What is happening inside Lebanon? What is the significance of the continuing turmoil besetting this bitterly divided nation?

And what does Bible prophecy say about the fate of this narrow strip of territory lying by the blue waters of the eastern Mediterranean?

Lebanon today is a vitally important element in the turbulent Middle East picture. Yet few really understand the crucial events taking place there—or comprehend where they are leading.

The year 1982 has seen a sharp increase in violence and turmoil inside embattled Lebanon. This war-torn country—once the trading and banking center of the Arab world—has been rent asunder by years of divisive infighting and intervention by outside powers (see accompanying story).

Chronic warfare has wrecked its cities. Its previously prosperous economy is devastated. The beautiful country of Lebanon has been carved into a myriad of separate enclaves and spheres of influence. In many respects, Lebanon as a country really does not exist today.

And it all need not have been if people only knew the way to peace! Look, now, at the ancient background of this troublous area.

**Called Phoenicia Anciently**

Few have any idea of Lebanon's place in history.

Three thousand years ago the region we know today as Lebanon was called Phoenicia. The ancient Phoenicians were the greatest sea traders of the ancient world. Their voyages ranged as far as the tin mines of Cornwall in England and possibly even to the New World.

The ancient Phoenicians were a branch of the Canaanite peoples of the Bible, descended from Canaan, the son of Ham, the son of Noah (Gen. 10:1, 6). In their own language, the Phoenicians referred to themselves collectively as *Kena'ani*, or Canaanites.

But Phoenicia was never really a single unified state or empire. It was a collection of independent and often competing city-kings with a common interest in trade. More often than not, the Phoenicians spoke of themselves as Tyrians, Sidonians, Byblians and so on—after their own particular cities—rather than as Phoenicians.

The wealthy coastal cities of Phoenicia are still with us today, though considerably less prosperous. Among them are ancient Tripoli (modern Arabic Tarabulus), Gebal (Greek Byblos, modern Jubayl), Berot (Greek Berytos, modern Beirut), Zidon (Sidon, modern Saida) and Tsor (Greek Tyros, modern Tyre or Sur).

Readers of the Bible will recall that it was to the abundant cedar forests of Lebanon's mountains that King Solomon of Israel, at the invitation of King Hiram of Tyre, anciently sent 30,000 men to cut and carry timber for the Temple at Jerusalem. Tyre had earlier supplied workmen and materials for building King David's palace in Jerusalem.

Ancient Phoenicia suffered a long succession of conquerors on its territory. The record of the (Continued on page 41)
Few are aware of the events that have led up to the present Lebanese morass.

From the 15th century until just after World War I, Lebanon lay under the yoke of Ottoman Turkish rule. In the mid-19th century, Lebanon was the scene of fearful persecutions. Lebanon's central government has all but faded into oblivion. Little hope exists for control over events that have led up to the present Lebanese morass.

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The Palestinians are those Arabs native to the territories occupied by Israel in the Six Day War of 1967. They fled from mandated Palestine in 1948 when the state of Israel was founded and again in 1967 from Jordanian-ruled areas of Palestine that are now under Israeli military rule. Neighboring Arab countries, country. The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) has used these camps as training grounds for guerrillas to make attacks into Israel.

A major factor in the upsetting of the delicate balance of Lebanese politics and society has been the intrusion of Palestinian politics. France and Britain eventually intervened. Peace was reestablished. The internal situation thereafter improved rapidly.

After the collapse of Ottoman rule, Lebanon was administered under French mandate from 1920 to 1941. Lebanon gained complete independence in 1946, with the evacuation of all foreign troops.

Until 1975, Lebanon enjoyed relatively stable government. It was the result of a carefully balanced distribution of power among that country's various religious factions. Each religious group was given a slice of the political pie.

Today, by contrast, Lebanon's central government has all but faded into oblivion. Little more than a figurehead authority, it has no political punch. It struggles in vain to establish some measure of control over events hopelessly out of control.

A major factor in the upsetting of the delicate balance of Lebanese politics and society has been the intrusion of Palestinian politics. In March, 1978, Israeli troops invaded southern Lebanon, destroying Palestinian strongholds there and chasing off Syrian troops that had taken up positions near the frontier. The Israelis withdrew in June following the arrival of a U.N. peacekeeping force.

The PLO, however, infiltrated the area after the Israeli withdrawal. Despite the presence of the 6,000-man U.N. contingent, fighting continued on and off between the Christian militias and Palestinians, as did Israeli retaliatory raids on PLO bases in southern Lebanon.

The Israeli attacks, coupled with ongoing Israeli-Egyptian peace negotiations, gradually changed the Syrian perspective. Syria and the PLO—now effectively under Syrian control—began to share with Lebanon's Moslems a fear of growing cooperation between Lebanese Christian militias and Israel.

Further increasing Syria's insecurity, the leader of the Christian militia in southern Lebanon, Major Saad Haddad, declared independence for a 6-mile-wide strip along the Israeli border in April, 1979, calling it "Free Lebanon." Major Haddad and his 4,000 Lebanese rightist militiamen
are friends and allies of Israel, and oppose the PLO guerrillas.

The picture over the past few years was one of a long series of military exchanges along the Israeli-Lebanese border. Attacks on Israel by PLO guerrillas, followed by retaliatory strikes by Israel against Palestinian enclaves in Lebanon, followed by Palestinian reprisals on Israeli villages.

In the interlude between the heavy fighting between Palestinians and Israelis, feuding among and between factions within Lebanon kept the fires burning. These factions range from the 15,000-man, Israeli-supported militia of the Maronite Christian Falangist Party and other non-Falangist Christian militias, to the Lebanese Communist Party, to the Shiite Moslem, pro-Iranian Amal Movement, to the PLO.

At the moment, 97 separate political parties and militias are vying for position within Lebanon! Tragically, caught in the crossfire have been thousands of civilian victims, including uncounted thousands of women and children.

Continuing Conflict
Last year the news in Lebanon focused on two major developments. The first was the Syrian missile crisis. Following the Israeli downing of two Syrian helicopter gunships engaged in an offensive against Lebanese Christians, Syria deployed dozens of Soviet-made surface-to-air missiles (SAMs) in the Bekaa valley in central Lebanon in late April, 1981. Israel demanded the missiles be removed and threatened to destroy them if they were not. Syria was adamant in its refusal. Increasingly bellicose threats were exchanged and the two countries drew close to war.

Frantic shuttle diplomacy by U.S. Special Envoy Philip Habib narrowly succeeded in defusing the face-off and averting a large-scale conflict.

War fever had barely cooled when the flames were suddenly fanned again. On the heels of the missile crisis came Israeli bombing and shelling of Palestinian strongholds in southern Lebanon in July, 1981, climaxing in a bombing of the PLO in the Lebanese capital of Beirut. Palestinian guerrillas retaliated with long-range artillery rocket fire across the Lebanese border into the Israeli towns of Nahariya, Qiryat Shemona and Metulla.

Lebanese newspapers described the Israeli attack on Beirut as the bloodiest air raid against an Arab city in the 33-year history of Arab-Israeli conflict. More than 300 died and 800 were wounded in Beirut during the air attacks. Most of the victims—including scores of women, children and babies—were Lebanese and Palestinian civilians.

The stated target of the Israeli planes was the PLO’s offices in West Beirut. These offices, however, escaped virtually unscathed, while the most serious damage was sustained in surrounding areas of concentrated civilian population.

The Israeli raids were widely condemned as going far beyond anything that could be justified on grounds of national defense. “To attack selected military targets inside Lebanon is one thing,” editorialized the London Times, July 21, “but the kind of blanket bombing the Israelis have engaged in... is tantamount to terror-bombing. There can be no excuse for wreaking such havoc in the center of Beirut.

The indiscriminate killing of women and children is appalling.”

Even within Israel itself, the morality of the attacks in populous civilian districts was hotly debated. Opponents of Prime Minister Begin dubbed him the "Mad

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GOOD NEWS
Beyond Today’s Bad News

by Michael A. Snyder

T
HE JOURNALIST looked at me, stunned. We were in the press area covering a nuclear disarmament rally.

One of the press corps wondered why The Plain Truth would send someone to cover a disarmament rally.

“You say in your magazine that God is going to destroy the earth,” this woman journalist said. “So why would you be interested in any human effort to disarm?”

“Because,” I answered, “God isn’t going to destroy the earth—and neither do we publish such a message. What we do publish is the good news that God will send his son Jesus Christ to stop humans from destroying the earth and all humanity on it. Man will continue to misgovern himself to the point where the situation requires divine intervention to avoid ultimate human extinction. Therefore, we’re very interested in efforts of men, who are cut off from any true knowledge of God, to halt the process of destruction.”

Stunned at this remark, she continued as other members of the press joined in: “But doesn’t the Bible say that God will destroy the earth? And anyway, why do you even use the Bible as your authority and reference point in The Plain Truth?”

What the Bible Really Says

These are fair questions. And we answer them every month in the pages of The Plain Truth.

But have you assumed, like this journalist, that an angry God will smite this planet “filled with sinners”? Do you really know what the Bible says about the causes of the human conditions leading to the “end of the world” and the dawn of a new age?

Notice this biblical account: “Then [at the end—the time you and I are fast approaching] there will be great misery [King James Version: “great tribulation”], such as has never happened from the beginning of the world until now, and will never happen again!” (Matt. 24:21, Phillips translation).

This world, already groaning under the complex human problems of war, poverty and starvation, will see yet worse.

Indeed, far worse!

“Terror will seize them, pain and anguish will grip them; they will writhe like a woman in labor” (Isa. 13:8, New International Version).

Few understand the cause of these tragedies that will so affect all mankind.

Fewer still have any knowledge of the good news about the solution to today’s mounting problems. It’s the message The Plain Truth proclaims in six languages every month. The good news that Jesus will return to cut short mercifully these tragic days, for, “if those days had not been cut short no human being would survive” (Matt. 24:22, Phillips).

To implement the solution to today’s evils, Jesus Christ is coming to establish a way of life that is now practiced by only a very few—a way of living that’s based on giving, caring and real love. If you survive to live into this great new world of joy, peace and prosperity, the Bible says you won’t be living today’s way of suffering and pain anymore. You won’t be allowed to!

When Christ returns, he will halt the final awesome battle of man against man (Rev. 16:14-20, Zech. 14:1-4, 12). And he will return with supreme authority to bring humanity a new government (Dan. 2:44).

Why do so few understand that the actions of human governments—governments based on taking, not giving—cause today’s global problems?

And further, that behind these wrong governments exist attitudes and forces that flaw every attempt at world peace?

What Only the Bible Reveals

Why does The Plain Truth stand on the authority of the Bible in announcing this good news?

First, consider the world you live in. If you read today’s newspaper—any paper—you are instantly reminded of the squalor, the turmoil engulfing most of the human race.

Why must we have strife, starvation and warfare? Why, despite genuine human interest and efforts, are we unable to resolve racial tensions, murders, family breakups and divorce?

Do you realize that there is a cause for every effect? Do you realize that there are only two basic ways of life?

Let’s understand this! Humanity suffers the evils—the curses of war, theft, crime—because men and
women overwhelmingly embrace a way of taking, getting, hurting. For simplicity’s sake, *The Plain Truth* calls this the way of “get.” And few realize that this way of “get” thought of highly in the words of men, but rarely fully understood and practiced in deeds!

This hypocritical world is so blinded, so completely confused authoritatively reveals this missing knowledge so desperately needed. This source is the Holy Bible. Yet today no book is more completely misunderstood.

Only the Bible reveals a complete way of living that would bring peace, world disarmament, abolition of poverty.

But a deceived humanity, in abysmal ignorance, won’t practice it! By personal, individual choice, men and women reject the authority of the Bible—purposely rejecting the living spiritual laws that govern this universe.

The result? “Justice is driven back, and righteousness stands at a distance; truth has stumbled in the streets, honesty cannot enter. *Truth is nowhere to be found,* and whoever shuns evil becomes a prey” (Isa. 59:14-15, NIV).

None of this need ever be. The laws established by the great God—summarized in 10 overall principles known as the Ten Commandments—were established for our benefit, to guide human beings to happiness. And God blesses those who keep and obey them!

Notice what happens to those who sincerely yield their lives to God’s revealed way of life and obey his laws: “... see what I will do, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not then open the very sluices of heaven to pour a blessing down for you, a [physical] harvest more than enough... all nations shall call you happy, the Lord of hosts declares, for you shall be a land of delight” (Mal. 3:10-12, Moffatt).

This is your personal choice—to continue in the way of competition, jealousy, greed and eventual human destruction, or to embrace a way that brings genuine satisfaction and real happiness.

If you want to find how relevant the Bible is to your life today, write for your free copies of our booklets *Never Before Understood—Why Humanity Cannot Solve Its Evils* and *The Ten Commandments.*

The way of real understanding stands open to you. What’s your choice? □
And Now

U.S. FARMERS FACE A NEW CRISIS

Even with record harvests, the average U.S. farmer has his back against the wall. Here's why—and the reason it concerns us all.

by Dan Taylor

A whole generation of American farmers is being swallowed up by huge debts and falling crop prices. Those who survive the current problems may face even tougher problems in the near future.

How did this crisis come about?

A Lesson to Farmers

In the 1970s, American agriculture charged confidently into the world grain trade. Lucrative Soviet and East Bloc markets opened their near-empty storage bins to U.S. food exports.

With governmental encouragement, U.S. wheat yields alone rose from 1.546 billion bushels in 1970 to 2.045 billion bushels in 1980 to meet the demand. At the same time, total U.S. agricultural exports zoomed from seven to $45 billion worth from 1970 to 1982.

With sales of $145 billion last year, agriculture is the largest business and the largest contributor to the U.S. balance of payments.

But in 1980, then-President Carter embargoed food exports to the Soviet Union. This cost the U.S. farmer an estimated $11 billion.

Under the Reagan administration, exports to the Soviets have resumed, but the wary Russians, not risking putting all of their eggs in one basket, have diversified their trading partners. This gives the U.S. farmer only a portion of the market he once ruled.

Nevertheless, record or near-record harvests in the U.S. continue to swell storage bins whose unsold contents are depressing prices.

To make matters worse, high interest rates are pushing the value of the dollar up, making food cost more in the export market. This makes it more difficult for the U.S. to hang on to the markets it already has, as in the case of European Common Market, which is the biggest U.S. agricultural export market.

In fact, U.S. farm exports to the Common Market have dropped in value from $2.2 billion worth in 1975 to $1.7 billion in 1981.

This has represented a net decline of 5 million tons of agricultural goods. Some export commodities such as soybeans and corn gluten feed have risen to the extent that they have caused concern in Europe. But others, have declined. This is especially true of coarse grains such as wheat, barley, oats and corn. The drop has caused the U.S. to question the European Community's price support system outlined in their Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). So the American farmer, chest deep in grain, faces a precarious export market.

Hidden Cause of the Crisis

The enviable growth of American agriculture has not been without a price.

The U.S. government's call for expanded farm output in the '70s required more land, more equipment and more money. Typically, U.S. farmers borrow money each year to buy seed, fuel and fertilizer, the cost of which they pay back after their crops have been sold. Many farmers, however, expanded their operations too quickly. They imprudently borrowed in the hope of selling their increased productivity at higher prices, and are now suffering the consequences.

Some are now forced to pay more than 25 percent of their income in interest alone! For them, the only way to keep from financially going under is to produce as much as they can and hope prices for their crops somehow go up.

