Pregnant Teens
Many of our readers never experienced the pressures on teens today.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE DEAD: IS IT POSSIBLE?
THE SECRET OF THE HUMAN MIND
HOW THE BRITISH MONARCHY WAS SAVED
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GET! That one little word seems to sum up the fundamental nature of man. "There's a little larceny in us all!" one sage of human behavior put it.

It's amazing how the prospect of getting something, especially getting something for nothing, can change a person's whole perspective, attitude and conduct. In like manner, so can the prospect of losing something one already possesses.

An incident in my childhood, when I was about 11 years old, really brought that lesson home to me.

I had developed the hobby of raising pigeons in the backyard of our Chicago, Illinois, home. I think at that time I probably had about 50 pairs, mostly rollers and homing pigeons.

It was about 1937. I used to visit the neighborhood businesses to collect their empty cigar boxes to use as nesting boxes for the birds. When I returned home one afternoon with my arms full of cigar boxes, I was in for one of the surprises of my life.

I went to the loft and began tearing the lids off the boxes. When I picked up the third or fourth box in my stack, the one under it popped wide open. I couldn't believe what I saw inside. The box was literally stuffed with hundred dollar bills!

When the initial shock wore off, I began counting. The box contained $12,000 in hundred dollar bills. My little heart was pounding so hard I thought the neighbors could hear it.

What to do? I sealed the box and buried it deep in a hundred pound feed sack. I hardly slept that night, pondering how to spend that money.

For the next two days I couldn't concentrate in school. I just sat and stared out the window, trying to figure out the best way to begin using those hundreds. I knew I couldn't just walk in a store with a hundred dollar bill without raising all kinds of questions. I realized nobody would believe an 11-year-old would lawfully be carrying around that kind of money. Especially not in 1937.

I finally concluded I'd have to get my dad involved.

That evening after dinner I told my dad the story about finding the money.

"Well, what are you going to do with it?" He asked the question rather patiently. I was a little surprised that he didn't seem as excited as I did.

I quickly told him how I thought he could pay off the mortgage on the house (we owed about $4,500 on the $6,500 purchase price—remember those days?), buy a new car, get Mom new furniture and kitchen gear, and get new clothes for the family...

My father didn't let me finish.

"What's the matter with you?" he boomed. "That's not our money! You're going to take it back!"

"But I don't know where I got it," I pleaded. "I don't know which one gave it to me."

"You're going to find out."

We walked to each store where I had asked for boxes. He would wait outside while I went in. He told me I wouldn't have to say anything—that they would remember me.

Finally, at the last business I could remember having gone to, one of the owners saw me across the store and started shouting, "That's him! That's him! That's the boy!"

As it turned out, one of the two brothers who owned the combination ice cream parlor, liquor market and delicatessen had been accusing the other of stealing the... (Continued on page 24)
WITH remarkable suddenness, long-simmering disputes over world trade are boiling over.

They threaten the interrelated global economic system that has led to the unprecedented prosperity of the past four decades.

The days of the United States as the dominant economic power in the Free World are numbered. A new relationship between Western Europe and Japan is already being forged to assume the world leadership role.

Tokyo Summit

Earlier this year, this writer covered the annual summit conference of the Free World's leading industrial powers in Tokyo, Japan.

After three days of closed door meetings, the leaders of the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Italy, Britain and Canada emerged at their closing press conference to announce that they were generally pleased with their accomplishments. In the "Tokyo Economic Declaration," which they drafted, the leaders said they reaffirmed their "commitment to halting and reversing protectionism, and to reducing and dismantling trade restrictions."

The words on the paper were hardly dry when U.S. President Ronald Reagan arrived home to face mounting pressure in Congress to enact stiff protectionist trade legislation.

The steaming issue in Congress came to a boil when the House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed an unprecedented, blockbuster trade bill that would restrain imports and mandate trade retaliation against certain foreign competitors.

President Reagan charged that the House bill "would plunge the world into a trade war, eroding our relations with our allies and Free World trading partners."

Next, the Senate must enact its own trade bill, with the two houses reaching a compromise on their two versions. Unless it is sufficiently weakened, Mr. Reagan is certain to veto the final bill.

But even so, protectionist legislation will not fade away. "The best the Administration can do at this point," observed the June 9 Business Week, "is to slow the rush to protectionism on Capitol Hill."

As it stands, the House bill eliminates some of the President's discretionary authority in dealing with trade complaints. Its most controversial provision requires nations with "excessive trade surpluses" with the United States—namely, Japan, Taiwan and West Germany—to reduce the surpluses by 10 percent a year or face higher tariffs and quotas.

The West German Economics Ministry labeled the pending U.S. legislation "devastating," adding that it could lead to major distortions in world trade.

An official from Taiwan frankly stated that the provision to mandate cutbacks in surpluses, if left standing, could lead to a full-blown trade war.

President Reagan's own trade representative, Clayton Yeutter, said the legislation flagrantly violated international agreements.

"If the United States becomes a rogue elephant," he said, "rampaging through GATT [General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade], obeying the rules it wants, stamp-
ing on others it finds inconvenient, it could topple the entire world trade structure.”

Adding his own grave concerns, Japan’s Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said his nation would make renewed, all-out attempts to encourage imports and domestic consumption.

Mr. Nakasone told a press conference: “The government is making efforts to reduce Japan’s trade surplus. We must give ammunition to President Reagan to prevent a protectionist trade bill which cleared the U.S. House of Representatives . . . from being passed by the Senate.”

Disputes with EC, Canada

At the same time, Europe’s Common Market and Canada are locked in separate trade disputes with Washington.

The first arose when the two Iberian countries, Spain and Portugal, entered the European Community on January 1 of this year. This move threatens, over a period of time, continued sales of U.S. grain products to the two countries.

In response, authorities in Washington have drawn up a list of quotas to be placed incrementally on Common Market food imports to the United States. The EC in turn has said it would match these measures with quotas of its own on other U.S. farm products.

The second dispute erupted in May when Washington suddenly imposed a 35 percent tariff on Canadian cedar roofing materials. Many believe the Administration acted partly to blunt Congressional criticism that it wasn’t doing enough in trade matters. Nevertheless, within days Canada responded with tariffs on American books, magazines and some computer components.

The actions jeopardize implementation of a free trade agreement between the two nations, who for a long time have been each other’s leading trading partner.

Politics Above All

Internal politics plays a big role in the burgeoning trade crisis. “For political purposes,” bluntly admitted one of the Administration’s domestic foes, “the trade issue gives us a chance to be macho with West Germany and South Korea. And it makes the Republicans look kind of wimpy, frankly.”

President Reagan’s opponents, struggling to find a winnable 1986 Congressional campaign issue, have elevated the problem of the U.S. trade deficit out of all proportion to its real importance.

“The U.S. economy has been experiencing the strongest and possibly longest expansion on record, with more than eight million new jobs since President Reagan took office,” writes Alan Reynolds in the May 9 National Review under the foreboding title: “A Trade War Could Wreck It All.”

Admittedly, most of these are in the service area, rather than in manufacturing, where jobs are still being lost to overseas producers.

The trade deficit is not nearly so serious as the U.S. budgetary deficit. The budgetary crisis deals essentially with government living year-to-year beyond its means, piling up enormous indebtedness covered by massive borrowings each year. The trade deficit is a different issue, explains Mr. Reynolds:

“A foreign exporter who trades goods to U.S. buyers in return for dollars has only two options for how to employ those dollars, both of them beneficial to the United States. He can use those dollars to buy U.S. goods, or he can use them to buy U.S. assets (stocks, bonds or real estate)—that is, to invest in the United States. In large part this is a tribute to the current strength of the American economy.”

This foreign investment actually creates jobs. In 1984 alone, direct Japanese investment created 80,000 jobs in the United States.

It’s amazing to see legislation moving through the American Congress to “punish” the Japanese for their trade surpluses with the U.S.—while at the same time, state and municipal legislators vie with each other to see which ones can offer the best deals to Japanese companies to build automotive or electronics assembly plants in their localities.

This leaves the Japanese nothing but confused. Their worldwide trade surplus (the equivalent of US$56 billion last year, $50 billion with the United States) is not going to disappear overnight, or quick enough to satisfy political demands in Washington. It will rise still further—perhaps $80 billion this year—simply because Japan now pays a lot less for oil, one of its biggest imported products.

With the prospect of fewer dollars earned from sales of products to America, manufacturers in Asia and Europe are already beginning to scale back on their productive capacity. This means Asian and European customers will be purchasing fewer raw materials, synthetic fibers and machine tools, much of which until now has been purchased in the United States with previous dollar earnings.
Congressional protectionism then, far from protecting certain industries that probably wouldn't survive in any case, threatens to ratchet down the entire world economy, inch by inch.

“Economic Axis” Developing

Ever since the end of World War II, the United States has been the world's dominant economy. Now, the tables are turning—to the advantage of America's primary Second World War foes, Japan and Germany.

The Japanese yen is powerful, having increased 30 percent in value since a year ago. The four largest banks of the world are Japanese.

In Western Europe the West German economy has recovered from the doldrums of the late '70s and early '80s to become strong again. Bonn ran a surplus of US$10.2 billion in its trade with Washington in 1985.

Observers attribute much of West Germany's success to Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg, who has slashed his government's deficit by as much as 50 percent. Bonn's government deficit is the lowest in the Western industrialized world.

The United States, meanwhile, is turning inward. Its politicians generally blame other nations for problems that are essentially America's own making. U.S. politicians have tried, for example, to encourage the Japanese public to save less money, to spend more, to adopt more of the wasteful consumer habits of America, such as greater credit purchasing.

"Stop being so successful," is the message that seems to come across from Washington to Tokyo.

Meanwhile, a new “economic axis” is definitely under construction.

While this writer was in Japan, two of Japan's four English-language dailies presented in-depth special reports on the increasing cooperation between Japan and the nations of the European Community (Common Market).

Until recently, the nations of Western Europe were leery of Japan's growing economic prowess. They feared the penetration of their markets by Japanese products, especially automotive and electronic goods.

This view is changing. Since early 1985, reported the May 7 Japan Times, "the overall tone of the EC's policy toward Japan has considerably softened."

An altered Japanese approach toward Europe has much to do with this change. Tokyo has shifted its primary trade effort from exports to that of investing in European plants coupled with the export of technology.

This policy, which means more jobs for a Europe still battling high unemployment, is meeting a much better reception. Member states of the EC are actually beating a path to Tokyo in search of investment capital.

