

Prophecy - No Longer a Dirty Word

The INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL

How Liberated Can You Get?

Who Will Feed the Hungry Millions?



Personal from...



41st Anniversary Issue

the world's great religions, the intellectual institutions of higher learning, and great governments.

And yet modern science cannot find the answers nor solve our fatal problems. All religion has failed utterly to make this a better, happier world or show us the way to world peace. Higher education, intent on constant knowledge production, does not know and cannot teach us the answers? Governments, supposed to be the benefactors of their peoples, are more and more being overthrown, because dissenters conclude that they have failed.

What is wrong? Where are the answers?
Could this whole world have been deceived?

Is it possible that even the BEST MINDS, being deceived, have REJECTED or ignored the right answers and the TRUTH?

The true answers do exist. But they have not been given by religion. Science has never discovered them. Higher education has never known nor taught them. And they are even further from the field of politics and human government.

Forty-eight years ago I was challenged — both on a point in religion and on the theory of evolution, I was then certainly a "biblical illiterate." But this dual intensive research took me not only into the writings of Darwin, Haeckel, Huxley

(Continued on page 17, col. 1)



This is the 41st anniversary number of the Plain Truth. The previous format was used for forty years! During that time, the Plain Truth grew from a small-circulation mimeographed "magazine" to one of the finest full-color magazines ever printed, in excess of 3,000,000 copies circulation.

Fantastic changes have taken place in the world during that 40 years. Many proud mass-circulation magazines in the United States were forced to cease publication — among them the Saturday Evening Post, Life, and Look. While they were going to the wall, the Plain Truth continued growing in circulation, increasing in number of pages, improving in quality and appearance.

The time has come when the editors of the Plain Truth feel we must produce a less costly type of magazine, in keeping with the times, but twice as often and with increasing circulation — reaching more people more often.

With this 41st anniversary number, I personally start my second forty years as its Editor-in-Chief.

And beginning with this second forty, I start, serially, what I believe to be one of the most important books ever written.

Today we are heading straight into the intolerable paradox of a world-cataclysmic collision course:

On the one hand, the human mind has proved so superbly capable that it can produce the incredible computer and send men safely to the moon and back, among other marvels.

But on the other hand, the same human mind has proved utterly helpless before our human problems, troubles and evils here on earth.

Human leaders for six thousand years have striven in vain to bring about world peace. But at the same time science, technology and industry have produced nuclear and other awesome weapons capable of blasting all life off the earth. And this will happen — unless supernatural intervention prevents it.

Today more than HALF of all humanity is illiterate or nearly so, existing in abject poverty and starvation, wracked with disease, living in filth and squalor.

I want to ask my readers, does this unthinkable paradox of human greatness and human impotence make sense to YOU?

This world is hurtling head-on with increasing momentum toward the final blast of human extinction!

The world has produced modern science.

Herbert W. Armstrong, left, is received by Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Miki, center. Others, from left, are Stanley R. Rader, Dies winner Yumakata, and Osamu Gotoh, Ambassador College Director of Asian Studies.

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**WHO WILL FEED
THE HUNGRY MILLIONS?**

by Deane H. Faulkner

With drought in Africa, food shortages in Bangladesh, and a 27-day global grain reserve — the lowest in 30 years — the world faces a food scarcity of unprecedented dimension and duration. There is "a very real threat," says American Senator Charles H. Percy, Republican of Illinois, "of a worldwide food crisis far exceeding in impact the energy crisis."

The world has now come to the place where "50 million people, perhaps more, could perish from famine" in a single year. So says Nobel Prize winning agronomist Norman Borlaug.

World food authority Lester Brown of the Overseas Development Council adds that the world has entered into a period of more or less chronic food scarcity. The soaring demand for food, he stresses, has begun to overrun the production capacity of the world's farmers and fishermen.

Population growth is putting 70 to 75 million more mouths to feed on the planet earth yearly, about 200,000 each day. These figures translate into a demand for millions of extra tons of grain each year.

If the problem of worldwide famine is to be dealt with — at least on a short-term basis — American agriculture will have to play a major role. The United States remains the chief producer, and more importantly, the number one exporter of food and agricultural products in the world.

In recent years, American farmers have produced around a fourth of the world's combined wheat and corn crops and three fourths of the world's soybeans. The United States has been the largest cash exporter of these and other farm products and by far the largest single source of food aid.

The big question now is: Can the United States provide food in sufficient amounts to make more than a mere dent in what threatens to be a runaway situation?

Late in 1974, the United States Department of Agriculture called on American farmers to "go all out" in a drive toward full production to refill the nation's grain bins and pump more food into the world's commodity pipeline.

Based on preliminary estimates, USDA officials predict the 1975 wheat crop will be a record 2 billion bushels, a ten percent increase over 1974 production. Yet, despite cautiously optimistic predictions of an increased U.S. food output (fanned as it is by the

need for far more fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides), two elements stand to seriously discolor it.

