What's Ahead for 1986 and Beyond!

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ARTICLES

1 – What’s Ahead? 1986 and Beyond
3 – Prepare for Trade War!
4 – The Bible: Superstition or Authority? ... And Can You Prove It?
7 – Hell: Man’s Idea vs. the Bible
11 – Can God Survive in Australia?
13 – Soviet Economic Crisis: Prelude to United Europe?
17 – Mystery of the Ages
22 – Rotterdam: Gateway to Germany
31 – “What We Need Most Is Peace”
A Palestinian Speaks Out
43 – It’s About Time!

FEATURES

1 – Personal from Herbert W. Armstrong
15 – International Desk
35 – “The World Tomorrow” Radio and TV Logs
40 – News Overview
44 – Letters to the Editor

OUR COVER

The arrival of the new year is symbolically portrayed with ink, acrylic, and airbrush. Will it have the incendiary quality we see here? What trends lie ahead are revealed in the article beginning on page 2.

COVER ARTWORK BY MONTE WOLVERTON–PT

The Plain Truth has no subscription or newsstand price. This is due to the generosity of the readers of this magazine. The Plain Truth is a publication of the Worldwide Church of God and is made possible by the tithes and offerings of the members of that church, as well as other Christians throughout the world. Contributions should be sent to our office nearest you (see addresses below). Contributions, however, are welcomed and are tax-deductible in the United States, Canada and New Zealand. Those who wish to voluntarily aid and support this worldwide work of God are gladly welcomed as co-workers in this major effort to publish the true original gospel to all nations.
Human Mind Versus Animal Brain

My new book titled *Mystery of the Ages* is appearing serially in *The Plain Truth*. This issue carries chapter 3—“The Mystery of Man.” What and why is man? What is human mind? Is there purpose to life? These questions have puzzled humans for thousands of years.

In my book I explain why the human mind differs from animal brain and what the real value of a human life is. I think our readers would benefit by reading the explanations, excerpted from my book, in this “Personal.”

How Human Mind Functions

Did you ever wonder about the vast difference between human mind and animal brain? This, incidentally, is another PROOF of the falsity of the theory of evolution!

The physical brain of the higher vertebrates in the animal kingdom is essentially the same in physical form, design, constituency, as human brain. The brains of whales, elephants, dolphins are larger—and chimp almost as large. Yet the output of the human brain is indescribably greater. Few indeed know WHY!

Many passages of Scripture show that there is a spirit *in* man (e.g., I Cor. 2:11). Spirit is *not* matter, and man is matter. To distinguish it from God’s Holy Spirit, I designate it as the “human” spirit. Nevertheless, it is spirit and not matter.

This “human” spirit imparts the power of intellect to the human physical brain. The spirit cannot see, hear, taste, smell or feel. The brain sees through the eye, hears through the ear, etc. The “human” spirit cannot of itself think. The physical brain thinks.

What, then, is the function of this “human” spirit? It is NOT a “soul.” But, 1) it imparts the power of intellect—of thinking, and of MIND power, to the human brain; and 2) it is the very means God has instilled, making possible a personal relationship between human MAN and divine GOD.

What Is the Real Value of a Human Life?

Philosophers, humanists, speak loftily of human worth as of supreme value in itself. They speak of the “god” within you—of tapping the innate hidden resources within yourself. They teach SELF-reliance, self-glorification.

They are smugly ignorant and unaware of the TRUE VALUES and the incredible but real human potential.

Human life is at once of infinitesimally less value than they suppose, and at the same time of supremely greater potential than they know.

Real truth is revealed. Unless revealed it remains a mystery, utterly unknown to the deceived and vain intellectuals. I repeat, Jesus said in prayer: “I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes” (Matt. 11:25).

What is the real truth concerning human worth? What is the real value of a human life? It is grossly overestimated in its own reality, and astoundingly undervalued in its supreme potential. The truth indeed is staggering.

You look upon a sweet, innocent babe a few hours old, or upon a life-fulfilled elderly person of 80 and ask yourself, “Just how valuable is that life?—one just beginning, the other already spent.” Could you supply the correct answer?

Let’s UNDERSTAND! Right here is the point of difficulty. Right here is the jumping off point where the world’s educated jump the track. Science and advanced education

(Continued on page 42)
What's Ahead?
1986 and Beyond

It is time—beginning with a new year—that the readers of The Plain Truth focus attention on the major trends now bringing this world's society to a catastrophic climax—just before the ushering in of the peaceful world tomorrow.

Today's conditions were dramatically foretold by Jesus Christ in his famous Olivet prophecy. Asked what would be the sign of his coming and of the end of the age, the coming King of kings announced, in part:

"For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom." He also said, "And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places." Foreseeing today's growing social evils, he said in Matthew 24:12, "... because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold" (Revised Authorized Version throughout).

Let's look at these conditions.

Three Major Problems

Warfare. Around the globe, nations and conflicting forces within nations are locked in deadly struggles for power. More than 140 serious armed conflicts have occurred since 1945. Many of these have their origins in the intractable East-West ideological clash.

Communal strife further threatens to rip asunder key multiethnic countries such as South Africa, Sri Lanka and India. The continent of Africa, said one observer, is "near a state of decomposition."

Religious conflicts, the anathemas of ages past, are rearing their ugly forms once again. Militant Islam is again a force to be reckoned with. Marxist persecution of religious bodies is growing in Ethiopia.

And in Israel a surging militant extremism is steadily gaining strength, battling for the soul of Israel. Even in Europe, Moscow's grip on its satellite nations is threatened by renewed religious fervor.

As in the days of Noah (Gen. 6:5), evil acts and violence fill the earth—another sign that the greatest prophet of all, Jesus Christ, said would characterize the end time (Matt. 24:37-38). It was then—and again is—a time, paradoxically combining appalling world evils with "eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage" (marriage and divorce)—the "good life," as some would call it.

Famines. Deaths from malnutrition and hunger on a wide scale, Jesus warned, also would characterize the end of this civilization. Famines as a result of droughts and downturns in the weather cycle have afflicted mankind periodically throughout history, but appalling conditions prevailing in Africa illustrate that there are political reasons for famines, as well as for the farm price collapse in prosperous North America.

Before independence, the African continent was a net food exporter; now it is dangerously dependent upon food imports from a handful of as-yet abundant producers.

Land abuse, deforestation, governmental neglect of agriculture in favor of the urban masses (who are easier to control politically), mismanaged collectivized farming, and, of course, civil unrest have brought millions of Africans to the brink of starvation.

Emergency aid from the developed world amounts to a mere pitance of what is needed—and does nothing to change the structural causes of famine. There is "no hope for Africa," confesses one African diplomat, unless these root causes are tackled.

Pestilences. Extreme famines naturally lead to pestilences. But there can be other causes for disease plagues as well. One cause is "lawlessness" or "wickedness"—out-of-favor biblical terms that describe wholesale disobedience to the law of God.

The tireless efforts of the scientific community have eliminated or greatly curbed some plagues of the past, such as smallpox. But new plagues are exploding in many developed countries: specifically a whole host of sexually transmitted diseases.

The most deadly of these is AIDS, or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. Present attitudes toward this dangerous, almost inevitably fatal syndrome will guarantee its further spread.

In the United States, for example, the number of AIDS cases doubles every ten months. Of those who have acquired it, half have already died. The reservoir of those possessing the virus, but not yet showing symptoms, may be as high as one million. These people are capable of infecting others.

Homosexual males comprise the largest segment of AIDS victims and carriers, intravenous drug users a distant second. Exerting political pressure, "gay rights" organizations warn that efforts to curtail this end-time plague must not come at the expense of their "civil rights." The age-old tool of quarantine should not be used, the public is told, lest victims be treated as "lepers."

Some unmuzzled experts are gravely concerned over public health and the need to give priority to the "common good." Warns one: "AIDS is not about civil rights, political power, or 'alternative life styles.' It's a disease. A true plague. Further, this disease is only (Continued on page 42)
The Free World's 40-year period of unprecedented prosperity may soon come to a crashing halt.

Support in the United States—the West's leading trading nation—for maintaining free trade is crumbling fast.

Instead, there reverberate in the halls of Congress warnings to trade partners to open markets or face the retaliation of heightened tariffs and quotas.

President Ronald Reagan is caught in a political vise. He defends his economic policies by pointing to the seven to eight million jobs created during his tenure in office. But many of these jobs are in the service area. Hundreds of thousands of jobs are fading from older manufacturing fields, from primary industrial products such as steel to soft goods such as textiles and footwear.

The swing away from free trade is so pronounced that there are now 180 trade protection bills under consideration in the House of Representatives and about 300 in the Senate. Many of these deal with specific problem cases, but a few are broad-based "omnibus bills" such as one calling for a surtax of as much as 25 percent on goods from Japan, Taiwan, South Korea and Brazil unless they dramatically open more markets to U.S. products.

Mr. Reagan is painfully aware of where unbridled protectionism could lead. In recently rejecting a protectionist plea from one industry, the President evoked memories of the Depression-era Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act. "Some of us remember the 1930s, when the most destructive trade bill in history, the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act, helped plunge this nation and the world into a decade of depression and despair," he told a radio audience. "From now on, if the ghost of Smoot-Hawley bears its ugly head in Congress, if Congress creates a depression-making bill, I'll fight it."

But the ghost is rising, and support for the President's trade policy is waning, even from those within his own party.

What Smoot-Hawley Did

Just how disastrous was the Smoot-Hawley bill? The devastating role it played in the Great Depression was explained in the September 5 issue of The Wall Street Journal, in an article written by its editor, Robert L. Bartley.

"The stock-market crash of 1929 came in the midst of debate in Congress over the tariff," wrote Mr. Bartley. "It had spent the year adding item after item to the protection list. In mid-1930 the Smoot-Hawley Bill became law, with the highest tariffs in the nation's history."

What might have been an ordinary correction, continued Mr. Bartley, "turned into the Great Depression.... As the international accounts closed down, the world economy choked."

Are there parallels to the Smoot-Hawley disaster today? Indeed there are!

"What is troublesome," continued the editor of America's largest-circulation newspaper, "is to see the same politico-economic scenario working itself out today: International debts, falling primary prices, agricultural distress, an end to foreign lending, and now rising clamor for protection.

"No one intends to write another Smoot-Hawley, of course, but no one intended to write the first one. Once the notion of protection was let loose... more and more protection was claimed by special interest after special interest.... If we toy with protectionism, we will be toying with another depression."

Recently, a deeply concerned Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone warned that protectionism is a "narcotic" that would put world trade in a coma. The Japanese, polls show, reject charges of unfair competition, stressing instead the high value of the U.S. dollar plus the chronic American budget deficit. The trade issue unfortunately revolves less now around facts than emotions.

Dangerous Security Changes

Other experts warn that American political leaders—responding to calls for immediate competitive relief from their constituents—may be ignoring another lesson of the Great Depression: that the severe contraction of world trade gave added impetus to imperialist surges in Asia and Europe, specifically Japan and Germany.

Since 1945 Japan has chosen the mercantile road as its path to power, prestige and national restoration. Germany, specifically (Continued on page 42)
The Bible
SUPERSTITION OR AUTHORITY?
...and can you prove it?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Why is the world's best-selling book held in awe by some, in passive discredit by others, and understood by virtually none?

Why the Book of mystery nobody seems to know? Why do the many churches of traditional Christianity disagree about what the Bible says?

Have you ever proved whether, as the book itself purports, it is the authoritative Word of the Creator God? Rather, have you not simply assumed, from what you have heard, read or been taught, that it is either authentic, or else the religious writing of a small, ancient Jewish race, groping in the darkness of human ignorance and of superstition, trying to develop a concept of God?

If you are college or university educated, you have undoubtedly been taught that humanity originated through the theoretical process called evolution. But the educated of this world in nearly all cases have been taught only one side of the subject of origins—the theory of evolution. On the contrary, most of those lacking higher education in the United States "Bible Belt," for example, have been taught only, and accepted without proof, the teaching that the Bible is indeed the very Word of God.

A world-famous evangelist has confessed publicly that he accepted the authority of the Bible without having seen it proved. Even though he had seen no real proof that the Bible is the authentic Word of God, he had decided to accept it as such on sheer faith. But the Bible quotes God as saying: "Prove me now here-with . . . " and again: "Prove all things." This evangelist apparently accepted the authority of the Bible because he had "accepted Christ" and at the same time blindly accepted what those humans who led him into the acceptance of Christ themselves accepted.

Isn't it about time—and the point of rational wisdom—that you prove this important question once and for all? Because, if the Bible is in fact the inspired authentic Word of a living, all-knowing, all-powerful God, then your eternity will be judged by it.

I Faced This Same Question

In the year of 1926, at age 34, I personally was faced with this question. I was challenged on both evolution and belief in God and the Bible. I was brought to realize that I had simply assumed, without proof, that a Creator God exists and that evolution was not the true explanation of origins. Both my marriage and my business life were at stake.

I realized I had made no in-depth study and research into either side of the question. The stakes were high. I delved into the most serious study and thorough research of my life. First I pursued thoroughly the works of Darwin, Haeckel, Huxley, Vogt and Chamberlin, and even of Lamarck before Darwin. Their works were learned, thought-provoking, although theoretical, and soon my head was swimming. I felt my mental underpinnings slipping away. I was confused. I realized that, though I had been reared in a family that had been of the Protestant faith for...
generations, I had simply assumed, because of Sunday school upbringing, that God exists. Now it appeared evident, if evolution be true, the existence of God was a myth. I had to be sure. I could no longer carelessly assume.

On the one hand studies in evolution shook my faith in God and the Bible. But in studying H.G. Wells' book The Outline of History, I noticed such statements in accepting the evolutionary theory as, "Scientific men have discussed the possibility of life... but they point merely to questionable possibilities." "They consider" thus and so. "Astronomers give us convincing reasons for supposing..." "We do not know how life began upon the earth." "Probably the earliest forms of life were..." "They must have appeared..." "Speculations about geologic time vary enormously..." "The first jelly-like beginnings of life must have perished..."

I was amazed! Mr. Wells and the scientists did not seem to be sure!

Then I looked into the Bible, discredited as it is by those who believe what they may suppose, what they do not know, what may well have been, etc. And in the Bible I found definite, positive statements expressed as in authority. For example, in Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Revised Authorized Version). No "may have created," or "We do not know how the earth came." No "We may well suppose." No theories. Just the authoritative positive statement, "God created..."

Then verse 3: "And God said, Let there be light: and there was light" (AV). Not "perhaps," not "We may well suppose," but "there was light." A definite, positive statement of authority. All the way through the Bible I found it to be positive, definite, authoritative! The Bible claims to be the sure Word of God. It is not unsure! It is not speculative.

Then in its chapter of origins, in Genesis, it explains definitely with authority how man originated, how the first man made a decision upon which human civilization has been built—and it gives the only possible explanation of why we live today in a world of awesome materialistic progress and accomplishment, paradoxically with appalling and escalating evils. Evolution has no explanation and no solution to offer. The Bible has both.

Evolution gives no explanation of why humans exist on earth—of the present paradox of mounting evils accompanying awesome progress—no hope for the future of a world falling apart, about to destroy itself with the nuclear weapons of mass destruction. No explanation of the cause of the appalling evils and the hopeless future staring so many that dares to write out the future history of this world in advance—that dares to prophesy what is actually going to happen within 15 or 20 years to specific nations.

But would you believe it if I told you what this book predicts? If I told you what it predicts about your nation? Would you believe it?

You know, we have gotten away from believing that the Bible means what it says. We may not be atheists. We may not ridicule the Holy Bible. But we are living now in an age of skepticism. We are

What is the origin of mankind? Biologist Sir Julian Huxley (left) and naturalist Charles Darwin failed to find the answer.
the skeptics don’t believe those miracles ever occurred.

Some people will say answered prayer is the proof of inspiration. But the skeptic has had no prayers answered. He doesn’t believe that anybody else has.

There is, however, one source of irrefutable PROOF!

The Bible itself purports to be the infallible, divine revelation of the future? Who wrote this blistering challenge to the skeptics, recorded in Isaiah 41:21-23?—

“Now, the Eternal cries, bring your case forward, now, Jacob’s King cries, state your proofs.”

Yes, state your PROOFS! “Let us hear what happened in the past, that we may ponder it, or show me what is yet to be, that we may watch how it turns out; if it actually happens in every case, and without a miss, you’ll know that was a real God speaking.

But, if it were some person writing this, some human mortal writing in ignorance, groping in superstition, making great boasts, and claiming that he could foretell what was going to happen to proud cities, to nations, to great empires, and then it never happens, you know that that man was merely writing make-believe out of his own imagination.

Yes, prophecy is a proof of God, a proof of the divine revelation of the Bible. Prophecy is a taunting challenge that the skeptic dares not accept!

History shows human civilization started with the development of a few single cities—Babylon, Nineveh and others. These city-states developed into the earliest nations—Assyria, Egypt, Israel, Phoenicia, Chaldea, etc. Then, about the 7th century B.C., the first empire over nations was formed by the ancient king Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon—the Chaldean Empire. About 604-585 B.C. the Chaldean armies invaded and took captive the Jews in the land of Judea. Among these Jewish captives, removed from their land and deported to Babylon and Chaldea, was a very brilliant Jewish lad named Daniel.