As for the reality of produce prices, most farmers wince at the thought of them. Soybeans that sold for $9 a bushel in 1974 now go for less than $6 a bushel. Wheat prices have dropped more than 12 percent and corn more than 26 percent since 1974.

Together, high interest rates and low produce prices have combined to push U.S. farm debt up from $136.1 billion in 1979 to a stagger-
Why the Soviets Can't Feed Themselves

Did you know that before the 1917 revolution Czarist Russia was the world's leading grain exporter? Yet today, after 65 years of central planning, the biggest problem facing the leaders of the Soviet Union is not the arms race or Afghanistan. It is the chronic failure of Soviet agriculture to grow enough food for the nation's needs.

For the fourth year in a row, the Soviets are facing a poor grain harvest. This year's yield alone will fall 68 million metric tons (a metric ton is 2,205 pounds) short of the Kremlin's projections. This will mean still more grain imports and a continued drain on dwindling hard currency reserves.

Today, the Soviets not only import grain (they import the largest amount in the world), but also other staples like eggs and butter from the E.E.C. and meat from Argentina.

Why can't the Soviet Union feed itself? The problems with Soviet agriculture are manifold. First, the collective farm concept along with state planning has not proved workable.

By contrast, the small family plot, accounting for only three percent of the land under cultivation, provides nearly 30 percent of the Soviet Union's total agricultural output.

Why? The biggest reason is incentive. The small family plot or prusadebny (Russian for "near the house"), can not the grower nearly one third of his annual income.

The problem with the wage incentives offered by the State is that they are not enough to enable farm laborers to buy the luxury items they most desire in their consumer-goods-poor society.

Some officials blame the weather for poor Soviet yields, but the U.S. farmer, but with the lack of an adequate incentive to produce. This mistake will necessitate more long-range grain deals similar to the current agreement the Soviets have with Argentina.

One such deal currently being talked about could be again with the U.S. Many Americans have forgotten the expert Russian grain deals of the early '70s. During that period, the Soviets privately and quietly bought so much U.S. grain that domestic grain prices rose several times their former price. In effect, the American consumer subsidized the Soviet grain purchase by incurring higher domestic prices.

Why is North America so blessed in agriculture? Furthermore, why would the U.S. sell food to its worst perceived enemy? The astounding answers were long ago recorded in the Bible!

Most people have never understood that the biblical promises of special prosperity were pledged to the birthright tribe of Joseph in the ancient nation of Israel (Gen. 49:10, I Chron. 5:2).

These material blessings promised to Joseph's descendants were inherited by no other people than the white English-speaking peoples of today. For a vital understanding of why the white, English-speaking world possesses such agricultural blessings, write for our free book, *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. But these blessings were conditional, contingent on obedience to God's laws.

In fact one of the prices for disobedience would be the current dilemma facing the United States: to sell its perceived enemy the food it needs or put the U.S. farmers out of business.

God says: "And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it" (Lev. 26:16, last part, RSV).

Ideology has blinded Soviet Agricultural Policy. But, Soviet leaders are wise enough to recognize that unless they provide adequate food for their people they will be facing internal turmoil among the hungry Russian masses.

In 1980, the average farm family in the state of Georgia had a net income of just $705. Last year, net income for farm families in southwestern Minnesota was only $1,059. By comparison, United States per capita income in 1980 was up to $9,521.

Unless conditions improve, and soon, a growing exodus of American farmers will join the 37,000 in 1980 and the thousands more in 1981 and 1982 who have left the

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WHEN THE KISSING BEGINS TO STOP...

by John Ross Schroeder

Around the world married people are in trouble—mainly with their spouses. Most ignore the telltale signs until it's too late! Here's how you can prevent your marriage from falling apart—and maybe even enrich it.

By 2030, the family as an institution will be carried on by a minority.” So says a distinguished American author in a recent book about future life in the Western world. Presumably the majority will be “living together.”

Modern man has made a travesty of a great institution. Marriage is in a sad state of decline. Indeed divorce has become an institution in itself. Thousands of articles have been written to try to steer people away from the pitfalls of divorce. But to little avail. Generally speaking, most married couples with serious problems wind up calling it quits, anyway.

They didn't start out that way. Take a look at the average wedding picture. Man and wife are beaming—their faces wreathed in big window smiles. They literally radiate happiness. “This is forever!”

What happened in just a few short months or years? The smiles are no longer there. Frustration and disappointment have set in. Trust has been replaced by suspicion. Each may suspect the other of infidelity. One partner may be planning divorce. The other may be considering desertion.

It didn't just happen for no reason. It is axiomatic that there is a cause for every effect. Marital miseries have a definite set of causes. But let's try to discover the one basic root cause!

What Caused the Bust-up?

A couple divorces. They join the statistics. Their children are plunged into a vortex of insecurity—left to face a harsh and cruel world in a one-parent family. Both the man and woman face major readjustments in their lives. What caused it all?

Was it sex? Or that Jack couldn't manage money or even hold a job for long? Was it a meddlesome mother-in-law? Or Joan insisting on a job outside the home? Maybe they just didn't get on well together.

No sane person would deny that anyone or all of these things and many more are part of the fly in the ointment. But the one root cause goes a lot deeper than any of these things.

Men and women saddled with bad marriages have one point in common. They have ignored some very good advice. That advice comes in just five little words. “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

But who is my neighbor? Isn't he or she the person next door? Mates on the job? Church brethren? Club members? Yes, all of these people and, in a broader sense, all of humanity are our neighbors. But too often we forget the identity of our number one neighbor.

You've heard the old cliché, “Charity begins at home.” Cliches are cliches simply because they’re usually true. Our number one neighbor is our spouse—husband or wife.

The average Joe or Jane usually behaves in a courteous and civil manner towards friends and neighbors. If we are not awfully careful, our spouse can be the only exception to the accepted rules of behavior.

A business client telephones a city executive on the job. The secretary buzzes his office and informs him that an important client is on the phone. No matter how rough he feels at the moment, he takes a deep breath, forces a smile and says, “Hello, how are you?” in a most pleasant voice showing both interest and concern.

Another call comes through a few minutes later. “It's your wife,” the secretary announces. “Oh, her again,” he mutters under his breath. “Okay, I'll take it this time,” comes the reluctant answer. His wife does get through, but is unceremoniously greeted with “What is it this time?”

This man forgot the identity of his number one neighbor. He behaves in a very courteous manner toward his clients and the big boss. He may even treat his employees with deference and decorum. But his wife? That's another matter altogether. The probable long-term result of such prolonged behavior
toward his spouse? Cancel another marriage!

Such men don't even realize what they are doing. These husbands are not aware that they have been taking their wives for granted for a long time—that familiarity has already bred contempt.

Bad marital habits can easily become ingrained. But human beings are capable of cultivating good habits as well as bad. Husbands can learn always to address their mates with obvious warmth and affection. They do it with workmates all the time. If they don't learn how to converse with their spouses in a more civil manner, they are courting disaster. It's as simple as that.

If you don't talk to your mate with interest and concern, your marriage is either in serious trouble or soon will be. Lack of loving, thoughtful communication is one of those telltale signs of a failing marriage.

The Woman's Responsibility

Up to now we have focused this article on the husband's responsibility in marriage. But generally speaking, today's woman has a full and equal share of the blame when things go wrong in a marriage. Movies like "The World is Full of Married Men" may have given some a false impression. Don't you believe it. Those who are made of "sugar and spice and everything nice" have made many a marriage go wrong.

Historian W.E.H. Lecky once observed that "Marriage gives either party an extraordinary power of injuring each other." Women have no idea how much pain they can inflict upon a man. A snide remark that cuts through a man's ego, it seems, can do more than a cross-check by a workmate who normally cross-checks your work.

Many a man delights in the role of protecting and supporting his woman. Because of the way societies in this world are structured, a man's income might not immediately cover all of the luxuries his mate may want. He may realize the problem and be working on a way to increase the family income. A wife who impatiently nags and complains about lack of income is injuring her mate more than she realizes.

The wife's problem in today's world may emanate from a number of erroneous role models. Wonder Woman, The Bionic Woman and the girls in Charlie's Angels hardly convey the correct image of the ideal woman.

James Dobson described the new woman in his book, What Wives Wish Their Husbands Knew About Women. "She roars around the countryside in a racy sports car, while her male companion sits on the other side of the front seat anxiously biting his nails. She exudes self-confidence from the very tips of her fingers and for good reason; she could dismantle any man alive with her karate chops and flying kicks to the teeth... In short she is virtually omniscient, except for a curious inability to do anything traditionally female such as cook, sew or raise children."

Wives unconsciously imbibe these modern images and the traditional sex roles are thereby confused. Let's face facts. Homemaking is no longer a coveted role in the Western world. More men than women want to be the breadwinner. And do you women respect your husbands as much as you do your own selves?

Seventy Times Seven

Peter asked Jesus Christ how many times he had to forgive his brother and then threw out the number seven. "Seventy times seven" came the unhesitating answer. In other words, unlimited forgiveness.

There's only one relationship where the 70 times seven is likely to occur, literally. A brother or neighbor or friend just won't sin against us all that many times. But a spouse is likely to. We spend a tremendous amount of time with our mates.

The average wife is likely to hear "I'm awfully sorry, dear" at least several times a week. Our mates are a lot of skeletons. Don't dig one out every time you have an argument with your spouse. That isn't real forgiveness. The Proverb says: "An ungodly man [or woman]"

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Should We Use the OLD TESTAMENT?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Jesus commanded: “Man shall live by every word of God.” How can we prove that he included the Old Testament in that command—that he meant all the Bible?

Did you ever observe people going to Sunday school or church on a Sunday morning?

And did you ever notice what a large portion of them—if they carry any Scriptures with them at all—have merely a New Testament?

A young man who had been a student in a Bible college for a couple of years once came to me and confessed: “I’m all mixed up—frustrated! After all my Bible study, I suddenly woke up to realize that I’m not sure that the Jesus of Nazareth, who lived 1,900 years ago, really was the CHRIST!

“I’ve heard you say over the air that we must PROVE all things—even what we have thought that we believed. Suddenly I woke up,” he confessed, “to realize that I never actually PROVED that Jesus was the promised Messiah! That realization FLOORS me. I’m totally FRUSTRATED.

“Tell me,” he said earnestly, “How can I prove it?—How can I KNOW? How can I BE SURE?”

Was This Your Experience, Too?

That young man had not studied the Old Testament of his Bible very much. I opened his Bible to certain Old Testament scriptures, and OUT OF THEM he found positive, satisfying PROOF that Jesus is the Messiah—the SAVIOR of the world! I’m going to show you now, a part of what I opened up to him in his Bible.

Many have gained the idea that Christians should never read the Old Testament at all. Many seem to believe that part of the Bible was DONE AWAY—that it was only for the Jewish people of long ago—that its message is DEAD today!

Let’s Examine This Question!

Certainly the Church—the TRUE Church of God—is a NEW Testament Church! It certainly is not under the Old Testament but the New. But there’s a great difference between the Old Covenant that set Israel up as a nation and those scriptures we call by the name “Old Testament.”

The Old Covenant—meaning the agreement between God and Israel, made at Mt. Sinai—is replaced by the preaching of the NEW! But most certainly the New Testament scriptures show very plainly that those scriptures we call “The Old Testament” are NOT done away, for we read in I Peter 1:25, “the word of the Lord endureth for ever”!

Do you know that for approximately six years after the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the founding of the New Testament Church, that this New Testament Church had and used ONLY the Old Testament scriptures?

Christ preached the Gospel of the Kingdom—the same Gospel he commanded every minister to preach. Yet do you know he preached altogether out of the Old Testament scriptures?

Church Built on Old Testament Scriptures

I wonder if you fully realize that the Church was built upon the writings of the Old Testament PROPHETS, as well as on the Apostles? Notice Ephesians 2:19-20, “Now therefore ye . . . are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone.” No prophets in the New Testament were used to write scripture. The prophets who did write were the Old Testament prophets.

Notice Jesus’ own example: While Jesus was sent from God as the Messenger of the New Covenant—yet he preached that message out of the Old Testament scriptures. He said, as recorded in John 5:39, “Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me.”

Yes, they testify of Christ. And do you also know that you could not prove Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ, the Messiah, the Son of God—your Savior and mine—without the Old Testament scriptures?

If we are definitely to establish
and prove, beyond doubt, that Jesus is the Messiah—the Savior—we must prove it by bringing him through the door of the Old Testament scriptures—the prophecies proving him to be the divine Son of the living God! For, as he said, they testify of him!

Notice further what Jesus preached during his earthly ministry. John 5:46-47: "For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?"

Moses wrote the first five books of the Old Testament—the part that has often been referred to as "the Law." And Jesus said, "If ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?"

And if we today cannot know and believe the things Moses wrote to be true, how can we believe Christ's words? They are as much a part of Holy Scripture as those New Testament books quoted our Lord!

We Must Believe All the Prophets

Another time, after his resurrection, we find this example of Jesus' preaching recorded in Luke 24:25: "Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken."

How did Philip of Bethsaida know that Jesus was the Christ? Read John 1:45, "Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

What are some of these Old Testament prophecies which prove that Jesus of Nazareth was the Son of God, the Messiah?

First, Isaiah 7:14, "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

Now, notice, a virgin was to bear a son. The son was to be of a human virgin, to have a human mother, but not a human father. And the name of this son, to be born as a baby, to grow up to manhood, was to be "Immanuel," which, when translated, means, "God with us." And the fulfillment of that prophecy is recorded in the New Testament, in Matthew 1:20-23: "But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy [Spirit]. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."

And now, let's read right on. Matthew 2:1-4: "Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born."

Now WHY?—how would the chief priests and the scribes know where Christ should be born? Because it was written in a prophecy of their scriptures. Continue, verses 5-6:

"And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel." Notice! This prophecy was quoted from Micah 5:2, "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."

So the Old Testament scriptures added another detail—the Messiah who was to be the future ruler of Israel not only was to be born of a virgin—he was to be born and first appear in the little city of Bethlehem of Judaea.

But now let us see how the wonderful 53rd chapter of Isaiah foretold his first coming.

Foretold in Old Testament

Here is what Isaiah 53:1-5, 8, 12 reads:

"Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. . . .

"Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors."

Here we see it foretold that the Messiah was to be born, and to grow up from a child—that he was to be despised and rejected, not hailed as a mighty King and Deliverer! If those who 1,900 years ago had only known and understood the scriptures—and had their hearts been honest and their minds open—they would have recognized the Messiah and the Savior! But they were then following the religious traditions of their time, just as nearly all the other churches are doing today. They did

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Shocking as it may seem, you may go to "hell"! Many of your loved ones are right now in "hell"!

But don't be alarmed! You have probably never heard the truth about what "hell" really is—and where your ideas came from in the first place. So open your mind to some truth you may not have understood before. Don't blindly accept anyone's ideas, but, "prove all things; hold fast that which is good" (I Thess. 5:21).

You may have been taught about the idea of a horrifying, nightmarish place of never-ending torture for lost sinners. However, the common present-day belief on hell is given in the Encyclopedia Americana, vol. 14, page 81. Here are some excerpts from its article titled "Hell": "Hell as generally understood is the abode of evil spirits; the infernal regions, where the devil rules supreme, and where lost or condemned souls go after death to suffer indescribable torments and eternal punishment either for wickedness inherited from the sin of Adam or for more or less serious infractions of the divine law."

Notice that the devil is supposed to rule supreme in hell. He is often pictured with a tail, a pitchfork and a fiendish smile—delighting himself in inflicting these "indescribable torments" on lost sinners.

