ARE YOU GETTING ALL THAT’S NEWS ON TV?
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The vast majority today derive the bulk of their news and public affairs understanding through television. You, too, may be missing a lot.

Television news, except for special programs and documentaries, is, by nature of time constraints, deficient in broad in-depth analyses of major issues confronting us today.

COVER ARTWORK BY KEN TUNELL—PT

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OUR COVER

A Responsible First Lady

A few months ago, I was privileged to attend a luncheon in the Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles, California, and to meet briefly with the United States’ First Lady, Nancy Reagan.

Mrs. Reagan was in Los Angeles to speak to the World Affairs Council about drug abuse. The World Affairs Council is the main public forum for dignitaries visiting Los Angeles.

Mrs. Reagan movingly pointed out that no one can say this problem isn’t his or her concern. It affects us when it destroys families. It affects us when it costs hundreds of millions of dollars through accidents and absenteeism in the workplace. It affects us since there is a definite and direct link between crime and drug abuse. It should affect us because it is a tragedy that is causing untold suffering and mental and emotional agony to millions of our fellow human beings.

Mrs. Reagan’s personal crusade against drug abuse dates back to the 1960s when her husband was governor of California. The ’60s were a time of unprecedented turmoil, frustration and rebellion among the younger generation.

The older generation muttered to themselves, “What’s the world coming to?” Some hoped that youth would grow out of it. Instead the rebellion sowed the seeds of the massive problems this generation of young people must contend with today. Drugs are just one aspect of it.

When her husband became the 40th President, Mrs. Reagan realized she had a platform and a position of influence. She told us that while the President was recovering from the attempted assassination of March 30, 1981, she began to meet with doctors, teachers and experts in the field of drug and alcohol abuse and learned the full extent of the drug problem.

It is to Mrs. Reagan’s credit that she has used her influence to raise the nation’s level of awareness about drug use and abuse. She let all who heard her know in no uncertain terms that each one of us has a moral responsibility to do more than recognize the problem. We all have an obligation to take a personal stand against drug abuse.

How right she is!

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All of us want things to be right, but few are willing to do what we should to make things right. To quote Mrs. Reagan directly: “You do have the responsibility to put your conscience and principles on the line. You have the responsibility to be intolerant of drug abuse anywhere, anytime, by anybody. You have the responsibility of forcing the issue to the point of making others uncomfortable and yourself unpopular.”

Mrs. Reagan does just that. In her audience were some of the most influential people in the Los Angeles area. Many were undoubtedly personal friends, since the Reagans are Californians. Mrs. Reagan told them (Continued on page 29)
WE LIVE, admittedly, in the most dangerous time in the history of mankind. We are, all of us, just one push of the button away from the ultimate holocaust.

The world has tasted only one small morsel of nuclear war: Hiroshima and Nagasaki. But do we really comprehend what would happen to us and our earth in the event of all-out and total nuclear war?

View of Apocalypse

On October 31, 1983, more than 500 participants met in Washington, D.C., for a monumental conference to discuss the fate of our world (if there was any left) after nuclear war.

Participants included eminent scientists and officials from more than 20 nations. The conference was appropriately called: The Long-term Worldwide Biological Consequences of Nuclear War. Out of this meeting came the book The Cold and the Dark and a new phrase for our survival dictionary: Nuclear Winter.

The conference was a milestone in the number of participants, the depth of the studies undertaken and the unique involvement of Soviet scientists.

We will take a glimpse at the dire forecast that the scientists have prognosticated as the result of a single, massive nuclear unleashing. Before we do, however, let us consider another view of future war and its aftermath. This one comes to us from the distant past.

In the Christian world most people are at least dimly aware of references to the Apocalypse or book of Revelation. The so-called Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse have often been used as symbols of terrible plagues.

For more than 1,800 years after the apostle John wrote down the details of his visions on the Greek island of Patmos, the book's contents continue to read like a series of bizarre hallucinations. But all that has changed with the advent of "Star Wars" weaponry and nuclear power.

Today, in the late 1980s, some of the horrors of the book of Revelation bear striking and eerie resemblance to both the direct and the long-term effects of modern warfare and a nuclear holocaust.

The book of Revelation describes a frightening series of events. Some are ascribed directly to the supernatural power of God preceded and superseded by man-made wars and infernos. Few have ever pointed out the striking convergence of the effects of modern conventional and nuclear war with the scenario portrayed in Revelation.

After Nuclear War

The scientists of the aforementioned Consequences of Nuclear War conference were pessimistic regarding the potential effects of a nuclear war.

Paul Ehrlich of Stanford University stated: "We did not feel that we could exclude the possibility that humanity would gradually decline to extinction following such an event" (The Cold and the Dark, Paul Ehrlich, et al, New York: W.W. Norton Co., 1984, page 137).

Soviet scientist Nikolai Bochkov agreed: "We should not be afraid to reach the conclusion that the conditions that would prevail would not allow the survival of human beings as a species" (ibid., page 142). Here in the briefest form is what we may expect, according to these scientists:

The nuclear nations had the capacity (in 1983) to unleash the equivalent of one million Hi-...
A single Hiroshima bomb killed between 100,000 and 200,000 people.

Two estimates gave the death toll from initial blast, heat and radiation as a minimum of 750 million people, using 1983 population estimates. A like number would be injured. Almost half of the population could become casualties in the first few hours after the buttons had been pushed.

Social Disruption

Electricity, gas, fuel would be essentially unavailable. Transportation would be nonexistent—no planes, no trains, trucks or cars in service. Food deliveries would virtually cease. Communications networks cut and silenced. Municipal water supplies destroyed or contaminated.

Medical care would be effectively unavailable at a time when it would be most intensely needed. For example, there would be no material for bone marrow transplants and no doctors to do the transplanting. Those poisoned by radiation, but still alive, would slowly die.

Virtually all cities—the keystone of industrial society and its most vulnerable component—could be vaporized.

Humans would cry out for help, but there would be no savior to come to the rescue. All that we have come to rely on would simply cease to exist. The survival of humanity's scattered and injured remnants, in the temperate zones from Japan and China, across the

trees, wildlife and green plants. Cities would be destroyed completely by blast and raging firestorms. A late summer or early fall war would lead to widespread burn-off, then to catastrophic erosion and flooding the following rainy season.

Radioactive rain would destroy fish and fauna, pollute water. Crops and livestock would be poisoned. In places, soil could be heated by firestorms and wildfires to the point of killing dormant seeds in the earth, making regeneration of plant life impossible.

Burning cities would produce vast clouds of toxic chemicals: vinyl chlorides, nitrogen, sulfur oxides, cyanides, dioxins, furans and carbon monoxide. The ozone layer would be reduced by vast quantities of nitrogen oxide, dramatically increasing ultraviolet radiation. Human and animal blindness could be one consequence. Compromised immune systems, another effect, would help pave the way for disease epidemics.

Cold, Darkness, Plant Life

Immense clouds of chemicals, dust, soot and ashes would temporarily block out the sun's visible rays. Photosynthesis would be dramatically reduced. Without this activity, animals and humans could not live. We are all ultimately dependent on green plants for survival, as are animals.

If war occurred before or during the growing season, virtually all land plants and most annual crops would be destroyed.

Domestic and wild animal populations could be wiped out by blast, wildfires, radiation, lack of food and the growing icy chill. A nuclear war could alter the climate of the entire Northern Hemisphere. The climate could shift dramatically
from its present seasonal configuration to a "long, sunless, frozen night." Then, ironically, some months later, a "malignant" sun with its ultraviolet radiation would begin to strike the earth and its survivors.

Changes in climactic patterns could cause mountain snow and glaciers to melt, causing possibly continent-sized floods. Temperatures in major areas could drop to below freezing, even in summer.

**Death of Agriculture—then Famine**

Agricultural productivity would cease for at least a year, simply on the basis of the havoc caused by the initial blast and radiation and the cold and dark that would soon set in.

The soil would also be contaminated. Could the survivors really grow crops the next year—and the next? it was asked. There would be no fuel, no transportation, no social organization, no exchange market—and few humans left.

The scant stockpiles of food stored in population centers would have been destroyed or contaminated. Even countries not directly touched by the immediate blast would suffer some of the long-term effects. For example, they would not be able to import foods or other technology. Also, their markets for exports would vanish. Their populations, too, would suffer starvation.

After a nuclear strike, ventured astrophysicist Walter Orr Roberts, "It is possible that a third of the world's population will die from malnutrition-related diseases" (*The Cold and the Dark*, page 158).

**Disease Epidemics**

Famine, radiation poisoning, ultraviolet radiation, the ravages of the environment, lack of sanitation, food contamination, a dysfunctioning immune system, and a lack of medical services would open up the survivors to horrifying epidemics and pandemics. Rabies and the plague, for example, would be rife.

Virulent forms of microorganisms carried by proliferating, predatorless insects would strike a vulnerable humanity. Hundreds of millions of rotting corpses would also add to the diseases' potential.

Are these horrifying potentialities overstated? Some people might like to think so. Probably, the reverse is true. "There has been a systematic tendency for the effects of nuclear weapons and nuclear war to be underestimated," observed space scientist Carl Sagan (ibid., page 24).

Why so? One reason is the "synergism" that will likely take effect. That is, humans will be subjected to several simultaneous stresses such as injury, lack of food, curtailment of essential services, panic, natural disasters. The impact from all these occurring simultaneously will be much greater than the individual effects if they occurred separately.

Our potential future, using the word loosely, is not very secure. Now look at the visions of the book of Revelation. For the pages of this book point out similar kinds of assaults on the environment and man. But the order of their magnitude and repeated occurrences is even greater.

**Revelation Unveiled**

We are introduced to man's *biblical* nightmare with the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, in the sixth chapter of Revelation.

John writes: "I looked, and behold, a white horse. And he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer" (Rev. 6:2, Revised Authorized Version throughout). Bible students know this refers to false prophets and demoniacal leaders—the kind who engulf the world in spiritual and political wars.

John continues: "And another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword...."

"And I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was granted to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth" (Rev. 6:4-8).