Spain is particularly active in seeking Japanese help in its drive to catch up with its fellow EC members as quickly as possible. Japan, in turn, sees the Iberian peninsula as a prime European operating base.

(Continued on page 28)
How society encourages it and what can be done to halt the trend!

We don't need statistics to understand how sex affects teens.

All the government reports, all the articles and books can't compare to personal experience. Listen to this letter to us from Sally, an American teenager: "When I was 8 years old I first had sex with a boy of 15. I did it because I lack love and attention from my parents. I need love, and my parents never show me any."

My heart went out to her and my stomach knotted as I continued to read her letter. "Nothing really changed at home, and at 15 I became pregnant. My boyfriend blamed me and left. I had nowhere to turn, so I cried myself to sleep every night."

Different Pressure Today

Many of our readers never experienced the pressures upon teens today. This makes it difficult for some parents to understand their teens' problems. Early in this century, male-female relationships were clearly defined and understood. Men who pressured women to sleep with them were regarded as lecherous rather than "heroes." A girl who surrendered her virginity before marriage often felt she had disgraced herself, her family and God.
British Teen Morals

English papers have had their share of sad stories about the role of teen mothers in the baby boom in the United States. "For every 1,000 girls between 15 and 19 in America," wrote New York correspondent George Gordon, "96 of them are pregnant. That is more than double the figure for England and Wales (45), in Canada the rate is 44, in France 43, Sweden 35 and the Netherlands 14."

The comparison is based on a report from the Alan Guttmacher Institute in the United States. Many observers in the United Kingdom fear that the intensity of the American plight of teen mothers—wed and unwed—will cross the Atlantic. Those fears are now being realized. Illegitimate births are rising to record levels in England and Wales.

But there is some cause for hope. The British Government has finally formally recognized the seriousness of teen moral breakdown—and contemplated its consequences for English society. Reports journalist James Wightman in The Daily Telegraph: "A move to change sex education in the schools was announced by the Government last night with the aim of encouraging pupils to have due regard for moral considerations and the value of family life" (3 June, 1986).

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher wishes to put a brake on permissive society attitudes generated in the 1960s. Lord Denning reflected Mrs. Thatcher's concern when he said: "The pillars of marriage have been almost broken down. Surely we must do in our schools everything we can to build up the respect for family life."

Many observers are openly dissatisfied with the present condition of state sex education. Aspects of it are manifestly decadent. An aid to educators put out by a prominent medical association almost recommends homosexuality as an alternative life-style. Also sibling incest is spoken of as a "loving relationship" in some feminist educational aids employed in certain schools. The gross details are unprintable.

Ronald Taylor, "a professor of obstetrics and gynaecology, has hit out at sex educators for their reluctance to warn against the health risks involved with early or promiscuous sex" (Doctor, 29 May, 1986). He continued, "Sexually transmitted infections now cause more long term damage in terms of chronic illness, sterility and tubal pregnancies than ever before, despite stronger antibiotics."

Lord Halbury, president of the National Council for Christian Standards in Society, spoke out in general support from a moral standpoint. He said, "Those who explain sexual techniques to the young without explaining what being jilted can mean to them, what being jilted when pregnant can mean, what a dose of VD can be, are morally vicious" (op. cit.).

Nonetheless, the school is not the chief culprit, nor should it be the place where children receive a correct, primary, moral education. The onus is on the home. A report in The Daily Mail expressed a long-forgotten truism. It said, "What is often forgotten is the state in which the parents offer their child up to be educated—of how well they have performed their function as parents during those crucial formative years" (2 June, 1986).

And although The Plain Truth applauds any effort on any government's part to impart proper moral values to children, real progress can only come when the average British home is itself, once again, a haven of moral fiber.

—John Ross Schroeder

Even just 30 years ago a pregnant teenager brought shame to her family.

Today these once fundamental standards are gone. Why?

What has occurred in modern society to encourage free sex that isn't free?

Society essentially arouses in teenagers a craving to express their sexuality rather than promote the need to guide and control sexuality. Sexually graphic music, movies and TV—directed to the teen audience—depict the delusion that teenage sex is normal, healthy and sensational.

Teens witness the growing ranks of their promiscuous and/or pregnant, but still unmarried, heroes: movie, music and sports stars.

They hear authorities, social experts, educators and even religious leaders proclaiming this life-style as an acceptable form of behavior for moderns.

This puts considerable pressure upon teens to commit fornication. The young person who abstains from sleeping around is looked upon by certain peers as odd.

One teenage boy admitted to me privately, "I have to sleep around to demonstrate I'm not homosexual." A 15-year-old girl confided, "I want to show others I can attract boys." And if she becomes pregnant, friends may give her a baby shower! It's no wonder teens have a problem.

The Misinformed Teens

Some 12 million American teenagers are sexually active, some beginning at age 13 or younger.

In Britain many young people no longer discuss whether they will sleep together, but whether they can bring their partners home for the night.

These sexually active teens usually lack understanding about contraception and pregnancy. One teen asked, "I had sex when I was 14; am I still a virgin?" Another confused teenager said, "In order to prevent pregnancy you get up quickly and shower." Social experts cite this kind of ignorance as evidence of the need for sex education in schools. Educators say in effect, "Young people will sleep (Continued on page 27)
The Secret of the Human Mind

This article is from the script of a recent telecast by David Albert.

What makes the mind of man so superior to the brain of even the most intelligent animals? What is the secret of the human mind?

It is a secret that psychology knows nothing about, and religion has never properly explained.

To look at them, human brains and animal brains look very much alike. They have the same general shape, structure and composition. As to size, the brain of a chimpanzee, one of the most intelligent animals, is smaller than man's, but the brains of elephants and dolphins are actually larger than man's. Size and shape alone can't account for the vast difference. Then what does?

Animals can communicate with each other; many of them have highly developed senses of sight, touch and hearing. But they don’t use letters, words, sentences, grammar, syntax. They don’t add and subtract, multiply and divide. They certainly can't comprehend algebra, geometry, trigonometry and calculus.

Animal minds don't deal in abstractions and theories. But clearly our minds do. Why? What's the difference? The theory of evolution has never adequately explained the difference—it sees man as just another animal.

But there are other critical differences as well. The animal mind...
works by the principle of instinct. Beavers don't go to engineering school to learn to build dams. They know how to do it instinctively. But they always build the same kind of dam, using the same basic technique. You don't see a particularly gifted beaver designing an improved dam, and then teaching the new model to others.

It's the same when birds build nests, or when bees build hives. But human beings are vastly different. Their behavior is much more governed by free choice than instinct. Their range of possibilities is much greater. They learn, and grow, and experiment, and create. They even invent machines to do some of their thinking for them!

Man does not simply have a brain—he has a mind.

The difference between the mind of man and animals is a spiritual difference. And science refuses to look at the possibility of a spirit component in the mind of man. Scientists, with very few exceptions, will not admit the possibility of the nonphysical or extra-physical component in the human brain.

According to psychology, man is only physical, and his thinking and even his emotions—such as love, anger, joy and frustration—can be explained by physical chemical reactions. That's the dominant view in all serious academic psychology today; but I want you to understand that this is a relatively recent and modern idea.

It seems to have had its origin with Charles Darwin, the father of evolution, back in the 1830s. (Before that time, philosophers and theologians assumed that man had a soul or spirit or something nonphysical that explained human thought and behavior.) Man is thus reduced to matter alone. The Darwinian view comes straight down to our time through academic psychology in both the United States and Europe to the university campuses of our day and age.

So today, to even consider the possibility of nonphysical or spiritual forces present and active in the mind of man would be seen as unscientific and hardly worthy of serious discussion by most psychologists.

In this connection, one eminent brain researcher, Dr. Solomon Snyder, from Johns Hopkins University, was asked by a leading psychology magazine this question: "Does this mean that what we have called 'free will' can be reduced to the interplay of brain chemicals?"

Dr. Snyder's reply is interesting. He said, "That goes right to the heart of the question of how the mind relates to the brain. We don't know the answer."

Science can only investigate physical things. The whole spirit realm lies outside of man's research capability. The methods of science are limited to physical knowledge. Spiritual matters, including the possibility of a spirit in man, have to be approached by different means. And that is divine revelation through the Word of God, the Holy Bible.

For those of you who are willing to examine the other side of the argument, let me now show you what is revealed in God's Word, and look at a whole new set of possibilities.

God, in his inspired Word, says very plainly in Job 32:8: "There is a spirit in man."

Notice it's not called a "soul," or an immortal soul; it's called "a spirit in man."

Man isn't spirit; he's physical, that's true. But the Bible teaching is that he has a spirit. You have a spirit, a nonphysical or extra-physical component in you right this minute that imparts the spark of intellect to your mind. Did you know that?

According to the Bible, it is the presence of that spirit in man that separates man from the animals, and that makes the difference between the human mind and the animal brain. The spirit in man is the secret of the human mind, a secret God reveals in his Word.

Most people have never heard of the spirit in man before, even if they're religious, because churches only speak of the "immortal soul"—which is nowhere mentioned in the Bible.

Notice the existence of this little-understood spirit in man, as explained in the New Testament. In I Corinthians 2:11 we read: "For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him?"

What is it, according to the Bible, that explains what a man knows and how he thinks? It's the "spirit of man," according to the apostle Paul—writing here under inspiration in the New Testament.

That's vitally important information that you'll not hear explained properly anywhere else.

You need to understand why the spirit in man is there, and how it operates, and how it relates to God's purpose for you. It's not enough to simply know about it.

The free booklet What Science Can't Discover About the Human Mind will give you the understanding and will explain the secret of the human mind in greater detail than I have had time for in this program. Write for your copy. □
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*September 1986*
MYSTERY OF THE AGES

MYSTERY OF THE AGES

CHAPTER SEVEN

MYSTERY OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

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

JUST what do you mean, "the kingdom of God"? That, too, is an unsolved mystery, not only to all in the world but to the world's churches, theologians and "Bible scholars" as well.

Actually that mystery is connected with its associated mystery, the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Why do the churches disagree on what actually is "the gospel of Jesus Christ"? During the first twenty or thirty years after the founding of the Church in A.D. 31 a violent controversy arose over the very question of what is "the gospel of Jesus Christ." There ensued a hundred years in which all history of the New Testament Church was destroyed. It has been called "the lost century of Church history." When the curtain lifted, about the middle of the second century, there appeared an entirely different type of church calling itself Christian, but in the main preaching its own gospel ABOUT Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ came preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God. Yet few preach about the kingdom of God today, for they have lost all knowledge of what it is! But does any, except God's true Church, proclaim the true gospel of the kingdom of God today?