Continuing the article: "Hell, in the theological sense, has no place in most primitive religions, nor has heaven. . . . There was no thought of dividing the future state into separate and distinct conditions of existence. Even so late a writer as the author of Ecclesiastes declares that 'all [men and beasts] go unto one place' (Eccl. 3:20) and 'there is one event to the righteous and [to the] wicked' (Eccl. 9:2)."

The men who compiled this encyclopedia found that the early religions—which they term the "primitive" religions—had no idea of "heaven" or "hell" as we know them.

Note, too, their comment that even so recent a writer as the author of Ecclesiastes believed that all living things went to one place—the grave! It might interest these learned gentlemen to know that GOD ALMIGHTY inspired the author of Ecclesiastes! But perhaps, they reason, God didn't know what he was talking about. He wasn't "educated" yet. Is that the way you reason?

But let's continue with another excerpt from this encyclopedia article on hell: "The popular idea of hell as a place of punishment—either redemptive or rigidly retributive in character—did not come suddenly and full-formed into existence. It is the product of centuries of thinking on the great problem of reward and punishment which, instinctively almost, man associates with human deeds."

So today's concept of hell is admittedly a product of man's instinctive thinking. It did not come fully revealed from God, but rather "is the product of centuries of thinking"—using human reason to decide what only GOD can reveal!

**God's Purpose**

The primary reason so many men and organizations of men have a false conception of hell is that they view it just as an isolated doctrine. They fail to look at the overall purpose of God in putting man on this earth, of offering him the gift of eternal life for obedience, or of everlasting punish-
sought eternal life. That is why we die (Ezek. 18:4).

Then, stubborn, sinning man would with the happiness of others who exist, and would thus not interfere one hand, and death on the other. 


d o men get their ideas of "hell"?

Jesus Christ himself went to "hell". In Peter's inspired sermon on the day of Pentecost, he made himself miserable through greed — would lead to death (Gen. 2:17).

But Satan, the father of lies (John 8:44), told the woman, "Ye shall not surely die" (Gen. 3:4). "You have an immortal soul."

Man has been believing that lie about the immortal soul ever since!

God's purpose is to develop holy, righteous character in man which would make him fit for eternal life. God gave ancient Israel his Ten Commandments, "that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever" (Deut. 5:29).

God's decrees are always for man's good. They are not designed as arbitrary decrees which God uses as an excuse for plunging men into flames of fire! Notice that God offered Adam and Eve life on the one hand, and death on the other. Adam and Eve would not have been offered life if they already were immortal souls. Man was created mortal and in need of eternal life from God through his Spirit.

If man rebelled against God and made himself miserable through sin, then the kindest thing that God could do would be to let man die. Then, stubborn, sinning man would be unable to bring any further misery on himself or others by his wrong ways. He would just cease to exist, and would thus not interfere with the happiness of others who sought eternal life. That is why we read that the soul that sins shall die (Ezek. 18:4).

But men have disagreed with God and his Word, and have come to believe in an entirely different reward for the wicked. So, where do men get their ideas of "hell"?

What is "Hell"?'

You will be surprised to learn that Jesus Christ himself went to "hell" when he died! In Peter's inspired sermon on the day of Pentecost, he said, "He [David] seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption" (Acts 2:31).

So — according to your Bible— Jesus went to hell! Any student should know that the New Testament was written in the Greek language and that the King James translation into English is sometimes a little misleading. Actually, there are three different Greek words, each with a different meaning, which have all been translated "hell" in the King James Version of the Bible.

The "hell" where Jesus was for three days and three nights (Matt. 12:40) after his crucifixion is translated from the Greek word hades. Hades simply means "pit" or "grave." When the King James translation of the Bible was made, Englishmen commonly understood that "hell" could mean a grave, pit, or hole in the ground. They often spoke of burying their potatoes in hell for the winter.

So the "hell" where Jesus went was simply the grave—the rock hewn sepulchre where he was buried. Unless you live until Christ comes and are changed from mortal words which are translated into the word "hell" in our Bibles. In the Old Testament, which was written in Hebrew, there is only one word which is translated "hell." That word is sheol. It corresponds to the Greek word hades, meaning the grave, or pit.

Before we consider the scriptures where these words are used and find the astonishing truth about what "hell" really is, let's briefly inspect some of the theories of men on this subject.

Example of "Hell-fire" Scriptures

"Hell as generally understood is the abode of evil spirits; the infernal regions, where the devil rules supreme, and where lost or condemned souls go after death to suffer indescribable torments and eternal punishment...."

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thing—even a job, an association or a habit which we loved as much as our right arm—than to let it cause us to disobey God and thus be cast into hell (gehenna), “into the fire that never shall be quenched: where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.”

The “hell” to which Jesus referred was gehenna—deriving its name from the Valley of Hinnom. There were ledges along the edge of this valley.

Smith's Bible Dictionary gives a description of this valley. If anything, especially a dead body, landed on a ledge above the fires, it would be devoured by many worms or maggots which were kept alive by the animal and vegetable substances deposited there.

It was to these worms that Christ was referring when he said, “their worm dieth not.” But Christ didn’t mean that each individual worm continued to live forever! He wasn’t teaching the immortality of worms!

Actually, these worms, or maggots, are the larvae which develop from eggs deposited by flies. They continue for only a few days in this larva form, then pupate and finally emerge as flies, later dying. These are scientific facts, known by any real student of science. And yet some people think that Jesus ignorantly stated that these larvae continued to live forever in that stage of development.

The Greek word which was inspired and translated into the English word “worm” in this passage simply means a grub or maggot. It is a collective expression for all the worms that devour dead matter. These worms do not die, but pupate and become flies. Later, these flies like all other animals will return to the dust from which they came. “All are of the dust, and all turn to dust again” (Eccl. 3:20).

The “fire that never shall be quenched” is a description showing that God will permit nothing to put out or quench this fire. It will simply burn up the bodies of the wicked.

Naturally, those who preach “hell-fire” use this passage to frighten unthinking people into believing that sinners will suffer eternal torment in hell-fire—evidently with worms chewing on them at the same time!

**Human Reason**

But many will argue that the Bible does tell us about an eternal, burning hell. As I write, I have before me a book explaining the principal doctrines of one of the large churches. The chapter on hell is entitled, “Hell, Not a Pleasant Prospect, But Most Reasonable.” As is so with most of today's churches, the main appeal on this subject is to human reason—to what seems “most reasonable” to the carnal mind of man. In this chapter on hell, they also follow the prevailing custom of quoting part of a Bible text to prove their point—and leaving off the very part which would indicate the truth of the subject.

You have got to watch for this sort of thing. Study your Bible to find all that it says on a given subject if you want to find the truth.

Here is the part of the text they quote: “Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire” (Matt. 25:41). They do not quote the end of the verse which shows the real purpose of the everlasting fire. It says, “prepared for the devil and his angels.” Yes, as we shall see, God has not purposed to torture any human being forever and ever. The lake of fire is prepared for rebellious spirit beings—not to torture humans forever. But this article on hell does not mention the many verses in the Bible which prove that. They just quote part of one verse which seems to indicate their preconceived idea of hell when taken by itself and interpreted by human reason instead of other scriptures in God’s Word.

It is man’s idea that lost sinners will suffer indescribable agonies in a bloodcurdling hell. They seem to forget that God is LOVE (I John 4:8).

They neglect to realize that God could have no purpose—based on love—to torment sinners ages without end. Let us put the ideas of men on the shelf, and turn to God’s Word to see what the Creator reveals about the fate of the wicked.

**What to Fear**

Instead of fearing what some misguided preacher may tell us about hell, let us see what Jesus said to fear. “And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him [God] which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell [gehenna]” (Matt. 10:28). Here we find the clear statement that God can destroy both our body and soul in gehenna, or the lake of fire. There is no mention made of burning forever and ever, and yet never quite burning up. But it does speak of destruction.

Recall that God told Adam and Eve that if they dis obeyed him, they would surely Die. Their lives...
would be cut off—destroyed. Jesus told his disciples: "... wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction [not eternal life in "hell-fire"], and many there be which go therein" (Matt. 7:13). Then he said, "Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire" (verse 19). What happens to a tree when it is cast into the fire? Why, it is burned up—destroyed.

Speaking of the harvest of the righteous and wicked, Jesus said he would tell the reapers, "Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn" (Matt. 13:30). The tares, of course, refer to the wicked, and the wheat to the righteous. When literal tares are burned, they are BURNED UP. What about these types of sinners which are burned up? Was Jesus using wrong examples, or did he mean what he said?

The obvious answer which any honest person can find is that Jesus meant exactly what he said. The fate of the wicked will be Gehenna, or the lake of fire which the Bible mentions. But this fire is a lot hotter than most people think!

The wicked are human, mortal beings. Flesh and blood is subject to burning up. When the wicked are cast into the lake of fire, they will be burned up—destroyed!

From Genesis to Revelation, life and death are set as the two opposites—the fate of the righteous and the wicked respectively. God told Adam, "... dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return" (Gen. 3:19). No mention here of being plunged immediately into "hell-fire." The reward for disobedience was death.

Later, David wrote of the wicked, "... into smoke shall they consume away" (Psa. 37:20).

Still later, Malachi speaks of the fire that will burn the wicked: "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall BURN THEM UP, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this... (Mal. 4:1, 3).

Can anything be plainer than that the wicked are to be burned up—completely destroyed? That is why Jesus said, "... fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matt. 10:28).

**Wages of Sin**
The apostle Paul summed up the whole matter of man's reward for sin when he wrote, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom. 6:23). If you believe this scripture means what it says, then you know the truth. But, unfortunately, theologians often fail to understand what Paul said.

Could anything be more clear than this scripture? The wages, or reward, of sin is shown to be death, and eternal life is stated to be a gift from God—not something we already have.

Death means just that—the cessation of life and consciousness—total oblivion! In spite of the vain attempt of many preachers to make death mean separation from God, you cannot reconcile this with scripture. Neither does death mean eternal life in the horrifying, nightmarish torments of an imaginative "hell.”

This "hell-fire" doctrine which is used to frighten so many ignorant human beings is a LIE. Its author is the father of lies—Satan the devil! If you are one who has gullibly swallowed that doctrine and suffered mental agonies from the fear of a man-made "hell-fire,” God help you to study all the scriptures on this subject and find his truth.

But remember that the penalty of death will be caused by fire. Paul warns in Hebrews 10:26-27, "For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.” Here we find that those who, knowing the truth, sin willfully or deliberately, will be devoured by fire—they will be totally burned up and consumed.

This is a FEARFUL WARNING to those who know God’s truth and still refuse to obey it! This is not an unreasoned fear of a harsh, stern God who delights in punishing sinners. Rather, it is the sober realization that unless we surrender to God's will and his way of love, and refuse to let anything turn us aside, God will take away the life he has given us.

Yet this same passage shows God's infinite LOVE. He will not take away anyone's life because of ignorance or weakness, but because they willfully and knowingly refuse to obey their Creator. This rebellious attitude in itself would bring them, and those about them, nothing but eternal trouble and misery if they were allowed to live forever. So God in his mercy and supreme wisdom has decreed the penalty of DEATH for such people.

**The Lake of Fire**
When the Bible says, “The wages of sin is death,” it is not referring to the death we see around us every day. This death is referred to in I Corinthians 15:22, which says, “in Adam all die,” and in Hebrews 9:27, which says, “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.” These passages describe the first death—a death caused by a person wearing out physically and from which he can be resurrected.

Revelation 20 shows the time of later resurrections, and when the wicked are cast into the lake of fire. Study it carefully. The first three verses describe Satan being bound for a thousand years, and the resurrected saints, who are in the first resurrection, ruling the world under Christ.

The first part of verse 5 is an inserted thought which tells us, “But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished.” So the heathen, the atheists and all who were not called to a full knowledge of God's truth, are not resurrected until after the thousand-year reign of Christ. This is the second resurrection. For them the book (Continued on page 21)
You Can Find a GOOD JOB
Here's How!

by L.E. Torrance

Here is how to locate and keep the job you need. Others have done it. So can YOU!

DESPITE major unemployment vast numbers of people are working today. How do they find and keep their jobs?

Some of you reading this article are right now in desperate need of a job. Your rent is past due, your money is gone, and you may not know where your next meal for yourself and your family is coming from.

You can locate a job! Here is a way to find one. Read this carefully!

**Finding Available Jobs**

In many areas, employment officials note jobs go begging for lack of qualified takers. And many are not menial tasks, but positions offering satisfaction and opportunity for growth.

While many in your area may be looking for a job, there are definite ways to improve your chances of finding a good job.

Available jobs go to those who know how to get them!

Employment agency officials report that those who tramp up and down the streets, visiting companies in a hit-or-miss fashion in the hope of "turning up something," waste most of their time and seldom find a job.

There are definite steps to take in finding a job. Here they are.

**Analyze Your Abilities**

Your first step in finding a job is to analyze your experience and your ability. You need to find out how many different types of work you can do successfully.

Ask yourself, "What jobs have I done successfully? What work have I done that others have commended me for doing exceptionally well? What machinery and equipment am I qualified to operate? What vocational training have I received in school or in the armed forces?"

Make a list of the abilities and skills you have to offer to an employer.

Most people underestimate their working potential. It's amazing how many different jobs a human being can do.

**Plan a Course of Action**

Don't go out blindly hunting a job from door to door. You will save yourself many fruitless, heart-breaking hours if you first take the effort to find out the exact name and location of business concerns who hire people who have your abilities and skills.

There are definite, precise ways to find the names and addresses of the companies you might work for. Also the names of their key personnel who have the power to hire you and put you to work.

One very practical way to find a job involves looking at the classified ads of your newspaper. Jobs are often listed in newspaper ads, trade journals and professional publications. This gives you an immediate source of available jobs, often with telephone numbers to call.

Then there are the employment agencies. They often place "Help Wanted" ads in the newspapers. You can also get their names and addresses from the business section of the telephone book. These agencies make money by providing the job-seeker with information about available jobs.

Whenever someone is hired through the agency, there is a fee
that must be paid. Sometimes, especially when there is a great need on the part of the employer, he will pay all or part of the fee. Usually, however, in the United States it is the new employee who pays the fee. There is, of course, no charge when you are not hired.

You can go also to a public library and have the librarian help you find books relating to employment. While you are there, look carefully through the pages of the telephone book. Take down the telephone numbers and addresses of any companies that have work you are able to do. Get yourself a city map if you need it, to easily locate these possible places to work.

Note carefully that directories listing businesses and industries usually give the names of key personnel who hold important company positions. Call these key personnel and ask them for an interview. You could easily land a job before your first week of search is over.

Ask yourself, "Where is the strongest need for people with my background?"

Make a list of the organizations that look like prospects. List them in order. Check off those you'd like to work for.

You should be able to locate job prospects in half a day. These concerns do not have to be advertising for help so you can find a job. Employers are impressed by people who have the ability, drive and initiative to go out and find a job for themselves.

Don't overlook the job opportunities at a new office building. Remember that every new office building or factory that goes up needs workers, everything from maintenance crews to business executives. By a little thinking, you can often make a list of at least a dozen jobs you are qualified to do in just one new office building alone. Why not have the employers hire you? If you are on your toes, you can land one of the better jobs.

Remember that the government is also an employer. There are usually many job openings available. Study the civil service announcements at your post office. Also there are civil service or government employee newspapers in many localities that often announce government job openings.