This terrifying vision of John consigns—before any nuclear war is unleashed—one quarter of the human race to death of mortal injury by conventional wars, starvation, disease and related plagues. These plagues are *man caused*.

The next series of visions describes plagues supernatural in origin.

These destructions are literally the effects of what we might call angelic "bombings," which devastate the natural world and create firestorms of incalculable magnitude. So intense is the devastation that monstrous clouds of dust block out sun and moon. Will this divine intervention force nations to rethink the use of nuclear and biochemical warfare?

John then describes this angelic first strike, which will warn mankind one last time not to use nuclear weapons. "The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were *thrown to the earth*; and a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.

"Then the second angel sounded: And something like a *great mountain burning with fire* was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood; and a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

"Then the third angel sounded: And a *great star fell from heaven*, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water... and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter.

"Then the fourth angel sounded: And a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them were darkened; and a third of the day did not shine, and likewise the night" (Rev. 8:7-12).

**The Three Woes**

The emphasis again changes from supernatural to man-caused havoc on earth. John records, "I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, 'Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound' " (Rev. 8:13).

(Continued on page 28)
Do you derive the bulk of your news and public affairs understanding from television? If so, you may be missing a lot. Neil Postman, a leading analyst of the electronic media in the United States, makes this clear:

“We possibly have the most ill-informed electorate in the West because people rely so much on television for their understanding of the world. Americans know of a lot of things, but about very little.”

Mr. Postman’s critique is predominantly directed toward news dispensed on American commercial television. Yet his assessment is valid, perhaps only to a lesser degree, for other modern Western nations.

“Knowing implies a historical dimension, an inkling of the implications,” adds Mr. Postman, who is author of the book *Amusing Ourselves to Death*. But television news, except for special programs and documentaries, is, by its nature, deficient in broad in-depth analyses of major issues today.

Television, he adds, “is a speed-of-light medium, a present-centered medium. Its grammar, so to say, permits no access to the past.”

Most important of all, he says, is that television, first and foremost, is an entertainment-oriented medium. Therefore, news on television must contain a high “excitement quotient” to hold the attention of the viewing audience. Simply put, sensational crimes, natural disasters, wars and revolutions “sell” the news.

The preeminence of excitement over information was highlighted in the coverage of events earlier this year in the Philippines.

That nation’s general election in February was, by Philippines historical tradition, remarkably free and open. Still, the picture conveyed by the television cameras back to the United States and elsewhere was one of almost uncontrolled intimidation and violence.

Why?

The answer was supplied by one American network writer-producer. He was asked by an independent newsmen what he thought were the long-range implications of the election. The network representative replied that he hadn’t had time to think about that. What he was interested in at the moment, he admitted, was violence.

The same preoccupation with action and unrest characterizes television news coverage of the tumultuous events in South Africa. The electronic news media believe that a revolution is in the air and they want to be on hand to cover it.

Television has such power that all sides in this conflict know they must either tame it or use it to their advantage. While the government limits media access, its opponents go to great lengths to reach the outside world, especially the American public and Congress, by way of the tube.

Yes, excitement and violence sell; it is indispensable to television in general. And in the presentation of news, background information only “clutters up” the visual presentation of events. This is what makes the electronic media so different from the print media.

British author and journalist Paul Johnson notes that “the emotional impact of television...is so much stronger than the printed word as to be different in kind rather than degree. When a writing journalist is describing a scene of violence, he necessarily imposes a kind of order on chaos by the mere discipline of telling the tale in a consequential manner.”

Robert McNeil, noted public television news producer in the United States, says that the assumptions controlling a news show on commercial television are “that bite-sized is best, that complexity must be avoided...that qualifications impede the simple message, that visual stimulation is a substitute for thought, and that verbal precision is an anachronism.”

The turbulent situation in South Africa, for example, cries out for a historical dimension, but television’s demand for action and simplification does not permit this.

Despite its inherent limitations, the contemporary importance of television news cannot be dismissed. Its main value lies in giving a visual—albeit superficial—presentation of the important events and personalities of the day.

It is easy to be “entertained” by news programs. Reading, on the other hand, involves effort, entails concentration. Society as a whole, unfortunately, has chosen the path of least resistance.

Read more, view less, experts say. Specifically, continue to read the pages of *The Plain Truth*, a unique “magazine of understanding” that probes behind the news to give background and meaning to today’s critical issues.

And those of you who are able, watch *The World Tomorrow*, the weekly television program that, like *The Plain Truth*, gets behind the surface to reveal true cause-and-effect relationships behind the problems confronting mankind.
The Seven Major Mysteries

This article is from the script of a recent telecast by Richard Ames.

For thousands of years man has pondered the meaning of his existence. Why was he born? What is the purpose of life? Is there any purpose?

Today, our fund of knowledge has increased in nearly every direction. We know more than ever before about the world around us, and even the universe beyond, but we still don't have the answers to the most basic questions of all. Today I want to tell you where you can find answers to these questions.

For example, do you know why you're alive? So many people live life accidentally, without a plan, with no goal or expectation beyond pursuing temporary success and security. Now shouldn't there be a greater purpose for life?

When you want to know something about a subject—any subject—where do you go to get the answers? You go to the experts, people who have spent their lives acquiring knowledge and who should know the answers.

For example, if you want to know about rocks, you go to a geologist. If you want to know about living things, you ask experts in biology. You expect people who have studied these sciences to know the answers to basic questions about their subjects.

They may not be able to tell you everything, but even an amateur biologist should at least be able to tell you what a living creature is, and what it does.

In this century, we have seen a veritable knowledge explosion in nearly every field of science. We are finally getting some answers to the questions that have baffled scholars and scientists for centuries.

Some physicists even admit that there must have been a moment when the universe was created, except they don't like the word created. When faced with those fundamental questions: How was the universe created? Who created it? Why was it created? many are honest enough to reply, "We don't know."

Let me read to you a candid statement made by scientist and Nobel prize winner Sir John Eccles:

"Science...cannot explain the existence of each of us as a unique self, nor can it answer such fundamental questions as: Who am I? Why am I here? How did I come to be at a certain place and time? What happens after death? These are...mysteries that are beyond science."

"Yes, "mysteries that are beyond science."

Scientists admit that God and the knowledge of God and the meaning of life are issues outside their realm of expertise. Scientists deal with what they can learn through the physical senses, what can be measured and observed. So where do you go to find out about God? Surely to those who should know—the theologians.

But what happens when we turn to theology—the science that deals with the knowledge of God? The fundamental questions that this particular science should be able to answer are surely: Does God exist? What is God? What does God do? What are his plans? Why did he create man? And how does man fit into those plans? What does God expect of man?

But you know, it's surprising how difficult it is to find somebody, even a so-called religious expert, who is able to give you straightforward and truthful answers to those basic questions.

Today more is being published in the field of theology than ever before. But when you look through this material for clear, straightforward answers to fundamental questions, you come away disappointed.

What you do find is the language of scholarship, yet the lack of solid, conclusive answers.

It seems that the majority of scholars and theologians—who surely of all people should know—have not understood the message of the Bible.

They go around in circles—always studying more, but never really coming to any real understanding. It is as the apostle Paul described, that they are "ever
learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth” (II Tim. 3:7). That’s why so much that is written in the field of theology today is frustrating, vague and hard for the average reader to comprehend.

But you don’t have to be a theologian to get solid, plain answers. It really isn’t as difficult or as complicated as the experts have made it seem.

In Matthew 11, verse 25, Jesus Christ, in praying to the Father, said, “I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.”

Of course, he didn’t mean literal babies, but those whose minds are open and willing, as little children’s should be, to accept the plain and simple truth when it’s taught to them.

If you are to be truly educated, and if you are to establish life on the right foundation, you must know what you are, why you were born, and what is the purpose of your life! You should also know who and what is God. Did he create man? And if so, why? Does God have a plan? And where do you fit into that plan? These really are very fundamental questions, and any educated person should be able to answer them.

I mean really answer them—not just waffle around, sidestepping the real issues with vague generalities and muddled opinions. How can one say he is truly educated if he doesn’t know why he’s alive?

The Bible is the instruction book for all of mankind. It gives the cause of war and peace. It reveals the answers to the perplexing questions of life as no other book on earth can.

It teaches those immutable, spiritual principles and laws that regulate successful human relationships—and that produce peace and joy and happiness.

Jesus Christ made it plain just how powerful those principles are when he said in John 6:63, “The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.”

He wasn’t referring to life as just a biochemical existence, but happy life, eternal life, abundant life!

The revealed Scripture is indeed the foundation of knowledge, and understanding comes by applying that knowledge. Notice Psalm 111:10, “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have... they that do his commandments.”

When some theologians say you don’t have to live by every word of God, it is no wonder they have no understanding.

But you can understand the Bible, with the proper background. That’s where the right textbook bringing you that background comes in.

I’ve been privileged to have access to the right textbook that explains the basic mysteries of the Bible. It is called Mystery of the Ages because it does explain the seven major mysteries that have puzzled man throughout all the ages. I use it in my classes. Frankly, I wish that every human being on the face of the earth could have a copy of it in addition to the Bible.

It’s not written in awkward academic language that is hard to understand. It’s not dull and dry like so many textbooks tend to be. But most important of all, this book, Mystery of the Ages, does tackle head-on these basic and fundamen-
**THE WORLD TOMORROW**

Our staff of telecasters analyze today's news with the prophecies of the world tomorrow on TELEVISION and RADIO.

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**TELEVISION LOG**

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

**U.S.**

Nationwide Cable

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WNY, Binghamton - 12, 11:00 am, Sun
WGRZ, Buffalo - 2, 8:30 am, Sun
WNY, Elmira - 36, 11:00 am, Sun
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WOR, New York - 9, 11:30 am and 11:00 pm, Sun
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October 1986
God predicts vast reforms everywhere in the wonderful utopian era he says will soon break out on this earth. Can you imagine it? A world of great strides in solving the most crucial problems facing mankind.

The Population Explosion Solved

Today—the greatest and most awesome problem of all is the population explosion. Growing populations in all nations are rapidly outstripping the ability of the world to sustain them.