Prophecy Concerning Judah

There is one prophecy concerning the Jewish people, that they were to be invaded and conquered, driven out of their land, and punished for a period of 2,520 years. (See Leviticus 26:14-39 and, for a full explanation, write for our free book The United States and Britian in Prophecy.) Now, put that together with other prophecies, such as Haggai 2:20-22. Exactly 2,520 years from the time (Continued on page 39)

Field Marshal and First Viscount Allenby (1861-1936); First Earl of Balfour (1848-1930), author of the Balfour Declaration; First Viscount Samuel (1870-1963), first British high commissioner for Palestine.
You have probably never heard the truth about what "hell" really is!

Or where your ideas about "hell" came from.

So open your mind to some startling truth you may not have understood before!

You probably have heard of the idea of a horrifying, nightmarish place of never-ending torture for lost sinners. Atheists say religious people use this concept of "hell" as a means of playing upon the emotions of people who are sincerely trying to find God's will.

But where did they—and where did you—learn these ideas?

**Man's Idea of Hell**

As in nearly everything else of a spiritual nature, humans are confused and divided as to the kind of future punishment the wicked will receive. Even most churches have changed or modified their beliefs on this subject over the years.

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 modern theologians conceive 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.

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.

God created man in his own image and likeness (Gen. 1:26). In the garden of Eden, he told man the way that would lead to eternal life. Then he told man that going the wrong way—the way of selfishness and 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. 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 that 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 mis-

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fire" preachers is found in Mark 9:43-48. Jesus was showing that it was better to rid ourselves of anything—even a job, an association or a habit that 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 that 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 that 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.

The Greek word that 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!

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 disobeyed 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 in thereat” (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 that are burned up? Was Jesus using wrong examples, or did he mean what he said?

The obvious answer that 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 that 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” (Ps. 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 shuddering; 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

January 1986
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 imagined "hell."

This "hell-fire" doctrine that 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 willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, 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 that 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 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 the 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 Authorized Version. 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 begin (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 forever in eternal torment. He definitely was not! But he was in mental torment as the fire of Gehenna was about to end his life. 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 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.

(Continued on page 12)
Can GOD Survive in Australia?

by Clayton D. Steep

Few would have thought to ask the question 25 years ago. Now, according to Bruce Wilson, author of *Can God Survive in Australia?*, the sun may be setting on organized religion in Australia. Why?

It's not that Australians have suddenly begun flocking into the atheist camp. Not at all. Australia has been and still is by and large a Christian-professing nation.

But what disturbs author Bruce Wilson is that since 1960 the God of traditional Christianity has rapidly become irrelevant to increasing numbers of people—as irrelevant, in his words, as ice boxes in a world that has invented the refrigerator.

Though polls reveal some 80 percent of Australians "believe in God," the majority of them, Mr. Wilson says, behave as if God had little relation with their day-to-day affairs. Such an attitude was not always clearly obvious in that vast continent-nation. But the last 20 years or so have seen a tremendous change in the way the average person views religion.

Looking at the Cause

Some suggest that Australians are merely pulling away from institutional Christianity, of mostly European origin, in the interest of allowing a purely Australian brand of Christianity to develop. Others go so far as to describe what is happening now as a reemergence of the hostility some of the original white Australian settlers demonstrated toward religion. Still others say it is all a temporary fluctuation.

Bruce Wilson minimizes such attempts at explaining the trend. He lays most of the blame for the religious decline at the feet of a phenomenon that has affected all the advanced industrial societies of the West: industrialization itself.

The explosive increase in material goods; the leaps in scientific knowledge; the perception that man is self-sufficient; the interest in entertainment and leisure—such by-products of industrialization have pushed religion into the background, according to Mr. Wilson.

In this, the situation in Australia is not unique. Other voices have decried similar developments in other Western societies. Industrialization, they have said, is basically responsible for the eclipse of Christianity as a relevant religion.

But is this a sufficient explanation? Is industrialization really to
blame for the secularization of Australia or any other nation? And what does all this say about the quality of traditional Christianity? After all, if what is commonly referred to as the Christian church had been teaching the full and abundant way of life Jesus taught, industrial development would only have enhanced that abundance. God and industrial progress are not necessarily incompatible. A genuinely Christian society would have directed industrial development and made it work to the betterment of all mankind.

The truth is, it is institutional Christianity that has left a vacuum that is being filled by materialism. The Christianity of the world has not shown how God is relevant. It has not explained what life is all about. It has not made known God's master plan for mankind. It has not preached the message of the government of God. "My people," God says of this very predicament, "are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hos. 4:6).

**The Australian Disease**

Australians are known as a fun-loving people. One observer has remarked that "the most common objection of the ordinary Australian to religion is that it spoils his fun."

True Christianity does not spoil any legitimate fun. The way of life Jesus taught provides an understanding of what real fun is. And a deeper enjoyment of it. It's too bad the ordinary citizen has never been shown that way.

Dr. Hans Mol, who conducted a major study of religion in Australia, concluded: "The fact that such a large percentage of the Australian population does not worship regularly but still 'believes in God without doubt' and still holds the churches and the clergy in high esteem [not being aware of an alternative to traditional religion], fits the picture of ambiguity. "As in Britain the goodwill towards religion is counterbalanced by a massive woolliness of thinking," this disease of the spirit, has been brought on by the fact that the churches of this world not only cannot agree among themselves, but they have been unable to make their doctrines agree with the verities of life. What theologians have made clear what God expects of Christians? Or, rather, is it that they "have not distinguished between the holy and unholy, nor have they made known the difference between the unclean and the clean" (Ezek. 22:26, Revised Authorized Version)?

Doubt that the irrelevant God depicted by traditional religion can survive in Australia—or anywhere else—is fully justified. There is, however, another God now living in Australia—living, that is to say, in the lives of a small but growing number of individuals. These people have forsaken the world's way of doing things. They are learning a new way. God's way, as revealed in his spiritual law—the Ten Commandments. They not only profess to be Christians, they live the Christian life as taught by Jesus.

They are happy, fun loving and at the same time sober minded because they have a serious mission in life—to prepare for the soon-coming kingdom of God and the restoration of God's government and his laws over all nations. They may be brought on by the fact that the irrelevant God depicted by traditional religion cannot survive in Australia—or anywhere else—is fully justified. There is, however, another God now living in Australia—living, that is to say, in the lives of a small but growing number of individuals. These people have forsaken the world's way of doing things. They are learning a new way. God's way, as revealed in his spiritual law—the Ten Commandments. They not only profess to be Christians, they live the Christian life as taught by Jesus.

They are happy, fun loving and at the same time sober minded because they have a serious mission in life—to prepare for the soon-coming kingdom of God and the restoration of God's government and his laws over all nations. They have, in fact, made this magazine—The Plain Truth—possible, and free of charge. Their God shall survive in Australia—with no difficulty at all!

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**HELL**

(Continued from page 10)

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 have been caused by the false doctrine of an angry God plunging everyone who did not follow certain denominational teachings into a terrifying "hell fire" of everlasting torments.

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 says. 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).
Soviet Economic Crisis: Prelude to United Europe?

by Keith W. Stump

The Soviet economy is in trouble. The political—and *prophetic*—consequences are major!

In Moscow, the feeling is growing that the Soviet Union is rapidly nearing a turning point.

The reason?
A seriously sick Soviet economy.

While there is no immediate danger of economic collapse, the dismal picture presents a major challenge to Soviet planners charting the nation's fiscal future. The Soviet Union's economic system is sliding deeper and deeper into trouble, and no one is sure what can be done about it.

Soviet economists are warning that major adjustments will have to be made or the whole system will be seriously threatened.

How the Soviets respond will be a major test of Moscow's mettle under new leadership. And the ramifications could extend far beyond Soviet borders, Bible prophecy reveals!

An example: A severe Soviet economic crisis could have major consequences for the communist bloc countries of Eastern Europe, now under Soviet domination. The face of the European continent could be *radically transformed* as a result. The European balance-of-power structure would be shattered, laying the groundwork for a New Europe and the fulfillment of major Bible prophecies!

Trouble Down on the Farm

The U.S.S.R. has a slightly greater population than the United States. It has more than twice its territory. Yet the Soviet Union has a gross national product (GNP) little more than *half* that of the United States. Why?

The Kremlin has long claimed that its economy is healthy and that its national budget runs a substantial annual surplus. But Western economists have determined there is actually a considerable Soviet budget *deficit*, which is
The West has become increasingly concerned at the growing economic squeeze they face from adverse weather conditions, declining labor productivity, and technological backwardness. The Soviet system seems to have reached a point of no return, where it has to improve its economic efficiency or face the consequences of economic stagnation.

Trouble in the Oil Fields

Other economic problems include declining labor productivity (now down to only 55 percent of the United States), a serious labor shortage (because of the country's low birthrate), and growing shortages of energy and raw materials (Soviet resources are increasingly less accessible, locked in the frozen wastes of Siberia).

Declining production of oil—the chief Soviet export—is of special concern. Production has peaked at 12 million barrels a day and is heading slowly downward.

Compounding these problems is the huge Soviet military buildup. According to publicly announced figures, the Soviet military budget in 1985 totaled US$23,000,000,000 or 49 percent of the entire budget. Western military experts contend that actual Soviet defense spending may be two or three times higher. This, of course, places an enormous burden on the Soviet economy. It compares with 6 percent of the budget devoted to the military in the United States.

Taken together, these factors have forced the Kremlin to take action. The crisis occurring in its own borders, coupled with the severe consequences of economic stagnation and technological backwardness, has rendered it impossible for the Soviet Union to adequately feed its own people. This despite the fact that half its citizens still work on farms!

The Implications

Highly placed observers believe this growing crisis in the Soviet Union might one day soon persuade the Soviet political leadership that it can no longer afford the luxury of maintaining satellites in Europe. They foresee a time just ahead when economic pressures may force the Kremlin to cut loose the cumbersome weight on its western flank—lest the Soviet Union itself go under in a sea of red ink!

In this age of intercontinental missiles, the nations of Eastern Europe no longer adequately fulfill their original function as a security buffer for the Soviet Union anyway. Couple this with the severe strain they place on Soviet financial and military resources. Eastern European satellites, therefore, may soon find themselves dumped by a desperate Kremlin struggling for economic survival!

Such action might well take the form of a Soviet-initiated political crisis.

(Continued on page 38)
Germany's Forests Are Dying

It has been said that Indians worship their cows and Germans worship their trees. India's cows can often be seen wandering the streets of Madras, Calcutta and Bombay—sad, often half-starved creatures struggling to survive in an unnatural and unhealthy environment. They may be in better condition than Germany's trees!

The German people have an almost mystical relationship with their forests. Three quarters of the population of this densely populated country visit the forest at least once a month. Twenty-five percent of West Germany's area is still covered with trees, and the forests are a traditional refuge from the stress of city life. But the forests may not be for much longer, it seems.

Germany's trees are dying at an alarming rate. The damage was noticed in the Black Forest in the early 1960s when diseased fir trees were found. It was not taken seriously at first, but by the late 1970s, the condition of the fir trees gave cause for serious concern. Now, the problem has grown to crisis proportions. Some experts studying the situation say that already one third of the trees have died and half of those left may be terminally ill. They have warned that unless drastic action is taken immediately, large tracts of forestland may be reduced to barren waste by the turn of the century. Germany is on the edge of an ecological disaster.

The German people are concerned, for Waldsterben—the death of the trees—will affect every inhabitant of this nation.

Why Waldsterben?

Why are the trees dying? Exhaust from automobiles is certainly part of the problem. It does not take an expert to see that many trees lining the autobahns are in poor condition. These magnificent roads linking German cities are the only ones in Europe to have no speed limit, and West German drivers jealously guard their right to be able to ride in their BMWs and Mercedes at 100 miles an hour or more. An autobahn speed limit—like gun control in the United States—is an emotional issue—a symbol of individual freedom. After all, in the neighboring German Democratic Republic, drivers must plod along at a sedate 60 miles an hour.

Reducing speed on the autobahns could reduce toxic emissions by 18 percent and give the dying trees a chance. It is not an easy choice for the West Germans.

But damage is not limited to lowland trees along the autobahns. Many damaged trees have been found at the 10,000-foot level, in remote reaches of forest far away from the center of pollution. The much publicized but little understood acid rain may be a contributing culprit here. The exact relationship between man-made pollutants, acid rain and long-range effects of pollution. 
environmental damage is still the subject of much debate, but most agree that there is a relationship, and that the atmosphere must be cleaned up if the forests are to survive.

Some experts refuse to place all the blame on industry—they feel that bacteria or other natural causes are afflicting the forests.

Worst affected are the conifers, the stately fir and spruce trees that make up the bulk of forests of southern Germany.

Instead of lush, dark green foliage that gave the Schwarzwald (Black Forest) its name, many trees now have only sickly yellow-brown needles. Unlike deciduous trees that replace their foliage annually, the needles of conifers must last for several years. Without adequate foliage—particularly at the top, or crown—a tree is condemned to death.

But conifers are not the only trees to suffer. Half the beech and 43 percent of the oaks that provide variety and balance in the forest are sick. Elm trees that should live for 130 years are giving up in the prime of life, and dying at 60.

A Continent-wide Disaster

Germany is not alone among the countries in Europe facing Waldsterben. The French, once critical of their German neighbor for panicking over this situation, have discovered that their forests, too, are in trouble. Many trees in the lush Rhône Valley are already beyond hope. Beautiful Switzerland, considered to be one of the most pollution-free countries, is now feeling the effects of Waldsterben in its environment. Eighty-eight percent of pollution blows in from outside Switzerland. The death of the forest respects no national frontiers.

Particularly vulnerable are the Scandinavian countries whose flat topography offers little resistance to wind-borne pollution. No one knows for certain the state of the damage in Eastern Europe, where pollution control, if it exists at all, is haphazard. East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary still rely on low-grade, high-sulfur-content coal, particularly since the Soviet Union cut back on its oil exports. Although exact figures are not available, it is known that the forests of East Germany may be in even worse shape than their Western neighbors. Poland is seriously affected, and some Czechoslovakians are describing their country as an ecological disaster area.

Soviet Russia has not escaped, although with its vast territory it is more able to absorb the punishment. Christmas is not an official holiday in Russia, but many Soviet citizens celebrate the new year with a traditional Christmas tree. The government has now suggested the people use branches and bundles of twigs rather than cut down small trees.

But in no country is the problem more acutely agonized over than here in West Germany. One survey showed that people worried more over the death of the trees than they did the establishing of Pershing missiles on their territory.

A Land Without Trees

The loss of German forests would be a tremendous emotional blow to the German people. There would, however, be far graver consequences.

The forestry and timber industries provide hundreds of thousands of jobs. Tourism, another major industry, would seriously decline. Who would want to visit a Black Forest nearly devoid of trees?

The forests are the world’s lungs, filtering out pollutants and manufacturing fresh oxygen that keeps the atmosphere breathable. The air in a healthy forest is 90 percent fresher than a typical industrial environment. Without trees, the soil would erode, and rain and snow would not be contained—subjecting lowland areas to avalanches or flooding. More than half of the 200 species of native German birds breed and feed in the forests, and without the trees they too are doomed. It is the same for other forms of wildlife. Without its trees, West Germany will indeed be a sad and barren country.

Trees are a tough and resilient part of God’s creation, and they put up a brave struggle for survival. A tree will tolerate many years of abuse, and will try to compensate for an unhealthful situation. But when it dies, it dies quickly, rather like an outwardly healthy human who suddenly succumbs to a heart attack. By the time it is obvious a tree is sick, it is usually too late. There have been some successful small-scale attempts to revive the forests, but most of the stricken areas are beyond help.

Reforestation isn’t always the answer. The new trees struggle for a few years, but eventually they lose their vitality in the poisoned air and soil. If this great national treasure is to be saved, the cause of the problem must be stopped, not only the effect.

Was the Catastrophe Foreseen?

Great German poets, philosophers and composers have always drawn inspiration from the forests. Nietzsche, von Goethe and van Beethoven found peace there. Martin Luther once said, “Even if the end of the world were coming, I would stop and plant an apple tree.”

The end of this age as we know it is coming. In the prophecies of the Bible the immediate future of the European continent is spelled out with devastating precision. In (Continued on page 24)
Mystery of the Ages

The

Mystery of Man

We continue, with this fifth installment, the serial publication of Herbert W. Armstrong's latest book Mystery of the Ages.

It seems incredible indeed! Higher education teaches technical courses in human physiology, anatomy, anthropology and psychology. The universities take man apart and study him minutely inch by inch. They study every facet and phase of man. They take the human brain apart and study it, yet the human mind remains a near-total mystery to even the most advanced psychologists. They do not know what man is or why he came to be!

That is the great Mystery Number 3 that has never been understood by humanity.

Is he merely the highest animal species, descended by resident forces, with no intelligent planning or designing, by the process of evolution? Why does man have the thinking and reasoning ability and possess all the human fund of knowledge that is impossible for animals to have? Is he an immortal soul? Is he human flesh and blood with an immortal soul within him? Just what is a human person, after all? And why?

Why is mankind here on the earth? Did we simply happen? Or was there design and purpose?