Don't make the mistake of overlooking your most obvious source of information—friends, neighbors, relatives and business acquaintances who may be able to help you get a job. Ask them for specific information—names, companies and addresses.

What to Know About Your Prospective Employer

Realize you may be working for your next employer for a long time to come.

Find out the answers to the following questions before you ever go for your first interview. Is the company reliable? (Some are not.) Is the job temporary or permanent? Is it only seasonal? You may find most of these answers in chamber of commerce directories.

Find out how much of a demand there is for a company's product. Is it needed by a great number of people?

If people depend on this industry, your future job will be more secure.

Not only know the products of the company, but also know the general financial standing. Know the names of certain men in high positions in the company, and the history and background of the company.

After finding out the names and locations of various concerns, be there at quitting time. The kind of workers you meet will tell you a lot about a company's efficiency and hiring practices. Find out whether this company is a good company to work for.

Prepare for the Interview

"At interview time," first impressions are important. Be neat! Be clean!

Another very important point is to prepare what you expect to say in advance. Be able to give honest answers to direct questions, such as: "What sort of job are you looking for? What is your experience? Why did you leave your last job?" Make your answers short, but not so short that you leave out important information.

Tell your prospective employer what you can do. Don't underesti-
pany is buying your services, your experience and your abilities. An employer wants to hire you only if you can make him money. Sell him your ability to make him money. Prove to your employer your services will be profitable to him!

Be factual! Get to the point and say clearly and concisely what sort of abilities you have to offer and what your experience is. Do not reel off endless details about your jobs you held years ago.

Employers also look for loyal, cooperative employees who do not complain and criticize their last employers. Employers want well-adjusted, happy people who got along well as part of a team with their last employers and fellow workers. They want someone who is willing to work, and do as he is told.

A word of caution.

Most interviewers will turn down any job applicants who launch into a philosophical spiel about their “eagerness,” their “willingness to work,” “character” and “ambition.”

Also, an interviewer almost always turns down any job applicant who discusses his personal difficulties. They are hiring money-making producers, not problems.

Be Persistent

Make job-hunting a full-time job. Begin looking for a job early in the morning. Don’t quit until closing time. You will work for your employer 40 hours a week. Why not work at least that much for yourself?

Job researchers insist the jobhunter should be able to make nearly one application an hour, 40 a week for nonexecutive jobs. They state that jobs on the executive level require much longer interviews.

Set a goal of a certain number of applications a day until you land your job.

Call up and ask to speak with the directors of the various company divisions, the lab directors or the shop foreman. If you have good qualifications, the lab director may hire you even if there is no opening at the moment. He must look ahead to future needs. Show initiative, drive. Put forth this effort. Prospective employers are impressed by initiative.

Most job-seekers stop with the interview, when many a job could be secured by a follow-through.

Keep going back. Some employers make it a policy to hire an individual only after his second or third visit. They want a person who is persistent.

Sometimes a thank-you note to the interviewer for the time he gave you, or a telephone call in a week or

(Continued on page 30)

HELL

(Continued from page 18)

of life is opened for the first time (Rev. 20:11-12).

But just before then, at the end of the thousand years of peace in the world tomorrow, the devil will go forth to deceive the nations who were not imbued with God’s Holy Spirit. He will be overcome and “cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever” (verse 10). Notice that the word “are” is in italics in the King James Bible. It is an inserted word to complete the meaning, and should be rendered “were cast”—because the beast and false prophet are human beings who will be burned up when they are cast into the lake of fire just before the thousand years begins (Rev. 19:20).

At this point, some of you may be thinking about the parable of Lazarus and the rich man—and wondering if the rich man wasn’t pictured as being in eternal torment. He definitely was not! But for the full and interesting proof of this, write immediately for our free booklet titled Lazarus and the Rich Man.

Now continuing in Revelation 20, notice in verse 13 that the remaining dead are raised in a third resurrection and are judged “according to their works.” These are the wicked who were called in this life and who rebelled. Verse 14 continues, “And death and hell [hades, the grave] were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.” Here is a plain statement revealing that gehenna, or the lake of fire, is the second death.

Truth Makes Free

“The wages of sin is death”—not eternal life in hell-fire. When will the deceiving “hell-fire” preachers repent of preaching this lie in order to frighten people into a false, temporary repentance based on an unreasoned, superstitious fear of eternal torment?

Liars will not have their names written in the Lamb’s book of life (Rev. 21:27), “And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire” (Rev. 20:15).

Thus, the Bible reveals a very different God from the one so often preached today.

It seems that men either try to do away with God’s power altogether by preaching as though God had gone “way off” and left man to work things out according to human reason, or they go to the opposite extreme and look upon God as an “angry Judge” who is just waiting for an opportunity to punish helpless sinners throughout all eternity.

The Creator of heaven and earth is now permitting man to sin and suffer in order to learn certain lessons. If man will accept God’s truth as it is revealed, and learn these lessons God intended, he will be given eternal life in God’s kingdom. But if he stubbornly persists in going the way that leads to wretchedness and misery for himself and others, God in his mercy will cut off his life by casting him into the lake of fire—which is the second death.

Untold suffering and mental anguish has been caused by the false doctrine of an angry God plunging everyone who did not follow certain denominational teachings into a terrifying “hell-fire.”

Most people have been bound by denominational teachings, and too few have been willing to study all the scriptures on the subject to see what the Bible really said. But Jesus said of those who were willing to continue in his word, “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32).
READY Mr. Armstrong ... five ... four ... three ... two ... one ..." and another World Tomorrow television program is under way at Ambassador Television studios in Pasadena, California. Herbert W. Armstrong has broadcast this powerful, straight-from-the-shoulder program since the first week of 1934, first on radio and later also on television.

It can now be seen and heard in most areas across the United States and Canada and in many other countries around the world.

Since January, 1982, a subtitled television pro-
Video tapes of The World Tomorrow telecast are returned from stations and cleaned and evaluated for quality before being reused to dub the latest program to be shipped to stations.

Breathtaking advances in communications technology are too often harnessed for wrong purposes. At Ambassador College Television studios, that same technology is used to produce a message of true understanding, right education and the genuine news of a better tomorrow. Consult the television log next page to find where you can see and hear The World Tomorrow program in your area.
THE WORLD TOMORROW" RADIO AND TV LOGS

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

TELEVISION LOG

Listed by state or province are the station's call letters, location, channel number and time when program is aired.

U.S.

ALABAMA

WBRC, Birmingham — 6, 6:30 a.m., Sun.
WOWL, Florence — 15, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WAFF, Huntsville — 48, 6:30 a.m., Sun.

ARKANSAS

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

CONNECTICUT

WTXT, Hartford — 20, 7:30 a.m., Sun.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WTTG, Washington — 5, 6:30 a.m., Sun.

FLORIDA

WATS, Jacksonville — 36, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
WXIC, Miami — 6, 7:00 a.m., Sun.
WTYJ, Miami — 4, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
WEAR, Pensacola — 3, 12:30 noon, Sun.
WFTS, Tampa — 28, 7:00 a.m., Sun.
WESH, Winter Park — 2, 9:00 a.m., Sun.

GEORGIA

WATL, Atlanta — 36, 10:30 a.m., Sun.
WAGT, Augusta — 26, 10:30 a.m., Sun.
WRBL, Columbus — 3, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WGXA, Macon — 24, 11:00 a.m., Sun.
WTOC, Savannah — 11, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

HAWAII

KIKU, Honolulu — 12, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

HIDALGO

KOKI, Tulsa — 23, 7:00 a.m., Sun.

NORTH CAROLINA

WPGC, Charlotte — 36, 6:00 a.m., Sun.
WRAL, Raleigh — 5, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WITN, Washington — 7, 11:30 a.m., Sun.
WXII, Winston-Salem — 12, 10:30 am, Sun.

OHIO

WOAJ, Akron — 23, 11:15 a.m., Sun.
WLWT, Cincinnati — 5, 11:30 a.m., Sun.
WWAB, Cleveland — 43, 9:00 a.m., Sun.
WTVM, Columbus — 15, 6:30 a.m., Sun.
WEKF, Dayton — 22, 6:00 a.m., Sun.
WDHO, Toledo — 24, 9:00 a.m., Sun.
WTVM, Youngstown — 33, 11:00 a.m., Sun.

OREGON

KOKI, Oklahoma City — 25, 9:00 a.m., Sun.
KOKI, Tulsa — 23, 7:00 a.m., Sun.

PENNSYLVANIA

WTAJ, Altoona — 10, 7:00 a.m., Sun.
WSEE, Erie — 35, 10:30 a.m., Sun.
WFLI, Philadelphia — 27, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WPXI, Pittsburgh — 11, 8:00 a.m., Sun.
WPEN, Wilkes Barre — 16, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WSBA, York — 43, 11:30 a.m., Sun.

SASKATCHEWAN

CKTV, Regina — 12, 12:00 noon, Sun.
CFCF, Saskatoon — 8, 10:00 a.m., Sun.
CJBF, Swift Current — 5, 10:30 a.m., Sat.
CKOS, Yorkton — 5, 11:30 a.m., Sun.

SOUTH CAROLINA

WIS, Columbia — 10, 8:00 a.m., Sun.
WPDE, Florence — 15, 8:00 a.m., Sun.
WPBC, Greenville — 4, 6:30 a.m., Sun.
WCED, Mt. Pleasant — 2, 10:00 a.m., Sun.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

KXON, Sioux Falls — 5, 9:00 a.m., Sun.

TEXAS

KTXA, Arlington — 21, 7:00 a.m., Sun.
KTVK, Austin — 36, 6:30 a.m., Sun.
KPRC, Houston — 2, 7:00 a.m., Sun.
KJAC, Port Arthur — 4, 10:00 a.m., Sun.
KENS, San Antonio — 6, 7:00 a.m., Sun.
KLYT, Tyler — 7, 6:30 a.m., Sun.

UTAH

KUTV, Salt Lake — 2, 9:00 a.m., Sun.

VERMONT

WEZF, Burlington — 22, 10:00 a.m., Sun.

WASHINGTON

WVAR, Charlottesville — 29, 8:00 a.m., Sun.
WSAT, Lynchburg — 13, 6:00 a.m., Sun.
WVEC, Norfolk — 10, 10:00 a.m., Sun.

WEST VIRGINIA

WOWK, Huntington — 13, 9:00 a.m., Sun.

WISCONSIN

KXLY, Spokane — 4, 7:00 a.m., Sun.

WYOMING

KCLI, Casper — 14, 10:30 am, Sun.

CANADA

BRITISH COLUMBIA

CJDC-TV, Dawson Creek — 5, 11:30 a.m., Sat.
BCI-TV, Okanagan/Kamloops — 9 a.m., Sat.
CSCP, Prince George — 2, 10:00 a.m., Sat.
CTFX, Terrace-Ketchikan — 3, 10:00 a.m., Sat.
BCTV, Vancouver — 8, 5:30 a.m., Wed. and Fri.
KVOS, Vancouver — 12, 7:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHEK, Vancouver-Victoria — 6, 7:30 a.m., Sat.
CHEK, Victoria — 12, 12:00 noon, Sun.

ALBERTA

CBSA, Lloydminster — 2, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
CHAT, Medicine Hat — 6, 11:30 a.m., Sun.
CICD, Red Deer — 13, 9:00 a.m., Sun.
KLXY, Spokane — 4, 11:00 a.m., Sun.

Alberta
OTHER INTERNATIONAL AREAS

Bermuda, ZFB-TV (Eng) Hamilton — 8, 7:30 p.m.
Luxembourg, RTL Radio/Television — 11:05 p.m., Fri.
Puerto Rico — San Juan Cable TV
Sri Lanka Television — both channels, 9:00 p.m., Sun.

U.S.

ALABAMA

ALAKA

AKIK, Tucson — 580, 11:00 p.m., Mon.-Tues.; 8:00 a.m., 11:00 p.m., Sun.

ARIZONA

KQX, Arvada — 1550, 3:45 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 11:30 p.m., Sat.

COLORADO

KZ, Denver — 560, 11:30 p.m., Sat-Sat.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WPXK-FM, Washington — 105.9, 5:00 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:00 a.m., Sun.

WRC, Washington — 980, 6:30 a.m.

FLORIDA

WWQT, Clearwater — 1470, 8:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 10:00 a.m., Sun.

WCQI, Jacksonville — 1360, 6:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

WG, Miami — 940, 12:05 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 6:30 a.m., Sun.

WINZ, Miami — 940, 12:05 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 6:30 a.m., Sun.

WFLP, Seminole — 570, 5:30 a.m., 11:30 p.m., Sun.

GEORGIA

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

WSB, Atlanta — 750, 10:30 p.m., Sun.

HAWAII

KIOE, Honolulu — 1080, 6:00 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

IDAHO

KBNN-FM, Nampa — 969.9, 7:30 a.m., 10:00 p.m., Sun.

ILLINOIS

WGN, Chicago — 720, 6:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

WMAG, Chicago — 670, 4:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 6:00 a.m., Sun.

WIXM-FM, Mt. Vernon — 94.1, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

WXCL, Peoria — 1350, 12:00 Mid., Mon.-Sat.

INDIANA

WSBT, South Bend — 960, 11:15 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

IOWA

KDMI-FM, Des Moines — 97.3, 8:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 5:00 p.m., Sun.

WXEL, Waterloo — 1540, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

KANSAS

KGGF, Coffeyville — 690, 6:00 p.m., Sun-Sat.

KENTUCKY

WKY, Lexington — 1300, 11:00 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:00 p.m., Sun.

WCII, Louisville — 1080, 11:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.

WKJF-FM, Louisville — 997.8, 8:00 a.m., Sun.

LOUISIANA

KWKH, Shreveport — 1130, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

MASSACHUSETTS

WITS, Boston — 1510, 5:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 5:30 a.m., Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sat.

MICHIGAN

WLQY, Detroit — 1500, 12:30 noon, Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

MINNESOTA

KTTC-FM, Minneapolis — 97.1, 6:00 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.

KTCR, Minneapolis — 690, 12:00 noon, Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

KROC, Rochester — 1340, 5:00 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 5:30 a.m., Sun.

MISSOURI

KMBZ, Kansas City — 980, 11:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:00 a.m., Sun.

NEW MEXICO

KOB, Albuquerque — 770, 7:00 a.m., 11:00 p.m., Sun.

KRZY, Albuquerque — 1450, 11:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 10:30 p.m., Sun.

KBCG, Roswell — 1020, 7:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

NEW YORK

WBEN, Buffalo — 930, 8:30 a.m., Sun.-Thur.; 9:00 p.m., Sun.

WMAH, New York — 570, 10:30 p.m., Sun.

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

WHAM, Rochester — 1180, 11:00 a.m., Sun.-Fri.

WGY, Schenectady — 810, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

WEZG, Syracuse — 1220, 8:00 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

NORTH CAROLINA

WIST, Charlotte — 1240, 6:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 10:30 a.m., 10:30 p.m., Sun.

WNCT, Greenville — 1070, 7:00 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:00 a.m., Sun.

OHIO

WSLR, Akron — 1350, 9:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:00 p.m., Sun.

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

WBBG, Cleveland — 1260, 11:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

WMNI, Columbus — 920, 5:00 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:00 a.m., Sun.

OKLAHOMA

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

OREGON

KWJJ, Portland — 1080, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

PENNSYLVANIA

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

KQV, Pittsburgh — 1410, 11:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

SOUTH DAKOTA

WAXN, Yankton — 570, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 11:00 a.m., Sun.