And the areas of the greatest rise in population are the underdeveloped parts of the world—the "have-not" nations of poverty, illiteracy, disease and superstition. Remember, not more than 10 percent of the earth's surface is tillable, or arable, land. And now the latest UN figures indicate the world will double in population in about 34 short years.

The daily, ominous pressure of people is one of the truly incomprehensible problems today.

But God has the solution, and how simple it is. Simply make most of the earth cultivatable. Reduce the bare, snow-swept and craggy mountains, raise up some of the deep, arid desert valleys, change the world weather patterns. Make all the deserts green and fertile. Open up huge slices of the earth, like the Kalahari Desert, the Lake Chad basin and the Sahara in Africa, the Gobi Desert in Asia, and the great American deserts. Make green and verdant the vast wastes of Mongolia, Siberia, Saudi Arabia and much of the Western United States.

Thaw out the deep ice packs and snowdrifts, the permafrost and tundra from the vast, almost limitless expanses of Antarctica, North America, Greenland, Northern Europe and Siberia. Make level the awesome Pamir Knot, the huge giants of the Himalayas, the Atlas, Taurus, Pyrenees, Rockies, Sierras and Hindu Kush—level the immense sweep of the Andes, and all the other forbidding, towering, virtually uninhabitable mountains of earth.

Then, provide good, gentle rainfall, in right balance, just at the right season.

And what happens?

Multiple millions of acres of unbelievably fertile, productive, wonderfull farmland suddenly become available—just waiting to be discovered, and pioneered.

Impossible?

In the hands of man—certainly. But look what God promises.

“Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the Lord, and thy redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

“Behold, I will make thee a new sharp threshing instrument having teeth: thou shalt thresh the mountains, and beat them small, and shalt make the hills as chaff. Thou shalt fan them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the whirlwind shall scatter them: and thou shalt rejoice in the Lord, and shalt glory in the Holy One of Israel.

“When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the Lord will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them. I will open rivers in high places, and fountains [artesian wells] in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.

“I will plant in the wilderness the cedar, the shittah [acacia] tree, and the myrtle, and the oil tree; I will set in the desert the fir tree, and the pine, and the box tree [cypress] together: that they may see, and know, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of the Lord hath done this, and the Holy One of Israel hath created it” (Isa. 41:14-20).

Pure Water—Fertile Deserts

Can you imagine such a fabulous
heavals, or huge cracks and slippages in the crust of the earth. Massive blocks of granite lunged up into the sky—the earth rocking and reeling in the throes of the greatest earthquakes in its history. Mountains were made—they didn’t just happen.

The God of all power, who formed the hills and mountains (Amos 4:13; Ps. 90:2), will reform them—will reshape the surface of this earth.

Read of the huge earthquakes yet to come that will directly accomplish much of the rehabilitation of the land surfaces. (See Revelation 16:18; Zechariah 14:4.) God says, “The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt...” (Nah. 1:5).

Land Beneath Sea Reclaimed

Man recognizes much of the wealth of the world lies beneath the seas. Oil, gold, silver, and dozens of minerals—these all remain unobtainable today, lying untapped deep under the vast oceans. Also, seawater contains a great deal of gold and most of the world’s gold supplies are under the oceans.

Many areas of the earth are ravaged by tidal action—by the ceaseless pounding of the surf that gradually wears away additional land. The lowlands of Europe, Holland in particular, consist to quite an extent of land reclaimed from the sea.

Think of the multiple millions of additional acres available to mankind if some of the world’s oceans were reduced in size. And God says they shall be! Notice it, “And the Lord shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dryshod” (Isa. 11:15).

Sounds incredible—but it’s true!

When Jesus Christ becomes the great Ruler of this earth, he will use that great power. In vision, John saw the angels praising Christ at his coming to rule this earth.

They said: “We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned” (Rev. 11:17).

The combined force of right education about true health, and healing of all sickness, when it is repented of, will mean perfect, utopian health.

Notice how God describes it.

“But there the glorious Lord will be unto us a place of broad rivers and streams; wherein shall go no galley with oars, neither shall gallant ship pass thereby. For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawyer, the Lord is our king; he will save us...”

“And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity” (Isa. 33:21-22, 24).

Listen to this wonderful promise: “Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense; he will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing...” (Isa. 35:3-6).

God describes the rewards for obedience to his laws of mercy and love. Notice Isaiah 58:8: “Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily...”

Happiness in Health

In describing the conditions of good health and plenty to be ushered in upon the earth, God says, “For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds...” (Jer. 30:17).

“Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and shall flow together to the goodness of the Lord, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and of the herd: and their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow any more at all.

“Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together: for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow. And I will satiate the soul of the priests with...
fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, saith the Lord” (Jer. 31:12-14).

And why not have good health? Why should we be so willing to believe such a perfect state of health and joy is impossible? Why are all these scriptures ignored by professing Christian preaching? Instead they picture going to heaven with idleness and ease and no accomplishment.

There are blessings for observing the laws of health—absolute guarantees good health will result—and that sickness and disease will become in the third and fourth generations a thing of the past.

Notice what God promised his people: “...if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day...all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God.

“Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep. Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store” (Deut. 28:1-5).

Also, God shows individual races returning to their own lands, repopulating them. “He shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root: Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit” (Isa. 27:6).

God says the wastes will be rebuilt. “For, behold, I am for you, and I will turn unto you, and ye shall be tilled and sown: and I will multiply men upon you, all the house of Israel, even all of it; and the cities shall be inhabited, and the wastes shall be builded: and I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bring fruit: and I will settle you after your old estates...” (Ezek. 36:9-11).

Read the whole chapter of Ezekiel 36. God says: “...I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded... This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited” (verses 33, 35).

And what about all other nations?

Notice: “In that day shall there be a highway out of Egypt [Egypt still exists as a nation] to Assyria [many of whose people migrated centuries ago to northcentral Europe—modern Germany], and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians. In that day shall Israel be the third with Egypt and with Assyria, even a blessing in the midst of the land: whom the Lord of hosts shall bless, saying, Blessed be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel mine inheritance” (Isa. 19:23-25).

Total Literacy

Think what an almost unbelievable step forward it would be, if all nations and peoples everywhere spoke, and read, and wrote the same language.

But today, vast areas of the earth do not even possess a written language. Millions upon millions are illiterate—cannot read or write, even their own names.

Once the returning Christ conquers this earth, he will usher in an era of total literacy, total education—and give the world one, new, pure language.

This subject by itself needs a book to describe. The whole literary processes of the whole earth changed. Today, all languages are corrupt. They are literally filled with pagan, heathen terms—superstition—misnomers—exceptions to rules—peculiar idioms.

God says: “For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the Lord, to serve him with one consent” (Zeph. 3:9).

Think of the new era of good literature, good music, and of the avoiding of duplicated effort, misunderstandings through linguistic difficulties and thousands of painstaking hours of translations. What an age it will be, when all the world becomes truly educated—and speaks the same language.

What about the Economic Structure?

God shows Jerusalem will become the financial capital, as well as the spiritual capital, of earth.

The Creator says, of the newly built city: “Then thou shalt see,
for public display. No gold bricks, reposing in deep, subterranean vaults—utterly useless except for their meaning—no fear of thievery, or robbery. But breathtakingly beautiful decorations for the capital building, the Temple in which Christ will dwell.

A fixed standard will be set up, and values will never change.

No more speculating or gambling on other people's ability.

Never again will any person become rich from investing in the labors and creative ability of another person. No more stock markets, world banks, financing centers, insurance companies, mortgage companies, loan agencies, or time payments.

In God's abundant government people will buy only what they need, when they can afford it, when they have the cash to pay for it. No more interest. And no more taxes.

**The Tithing System**

But the tithing system will be universal.

Today's governments demand up to 40, 50, and even 90 percent in inheritance taxes, income taxes, hidden taxes; federal, state, county, school board and city taxes.

But God requires only ten percent. And out of that ten percent will be financed the entire governmental, educational and spiritual leadership of the whole earth.

"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? [And God answers] In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (Mal. 3:8-10). That's a prophecy for now.

And what a blessing that will be. None of the financial burdens that curse most peoples today.

God says financial blessings are to become the order of the day.

Take away thievery, robbery, accidents, weather damage, rust, rot and decay, from plants, stores, manufacturing concerns. How much less could merchandise then be sold for—and at how much greater profits?

**The Weather Patterns**

Take away weather problems, insect damage, blight and fungus from farmers—losses through government price controls and overflooding of markets—and what would be their lot in life?

God will accomplish these things.

Our God is a multibillionaire heavenly Father. "The gold is mine," he says (Hag. 2:8).

And God wants every child of his to truly prosper. "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health..." (III John 2). Christ said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

God wants fullness, abundance in every life.

But look at the material "successes" you've known. How truly happy are they? As J. Paul Getty, one of the world's richest men, is reputed to have said, "I'd give all my millions for just one happy marriage!"

In God's kingdom, commands of his will be obeyed. They'll become the standard for regulating commerce, business, finance, and the entire economic structure of the world.

And all will be on the giving basis. Christ said: "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again" (Luke 6:38).

The giving standard will be followed in God's rule on this earth—not the grasping, conniving, starving, deceitful, clandestine, furtive, scurrilous, devious, cheating and lying chicanery that is commonplace in today's business world.

But when God converts rebellious mankind by the display of his mighty power—when he brings to pass his promise: "As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God" (Rom. 14:11), when he humbles the vain, proud spirit of man—then man will be made willing to give.

And until God breaks the haughty spirit of man (Isa. 2:10-12, 17)—the peoples of earth will not be ready to accept such a wonderful, loving, generous, honest, giving standard for the whole economy.

It would require a thick book to begin to describe the wonderful conditions that could prevail on this earth—and that will finally prevail, when the human heart is humbled, converted—given the very nature of God (II Pet. 1:4).

Never again will anyone build a building he can't afford, and doesn't need, to lease and rent to tenants who help him pay for it. No more interest. God says it is sin to lend money at "usury" or interest.

Once each fifty years, all debts, public and private, will be canceled, completely.