We say there is a cause for every effect. The effect, here, is man. Man is here. How—why did he come to be here? Was he put here, or did he just happen by blind, senseless, unintelligent processes of evolution?

We ought to want to know!

This is a mystery that has baffled higher education.

Higher education during the twentieth century has come, with virtual unanimity, to accept the evolutionary theory. It no longer even considers the possibility of a designed and planned creation by a God of supreme mind, perfect intelligence, and limitless power. But the evolutionary theory cannot in any degree explain a paradoxical world of awesome accomplishment that is at the same time utterly helpless to solve its problems of mounting and continually escalating evils. It can give no purpose for human existence. Higher education contemptuously ignores, without any consideration whatsoever, the biblical truths revealing man's presence on the earth and the causes of the present state of civilization. Education in the civilized world today has become entirely materialistic. Education has become a combination of the agnosticism of evolution, the politics and economics of Karl Marx and the morals and social patterns of Sigmund Freud. Higher education remains in utter ignorance of the mystery of mankind and of human civilization.

But higher education does not know. And it doesn't want to know! When we invite the questions of what and why, the intellectuals—the custodians of knowledge—shy away or stand up and fight. Of the questions what and why is man, they are willingly ignorant!

So, education shuts its mind, and its mouth in tight silence. Science doesn't know. Religion does not reveal, for it also doesn't know!

Yes, incredible—but true!

God Enters the Picture

Why this willful ignorance? Because God is involved. Satan is hostile against God. Satan sits on the throne of this earth and has blinded the minds of the intellectuals as well as all other levels of society. Consider, for a moment, the most highly trained mind with several letters of advanced degrees following his name. He is highly trained in certain specific areas in which he has extensive, complicated and intricate knowledge. But ask him about some area of knowledge outside his specialized field and he is as much in ignorance as those who are lacking in the more advanced labyrinths of education.

The primary divisions of this
world's civilization—government, religion, education and science, technology, industry—all shy away from GOD. They want GOD to keep his nose out of their affairs! The mention of God embarrasses them.

This ignorance cannot be explained except by the invisible and unaware influence of the supernatural evil power of Satan the devil and the unseen demoniacal spirit beings. When we read in Revelation 12:9 that all the world has been deceived by Satan, it does not exclude those of advanced intellect. Jesus Christ thanked God that the real truths are hidden from the wise and prudent and revealed to those who are babes in materialistic knowledge.

In the first chapter of this book we have covered the questions of WHO and WHAT is GOD? And we find God is quite REAL. God is more than one single person—God is a family—God is the supreme divine family—he is the Creator of all that is, and he has an ultimate PURPOSE—the creation of perfect, holy, righteous and spiritual CHARACTER, in MAN made immortal, to become part of that God family. So the presence of MAN on the earth must have a definite relation to the PURPOSE of GOD the Creator.

With these basically important questions and statements we must ask, WHY all the evils in today's sick and chaotic world? This world now faces, with no solution, its number one problem—the question of human survival! Can human life on earth survive even through the short remainder of this twentieth century? Can humanity survive both the population explosion and the nuclear power his mind has produced that can annihilate that entire population?

Consider now what has been covered about God's PURPOSE for the angels that sinned on earth. For that angelic rebellion leads directly to God's PURPOSE for MAN—to our question of WHAT and WHY is MAN?

Earth's Face in Devastation

Instead of improving, beautifying, completing earth's creation, the sinning angels brought it to desolation and ruin.

Come now to Genesis 1:1-2: "In the beginning God created the heavens [RSV] and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep..."

The original Hebrew for "without form, and void" is tohu and bohu—meaning "waste, desolate, deteriorated." The word was also translated "became." Thus possibly after millions of years, all had come to be an oceanic surface—and light had been by angelic lawlessness turned into darkness.

Let me here interject a biblical principle within the immediate context. There is this instruction in Isaiah: "Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine?... precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little" (Isa. 28:9-10). But most who try to apply this principle in biblical understanding take each "little" verse out of its context, to "interpret" their own ideas into it.

The Holy Bible is unique among all books ever written. The very fact that its truths are revealed here a little, there a little means it is a coded book, not to be understood until our present time of the end as explained elsewhere in this volume. Those who have tried to read the Bible directly and continuously from the beginning have been bewildered. Many have simply thrown up their hands and said, as I myself did once, "I just can't understand the Bible." That is why Bruce Barton said the Bible is the book nobody knows. As I have explained elsewhere the Bible is like a jigsaw puzzle. Until the various pieces of a jigsaw puzzle are put properly together, the true picture does not emerge.

Much, directly concerned with what is in Genesis 1, is filled in by other passages of Scripture in other parts of the Bible.

So now, let's UNDERSTAND the background. Genesis 1:1: God created the heavens and the earth. We have already seen, in chapter two, that the heavens (or the universe) and the earth were created after the angels. Earth's angels had not completed the creation of the earth by improvement, development and beautification. Rather, they had brought it to desolation and ruin. The GOVERNMENT of GOD had been nullified on earth.

And now, of all living beings in the universe, ONLY GOD could be certainly relied upon never to depart from the way of his law. No higher, more perfect being could be created than the cherub, Lucifer, who re-

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Why all the evils in today's sick and chaotic world? This world now faces, with no solution, its number one problem—the question of human survival!
be light: and there was light" (Gen. 1:3).

So in six days God RENEWED THE FACE OF THE EARTH (this renewing was not its original creation, but restoring it to the condition of its original creation) preparing it for the oceans. He created then the same word-lacking the finishing touches. Yet in Genesis 2:7, speaking of man, the word nephesh in verses 20, 21, 24. The translators correctly rendered nephesh in these three verses into the English words "living creatures." Yet in Genesis 2:7, speaking of man, the same word nephesh was translated "soul" because the translators falsely thought that only humans are souls. The word nephesh literally means "life of animals," referring to physical life and not spirit.

Once again the earth was a perfect, but as yet unfinished, creation—lacking the finishing touches.

As was written earlier, God creates in dual stages. This might be compared to baking a cake. First the basic cake comes from the oven. But it is not complete until the second stage is added—the icing on the cake. This beautifies, enriches and completes the cake.

God placed Lucifer and his angels on the earth. But he intended them to complete the creation by putting on, as it were, the finishing touches to beautify, improve and enrich the earth. But the angels sinned, resulting in bringing chaos, confusion and darkness to this planet.

Now God renewed the face of the earth for MAN, made to become in the character image of God and also in the likeness or form and shape of God. And God intended man to complete the finishing touches by improving and beautifying the earth—putting, as it were, the icing on the cake, as man's part in the final creation of the earth. Instead, man has ruined, polluted, defiled, deteriorated almost every portion of the earth his hands have touched or acted upon.

The Purpose of Man on Earth
Why did the Creator God put man on the earth? For God's ultimate purpose of reproducing himself—of recreating himself, as it were, by the supreme objective of creating the righteous divine character ultimately in millions unnumbered of begotten and born children who shall become God Beings, members of the God family.

Man was to improve the physical earth as God gave it to him, finishing its creation (which sinning angels had deliberately refused to do) and, in so doing, to RESTORE THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD, with God's way of life; and further, in this very process FINISHING THE CREATION OF MAN by the development of God's holy, righteous character, with man's own assent.

Once this perfect and righteous character is instilled in man, and man converted from mortal flesh to immortal spirit, then is to come the INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL—man being BORN INTO the divine FAMILY OF God, restoring the government of God to the earth, and then participating in the completion of the CREATION over the entire endless expanse of the UNIVERSE! That incredible potential of man will be fully explained in the pages that follow in this volume. God shall have reproduced himself untold millions of times over!

So, on the sixth day of that recreation week, God (Elohim) said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness" (Gen. 1:26).

Man was made to have (with his assent) a special relationship with his Maker! He was made in the form and shape of God. He was given a spirit (essence in form) to make the relationship possible. Much more of that a little later.

The Soul Is Mortal
But God made MAN OF MATTER! This was necessary for the supreme accomplishment God willed.

"And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath [air] of life; and man became a living soul" (Gen. 2:7).

Man, formed from material dust of the ground, upon breathing air, became a living soul. It does not say man is, or has, an immortal soul. What was formed from material ground BECAME a soul.

The word "soul" is translated from the Hebrew in which Moses wrote, from the word nephesh. The Hebrew nephesh merely means a breathing animal. Three times in the first chapter of Genesis animals are called nephesh: Gen. 1:20, "moving creature" (Hebrew, nephesh); Gen. 1:21, "great whales, and every living creature" (Hebrew, nephesh). The translators in translating into the English language used the English word "creature," but in Genesis 2:7 they translated the same nephesh into the English word "soul"—man became a "living soul" (nephesh).

Therefore the soul is physical, composed of matter, and can die. This is a TRUTH believed by very few denominations, and probably by no other religions—another PROOF that identifies the one true Church of God!

The Soul Can Die
The Creator's book reveals, contrary to fallible humanist teaching, that man was made from the dust of the ground, and this dust thus becomes soul, mortal—like all vertebrates. Man has continued to accept the first lie in human history—Satan's lie to mother Eve that man is immortal and cannot die.

The soul is merely the breathing animal. All animals are biblically called "souls"—in Hebrew, nephesh. Therefore, if man is a soul as in Genesis 2:7, so also are the dumb animals. But there is a human spirit (I Cor. 2:11) in the human soul.

This human spirit does not impart human life. Human life, like that of all vertebrates, comes from blood circulation, oxidized by the breath of air. But God reveals there is a spirit within every human. This spirit is not present in animals. The human spirit empowers the human brain with intellect—with ability to acquire knowledge, to think, reason, make decisions, produce attitudes of good or evil.

Human and animal brain are fundamentally alike. Human mind superiority comes not from superior brain, but from the presence of human spirit within the human brain. Animal brain is supplied with instinct, not intellect.
It may seem shockingly strange, because it is a dimension in knowledge hitherto untaught, but the real value of a human life lies solely in the human spirit, as it works in combination with the human brain.

God formed man of matter, but after his own image and likeness as to form and shape.

But the brute animal and man have the same breath, the same source of life. They die the same death. Human life is animal existence, but in the form and shape of God, and with the human spirit added to the brain.

**Man's Creation Not Yet Completed**

Man was created to have a relationship with his Maker. Therefore he was made in his Maker's form and shape, with contact and relationship made possible by the presence within him of the human spirit.

But man's creation was not completed. He was made mentally and spiritually only "half there." He needed the addition of God's Spirit to unite with his spirit, begetting him as a child of God—uniting him with God—ultimately enabling him to be born into the very God family.

Pause here a moment. Notice once again the duality in God's creative process. The first man Adam was a physical creation with the human spirit added. When man's creation is finally complete, he will be a spiritual creation, formed wholly of Spirit.

When man receives the Holy Spirit of God the very Spirit and mind of the immortal God is injected into him. It joins with his human spirit. The Spirit of God cannot be received by, or injected into, the brute animal because the animal has no spirit within itself with which the Spirit of God could combine.

At this point, let me inject a truth that, at the time this is being written, is probably the most controversial question at issue among the Western world's population—the question of abortion.

The human spirit enters the human embryo at conception. It is this spirit that may, upon adult conversion, be united with the Holy Spirit from the great Creator God, implicating that human with God-life as a child of the living God, in a state of gestation, though as yet unborn. To destroy an embryo or a fetus in a mother's uterus is to MURDER a potential future God Being.

Therefore, abortion is murder.

Now back to our original question: "What is the only real value of a human life?"

Human life is animal existence but with human spirit empowering the brain with intellect. The human spirit in man makes possible the union with the Holy Spirit and mind and immortality of God. When mortal man dies, the body reverts to dust, and the spirit returns to God.

**Life After Death**

The departed human spirit at death is in fact a spiritual mold, of itself unconscious, yet in the resurrection bringing into the resurrected body all the memory, knowledge and character as well as form and shape of the person before death. The human spirit of itself cannot see, hear, think or know. The only real LIFE, inherent and self-containing, lies in the Holy Spirit of God, united with the human spirit. The value of a human life lies in the human spirit and its potential of being united with God's Spirit—which is God-mind and God-life.

Philosophers think of human worth as of supreme value in itself alone. They speak of "human dignity." They speak of the innate "god" powers within each human. They advocate self-confidence, self-glorification. They make mortal man to think of himself as immortal God.

Much to the contrary, the sole value of human life lies in the human spirit and the potential of being begotten of God, later to be born VERY GOD, a child in the God family.

Man is not "god" within himself, but only mortal flesh and blood with a brain empowered with intellect by the human spirit.

Therefore, man of himself is infinitesimally of less value than the self-professed wise of this world sup-
that is innately selfish. It can possess and express love on the human level, but **without the Holy Spirit** of God it cannot possess or express love on the God level, nor can it acquire knowledge of that which is spiritual, as revealed in I Corinthians 2.

**Only God Reveals**

"But God hath revealed them [spiritual things] unto us by his Spirit..." (verse 10). Notice particularly spiritual knowledge is not revealed by a Person called the Holy Spirit. It is revealed by God, and to us today through God's Spirit, which may be received only as God's gift through his mercy and grace. God is the revealer. The Holy Spirit is the instrumentality by which we may comprehend that which only God can reveal.

"For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him?..." (verse 11). If the Holy Spirit is the third Person of a Trinity, then is not the spirit in man also another man? A cow, sheep or dog cannot know the things a man knows—and neither could a man, except by the spirit of man that is in him. For example, such knowledge as chemistry, physics and technological and scientific knowledge. Likewise, the natural man with this one spirit is **limited**—"even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God."

**Only when the Holy Spirit enters, combining with the “human” spirit, can a man come to really comprehend that which is spiritual—**"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness to him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned" (verse 14).

The most highly educated view all things through the eyeglasses of evolutionary theory. Evolution is concerned solely with material life and development. It knows and teaches nothing about spiritual life and problems—and all the evils in the world are spiritual in nature.

That is why the most highly educated are, overall, the most ignorant—they are confined to knowledge of the material, and to "good" on the self-centered level. Knowledge of God and the things of God are foolishness to them. **But, of course, God says, “the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God”** (I Cor. 3:19).

**World Cut Off from God**

Now back to the first human, Adam.

Remember God's **PURPOSE** in creating man on the earth: 1) to restore the GOVERNMENT of God on earth and by regulating human life through that GOVERNMENT, a) complete the physical creation of earth where angels turned it to ruin, and b) in the process complete the creation of MAN by developing righteous spiritual CHARACTER; and 2) to establish the KINGDOM of GOD, and eventually the incredible human potential of finishing the creation of the vast UNIVERSE!

This supreme PURPOSE required: 1) that man reject Satan's *way*, embracing God's way of LOVE, based on God's spiritual law; and 2) that man be made first of matter so that, if he was led into Satan's way of "GET," he could be CHANGED, converted to God's way of LOVE, or if he refused to change, his life would be blotted out without further or continuous suffering just as if he had never been.

Spirit beings, once a finished creation (as were the one third of the angels who became evil characters), could not be changed! Spirit, once its creation is completed, is constant and eternal—not subject to change. But physical matter is constantly **changing**.

Through God's master plan for his spiritual creation, to be covered later, it had been master-planned by God and the Word that the Word would divest himself of his supreme glory, and in due time take on him the likeness of human flesh, as Jesus Christ, making possible the spiritual phase of the creation of MAN—God reproducing himself! What a master plan for the extreme ultimate in creative accomplishment! HOW GREAT is our God, in mind, purpose, planning, designing, as well as creating—from the tiniest germ or insect to the most huge sun, dwarfing our own great sun to insignificance!

And the incredible human potential is that the **GREAT MAJESTIC GOD IS, in MAN, reproducing himself**—man can be born into the **GOD FAMILY**!

The first human, Adam, was created with the potential of qualifying to replace Satan, the former Lucifer, on earth's throne, restoring the GOVERNMENT of GOD. But it was necessary that he resist and reject Satan's "GET" way, which was the foundation of Satan's evil government, and choose God's way of his law—the way of LOVE (GIVE), the basis of God's government!

His Maker talked first to Adam and Eve— instructed them in the government and spiritual law of God—though in Genesis 2 only the most condensed summary of God's instruction to them is revealed. Satan was restrained from any contact with them until God first had taught them.

**The Two Symbolic Trees**

In the gloriously beautiful Garden of Eden in which God placed them were two very special symbolic trees. Little has been heard about these trees and their tremendous significance, except what most people have heard about "Adam's apple." The forbidden tree, however, probably was not an apple tree.

The real significance of these two symbolic trees explains the very foundation of the world. In them is the answer to the great mystery of our time in this modern twentieth century. Today we live in a world of awesome progress and advancement, yet paradoxically of appalling evils. The baffling question today is, Why cannot the minds that can learn to fly to the moon and back, transplant hearts, produce computers and technological marvels, solve their own problems? Why no peace in the world?

We cannot understand the mystery of today's events and conditions unless we go back to the very foundation of the world, and learn what developed from its origin to the pulsating, confused present.

The world began at the time of the creation of the world, and learn what developed from its origin to the pulsating, confused present.

The world began at the time of these two special trees. We hear virtually nothing in the biblical misteaching of today about the tree of life, and almost nothing about the forbidden tree.