TENNESSEE

WXXV, Knoxville — 900, 3:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sat.

WREC, Memphis — 600, 4:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:00 a.m., Sun.

WNAH, Nashville — 1360, 3:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 6:15 p.m., Sun.

TEXAS

KBOX, Dallas — 1460, 10:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

KPRC, Houston — 950, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 10:05 p.m., Sun.

WQAI, San Antonio — 1200, 10:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sat.; 10:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m., Sun.
Is There a Real SPIRIT WORLD?

by Roderick C. Meredith

There is an unseen world about which modern man knows very little.

Is there a world of spirits or spirit beings? Is there a devil?

How do we account for so many areas of extrasensory experience that physical scientists are at a loss to explain?

Not so long ago a major British newspaper reported: "Increasing numbers of people who believe themselves to be possessed by an evil spirit are being given exorcism by Church of England clergy."

This—in the 20th century?

And in the United States a popular newspaper headlined an article: "Transcendental Meditation Is Dangerous." The writer, a former TM teacher, warned: "Once the movement gets a hold on you, life is a constant struggle for sanity," said Richard Scott of Manchester, Conn. "I've seen meditators who were thrown across the room by invisible forces."

Invisible forces?

In this mixed-up society, many people are bored and frustrated. They become "seekers." They involve themselves with astrology and psychic activities of various kinds. They want to "experience" a spirit world out there. But they forget—or may never have realized—that many who give themselves over to powers they do not understand have not come out the same again!

It is time we come to understand the truth about this much misunderstood unseen world—the world of spirit forces behind the increasing manifestations of physically unexplainable events, certain forms of mental illness, the horrifying and unnatural acts of violence masquerading as insanity—and even religious miracles that masquerade as acts of God.

The "now" generation is so engulfed in materialism that it is unaware of unseen evil forces that have seduced today's hedonistic society.

The ONE Source of Knowledge

Physical scientists cannot explain what has gone wrong in human civilization. Psychologists and psychiatrists are puzzled. Religions have speculated about the causes of evils. Isn't it time we looked at the ONLY reliable source of knowledge about spirit and spiritual matters—the revelation of the Creator God to mankind. Of course you can reject this revelation—which we know as the Holy Bible—but then you have no answer to the very questions that have puzzled thoughtful scientists.

God reveals in his written revelations of essential spiritual knowledge that he is spirit (John 4:24). He is the Supreme Creator Spirit Being. He is called the "Father of spirits" (Heb. 12:9). He is spoken of in this way in the Holy Bible.

The Bible claims to be the revealed Word of God—a revelation of essential knowledge not otherwise accessible to men. Jesus of Nazareth said that man should live by its every word (Matt. 4:4). Jesus also said that the Bible cannot be broken—cannot be disproved either by internal or external evidence (John 10:35). It is inspired directly by the Creator (II Tim. 3:16). It is God's "handbook" wherein he reveals understanding to man that could not be obtained any other way.

The Holy Bible, then, is the final authority on questions of origins, purposes, and whether there is a devil and demons.

The Source Speaks

The earliest part of the Bible was originally written in Hebrew. It reveals the origin of the devil. He did not begin as the devil, but as a super-powerful spirit being—an angel of light. But he let vanity enter his mind and rebelled against his Maker (see Isaiah 14:12-14 and Ezekiel 28:11-17). He became Satan.

In Hebrew the word Satan means "Obstructor" or "Opposer." This should give us a clue as to Satan's attitude, which he has infused into human civilization.

In the Greek New Testament, Satan is defined as the "tempter," the "evil one," the "accuser," the "prince of the power of the air," the "father of lies," the "ruler of this world."

So there is an unseen world of spirits—good and evil. There is not only a Creator God, but there are lesser spirit beings, two thirds of...
whom administer God's government in obedience, and another third who are in a state of rebellion.

Let's notice the very first encounter of a human being with the world of spirit. God said: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion..." (Gen. 1:26). God had created man to be like him—to develop character and ultimately share eternity with God in the very Family of God.

Shortly after this relationship was established, Satan appeared to our first parents as a cunning serpent. Notice his approach: "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" (Gen. 3:1).

Immediately, Satan began putting questions and doubts in the first woman's mind: "Has God really withheld something from you? Perhaps God is not fair."

Then after hearing the woman tell of the death penalty for sin, Satan told the woman: "Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil" (vs. 4-6).

So now, Satan was in effect calling God a liar—accusing God of withholding the forbidden fruit in order to keep man down and prevent him from becoming "as gods."

Satan is the accuser. He is also the "father of lies." So he will often accuse God or God's true servants—whom Satan hates—of being guilty of the very things that he, Satan, is guilty of.

In his deceptive approach to the first human beings, Satan lied. He accused God. And he also appealed to physical lusts—the tree looked appealing. Satan appealed to intellectual and spiritual vanity: "Ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." The devil very often tries to impart the feeling that you are justified in trying to "get" what you want right now.

You don't need to wait until you can properly prepare, for example, for marriage, work and save enough money for the new motorbike or car. Just "get it" any way you can—according to Satan's reasoning. "Get" sex without real love, commitment, preparation and marriage. "Get" material things by stealing them, buying them on time payments you can't really afford, borrow money to buy them. But "get" them and get them now. "You owe it to yourself," Satan says. "You deserve this vacation."

Ever hear that kind of advertising before? Who do you think really started this philosophy?

But most of all, Satan wants to oppose God's plan for mankind. The devil thinks he can defeat God's plan for man if he can deceive man into believing that he is the true God and that the devil and demons don't exist.

The Devil and Job

In the first two chapters of the book of Job we have a remarkable account of Satan's activities and method of operation.

Notice! When God pointed out to Satan that the patriarch Job was a good and upright man, what did Satan do?

Satan wanted to tear down and destroy Job and all that he had. Satan resented Job's character and therefore his promised destiny to rule under God over the earth and to "judge" the angels and Satan's demons (1 Cor. 6:3).

So he immediately started to accuse God's servant Job. Satan implied that Job had wrong motives. Satan challenged God: "But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face" (Job 1:11).

God responded: "Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand." Then follows the account of how Satan smote and destroyed virtually all that Job had. No wonder one of Satan's names is "the destroyer!"

Later, Satan gained permission and began to destroy Job's health—bringing him to despair and to the brink of death. Yet, notice that Satan can only go as far as God allows him. He can do nothing without God's permission (Job 1:12 and 2:6).

But how did Satan become what he is—satanic?

Long Before Star Wars

The popular, award-winning movie, Star Wars, obviously had its gene-

sis in biblical themes. Does Lord Darth Vader live?

Yes, in a sense, he does live. He lives in the person of a brilliant, powerful, superarchangel, commonly called Lucifer, who rebelled against his Creator and led off one third of the hundreds of millions of angels in a literal Star Wars type of battle in space (see Isaiah 14:12-15 and Revelation 12:3-4). This gargantuan battle—and there is another one coming up just before the end of this age—simply dwarfed the Star Wars scenario. Because these battles in an unseen world were and are real—they affect your life, your ultimate destiny and the future of whole nations (see Daniel 12:1 for an example).

In Daniel 10:10-14, God gives us a brief glimpse into behind-the-scenes spirit battles that determine the well-being and destiny of entire nations and peoples. Here, an angel or messenger from God to Daniel was obstructed by the power of Satan for three weeks until the archangel Michael came to his aid!

In Revelation 12:12-14, it is revealed that after Satan's second final massive assault against God's throne, the devil himself will be cast to earth with his total fury concentrated against the true Church of God—the Church that keeps God's commandments and has the testimony of Jesus Christ (verse 17).

In the months and years immediately ahead, God's true commandment-keeping Church is going to be accused, harassed and assaulted by Satan in every possible way. And God's birthright people, the American and British peoples, are going to be hated, harassed and eventually brought to their knees through a Satan-inspired, final religious-political restoration of the Roman Empire.

Unless our nations totally repent and begin to keep God's commandments, God will permit this coming time of national trial to teach us lessons that we seemingly cannot or will not learn any other way. Even in the darkest hours of the years just ahead, remember that Satan cannot go one inch farther than the great God allows. Never forget that!

"God of This World"

Satan is called the "god of this world" in II Corinthians 4:4. He is
the invisible spirit ruler who influences and sways this world's society, educational and religious systems and governments. Since many scoff at his very existence, it is easy for him to get under their guard, deceive them, arouse irrational and even unnatural lusts, hates and jealousies in men and nations he wants to use in destroying others.

Satan is called "the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience" (Eph. 2:2). Satan is in charge of this earth and its atmosphere, and broadcasts wrong attitudes and moods. In this way, he influences people and nations, stirs them up and blinds them to the true Creator God and his purpose.

Jesus Christ acknowledged that Satan has a kingdom (Matt. 12:26). But it is a misguided and confused kingdom, for Satan's system is called "Babylon the Great," which literally means "great confusion" (Rev. 17:5).

When accused by the hypocritical Pharisees of being illegitimate, Jesus sharply responded: "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it" (John 8:44).

Here the Son of God revealed to us Satan's real character. He is essentially a murderer and a liar. He hates and wants to destroy any who oppose him, and his demons. So he will plot and scheme to hurt, to discredit and to overthrow the true servants of God in this age—as he has in every age.

Satan hates the preaching of the true Gospel—the "good news" of the soon-coming kingdom or government of God. For this message spells Satan's doom—the end of his invisible control over this world's society. As in the case of Job, Daniel and Jesus himself, Satan will try to vilify, accuse, discredit, hurt and destroy any who preach this true Gospel to the world!

And the devil is like a "roaring lion" (1 Pet. 5:8) trying to upset and overthrow all true Christians. There really is a spiritual war raging with Satan and his demons trying to overthrow all who truly seek to know, to serve and obey the Creator God. In this spiritual war, we need to understand the steps we must take in our own self-defense!

God is Our FORTRESS

Paul writes in Ephesians 6:10-20, telling us to put on the "whole armour of God to withstand the "wiles" of a cunning devil.

"For," he says, "we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against...[WICKED SPIRITS, margin] in high places" (verse 12, KJV). There is a spirit world around us! We need to understand that and be sure we search out and obey the truth, build the faith, wield properly the sword of the Spirit—the Holy Bible—and in every way protect ourselves with the spiritual armor Paul describes in this passage.

Plain Truth readers are privileged to have access to information that enables them to understand the Bible's message and the meaning of the time in which we are living. Then you cannot be deceived by satanic miracles: "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; inasmuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect" (Matt. 24:24).

The apostle James tells us: "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. RESIST the devil, and he will flee from you" (Jas. 4:6-7).

Learn to do what God says! Learn to follow Jesus' example, to keep God's commandments as he instructed—see Matthew 19:17—and write immediately for our free booklet The Ten Commandments. Resist Satan and any and all wrong impulses of vanity, lust, hate, malice, resentment. In any temptation, as you resist, ask the great God for the extra spiritual strength, faith, love and understanding that you need.

As the Elijah oratorio so beautifully paraphrases the Bible: "If with all your heart you truly seek Him, you shall surely find Him." Certainly God is our fortress, our Savior, our strength, our Deliverer.

But you must seek him and obey what he commands in his Word. The words of this article will take on even more meaning over the next few years as you watch the continuing decline of the American and British Commonwealth peoples, and as you witness the rising persecution of the commandment-keeping Church of God.

You have been warned!

Now, you are aware of what you should do through faith to overcome Satan.

You have your part to do! □

GOOD JOB

(Continued from page 21)

so, may remind your prospective employer of your qualifications and determination and win you the job.

Look Ahead

Once you get the job, keep alert to what's going on in your organization. Know how you are doing and what your boss thinks of you. You should usually know how long your job is going to last.

If you see that the end of your present job is in sight, immediately begin laying the groundwork to find another job.

In today's tight labor market, don't ever quit your job unless you already have somewhere else to go. It's far easier to find another job while you still have one than when you don't.

Don't ever turn down an offer down flat because it doesn't meet your every requirement. Be willing if necessary to accept a position that requires traveling, or be willing to take company training.

If you are in an area where there aren't any jobs available, then you must be willing to go to another city where there are jobs. You may well have no other choice.

The unskilled often find it difficult to find jobs. Remember you are never too young or too old to learn a trade.

There are definitive laws of success in achieving whatever you undertake. We offer our free booklet called the Seven Laws of Success. It can help you find and put into practice other principles necessary to find and keep a good job. □
TEST-TUBE BABIES?
It's Time We Ask Why!

by Clayton Steep

Increasing numbers of babies are being born as a result of test-tube technology.
But why has the real cause of infertility been overlooked?

EVERYONE can understand the desire of the childless couple to have a child of their own.

No one can fault that desire. It is legitimate. In fact, it is that very legitimacy that has spurred development of test-tube baby technology.

As the number of startling accomplishments in the field of artificially induced reproduction grows, so does a raging controversy. Advocates, under the banner of humane considerations, urge accelerated research and experimentation.

Critics claim that whatever good may be accomplished is far outweighed by the dangers of humans “playing God.” “Where will it all stop?” they ask, charging that tampering with the beginnings of life is opening a Pandora’s box that will lead to frightening consequences.

The debate is proving to be much more than a mere tempest in a test tube. It is coming to involve scientists, laymen, right-to-life organizations, theologians, feminist groups, moralists, law-makers and many others.

How did this controversy get started anyway? If there is a better solution to the problem faced by infertile couples, what is it?

Test-tube Technology
Test-tube babies, as they are popularly called, are the results of a number of different procedures. Actually, test-tube technology applied in the reproductive process is nothing new. Its oldest form is artificial insemination. Long ago artificial insemination was employed in animal breeding. Eventually the process came to be used to impregnate women with sperm from their husbands. The next innovation was impregnating women with sperm from males other than their husbands. This is now commonly referred to as AID (Artificial Insemination by Donor).

A donor is usually a medical student or other individual whose background may be screened to one degree or another. Sometimes the identity of the donor is known. Most often it is kept confidential. The sperm is used as soon as it is donated, or it may be frozen and stored for later use in a sperm bank.

Not all such banks are alike. In

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“in vitro” fertilization

A mature human egg, taken from an ovary by means of a needle-like instrument, is placed in a laboratory dish (top), to which sperm is added. After fertilization takes place, the egg is transferred to another dish (bottom) where a multiple cell blastocyst develops over the course of several days. The blastocyst is then placed in the uterus.
the United States just recently the birth of an anonymous baby was announced. What distinguished the event was that the child was “fathered” by sperm from an unnamed Nobel Prize winner through the auspices of a sperm bank that specializes in frozen sperm from Nobel Prize winners and other gifted individuals. Theoretically the child thus conceived stands a good chance of being above average in ability.

Technicians involved in the artificial insemination process generally try to match characteristics of donors and receivers. But accidents occur. There are cases such as that of Henry and Kathryn L., both from long lines of blond-haired, blue-eyed stock, who now have a difficult time explaining to acquaintances the dark hair and brown eyes of their new son.

That may be only a temporary problem for the parents. But what about the problems the children conceived by AID may eventually face? What is the extent of psychological and social problems, of legal complications they may confront in life, never being able to know who their real fathers are? There is even a remote possibility that two individuals, without knowing they were begotten by sperm from the same father, may grow up, meet and marry each other.

The reason for having recourse to AID has usually been the inability of a husband to father a child, at least to father a healthy child. Now, however, an additional motive is increasingly becoming a factor. Single women—even lesbians—are demanding their rights to bear children of their own through artificial insemination.