**Economy of the World Healed**

Since governments will be in the hands of the spiritual family of God, and partially administered by those human leaders directly under that great ruling family—and since there will be no huge bureaus watching other huge bureaus, which are suspiciously watching other bureaus; no military establishment; no "intelligence" (spy) agencies or members of Interpol; no huge cartels, monopolies, unions, or giant government spending—the economy of the world will be healed.

Think of it. No more foreign aid—none of the wasted billions to buy "lovers" (allies) (Ezek. 23:9, 22; Lam. 1:2, 19; Ezekiel, 16th chapter) who turn and rend you later. No more strings-attached government grants to industry, to science and space technology, to schools and institutions for research.

Instead, every necessary industry, educational institution, and business will be in sound financial condition.

What a world that will be!

(Continued on page 20)
Scientists are perplexed. Educators are at a loss to explain it. Theologians fumble for an answer. Just why does sex exist?

by Clayton Steep

"E. difference!" someone once said. And starting from early childhood we all begin to notice there is indeed a difference. We become increasingly aware of it as we grow up. Not only is sex a factor in human relationships, but animals, birds, fish, insects, even plants utilize it.

In the last few decades, though, especially in the Western world, simple awareness of sex and natural interest in it has given way to overwhelming preoccupation.

Today's society is saturated with sex. It's in the movies and music. It's accentuated in clothing styles and fashions. It is used to advertise everything from automobiles to zippers. It screams out from newsstands and magazine racks. Bold references to it are emblazoned on T-shirts and bumper stickers. It is blatantly vulgarized by graffiti in public places.

In case you ever do manage to move the subject of sex to the back of your mind, you have only to open an ordinary newspaper, or glance at a billboard, or overhear an average conversation. Before you know it, your attention is once again dragged back to the subject of sex.

Yes, everyone is aware of sex. But few have any idea why sex exists.

Science Doesn't Know

Evolutionary scientists have no adequate explanation for the existence of sex. According to the theory of evolution, the first minute life forms reproduced nonsexually. Sex was not involved. They just divided, producing identical copies of themselves. It was, comparatively speaking, as simple as that.

Somehow along the way, though, things got
complicated as sex entered the picture. This is a problem for evolutionists, because, according to natural selection, complications are not supposed to be rewarded with success. Yet sexual reproduction—so much more intricate, and sometimes ungainly, than nonsexual reproduction—has become predominant among living things.

Think of all that is involved! Sexual reproduction in the animal kingdom requires two independent individuals of the same species to find each other and then, at the appropriate time, to mate.

Highly specialized internal and external organs are needed. Through an intricate process a sperm from one individual must locate and unite with the ovum or egg from another. The fertilized egg, which in the mammalian world begins to grow, must then be protected and nourished over an extended period of time until it develops into an independent living entity.

Reproduction in the plant kingdom is hardly less intricate. And birds have their own unique problems in hatching their eggs.

Why would sexless life forms that were successfully and efficiently reproducing nonsexually turn to a much more complicated method? Indeed, how could they turn to it, for they were only able to reproduce identical—sexless—copies of themselves?

If, somewhere in the eons of time, the idea to reproduce sexually occurred to a nonsexual life form, as absurd as that may sound, how would it go about acquiring the complex, yet necessary, equipment, to say nothing about convincingly communicating the concept to at least one contemporary, who would have to develop the complementary equipment, as well as passing on the idea to succeeding generations?

And what if no one else was interested?

Remember that sex would not have been required in order for life to exist. Proof of this is that sexless life forms were already successfully existing and reproducing. So successfully in fact that nonsexual reproduction is still the method used by thriving minute life forms that have remained basically unchanged since the beginning.

Why sex then? This perplexing question is one of the nagging enigmas evolutionary science cannot adequately explain. Neither is the explanation adequately forthcoming from educators or specialists in sexual matters. They, with few exceptions, must take for granted that sexual differences somehow evolved and, starting at that unproved point, they attempt to deal with
those differences.

**No Right or Wrong?**

Naturally, the educators and experts who assume sex is the result of evolution do not speak in terms of specific moral laws regulating the use of sex. They presume mankind is merely a higher form of animal life, except that humans are more intelligent and therefore should be able to utilize sex in a "responsible" way.

That's as near as they can come to formulating a comprehensive and workable guideline for sexual conduct. After all, to clearly define right as opposed to wrong, sexually speaking, would be to risk offending some in one's audience when it comes to personal preferences or "lifestyles."

But what does "responsible" mean? Responsible to whom? To God? No, for God and the Bible are left out of the picture so as not to offend anybody's personal beliefs concerning religion.

Responsible, then, to other humans? The concept sounds lofty but is unworkable and undependable as a guideline because morally most people let themselves be responsible to other people only to the extent that they themselves stand to tangibly benefit from the arrangement. When you get down to it, to prescribe no more than that moral conduct be "responsible" basically means that each individual is free to make up his or her own mind concerning morality.

The fruits of this kind of thinking are everywhere evident.

Sex crimes are rampant. The statistics would be far worse than they are were it not that so many crimes go unreported and that so many acts of sexual misconduct are not even categorized as crimes like they truly deserve to be.

People in too many cases are behaving themselves in a manner unbecoming to animals. Sexual conduct is regulated by whim and caprice. Adolescents—and, increasingly, preadolescents—freely and unashamedly indulge in sexual play.

Unfortunately, traditional Christianity has been of little help in the matter. Far from speaking with a united voice, some theologians branded all sex as only tolerable; they have had to endorse it, but in marriage only; some limit it solely for the purpose of having children; some few modern and ancient religious spokesmen said it's permissible outside of wedlock. There have even been some who have urged followers to participate in unrestrained communal sexual activity—all in the name of religion.

What confusion! No wonder so many of the educated of the world have laid aside what they have assumed to be Christianity—and consequently the Bible—and sought to explain biological reality by means of what they consider to be the only alternatives: philosophy or evolutionary science, as inadequate as they are.

But wait! Just because traditional Christianity has erred in comprehending the Bible, let us not make the mistake of overlooking that it is God's handbook of instruction about life, including sex, to the Creator's highest physical creation: mankind. Science does not know that. Religion has not understood what that means.

In the Bible we discover that sexual differences did not evolve. God created sex. And the Bible explains why.

**The Inventor of Sex**

The Bible reveals that God created the first human beings. They were naked and not ashamed. God was pleased with his handiwork.

But God planned to greatly increase the number of human beings on earth. To accomplish this he could have created each additional one with his own hands just as he had created Adam and Eve, giving to them the breath of life (Gen. 2:7). It would have taken time, but God has plenty of time.

Or, in a less personalized way, could the Creator not have merely commanded, so great is his power, and the elements themselves would obediently have come together, producing humans as they had so recently yielded plants, animals, fish and fowl (Gen. 1:11, 20, 24)?

Or, why not have each person capable of producing a seed or an egg that did not need fertilization? Out of it would develop a tiny human that would grow into an adult.

Nature is not lacking in examples to show that reproduction is possible without sex.

But such is not the way God designed human beings or, for that matter, most living things. We can be glad, for had it been otherwise, we certainly would not have the pleasure of sex nor behold the rich variety that exists within each species; living things today would be pretty much genetically identical to the originals.

The Bible describes the origin of sex among humans. God created a second human, a female, different in many important ways from the first human, a male, and yet the two perfectly complemented each other.

The Scriptures proclaim, "Male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply . . . " (Gen. 1:27-28). Verse 31 records how God looked approvingly at what he had created and pronounced it, sexual differences and all, "very good."

**The God Family**

What so few understand, and yet what is clearly revealed in the Bible, is that God is also capable of reproducing himself. God is a family. There is God the Father (I Cor. 1:3, and Jesus Christ, the Son of God (verse 9). Furthermore, it is God's purpose to expand his family—to add to the number of beings in it.

Why this truth should surprise even theologians is difficult to say. The Scriptures plainly declare that,

(Continued on page 25)
BELIEVE it or not, you have, as one might say in the speech of the inner cities of America, a hole in your head.

"Who me?"

Yes, you! You and all the rest of mankind have something missing. All your life you have been trying to fill that figurative hole—that feeling of emptiness—and yet, you are still unfulfilled. This is why you are always driving and never arriving—getting but never having—seeking and never finding. That is why you “can't get no satisfaction.”

Yet you can discover what you have been searching for all your life. You can fill that feeling of emptiness with the “right stuff” that satisfies!

**Man's Missing Dimension**

So you have that void, that figurative hole in your head, but where did it come from and who put it there? To find the answers, let us go all the way back to the creation of man.

Man is unique in all of creation. We are the only creatures that look like God, yet we are the only creatures that God purposely made incomplete. Even though we look like God, we are a long way from being complete like God.

Man is incomplete in that he is mortal and will die (Gen. 3:19). On the other hand, God is immortal spirit (John 4:24).

But the most important difference is that man's mind is incomplete—there is something missing. What are humans missing? You were born missing the mind of God.

When Almighty God made your physical brain, he also put a spirit entity there to give you intellect and reasoning ability. This spirit also gives you the ability to receive another spirit—God's Spirit that is needed to make your mind complete.

The apostle Paul explains: “For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man
which is in him?” (I Cor. 2:11, Revised Authorized Version throughout, except where noted). This spirit is what we call the human mind. But notice what the rest of the verse says: “Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.” Your spirit plus God’s Spirit equals a whole mind fulfilled and satisfied. But your spirit minus God’s Spirit equals “a hole in your head,” and a hole in your head equals frustration and unhappiness.

But beware, there is a counterfeit spirit that promises fulfillment, but it cannot deliver. That spirit is from Satan the devil, “the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience” (Eph. 2:2). This spirit promises pleasure and power but delivers only self-centeredness and misery and death.

Our all-wise Creator God deliberately created your mind incomplete so that you would be motivated to fill it—with his Spirit. By the laws of physics, whenever there is a vacuum there is a drive created to fill it. The same is true in man’s mind. Man is driven to be fulfilled, but by himself he hasn’t discovered how to do it.

So there are two ways to fill that emptiness, but only one really works. From the beginning God showed and told man the one way that works.