But now consider, God had cre-

(Continued on page 25)
The miracle of Rotterdam is much like the miracle of neighboring West Germany. Both have been reborn from ruins.

Many German cities were destroyed by Allied bombers during the closing years of World War II.

Likewise Rotterdam in 1940. In one hour the bombs of the Luftwaffe (Air Force) set fires that turned Rotterdam into a virtual desert. Six hundred forty acres of buildings were destroyed. Twenty-five thousand families were left homeless. Nine hundred people died.
Much of the port area was finally destroyed in 1944. Rotterdam had to start all over after VE Day.

Within three weeks of the main destruction in May 1940, its enterprising citizens were laying rough plans for the reconstruction of the city. Today it is a panorama of buildings that make an impressive sight from Euromast, a tower with an excellent restaurant and view of Rotterdam.

Today Dutch ingenuity has made the port a complex network of refineries, dry docks, grain terminals, storage tanks and container facilities. The port of Rotterdam stretches for 25 miles along the mouth of the Rhine River at the North Sea. A ship either enters or leaves the port area every 8 1/2 minutes.

And Now, Dutch-German Cooperation

How ironic that the Germans and the Dutch—former enemies in the early 1940s—are now models of cooperation. They depend on one another. Both are members of the European Community (EC) or Common Market.

Today Rotterdam and the Federal Republic of Germany enjoy an enormously profitable business relationship. More West German tonnage passes through the port of Rotterdam than the three leading West German ports combined. According to The International Herald Tribune in December 1980: “The city’s geographical position at the mouth of the Rhine, which made it a gateway for waterborne traffic to West Germany, is its trump card” (emphasis mine).

Geography has been kind to Rotterdam. Most European capitals and industrial centers are no more than 600 miles away. Rotterdam sees itself as Europe’s port. The city’s newest development, nearest to the North Sea, is called Europoort. In Dutch the double o in Europoort suggests “gateway” rather than mere “harbor.” Rotterdam—gateway to Eu-
Germany, Oil and Rotterdam

The Columbia Encyclopedia makes a vitally important point in its write-up about Rotterdam: "Europoort, a large harbor area opposite Hoek van Holland built largely in the 1960s, is designed chiefly for unloading and storing petroleum. Rotterdam owes its importance mainly to the transit trade with the Ruhr district of NW Germany, with which it is connected by several waterways and oil pipelines" (page 2,364, fourth edition). Petroleum products still make the world go round. Their importance predictors indicate an absolute dwindling pool of oil. Why? Because the world is consuming oil at a rate of 900 billion gallons a year! Reserves still underground are vast, but will not last all that long.

Oil shortages in the foreseeable future will grab the headlines once again. Storage and reserves in Rotterdam will grow in importance for Germany—more so in the future than now.

However, a report in Elseviers Magazine—a Dutch weekly—is well worth noting. Said the title: "Holland Is Becoming an Oil Land." To sum up the article: The Netherlands will produce 25 percent of their petroleum needs by the end of 1985. In five years' time, estimates run as high as 50 percent.

This is all due to a discovery right under Rotterdam of potentially the biggest oil field in Holland. Already it is pumping more petroleum than the traditional fields in the east of the Netherlands. We can only guess as to its future importance for Holland and Germany. But its value to heavy industry in incalculable.

The East German Link

Despite political fits and starts, inter-German trade is growing. Economic links between Bonn and East Berlin are imperative for East Germany and even the Soviet Union, both of which desperately need West German deutsche marks.

Consumer products in both Germanys are becoming more homogeneous. Remarked one businessman in West Berlin about clothing made in East Germany: "You can hardly see the difference. They are using Western designs" (International Herald Tribune, May 7).

The Soviet Union has good reason to restrain a potential political unification of the two Germanys. But the Soviets are not preventing ever closer economic ties. Continues the Tribune article: "... East Germany and the Soviet Union have accepted a special relationship between the two Germanys in the economic field that both continue to reject on the political level."

But what began as economic cooperation may well turn into political cooperation within the scope of an expanding Common Market.

Our point is that Rotterdam may eventually wind up as a key oil supply depot for both East and West Germany. European political borders have proved changeable in this 20th century. Whole countries and empires have disappeared from the European political map. Transitory artificial and unnatural borders have been imposed.

Profound political changes will shock humanity before this century ends. Bible prophecy forecasts astonishing events in Europe. A new 10-nation superpower will arise in Europe. And Rotterdam will play a key role in these events.

Keep watching world events. Keep reading The Plain Truth.

INTERNATIONAL DESK

(Continued from page 16)

the book of Revelation Jesus Christ looked across the centuries and showed the apostle John the conditions that would follow a future union of European nations.

Many today seek the union of Europe for peace and prosperity, little realizing that they are paving the way for another great catastrophe.

But among the predictions of future world turmoil, has the Bible foreseen a world that must struggle to preserve its dwindling forests?

In Revelation 8:7, we read that "a third of the trees were burned up..." (Revised Authorized Version throughout). And in the ninth chapter of Revelation there is described in the symbolic language of prophecy a great army, as numerous as locusts, that will swarm across the heartland of Eurasia. But even as they marshalled their forces, notice how they are commanded to take care of what remains of vegetation and the trees. "They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads" (verse 4).

Even in a desperate struggle for world domination, these armies will be forced to take care of what remains of the earth's resources. Other prophecies show that the apocalyptic events of "Satan's last stand" will play havoc with all life: man, beast—and trees. (For a full explanation of these prophecies, readers should request our free booklet The Book of Revelation Unveiled at Last.)

Much of the damage, worldwide, is already done. Large areas of Africa, Asia and South America that were once verdant have become barren wastelands. Some nations have plundered their forests more in one generation than did their forefathers in thousands of years of peaceful co-existence with the land. To save the dying forests of Europe will demand a level of immediate international cooperation and restraint that is unlikely in today's greedy, shortsighted world. Germany's lovely trees are, tragically, destined to be ruined before a happier world tomorrow, of God's making, restores sanity and harmony to this battered and sadly misused planet.

—John Halford
Mystery of Man

(Continued from page 21)

ated a man out of the dust of the ground. But God creates in dual stages. The man was not yet physically complete. God wanted him to "multiply and replenish the earth." But the man could not do that because he was not yet physically complete. So God put him into a deep sleep (anesthesia) and performed an operation, removing a rib and forming a woman from it. They became one family. The physical creation of man was completed. They could reproduce their kind.

But the man God created was mortal. He had only a temporary physicochemical existence kept alive by circulation of blood, oxidized by the breath of air, and fueled by food and water from the ground. He did not have life inherent—self-containing life. But he did have a human spirit that, united with God's Holy Spirit, could beget him with eternal life.

Immortal Life Offered

But God offered to him immortal life through this symbolic tree of life. God did not urge or compel him to take it—he merely made it freely accessible. Adam could eat of all the trees of the garden except the one forbidden tree, of "the knowledge of good and evil."

What if Adam had taken of the tree of life? You probably never heard that question answered. That symbolic tree is offered today to those called and drawn by God to Jesus Christ. There is one difference between the original Adam and the called Christian. Adam had not yet sinned and no repentance was necessary if he had chosen the tree of life. Otherwise the repentant and believing Spirit-begotten Christian is in the same position Adam would have been had he taken of the tree of life.

Adam would have received the Holy Spirit of God to unite with his human spirit. The man was not mentally or spiritually complete until receiving the Spirit of God. This would have united him, mentally and spiritually, with God. He would have been begotten as a child of God, just as is the converted Spirit-begotten Christian.

He would have received the Holy Spirit of God to join with his human spirit, begetting him as a son of God, imparting to him the earnest of immortal life, and making him at one with God.

As in the case of the Spirit-begotten Christian today, where "Christ in [us is] the hope of glory" (Col. 1:27). And again, the mind of Christ is in us (Phil 2:5), so the very mind of the Eternal would have been in Adam. But instead the mind and attitude of Satan entered into him and worked in him, even as it has in all his children that have composed this whole world. We read in Ephesians 2:2, that Satan, as prince of the power of the air, does indeed actually work within humans.

At this juncture, we explain a point that might be misunderstood. In the temptation by Satan, Eve was deceived, but Adam was not (I Tim. 2:13-14). Adam disobeyed God and sinned deliberately. But even though he was not deceived in this original temptation, his deliberate disobedience of God's explicit command cut him off from God, producing a state of mental perversion and opening his mind to the deceptions of Satan. From that moment, Adam and all his children after him were receptive to the sway of Satan. Satan began to work in the mind of Adam, even as God would have worked in his mind had he taken of the tree of life.

A World Held Captive

Thus, from that moment, Satan had spiritually kidnapped Adam, and all his human family has ever since been held captive by Satan.

God would have revealed to Adam God's way of life—which is God's spiritual law. That law is the way of outflowing love—but it would have been "the love of God ... shed abroad in [human] hearts by the Holy [Spirit]" (Rom. 5:5). Human natural carnal love cannot fulfill God's holy law.

But, even as a human embryo has been begotten by human parents, and just as the embryo must develop through the process of gestation before being born, so is the Spirit-led Christian, and so would have been Adam.

But he would have experienced a direct connection and contact with God.

I like to compare this to the umbilical cord connecting the newborn baby with its mother. Its human life and physical nourishment have been supplied during gestation from the mother to the child. God's spirit life is imparted to the Christian through the Holy Spirit. Also, spiritual knowledge is imparted by God but through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit (I Cor. 2:10). Full comprehension of God's Law (his way of life) is imparted by God through the Holy Spirit. But the law of God requires action and performance, and love is the fulfilling of God's law (Rom. 13:10), and it can be fulfilled only by the love of and from God (Rom. 5:5).

So Adam would have had the in-depth spiritual knowledge to live God's way, and also would have been supplied with the divine love that, only, can fulfill that perfect law of love and put it into action.

He would also have received by the Spirit of God the very faith of God. He would have received knowledge, guidance and help from God. He would have had reliance on God to intervene in matters beyond his control. In such matters God supernaturally does for us what we are unable to do for ourselves. In other words, God fights our battles for us.

Rejecting God's Law and Government

But instead Adam chose a different kind of knowledge—he took to himself the knowledge of good as well as evil. He relied wholly on himself—both for the knowledge as well as power of performance of good as well as evil. He rejected reliance on God and chose the course of Self-reliance. The only righteousness he could acquire was Self-righteousness, which to God is like filthy rags.
Adam and Eve took of the tree of "the knowledge of good and evil." Taking of its fruit was taking to themselves the knowledge of what is good, and what is evil—deciding for themselves what is right and what is sin. This, of course, meant rejection of God's Law, which defined for them the right and the wrong.

The glorious archangel Lucifer, as God originally created him, was the pinnacle of God's creative power in a single being. Few today remotely realize the great power, now turned to cunning deception, possessed by Satan. Apparently Adam completely underestimated him.

The wily Satan got to Adam through his wife Eve. He did not say, "CHOOSE MY WAY!" He appeared as a subtle serpent. He cleverly deceived her.

He put doubts in her mind about God's veracity. He put a sense of injustice and resentment within her. He deceived her into believing God had been unfair—selfish. He subtly injected vanity of mind. He misled her into thinking it was right to take of the forbidden fruit.

Adam, not deceived, nevertheless went along with his wife. With her, he took to himself the determination of what is right and what is wrong—thus disbelieving what his Maker had said, rejecting God as Savior and Ruler—rejecting God as the source of revealed basic knowledge. He believed and followed Satan's way!

Adam's World Sentenced

When God "drove out the man" from the Garden of Eden, and barred reentrance—lest he go back and receive eternal life in sin (Gen. 3:22-24)—God pronounced sentence!

God said, in effect: "You have made the decision for yourself and the world that shall spring from you. You have rejected me as the basic source of knowledge—you have rejected power from me through my Spirit to live the righteous way—you have rebelled against my command and my government—you have chosen the 'getting,' 'taking' way of Satan. Therefore I sentence you and the world you shall beget to 6,000 years of being cut off from access to me and my Spirit—except for the exceedingly few I shall specially call. And that few shall be called for special service preparatory for the kingdom of God. They shall be required to do what you have failed to do—reject, resist and overcome Satan and his ways, and follow the ways of my spiritual law.

"Go, therefore, Adam, and all your progeny that shall form the world, produce your own fund of knowledge. Decide for yourself what is good and what is evil. Produce your own educational systems and means of disseminating knowledge, as your god Satan shall mislead you. Form your own concepts of what is god, your own religions, your own governments, your own life-styles and forms of society and civilization. In all this Satan will deceive your world with his attitude of self-centeredness—with vanity, lust and greed, jealousy and envy, competition and strife and violence and wars, rebellion against me and my law of love.

"After the world of your descendants has written the lesson in 6,000 years of human suffering, anguish, frustration, defeat and death—after the world that shall spring from you shall have been brought to confess the utter hopelessness of the way of life you have chosen—I will supernaturally intervene. By supernatural divine power I shall then take over the government of the whole world. With reeducation, I will produce a happy world of peace. And on repentance, I shall then offer eternal salvation to all. After a thousand years of that happy world to come, I will resurrect from death to mortal life all who have died uncalled during this present 6,000 years. Their judgment shall then come. And on repentance and faith, eternal life shall be offered them.

"During this 6,000 years, when I myself shall cut them off from me, they shall not be eternally judged. Only, as they sow during their lifetimes, they shall reap. But when I open eternal salvation to them, there shall be no Satan to hinder or deceive them—no Satan for them to overcome. Those few called during this first 6,000 years shall have to reject and resist Satan's pulls and overcome. But those who overcome shall sit with me in my throne, and have power under me to rule all nations under my Supreme Rule."

Origin of Self-Reliance

What does all this mean?

Adam the first human rejected knowledge from and reliance on God. He chose to rely on his own knowledge and abilities.

The modern world, developed from Adam, relies wholly on human self-reliance. The psychology taught in our day is self-reliance. Rely on the innate powers within you, they teach. An atmosphere of self-reliant professionalism pervades most modern university campuses. It is the spirit of vanity. The university student is induced to think of himself as becoming a professional—that is, he considers himself elevated above those who have not had his brand of education. Through the basic concept of the evolutionary theory, he feels himself completely above those who believe in God and the Lord Jesus Christ. He regards them with disdain.

Salvation Closed Off

Upon Adam's making this fateful and fatal decision, God closed off the tree of life (Gen. 3:22-24) from the world sired by Adam, for 6,000 years. That is, except in the case of chosen prophets for the writing of the Bible, and of the
Church called out of this world by Jesus Christ. But even Jesus said plainly: "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him" (John 6:44).

God thereupon, at the very foundation of this world, laid out a 7,000-year master plan for accomplishing his purpose.

It was Satan who deceived Eve. Adam then sinned deliberately in partaking of the forbidden fruit. The whole world since has been deceived (Rev. 12:9).

Let us pause here momentarily. Let us realize this was the very foundation of the world in which we still live. At this point, Satan must have gloated. He must have believed God was defeated—that God through Adam had failed to overthrow Satan's rule on the throne of the earth.

But God says, "My purpose shall stand." God's 7,000-year plan will accomplish God's purpose in overwhelming and magnificent glory.

Understand this point, which has been a mystery to the world. When God closed off the tree of life, he closed off the redemption and salvation of mankind for 6,000 years, until the second Adam, Jesus Christ, after 6,000 years should return to earth in supreme power and glory to unseat Satan from his throne and to rule all nations of mankind.

The first man Adam had been given the opportunity to choose God's government, to restore that government to the earth, and to unseat Satan from the throne of the earth. Since he failed, salvation cannot be opened to humanity generally, until Jesus Christ, the second Adam, has accomplished what the first Adam failed to do—namely, to unseat Satan and to sit on the throne of the earth, restoring the government of God to this earth.

The closing of the tree of life from the human family marked the foundation of the present world still ruled invisibly by Satan. How, then, was God going to accomplish his purpose? At that very foundation of this world it was determined by God that the Word would be born on earth as the sacrificial Lamb of God to redeem mankind from the rule of Satan the kidnapper (Rev. 13:8).

But how, then, was God ever to accomplish his purpose of reproducing himself through the humans to be born during that next 6,000 years?

**Salvation Through Resurrection**

At that very foundation of Satan's world it was also decreed (Heb. 9:27) that God had appointed that all humans should die once, and after that, by resurrection from the dead, would come the judgment. Meanwhile mankind as a whole would not as yet be brought to judgment—neither condemned nor saved. It was at that time decided that as in Adam all humans should die, so in Christ the same "all" should be brought back to life by a resurrection to judgment (I Cor. 15:22). This very resurrection of all who died in Adam has been a mystery to the whole world deceived by Satan. Even today traditional Christianity celebrates the resurrection of Jesus on the pagan Easter every spring, but says nothing about the future resurrection of the billions who have died in Adam. That resurrection will be explained later in this volume.

Meanwhile, when Christ should come as humanity's sinbearer, he would found the Church of God. The purpose and function of the Church will be fully covered in chapter six of this book.

Pause right here! Understand what Satan has blinded the entire world from seeing. Realize what a deceived traditional Christianity has not understood.