Furthermore, there are women who desire children, but who are unable—or unwilling—to bear children themselves. Some women who are capable of childbearing are therefore “renting out” their wombs for others. These surrogate mothers, usually for a fee, bear children and then surrender their rights to them. Ordinarily the process used is artificial insemination with sperm collected from the husband of an interested couple or from some other donor. An alternate method now being worked on is to transplant a fertilized egg from one woman into the womb of another—a surrogate. Some go so far as to suggest that an adaptation of such a procedure will help make certain abortion obsolete, since unwanted embryos, instead of being aborted, will merely be transplanted, allowed to develop and, after birth, be offered for adoption.

The conventional justification for surrogate motherhood is that it is a way to provide children for many childless couples. But it is also expected that increasing numbers of single women, who do not themselves want to be pregnant, will seek to have an artificially inseminated surrogate bear children for them. Likewise, single men and homosexuals are beginning to demand their “rights” to have children through the services of surrogates.

In these arrangements and procedures, people are essentially thinking long and hard about themselves—about their desires, their needs, their convenience. But how much consideration is given to the welfare of the children?

Where Does the World Go From Here?

In 1978 test-tube technology took its first giant leap as the attention of the whole world was briefly focused on a dramatic event in England. It was the first recorded birth of a baby conceived outside of a woman’s uterus. Specifically, in a laboratory. During this year alone, a scant four years later, up to 100 such births are expected in various parts of the world.

The technique, called in vitro fertilization, calls for the removal of a ripe human egg from a woman’s ovary. The egg, barely visible without the aid of a microscope, is placed in a petri dish or test tube. Sperm from the husband is added to the dish. If all goes well, one of the sperm cells fertilizes the egg. The developing embryo is allowed to grow in nutrient solution for about 48 hours, then it is transferred to the mother’s womb in the hope that it will develop as a normal fetus.

A variation of the procedure, already mentioned, would have the embryo placed in a rented womb. Or, if plans for the not too distant future come to pass, an artificial womb! The apparent nearness of such a prospect recalls what Aldous Huxley described more than a generation ago in his Brave New World. He portrayed an age when babies would be engineered: routinely conceived in test-tubes from selected sperm and ova, incubated and “born” in laboratories. In that world there would no longer be a connection between sexual love and intercourse and reproduction. The family unit would become questionable in the minds of these prognosticators. The world is making rapid strides toward such a humanly devised society.

Certain techniques already in use are disturbing in themselves. It has been discovered, for example, that giving a woman fertility drugs increases the number of available eggs. More than one egg can thus be placed into a petri dish, bettering the chances of successful in vitro fertilization. If more than one embryo results, the presumed “fit-test” can be placed in the mother’s womb. The surplus embryos—those less “fit,” or those of an undesired sex or other characteristic—can be destroyed.

The prospect has caused cries of alarm from many quarters where such a practice is likened to abortion. What right, proliferers ask, do laboratory workers have to decide who shall live and who shall die?

Louder cries yet, though, are uttered when it is realized that the surplus embryos can also be kept for observation and experimentation! After all, critics ask, what is to prevent someone from attempting to allow the development of a surplus embryo in a laboratory for days, weeks—even as long as possible up to the full term?

Let’s face it, scientists are human beings. They are driven by curiosity or they wouldn’t be in the field of science.

The frightening possibilities even go beyond ordinary human reproduction. One way of “testing” the viability of human sperm is to inject it into the eggs of hamsters and allow the results to grow to the eight cell stage before being disposed of. Eventually, it is feared, someone will surely wonder what happens after the eight cell stage.

Another subject has fired imagi-

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RIGHT OR WRONG?

Choosing Your Unborn Child's SEX

by Dan Taylor

SOCIETY, envisioned in Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*, is one in which all human reproduction is subject to laboratory regimentation. That frightening world of experimentation may be closer than you think.

Recent developments in cloning, test-tube babies and genetic manipulation are currently “the main attraction” of new scientific “miracles.”

Though somewhat less well-known, yet another prodigious scientific achievement threatens to complete Huxley's scenario. Through two distinct processes, it is now possible for parents to have a child of the sex of their choice.

**Process One**

An experimental sperm separation technique pioneered in 1973 by reproductive physiologist Dr. Ronald Ericson of Sausalito, California, is 75 percent effective in producing a male child. A method has not yet been developed to ensure a similar success ratio for female offspring.

Using a test tube filled with dense layers of increasing percentages of serum albumin—a protein found in human blood—Dr. Ericson filters the majority of female (x) chromosomes out of the sperm he will use for insemination. He is able to do so because male-producing sperm swim through the filters faster than female-producing sperm. Thus, the bottom layer of the test tube contains a proportionally higher amount of male (y) chromosome bearing sperm with which the mother-to-be is artificially inseminated.

**Process Two**

The second human-devised process is 100 percent effective. It involves the use of a procedure called amniocentesis and, if necessary, abortion.

In this process, originally intended as a test to screen birth defects in high-risk mothers, a sample of amniotic fluid is drawn out of the abdomen of a woman 16 to 18 weeks pregnant. After two to four weeks, test results will reveal most common birth defects, as well as the sex of the child.

It must be pointed out that most doctors try to screen out those who merely want to determine the child's sex in order to decide whether to keep the fetus or not. However, physicians also admit that many women have faked their family history in order to persuade the doctor to perform the test. And in most cases, the doctor has no means of verifying the woman’s information.

Many women (no one knows how many), therefore, are able to take an amniocentesis and make the decision of whether or not to keep the developing child solely based on the test’s determination of its sex. This of course means the unwanted unborn girl or boy may be aborted so that the couple can then try again to get the child of the sex of their choice.

**Pandora’s Box**

Many in the medical profession are awaiting further studies on sperm separation techniques before making any final judgments. But the use of amniocentesis as a sex selection tool has come under fire from an unexpected and ironic quarter: proabortionists and feminists.

At a symposium on human reproduction in 1980, Ms Roberta Steinbacher, head of Urban Studies at Cleveland State University, said “It is clear that sex preselection research has far outdistanced serious discussion of its ethical, social, legal and demographic implications.”

Calling the implications for women “staggering,” Ms Steinbacher explained that the result of widespread use of sex preselection would increase the percentage of males in the human population because of the preference for sons by most parents.

Reports coming out of the People's Republic of China indicate that many mothers-to-be are making sure that the government-sanctioned one child per family for city dwellers is a male.

In one report, a test group of 30 couples opted for an abortion after a selection test. Of the 30 couples, 29 did so solely because their child was determined to be a female.

Says Ms Steinbacher, “Suppose (Continued on page 43)
The Plain Truth

(Taken from page 32)

nations. It is the subject of cloning—the asexual production of a genetically identical organism from a single cell.

Cloning has already been successfully carried out in lower life forms and recently in mice. There is an immense biological gap between mice and men, it is true. Nevertheless, Dr. Robert Snowden, director of Population Studies at Exeter University, is concerned enough to demand legislation preventing test-tube technology from being used to clone people.

"With new techniques, a single female egg can be split into four separate cells," Reuters quotes Dr. Snowden. "Each one can be split again and the division continued. This means that from one human egg it is now possible to produce a whole regiment of genetically identical people. It would be like producing an army of ants."

Combine this technology with the advances in genetic engineering and what many describe as a more awesome genie yet is let out of the test tube. In genetic engineering, genes can be altered, thus manipulating and determining the physical characteristics of the resulting organism—an organism that could then be copied an innumerable number of times.

The Cause, Not the Effect

Most of the efforts of humankind to better its condition are directed to treating effects instead of causes. This is true with regard to criminology, medicine, dentistry, pollution abatement, alcohol and drug abuse, geopolitics—you name it. And it is true with regard to infertile couples who wish to have children.

Artificial insemination, surrogate motherhood, in vitro fertilization, cloning or any other technique aimed at artificially inducing reproduction, is an effort to treat the effect rather than the cause of a problem.

Few seek to know what is the cause of infertility in the first place. When God created the first human couple, Adam and Eve, he "blessed them, and... said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth..." (Gen. 1:28).

Notice two things: 1) Naturally being able to have children is a blessing from God. It is spoken of as such often in the Scriptures (Gen. 9:1, Ps. 127:3-5, 128:3-4). Either a couple has that blessing or the couple does not. 2) There was no fertility problem with Adam and Eve.

Then what caused reproductive problems in human beings?

We begin to see the answer in the third chapter of Genesis. Adam and Eve were given a choice, symbolized by two trees in the garden in Eden. They could choose either the way of life based on God's laws (the tree of life) or the opposite way, based on human reason and disobedience to God (the tree of the knowledge—by experience—of good and evil).

Adam and Eve chose the way of disobedience—of sin. Humanity has followed that way ever since.

One of the immediate consequences, according to the Bible, of choosing the way of sin was that childbearing was rendered more difficult (verse 16)!

Adam and Eve were still fertile. They were still able to have children. To that extent they were still blessed. But the point is that sin so soon in history brought about an adverse effect on the reproductive process, as it ultimately did on every facet of life.

As generations continued to live in transgression of God's spiritual and physical laws, the sad results became more and more evident: confused, unhappy lives, anxiety, suspicions, hatred. And on the physical level, sickness, degeneration, a host of infirmities and defects—including additional reproductive problems.

Later in history God set the choice of obedience or disobedience before a whole nation that he had selected to perform a special service—the nation of ancient Israel. God listed one of the curses for their choosing the wrong way: "Cursed shall be the fruit of thy body" (Deut. 28:18). Yes, malformed children, miscarriages, inability to conceive—these would be a part of the bitter harvest of sin.

On the other hand, God held out one of the blessings he would give, "And the Lord will make you abound in prosperity, in the fruit of your body..." (verse 11, RSV).

God is able to do this because he is the Giver of life. Psalm 113:9 declares: "He maketh the barren woman to keep house, and to be a joyful mother of children." Needless to say, God is able also to give, through divine healing, a sterile man the ability to father children.

Some may laugh at that suggestion. They would not be the first to take it lightly. The Bible records the case of the patriarch Abraham and his wife Sarah. They were past the age where they could expect to have children. "Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women" (Gen. 18:11, RSV).

Very real physical facts rendered childbirth impossible. Nevertheless, God told them they would have a child. "So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, 'After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?' The Lord said to Abraham, 'Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' 'Is anything too hard for the Lord?' " (verses 12-14).

Is anything too difficult for God? "Yes!" modern science replies all too often, as it goes about trying to contrive alternate remedies to problems. The cause of reproductive difficulties—and any other physical defect—is that physical sin has been committed somewhere along the line either by the afflicted individuals themselves or by others. Sickness, infirmities, bodily disorders are the penalty of broken laws. That is the cause.

The solution is not to try to get around those penalties by some scientific, artificially contrived means. That is treating the effect. The solution is to have sin forgiven and the penalty removed. That is the way it will be done in the world tomorrow. And that is the way humanity should be doing it today. Our free booklet The Plain Truth About Healing explains this wonderful promise of divine healing. □
At Stake: Human Survival

World-renowned statesmen and scientists—too numerous to quote in this brief study—speak fearfully of the END of human civilization! Men like the late President John F. Kennedy and U.S. General of the Armies Douglas MacArthur warned that man now possesses the means of committing COSMOCIDE—suicide of the whole human race!

These men realized something totally unforeseen must occur to stop the trend of world events—or humanity would finally destroy itself! 

Man's only hope for survival was referred to in a leading U.S. newsmagazine a number of years ago. This appraisal indicated that the prevailing view among government officials was that tensions and world problems were fast becoming too deep-seated to be solved except “by a strong hand from someplace.”

That strong hand will come—but from a source most people least expect (Isa. 40:10).

Predicted Centuries Ago

Today's sad state of world affairs was predicted centuries in advance. More than 1,900 years ago, the greatest newscaster the world has ever known foretold today's chaotic world conditions! He foresaw the direction of today's scientific discoveries and technological advancements. And he foresaw the outcome of it all.

He knew that men would produce the destructive forces that now threaten cosmocide! This famous newscaster warned: “And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved [alive]” (Mark 13:20).

This great newscaster was Jesus Christ of Nazareth—the same Jesus Christ who is coming again to intervene at the last moment to save this world from itself! What he foretold has been recorded in the Bible all these centuries. No other book is as up-to-date as your Bible!

So why not begin a ministudy of these basic prophecies to learn exactly what the world's greatest newscaster foretold for our end time?

1. Did Jesus clearly foretell a time of great trouble on earth just before his return? Matt. 24:21. What did he declare would happen to mankind if these days were allowed to continue? Verse 22. But will that terrible time be cut short? Same verse.

COMMENT: The Moffatt translation renders this verse clearer as “not a soul would be saved alive.” This verse is not referring to being saved spiritually, but to being saved from physical death!

2. Has there ever been a time of trouble such as will occur just before Christ's return? Matt. 24:21; Mark 13:19. Were any of the Hebrew prophets inspired to foresee this same time of worldwide peril? Jer. 30:7; Dan. 12:1.

COMMENT: Since each of these four prophecies reveal that the future period of crisis will have no equal, they can only be referring to one great climactic period of worldwide trouble!

3. How did the prophet Joel symbolically describe the horrible events to take place at the close of this age? Joel 2:1-3.

COMMENT: Joel's God-inspired prophecy pictures the very same time of trouble prophesied by Christ, Jeremiah and Daniel. This prophecy refers to events soon to occur at this end time, for only in this age of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons has such destruction and the extinction of human life been possible!

4. Could the symbols in Revelation 9:2-10, 16-19 indicate radiation sickness and mass death resulting from the use of modern weaponry?

COMMENT: John described what he saw in a vision that God miraculously revealed to him. It was a mysterious, frightening spectacle! The creatures he saw were obviously symbolic of weapons God knew man would be capable of inventing in the end time—just before the Second Coming of Jesus Christ! The time when men would have at their disposal the power to erase all life from this earth!

A Sign of Christ's Coming?

Jesus' disciples asked him for a “sign” that would
show his Second Coming was near (Matt. 24:3). Before giving that sign, he foretold a timetable of prophecy—that certain world conditions would precede one great indicator of his soon return. Those occurrences are given in Matthew 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21.


COMMENT: Just since World War II alone there have been more than 150 armed conflicts around the world! We are now in a lull between rounds two and three of world war!


COMMENT: The facts of lagging world food production, combined with the reality of the population explosion, add up to one thing: A crisis of awesome proportions is exploding on the world's doorstep! The several million already dying each year from starvation could soon be multiplied. Hundreds of millions of human beings could die of starvation—even the affluent nations are not immune to this threat!

4. What else was prophesied to occur? Same verse.

COMMENT: Pestilence (disease epidemics) is the natural result of lack of sanitation, of food shortages and civil wars. The way is already prepared for a revival of pestilence. More population means more mouths to feed, more crowding, more waste and refuse, more garbage, more pollution of the water, air and land. And more disease! Jesus' words, spoken more than 1,900 years ago, are certainly prophetic.


COMMENT: Wars, famine, disease and various disruptions of nature are taking an increasing toll of human life today.

Notice that the "beginning of sorrows" described by Jesus is also pictured by the four horsemen of Revelation 6:1-8. They represent the world conditions Jesus said would exist at the end of this age—all increasing in severity and overlapping in their effects on the entire world! (For more details, write for our free booklet The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse.)

7. What tremendous toll of life will be taken by these world catastrophes? Rev. 6:8.

COMMENT: Just imagine, if you can, one fourth of mankind subject to famine and death during a period described as only the "beginning of sorrows"!