A prominent evangelist said to a worldwide radio audience that the gospel of the kingdom of God is not for us today. Some denominations proclaim a "gospel of grace"; some what they call a "gospel of salvation"; most a gospel about Christ; some a social gospel; some the "Science of Mind" or "Religious Science."

Not One Is Right!

Some churches claim either that their particular denomination, or "Christianity" as a whole, constitutes the kingdom of God. A prominent television evangelist said, "The kingdom of God is within you." Some have even quoted Luke 17:21: "The kingdom of God is within you." The marginal correction, as well as the Revised Standard, the Moffatt and other translations, shows it should read "in the midst of you"—that is, Jesus Christ was in the midst of them. He is the King of the future kingdom of God, and the Bible in Daniel 7 and other places uses the terms king and kingdom interchangeably, that is, the king is, or represents, the kingdom he rules.

Not one is right! Could anything seem more incredible? Yes, to the mind reared in this world's concepts, one thing is, indeed, still more incredible! And that is the PLAIN TRUTH about what the kingdom of God really is!

The truth is not merely surprising—it is shocking—staggering! It is a Great Mystery! Yet it is truly GOOD NEWS—the most glorious GOOD NEWS ever to enter human consciousness!

CHRIST'S GOSPEL

What is the one and only gospel of Jesus Christ? THE WORLD DOES NOT KNOW! It has not been preached for 19 centuries, strange as that may seem. Look into your BIBLE. Look at it from the very beginning!

"The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ" you'll read in Mark 1:1. "Now after that John was put
in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the GOSPEL of the KINGDOM of GOD, and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel” (Mark 1:14-15).

It is necessary to believe that GOSPEL to be saved! And how can you believe it, unless you know what it is? And for 1,900 years, the world did not know. That gospel was suppressed and replaced by man’s gospel about Christ.

Jesus went everywhere preaching the GOOD NEWS of the KINGDOM of GOD. He taught in parables about the KINGDOM of GOD. He sent the apostles, on whom the Church of God was founded, to preach THE KINGDOM of GOD (Luke 10:9). He sent the apostles, on whom the Church of God was founded, to preach THE KINGDOM of GOD (Luke 10:9). After the resurrection, before ascending to heaven, Jesus taught his disciples about the kingdom of God (Acts 1:3).

Isn’t it amazing that the world has LOST the knowledge of what it is?

The apostle Paul preached the KINGDOM of GOD (Acts 19:8; 20:25; 28:23, 31). And God Almighty, through Paul, pronounced a double curse on man or angel that would DARE preach any other gospel! (Gal. 1:8-9).

Why, then, do so many DARE to preach so many other gospels? The good news of the KINGDOM of GOD is something you must understand, and believe, in order to be saved! Jesus Christ said so! You had better be finding out what it is!

That gospel—the kingdom of God—is the subject of this chapter. It follows the chapter on the mystery of the Church, because the kingdom of God follows the Church. The purpose of the Church, remember, is to prepare “called-out ones” to teach and to rule in the kingdom of God.

Daniel knew!

Haven’t you heard men speak of the kingdom of God something like this: “By Christians everywhere working together to bring about world peace, tolerance and brotherly love, the kingdom of God may at last be established in the hearts of men.”

Because they rejected Christ’s gospel 1,900 years ago, the world had to supplant something else in its place. They had to invent a counterfeit! So we have heard the kingdom of God spoken of as merely a pretty platitude—a nice sentiment in human hearts—reducing it to an ethereal, unreal NOTHING! Others have misrepresented that the “CHURCH” is the kingdom. Others confuse it with the millennium. Still others have, earlier in our century, claimed the British Empire is the kingdom of God. But no one makes that claim any longer. How deceived can this world get?

The prophet Daniel, who lived 600 years before Christ, knew that the kingdom of God was a real kingdom—a government ruling over literal people on the earth.

Jesus Christ brought additional knowledge about it that the prophet Daniel might not have known. Still, Daniel knew there was going to be a real, literal kingdom of God on the earth.

Daniel was one of four extraordinary, intelligent and brilliant Jewish lads in the Judean captivity. These four men were stationed in the palace of King Nebuchadnezzar of the Chaldean Empire, in training for special responsibilities in the Babylonian government. Daniel was a prophet who had been given special understanding in visions and dreams (Dan. 1:17).

Nebuchadnezzar was the first real world ruler. He had conquered a vast empire, including the nation Judah. This king had a dream so impressive it troubled him—moved him to tremendous concern. He demanded that his magicians, astrologers and sorcerers tell him both what he had dreamed, and what it meant. They could not. They were baffled. Then Daniel was brought before the king.

Daniel disclaimed any more human ability to interpret dreams than the Chaldean magicians, “But,” he said, “there is a GOD in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days” (Dan. 2:28).

First, God’s purpose was to reveal to this world-ruling human king that there is a GOD in heaven—that GOD IS SUPREME RULER over all nations, governments and kings—that GOD RULES THE UNIVERSE! It was God who placed the cherub Lucifer on the throne of the earth and Lucifer, who has become Satan the Devil, remains on earth’s throne only because God allows it, and only until God sends Jesus Christ to sit on that throne when he removes Satan. This Chaldean king knew only about the many pagan demon gods. He knew nothing of the true living ALMIGHTY God. Like people and rulers, even today, he did not know that GOD is the living, REAL, active, RULING and GOVERNING PERSONAGE who actually and literally governs not only what is on earth, but the UNIVERSE ENTIRELY!

The whole purpose of this DREAM was to reveal GOD’S GOVERNMENT—the fact that God RULES—the truth of the KINGDOM of GOD—the very thing that is the one and only true GOSPEL of JESUS CHRIST! And, secondly, to reveal—preserved in writing for us TODAY—what is to happen “in the latter days”—actually within the next two decades—THIS LAST HALF OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY!

For us, Today!

This is no dry, dull, dead writing for a people of 2,500 years ago. This is LIVING, TREMENDOUS, BIG NEWS for OUR DAY! It is advance news for us, NOW. News before it happens—of the most colossal event of all earth’s history certain to occur in your lifetime—during the very next few years!

This is the true GOSPEL! It is the very gospel Christ preached! It is intended for you and me TODAY! It is vital that you UNDERSTAND!

Read, in your own Bible, Daniel 2, verses 28 through 35. In his dream, this king had seen a vast statue—larger than any image or statue ever built by man—so tremendous it was terrifying, even in a dream. Its head was of fine gold, its breast and arms of silver, the belly and thighs of brass, legs of solid iron, feet a mixture of iron and clay.

There was a time element. Nebuchadnezzar had viewed it until a
supernatural STONE came from heaven, smashing the statue on its feet. Then the whole of the statue broke into small pieces, and was actually blown away by the wind—it disappeared! Then this STONE expanded miraculously and quickly became a great MOUNTAIN—so great it filled the whole earth!

What did it mean? Did it have meaning? Yes, because this was God’s doing. Unlike ordinary dreams, this one was caused by God to convey the message of God’s sovereignty to Nebuchadnezzar—and, because it is part of God’s doing, it is speaking of God’s sovereignty to Nebuchadnezzar.

Nebuchadnezzar, and his predecessors. Yet, as silver is less valuable than gold, brass than silver, iron than brass, though each metal was harder and stronger, the succession would deteriorate morally and spiritually. The two legs meant the fourth empire would be divided.

After the Chaldean Empire came the still larger Persian Empire, then the Greco-Macedonian, and fourth, the Roman Empire. It was divided, with capitals at Rome and Constantinople.

Now—verse 44! Read it! Get your Bible. See it with your own eyes in your own Bible. Here, in PLAIN LANGUAGE, is God’s explanation of what the KINGDOM OF GOD IS:

“...shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed ... but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever”!

Yes, in OUR TIME!

Now here we have described FOUR universal world empires—the only four that ever existed! Revelation 13 and 17 show that, after the fall of the original Roman Empire, there would be ten revivals—seven of which would be ruled over by a gentile CHURCH—the “daughter” of ancient BABYLON—a church claiming to be Christian, but actually named by God "MYSTERY, BABYLON the great"—or, more plainly, BABYLONIAN MYSTERIES!

Six of those have come and gone. The seventh is now forming—the last, final, brief resurrection of the Roman Empire by ten European groups or nations. These are revealed in Daniel 2 as the ten toes—a church claiming to be Christian, but actually named by God "MYSTERY, BABYLON the great"—or, more plainly, BABYLONIAN MYSTERIES!

In their days—and they shall last but a very short space, possibly no more than two to three-and-a-half years—shall the GOD OF HEAVEN SET UP A KINGDOM that shall never be destroyed.

This, then, shall be THE KINGDOM OF GOD!
Communication with the Dead...

Is It Possible?

by Keith W. Stump

Can you “make contact” with dead relatives and friends? Here is an eye-opening look at a topic that has intrigued millions!

Some time ago we received a curious tape recording from a Plain Truth reader.

The unusual recording purported to contain excerpts from actual voice conversations with persons who have died and “passed into the higher planes.”

This two-way, telephone-like communication was reputedly accomplished by means of an electronic instrument invented by a group of American scientists and psychic investigators.

Many of you have probably seen newspaper or magazine articles about this alleged “breakthrough.” Some may have heard the actual recordings. A few have written to The Plain Truth asking about this extraordinary device.

Is this—at last—concrete evidence of the continuance of conscious personality after death? Are these really the voices of the dead?

If not, what are they?

And what about “mediums” and “séances”? Can they really provide us with a link to the dead?

Invisible Hands

Few questions are as vitally important as that of man’s ultimate destiny. Is there a life beyond the grave? If so, is it possible to communicate with those who have “passed over”?

Virtually all civilizations since the beginning of history have possessed some form of belief in an afterlife. And not surprisingly, attempts to communicate with the dead go back to earliest antiquity.

The belief that the spirits of those who have “passed over” can make contact with the living is known today as spiritualism or spiritism. Modern spiritism had its birth in Hydesville, New York, in the middle of the last century—specifically, March 31, 1848.