Show and Tell

The Creator showed the first man the nature of his incompleteness and the way to wholeness. Did you ever think about the signficance of God creating man out of the dust of the ground, thus leaving, one might say, a hole in the ground? The lesson is plain: Unless man fills the vacuum in his head with God’s Spirit he will return forever to the hole in the ground from whence he was taken.

What about the inescapable lesson of man’s first sensation of hunger? God (see Genesis 2:15-18) may have said: “That’s your stomach, Adam. You have to eat the right food, and then you will feel satisfied. The emptiness you feel in your stomach is like the emptiness you have in your mind. You not only need food, you need my Spirit in your mind to be fulfilled and satisfied. If you do not partake of my Spirit, you will feel empty and frustrated, hating your very life.

“You see those two trees over there; the one on the right is the Tree of Life. That is the tree to eat; it will fill that spiritual emptiness in your head. That tree represents my way of life—the way of give, the way of love produced by my Spirit.

“That other tree is called the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Do not eat of that tree. It looks good, but its fruit is bad and you will die from it. Spiritually it represents the way of get—the way of selfishness—the way that seems like the right way to fill the spiritual void in your head. Naturally, you are filled when you get and take, but I am telling you that getting and taking only fills you with unhappiness, misery, and eventually death.

“I am leaving it up to you, Adam—you must develop your own character by choosing between the two ways—but choose the way of give, and live!”

Adam soon became aware of yet another emptiness within him. Perhaps he said to God, “I feel like I am missing something in my life. I do not feel satisfied inside. I need something but I don’t know what it is.” Then God may have said: “You have an emotional hole; you are only half, not whole. You need a wife. She will complete you and make you whole.” Then God put Adam to sleep, and by taking one of Adam’s ribs made a woman (Gen. 2:21-22). Then God closed the rib cage in the man and the woman filled his life at his side.

For the moment, Adam was very happy with his new wife and said, “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh” (Gen. 2:23). Now he felt whole—he thought he had found the missing dimension in his life—that Eve was the end to his search for fulfillment. But God knew better.

Unfortunately man chose the way of get. Satan deceived Eve, Adam’s wife, into believing that the way to happiness—the way to fill the hole—was by getting instead of giving. And humans have followed that way of get ever since. Millennia after millennia, man has exhausted himself in frustration, trying to fill his life with the way of get.

But Why?

Man failed to fill his head with the mind of God because he was not repentant when God called attention to his error in choosing the way of getting instead of giving. Repentance means change, and Adam and Eve did not see the need to change.

They did not fully understand what their spiritual emptiness meant. They did not accept that only being half there was not good enough—that half is not whole.

Repentance is more than realizing that you have done wrong; it is first realizing that you are incomplete! You must come to understand that there is none good but God. You must come to see that you do wrong because your mind is incomplete. And until you come to admit that you are wrong, you will not have a whole mind. God gives his mind to those who realize they are not whole, and want to change their lives.

Adam and Eve could have repented of what they were and surrendered their lives in complete submission to their Creator. In such an attitude of repentance and submission toward God, they would have been able to resist Satan’s temptation of satisfying self, of trying to fill the hole in their heads by getting and taking.

Through the Tree of Life they would have gained the missing dimension to their minds—the mind of God through the Holy Spirit. Their minds would have been filled with the mind of God.

And what is God? What is the very essence of his mind and being? “God is love” (I John 4:8). And love is the way of give—the way of outgoing concern: total selflessness.

Get Won’t Get It!

What does the way of get produce? Can you ever get enough to fill the hole in your head? The truth is, the way of get won’t get it filled. What happened to man after Adam and Eve chose the way of get?

Their son Cain, whose name
ironically means to take or get, killed his brother Abel. Why? Cain did not give God his best. He lived the way of get and kept the best for himself. On the other hand, righteous Abel lived the way of give and gave God the best that he had. Because of Abel's attitude of give, God granted him favor. This infuriated Cain—he was jealous. He wanted to get favor for himself. With all the frustration and rage that the way of get produces, Cain killed his brother (Gen. 4:1-8).

And man has been reaping ever since the bitter fruits that the way of get produces. The apostle James wrote this commentary on the way of get: "Where do wars and fights come from among you? ... You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you ... ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures" (James 4:1-3). The way of get does not work!

Perhaps you are not convinced. Maybe you still have the idea that if you had everything you ever wanted, then you would be happy. Wise King Solomon tried it. He got for himself everything a man could want, but did it satisfy? Let's hear what Solomon had to say.

"Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure.... I searched in my heart how to gratify my flesh with wine ... I made my works great, I built myself houses, and planted myself vineyards.... I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the special treasures of kings and of the provinces ... " (Eccl. 2:10, 3-4, 8).

What was the end result, Solomon?

"Then I looked on all the works that my hands had done ... and indeed all was vanity and grasping for the wind.... Therefore I hated life because the work that was done under the sun was grievous to me, for all is vanity and grasping for the wind" (Eccl. 2:11, 17).

Is there anything that really fills the emptiness, the void Solomon speaks of? Of course there is! Let's listen to King Solomon again.

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man" (Eccl. 12:13). God gives his Spirit, his mind, to those who obey him, who keep his commandments (Acts 5:32).

But what about you, aren't you tired of riding on this crazy merry-go-round of get that always brings you back to where you started—to that same old condition of frustration and unhappiness? Well, you can get off that merry-go-round. You do not have to ride it. Almighty God is showing you a better way—the only way to what you really want and need in life.

Repent of what you are. It is obvious that something is not quite right in your life—something is missing. And now you know what's wrong. It is you! The hardest thing for a person to do is admit that he is wrong.

No matter who you are or what you do, without God's Spirit in your mind you are nothing. The psalmist David wrote: "Certainly every man at his best is but vapor" (Ps. 39:5).

In terms of human standards, Job was a man of great accomplishment and moral character, but when God finished showing him the hole in his head Job said, "I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes" (Job 42:6).

Go down on your knees before your Creator and ask him to for-
Kingdom of God

(Continued from page 13)

Tomorrow's World Governmental Structure

Now notice just how the new world government will function during the next thousand years. It will not be so-called democracy. It will not be socialism. It will not be communism or fascism. It will not be human monarchy, oligarchy or plutocracy. It will not be man's government over man. Man has proven his utter incapability of ruling himself.

It will be divine government—theocracy—the government of God ruling over humans. It will not be government from the bottom up. The people will have no votes. It will not be government of or by the people—but it will be government for the people. It will be government from the top (God Almighty) down. It will be hierarchy in form.

There will be no election campaigns. No campaign fund-raising dinners. No dirty political campaigns, where each candidate attempts to put himself forward in the most favorable light, defaming, denouncing, discrediting his opponents. No time will be wasted in mudslinging campaigns in the lust for power.

No human will be given any government office. All in government service will then be divine Spirit beings, in the kingdom of God—the God family.

All officials will be appointed—and by the divine Christ, who reads and knows men's hearts, their inner character, and abilities or lack of ability. You'll find a description of Christ's supernatural insight into the very character of others in Isaiah 11:2-5.

Notice it: "And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; and shall make him of quick understanding... and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears [hearsay]: but with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth..." (Isa. 11:2-4).

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

There will then be two kinds of beings on earth—humans, being ruled by those made divine.

Some resurrected saints will rule over ten cities, some over five (Luke 19:17-19).

Think of it—no money wasted on political campaigns. No splits in political parties with quarreling and hatreds. No political parties!

What is the New Covenant?

In short, under the New Covenant, which Christ is coming to usher in, what we shall see on earth is happiness, peace, abundance and justice for all. Did you ever read just what this New Covenant will consist of? Did you suppose it will do away with God's law? Exactly the opposite. "For this is the covenant that Christ is coming to establish, you'll read in Hebrews 8:10...I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts..."

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

But remember, the humans remaining on the earth after Christ's return—ruled then by Christ and those resurrected or changed to immortality—will themselves still have human nature. They will be still unconverted.

Two Courses of Action

But Christ and the governing Kingdom of God, then set up as the governing family, will bring about the coming utopia by two basic courses of action.

1) All crime and organized rebellion will be put down by force—divine supernatural force.

2) Christ will then set his hand to reeducate and to save or spiritually convert the world.

Notice, first, how the social and religious customs will be changed by divine force.

God gave seven annual Festivals and Holy Days he commanded to be observed. They contained great and important meaning. They pictured God's master plan for working out his purpose for humanity. They were established forever. Jesus observed them, setting us an example. The apostles observed them (Acts 18:21; 20:6, 16; I Cor. 5:8; 16:8). The true, original Church—including gentle converts—kept them.

They were God's way—God's customs for his people. But people rejected God's ways and customs, and turned, instead, to the ways and customs of the pagan religions. People did what seemed right to themselves. And since human minds in this world have been hostile against God (Rom. 8:7), attitudes of hostility against God's way of life have prevailed. The ways that seem right to a man have been ways contrary to the ways that produce peace, happiness and abundant living. These same wrong ways seem right to most people today! We realize they seem right—not wrong—to most who will be reading these words.

But can we realize that "there is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death"? (Prov. 14:12). And if you turn to Proverbs 16:25 you will see the same thing repeated: "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

God said through Moses: "Ye shall not do after all the things that we do here this day, every man whatsoever is right in his own eyes" (Deut. 12:8). And again: "Take heed to thyself that thou be not snared by following them [pagan religious customs]...and that thou inquire not after their gods, saying, How did these nations serve their gods? even so will I do likewise. Thou shalt not do so unto the Lord thy God: for every abomination to the Lord, which he hateth, have they done unto their gods..." (Deut. 12:30-31).

Today the professing Christian world rejects God's Holy Days; holy to him, but which a deceived "Christianity" hates. They observe instead the pagan days—Christ-
Christian” ministers taught that God’s Festivals were “part of the old Mosaic system—not for us today.” The clergy deceived and prejudiced the people. The people were deceived into believing that Christmas, New Year’s, Easter, etc., were days Christ ordained.

But now Christ is returning to earth to restore God’s ways—including God’s Festivals. Those who rebelliously won’t keep God’s Holy Days now—who sneer at them in scathing contempt—will observe them when Christ returns. Notice what this scripture says:

“And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth [including gentile nations] unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the Lord will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles” (Zech. 14:17-19).