But let's not forget that man is bringing this horrible suffering and death upon himself. Jesus knew that man, left to his own devices apart from God, and despite his scientific breakthroughs in agriculture, would ultimately destroy all life on earth. That is why he has promised to intervene in world affairs.

8. Finally, what is the one major sign clearly indicating that the end of man's rule and Christ's return are very near? Matt. 24:14, Mark 13:10.

COMMENT: Today, these scriptures are being fulfilled before your very eyes and ears—in the pages of the Plain Truth magazine, and through the World Tomorrow radio and television broadcasts. The "gospel of the kingdom of God"—the gospel message Jesus preached (Mark 1:14)—is already being proclaimed worldwide!


COMMENT: Your Bible shows there is hope for mankind. God will not allow the misguided scientific genius of man to destroy all life on this planet! He is going to send Jesus Christ again—this time to save us from ourselves and to establish the government of God on earth.

Think of it!
The glorified Christ returning in all the splendor, power and glory of God 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!

—Prepared by Richard Sedliacik

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FARMERS

(Continued from page 10)

farm. Why ought a Russian or a Nigerian, for instance, be concerned about the plight of the American farmer? The answer is simple: self-interest.

Even with depressed market conditions, U.S. agriculture is still the largest supplier of export foodstuffs in the world. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, each American farmer grows enough food for 70 people. This means that the U.S. is able to export more than one-third of its yearly farm output to markets in more than 150 countries.

However, many of these countries, such as Nigeria, have become dependent on cheap American food (cheaper by comparison) to the extent that their over-regulated domestic farming community has become almost nonexistent.

Any interruption in the supply of American food could spell disaster. So too for the U.S.S.R. in the event of a repeat of the catastrophic 1975 Soviet harvest.

In the sense of past U.S. ability to fill the shortfalls in other nations' agriculture, the crisis in American agriculture is becoming a worldwide crisis.

The Future

For those American farmers who manage to survive the current depression in agriculture, the future holds still more problems. Problems which threaten the U.S. farmers' ability to meet even domestic needs.

To expand their operations in the '70s, U.S. farmers began pressing marginal lands into service. Lands once planted with trees and grass to prevent soil erosion after the Dust Bowl days of the 1930s—a government service paid for with tax dollars—have now been plowed up and planted with wheat.

Conservation practices like crop rotation, crop diversification, terracing, shelter belting and contour plowing have been significantly abandoned in favor of fence-to-fence mono-crop production. This has aggravated an already serious erosion problem. According to a 1980 National Agricultural Land Study, more than five billion tons of fertile top soil are lost each year in the U.S. due to erosion. That amount of loss could cover Belgium and The Netherlands with nearly one foot of soil.

What kind of future is in store for the present 2.5 million U.S. farmers? Unless the problems of too-high production, unsound farming practices motivated by quick profit, soil erosion and market insecurity are addressed, the future is not bright. And for young farmers the future holds no promise whatsoever. Land values, propelled out of reach by land speculation, make ownership a remote possibility for most younger would-be farmers.

Yet the problems facing American agriculture go beyond physical and financial obstacles. The crisis in American agriculture touches on immutable spiritual laws.

The U.S. government's desire to "get" farmers to produce more food to help balance the country's trade deficit led to too much expansion, too quickly, for too long. The brinkmanship practices employed by many an American farmer to "get" more out of the land are destroying the very soil that is his livelihood. It is this selfish way of...
TESTAMENT?

(Continued from page 14)

NOT understand their scriptures, just as Christendom does NOT understand the Bible today!

This wonderful 53rd chapter of Isaiah tells us the Messiah was to come in human flesh, to grow up, to bear our afflictions and our sicknesses. Yes, He was to be wounded and to suffer for our physical as well as spiritual transgressions, so that by his stripes—his body broken for us—we are to be healed when sick. Many do not fully grasp that truth, even today!

EACH ONE of the original apostles who preached Christ and the GOSPEL OF CHRIST—which is the GOSPEL Christ preached, the New Testament GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM—EVERY ONE of them whose preaching is recorded in the New Testament, preached Christ and the gospel out of the Old Testament scriptures!

Yes, that is the way the true faith once delivered was originally preached in all its purity and truth! And that is what we do today!

New Testament Proof

Notice how PETER used the Old Testament in preaching the gospel of Christ, when delivering the first inspired sermon the day the New Testament CHURCH was really established: “But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: for these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams” (Acts 2:14-17).

After concluding Joel’s prophecy of the coming of the other Comforter, the Holy Spirit, Peter continues in verse 25: “For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved.”

Through the remainder of his sermon on that day of Pentecost, Peter continued to preach Christ from the Old Testament—and 3,000 were converted through Old Testament preaching that day!

Later, Philip was sent by the angel of the Lord to preach to the eunuch from Ethiopia, returning home in his chariot from Jerusalem. When Philip met him, the eunuch was reading from the Old Testament book of Isaiah: “And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest? And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

Philip opened his mouth, and began unto him Jesus” (Acts 8:30-35)

And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man? Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus” (Acts 8:30-35).

The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth: in his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? For his life is taken from the earth. And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man? Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus” (Acts 8:30-35).

And yet, some people today still say, “You can’t do that—you can’t preach Christ out of the Old Testament.” But the Spirit-led Philip did it—JESUS himself did it—PIETER did it—yes, all the first-century ministers of the true, original PURE Church of God did it. And we in God’s true Church do it today!

Now consider Paul. How did he preach? In the very last chapter of Acts, we read of Paul, after he had gone to Rome: “And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening” (Acts 28:23).

A very large portion of the New Testament is simply the Old Testament quoted. The New is based on the Old. The New Testament GOSPEL is based on the PROMISES God made to Abraham—for if we are Christ’s, then we are Abraham’s children and HEIRS according to the PROMISES (Gal. 3:29). Without the book of Genesis, how could you establish the PROMISES you hope to inherit THROUGH CHRIST?

Yes, your hope of ETERNAL LIFE rests upon the book of GENESIS!

Notice, too, the writings of Peter: “We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy [Spirit]” (II Pet. 1:19-21).

And Paul’s instruction to the New Testament Church in Romans 15:4, “For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.”

And how shall we have understanding of salvation? Paul wrote Timothy: “And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works” (II Tim. 3:15-17).

And so, let us say with DAVID: “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path” (Psa. 119:105).
REUGlOUS UNION

(Continued from page 2)

this particular Pope that made the trip possible. Displays of public intolerance were remarkably few.

Newspapers of all political persuasion unanimously welcomed John Paul II. They particularly praised his courage in coming to Britain at a time when the nation was at war in the Falkland Islands with Argentina, a predominantly Roman Catholic nation.

Some journalists and editorial writers seemed almost stunned by the Pope's participation in ecumenical events in Canterbury and, two days later, in Liverpool. At Liverpool's gigantic Anglican cathedral, the Pope said that "the restoration of unity among Christians is one of the main concerns of the church in the last part of the 20th century. And the task is for all of us. No one can claim exemption." An editorial in the Times of London, on May 31, reported:

"The Visit—no need to say whose—seems to be going remarkably well.... For the Roman Catholic population of England he has provided that sense of joy, courage and spiritual uplift that they were hoping for. The rest of us have been given much to respond to, and much to think about. The combination of the power of the man's personality and the majesty of his office is almost troubling.... The common declaration with Archbishop Runcie [at Canterbury] may seem almost prosaic. When the feeling of unity in Christ is so strong, what need we any further international commissions, one is tempted to ask...."

The Sunday Telegraph, May 30, commented on the Pope's performance at Canterbury in this manner:

"Despite the stoop in his shoulders, there is in this man great power and majesty. Amid a dozen archbishops and 50 bishops he stood out preeminent, the bishop of Rome himself, come to perform [an] historic act of reconciliation in the cradle of Anglican Christianity."

Other writers, though Anglican, praised the Pope for not waver- ing from Catholic doctrines and traditions, just for the sake of unity. In the Sunday Telegraph of June 6, author T.E. Utley praised the Pope for speaking out, in sermons before his own Catholic audiences, against "the predominantly pagan culture in which we live."

Mr. Utley then inferred that the question of "papal authority"—an age-old stumbling block to church unity—may not be as big an obstacle as many think. He continued:

"The Pope has given us an example of 'authority' which must have made many Protestant pastors green with envy. He has spoken as a shepherd of a flock; he has done so in unswerving language; he has delivered sermons of a length which would have delighted the Protestant reformers of the sixteenth century.... What a contrast to the timorous, five-minute exercises (a couple of jokes and a brief exhortation....) which is now the fare casually flung before the hungry sheep from most Anglican pulpits!"

Pope as Peacemaker?

In centuries past, nearly every major point of division within the Christian-professing world loomed large, virtually insurmountable. This may no longer be the case in an age fraught with the specter of nuclear annihilation. The awesome dangers confronting humanity have awakened a desire on the part of many to overlook doctrinal differences in order to present a "common Christian front" to the world.

In other words, there is an imperative for church unity today. Not unity for unity's sake, but unity for the sake of an elusive world peace.

In this light, the Pope in Rome assumes center stage position, as he is by far the leading religious personality worldwide—"very much a Pope of the world" as one London newspaper called him.

In the English city of Coventry, whose Anglican cathedral was destroyed by Nazi bombs in World War II, the Pope made a stirring appeal for world peace.

"The ruins of the old cathedral remind our society of its capacity to destroy," said John Paul. "Today the scale and the horror of modern warfare, whether nuclear or not, makes it totally unacceptable as a means of settling differences between nations. War should belong to the tragic past, to history."

The Pope's remarks caused one...
of the editors of the British newspaper The Guardian to remark: “If that is to be a central doctrine of the ecumenism of our times, the Pope has a more universal church behind him than even he knew.”

Attainable Union Sought

Some experts believe now that, in view of rapidly deteriorating world conditions, time simply does not permit the luxury of years of waiting for scholarly reports arrived at by snail-paced ecumenical commissions. Complete, structured church unity may be unattainable, they say, except perhaps for those bodies closest to the Roman Catholic center—the Orthodox, the Anglicans and the Lutherans.

Ranging out from this possible core, the looser goal of religious union, or close cooperation, may suffice. This is how the Religious Affairs correspondent of the Times of London, Clifford Longley, expressed his view of a less structured union:

"Unity so far has been debated as the search for common intellectual opinions on abstract details of faith; or as an organizational reform . . . neither of those go to the heart of the matter. The Christian unity sought is not social or structural unity, but religious unity. Religiously rather than organizationally, the proper word for it is union rather than unity."

However the unity—or looser union—is arrived at, a top official on the staff of Archbishop Runcie admitted that the Pope would enjoy a unique role as a front-line spokes-

man-like personality: “We Christians need to see a personal figure of unity. We see the value of one man. . . . So we are beginning to see the point of a Pope for the worldwide Christian churches—just so long as their traditions are not swallowed up in Roman Catholic traditions.”

A reunified church, however constituted, could eventually move in concert with other great religions of the world—and human governments as well—in a last-ditch effort to achieve world peace. Bible prophecy indicates the emergence of just such a future church-state effort in Europe, the continent most threatened with nuclear devastation.

This effort might even be presented as the prophesied fulfillment of the Kingdom of God on earth. But will it be?

The prophet Daniel, in interpreting under God’s inspiration, the dream of Nebuchadnezzar, clearly explained that at the very end of this age, “the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed” (Dan. 2:44, RSV). It will be a kingdom “cut from a mountain by no human hand”—meaning it will be a divine government. Its rulers, members of the Family of God, will be immortal.

True Gospel of Peace—What Is It?

Will the churches of this world be able to bring about the peace so obviously needed? Tragically, the history of religion and Christianity in particular is as rent with division, strife and warfare as is the history of the secular nations of this world.

What is little understood is that Jesus came into the world nearly 2,000 years ago proclaiming the gospel of “the kingdom of God” (Mark 1:15). The gospel is the “good news” of world peace that can only be brought about by the restoration of the government of God that was taken away from this earth almost 6,000 years ago. That Kingdom is not yet here. It therefore is not a church government or union.

Jesus was put to death for his message, under pressure from the religious authorities of his day. But he rose from the dead. He will return the second time as the ruler of the Kingdom of God of which he prophesied, this time to be its supreme “King of kings” (Rev. 19:16). Jesus was, in parable form, the young “nobleman who went into a far country [heaven] to receive kingly power and then return” (Luke 19:12, RSV).

Others, called by God, trained—educated—by God’s word, and overcoming the pulls of this godless society, will rule with Christ in the divine government to be established over the nations of the world (Rev. 2:26 and 5:10).

The Kingdom of God, a government ruled over by individuals changed from mortal to immortal, united into the family of God, will bring this world the peace that people today so long for.

This is the unity that will produce the desired result.

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Personal from...

(Continued from page 1)

spiritual treasure to be enjoyed in indescribable accomplishment throughout all eternity.

But now while talking about interest in the lives of people, what about yours? Is it like that of most people—half awake even to your possibilities for material success in this world? Are you, like the majority, using less than half of your normal mind power? Are you, like most people today, utterly unaware of the supreme purpose the Great God has as your own ultimate potential? It is so overwhelming as to be almost beyond human belief—yet it’s real and it’s true!

If you would like to have understanding of this ultimate supreme human potential, I’ll be happy to send you, gratis, my newest booklet, Never Before Understood. Also, if you’ll really do something to change your life into God’s way, I’ll send you a copy of my book, The Incredible Human Potential, also gratis.

Consider, now, what your life ought to be. It should be healthy, based on a right diet, sufficient sleep and normal but not excessive exercise. You should be vigorously, dynamically alive, physically and mentally, awake to the real purpose of human life—to become, by development of righteous godly character, ultimately a divinely born spirit-composed son of God—actually a God being in the God family! You should be dynamically and spiritually inspired with a will to live God’s way of life, in enraptured study of His Word to guide you in living God’s way, with vigorously active service and devotion to development of God’s spiritual character into your life.
passage of these armies has been preserved in a unique set of inscriptions in stone spanning some 33 centuries.

In the 13th century B.C., Egyptian pharaoh Rameses II recorded his triumphs in Phoenicia on a rock cliff by the Nahr al Kalb (Dog River) north of Beirut. Following his example, successive Assyrian, Persian, Greek and Roman conquerors cut their respective records into the rock. In 1799, Napoleon, on his way from Egypt to Syria, added his name to the long list. And in 1918, British General Allenby inscribed his accomplishments there.

Over the centuries, the ancient Canaanite peoples were gradually reduced in numbers by conquering armies. Other peoples—primarily Arabs, but other stocks also—have moved in and settled on the land.

The gospels record that Jesus visited the coasts of Tyre and Sidon (Matt. 15:21). Phenice or Phoenicia is also mentioned in the first century book of Acts (11:19; 15:3; 21:2). Soon afterward, however, the name of Phoenicia disappeared from history.

Ancient Prophecies—For Today!

Phoenicia and its original Canaanite populations have passed into history. But the once-powerful cities of Phoenicia continue to play an important role in Mideast events today.

Bible prophecy has not ignored these coastal cities of the region today called Lebanon. The prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel especially have a great deal to say about these cities.

A few of their prophecies were fulfilled anciently. Some were fulfilled only in part. And many are yet to be accomplished in the days just ahead!

Lebanon is rarely spoken of in prophecy as a single entity. Biblical prophecies focus on the various cities of Lebanon individually. The dismemberment of the country in recent years into separate enclaves thus fits perfectly into the overall picture anciently laid out in prophecy.