It is an interesting story. For several nights, mysterious rappings and strange noises had kept the Fox family awake. As far as John Fox could determine, the disturbing sounds could not be attributed to mice, rats or the wind. History is full of “haunted houses” of this type. But in this case, events took a unique turn.

On March 31, John Fox’s two young daughters playfully issued a challenge to the noises—a challenge to repeat their own patterns of raps. Remarkably, their exact patterns were repeated—seemingly tapped out by invisible hands! The Fox sisters had established a dialogue with the unseen presence causing the noises!

They then asked the presence questions that could be answered “yes” (one rap) or “no” (two raps). The presence willingly supplied answers.

Painstaking sessions employing various types of codes enabled the Fox sisters to acquire detailed information about the presence. Amazingly, it claimed to be the spirit of a dead peddler, Charles B. Rosma, murdered many years earlier in the basement of the cottage now occupied by the Fox family!

News of the goings-on in the Fox house spread rapidly, creating considerable stir. Neighbors were invited in to hear the “conversations.” Many became convinced that the Fox sisters were in actual contact with the dead.

Modern spiritism was born. Within a few decades, the controversial movement had gained millions of followers around the globe.

Messages “from the Other Side”

Death, the spiritists declared, is merely a door to continuing life—
in the "spirit world." Moreover, they said, we can establish communication with those on the "other side."

This contact is usually made through the agency of a medium at a séance. A séance (French for "a sitting") is a meeting for the purpose of obtaining spiritistic phenomena. The medium (usually a woman) is the focal point of a séance and acts as the organ of communication with "departed spirits."

Séances became the rage in fashionable society throughout Europe and America in the last century. In brief, a séance is conducted as follows:

A small group of people sit in a circle around a table, usually holding or at least touching hands. The room is quiet and dark. The medium then goes into a trance or semi-trance, a state resembling deep hypnosis.

While in the trance, the medium purports to convey messages from the spirit world to those around the table. The messages often come by way of a "control," a departed spirit that associates itself with the medium and passes on messages from other spirits.

Sometimes the medium simply repeats to the participants around the table what she is told by her "control"—or describes what she sees in the spirit world. At other times, the control spirit or another spirit speaks directly through the medium.

On occasion, the participants themselves hear spirit voices coming from outside the medium, often from somewhere overhead. In rare instances, a spirit creates a vague visible form for itself and partially materializes—creating a ghostly apparition for all to see!

Many have come away from séances convinced of the authenticity of the phenomena. Others have suspected fraud. What is the truth?

Is communication between the "two worlds" possible?

The famous stage magician Harry Houdini (1874-1926) sought an answer to this question. He threw out challenges to mediums to prove to his satisfaction the authenticity of their activities. He claimed he could duplicate by purely physical means any effect they produced in the course of a séance.

During the course of 30 years of witnessing alleged examples of communications with the "next world," Houdini declared he had not "found one incident that favored the genuine."

What Houdini often did uncover were extremely clever frauds and skillful illusions perpetrated by charlatans and unscrupulous mediums on trusting victims.

Darkened rooms provided the perfect setting for fraud. Concealed microphones, wires, mirrors, projectors, ventriloquism, sleight of hand and other ingenious techniques combined to produce a variety of spectacular effects convincing to the gullible. Houdini caught scores of embarrased mediums red-handed in such frauds.

Based on his investigations, Houdini concluded that spiritism was riddled with trickery, deceit and fraud. Other investigators have agreed that the percentage of fraud is high.

But are all mediums fakes? By no means! There are many serious mediums who have stood up under the most rigorous scrutiny of investigators. Despite meticulous testing, they have given no evidence of any type of fraud.

Are these mediums, then, really in contact—as they believe—with the dead?

**Spirit Photographs**

The art of photography—in its infancy when modern spiritism was born—soon came to the aid of spiritists in convincing the public of life beyond the grave.

Hundreds of photographs have been taken over the decades purporting to show vaguely materialized spirits actually caught by the camera! Many spiritists consider such photos to be the outstanding proof of their beliefs.

A large percentage of these photos, however, have been shown to be bogus—the results of "doctored" or retouched negatives, double exposures, trick lighting effects or other deceptions. But others have stood up to the tests of investigators.

But again—are these photos proof of life after death?

**Electronic Communication**

And now—a spectacular further development in the world of spiritism.

As mentioned at the beginning of this article, experimentation has reportedly produced an electronic device enabling the operator to engage in two-way, telephone-like conversations with the dead—a type of Ouija board with a voice!

It was the great inventor Thomas Edison who first conceived the possibility of instrumental communication with the dead. But experimenters had to admit failure in establishing an electronic link with the spirit world—until the late 1950s.
In 1959, the Swedish filmmaker and painter Friedrich Jurgenson played back tapes of bird calls he had recorded in a Swedish forest. To his astonishment, he heard what he believed to be his dead mother's voice on the tape! This began a series of experiments to record spirit voices. Hundreds of voices have appeared on his tapes.

Other researchers have claimed to have recorded the spirit voices of Churchill, Hitler, Stalin, Tolstoy and many other famous men and women of history.

Many years of such research and experimentation have now produced the two-way machine previously mentioned. The device tunes in on certain radio frequencies that provide a channel over which "those in the higher planes"—the reputed dead—can convey their messages.

There is no apparent reason to doubt the sincerity or the integrity of those who have worked on this project or of other researchers in the field of EVP (electronic voice phenomena). It is unlikely that the voices have been faked in any way. There are no indications of fraud or hoax. It is apparent that the researchers are in actual voice contact with spirit entities.

By what means does the device work? "It does work," remarks one of its inventors, "but we don't fully know those underlying laws yet." He also admits that mediumship is involved to some degree. "It [the device] requires an operator with a very special type of psychic energy."

Are these the voices of the dead?

Some investigators have suggested that these reputed "messages from the dead" might actually be coming somehow from the subconscious of the machine's operator himself, and not from the "other side." The same explanation has often been put forward to account for the messages of mediums in séances.

Many other explanations have been suggested for this and other spirit phenomena—all of which at times have probably played a role. But again, not all spirit phenomena can be adequately explained away by such theories. There remain certain manifestations for which no entirely satisfactory explanation has been offered—other than actual spirit contact.

But has contact been made with the dead? Or might there be another explanation?

No Immortal Soul

From time to time The Plain Truth publishes articles challenging the widely held belief in an "immortal soul." The age-old belief in the separate existence of the body and the soul can be proved to be without support in the Bible!

We explain what is the true scriptural definition of the word soul, demonstrating that "soul" designates man's physical life—that a soul is what man is, not what he has. Man has no inherent immortality. The soul is mortal and can die (Ezek. 18:4, 20).

The Bible shows, in both Old and New Testaments, that the dead "sleep" in insensibility in their graves until a future resurrection—a rising from the dead.

Readers often write in, inquiring how one can explain "ghosts," séances, spirit photography and related phenomena. If these are not the spirits of the dead—what are they? The explanation is found in the Bible!

World of Spirits

The Bible reveals that there is indeed a world of spirits! But they are not the spirits of the dead—though some may masquerade as spirits of the dead! This spirit world is the world of angels—and demons (fallen angels).

Angels were created by God eons ago—long before the creation of the earth. The archangel whom we call Lucifer and one third of these created angels ultimately rebelled against God (Isa. 14; Ezek. 28; II Pet. 2:4; Rev. 12:4).

The disobedient Lucifer became Satan, "the Adversary." The angels who followed him in rebellion became demons.

Satan and his demonic cohorts exert enormous influence on this world. The Bible calls Satan "the god of this world" (II Cor. 4:4). In that role, he has succeeded in deceiving the whole world (Rev. 12:9).

Satan and his demons pretend to bring light (II Cor. 11:14-15). Demons have, for millennia, been turning mankind from truth into spiritual darkness, falsely calling that darkness "light." The Bible warns of the dangers of humans dabbling in the world of spirits.

Notice just a few of these passages:

"Regard not them that have familiar spirits [the "control" or "guide" that associates itself with a witch or medium], neither seek after (Continued on page 20)
The 20th century has been no easy road for European royalty. Two world wars and a wave of republicanism have taken their toll.

When the late Duke of Windsor—the future Edward VIII—was born in 1894, 20 monarchs ruled on the European continent. By 1951 six survived. One, the newly-born child will be called upon, some day, to reign over this great Empire. But, up to the present, we certainly have no means of knowing his qualifications or fitness for the position. From his childhood this boy will be surrounded by sycophants and flatterers by the score, and will be taught to believe himself as a superior creation... In due course, following 1910—"somehow failed to mature" and "remained deplorably self-indulgent." So much so that his father, George V, gave him a year to survive on the throne. He lasted 11 months.

In 1910 George V created Edward Prince of Wales. It must be said here that "Contrary to popular belief, the King's eldest son does not by right become the Prince of Wales. If the King should decide that his first son was unfit to bear the title, he could withhold it" (A King's Story, page 73).

But Prince Edward was still in his midteens and George V had no real inkling of what was to follow.

"According to the Countess of Arlie, George V had said a few months before his death, 'I pray to God that my oldest son will never marry and have children...''' (Robert Lacy, Majesty, page 83, 1977). That prayer was wonderfully answered if not in every detail.

Few kings had ever been better prepared for office than Edward VIII. As the prophecy said, he did undertake various international tours in behalf of Britain. Personally he was the possessor of a charming personality and unlike his brother, the Duke of York, tended to be gregarious and outgoing.

From birth she was Princess Elizabeth—daughter of the Duke of York—not the daughter of the Prince of Wales. She was but 10 when the British monarchy came to crisis.

The Abdication Crisis

The summer of 1894 brought the birth of King George V's first son, the future Edward VIII. There was much rejoicing except for one lone voice. A senior Scottish MP rose in the Commons to prophecy. He stunned his audience with these words:

"The assumption is that the precedent which has already been set, he will be sent on a tour round the world, and probably rumours of a morganatic marriage will follow, and the end of it will be that the country will be called upon to pay the bill" (A King's Story, page 2, 1951).

This prophecy has proved astonishingly accurate in its essentials. According to one royal author, the Prince of Wales—as he became in 1910—"somehow failed to mature" and "remained deplorably self-indulgent." So much so that his father, George V, gave him a year to survive on the throne. He lasted 11 months.

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A fatal attraction to married women was to marry Edward's early adulthood.