This is of supreme importance! The world of traditional Christianity has been deceived into supposed Christian teaching of the immortality of the soul, of those who "profess Jesus" going immediately upon death into a heaven of eternal idleness, freedom from responsibility and bliss in ease and laziness; in those who fail to "accept Jesus" going at death to a definite place of eternal continuous burning fire called hell where they shriek and scream in indescribable pain and agony forever and ever without hope.

The teaching has been that man is an immortal soul and already has eternal life. It denies (Rom. 6:23) that the penalty for sin is death and that man can have eternal life only as the gift of God. The false traditional Christianity teaching might be compared to taking a one-way railroad trip. This trip is your life's journey. At the end of the line a switch is automatically set that will send you straight to a lasting burning hell of indescribable pain and torture. But if, at any time during life's journey, you profess to "accept Christ," the switch at the end of the line, at that point, is turned to shoot you straight to heaven.

Much supposed "Christian" teaching has been that God created the first man a perfect immortal being, but that when God was not looking Satan stole in and wrecked this wonderful handiwork of God. Salvation is then pictured as God's effort to repair the damage, and to restore mankind back to a condition as good as when God first created him.

In doctrine after doctrine they have believed and taught the diametrical opposite of the truths plainly revealed in the Bible.

**Satan's First Lie**

They have taught Satan's first lie that man is an immortal soul. This teaching, when one stops to give it thought, is that "saved mothers" who have died and gone to heaven are continually conscious of their lost sons who are shrieking and screaming in indescribable torture of hell fire.

But what is the real truth of God's holy Word? Do the dead know what the living are doing? My wife told me shortly after our marriage that after her mother died, when she was only 12 years of age, she thought her mother in heaven was seeing everything that she did.

I quote now from an article in *The Plain Truth*, March 1985: "Scripture plainly reveals that when you die you are dead. According to the Bible, the dead don't hear anything, see anything, think anything or know anything. The dead have absolutely no awareness of any kind: 'For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. Also their love, and their hatred, and
their envy, is now perished..." (Eccl. 9:5-6).

The Bible's message is clear on this point. Death is death beyond any shadow of doubt. The apostle Paul wrote that "the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). Death, by definition, is the absence of life—not just separation from God.

**Man was made to have a special relationship with his Maker! He was made in the form and shape of God.**

Scripture even warns us to make the most of life now while we have the opportunity: "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going" (Eccl. 9:10, Revised Authorized Version).

It couldn't be more plain. But what about those who want to cling to the cherished belief in floating off to heaven after death if good, or sinking to hell if bad?

Listen to the apostle Peter's response. If anyone deserved to go to heaven, it would certainly be someone after God's own heart, wouldn't it? David was such a person (Acts 13:22). But Peter was inspired by God to say, David is "both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day" (Acts 2:29, RAV), and further, "David did not ascend into the heavens" (Acts 2:34).

Jesus himself also said that "no man hath ascended up to heaven," where God's throne is (John 3:13).

**Will We Each Live Again?**

But there is more to this life than living for the present life. The Great God put humans here on this earth for a marvelous, eternal purpose, not even understood by this world's humanly devised religions.

We are on this earth for a wonderful reason. It involves the answer to why we humans were made mortal and suffer through the gamut of emotions and troubles, or experience the good times of human life.

Even though when we die we are dead, we will not remain dead forever. The dead in their graves will live again! Read what Jesus says: "Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of [judgment]" (John 5:28-29, RAV).

There is an accounting for our behavior in this life! Every human being who has ever lived will ultimately give an accounting and be in a resurrection.

I have explained earlier that the spirit in man of itself does not see, cannot hear, cannot think. The brain sees through the eye, hears through the ear, and thinks as it is empowered by the spirit. At death, "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it" (Eccl. 12:7).

The spirit is the depository of memory and character. The spirit is like a mold. It retains even the human form and shape of the deceased, so that in the resurrection to judgment those who have died shall look as they did in life, retain whatever character they established in life, remember everything that was stored in their memory. But in the meantime, in death, there is no consciousness—they "know not any thing" (Eccl. 9:5).

The most universal false teaching, believed by virtually all churches called Christianity, except the one and only true and original Church of God, is that ALL are automatically "lost" unless they profess Jesus Christ as Savior—and that now is the only day of "salvation." But the truth is that those cut off from God are NOT YET JUDGED!

Few understand this basic master plan of God. The reader cannot possibly be more surprised at the truth revealed in this volume than was the author, more than 58 years ago. The whole world has been deceived, as God's Word foretold! One deceived is not aware of the deception! Don't underestimate Satan!

**Humans, Cut Off from God?**

One, reviewing the multiplied evils in the world today, might think man has cut himself off from God. But it is God who cut off mankind from him. And why?

Does that seem to make God appear unfair? Quite the opposite!

Let us make that point clear. Adam, by choosing to take of the forbidden tree, cut off himself and his family after him from God. Yet because all humans born from Adam have sinned, each human has in fact cut himself off from God (Isa. 59:1-2).

The Person in the God family who spoke with Adam was the Logos or "Word" who was later born as Jesus Christ. Adam had no contact with God the Father. When the Word closed the tree of life, all mankind was cut off from God the Father until Christ would come to earth in supreme power and glory to take from Satan the throne of the earth and to restore the government of God over the entire earth.

Meanwhile Christ, the second Adam, came at his first appearing to reveal the existence of God the Father (Luke 10:22). Until that time, the world had no knowledge of the existence of God the Father. That is one reason the religion of Judaism had believed that God consists of ONE PERSON ONLY. That is the reason theologians have lost, or rather never possessed, knowledge of the fact God is a family into which we may be born as part of that very God family. That, also, explains why, on reading in the New Testament of God the Father, and also of Jesus being God, they came up with the false theory of the Holy Spirit being a "Ghost," or third Person of a Trinity, thus blaspheming the Holy Spirit and limiting God and doing away with all knowledge that converted humans can become members of the very divine God family. Thus Satan blinded "Christianity" from the truth and purpose of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
They have overlooked a most important truth: the resurrection from the dead.

They celebrate a pagan Easter acknowledging the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. But they overlook entirely the plain biblical teaching that all who ever lived are to be resurrected from the dead, although in the time order of three distinctly different resurrections. The only hope the Holy Bible gives for the vast humanity of this dying world is the hope of a resurrection from the dead, but that is a positively sure hope. All this will be completely covered and full scriptures given in the chapters to follow.

What a tragedy that, as plainly stated in Revelation 12:9, this whole world has been deceived and blinded from the truth by Satan the devil, still sitting on the throne of the entire earth.

The real truth is startling, but you will find it plainly revealed in your own Bible. Follow it as you carefully read this book.

Consider! When God drove Adam and Eve out from the Garden of Eden, he set angels to bar mankind from reentering. Suppose the Eternal had left the gate into Eden open. Man had already taken of the forbidden tree. Man had already turned to sin. What would have happened? Probably the whole of sinning mankind would have surged back in to take of that tree of LIFE! Without any repentance—without even FAITH in God or in Christ—mankind would have helped himself to RECEIVING ETERNAL LIFE.

THINK a moment!

God Not Unfair

How unfair would God have been, had he allowed that! Man, with all his sins—and sin has a habit of increasing in the one who indulges in it—would have become immortal—living forever while suffering the pains, mental, physical and spiritual, that sin would bring on him!

Man does not seem to realize that he now is the SLAVE of sin. Sin has cut him off from God the Father. Few understand that we are not saved by the death of Christ. We are reconciled to God the Father by Jesus' death. We are saved by his life (Rom. 5:10). Man does not realize that only a real repentance—turning from sin—and the living FAITH of Jesus Christ can free him from that penalty! Sin enslaves! It punishes! It brings sorrow, remorse, anguish. It inflicts physical injury, sickness and disease. It produces frustration and hopelessness.

The most unfair, unkind, cruel thing God could have done once Adam and Eve had taken the forbidden tree would have been to leave the way open into the garden, with free access to all comers to the tree of LIFE—symbolic of the gift of ETERNAL LIFE!

But what did God do? He drove out the man and the woman. He barred reentrance.

He, however, made salvation and eternal life in extreme happiness and bliss become available to ALL the human family. But, with godly wisdom, he set a time order and conditions! For the first 6,000 years—now almost completed—all but the predestined FEW were cut off.

On this point the entire world of traditional Christianity has been deceived. Here is a most important truth: Satan sitting on earth's throne tried to kill the Christ child. He then tried to tempt and disqualify Jesus just before the Christ started his earthly ministry (Matt. 4). Satan caused the martyrdom of most of the apostles. He caused intensive persecution against the Church. He caused a violent controversy to flare up in the early months and years of the Church disputing whether the gospel to be proclaimed was the gospel OF Christ, or man's gospel ABOUT Christ. Satan caused the latter to win out, and in less than 20 years a false and counterfeit gospel ABOUT Christ was being proclaimed by all but the persecuted FEW who loyally remained as the small and persecuted true original Church of God.

Is Now the Only Day of Salvation?

These deceived “Christians” taught, and still teach, that now is the ONLY day of salvation, and that their counterfeit salvation of just “accepting” Jesus Christ, without the repentance of turning from sin and the obeying of God's law, would send people as “immortal souls” immediately to heaven upon death.

Satan has blinded the minds of those of “traditional Christianity” to the fact that God closed off the tree of life until the glorified Jesus Christ comes in supreme power and glory to restore the government of God over the whole earth. It was decreed, I repeat, that it was appointed to humans once to die, and after death is to come the resurrection to judgment (Heb. 9:27). Meanwhile the world of Adam is not being judged, though in the final judgment all shall be held to account for their sins.

But, meanwhile, God has made certain exceptions for a definite purpose. God raised up prophets for the very purpose of being part of the foundation of the Church. Jesus called disciples OUT OF THIS WORLD to be taught to teach others and in the coming millennium of the restored kingdom of God, to rule and teach under King of kings Jesus, when the tree of life will be opened to all flesh.

The Church was called to be trained to become rulers and teachers in the kingdom of God WHEN the tree of life shall be opened. Meanwhile the Holy Spirit has been closed to all but the prophets and the called-out-ones of the true Church. The prophet Joel foretold it shall come to pass afterward—after the 6,000 years of this world of Satan—that God will pour out his Spirit upon all flesh (Joel 2:28).

Meanwhile it was necessary for God's purpose that the Holy Spirit be given to the prophets and those
specially called out for training to become rulers and teachers under Christ, when the government of God is restored to the earth over all nations.

In calling out the Church, Jesus said plainly, “No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him ...(John 6:44). The Church is merely the “firstfruits” of salvation. This entire truth will be made more clear in chapter six.

**Why the Second Adam?**

To review: Approximately 4,000 years from Adam, God sent Jesus Christ to live a perfect life, overcoming Satan, qualifying where the first Adam failed, to replace Satan as RULER on the throne of the whole earth. Those who, as Jesus did, overcome Satan, their own selves and sin (the “called,” that is), will sit with Christ in his throne when he comes to set up the KINGDOM OF GOD and to restore the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, which the former Lucifer rejected and ceased to administer!

Those very few called, beginning with “righteous Abel” up to now and on to Christ’s return to earth, have had to do what Adam refused to do—REJECT THE WAY OF SATAN, who rebelled against the GOVERNMENT OF GOD!

Who, then, is a real Christian? Only those who have been, and are being, led by the Holy Spirit of God (Rom. 8:9, 11, 14). And none can receive the Holy Spirit until that person 1) REPENTS—of his sins, his transgressions of God’s law; and 2) has complete faith in Jesus Christ—relying on Christ—which includes BELIEVING Jesus Christ. I mean, believing what he says—his WORD, the Holy Bible!

Thus, the called-out-ones after real repentance and belief Christ reconciles to God the Father and we receive the Holy Spirit impregnating us as children of God.

At this point let us clear up another question. Why could not Cain, Abel and Seth, the firstborn children of Adam, have repented and purely on that repentance have received the Spirit and life of God? God’s law could not be a law except there be a penalty for its infraction. Adam had sinned. All his children had sinned and incurred on them the death penalty. They and no person after them could be freed from the penalty of that law until Christ, their very Maker, had paid that death penalty in their stead. Therefore, no salvation was possible until the crucifixion of Christ. Only Jesus’ atonement could reconcile any human to God the Father.

Now, what of these and all the others—the THOUSANDS OF MILLIONS? Up to now, unless called and drawn by God, they simply have not yet been judged! I do not mean they shall not have to give account for their sins. They shall, indeed! But their judgment is COMING. Judgment has begun in the true Church of God (I Pet. 4:17). Jesus said, “No man can come to me, except the Father... draw him...(John 6:44)." NO MAN CAN come to Christ otherwise! But the Church is merely the first harvest.

In Satan’s deceived world many have come to a counterfeit Christ who is supposed to have done away with his Father’s commandments. They even worship Christ. But Jesus himself said plainly: “Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition. ... Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye” (Mark 7:7, 9, 13).

Deceived millions do not realize that they are worshipping Christ in vain. They have been deceived into worshipping “another Jesus.”

**Every Human Shall be Called**

When Christ comes as KING OF KINGS and LORD of lords, he will reign for the next thousand years. EVERYBODY living from his coming will be called.

After that thousand years shall occur the “Great White Throne Judgment” of Revelation 20:11-12. All who ever lived from Adam on, who were uncalled by God, shall be resurrected MORTAL in human flesh and blood as they were in their first life. Then they shall give account for the sins of their former life. The penalty of those sins is death. They shall then learn that Jesus Christ had paid that death penalty in their stead. But on real repentance and faith they shall be forgiven and receive God’s Holy Spirit, begetting them to ETERNAL LIFE.

**God’s Wonderful Master Plan will call everyone who ever lived to receive eternal salvation, but on real repentance and belief of God’s truth. But, there is a time-order in resurrections (I Cor. 15:22-23). “For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward...” (two other resurrections revealed in Revelation 20:11-13 are not covered in I Corinthians 15).**

Those called in the millennium, and those in the Great White Throne resurrection and judgment, shall NOT have Satan, then, to overcome.

**How Wonderful are God’s ways—even though hidden now from most of humanity bringing so much suffering on themselves! As the apostle Paul exclaimed: “O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!” (Rom. 11:33).**

In MAN, God is reproducing himself! The word for God in Genesis 1:1 is Elohim in the original Hebrew. It is a name, like church or family or group. God said, “Let US—not ME—make man in our image.” God truly is a family into which we, literally, may be born!

WHAT, then, is man? He is a living being made from the dust of the ground. He is CLAY, and God is the Master Potter, molding, shaping, forming our CHARACTER—if we respond when he calls and draws us to him. With our willingness he is infusing into us HIS VERY OWN SPIRITUAL HOLY, RIGHTEOUS and PERFECT CHARACTER!

**Why is man? God created man on the earth to build in us what the sinning angels refused to let God build in them—his perfect character! He is, in his time-order and way, developing us to become VERY GOD—each of us—and to finish the creation of the unfinished universe! But, for now, we still live in this deceived world led by Satan. □

The PLAIN TRUTH
In my talk I am going to address two historical aspects of the Middle East conflict, and one political.

The historical aspects are related to the questions: How did the Middle East conflict arise and how has it developed? While the political side is to deal with the situation as it is now. Why should I go back to history? Because one cannot really understand the present complex situation without going back into history.

The 19th century, in the West, was the golden age of colonization. Great Britain was spreading all over the world. The French, the Portuguese, the Spanish, the Dutch, later even the Germans and the Italians, spread abroad. All these countries were Christian.

There was a Muslim country at that time, which was an extension of the Middle Ages and maintained Islamic domination over some parts of the world. That was the Ottoman Empire. During that golden age of power, of colonization, strength and imperialism, the Ottoman Empire was called Old Turkey.

Turkey at that time was ruling all Arab Asia. What we know now as Israel, Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, parts of Saudi Arabia, North Yemen, were the limits of Turkey's domination in Asia in terms of geography. In the previous century the Turks held North Africa. And, as you know, one of their sultan's troops reached as far as Vienna.

Turkey in the 19th century faced Christian Europe, which had started the Industrial Revolution. The balance changed in this world with the Industrial Revolution and as a result the Ottoman Empire started to retreat in favor of Christian countries. Any major European country was able to put an end to the Ottoman Empire in the 19th century. But because of the rivalry among the Europeans, Ottoman Turkey continued to live until World War I. That's when what is called Old Turkey ceased.

During her old age the European rivals did not choose to put an end to Turkey until it had been ripe. The European countries were competing among themselves over the legacy they would get from Turkey.

Among those who thought of getting their share of the legacy of Turkey were the Jews of Europe. In Christian Europe the Jews were not always treated well, especially in East Europe. That is a well known fact. In thinking of the future their leading intellectuals sought to find a place where they could build a Jewish national home.

The world was spread before them. Some suggested to them to go to Uganda in Africa, some to other places. But the leaders prevailed upon the others and insisted that the place should be Palestine. It was more attractive since there is a historical attachment to this part of the world. It is mentioned in the Bible as the promised land. The leaders of the Jews could mobilize them around this objective much better than to mobilize them around a national home in Africa or Latin America, for example.

So they started to work. Their leaders succeeded in establishing very good relationships with the British leadership at that time. During World War I, when Turkey was being defeated and retreating to Turkey proper, the Zionist leaders were capable of having the British give what is known in the history of the Palestinian conflict as the Balfour Declaration. That was on November 2, 1917.