These passages give us the method by which Christ will “rule with a rod of iron”—of how he will use supernatural force to bring people of all nations to his right ways—ways that are the cause of real blessings.

The Perfect Government

Yes, Jesus Christ very soon is going to return to this earth. He is coming in power and glory. He is coming to rule all nations!

But he is not going to do this ruling, supervising, all alone, by himself. He is coming to set up world government. It will be a highly organized government. There will be many positions of authority.

Right here, it is time we stop to explain the mechanics of this perfect form of government.

First, it is the government of God—not human government. Man won’t acknowledge it yet, but man has demonstrated by 6,000 years of inefficient, bungling, wasteful efforts of human government that mortal man is utterly incapable of rightly governing himself.

As for man being qualified to rule and administer government, God says of government officials today: “None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity. . . . Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths. The way of peace they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace.”

Then the people, under this human mis-government, say: “Therefore is judgment far from us, neither doth justice overtake us: we wait for light [solution of civil, personal, national and world problems], but behold obscurity; for brightness, but we walk in darkness. We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes: we stumble at noonday as in the night; we are in desolate places as dead men” (Isa. 59:4, 7-10).

Then, in this chapter foretelling our time, the final solution is given: “And the Redeemer shall come to Zion . . .” (verse 20). And, continuing: “Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee” (Isa. 60:1).

The only hope of justice—of peace—of right solutions to all this world’s problems—is the coming in power and glory of Christ to set up world government. Right government. The government of God!

In this, and many other passages, God shows in his Word to mankind how utterly helpless man is to govern himself and his fellows. Now 6,000 years of human experience have brought mankind to the very brink of world suicide.

So, in other words, the first 6,000 years of God’s 7,000-year plan were allotted to allow Satan to labor at his work of deceiving the world, followed by 1,000 years (one millennial day) when Satan shall not be allowed to do any of his “work” of deception. Put an-
other way, God marked out six millennial days to allow man to indulge in the spiritual labor of sin, followed by a millennium of spiritual rest, under the enforced government of God.

Government Planned from Beginning

And now comes a wonderful truth. Now we come to a revealed insight into the wonderful planning, preparing and organizing of the perfect government of God.

There will be no incompetent and selfishly ambitious politicians seeking to get their covetous hands on the throttle of government power by the deceptive political methods of this world. Today people are asked to vote into office men they know little about—men whose qualifications are largely misrepresented. In the soon-coming government of God, every official placed in authority shall have been tried and tested, trained, experienced and qualified, by God’s qualifications. The fact illustrates the purpose and necessity of the Church. The function of the Church is not merely to convert “firstfruits”—not merely to bring about salvation to those specially called out of the world and into the Church, but to prepare and train them for these positions of leadership in the kingdom when salvation will be opened to all the living.

God has planned ahead, but not only for his government to rule the earth. He had said to Adam, in effect: “Go, plan your own human governments, create in your own imaginations your own gods and religions; develop your own knowledge and educational structure, plan your own social systems (in a word, organize your own human civilization).”

But God, in sentencing man to 6,000 years of being cut off from him, reserved the prerogative of calling to special service and contact with him such as he should choose for his purpose. During this day of man, God has prepared for his own millennial civilization, in all its phases—governmental, educational, religious—his whole civilization.

It all began with Abraham.

In his day, there was only one man on earth who was at once a man of strong character and at the same time meekly and wholly submissive and obedient to God—to God’s laws and his direction and rule. That man was Abraham.

God began training men for top positions of authority in his coming world, with Abraham. Abraham lived in the most “advanced” civilization—the most developed and, as people thought, most desirable locality.

God said to Abraham (then named Abram), “Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father’s house, unto a land that I will shew thee” (Gen. 12:1).

There was no argument. Abraham didn’t say, “But why? Why must I give up all the pleasures of this civilization—give up even my relatives and friends?” Abraham didn’t argue or delay.

It is written, simply, “So Abram departed...” (verse 4).

Abraham was put to severe tests. But, after he died, God said, “Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes [of government], and my laws” (Gen. 26:5).

Abraham was being trained for high position in the government of God, now soon to rule the world. He believed in, was obedient and loyal to, God’s government—its statutes and laws.

Abraham was given the promises on which the salvation of every person, through Christ, is based. He is called the father (humanly) of the faithful (Gal. 3:7). To the gentiles of Galatia, the apostle Paul wrote: “And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye [gentiles] Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise” (Gal. 3:29). In the 16th verse, he had said: “Now to Abraham and his seed [descendant—Christ] were the promises made...”

God was starting to prepare for his kingdom—to train topflight personnel for positions in God’s civilization—with Abraham. When Abraham proved obedient, God blessed his labors and allowed him to become wealthy. God gave him experience in the wise handling of wealth and in directing a great force of men.

Isaac was reared by God-fearing, God-obeying Abraham, in God’s ways, obedient to God’s government. He became heir along with his father Abraham. He, too, was trained in obedience, and also in directing and ruling over others.

Then Jacob, born with this rich heredity, was educated to follow through on the same pattern Abraham and Isaac had learned. Even though his father-in-law deceived him, and held him down, Jacob also became wealthy. He was human—as were Abraham and Isaac and all humans. He made mistakes. But he overcame. He repented. He prevailed with God. He never quit! He developed the qualities and character of leadership. He became the father of the twelve greatest nations-to-be in the soon-coming world tomorrow.

The Pattern of Government Organization

God has not told us, in so many words, precisely how his coming world super government will be organized. Yet he has given us the general pattern. He has told us specifically where 14 high executives (including Christ) will fit in. And from them we may deduce a great deal of the remaining governmental structure. Much of the coming structure of government is at least strongly indicated by what is plainly revealed.

We know it will be the govern-

Think of it—no money wasted on political campaigns. No splits in political parties with quarreling and hatreds. No political parties!
ment of God. God Almighty—the Father of Jesus Christ—is Supreme Lawgiver, and Head over Christ, and over all that is. We know that Jesus Christ is to be King of kings, and Lord of lords—over both state and church, united through him.

We know that King David of ancient Israel (details later) will be king over the twelve great nations composed of literal descendants of the twelve tribes of Israel. We know the twelve apostles will each be a king, sitting on a throne, over one of those great nations descended from the tribes of Israel.

We know it will be government from the top down. There is to be a definite chain of authority. No one will be elected by the people. Mortal humans have proved they do not know how to judge qualifications, and do not know the inner minds, hearts, intents and abilities of men. All will be divinely appointed from above. All, in positions of governmental authority, will be resurrected immortals, born of God—no longer flesh-and-blood humans.

With this in mind—with the knowledge that Abraham is (humanly) the father of all who are Christ’s and heirs of salvation—it becomes plain that Abraham will be given a greater position of authority in God’s kingdom than David—and that he will be over both Israelites and gentiles. He is “father” of gentile converts as well as Israelites.

Then again, repeatedly the Bible uses the phrase, “Abraham, Isaac and Jacob,” grouping them together as a team, and calling them, together, “the fathers.” For the promises were repromised, also, to Isaac and Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel.

What is plainly revealed indicates, then, that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob will function as a topflight team, with Abraham as chairman of the team, next under Christ in the coming world government of God.

Jesus himself said, definitely, that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob shall be in that glorious and glorified kingdom (Luke 13:28).

Joseph qualified in a very special way, but we shall come back to him a little later.

**Both Church and State**

Another principle is made clear in God’s Word: church and state will be united under Christ. There will be one government, over all nations. There will be one Church—one God—one religion—one educational system—one social order. And, as in God’s original pattern in ancient Israel, they will be united.

Three men—Peter, James and John, among the original twelve disciples—were privileged to see the kingdom of God in a vision (Matt. 17:9). In this vision, Jesus, who was actually with them in person, became transfigured—appearing as the glorified Christ. His face became bright, shining as the sun, his clothing white as light. Two others appeared with him in this vision—this glimpse into the coming kingdom—and they were Moses and Elijah. These two, in the vision, represented the offices of church and state, with and under Christ, as they will be in God’s kingdom. Both Moses and Elijah qualified in their human lifetime for very high positions in the kingdom of God.

Moses was the one through whom Christ (yes, he was the God of the Old Testament, as many, many scriptures prove) gave the laws and the statutes of government for the nation Israel. Moses was trained as a son of a pharaoh (king of Egypt). His training and experience were among gentiles, as well as the children of Israel.

Elijah, above all others, is represented in Scripture as the prophet who restored the worship of the true God—and obedience to his commandments. When Elijah ordered King Ahab to gather on Mount Carmel “all Israel” (I Kings 18:19-21) and the prophets of Baal and of Asherah (Easter), he said: “How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him . . .” (verse 21). And when, at Elijah’s 18-second prayer (verses 36-37), the fire fell miraculously from heaven consuming Elijah’s sacrifice, the people fell on their faces, and said, “The Lord, he is the God; the Lord, he is the God” (verse 39).

The vision of the Transfiguration (Matt. 16:27 through 17:9) gave the apostles Peter, James and John a preview of Christ coming in his kingdom—as he shall come. The indication is thus given that Moses and Elijah represented the heads, under Christ, of state or national world government (under Moses), and church or religious activity (under Elijah).

These two men, like the “fathers,” Abraham, Isaac and Israel, will then be resurrected immortal, in power and glory. Certainly the indication is given us that, under Christ as King of kings, and under Christ’s top team—the “fathers”—will be Moses over all organized national and international government; and Elijah, over all organized church, religious and educational activity.

Actually, the gospel and religious development is merely spiritual education. And it is significant that Elijah had organized and headed three schools or colleges (II Kings 2:3, 5; 4:38—at Bethel, Jericho and Gilgal) teaching God’s truth in a world corrupted by false pagan education.

**On the National Level**

Now we gain further insight into God’s coming world government organization.

On the purely national level, the nations descended from the two tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh (descended from Joseph), will become the two leading nations of the world (Jer. 30:16-18; 31:4-11, 18-20; Isa. 14:1-2; Deut. 28:13).