These attractions culminated in his introduction to and subsequent friendship with Wallis Warfield Simpson, a married woman from Baltimore, Maryland. Edward's relationship with Mrs. Simpson coincided with the final sickness and death of his father George V. A constitutional crisis was impending. It was simply not possible for an English King to marry a divorced woman. The British monarchy was in serious
Two New Kings in One Year

After Edward did abdicate on 11 December, 1936, his brother Prince Albert, the Duke of York, became George VI. Three British kings occupied the throne in 1936. Not since 1483 had the English two new kings in one year.

It remained for the new king to restore confidence. War clouds were looming in Europe. Steady leadership was sorely needed.

Humanly speaking, George VI seemed ill suited for this great constitutional office. He tended to be shy and retiring with a frustrating speech impediment. He lacked the natural confidence of his brother. He had never been Prince of Wales. His training was royal, but not obviously directed to future kingship.

The King himself told Lord Mountbatten: "This is terrible, Dickie. I never wanted this to happen. I'm quite unprepared for it. David [as Edward VIII was known to his family] has been trained for it all his life, whereas I've never seen a State paper. I'm a naval officer. It's the only thing I know about" (Majesty, page 127). Mountbatten did not agree. He answered: "George, you're wrong. There is no more fitting preparation for a king than to have been trained in the Navy."

Sometimes human beings are called to take on roles for which they may appear unsuited. Conventional wisdom may say, "No." Circumstances often dictate, "Yes." Most possess unrealized resources that have never been fully tapped.

The Duchess of York

But George VI had married the right girl in his youth. Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon was ideal for the role of future Queen Consort. The Duke of York proposed twice in the early 1920s—and twice he was put off. His intended wife was reluctant, but he was one of those men who can only love one woman. The Duke knew she was right. He persisted! She surrendered!

In Winston Churchill's words: "I married and lived happily ever after." This saying sums up the Duke's marriage. It was storybook in every sense of the word.

The Royal Family accepted Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon at once. Wrote Anne Morrow: "He [George V] sounded surprised that the hesitant Bertie [as his family called him] should have found such a winner" (The Queen Mother, page 25, 1984). More importantly, "There was not a hint of scandal about her." Elizabeth brought effervescence and a fresh spirit into the Royal Family. Her marriage became a model. The Duke and Duchess' behavior was above reproach—and in sharp contrast to that of the Prince of Wales.

George V was increasingly displeased with his eldest son—and increasingly pleased with Prince Albert and Elizabeth. Marriage to Elizabeth was bringing out the best in the Duke of York. He even began to conquer his stutter. They rehearsed his speeches together.

Anne Morrow has written: "The Duke and Duchess of York were basking in an aura of achievement in the summer of 1927. They won the hearts of the people, and the regard of that stern taskmaster, the king" (page 68). Perhaps they were being prepared for what Providence knew was to follow. A decade passed and they came to the throne.

The New King and Queen

It was the 10th of December, 1936—the day before the Duke of York officially became the new King. On that day the Prime Minister, Stanley Baldwin, said in the House of Commons: "The Crown in this country through the centuries has been deprived of many of its prerogatives, but today, while that is true, it stands for something more than it has ever done in history. The importance of its integrity is beyond all question, far greater than it has ever been... the guarantee in this country, so long as it exists in that integrity, against many evils" (Parliamentary Debates, Commons, 5th Series, 1936-1937, emphasis ours).

How did George VI and Elizabeth together save the monarchy? By their integrity!

Public roles and private inclinations must match up. They did in...
Communication

(Continued from page 17)

The spirit—still invisible to Saul—then spoke directly to Saul and prophesied of his impending defeat at the hands of the Philistines (verses 18-19).

The spirit that appeared was not Samuel. Samuel was dead (verse 3), and “the dead know not any thing” (Eccl. 9:5, 10). At death, one’s thoughts perish—as the Bible plainly teaches (Ps. 146:4).

Moreover, Scripture tells us that God refused to answer Saul by prophets (I Sam. 28:6). But Samuel was a prophet (Acts 13:20). The spirit that spoke to Saul thus could not have really been Samuel.

What had appeared to the medium and spoke to Saul was simply a form that looked like Samuel—a demon impersonating Samuel! It was deception, however sincere the medium may have been. There is no other explanation within the teachings of the Bible!

Saul assumed the demon was Samuel—just as spiritists assume they are contacting the spirits of the dead.

Saul sinned by seeking a witch. God takes the sin of spiritism very seriously. “So Saul died for his transgression . . .” (I Chron. 10:13).

Works of Darkness

Demons are spirits of darkness. Spiritism is a work of darkness. Little wonder that it is normal spiritist practice to conduct séances in a darkened room. Strong light, say spiritists, hinders communications with the spirits. This fact in itself should tell them something about what kind of spirits they are dealing with!

One might also ask of spiritists why the “afterlife” is apparently so concerned with such trivia as is often manifested in séances and “hauntings”: knocks and rappings, eerie noises, screams, table levitating and the like. Is there not more to this alleged afterlife than the playing of childish pranks and usually trivial conversation?

The answer should be clear! It is not the dead with whom we are dealing!

The dead cannot communicate with the living! The reason? They’re dead—not alive in some sort of “spirit world.” No such survival is taught anywhere in the Bible! (Why not write for our free booklet Lazarus and the Rich Man for the explanation to one of the most misunderstood passages in this regard.)

It is the world of demons—seeking to perpetuate the false doctrine of the immortal soul—that is behind the spirit manifestations in séances, spirit photographs and electronic voice phenomena. Masquerading as “spirits of the dead,” they deceive the biblically unlearned—just as king Saul was deceived at Endor!

Such manifestations are accomplished by demon power—not by the Spirit of God! Most spiritists refuse to admit this possibility.

Man’s True Destiny

There is only one mediator between God and man—Jesus Christ (I Tim. 2:5-6). Mediums and their familiar spirits are not the source of reliable spiritual knowledge, but rather perpetuate a false concept of man’s destiny.

The Bible has much to say about eternal life—and how one can receive it as a gift. But this truth is much different than what many have been led to believe!

If you would know the truth about man’s destiny, go to the true source of such knowledge—the Bible—and write for our free booklets Life After Death? and What Will You Be Like in the Resurrection?

Do not risk the dangers of dabbling in the spirit world. Follow the example of the Ephesians, who burned their books of sorcery, magic and divination when they heard the truth! (Acts 19:19).

Heed the clear words of the prophet Isaiah (8:19-20, Moffatt translation), who declared:

“When they tell you to consult mediums and ghosts that cheat and gibber in low murmurs, ask them if a nation should not rather consult its God. Say, ‘Why consult the dead on behalf of the living? Consult the Message and the Counsel of God!’”
Kingdom of God

(Continued from page 13)

Compare with Revelation 17. Here is pictured a church. Not a small church—a great church. She rules over “many waters” (verse 1), which are described in verse 15 as different nations speaking different languages. She posed as the Church of God—which Scripture says (Eph. 5:23; Rev. 19:17; Matt. 25:1-10; etc.) is the affianced “bride” of Christ, to be spiritually married to him at his Second Coming.

But she has committed fornication. How? By having direct political union with human governments of this world! She “sat on” (Rev. 17:3) all seven of these resurrections of the Roman Empire—called the “Holy Roman Empire.” She ruled over the human kingdoms—as a common-law and unmarried “wife” ruling her paramour “husband”—a totally unnatural and ungodly relationship.

She is, therefore, to “sit on” this last “head of the Beast”—this final resurrection of the Roman Empire. It will be a union of church and state. It is to endure but a very short time. It is to fight against Christ at his Second Coming! That will be its end.

We see it in process of rising, now. (The members of the European Common Market are probably not the same ten that will resurrect the Holy Roman Empire.) Therefore we are close to the coming of Christ! We are now very near the end of this world!

Christ to Rule All Nations

When Christ comes, he is coming as King of kings, ruling the whole earth (Rev. 19:11-16); and His kingdom—the Kingdom of God—said Daniel, is to consume all these worldly kingdoms.

Revelation 11:15 states it in these words: “The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever”!

This is the Kingdom of God. It is the end of present governments—yes, and even the United States and the British nations. They then shall become the kingdoms—the governments—of the Lord Jesus Christ, then King of kings over the entire earth.

This makes completely plain the fact that the Kingdom of God is a literal government. Even as the Chaldean Empire was a kingdom—even as the Roman Empire was a kingdom—so the Kingdom of God is a government. It is to take over the government of the nations of the world.

Jesus Christ was born to be a king—a ruler! When he stood, on trial for his life, before Pilate, “Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world.” But Jesus also said to Pilate: “My kingdom is not of this world” (John 18:37, 36). How amazing—what a tragedy—that in church services and gospel preaching today, one seldom, if ever, hears of Christ as a coming king and world ruler. Spiritual principalities and powers of evil (Eph. 6:12) are ruling the world today. It is these earthly governments of Satan that will be destroyed and replaced by Christ at his Second Coming. Christ’s kingdom is of the world tomorrow!

Have you not read what the angel proclaimed to Mary, the mother of Jesus, prior to his birth? Jesus told Pilate he was born to become a king.

The angel of God said to Mary: “... thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end” (Luke 1:31-33).

Why do the churches of this world never mention any of these scriptures? Millions have attended churches all their lives and never heard any of these scriptures about Christ becoming a king or about the coming kingdom of God.

These scriptures tell you plainly that God is supreme ruler. They tell you in plainest language that Jesus was born to be a King—that he is going to rule all nations—that his kingdom shall rule eternally.

But all this is only part of the fantastic, amazing, actually shocking truth about the Kingdom of God.

The Kingdom of God will rule over the peoples and nations of the earth. Yet these mortal peoples and nations will not be the kingdom, not even in the kingdom of God. They shall be merely ruled over by it!

How Utopia Will Come!

But now let’s be specific.

Let’s see just how tomorrow’s utopia is to be ushered in. Remember, this wonderful world-state will not be achieved all at once.

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

The same Jesus Christ who walked over the hills and valleys of the Holy Land and the streets of Jerusalem more than 1,900 years ago is coming again. He said he would come again. After he was crucified, God raised him from the dead after three days and three nights (Matt. 12:40; Acts 2:32; I Cor. 15:3-4). He ascended to the Throne of God, Headquarters of the Government of the Universe (Acts 1:9-11; Heb. 1:3; 8:1; 10:12; Rev. 3:21).

He is the “nobleman” of the parable, who went to the Throne of God—the “far country”—to be coronated as King of kings over all nations, and then to return to earth (Luke 19:12-27).