The city of Tyre, a center of Palestinian Arabs today, is an illustration. It is the subject of a prophecy spanning some 26 centuries! God revealed to Ezekiel that He would bring “many nations” against Tyre, “as the sea causeth his waves to come up” (26:3). That is, one after another.

King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon delivered the first blow. In his footsteps came a lengthy succession of conquerors, including Alexander the Great, who have made a spoil of Tyre’s riches over the centuries (26:12). The final blow will be delivered by God himself at the end of this age (26:13-14, 19-21). Tyre will come to a dreadful end. “I will utterly destroy you, and you shall exist no longer . . . ” God declares (26:21, Moffatt version).

Today once-great Tyre is but a minor port. Its former power has been eroded by successive waves of devastation by foreign intruders. In recent years, Tyre, like Sidon to the north, has been a Palestinian guerrilla stronghold. And despite recent Israeli triumphs, prophecy—as we shall see—indicates that Palestinian guerrillas will yet play a role in Tyre and other cities of Lebanon!

Vast Confederacy

As with Tyre, the biblical prophecies for Sidon and other cities of the region are largely messages of denunciation—warnings of continuing conflict, and of impending calamity and destruction.

Notice especially prophetic Psalm 83. Here we find described a coming coalition of nations of the Middle East whose purpose will be to eradicate the name of Israel! They will say, “Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance” (verse 4).

This prophecy could never have been fulfilled until this 20th century. Why?

Since ancient times (the 8th cen-
Bomber" and labeled the raids "an act of irrationality." Citing the tragic losses of Israeli civilians to PLO terror attacks, some Israelis wondered out loud whether Mr. Begin had been taking lessons out of the PLO handbook.

In the end, the efforts of diplomatic troubleshooter Habib succeeded in arranging a cease-fire.

**Israeli Invasion**

The precarious U.S.-engineered cease-fire, however, came to an abrupt end at the beginning of June of this year.

Following the attempted assassination of Israel's ambassador in London, Israeli warplanes attacked PLO targets in southern Lebanon and in Beirut. In response, PLO artillery and rocket fire pounded border towns in northern Israel. The renewed fighting was even more intense than that which had preceded the truce a year earlier.

The Israeli bombing raids culminated in a full-scale Israeli invasion of Lebanon beginning on June 6. Though such an attack had long been rumored as Israelis became increasingly angered over PLO guerrilla activity against towns in Galilee, the scope of the June invasion surprised many Israelis themselves.

Armored columns of Israeli troops advanced on a wide front. Streaming into Lebanon with air and sea support, the ground troops pushed more than 50 miles into Lebanon and into Beirut itself.

This decisive military action was designed to break the political back of the PLO in Lebanon and destroy the PLO's military infrastructure. Israel correctly calculated that the continuing disarray in the Arab world would prevent a united Arab response to the extensive invasion.

Israeli forces also came into direct conflict with Syrian forces stationed in Lebanon. Syrian and Israeli warplanes engaged in the biggest aerial clash since the 1973 Arab-Israeli war. Israeli jets also succeeded in knocking out Syria's controversial surface-to-air missile batteries in the Bekaa valley.

The PLO military structure in Lebanon was shattered by the Israeli invasion. In the first 10 days alone, 100 guerrilla tanks were destroyed. More than 2,000 Palestinian guerrillas were killed and 6,000 taken prisoner. Thousands more were put to flight.

During the same period, the Syrians lost more than 1,000 soldiers. Three hundred Syrian tanks were destroyed and 85 Syrian MiG jets were shot down.

Israel's losses, though considerably fewer, were the highest of any Israeli military action since the 1973 Middle East War: 240 soldiers killed, 1,120 wounded.

And, tragically, multiple thousands of civilians—men, women and children invading army. As a long-term goal, Israel is also demanding guarantees of the eventual removal of "all foreign forces"—specifically those of Syria and the PLO—from Lebanon.

It has been suggested that some sort of multinational peacekeeping force might ultimately be stationed in Lebanon—either a United Nations force with a strong mandate, or an independent multinational army like the one stationed in the Sinai in the wake of Israel's return of the peninsula to Egypt.

Many dream that conditions can be created that will permit the restoration of full sovereignty and unity to Lebanon and the establishment of a strong central government in Beirut. They envision a rebuilt Lebanese army to be deployed throughout the country to maintain order in place of the PLO guerrillas and the Syrians.

For its part, the beleaguered PLO refuses to concede defeat. It declares that regardless of where it is based, the PLO will carry on the fight "until the Palestinian homeland is reclaimed from Israel."

The Soviet Union meanwhile has warned Israel that the Jewish state will be "punished" for its invasion of Lebanon.

The rebuilding of a Lebanese state that could command the allegiance of all factions within the country looks remote. A comprehensive settlement of the Lebanese crisis is a long way off.

No solution will finally be possible until the larger Palestinian problem is resolved. And there are increasing numbers of observers who believe that problem may be insolvable by human beings.
SEX

(Continued from page 33)

as, there are also hidden 'Costs.

cate that one abortion increases inci­
dence of premature births 14 per­
cent. Two abortions increase the
incidence to 18 percent, and three to
24 percent. There is also a 17.5 per-
cent (compared to the current 7.39)
rate of miscarriage in women who
have had one abortion. In addition,
the chances of a child dying during
labor is doubled in cases where the
mother has had an abortion.

A Threat to Balance of the Sexes

Many like Ms Steinbacher are ask­
ing why sex selection is allowed to
continue. They clearly see sex selec­
tion as a definite threat to the
balance of the sexes. They do not,
however, view sex selection as sim­
ply one more step beyond the
threshold of abortion. For the pro­
abortionists to admit that it is just
as wrong to abort a human life
because it is of the wrong sex as it is
to do so because a child might
inconvenience a woman at a par­
ticular time, would be to retreat on
the issue of abortion altogether.
They have become trapped in their
own rhetoric.

For years, editor-in-chief Her­
bert W. Armstrong has informed
readers of The Plain Truth of the
two ways of life: the way of “give”
and the way of “get.” He has
warned that our society is living the
way of get—the way of selfish
desire.

The blatant disregard for the life
of an unborn child by his or her
mother aptly fits this biblical
prophecy: “... in the last
days... men shall be lovers of
their own selves, covetous... with­
out natural affection... lovers of
pleasures more than lovers of God”
(II Tim. 3:1-4).

The very rights which pro­
abortionists have secured for
women—the presumed right to
control her own body (abortion)—
are now imperiling even more
unborn lives solely because their
sex may be female.

The world has forgotten God’s
law. And without the moral abso­
lutes given therein, it has become
lost in a sea of false ideals and mis­
information.

The same sense of inquiry that
brought us nuclear weaponry, con­
tinues to forge ahead toward new
problems. Soon it may not be a
matter of surviving a nuclear war or
survival of the fittest. Rather, it
may be a matter of survival of only
the selected in the womb.
For Those Soon to be Married

Getting a marriage started off on the right foot is essential. How much easier it is to win a race if you get off to a fast start. One particular verse in the Judaeo/Christian Bible brings out this point very clearly. "When a man is newly married, he shall not go out with the army or be charged with any business; he shall be free at home one year, to be happy with his wife whom he has taken" (Deut. 24:5, RSV). The NASB translates that last phrase: "... And shall give happiness to his wife whom he has taken." The King James or Authorized Version puts it this way: "And shall cheer up his wife which he has taken." (The new wife, of course, is to submit and respond.) They all add up to the same thing. God wants your marriage to be happy. Even the social structure in ancient Israel was designed to get newly married couples off on the right foot. Of course, the nations of this world have rejected the wisdom given to ancient Israel. If they hadn't, there wouldn't be so many sad newspaper stories of couples who were married for a few hours or perhaps days only to have the husband later fall in battle somewhere on the other side of the globe. But the principle given in this one verse for building a solid marriage is unmistakable. Perhaps the NASB does express it best. "Giving happiness" is the name of the marriage game. Our Editor-in-Chief has long explained that there are only two basic ways of life—the give way and the get way. It has also been said that there are only two kinds of people—the givers and the takers. In marriage you'd better both be givers.

The give way in marriage is the way of cooperation, the way of sharing, the way of putting your mate first, the way of helpfulness in every situation.

KISSING

(Continued from page 12)

digs up evil." Let the matter rest!

When the Kissing Begins to Stop—

The last stop in this article is intimacy in marriage. It has been suggested, and with much accuracy, that intimacy is the essence of marriage. Intimacy, however, is so much more than just physical intercourse. A knowing glance between two people in love. A squeeze of the hand just at the right moment. Taking a walk in the park together with nary a word spoken. Tea and toast for two after the children have been put to bed. All these things, and many more, make up the intimate marital relationship.

Have the cares of this life crowded these things out of your marriage? You don't take the trouble to kiss anymore. You don't bother to sneak up behind your husband and kiss him like you used to do. The children seem to take up all of your time and there's nothing left over for your husband. You nearly always have a headache at bedtime. Then your marriage is in trouble!

If you don't express any intimacy toward your mate during the day, please don't expect things to work out at bedtime. They won't! Dr. and Mrs. Ed Wheat make a telling point in their book about Christian marriage. "Despite the claims of some sex manuals, a couple cannot separate sex from the rest of the marriage.... Everything that happens in a marriage has its effect upon the lovemaking experiences" (Intended for Pleasure, p. 21, Revell).

Sexual intimacy is far too broad a topic for any one magazine article. If you are having difficulties in this area or you just want to know more about the subject, please request our free book entitled The Missing Dimension in Sex. This attractively printed book not only gives you the necessary and essential technical details, it also explains the vital spiritual meaning behind life's most intimate physical relationship.

But what happens during the day is probably more important than what happens at night. Physical intimacies in the evening should just be a loving climax to the little intimacies that began from the moment you woke up and kissed your mate good morning.

THE MISSING DIMENSION IN SEX

The most important dimension in knowledge about sex and marriage had been missing—unpublished, until this book. Marriage is far more than a human institution, sexual union much more than a physical act. If you would like to know more, you may request this attractively printed book absolutely free. Herbert W. Armstrong offers a unique perspective—from the Bible—on life's most intimate relationship. Just fill out and mail the literature reply card in this issue, or write to the Plain Truth office nearest you.
Peace
Your article “Why the World Will Not Disarm, Why There Will Be Peace Anyway” is the most comprehensive overview of this subject I have ever read. Thank you for being bold enough to tell the whole plain truth.

Stan Olen
Morristown, New Jersey

Government
Please give my commendations for the article “Why We Proclaim a Message About Government.” The orderly manner in which he leads us up to why God’s government is needed makes a profound message clearly understood.

M. Warner Hall
Tucson, Arizona

Battle of the Sexes
I read with interest the article titled “The Battle of the Sexes.” I completely agree that the battle is destroying the quality of life, and would be interested to receive the three free booklets offered as per the attached. It was enlightening to read your views on the major issues causing anxiety throughout the world today.

Angela J. Pike
London, England

Pro and Con
Please continue sending me the Plain Truth. I find its articles helpful to my spiritual growth. Often the topics covered are the answers to the questions I have asked or someone has asked me.

Denise Elliston
Ashfield, New South Wales

What Our Readers Say

I was traveling home on a Greyhound bus from Los Angeles and reading your book The Missing Dimension in Sex and had read about half of the book. When I got back on my seat, someone had stolen it. Is it possible for you to send me another one, please? I would greatly appreciate it.

Mervyn Ojoe
Tunapuna, Trinidad

I would like to express my appreciation for the six lessons I have received so far of your Correspondence Course. Your magazines and many booklets have benefited me tremendously.

Diane F. Germain
San Diego, California

In your Plain Truth you finished your article “Why Churches Are Divided” by saying, “Write me.” I have longed to do just this for some time, but felt it an imposition when there are so many more important things that need your attention. However, now the invitation has been given, I’m doing just that . . .

Brother Harold
Marist Brothers
Timaru, New Zealand

For the very first time I have read your March 1982 issue from cover to cover and I feel enlightened in a sense that I have never experienced in my life before. I find myself hungry for knowledge. At the same time, I am experiencing an inner peace that I honestly feel that I have been seeking all my life and it has taken me 35 years to find it.

Mrs. James Speed
Winnipeg, Manitoba

I’m neither leftist, isolationist, nor supporter of U.S. foreign policy, but I firmly believe that our false efforts to bestow the “good life” upon our Latin neighbors in the form of our own materialism has been a colossal exercise in promoting human misery.

Vic Jeffreys
Burlington, North Carolina

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Mrs. Yvonne Jenner
Sydney, Australia

I read your views on the major differences, but the failure of the majority Protestant population to allow the minority Catholics to do little else but menial laboring type work has created the current unrest.

James A. Gilroy
Greene, New York

Ireland
Much bloodletting in Ireland is largely due to the machinations, whims and fancies of people outside of Great Britain. It is now a truism that millions of dollars are funneled into Ireland simply to perpetuate and escalate hostilities between Protestants and Catholics. There is hardly any evidence to show that money is spent to cultivate peace and harmony.

Sridatt Lakhan
Toronto, Ontario

Were it not for the economic inequality between Protestant and Catholic there might well be no strife today. This undoubtedly had its roots in the religious differences, but the failure of the majority Protestant population to allow the minority Catholics to do little else but menial laboring type work has created the current unrest.

James A. Gilroy
Greene, New York

What a pity. I had not learned how to live a happy, productive life at all. Instead I was fed fact after fact while little or no instruction was given on how to put this knowledge to use in my life.

Andrew W. Diemer
Cleveland, Ohio

I am glad for women who are happy as housewives. I only wish they could be happy for me who wants to be active in the “outside” world, and not subject to a man’s direction.

I still cringe somewhere inside when I see a booklet called The Seven Laws of Success and see only a picture of a white man on the steps. What about women and people of color?

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James A. Gilroy
Greene, New York

Paisley has his troops and the IRA has theirs and both are spoiling for a fight. The only kind of intervention that will bring about a peaceful resolution is Divine intervention. Seeing the long record of massacres set upon the Celts by the English I don’t see their intervention as being divine.

T. Evan Burnside
Coldwater, Michigan

Wife
I'm neither leftist, isolationist, nor supporter of U.S. foreign policy, but I firmly believe that our false efforts to bestow the “good life” upon our Latin neighbors in the form of our own materialism has been a colossal exercise in promoting human misery.

Vic Jeffreys
Burlington, North Carolina

Personal from the Editor
I thank you sincerely for sending me a copy of the Plain Truth each month.

In the recent number which arrived today I read with much interest your article entitled “Why Churches Are Divided” and would like to discuss with you (as you requested) the logical and only solution to the problem.

Brother Harold
Marist Brothers
Timaru, New Zealand

For the very first time I have read your March 1982 issue from cover to cover and I feel enlightened in a sense that I have never experienced in my life before. I find myself hungry for knowledge. At the same time, I am experiencing an inner peace that I honestly feel that I have been seeking all my life and it has taken me 35 years to find it.

Mrs. Yvonne Jenner
Sydney, Australia

Survival Guide
“A Survival Guide for Students and Educators” pictured higher education as it truly is. I say that as one who once felt trapped by that system. I dreamed of a truly well-rounded education when I entered college.

T. Evan Burnside
Coldwater, Michigan

September/October 1982
Caught In A Debt Trap?

Nearly everyone today is engaged in a struggle to make ends meet. Well, here's help. Our free booklet *Ending Your Financial Worries* explains the causes behind personal financial woes and shows you how to solve your money problems. For your copy, just mail the card inside this issue or write to our office nearest you.