But, next to them will be the nations descended from the other tribes of Israel. And, after them, but still prosperous and full of abundant blessings, the gentle nations.

King David, resurrected, immortal, in power and glory, will be king, under Moses, over all twelve nations of Israel (Jer. 30:9; Ezek. 34:23-24; 37:24-25). Each of the original twelve apostles will be king, under David, over one of these then super-prosperous nations (Matt. 19:28).

Under the apostles, each now king over a great nation, will be the rulers over districts, states, shires, counties or provinces, and over cities.
But, in every case, these kings and rulers will be resurrected immortal, born into the kingdom (family) of God as Spirit beings—not flesh-and-blood mortals. And, in every case, they will be those who qualified not only by conversion, but by overcoming, spiritual character development, growth in Christ's knowledge—training in being ruled by God's law and government, as well as learning to rule.

The parables of the pounds (Luke 19:11-27) and talents (Matt. 25:14-30) make this very clear. The one who multiplied his spiritual abilities ten times over is pictured as ruling over ten cities. The one who developed only half as much in God's character and abilities is pictured as being given rule over five cities. The parable of the talents shows the same thing, but also we are to be judged by how well we do with what we have to do with. That is, one of lesser ability will be judged according to motivation, application, diligence and persistence according to ability. To whom much—in natural ability, and spiritual gifts—is inherited and given, much will be required. The one of lesser ability stands just as good a chance for reward in God's kingdom as the one of great ability—if he tries as hard.

But what of all the gentile nations? Who will be given top positions of rule over them?

There is strong indication—not a definite, specific statement—but indication, according to principles and specific assignments that are revealed, that the prophet Daniel will be made king over them all, directly under Moses. What prophet—what man of God—did God send to be trained at top-level government authority, in the world's very first world empire? And what man refused to follow pagan ways and customs, even while serving next in authority to the king himself? What man proved loyal to God, and the worship of God, and obedient to the laws of God—even while serving at the top in the first world empire?

Why, of course, it was the prophet Daniel.

At first thought, one might suppose Christ will put the apostle Paul at the head—under Moses and under Christ—of all gentile nations. And indeed Paul qualified for high position over gentiles.

But Daniel was thrown into almost daily contact with the king in the world's first world government. And though that was human government, Daniel proved completely loyal and obedient to God and God's rule. He was used, to reveal to King Nebuchadnezzar, and immediate successors, that it is God who rules over all kingdoms. Daniel refused the king's rich food and delicacies—including what was unclean according to God's health laws. He prayed three times a day to God, even though it meant being thrown into the den of lions. He trusted God to protect and deliver him from the lions. He gained knowledge and wisdom in the affairs and administration of government over nations.

When God, through the prophet Ezekiel, named three of the most righteous men who ever lived, he named Daniel as one of them. The other two were Noah and Job (Ezek. 14:14,20). And it is evident that God will assign Noah and Job to offices of very great magnitude. More of that, later.

God in his Word gave Daniel the assurance that he shall be in the kingdom of God, at the time of resurrection (Dan. 12:13).

It is an interesting possibility, in passing, to consider that Daniel's three colleagues in this Chaldean Empire service—Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego—might serve as a team directly with and under Daniel, even as the three "fathers" very possibly may serve as a team directly with and under Christ himself. In fact, there are a number of such teams that appear to be possibilities.

But what about Paul? As the twelve original apostles were sent to the lost house of Israel, Paul was the apostle to the gentiles. That is the key. Christ himself said specifically that each of the twelve shall be a king over one of the nations of Israel. It is inconceivable that Paul would be over no more than one gentile nation. It might even be inferred that Paul rated a little higher in ability and accomplishment than any one of the twelve apostles. And, again, no gentile nation will be as great as one of the Israelite nations.

The indication, then, seems to be that Paul will be given position over all gentile nations, but under Daniel.

Of course there will be kings appointed by Christ over every gentile nation. And district rulers under them, and rulers over cities. There is no indication as to the identity of any of these, except that those apostles and evangelists who worked with and directly under Paul—Barnabas, Silas, Timothy, Titus, Luke, Mark, Philemon, etc.—undoubtedly will be given offices of importance. And what of other saints of that same time, in the first flush years of the Church, when its membership at first multiplied in number of converts? And what of many converted since, and down to our present day?

We can mention, here, only what seems to be rather clearly indicated from what God has already revealed.

The International Level

Besides these revealed and indicated assignments of government over nations and groups of nations on the national level, there will be positions of great magnitude on the international level in the areas of scientific and social functions. And there are a few indications of what some of those operations will be, and the possible—if not probable—personnel.

We come to Joseph, son of Israel and great-grandson of Abraham.

Joseph became food administrator of the greatest nation on earth of that time—Egypt. Joseph was synonymous with "prosperity."

"And the Lord was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and ... the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand" (Gen. 39:2-3). He was made actual ruler for the pharaoh of the world's greatest nation. But his specialty was dealing with the economy—with prosperity. And what he did, he did God's way.

It seems evident, therefore, that Joseph will be made director of the world's economy—its agriculture, its industry, its technology, and its
WHY SEX?

(Continued from page 16)

through Jesus Christ, God is "bringing many sons unto glory" (Heb. 2:10). Jesus is "the firstborn among many brethren" (Rom. 8:29). The Bible calls converted Christians—men and women—"brethren" of Jesus Christ (Heb. 2:11-12, 17), "children" of God the Father (Rom. 8:16-17), God's "sons and daughters" (II Cor. 6:18).

And the mother is the Church of God. This is a family relationship of awesome magnitude.

Exactly how is God producing children? By divine fiat? By commanding and they come into being? By some spur-of-the-moment religious experience, such as is felt by those who believe they are suddenly converted and "born again" as God's children? No, nowhere in all of nature are offspring produced instantaneously.

God starts the process of producing children by begetting them. He joins his Holy Spirit (the sperm or seed) with the spirit (the nucleus) in a person's mind (the ovum or egg). The result is a spiritual "embryo"—not yet a born child of God.

That embryo must grow and develop. The new spiritually begotten child must be protected and nourished for an appropriate length of time in the womb of the "mother"—the Church (Heb. 12:22-23; Gal. 4:26), until it grows to the point where it is ready to be born in the resurrection as a spirit being (John 3:6)—a member of God's family.

This is the method God is using to bring forth additional children for his spiritual family. It is the method reflected by sexual procreation at nearly every level of the biological realm and especially in human beings, who are created in God's very image (Gen. 1:27).

But there is more. For, viewed from another aspect, the male-female relationship portrays the special relationship Jesus Christ has with the Church. It is a marital relationship, Christ being the husband and the Church of God his bride-to-be (Eph. 5:22-32; Rev. 19:7-10).

Sex did not evolve. Sex was created by God not only for reproduction, but for attracting humans to one another so they would form families. Sex was created not only to render pleasure in the marital relationship, but also to keep us humans in mind of the awesome purpose the Creator God is working out.

Sex was given to be used exclusively in the confines of marriage to solidify the family unit, because the God family is solidly united. Sex was given to produce children, because God is producing children.

It becomes all the more evident, then, in view of the great purpose for which God created sex, how great an evil is its misuse!

Hole In Your Head?

(Continued from page 19)

is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

And whom do you love? Whom do you give to? "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind" (Matt. 22:37). You love God by dedicating your whole life toward serving him, and obeying him, doing his will.

When David felt frustrated and unfulfilled, when that emptiness in him cried out for fulfillment, he knew what he needed: "As the deer pants for the water brooks, so pants my soul for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?" (Ps. 42:1-2). David knew he needed God to fill the hole in his head. What about you?

Not only do you need to love God, but "you shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22:39). In seeking to satisfy the needs of your brother, your most important need is satisfied. In filling the hole in your brother's (or sister's) life, the hole in your head will be filled.

Love is the answer. Giving is the way to all you want and need. That old hole in your head need not go empty any longer. Use that drive inside you to lead you to love God and help your fellowman.
Feeding Africa’s Hungry

Just a few decades ago, Africa was a self-sustaining continent. Most African countries, at that time European colonies, were net food exporters. But now, with each passing year, Africa—the earth's poorest continent—is becoming less able to feed even itself.

Television's reporting on famine relief efforts has largely ignored the underlying causes of Africa's plight. Stopgap emergency aid eases the problem only temporarily.

Lack of timely rainfall is only one aspect of a many-faceted problem. Other critical factors include governmental instability; civil wars that disrupt planting, harvesting and distribution; inept economic management and widespread corruption; overemphasis on industrial development at the expense of the agricultural sector; inadequate food storage and processing facilities; a substantial foreign debt burden (US$175 billion); and emphasis on a narrow range of "cash crops" for export rather than on food-producing peasant farming.

Experts agree that money alone cannot solve the crisis. Many African leaders are coming to realize that the solution will require a major revamping of their internal economies. In many African countries, state marketing boards have kept prices of crops artificially low to please city residents, leaving farmers little incentive to produce beyond their own needs.

Experts say that by creating new incentives for farmers, African nations could experience dramatic increases in food production within a very short time. Experts also urge an abandonment of the "big is better" approach to agriculture. They recommend more support to localized small-scale projects such as helping villagers fight soil erosion, dig wells and build water-storage catchments.

But in the end, politics again could undo what little progress appears to be at last under way. The threat of worldwide sanctions against South Africa could boomerang against many nations in southern Africa critically dependent upon food imports from or through South Africa.

Pretoria has threatened to cut off goods and transport services to its neighbors if they support sanctions.

Economic Fallout

East European agriculture has suffered the economic effects of the Chernobyl nuclear accident. Western nations, including the European Community and the United States, at first banned, then set standards of permissible radioactivity levels for, East bloc food exports. East European exporters have complied with these standards by offering detailed radiation readings. The result is an economic crimp on East bloc agricultural export earnings.

While some suspect foods may find a market in the Soviet Union, reducing East bloc debts to the Soviets, badly needed hard currency earnings will fall.

Trade between the U.S. and just one Canadian province, Ontario, is larger than that between the U.S. and Japan, America's second largest trading partner.

Significantly, the U.S. trade deficit with Canada is second only to the export-import gap with Japan, a country with a much larger population.