Again, he is in heaven until the
“times of restitution of all things” (Acts 3:19-21). Restitution means restoring to a former state or condition. In this case, the restoring of God’s government on earth, and thus, the restoring of world peace, and utopian conditions.

Present world turmoil, escalating wars and contentions will climax in world trouble so great that, unless God intervenes, no human flesh would be saved alive (Matt. 24:22). At its very climax when delay would result in blasting all life from off this planet, Jesus Christ will return. This time he is coming as divine God. He is coming in all the splendor, abundance well-being, happiness and joy for all mankind. But will he be welcomed by the nations?

Think of it. The glorified Christ—coming in all the splendor, the supernatural power and the glory of God Almighty—coming to save mankind alive—coming to stop escalating wars, nuclear mass destruction, human pain and suffering—coming to usher in peace, abundant well-being, happiness and joy for all mankind. But will he be welcomed by the nations?

World-famous scientists now say frankly that the only hope for survival on earth is a supreme world-ruling government, controlling all military power. They admit that is impossible for man to accomplish. Christ is coming to give us just that.

But will he be welcome?

A leading American newsmagazine gave the following surprising appraisal of man’s only hope: The once optimistic hope of Americans, the article said, for a well-ordered and stable world, is fading. Expenditures close to a trillion dollars have failed to provide stability. Rather conditions have worsened.

This appraisal indicated that among officials, the prevailing view is gaining acceptance that tensions and world problems are becoming too deep-seated to be solved “except by a strong hand from somewhere.”

“A strong hand from somewhere.” God Almighty is going to send a very strong Hand from “somewhere” to save humanity!

Christ Unwelcome?

But will humanity shout with joy, and welcome him in frenzied ecstasy and enthusiasm? Will even the churches of traditional Christianity?

They will not! They will believe, because the false ministers of Satan (II Cor. 11:13-15) have deceived them, that he is the Antichrist. The churches and the nations will be angry at his coming (Rev. 11:15 with 11:18), and the military forces will actually attempt to fight him to destroy him (Rev. 17:14!)

The nations will be engaged in the climactic battle of the coming World War III, with the battlefront at Jerusalem (Zech. 14:1-2) and then Christ will return. In supernatural power he will “fight against those nations” that fight against him (verse 3). He will totally defeat them (Rev. 17:14)! “His feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives,” a very short distance to the east of Jerusalem (Zech. 14:4).

How Nations Will Submit

When the glorified all-powerful Christ first comes again to earth, the nations will be angry. The military forces gathered at Jerusalem will try to fight him! I said “try.”

But far more powerful armies follow Christ from heaven—all the holy angels (Rev. 19:14, identified in Matt. 25:31).

Want to see a description of that battle—and what will happen to those hostile human armies?

In Revelation 17, the armies of the now-rising United States of Europe—the resurrected Roman Empire—are referred to in verse 14: “These shall make war with the Lamb [Christ], and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings....”

But how will he overcome them?

We find that in the 14th chapter of Zechariah:

“And this shall be the plague wherewith the Lord will smite all the people [armies] that have fought against Jerusalem; their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth” (Zech. 14:12).

Perhaps it is even plainer in the Revised Standard Version: “And this shall be the plague with which the Lord will smite all the peoples that wage war against Jerusalem: their flesh shall rot while they are still on their feet, their eyes shall rot in their sockets, and their tongues shall rot in their mouths.”

This rotting of their flesh off their bones will happen almost instantaneously—while they are still on their feet.

What a divine retribution against armies that will fight against Christ. What a demonstration of the divine power with which the glorified Christ will rule all nations. Rebellion against God’s law and God’s rule must, and speedily will be, put down.

Can you realize that every unhappiness, every evil that has come to humanity, has been the result of transgressing God’s law?

If no one ever had any other god before the true God; if all children were reared to honor, respect and obey their parents, and all parents reared their children in God’s ways; if no one ever allowed the spirit of murder to enter his heart, if there were no wars, no killing of humans by humans; if all marriages were kept happy and there were no transgressions of chastity before or after marriage; if all had so much concern for the good and welfare of others that no one would steal—and we could throw away all locks, keys and safes; if everyone told the truth—everyone’s word would be good—everyone were honest; if no one ever coveted what was not rightfully his, but had so much outgoing concern for the welfare of others that he really believed it is more blessed to give than to receive—what a happy world we would have!

In such a world, with all loving
and worshiping God with all their minds, hearts and strength—with all having concern for the welfare of all others equal to concern for self—there would be no divorce—no broken homes or families, no juvenile delinquency, no crime, no jails or prisons, no police except for peaceful direction and supervision as a public service for all, no wars, no military establishments. But, further, God has set in motion physical laws that operate in our bodies and minds, as well as in the spiritual law. There would be no sickness, ill health, pain or suffering. There would be, on the contrary, vigorous, vibrant good health, filled with dynamic interest in life, enthusiastic interest in constructive activities bringing happiness and joy. There would be cleanliness, vigorous activity, real progress, no slums, no degenerate backward races or areas of earth.

**Resurrected Saints**

As the resurrected Christ ascended to heaven in clouds, so shall return to earth in clouds (Acts 1:9-11; Matt. 24:30). Just as he is returning (I Thess. 4:14-17), the dead in Christ—those who have received and been led by God's Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:11, 14)—will rise in a gigantic resurrection, made immortal—including all the prophets of old (Luke 13:28). Those who have the Spirit of God, then living, shall be instantaneously changed from mortal to immortal (I Cor. 15:50-54) and, together with those resurrected, shall rise to meet the descending glorified Jesus Christ (I Thess. 4:17) in the clouds in the air. They shall be with him, where he is, forever (John 14:3). They shall—with him—come down out of the clouds, and stand with him, therefore, that very same day, on the Mount of Olives (Zech. 14:4-5).

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

**Satan Removed at Last!**

This most glorious event in all earth's history—the supernatural majestic descent to earth, in the clouds, of the glorified all-powerful Christ—will at long last put an end to the subtle, deceitful, invisible rule of Satan.

The coming of Christ in supreme glory as King of kings and Lord of lords is recorded in Revelation 19. But what other great event will have to take place before there can be peace, happiness and joy on the earth? Satan the Devil will have to be removed from the throne of the earth.

But in Revelation 20:1-3, the advance news is recorded: "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on . . . that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, and cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season."

The day of man, swayed, deceived, misled by Satan for 6,000 years, will be over. No longer will Satan be able to broadcast through the air into the spirit in man. No longer shall he be able to inject into unsuspecting humans his satanic nature—which we have been misled into calling "human nature."

**Human Nature Not to Disappear at Once**

But that does not mean that the acquired satanic attitude will disappear from human minds immediately. The multiplied millions shall have acquired it. And even though Satan will then be restrained from continuing to broadcast it, what has been acquired as habit will not be automatically removed.

Yet God has made us humans free moral agents. He has given us control over our own minds, except as we may be blinded by Satan's pull of evil by deception.

But no longer will earth's mortal humans be deceived! Now the all-powerful Christ, and the immortal saints ruling under him, will begin removing the scales that have blinded human minds.

That is why I say complete utopia cannot be ushered in all at once. Multiple millions will still hold to the attitude of rebellion—of vanity, lust and greed. But with Christ's coming shall begin the process of reeducation—of opening deceived minds—of undeceiving minds, and bringing them to a voluntary repentance.

From the time of Christ's supernatural takeover, and Satan's banishment, God's law and the word of the Eternal shall go forth from Zion, spreading over the whole earth (Isa. 2:3).

The 6,000-year sentence God placed on Adam's world, of being cut off from God, will be ended. Christ will begin calling all mortals on earth to repentance and spiritual salvation! God's Holy Spirit shall flow out from Jerusalem (Zech. 14:8).

What glory! A new day shall have dawned. Peace shall soon come. Men shall turn from the way of "get" to the way of "give"—God's way of love.

A NEW CIVILIZATION shall now grip the earth!

But what kind of a new world tomorrow will from then be developed? In Isaiah 2:2-4 and in Micah 4:1-3 it says: "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord..."
from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Think of it! No more wars. No fear of man or beast. World peace at last. Something will have to cause that peace. The law of God, which a professed "Christianity" teaches was done away, shall go out from Jerusalem and the earth will be as full of the knowledge of God's way of life as the ocean beds are full of water.

Even the wild animals will be tamed and at peace: "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Isa. 11:6-9).

Now picture the changed conditions!

Look now at the solved problems!

See, now, a glimpse into a world of no illiteracy, no poverty, no famine and starvation, into a world where crime decreases rapidly, people learn honesty, chastity, human kindness and happiness—a world of peace, prosperity, abundant well-being.

Monarchy

(Continued from page 19)

George VI and Elizabeth. They contradicted in Edward VIII, who, it has been often assumed, gave up all for love. Some observers believe the King was infatuated rather than truly romantically in love with Mrs. Simpson.

Edward VIII could not remain King. But this much must be said for the late Duke of Windsor. Once he really saw what the choices were, he chose to abdicate. He did not plunge the country into a constitutional crisis by trying to stay on as King, as well as marrying Mrs. Simpson.

Make no mistake about it. Edward still had quite a large following in the country. Some voices were urging him to fight on. He chose to give up his vocation, a decision he may have regretted the remainder of his life.

It was not easy for the new King either. The Abdication had a traumatic effect. Humanly the office was foreign to his nature. But George VI proved equal to the occasion and performed his new task with integrity and dignity. Robert Lacey tellingly adds: "George VI was sustained by the strength of his wife" (Majesty, page 110). She was a living "testimony to the power of loyal and unquestioning affection."

King George died in 1952. His wife assumed a new role as the Queen Mother. His eldest daughter became Elizabeth II—the new reigning Queen, who, together with her husband Prince Philip, has continued the integrity of her parents.

It is now nearly 50 years since the Abdication. The Queen Mother continues to grow in popularity and usefulness. She works a full and busy schedule, even now in her mid-80s. As Prince Charles expressed it: "Ever since I can remember, my grandmother has been a most wonderful example of fun, laughter, and warmth above all, exquisite taste in so many things. For me she has always been one of those extraordinary, rare people whose touch can turn everything into gold....She belongs to that priceless brand of human beings whose greatest gift is to enhance life for others through her own effervescent enthusiasm for life" (The Queen Mother, page 13). The Prince may be biased, but will be agreed with by the vast majority.