The Balfour Declaration was tantamount to pledge on behalf of the British government at that time to help the Jews build their national home in Palestine. The British, with the French, divided the booty of the war. The British made the point that Palestine should be part of their share of the booty. So Palestine, Jordan and Iraq came under British mandate. Syria and Lebanon came under French mandate.

That's again history. This division later on was legitimized by the League of Nations when they gave the British and the French this right of mandating these areas.

To make their promises to the Zionist leaders materialize, the first one whom the British appointed to be high commissioner in Palestine was a Briton named Herbert Samuel, who was a Jewish Zionist.

With his appointment the British policy of building a Jewish homeland in Palestine started. As a result of
this foreign policy, a conflict started to develop between Arabs and Jews. The Jewish community in Palestine by the end of the war in 1918, constituted only 17 percent of the population—83 percent being Arabs.

Jews and Arabs lived for ages together. And I must stress that the Jews lived with the Arab Muslims much better than they lived with Christians in Europe. The Jews contributed to our [Islamic Arabic] civilization in many places, simply because Islam takes more from Judaism than it takes from Christianity. A big percentage of our holy book is about Judaism.

The Jews were not our enemy when the Islamic Empire started to expand. Our enemies in the Middle Ages were Christian Europeans, Byzantines, and not Jews. So Jews were with us. And Jews suffered like we did in Spain when the Spaniards expelled the Arabs from Spain by the end of the 15th century. Both the Jews and the Arabs suffered because the Jews cooperated with the Arabs in occupying and in developing Spain. So there is, in history, a big area of cooperation between Arab Muslims and Jews.

With the British in Palestine, with their policies starting to materialize on the ground, Palestine Arabs began to realize that they were facing something new. The British government was trying to impose upon them the other community with which they had been coexisting for a long time.

As a result of that, in the '20s and the '30s many clashes took place between Arabs and the British. In 1936 an Arab rebellion erupted in Palestine, and it continued for three years till the beginning of World War II. The British in 1939 were smart enough to know how to put an end to this revolution by various means: by giving promises to the Arabs on one hand, and by dividing them on the other hand. So the rebellion was quelled. And we witnessed in the region World War II. The war was not fought on our land [on Arab soil], but we received some of its effects and its impact in our land.

Now we come to more recent events in history, the pogroms and the Holocaust of World War II. Nazism was cruel, inhuman. Nazis killed many civilians in Europe, and in particular, the Jewish community. That was bound to create a very human sympathy and attachment to the Jewish cause in Europe and in the world.

But nobody thought of who was going to pay the price at that time. The Zionist leaders were, as always, very smart and they made use of sympathy. “You see our plight in Europe. You see how the Jews are suffering,” they said. With that they started to promote the urgency for building a Jewish state in Palestine.

To do that during the war, the Allies, who were fighting the Nazis, helped Jews in Eastern Europe and Western Europe to escape to Palestine. So during the early '40s, we witnessed in Palestine the illegal immigration of Jews from Europe.

In 1948, when the British mandate came to an end, Palestine had two big communities: Arabs, who were one million, and Jews, who at that time were about 600,000. Once again the Jews and their friends in the world pushed their cause and asked for the establishment of a national Jewish home. The world believed the Jewish people suffered enough. Their suffering should be stopped. The answer: a state.

The war ended in 1945. In 1947 the United Nations took, or adopted, what is known in the history of the Palestinian question as the partitioning plan which envisaged two states: a Jewish state and an Arab state, with Jerusalem and the area around it corpus separatum. That is a Latin phrase meaning something separate, or having its own status.

Another problem started. In 1947, when the United Nations adopted the partitioning plan, the Jews in Palestine owned only 5.6 percent of Palestinian territory. The Palestinian Arabs owned between 92-93 percent. And the other property was owned by foreigners—the Church of Russia, for example. Just imagine two communities. One is one million, and the other is 600,000. The one million own 92 percent of the territory; the others own 5.6 percent of the territory. Yet the partitioning plan allocated the Jews 54 percent of Palestine, and the rest was allocated for the Arabs!

That, by itself, created a very imbalanced position, a very unfair position, which drove the Arabs to refuse this partitioning plan. It was a very unfair deal. They couldn’t bear it. They thought that they should hold to their territory to secure their rights even if they had to fight for that.

When they went to fighting, the Arab states sided with the Palestinians. That was the war of 1948, the result of which was the establishment of the state of Israel on a land much larger than what the partitioning plan gave the Jews in Palestine. As a result of the war they got 76 percent of the land. So in almost nine months the Jewish community in Palestine, previously having 5.6 percent of the land, got 76 percent of the land.

And here the conflict takes another turn. The state of Israel is established. The Arabs are unhappy with this fact. The Palestinians are now in the diaspora! For the first time we have Palestinians switching places with Jews—Jews coming from the diaspora to a state, Palestinians getting out of their country to the diaspora. As a result of the war an armistice agreement was reached between the belligerents.

Then the conflict took another turn. The Israelis adopted a position of calling for peace with the Arabs in the '50s. The Arabs said, “No, because you have taken our land. Give
us back our land, then we accept peace.” The Arabs, being believers in hell and paradise, couldn’t see gray. They insisted that unless they get back their territory, there could be no peace. Of course, in such a situation, Israel, created in an Arab environment, was besieged. The Arab states were larger in number, wealthier, but weaker in terms of politics and armament. Under such a situation war was bound to erupt some day.

And this war came in 1967. In June 1967 the Israelis occupied all mandatory Palestine. They added it to Sinai and the Golan Heights. The result of the 1967 war was enormously important. After the war the Arabs got disillusioned for the first time. They started to believe that Israel really does exist. Until then they did not want to believe that it existed. The Israelis were now seen as a strong people.

This development laid the grounds for the Arabs to change gradually their attitudes over the last years. So Israel is there. Israel does exist.

On the eve of the 1967 war, the Israelis were calling for reaching a peaceful settlement, within their borders. That was before they got the West Bank and Gaza and the other Arab areas. After the war when the Arabs said, “OK, let’s sit down and talk,” the Israelis said, “No, we have other views now.”

This victory created in the Israeli psyche what I might call the rhythm of victory. They won the first war. They won the second war. (It is demonstrated in a territory in their hands.) They changed their minds. “Why should we reach peace on the previous terms after taking all the land of Palestine? After all, this is the promised land.”

Thus began the mixing of historical allusions and religious aspirations with realpolitik and human dimensions. The Palestinian national rights were blurred. Then confusion in Tel Aviv started to emerge, the result of which is that the religious right in Israel began to emerge. To make their ideas materialize in Palestine—in the promised land—they started to build settlements. At the beginning they researched the Bible for locations of religious significance. They went there to build a settlement and to bring Israelis to live there. That was at the beginning, a religious movement.

This religious movement was soon supported by political parties. Settlements were first built in the name of security. Other settlements were built on economic grounds. As a result the West Bank became an open area for the well-organized efforts of the settlers.

On our side we were warning, shouting out, going to the United Nations, going to the United States. Many U.N. resolutions have been taken to condemn this movement as being illegal, as another form of aggression, but nobody would listen.

When we presented the question of settlements to the American people, very few of them could understand our position. Most of the Americans cannot understand our position simply because of the cultural parallel between the settlements in Israel and the foundation of the United States of America. After all, the United States was built the same way. People came to America to settle.

This affinity between the Israeli mind and the American cultural heritage made you Americans a very hard target to talk to. You couldn’t understand what we are saying. To you, “It is a good sign that people can settle and develop. After all, our founding fathers did the same.”

Another area which made it difficult for us to present our case to you is the Judeo-Christian heritage, which is a part of your culture. Islam to you is something strange, except perhaps for scholars who care to know about Islam. After the oil embargo in 1973, some people other than scholars started to look into Islam, not out of trying to know the common heritage between nations, but out of new economic considerations resulting from the oil embargo.

In the last decade the Arabs became weaker; the Israelis became stronger. Their grip on the territories became tighter. They now have 160 settlements on the West Bank alone. The ex-Vice Mayor of Jerusalem wrote a book, published in 1984. In his book The West Bank Data Project, Mr. Benvenisti suggests that it is too late to talk about a West Bank. It has become part of the state of Israel. He was, however, criticizing that situation because he had other ideas.

In Israel, as a result of not reaching peace, as a result of maintaining their occupation on the West Bank and building settlements, Israelis are facing now a big question. “What kind of Israel do we want? Is this the Israel we had conceived of? Is this the Israel which our Zionist fathers thought of?”

The answer to these questions is no, because Israel on all mandatory Palestine is not and cannot be a purely Jewish state. In mandatory Palestine, there are around five million people, two million Arabs and three million Israelis. On the basis of the current growth rate, of the Arabs and the Israelis, the Arabs will be equal to the Jews in 10 to 15 years’ time.

Now this is a dilemma in Israel itself. Those who are raising this question in Israel are asking, “What kind of state do we want? If we have to continue maintaining our occupation, it means either we have to become a bi-national state, which is against the basic ideas of Zionism, or we shall have an apartheid state, having Arabs as a community apart, third-rate citizens.”

In answer to this dilemma there are two schools of thought in Israel. One is on the right, represented mainly by the Likud Party, and the
other is represented mainly by the Labor Party.

The Likud says the problem is simple: Now we have the land. We have on this land a foreign community. They are Palestinians who have been there for thousands of years. This foreign community we can handle. They are an extension of the Arab bulk in the east, on the south, on the north—especially the east, Jordan. If they can live with us, "and on our land," they may. If they cannot live with us, they go eastward to their base.

Politically speaking, this implies the possibility of expelling 500,000 Palestinians at once. Why? Historically the mass exodus from Palestine among the Arabs took place only in wars. Once in 1948 and once in 1967. To squeeze them out by pressure, as the case is now, is not enough to get as many Palestinians out as possible. So if Israelis have to get them out, they have to resort to other measures.

Two years ago one of the Likud ministers came up with a project in which he suggested that a new big camp or town be built in the Jordan Valley north of the Dead Sea, to bring there the Palestinian refugees now on the West Bank. "That would make Israeli planning easier in cities like Bethlehem and Ramallah, because present refugee camps are close to those cities. It would also be for security reasons."

It was obvious that what he meant by that plan is to bring those Palestinians near the River Jordan, four or five kilometers from our cease-fire line, so one day, by scaring them out, these Palestinians will move—having each his bundle in his hand—to the river. It takes a maximum of one hour to reach the bank, and the refugees would be in Jordan. That's one innovative way to get rid of the Palestinians.

We made a big noise about it in the United Nations, and in conferences here and there. The objective of this project is quite clear.

The Israeli government has undergone a change now. There is a unity government, with the prime minister presently from Labor. The answer of the Labor Party to this question is what the prime minister calls the territorial compromise. In other words, the West Bank is to be divided between Israel and Jordan as a result of direct negotiations between the two governments. Jordan refuses this.

The position of Jordan is that we cannot speak for the Palestinians because any negotiations imply, among other things, compromises. We cannot compromise any of the Palestinian rights, including their right of self-determination. If we do so, whatever peace we reach will be shaky. It will not be durable. It will give way to another dispute in the area.

The Palestinian leadership is the PLO. The Palestinians adhere to the PLO as their representative. The PLO has no competitor.

[In 1985] Arafat reached an accord with King Hussein. This accord says the PLO is prepared to go for a peaceful settlement on the basis of United Nations resolutions. For the first time in 20 years the PLO changes its previous position in public. With this position the PLO's approach to solving the problem has drastically changed. It stands now for a negotiated settlement.

The PLO, after its military defeat in Lebanon, after the long-suffering of the Palestinian people in Lebanon and in the occupied territories, believes it has no option but the option of peace. Now the Arabs and the PLO stand for just peace; nevertheless, both Israel and the United States of America refuse to consider the PLO as the Palestinian interlocutor in whatever negotiations might take place.

Jordan now is trying to explain the sincerity of the position of the Palestinian representatives in the United States—that has been one of my tasks—on the basis that we believe in redeemability, not only in religion but also in politics. People can be redeemed. Yes, there are some of the Palestinians who—like General Ariel Sharon and Rabbi Kahane in Israel—don't want peace. But 90 percent of the Palestinians want peace. Let's remember that war can be made by one crazy man, but peace needs at least two wise men to sit down together.

So we are extending our hands for a peaceful settlement. The Israeli population wants peace, too. I believe in the sincerity of the majority of Israelis who call for peace, but the problem is what kind of peace? The competition among their political leaders makes some of them say, "No, we will take all of Palestine and then have peace." We tell them, "Look, you cannot take my land and make peace with me. The principle is land for peace."

Many Israelis believe in this, and these Israelis in particular constitute our hope for the future.

In any case, when we talk about peace in the Middle East, with Israelis or their friends, let's always remember the better prospects of the future, rather than the bitter hang-ups of the past. A conflict that goes on for 60 years must have precipitated bitterness and distrust. What we need is trust between us and the Israelis. Trust in the future and trust in our commitment to peace.

Whatever peaceful settlement we reach in the future should be such that can ensure a real, permanent, durable peace for the area.

Peace to be durable should be based on 1) a balanced resolution of the conflict; 2) justice; 3) the recognition of the national rights of the Palestinians for the right of Israel to exist in recognized and secure borders; 4) the participation of the representatives of the Palestinian people in the peace negotiations; 5) the recognition of the attachment of Arabs and Jews to Jerusalem without prejudicing the Arab sovereign right over Arab Jerusalem. I am a Palestinian myself, born in 1933. In 1939, the end of the Palestinian rebellion, I had a bad experience related to the Palestinian problem. It has continued to live with me since then. Since 6 years of age I can see that I have not been living my normal life. But I am not an exclusive case.

Like me, there are millions, both among Israelis and Palestinians, who don't live a normal life. Normal life cannot be lived if people don't live in peace. That's not normal life. I look forward to the day when I, my family and myself, sit down together in our living room and talk about vacations, culture, books, drama, music, rather than about prisoners, bombs, killings, reprisals, deportees, arrests—these terms of nonsense—of suffering, of depicting life as meaningless and a source of devastation.

What we in the area, both Arabs and Israelis—Palestinians, Jordanians, Israelis and Lebanese now—need most is peace in order to get back to the normal life we have been missing for 60 years.

Adnan Abu Odeh—Minister to the Royal Court of Jordan
THE WORLD TOMORROW

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of the world tomorrow on TELEVISION and RADIO.

TELEVISION LOG

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

U.S.

Nationwide Cable

Lifetime Cable Network (LIF) New York — 10:30 pm ET, Sat
Nashville Network (TNN/NSH) Nashville — 7:00 am CT, Sat
Satellite Program Network (SPN) Tulsa — 12:00 pm CT, Wed

WOR, New York — 11:30 am ET and 11:00 pm ET, Sun
WGN, Chicago — 10:00 am CT, Sat
WBMG, Birmingham — 4:30 am, Sat
WUSA, Denver — 9:30 am, Sat
KTUS, Sterling — 3:00 am, Sun

ALABAMA

WBMG, Birmingham — 42, 10:00 am, Sun
WBBH, Ft. Myers — 20, 9:30 am, Sun
WTFV, Dothan — 4, 7:00 am, Sun
WOWL, Florence — 13, 10:30 am, Sun
WHNT, Huntsville — 19, 7:30 am, Sun
WCIV, Montgomery — 20, 9:30 am, Mon

ALASKA

KIMO, Anchorage — 13, 10:00 am, Sun
KTVF, Fairbanks — 11, 8:00 am, Sun

ARIZONA

KNAZ, Flagstaff — 2, 9:00 am, Sun
KNXV, Phoenix — 15, 8:30 am, Sun
KTVK, Phoenix — 15, 8:30 am, Sun
KOLD, Tucson — 13, 7:30 am, Sun
KVDA, Tucson — 4, 9:00 am, Sun
KYEL, Yuma — 13, 8:30 am, Sun

ARKANSAS

KTEV, El Dorado — 10, 7:00 am, Sun
KPM, Ft. Smith — 24, 9:00 am, Sun
KAIT, Jonesboro — 8, 10:00 am, Sun
KATV, Little Rock — 7, 9:30 am, Sun

CALIFORNIA

KBAK, Bakersfield — 29, 9:00 am, Sun
KFI, Los Angeles — 13, 12:00 midnight, Sun
KHJ, Los Angeles — 9, 12:30 pm, Sun
KTTV, Los Angeles — 11, 7:00 am, Sun
KTVU, Oakland — 2, 8:00 am, Sat; 6:30 am, Sun
KESQ, Palm Springs — 42, 10:30 am, Sun
KNCN, Sacramento — 13, 8:30 am, Sun
KRON, San Francisco — 4, 7:30 am, Sun
KSBY, Salinas — 8, 7:30 am, Sun
KTVG, Santa Barbara — 10, 7:00 am, Sun
KXET, San Diego — 10, 7:00 am, Sun
KTVB, Boise — 2, 9:30 am, Sun

COLORADO

KRDO, Colorado Springs — 13, 10:30 am, Sun
KWN, Denver — 2, 7:00 am, Sat
KUSA, Denver — 9, 7:30 am, Sun
KTVS, Sterling — 3, 11:00 am, Sun