Par tiene in Danger

Earlier this year the United States imposed a 35 percent tariff on imported Canadian cedar roofing materials. Canada's Prime Minister Brian Mulroney responded with tariffs on U.S.-made books, magazines and some computer components.

The retaliation was not something Mr. Mulroney enjoyed doing.

What is at stake is the closest economic relationship enjoyed by any two countries in the world. Canada and the U.S. have developed the world's most successful common market in goods, services and resources.

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**AIDS: Alarm Spreads**

AIDS—Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome—is spreading so rapidly it has become the leading cause of death for men in New York City aged 30 to 39 years and the second leading cause of death for women aged 30 to 34 years. Recent tests in the U.S. show a steady spillover of the disease from its reservoirs in the homosexual and intravenous drug-user communities into the general population.

Physicians are alarmed at the rapid evolution of the AIDS phenomenon. Latest victims are dying from a list of terminal ailments different from those affecting initial AIDS victims five years ago. "Clinicians from Boston to San Francisco," reported the May 30 Wall Street Journal, "now realize that AIDS is a hydra-headed complex of diseases, embracing not only the narrow syndrome first described, but many more"

strong quake. Buildings on such soils run the risk of toppling over.

Earthquake engineers say large buildings in areas where the soil may liquify in a major quake should be constructed on huge concrete rafts in order to be stable in a quake.

A major earthquake in the central United States will give some soils the consistency of quicksand, earthquake officials reported recently.

The problem of "soil liquefaction" is a phenomenon in any earthquake setting. The entire Mississippi River valley is at high risk for soil liquefaction in a quake registering 7 or above on the Richter scale.

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**"Quicksand" in Quakes**

The impact of a quake on unstable soil was revealed in Mexico City, Mexico, one year ago. In September 1985 Mexico City suffered far worse damage than Acapulco, Mexico, though both were roughly equidistant from the epicenter. The capital sits on an old lake bed of soft clay that, in the words of one engineering expert, "vibrates like a bowl of Jello, accenting the vibrations."

The "quicksand" phenomenon develops especially in soils of thick layers of sand that turn into mush when shaken by a major quake. Buildings on such soils run the risk of toppling over.

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**Gambling: Poor Lose Most**

Those participating most frequently in lotteries come from the middle-to-lower-income groups and lower educational status. Lotteries and the projects they finance represent a subtle, unrecognized tax on those least able to bear it: the poor.

In 1984 alone, $177,000,000,000 was spent in legal and illegal gambling in the United States. Less than five percent of that total was accounted for by state lotteries. But more and more states are beginning to rely on lotteries to supplement areas of their strained budgets.

Promoted as a means to help finance educational facility construction within that state, the California lottery took in $1,640,000,000 in just its first eight months. That unbelievable sum meant the 17 million adults eligible to purchase the lottery tickets each would have purchased $96.47 worth—an average of $12 a month each. And since many of those eligible do not play the lottery at all, the average amount gambled by those who do play is much higher.

Meanwhile down under, Australians spend an average of US$41 a month on some form of gambling. Government lotteries there have also become a major source of revenue.

But gambling is not just a U.S. or Australian phenomenon. One survey conducted in Britain in 1977 showed that more than 94 percent of the adults there had tried some form of gambling.

For every person who wins a "million," millions of others gamble and lose. Both individuals and governments in search of easy money have forgotten that it is diligence and hard work that produce riches, not get-rich-quick schemes that feed on greed (Prov. 10:4).
NUCLEAR WAR

(Continued from page 4)

The fifth angel then sounds. John sees a “fallen angel” (symbolized by a star) opening the “bottomless pit.” It is a vision of a chemical-biological-like war. He writes: “And smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. And the sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit. Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.... And their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it strikes a man.

“In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them. And the shape of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle.... they had breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots with many horses running into battle. They had tails like scorpions, and there were stings in their tails. And their power was to hurt men five months” (Rev. 9:1-10).

The scene of John’s vision then switches.

John again writes of a second woe: “So the four angels... were released to kill a third of mankind. Now the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred million.... And thus I saw the horses in the vision: those who sat on them had breastplates of fiery red, hyacinth blue, and sulfur yellow... and out of their mouths came fire, smoke, and brimstone. By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed—by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which came out of their mouths” (Rev. 9:15-18).

It was a vision of an army unleashing tremendous firepower and a dazzling array of weaponry. In the ensuing war and its aftermath, one third of humanity is killed.

The Seven Last Plagues

Now comes the third woe or the seventh seal—the seven final plagues. (See Revelation 16.) Here is a synopsis of the devastation that ensues:

1. The first angel causes a terrible disease, “a foul and loathsome sore,” to come upon that part of humanity who has the “mark of the beast.”
2. The second angel destroys all living things in the sea.
3. The third angel pollutes all freshwater sources—rivers and springs of water.
4. The fourth angel affects the sun so that “men were scorched with great heat” and fire.
5. The fifth angel also affects sunlight by cutting it off completely and causing total darkness in the kingdom of “the beast.”
6. The sixth angel guides world events to ultimately bring vast armies to the Valley of Megiddo in Palestine for a climactic war incorrectly known as Armageddon.
7. The seventh angel represents the finale of human civilization as we know it. The coup de grace comes in a series of stark events, some of which are described next.

John writes: “And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. And the cities of the nations fell.... Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And great hail from heaven fell upon men...” (Rev. 16:17-21).

The heavenly signs and the day of the Lord culminate in a singular battle at which the armies of a world organization bringing all nations together are annihilated. John tells us that this international military force is guided by the spirit world. “For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty” (Rev. 16:14).

A demonic zeitgeist, a spirit that will make the madness of past rulers seem tame by comparison, will grip the world. But God will halt this madness quite abruptly.

The prophet Zechariah’s frightful description shows these armies as being literally vaporized—as though they had been caught at the center of an atomic maelstrom. Zechariah writes, in Revelation-like terms: “And this shall be the plague with which the Lord will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, and their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths” (Zech. 14:12).

Thus, we have read two scenarios of the future. Both are bleak. But there is bad news and good news. The bad news: There is a terrible time of war, of famine, of pestilence coming in the future. The good news: There is a God in heaven who will abort the coming reign of terror—the scientists’ nuclear winter—on earth.

Mankind’s Last Hope

Christ was asked by his disciples while on earth, “What will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?” (Matt. 24:3). He responded, “For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved [alive]: but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened” (Matt. 24:21-22).

The final message of Revelation is a message of great hope, man’s only hope. It tells us that representatives of various nations and peoples will survive the next war and that the God family will take charge and transform man’s societies into a God-centered one.

As John wrote: “Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever’” (Rev. 11:15).

Micah the prophet majestically writes in poetic form of this new, wonderful world tomorrow. “They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But everyone shall sit under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken” (Mic. 4:3-4).

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If You're Unemployed

We have received your magazine for many months and we both feel we have a greater understanding of the world around us. We are both unemployed and have a small child and without your free subscription we would be unable to read your smashing magazine. It has helped us sort out many economic and spiritual problems.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Paterson
Dundee, Scotland

Why Science Questions Darwin

I recall (and have before me) an article entitled, “What Spokesmen for Science Are Not Telling,” which concede that the world is not a mere 6,000 years old [Plain Truth, June 1984] and that the ‘Creator’ does not meddle in Scientific Laws (perhaps this is one of the better attempts to reconcile science and theology). Nevertheless, I find distortions in that article as well [such as implying that a creative process must have a Creator].

As a scientist, I am not opposed to religion; but, I do object and object most strongly to the abuse of science... in particular by Creationists. The evolution of species, indeed all species, is most strongly supported by the scientific evidence [c.f. “The Creationists”]. The book Abusing Science by Phil Kitcher presents hard evidence that Creationists have intentionally misquoted reputable scientists and in so doing, have changed the entire meaning of the original statement [deceptive followers of a Creator are no better than the concept of a Deceptive Creator].

In closing, I hope that you will give your attention to the enclosed materials, and do not agree with our article.

David E. Miller
Hazard Community College
Hazard, Kentucky

We have received your As a scientist, I am not

Abusing Science

BY PHIL KITCHER

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

firmly, “This is a moral issue and you have to make a decision. By accepting drug use you are accepting a practice that is destroying lives. You cannot separate polite drug use at a chic L.A. party from drug use in some back alley somewhere. They are morally equal.”

Stern talk indeed! Mrs. Reagan left no one in any doubt where she stood. Some issues are too important to be influenced by party politics and temporary popularity.

Ironically, only five days before Mrs. Reagan’s Los Angeles speech, a gifted young athlete, Len Bias, died of cardiac arrest because of drugs.

Three days later another young athlete in the prime of his career, Don Rogers, also died from cocaine overdose. It was the day before he was to be married. Thus Mrs. Reagan’s concerns were underscored.

This first lady has carried her concern beyond the shores of America and encouraged the first ladies of other nations to get involved.

We of The Plain Truth applaud Mrs. Reagan for her efforts. We ask our millions of readers from nearly every country on earth to consider her words carefully.

Most of us aren’t public figures. But we do set personal examples, in our marriages, at our work, in our personal habits. It is what we do, not what we say we believe, that shows what we really think! The drug scene is just one more example of adult double standards come home to roost, and teenagers pick up on a double standard quicker than they pick up on the latest popular tune.

Mrs. Reagan had the courage to challenge every one of us to examine what we really believe—and then prove it!

Joseph V. Sack
IN THIS ISSUE:

BUT WHY SEX?
Scientists are perplexed. Educators are at a loss to explain it. Theologians fumble for an answer. Just why does sex exist?

G.A. BELLUCHE JR.—PT

NUCLEAR WAR AND THE BOOK OF REVELATION
Can humanity survive nuclear war?

C. WINSTON TAYLOR

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ABOUT THAT HOLE IN YOUR HEAD?
You and all the rest of mankind have something missing. Yet you can discover what you have been searching for.

LAWRENCE BAIK

A RESPONSIBLE FIRST LADY
Mrs. Reagan leaves no one in any doubt where she stands on the issue of drug abuse.

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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.