Nothing is more important to future kings and queens than the good example of parents and grandparents. And in Walter Bagehot's words, the British people "believe it is natural to have a virtuous sovereign."

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

money, which was their entire savings. Like many others, they had come to distrust banks since the crash of 1929. That missing cigar box was their bank. Of course, the brother hadn't stolen it; he'd just accidentally given it to me.

You can imagine how happy the accused brother was to see me with that box. He set me on the counter, called over all the customers to tell them what happened. He gave me a hundred dollar bill, and told me to bring in my friends anytime for free ice cream for the rest of my life!

No $12,000 gift would have been worth more than what my father taught me that day. What seems right is not always right. Good judgment is based upon the law of God, not on what one may selfishly want to get for himself.

The way of God is not the way of GET. It is a way not natural to man—the way of GIVE. Jesus Christ lived that way of give during His human lifetime on the earth. It is the way that produces happiness, peace and joy. It is the way of life that God has revealed to mankind in His Word, the Holy Bible. And it is the way that will be restored to the earth when Jesus Christ returns to establish the kingdom of God. The Plain Truth is committed to proclaiming that way of life, and that coming kingdom.
Temple Mount Conflict

Jerusalem's sensitive Temple Mount is increasingly becoming a point of conflict between Jews and Muslims. Jewish activists are demanding that Israel establish direct control over the holiest site in Judaism, which is also one of Islam's holiest places.

Israelis, however, are divided over whether Jewish law allows entry to the area, which was captured by Israel in 1967 but turned over to Muslim religious authorities to administer. Israel's chief rabbis and most rabbinical authorities forbid Jews from entering the Temple Mount area for fear of violating its sanctity by inadvertently walking over the site of the "Holy of Holies," the innermost sanctuary of their ancient Temple. Instead, most Jews pray at the foot of the western ("Wailing") wall, the one remnant left of the outermost enclosures of Herod's Temple.

Now, small but increasingly vocal religious groups have begun lobbying for Jewish prayer on the Temple Mount. Some are even advocating the building of a synagogue there.

An Israeli specialist of Jewish-Arab relations observed that a Jewish attempt to take over the Mount "could trigger a confrontation of apocalyptic proportions." Observers agree that such an action would arouse the full wrath of the world's 800 million Muslims, with major repercussions for the Jewish state.

Fishing in Troubled Waters

Nations such as Kiribati, formerly the Gilbert Islands, and the Solomon Islands receive most of their economic vitality from fish swimming near their coasts. These island states all claim "exclusive economic zones" of 200 miles around their coasts. The United States does not recognize these claims, as far as tuna is concerned.

The U.S. position angers these island nations. They insist American fishing boats ply their waters illegally in violation of international "Law of the Sea" regulations. These boats constantly fish within the 200-mile zones without paying for the right to fish in these waters.

The United States, which also claims a 200-mile zone, points to the irony of an island perhaps only 15 miles wide with only a few thousand people and no navy claiming 200 miles of ocean to either side.

Collectively, these islands in the Pacific claim about 5.6 million square miles of sovereign territory—almost twice the size of the continental United States—closing off much of the Pacific to open fishing.

The older generation of island leaders, who remember the U.S. Marines liberation in World War II, have been largely succeeded by younger leaders susceptible to Soviet offers of economic assistance. The Soviets haven't made many inroads yet. Only Kiribati accepted the Soviets' offer of about US$1 million a year to fish in their waters, and the agreement may not be extended.
Olive Oil: Healthy Alternative

According to the American Heart Association, people with elevated cholesterol levels should restrict fats to 20 percent of their daily calorie intake. For some, this means cutting fat intake in half. In the United States, for example, typically 40 percent of the calorie intake is fat. But until now, the tasteless tedium of low-fat diets has kept some from tackling their elevated cholesterol problem.

Dr. Scott Grundy of the University of Texas Health Center at Dallas offers an interesting alternative: greater use of mono-unsaturated oleic acid—the best example of which is olive oil.

In an article appearing in The New England Journal of Medicine, Dr. Grundy points out that both blood cholesterol levels and incidents of coronary heart disease are relatively low in the Mediterranean countries, such as Greece and Italy, compared to other areas. This, says Dr. Grundy, is due to a traditional diet high in olive oil.

In a study at the Veterans Administration Medical Center at Dallas, Texas, Dr. Grundy compared the results of mono-unsaturated and low-fat diets for their affects on both LDL and HDL cholesterol.

Cholesterol is transported in the bloodstream by substances known as lipoproteins. Low-density lipoprotein (LDL) increases the risk of heart disease, but high-density lipoprotein (HDL) reduces the risk of heart trouble.

The study found that both the low-fat and mono-unsaturated fat diets lowered LDL levels in two different regimens. In both cases, however, the low-fat diet also lowered HDL levels whereas the mono-unsaturated diet did not.

Use of olive oil was therefore seen to be good on both accounts. It offered a greater reduction of LDL cholesterol than a low-fat diet, but it did not lower beneficial HDL levels.

The results of this research could bolster sales of olive oil, which had suffered in the past from a "too rich and heavy" image.

Murder in New Zealand

Compared with crime levels in other developed countries, that of New Zealand is low.

But the chilling fact is crime is increasing at an alarming rate.

Overall crime in New Zealand rose 6.5 percent in 1985 over the previous year. But last year's record 61 murders represented an increase of 110 percent over 1984. Fewer murders were of the traditional type, meaning the result of passion or domestic strife. Much more frequent were mindless, cold-blooded killings, the kind most feared by the public.

One in every five offenders was age 14 to 16 and one in three was between the ages of 17 and 20. The March 7, 1986, New Zealand Herald editorialized: "Synthetic violence served up on video, film and television to an insatiable public has helped to brainwash a generation into believing that there can be action without consequence: that violence is fun, even acceptable."

The Herald's editors offered a solution: "If individuals, parents, and peers begin to care for others there is hope that we may treat the disease and not just the symptoms. New Zealand has often shown it is a caring society for those in obvious need. The challenge is to instill those feelings as an all-pervasive code for every citizen."

It will be difficult to "instill those feelings" in an age dominated by thrill-a-minute entertainment. Like the rest of the Western world, New Zealand too is affected by the ills of these perilous last days, during which, we are told, individuals would increasingly be "without natural affection" (II Tim. 3:1, 3).

Black Heroin

An unusually potent and dangerous new form of heroin known as "black tar" is becoming a big worry to U.S. drug enforcement officials. Black tar— it resembles roofing tar in color and consistency— has extraordinary potency that rapidly produces drug overdoses. It may already be responsible for hundreds of deaths.

The new heroin is as much as 40 times stronger and 10 times cheaper than usual heroin. Unlike the powdered heroin with a street purity of 2 to 6 percent, the new heroin is 60 to 90 percent pure. A few years ago the new heroin, which is produced in northern Mexico and smuggled across the border, could be found in only four U.S. states. Now it can be found in about 30. Black tar sells for as little as $2.50 on the street for an average dose of 10 milligrams, whereas conventional Mexican heroin sells for about $24 for such a dose.

In the United States, around 500,000 persons are believed to be heroin addicts and perhaps two million others use the drug occasionally. The use of black tar "by individuals in the middle-income and high-income brackets," the U.S. Government's Drug Abuse Warning Network says, "seems to be a developing trend."
TEEN PREGNANCY

(Continued from page 6)

together, so society should provide them with free—or very low cost—contraceptives, and if necessary, abortions.” In addition some experts want young people exposed to public sex education starting around age 5.

Little or no mention of morality or responsibility for one’s actions, or that this form of behavior could be wrong!

The sexual fantasies presented young people inadequately reveal the real world. Teens constantly see idealized, problem-free, boy-girl situations, showing how glorious they feel about each other, how much in love they are as a couple. But the real world is different. In the United States, for example, an estimated one-half million teenagers contracted gonorrhea last year. Syphilis and genital herpes are at epidemic levels in the 1980s.

Miscarriages, stillbirths, congenitally deformed children and cases of blindness, deafness and much more have been caused by sexually transmissible diseases acquired through premarital or extramarital sex. Not to mention depression, anxiety and a feeling of loneliness—like Sally—when a partner leaves.

A pregnant girl terminates the life of her innocent unborn child by abortion primarily to conceal the result of her permissiveness. And if she keeps the baby, she usually faces poverty, if forsaken by the fellow. If she receives no help from her own father or mother, an unmarried teenage mother finds the only alternative is welfare.

And if the young parents-to-be decide on marriage, they don’t have a rudimentary economic foundation to support themselves. Almost all such teen marriages end in divorce.

No, it’s a far cry from the one-sided media portrayal. Free love or free sex is not free. The debits incurred are venereal disease, illegitimate babies, abortions, forced marriages or forced separations, upset or broken homes and broken relationships, scars carried even after this life-style is discontinued. Teenage boys learn too late they have established irresponsible habits that will haunt them the rest of their lives.

The Neglected Solution

The consequences of teenage sexual experimentation are far-reaching, often permanently scarring, physically and mentally. Social workers grappling with the problem recommend education in school. If parents seem afraid to get involved, then someone has to teach them.

However the tragedy is not solved solely by sex education in school. The tragedy goes back to parents, who a generation ago blazed new trails, who began to practice sexual freedom, and today are embarrassed to talk to their children about sex.

One mother, anticipating her daughter’s permissiveness, dragged her down to the local clinic to acquire contraceptives. “She’s going to do it anyway, and I don’t want her coming home pregnant,” is her pathetic reason. This is not the way to educate children.

Parents, you need to guide your offspring, fully discussing all aspects of sex thoughtfully, candidly and openly according to each child’s level of understanding. If you want help in providing this information, why not request our free book The Missing Dimension in Sex. Your copy is on reserve for you in our mailing room.

And to teenagers, there is additional help and advice freely available for you. The irony is, this advice was understood, and lived by, long before you were born; it became neglected and yet it applies today. This advice comes out of the Holy Bible. Within its pages, sexual advice to teenagers is revealed plainly and unencumbered.

What a tragedy, many teens have little knowledge of the Bible. God put laws in place from the beginning to help today’s teenager. These laws show young people how to live. God set out certain rules of behavior that show what is right and what is wrong. And how and when to use one’s sexuality.

This authoritative Word states: “Flee fornication” (I Cor. 6:18, Authorized Version). Or, in modern terms, say, “NO!”

The apostle Paul understood the enormous problem of peer pressure when he wrote: “Not to keep company with anyone...who is a fornicator...” (I Cor. 5:11, Revised Authorized Version, except where noted).