CONNECTICUT

WVIT, Hartford — 30, 11:30 am, Sun
WTXX, Waterbury — 20, 7:30 am, Sun

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WJMM, Washington — 9, 7:00 am, Sun
WJLA, Washington — 7, 11:00 am, Sun

FLORIDA

WBBH, Ft. Myers — 30, 9:30 am, Sun
WTVX, Ft. Pierce — 30, 7:00 am, Sun
WJCB, Gainesville — 20, 9:00 am, Sun
WTVL, Jacksonville — 12, 9:30 am, Sun
WCTV, Miami — 6, 9:30 am, Sat
WTVJ, Miami — 4, 8:00 am, Sun
WCPX, Orlando — 6, 7:00 am, Sat; 8:00 am, Sun
WEAX, Ocala — 4, 7:00 am, Sun
WEAR, Panama City — 3, 11:30 am, Sun
WXLT, Sarasota — 40, 7:00 am, Sun
WCTV, Tallahassee — 6, 12 noon, Sun
WXFL, Tampa — 8, 11:30 am, Sun
WPEC, West Palm Beach — 12, 9:00 am, Sun

GEORGIA

WTSG, Albany — 11, 8:00 am, Sun
WGNX, Atlanta — 46, 7:00 am, Sat
WTBS, Atlanta — 17, 6:30 am, Sun; 1:00 pm, Mon
WRDW, Augusta — 12, 10:30 am, Sun
WRLD, Columbus — 3, 8:30 am, Sun
WGXA, Macon — 24, 11:30 am, Sun
WTOC, Savannah — 11, 10:30 am, Sun
WVGA, Valdosta — 44, 10:30 am, Sun

HAWAII

KHVO, Hilo — 13, 11:00 am, Sun
KHNL, Honolulu — 13, 9:30 am, Sun
KTH, Honolulu — 9, 11:00 am, Sun
KMAU, Wailuku — 12, 11:00 am, Sun

IDAHO

KBOI, Boise — 2, 9:00 am, Sun
KPVI, Pocatello — 6, 7:30 am, Sun

ILLINOIS

WCIU, Chicago — 26, 10:00 pm, Sat; 12:30 pm, Sun
WGN, Chicago — 9, 10:00 am, Sat
WAND, Decatur — 17, 7:00 am, Sun
WQAD, Moline — 8, 8:30 am, Sun
WMBD, Peoria — 31, 10:30 am, Sun
KQDA, Quincy — 7, 8:30 am, Sun
WTVI, Rockford — 17, 9:00 am, Sun

INDIANA

WTVM, Evansville — 7, 7:30 am, Sun
WKJK, Ft. Wayne — 33, 9:30 am, Sun
WRTV, Indianapolis — 6, 7:00 am, Sun
WTHR, Indianapolis — 13, 8:30 am, Sun

IOWA

KUOW, Des Moines — 5, 10:00 am, Sun
KJMT, Mason City — 3, 10:00 am, Sun
KTVO, Ottumwa — 3, 10:00 am, Sun
KCAU, Sioux City — 9, 8:00 am, Sun
KWIL, Waterloo — 7, 10:00 am, Sun

KANSAS

KUPK, Garden City — 13, 10:00 am, Sun
KLOE, Goodland — 10, 10:00 am, Sun
KAYS, Hays — 7, 10:00 am, Sun
KCTV, Kansas City — 5, 10:30 am, Sun
KSN, Topeka — 27, 10:30 am, Sun
KAKE, Wichita — 10, 10:00 am, Sun

KENTUCKY

WBBK, Bowling Green — 13, 10:30 am, Sun
WXK, Lexington — 18, 9:30 am, Sun
WAVE, Louisville — 3, 9:30 am, Sun
WDRB, Louisville — 41, 10:00 pm, Sun
WPSP, Paducah — 6, 10:00 am, Sun

LOUISIANA

KLAX, Alexandria — 31, 9:00 am, Sun
WAFB, Baton Rouge — 9, 11:30 pm, Sat
KLFY, Lafayette — 10, 9:30 am, Sun
WDSU, New Orleans — 6, 10:00 am, Sun
WGNO, New Orleans — 26, 7:30 am, Sat
WWUE, New Orleans — 8, 9:00 am, Sun
WVL, New Orleans — 4, 7:00 am, Sun
KTBX, Shreveport — 3, 8:30 am, Sun

MAINE

WWB, Bangor — 7, 9:00 am, Sun
WMTW, Poland Spring — 8, 9:00 am, Sun
WAGM, Presque Isle — 8, 9:00 am, Sun

MARYLAND

WBFF, Baltimore — 45, 10:30 am, Sun
WHAG, Hagerstown — 25, 7:30 am, Sat
WMDT, Salisbury — 47, 11:00 am, Sun

MASSACHUSETTS

WCC, Adams — 19, 8:00 am, Sun
WCVB, Boston — 5, 7:00 am, Sun
WNEV, Boston — 7, 7:30 am, Sun
WBSK, Boston — 28, 8:00 am, Sun
WLNE, New Bedford — 6, 7:30 am, Sun
WGBB, Springfield — 40, 9:00 am, Sun

MICHIGAN

WUPJ, Battle Creek — 41, 11:30 am, Sun
WTVU, Cheboygan — 4, 10:00 am, Sun
WXON, Detroit — 20, 8:00 am, Sat
WJMN, Escanaba — 8, 10:00 am, Sun
WJRT, Flint — 12, 8:00 am, Sun
WZZM, Grand Rapids — 13, 12:00 noon, Sun
WLX, Lansing — 10, 10:30 am, Sun
WJUR, Marquette — 6, 11:30 am, Sun
WJBD, Southfield — 3, 6:30 am, Sun
WPBN, Traverse City — 7, 10:00 am, Sun
Soviet Crisis
(Continued from page 14)
deal with the West: a complete withdrawal of Soviet military forces from Eastern Europe in exchange for the withdrawal of American troops (today numbering 300,000) from Western Europe. Such a proposal would likely find favor with the increasing numbers of Americans who would like to strike from the overburdened U.S. budget the enormous cost of maintaining U.S. servicemen in Western Europe— and with many West Europeans who are disillusioned with America and desirous of doing more for themselves in the way of defense.

The resulting political vacuum might then be filled by a new entity—an association of East and West European nations in a new era of all-European cooperation! The countries of Eastern Europe would become free to exercise their right of self-determination. In view of their historical and cultural links with Western Europe, they would undoubtedly seek to associate themselves with an evolving West European union.

This would effectively end the political division of the Continent that has prevailed since 1945. Even the long-delayed reunion of divided Germany might be achieved within such a framework of general European reunification.

The nations of Western Europe have much to offer those of Eastern Europe in the way of economic aid and consumer products, and eager East Europeans know it. Even the Soviet Union itself might then seek greater economic cooperation with the nations of Western Europe. Already, reform-minded Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has indicated he wants to pursue more productive initiatives with Western Europe. Conceivably, some sort of new Rapallo-type economic and diplomatic pact might eventually be hammered out between the U.S.S.R. and the evolving European union.

Now consider the far-reaching prophetic implications.

Revived Roman Empire!
The above events would, in short, create the circumstances necessary for the prophesied emergence of a United Europe, proclaimed for more than 50 years by this magazine.

Bible prophecy reveals that an end-time revival of the ancient Roman Empire will once more arise in Europe. This confederated Europe will rapidly become an immense economic, political and military power—a Third Force in world affairs, a superpower in its own right. This powerful union, prophecy tells us, will be composed of “ten horns”—meaning 10 nations or groups of nations (Rev. 17:3).

Notice further that the ancient prophecies of Daniel picture this system as a human image standing on two legs. The original Roman Empire was broken into two “legs”—the Eastern Empire at Byzantium (Constantinople) and the Empire of the West centered at Rome. Thus it is probable that the coming reconstituted Roman Empire will also be composed of two distinct yet cooperative parts: one comprising nations of Western Europe, the other incorporating nations released from Soviet dominance in Eastern Europe.

Moreover, the 10 toes of the image of Daniel’s prophecy (Dan. 2:41-43) correspond to the 10 end-time national units described as “horns” in Revelation 17. These 10 entities constitute a political system that will dominate the Western world and will exist at the return of Jesus Christ, when he will establish the kingdom of God on this earth and bring us peace at last (Dan. 2:44, 45).

Given the fact of five toes on each foot, it is possible that five entities will come from Western Europe and five from the East. That the toes are described as being composed of “iron mixed with miry clay” indicates an imperfect adhesion. Will this be the result of countries of Eastern Europe retaining some aspects of communist economic practice?

Role of Religion
Religion is also destined to play a major role in loosening the Soviet grip on Eastern Europe and inspiring enthusiasm for European unity. The religious and nationalistic fervor being stirred in Eastern Europe by a Polish Pope is already troubling the Kremlin. The Pope’s voice is a source of enormous influence in that region. Many East Europeans have caught his vision of a pan-European alliance against the secular materialism of our modern age.

In recent years, Pope John Paul II has spoken frequently and forcefully about the “spiritual unity” of Europe, and has appealed for Europeans in both halves of the Continent to “revive your roots.” The cultural, religious and political implications are obvious. As one news commentator plainly observed during one of the Pontiff’s visits to the East: “The Pope has undertaken the liberation of Eastern Europe.” Not surprisingly, Bible prophecy reveals that the coming confederated Europe—like the medieval Holy Roman Empire—will be a powerful church-state union, not merely a mercantile arrangement.

Many European political figures and leading churchmen are publicly expressing their belief that a revived alliance between church and “empire” may be the key—the only key—to European survival in the face of Soviet-U.S. confrontation. The Roman Catholic Church is pushing its historic role of attempting to cement together the diverse peoples of the Continent.

The stage is being set! Events are moving inexorably in the direction of European reunification. What is transpiring today on both sides of the Iron Curtain are the first steps in the refashioning of Europe into a new, yet old, alignment. As George Bailey suggests in his perceptive book Germans: “Can we be sure that history has written finis to what was perhaps the grandest design ever conceived by man: the Holy Roman Empire?”

Forces already have been set in motion that will revolutionize the face of Europe. A powerful New Europe is on the horizon. Bible prophecy is about to be fulfilled, with astonishing consequences for Protestant Britain and the United States.

The coming restoration of the Roman Empire will astound the world! Europe—a United Europe, East and West—will once again be a power to reckon with!
that Judah was invaded and the land of Palestine was given over to King Nebuchadnezzar in 604 B.C., the very nation to whom that land was deeded by God Almighty took possession of it.

That nation was not the Jewish people, but the birthright people who descended from Abraham. The birthright means right of birth, and includes the possession of the land; that is, it includes material resources and possessions. The possession of the land that God promised to Abraham was handed on to Isaac, Abraham's son, and then to Jacob. And then Jacob, just before he died, and when his eyes were so dim with age that he couldn't see, reached out and conferred that same birthright, including the possession of the land of Palestine, not upon Judah, the father of the Jews, but upon Ephraim, and together with him his brother Manasseh, both sons of Joseph.

Joseph was one of the 12 sons of the ancient patriarch Jacob, who was renamed Israel. Usually you don't hear of any tribe of Joseph because Joseph was given a double portion. And his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, each became a tribe. And so, rather, you usually read of the tribe of Ephraim and the tribe of Manasseh. When the name Joseph is occasionally used, it includes the two tribes.

How Prophecy Was Fulfilled

Ephraim was made the chief birthright holder. And so, 2,520 years from 604 B.C. Ephraim was to take Palestine again. Counting 2,520 years from 604 B.C. brings us to A.D. 1917.

When it comes to translating time and getting down to an exact day of the year, 2,520 years after Nebuchadnezzar came down to Jerusalem and Palestine was surrendered to him—the Bible gives us the date in terms of the Hebrew calendar. That calendar is set up according to the new moons, with every month being 30 or 29 days. Today we're living under what we call the Roman calendar or, as it was slightly altered by Pope Gregory one year, but the next year will be about 11 days earlier, or maybe about 18 days later in the year, because the Hebrew calendar—sometimes called the sacred calendar, which came from God—goes according to the moon and runs in 19-year cycles. The Roman calendar by contrast was concocted by men who tried to make it come out right every year, and they've never been able to make it do that!

So, when it comes to translating a certain prophesied date recorded in the Hebrew calendar (in this case the 24th day of the 9th month—see Haggai 2:20-22) to a date in 1917 according to the Roman calendar, it takes some effort to figure. I found the Hebrew date corresponded to December 9, 1917, which was 2,520 years from the time Nebuchadnezzar accepted the formal surrender of the Jews in 604 B.C.

The Turks surrendered Palestine to the British on—what date? I had heard, and it had been published that the date was December 11, 1917. December 11, 1917, I found, on further investigation, was merely the date on which General Allenby and his army made their triumphal march into the city of Jerusalem. But it was two days before, on December 9, that the Turks made the surrender.

That prophecy pertaining to the birthright tribe of Ephraim was fulfilled by the British down to the very day, December 9. And it was on the equivalent date, in 604 B.C., 2,520 years before, six centuries before the birth of Christ, that the Jews formally surrendered Jerusalem and Palestine to the gentiles from Babylon.

Next month I want to give you a prophecy from the book of Daniel, which is one of the proofs of the inspiration of the Bible.
Understand World Events and Trends

Vatican's Political Activism

In 1985, the Vatican showed that it is a force to be reckoned with on the world's diplomatic fronts.

On May 2 Argentina and Chile signed a Vatican-mediated pact ending a century-old, often bitter dispute over the Beagle Channel in Tierra del Fuego, at the tip of South America. Pope John Paul II stepped into the dispute in 1979 at the request of the two predominantly Catholic South American rivals.

The Vatican’s diplomatic concerns, however, are not limited merely to impartial arbitration.

On July 2 the Pope devoted the fourth encyclical of his papacy (an encyclical is a papal letter informing the Roman Catholic Church of a matter of importance) to the work of two ninth-century heroic figures who brought traditional Christianity, as well as other tenets of Western culture, to the Slavic peoples of Eastern Europe. The two missionaries were the brothers Cyril and Methodius.

Ignorance to Blame in Child Deaths

More children in Africa and Asia die from parental ignorance about how and when to wean them than die from famine. Likewise, more children die from parental failure to properly manage diarrhea than because of various disease epidemics. So says a recent study of conditions that affect child health.

Seventeen million children die each year from poor nutrition and childhood diseases—mostly in Third World nations. Some two thirds could be saved if their parents had better basic education and guidance in family planning, according to a Worldwatch Institute report.

Author William Chandler notes that many women in Africa begin weaning a child at 18 months or older. Many of these children suddenly receive hard-to-chew adult food or food that offers insufficient nourishment. Mr. Chandler says the resulting malnutrition kills 10 times as many children as does famine.

Also, waiting at least two years between births could reduce infant mortality by 11 percent. Avoiding high-risk pregnancies—those in women under the age of 20 or over the age of 35—would reduce infant mortality another 5 percent.

Higher risks of infant mortality are involved in later births and in cases where only short intervals have passed since previous births, when the mother's nutritional reserves are depleted and overall health is poorer.
Small Nations, Big Losses

The year 1985 witnessed the deaths of three men who, though not the leaders of powerful nations, will most certainly be missed in their countries and regions.


Concerned about events in neighboring Grenada after Maurice Bishop gained control of that country in 1979, Mr. Adams supported U.S. action in that island nation in 1983.

"He had a range far beyond the Caribbean," said Sally Shelton, U.S. ambassador to Barbados (1979-81).

Tage Erlander, 84, prime minister of Sweden from 1946 to 1969, died June 21. Mr. Erlander attended the University of Lund, where he became politically active in the Social Democratic Party. Erlander was first elected to the Swedish Parliament in 1933. It was as undersecretary of state in the Ministry of Social Affairs that Erlander made his mark on Sweden by planning many of that nation's social reforms.

In 1945 Mr. Erlander became minister of education. When then-prime-minister Per Albin Hansson died in 1946, Mr. Erlander was elected chairman of his party and became prime minister. "A clever administrator, a good speaker, unconventional and unassuming and with a strong sense of humor, Tage Erlander was held in high esteem by the Swedish people," said a report in Swedish Digest.

Japan's Mountain of Debt

News reports focusing on Japan's huge export surplus and resulting frictions with the United States have overshadowed another, more ominous development in the island nation: Japan's mammoth budget deficit.

Like most nations of the Free World, Japan is spending well beyond its means. But Japan's budget deficits today outstrip those of any other industrialized nation.

This fiscal year, more than 19 percent is going to service debt—a higher percentage than in the United States or West Germany. Debt service has replaced social security as the number one budget expenditure in Japan.

Japan's long-term outstanding debt stands at US$500,000,000,000—nearly half the nation's gross national product.

So far the huge deficit has not held back Japan's economy, which continues to grow at an impressive rate. But the outlook is not that bright. Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone is seeking to pare government fat and put a lid on spending, but many fear such measures will stall economic growth.

In addition to the disturbing debt picture, other trends trouble Japanese economic planners. Among them is the growing obsolescence of Japan's manufacturing plants. Japanese economists fear the aging plants may soon begin to cut into Japan's international competitiveness. The dilemma: Special tax breaks to encourage new industrial investment would cut into tax revenues and further aggravate Japan's already huge budget deficit.