In addition, the book of Proverbs—an instruction manual written by a father to his children—teems with many warnings against embracing permissive sex.

God established basic laws and principles to protect and sanctify marriage. One of the Ten Commandments says: “You shall not commit adultery” (Ex. 20:14). The seventh commandment directly forbids adultery as violating the sacred rights of the marriage union. But the commandment also covers in principle all other forms of illicit sex.

What of those who continue to teach it’s OK to indulge in permissive sex? “Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators...nor adulterers...will inherit the kingdom of God” (I Cor. 6:9-10).

Few realize God gives us two choices—two basic ways of life. “I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing...” (Deut. 30:19). Then God commands us to choose life (verse 19). To their hurt many humans choose wrongly.

Authorities, social experts, educators and religious leaders who condone teenage permissiveness as normal or healthy are in violation of basic biblical law. You should ignore them.

God’s Purpose in Sex

God created sex to be a private, loving, binding relationship between a husband and a wife, not casual sex partners.

Sexual relations within marriage become a unifying force, something beautiful and rewarding. Outsiders can see the result—in happy faces and the sense of loyalty to one another—and in anticipation of children that may come along.

Perhaps you can’t change society now. But be courageous to go against the flow. Maintain your integrity. Don’t give in. Don’t compromise. Allow God to bestow upon you his rewards by obeying him. You’ll never regret it.

Choose life! □
TRADE WARS

(Continued from page 4)

The economic linkage between Japan and the Common Market is destined to grow, especially as both experience difficulties in their relations with the United States. Jacques Delor, president of the European Commission, recently remarked that the U.S. can no longer be expected to serve as the locomotive for the world’s economy. “It is clear that Japan and Europe must take up the slack,” he added.

Dr. W. Dekker, president of Philips, the European electronics giant, told the Mainichi Daily News that “global cooperation will be of interest to both regions”—referring to Japan and Europe. “That means that I would like to see much more Japanese investment in Europe. . . . In my opinion, Japan is now beginning a new phase of internationalization.”

Budding cooperation with—and competition from—the Japanese, moreover, is accelerating calls by experts in Europe for the continent to complete its long-stalled plans for economic unity.


The pressure of both American and Japanese competition, reports the Mainichi Daily News, “will create an enhanced awareness of the urgent need for a Community approach in Europe . . . [to implement] the decisions set out in the White Paper.”

Watch for the economic axis between Tokyo and Brussels (EC headquarters) to accelerate in the months and years ahead. Watch also as the yen and the deutsche mark—and eventually the EC’s ECU (European Currency Unit)—replace the dollar as the kingpin of world trade.

Commission President Delor, in his interview with the Mainichi Daily News, looked well into the future when he remarked that “the EC Commission will strive, step by step, to develop the role of the ECU to transform it progressively into an international currency, the same as the yen.”

With America retreating into economic isolation to its own hurt, watch Europe and Japan assume, for a short while in this end-time age, center stage global attention.

Trade conflicts will spill over into the strategic sphere. Demands will increase in Washington to cut military links to both Western Europe and Northeastern Asia/Japan. This will force both regions to do far more in their own defense, an ominous consequence for U.S. security.

The world is indeed heading for significant geopolitical realignments.

Why THE PLAIN TRUTH Has No Subscription Price

For more than half a century The Plain Truth has given its readers an understanding of how a world surcharged with incredible progress can be so afflicted with appalling troubles.

Yet this magazine of understanding you are now holding in your hands is made available without a subscription or newsstand price. Why?

When Herbert W. Armstrong first conceived of the idea, in 1927, of publishing a magazine called The Plain Truth, he believed it must be a different kind of magazine. It would have no outside advertising, no price. Mr. Armstrong had learned that God says we should “buy the truth, and sell it not” (Prov. 23:23). Indeed, he learned that God’s way is simply the way of “give.”

Today, The Plain Truth is a mass-circulation magazine spanning the globe in seven languages with a circulation in English alone of more than seven million copies monthly.

So many ask: “How can you publish such a high-quality magazine without advertising revenue?”

The answer is as simple as it is astonishing! It is a paradox. Jesus Christ’s message of world peace—his gospel—cannot be sold like merchandise. Yet it does cost money to publish Christ’s TRUTH and mail it to all inhabited continents on earth. It does have to be paid for! This is Christ’s work. We solve this problem Christ’s way!

Jesus said, “This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached [or published—Mark 13:10, Authorized Version] in all the world for a witness unto all nations” (Matt. 24:14) at this time, just before the end of this civilization, this age of human governments. A price must be paid for printing the magazine, for postage, for the television and radio broadcasts, for the Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course and other literature.

But HOW?

Christ forbids us to sell it to those who receive it: “Freely ye have received,” said Jesus to his disciples whom he was sending to proclaim his message, “freely give.” “It is more blessed,” he said, “to give than to receive.”

God’s way is the way of love—and that is the way of giving. The Plain Truth is provided free of charge through the tithes and offerings of the membership of the Worldwide Church of God and others.

As those of you who had been receiving the 48-page edition know, The Plain Truth is now 32 pages worldwide. In several major nations the 1986 postage rates for magazines have risen drastically, by about 25 percent. To keep your Plain Truth subscription coming to your home freely each month we have had to cut the weight of the magazine for the present to keep within our postal budgets worldwide.
Acid Rain

Like so many articles on acid rain you refer to sulphur dioxide mixing with moisture to form sulphuric acid. Sorry, but it is an incontrovertible elementary chemical fact that sulphur dioxide is insoluble in water. It will not dissolve in water (or mix with it) to form sulphuric acid.

In any case even if it did dissolve, the simple equation

\[ \text{H}_2\text{O} (\text{water}) + \text{SO}_2 (\text{sulphur dioxide}) \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 (\text{sulphuric acid}) \]

is correct, not equal (as you say). Some sulphur dioxide is soluble in water. It forms sulferous acid (\(\text{H}_2\text{SO}_3\)) not sulphuric acid (\(\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4\)). But, the sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere readily reacts with atmospheric oxygen to form the trioxide. “Sulfur dioxide in polluted air reacts rapidly with oxygen to form sulfur trioxide in the presence of certain catalysts. Particulate matter, or suspended microparticles, such as ammonium nitrate and elemental sulfur, act as efficient catalysts for this oxidation.” (Principles of Chemistry, Davis, Gailey and Whitten, page 718).

Most chemical reactions are more complex than the equations generally imply. But the reactants and the end products are all that most people are interested in and the reactant here is sulfur dioxide, and the end product is sulfuric acid—a main constituent of acid rain.

Still Governor

In a picture caption you referred to James R. Thompson as former Governor. When did Big Jim retire from office?

John J. Fabish
Evergreen Park, Illinois

• Our apologies. Reader Fabish and others noted oversight.

Everybody’s Doing It?

The most striking article that I have read in your Plain Truth magazine is entitled “Are You Sure Everybody’s Doing It?” I am a teenager who has a full control on myself specially when it comes to sex.

I also choose my friends—that’s why I have few friends, but all of them are educated and can be trusted. But when I read the article, it gave me moral support.

Bobby Caravana
Balagtas, Bulacan
Philippines

Obituary

May I convey my condolences to all concerned after reading the obituary on Herbert W. Armstrong. I once had the fortune of meeting him in my earlier years.

David T.B. Small
Pagleham, Essex

Bible—Superstition or Authority?

I have read a very interesting article written by Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, entitled “The Bible—Superstition or Authority?”

As a matter of fact, on November 2, 1917, the well-known Balfour Declaration was signed assigning as a homeland for the Jews the territory of Palestine, and making it thus possible for them to return to their ancient promised land after nearly 2,000 years of persecutions. In spite of that official Declaration, the British only allowed the entry in Palestine of 500,000 Jews with special certificates; instead of some 5-6 million. Had this not been the case, there is no doubt at all that the terrible genocide perpetrated by Hitler and his hordes would well have been avoided.

Yitzhak Kent
Kiron, Israel

Famine

A most captivating article was “Famine on Our Doorstep?” Famine must be given as the most important among natural disasters in this overpopulated 20th century. It is really very painful to see people dying because of hunger. The African leaders must be uselessly losing fabulous sums of money in buying armaments. Instead, they could have used the money in food production. On the other hand the Governments of the Third World must be also blamed for not educating their population about demography. People are dying of hunger, but they are continuing to increase world population. This shows their total ignorance of “Family Planning Education.”

Maybe this article “Famine on Our Doorstep?” will have some impact on their mentality.

O Chamroo
Port-Lardier, Mauritius

Plain Truth Above Politics

I must admit that I have had doubts about the nonpolitical standing of The Plain Truth. That is why I was very pleased to read Keith Stump’s article “The Plain Truth Is Above Politics.”

My doubts sprang from a feeling I had when I read Herbert Armstrong’s Success book, which was so kindly forwarded to me. A very prominent political war-figure dated from pre-World War II days, Winston Churchill, was being quoted as a successful man.

After reading the said article I realise that I am oversensitive because of the English/Boer war in the 1900s and the subsequent oppression of the Afrikaners in this land.

Thank you for making me understand and bringing back balance in my thinking. If we strive for world peace in which God’s principles will reign supreme, we will not lose our perspective because of past wrongs.

H. Botha
Boksburg East
South Africa
IN THIS ISSUE:

TRADE WAR—WHO WILL WIN?
As protectionist trade legislation sweeps through the U.S. Congress, Japan and Western Europe realize the necessity to cooperate more than ever before.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE DEAD: IS IT POSSIBLE?
Can one “make contact” with dead relatives? Read the eye-opening answer!

THE SECRET OF THE HUMAN MIND
What makes the mind of man so superior to the brain of even the most intelligent animals?

HOW THE BRITISH MONARCHY WAS SAVED
In the days of the Abdication in 1936, confidence in English royalty had waned. Yet the Monarchy was saved. How? And by whom?

The “World Tomorrow” television program is cabled throughout the United States on these superstations:

WOR New York, NY
(11:30 am and 11:00 pm ET, Sunday)

WGN Chicago, IL
(10:00 am CT, Saturday)

WTBS Atlanta, GA
(6:30 am, Sunday; 1:05 am, Monday, ET)

TEMPO Tulsa, OK
(9:00 am CT, Sunday)

LIF New York, NY
(10:30 pm ET, Saturday)

Check local listings for other stations and times in your area.