The Japanese economic locomotive may soon have to get accustomed to a less rapid pace. The government faces some serious decisions as it seeks to improve its fiscal situation.
PERSONAL
(Continued from page 1)
today almost universally assume nothing exists but matter. They deny the existence of spirit. Which is to say, whether admitted or not, they deny the existence of God.
We come to the modern science of brain research. We learn that the human brain exercises many functions impossible in animal brain, yet we learn there is virtually no significant difference, physically. The animal cannot think, reason, study, make decisions apart from instinct. It cannot know what the human knows. It does not have attitudes of judgment, wisdom, love, kindness, cooperation, nor is it aware of competition, conspiracy, envy, jealousy, resentment. It has no appreciation of music, art and literature. It has no spiritual qualities or characteristics.
Yet science and higher education insist the faculty of intellect in humans is solely physical.
I had to PROVE to myself rationally that God exists and is in fact more real than matter. I had to prove that the Holy Bible is in fact the authoritative Word of God, by which he communicates to man, reveals truth otherwise inaccessible to man. And I found revealed PURPOSE, DESIGN, MEANING that is hidden from the self-professed scholarly. I found revealed the reason for mounting evils in a progressive world.
Can the human, who has been designed, created and made, say to his Maker, "Why did you make me thus?—and for what PURPOSE?" And can he instruct his Maker? Should he not, rather, open his mind, and listen when his Maker reveals to him the very reason for his being?
The Creator reveals and instructs in a highly coded book, the Holy Bible. Its profound message is opened to human understanding through the presence and indwelling of the Holy Spirit injected into the human mind that has surrendered and yielded completely to the revelation in belief and obedience. To such a one the TRUTH is made plain—wonderful beyond description.
But mark well this question! Think on this! If man had only the physical brain, like the dumb vertebrates, how could the great Spirit God inject into the animal brain these marvelous spiritual truths? The answer is plain. God does not. The dumb animals have no awareness of God or of spiritual knowledge.

1986
(Continued from page 2)
partly understood, is at present untreatable and is invariably fatal. . . . Caution would seem to be in order when it comes to exposing the public. . . .
The AIDS outbreak—which is certain to spread—is a graphic illustration of Jesus' words: "And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold."
Lawlessness in sexual relations (Lev. 18:22) is spreading this plague! And the lack of love—true concern for the welfare of others—frustrates attempts to control it.
Keep Your Eyes Open
Wars, insurrections, religious and racial hostility, famines and pestilences dominate today's headlines along with earthquakes and other natural disasters, often aggravated by the works of man. They will continue to do so until the return of Jesus Christ.
Tragically, the world at large cannot see the "big picture" any more than those living in Noah's day could (Matt. 24:39). The vast majority "have eyes and see not" (Jer. 5:21).
Hopefully, readers of The Plain Truth have their eyes open!

TRADE WAR!
(Continued from page 3)
the Federal Republic of Germany, is heavily dependent upon world trade, exporting a full third of its manufactured goods.
Access to the U.S. market is central to the economies of Japan and the other nations of the Pacific Basin, writes National Review executive editor John McLaughlin, "and hence perhaps to their stability."
If protectionism takes hold, what would happen to Japan and to Western Europe, whose economic heart is in Germany?
Protectionism, leading to a full-blown trade war, would likely break the extensive joint defense relationships between the U.S. and its primary World War II foes, now allies for the past 40 years. Americans should then prepare to witness the emergence of a nuclear-armed Japan as well as a nuclear-armed united Europe with Germany at its core.
It's doubtful whether the American public and its elected representatives have thought out the likely end results of actions now under way. Former Senate majority leader Howard H. Baker Jr. sounded this warning: "The disastrous Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1930 was rushed through Congress . . . and it took 14 years and a world war to straighten out the mess."
If you feel like you are not accomplishing enough, if you’re pressed for time and can’t seem to catch up—read this article.

Time is money, the old saying goes. And if you go by the effort and expense corporations are expending to train executives and management personnel in time management, it certainly must be true.

In today’s business world, each minute is thought of in terms of its dollar and pound value. Time management is an indispensable skill.

Lesson number one in many time-management courses is how to overcome procrastination. If you feel like you are not accomplishing enough, if you’re pressed for time and can’t seem to catch up, you are probably being victimized by that old thief of time—procrastination.

But to be sure, see if some of these points apply to you.

Do you find yourself:

• Putting off today much more than you will ever be able to accomplish tomorrow?
• Deliberately working slowly at something, planning to speed up later to finish it?
• Delaying to put a great idea or important plan into action, telling yourself that you will start tomorrow?
• Running needless errands to avoid getting down to the task at hand?

Some people are hindered by procrastination more than others, but everyone is guilty of it sometimes. In stealing our time, however, procrastination deprives us of the fullest realization of our ambitions, hopes and dreams. Because procrastination keeps us from achieving our goals, it deprives us of satisfaction and happiness.

Why Procrastination?

We are all inclined to postpone doing something distasteful or difficult. We fill our time with relatively unimportant tasks to avoid the unpleasant jobs. That’s human nature.

Sometimes we shroud procrastination in a maze of red tape, protesting that we must first consider the problem from every angle before taking action. All the possibilities must be explored and analyzed.

From childhood, some of us have acquired the habit of putting off doing things until someone else finally does them for us.

Writers, composers, artists claim they are waiting for inspiration.

Overcoming Procrastination

How do we overcome procrastination? Determine immediately what you want to achieve today or, if it’s too late for today, tomorrow. Write it down. Now analyze your list, estimate how long you will need to perform each of those tasks and number them in order of importance.

If a responsibility is especially difficult, place it at the top of your list. Do it first and enjoy the remainder of your day without the burden of that unpleasant duty hanging over your head. At the end of each day you will be able to look back at a number of accomplishments. This will give you a sense of satisfaction and raise your self-esteem. It will also push you to do even greater things tomorrow.

Once you get today and tomorrow organized, plan your goals for next week.

Another way to avoid procrastination is after you have made a decision, act at once to carry it out. There is no better method for getting things done than to just start. Putting off doing what you know you should causes discouragement.

Don’t defend or find excuses for procrastination in any facet of your life—in your responsibilities to your family, your job or especially in your responsibilities to God.

God expects us to act on what we know. If you have been putting off fulfilling your responsibilities to him, you could be a victim of the most dangerous kind of procrastination—spiritual procrastination.

Write for our free booklet Why Were You Born? to find the help you need to put things in the proper perspective. Do it now! Don’t put it off.
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ireland

Was certainly disappointed in the shallow historical content of your article “When Peace Comes to Ireland.” Further, I thought your conclusion a bit unrealistic. You seem to expect native Irish settlers to turn “the other cheek” and completely forget the barbarism of the past, the sacrifice of their land, the occupation of the northern third of the country. Strange no mention of Cromwell and the bloody heritage of his supporters.

T.E. Rice
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

- It is impossible to record the entire history of Ireland in one short article. In any case, past injustices need to be forgiven in order to build a foundation that leads to peace in the future. Unless these attitudes of deep-rooted prejudice and resentment can be overcome, a lasting solution to Irish troubles will not be forthcoming. Can the Irish do that of themselves? Looking to Christ’s teaching for a solution is realistic.

Arabs and Jews

Having been to Israel several times (including volunteer service on a kibbutz), I’ve developed a lasting relationship with the Jewish people and State. Several of my Israeli friends subscribe to The Plain Truth.

I’ve also been to Lebanon and Jordan. My new Arab friends are even teaching me Arabic words in exchange for me teaching them what Hebrew I know! I’ve given them a past Plain Truth article on “Seeing the World Through Islamic Eyes” which they thoroughly enjoyed. Recently in one of the past issues of The Plain Truth they read a Moslem court

requires 4 witnesses and not the biblical two to confirm guilt. My Palestinian friend Mohammed questioned this so he went to this area’s largest mosque and asked their Imam (spiritual leader) about it. The Imam (who’s from Egypt) said The Plain Truth is correct and that he reads it.

This so impressed my friend that he immediately ordered The Plain Truth, around 5 booklets and the Correspondence Course! He said he was going to tell all of his friends about “this magazine.” It’s thrilling to help bring The Plain Truth to both Arabs and Jews, because God’s truth, implemented, is actually the only way that will ultimately usher in a lasting peace in the Mideast and world.

David A. Hoover
Perrysburg, Ohio

Correspondence Course

I’m really excited about your Correspondence Course lessons. Unfortunately, my test score is below average. Please don’t stop the lessons coming! You represent the only group where one can learn the best way to live. I’ve learned a lot from you and my friends think I’ve totally changed. Thanks a thousand times!

Ferdinand Eyaama Ondu
Cameroon

Contrasts in Thinking

Henceforth stop sending me your somewhat humorously titled magazine which I don’t approve—either in the spirit or letter. Why do you think Judeo-Christianism is the “plain truth”? All religions are human fabrications and Judeo-Christianism is not an exception to the rule.

A. Bordage
St-Maixent-L’Ecole, France

How can I explain my joy in reading your publications? They are more sound and revealing than anything else I’ve ever heard. This magazine, like its name, is a spring of information and education. Ever since we started reading it, my wife and I have changed our conduct towards each other. Our marriage has now become a better union.

Haimer
Casablanca, Morocco

Good News for Africa

I have been reading The Plain Truth since 1982 and I always look forward to receiving my copy of this interesting worldwide circulated magazine.

But to be frank, a piece written by one John Halford in “International Desk” column on “Good News for Africa” (February-March 1985 issue) was not done in good faith. Halford, in the write-up, made a complete caricature of Africa’s situation by proffering as a solution to African problems “the restoration of the government of God to this earth by the returning Jesus Christ who will lead all mankind into 1,000 years of peace.” Put differently, what Halford was suggesting is that Black Africans should wait till “Thy kingdom come” before enjoying good things of life.

Without being unnecessarily emotional, the piece represented how religion is used as an imperialist tool aimed at distracting Third World countries from their real problem—dependent economy and the only solution—a break away from international capitalist economic system.

Like the writer rightly quoted the late Kenyan leader, Jomo Kenyatta, on how white man used religion to deceive black man in order to ‘steal’ his land, Africa will now resist any attempt to foist on her through religion, beliefs that will sentence her to another century of pillage, exploitation and servitude.

For we know that “we have been oppressed a great deal, we have been exploited a great deal, and we have been disregarded a great deal.”

Now, we want a secular solution to a secular problem. I hope you will be fair to Africa by publishing this.

Idowu Segun Adeiran
Post Graduate School
University of Lagos
Akoka-Lagos, Nigeria

- The kingdom of God is not just another condescending religious “pie in the sky” notion, designed to keep the African people deceived.

When one really understands, it is a total, economic, governmental, social and spiritual "new deal" that is the only real solution to Africa’s and the world’s spiritual and secular problems.

Inside New India

The article “Inside the New India” was interesting and exciting. Congratulations on producing a well balanced report on India. Mr. Keith W. Stump has done an excellent job. The usual reports on India never give coverage to that nation’s achievements—only its deficiencies.

Menon Samkara
Singapore

Child Rearing

Your series of articles on Child Rearing has been excellent. It would be so very helpful if they and perhaps other key articles on family
living could be bound into booklet form for handy reference.

There is one part of the subject that I would like to see explained in greater detail and that is Ephesians 6:4:

"... do not provoke your children to wrath." I have seen parents, and particularly fathers, teasing children until they are frustrated. Even animals become mean when they are teased.

The following are two quotes that were very inspirational to me during our years of child rearing:

"No other success in life can compensate for failure in the home."

"You will have to give account of how you have fulfilled your duty to your children. They are yours on account of how you have lived."

Jeanette Treybig
Houston, Texas

Violence in Sports

I am writing to applaud the article “Violence in Sports—Is There a Better Way?” A very insightful article! Author Ronald D. Kelly not only reported today’s headlines, but also reported yesterday’s headlines, proving that the problem of sport violence is reoccurring. While other authors would have sensationalized and stopped, Mr. Kelly reached for the cause of sport violence, taking the reader through a lifetime of competition in this “get” society. He presented the only alternative—God’s way of cooperation and selflessness.

I realize that my life as a student is competitive; from beating someone to the dorm telephone to taking a graduate school entrance exam. May we all realize how deeply competitive our lives are and opt for the alternative of God.

S.L. Workman
Oakland, California

New Subscriber

I have just got a copy of The Plain Truth from my friend. I am amazed to find it answers most of the world’s present day problems. I find it to be illuminating, smooth to read, and a solace in the thick of the diverse anxieties and troubles each of us faces in this ever more complicated world.

Abdulrahman A. Al Hajeri
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

The New Europe

As an Austrian I wish to give some addition to your issue of September 1985, namely to the interesting and hope-raising article from Gene H. Hogberg.

The President of the United States of America expressed the feeling of every European, when he said: "It is my fervent wish that in the next century there will be one, free Europe."

Some of us in Austria agree with the statement of Mr. Bailey: that the Holy Roman Empire was the grandest design ever conceived by man. It was right, that the true crown, reposing in Vienna, was refused to William I. My teacher in history, Heinrich v. Srbi (Vienna University), declared, that it was wrong to speak from Great-Prussia in terms of 'Second Reich': the true successor of the Holy Roman Empire with its supranational mission is the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy.

The son of our Emperor Charles is working for a free Europe. He has the privilege to be the legitimate heir of the crown of the Holy Empire.

As Mr. Pfimlin said: no one can stop us of dreaming of a complete Europe united in peace. My dream is: our Polish Pope John Paul II would cooperate, in Aix-la-Chapelle, Otto von Habsburg, elected in a democratic way by representatives of all states of Europe as electors for the first monarch of this free Europe.

As I think, this event could happen sooner than in the next millennium.

Johann Knobloch
Innsbruck, Austria

Children of War

The action of using children in war must be condemned by any sensible thinking human being for the simple reason that all children should be given the chance to enjoy their childhood.

However, the article [Sept. '85] forgets to mention that in the case of Palestinian children, against whom the article seems to have been directed, these children have no childhood to enjoy, anyway! They have no country, no home and merely live as refugees under the mercy of charity.

May one suggest publishing an article or two about the people whose homes were blown up, whose orchards were torn apart, and whose villages have been bulldozed?

Training children for war? For the sake of truth, perhaps, you would ask what do the kibbutzim do? And who has set the example in the Middle East?

B.D. James
Guildford, Surrey

- The article "Children of War" was not directed against any children, but to highlight the problems children face in many lands.
- In this issue we present an Arab view of the Middle East problem in keeping with our policy of remaining above politics.

Male/Female Ratio

Upon looking over a back issue of The Plain Truth from last December, I was interested in your article on wives. It states that God’s purpose in creating woman was to “share man’s life and love, to respond to him, encourage him.…” Without this, they are losing their reason for being…” and so forth. And I agree with the later statement, that “without giving this help, woman becomes edgy, frustrated, resentful, and headed up a blind alley…” I truly agree, because I am all of those things.

You see, statistics show that there is a tremendous gap in the ratio of available single women to available single men … in fact, there are 7,800,000 MORE WOMEN THAN MEN! I have not just read this in one place, but in several publications … and, in fact, the notorious “man shortage” is pretty much common knowledge these days.

In Chicago, there are approx. 62 men for every 100 women. In Kansas City, that number is 58 men for every 100 women. And in Long Island, NY, there are virtually twice as many women as men!

Mr. Armstrong, I am a single woman in my early thirties, attractive, and college-educated. I have not been involved with a man for quite some time, and when I read statistics such as those, to say that I am discouraged would certainly be an understatement. In addition to the already grim statistics, please bear in mind that a much higher percentage of men are homosexual than women, and that the prisons are about 98 percent men, and you get the picture.

Why would God, if he intended woman to be created to be a mate to man, permit such lopsided circumstances? For surely, at least those eight million women will never have a chance to love a man—unless it is someone else’s man, which is a whole other story—if that man simply does not exist! And if you have not guessed by now, I am convinced that I am one of those women God has left out in the cold.

The articles in The Plain Truth are so concisely well written, please address this matter in a future issue—for it affects ALL women, even those who already have a man—for, when the odds are so uneven, it surely stands to reason that more men will be cheating on their wives, even if their marriages are basically sound!

Linda
Suburban Chicago

- We addressed this matter in the July/August 1984 issue and will do so in forthcoming issues.
IN THIS ISSUE:

PREPARE FOR TRADE WAR
The Free World’s 40-year period of unprecedented prosperity soon to come to a crashing halt? Read what Bible prophecy reveals.

THE BIBLE—SUPERSTITION OR AUTHORITY?
The Bible purports to be the infallible, divine revelation of truth, revealed by the very Creator and Ruler of the universe. But can you prove it?

HUMAN MIND VERSUS ANIMAL BRAIN
Have you ever wondered why the vast difference between human mind and animal brain?

IT’S ABOUT TIME!
If you feel like you are not accomplishing enough, if you’re pressed for time and can’t seem to catch up—read this article.

GERMANY’S FORESTS ARE DYING
Large tracts of forest in Europe’s heartland may be reduced to barren waste by the turn of the century. Germany is only one of the nations on the edge of an ecological disaster.

ROTTERDAM—GATEWAY TO GERMANY
Forty years after World War II a vital connection exists between the Dutch and their former enemies.

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