First of all, the world has become dangerously over-dependent upon the United States and a mere handful of other food exporting nations. Then there is the second, all important yet many times overlooked element — the weather. With all the modern technology and dogged determination to produce bumper crops, man is still very much at the mercy of the weather. Weather can either be the ace or the joker in the deck of cards when it comes to production.

Only last year the worst weather in three decades plagued the United States — excessive rains, drought, then early frost. The bad weather cut into the expected 1974 U.S. harvest by 7% to 8%. The lull was unfortunately timed. It came when American food reserves already were at the lowest in a quarter of a century.

Weather experts warn that more climatological upsets could be in the offing this year. Some fear that the agricultural boom-years of the past two decades are over and that long-term unfavorable climatic changes are occurring around the earth. So once again the question must be asked: "Can the U.S. provide?" Or will the crushing (and often thankless) task become the proverbial "Mission Impossible"?

Seven years ago in a book entitled *Famine 1975!* brothers William and Paul Paddock warned that population growth would soon overtake the ability of the less-developed countries to feed themselves. The authors foresaw the United States, as the principal food-surplus country, facing terrible choices about which countries to feed. They suggested that the only realistic policy would be to do nothing for the hopelessly poor and overpopulated countries, such as India, and concentrate only on those who might be able to sustain themselves if they stopped their population growth.

The crunch is that population rates have not trailed off since the book was written. In fact, India's rate has risen from 2.3% a decade ago to 2.6% now.

The assessments of leathers Paddock and Dr. Hendler sound callous. They are not pretty. But they are cruelly realistic and should shock a largely apathetic citizenry in the Western world still more concerned about the price of food rather than its availability.

WEEK ENDING FEB. 8, 1975

Mideast on Brink of New War

Threat of Total Embargo Worries West

The shaky truce of the Middle East is undergoing new strains. Not even the incredible Dr. Kissinger may be able to defuse the situation.

The Israeli military remains poised for any eventuality. Egyptian President Anwar Sadat warns that the Middle East is a bomb ready to explode at any moment.

Mr. Sadat's Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy (left) do much to calm (itory nerves with his demand in December that Israel "must freeze its present population and pledge not to increase the number of its immigrants for 50 years."

The fate of the Mideast area bomb burned down a few inches more shortly after the Fahmy disclosure when it was revealed, according to an unnamed Arab source, that the Arab states have decided to impose a total embargo on Western Europe and Japan as well as the United States in the event of another war with Israel. The sources said that the decision was reached in October at a secret summit of the Arab summit steering in Rabat, Morocco.

The move is designed to increase pressure on the United States to force Israel to give in to Arab territorial demands, to prevent Israel from launching a first-strike blitz to a sea war and to cripple Israel by cutting off U.S. weapons.

During the Middle East war last year, the Arab producers cut off direct oil supplies to the United States, the Japan and Europe, with the exception of the Netherlands, were affected only by a percentage cut in production. In a total embargo, European and Japanese industry would grind to a halt in a matter of days without Arab oil. The theory of the proposed shut-off is that the United States would be forced, under an oil-shoring agreement, to divert much of its own domestic production to its allies to prevent a general economic collapse.

Thus the ultimate question every nation now slumped over the Arab oil barrel must face is this: What would it do if another oil embargo or a huge price increase packed its necessities at the wall of other fuel?

Well, it has now "officially" been made clear to the Mideastern oil producers that military seizure of their oil fields is far from one of the questions despite emphatic denials of some officials in Western nations.

By quietly but intensively less than subtle means, the United States administration has last year signaled the newly rich oil powers that more than empty words of warning may confront the Arab grip on the West's petroleum lifelines. The message from some other (Continued on page 4, col. 1)



Military intervention by Western powers in the Mideast? Not out of the question, but only as a last resort.

Wealth of Oil-Rich Nations Poses Dilemma

Spiking oil prices are bringing about an unprecedented transfer of wealth from the industrial world to the oil-exporting nations. The petrodollar pile-up compares up victims of Middle Eastern shenanigans taking over General Motors in IBM, owning the New York Stock Exchange — or buying England with pocket money, except now the oil haves

refuse to even accept the natural pound in exchange for their black gold.

The past year alone over \$80 billion poured into Arab coffers. The by-products of the monetary hoard for the industrialized but oil-poor nations include such things as traumatic balance of payments upsets, accelerated inflation, and deep-

ing recession. Economies generally are bewildered as to what to do with oil-importing nations in their predicament. The most commonly offered solution is to encourage the Arabs to invest, long term, in Western nations.

The key phrase is long term. Economically shaky nations such as Italy or Great Britain must borrow for long periods of time in order to meet their import bills. They simply do not have the money to pay off their debts quickly. If the money managers of the oil-rich states invest their capital only in short-term bank accounts, which, in the main, is what they have been doing, then the money simply is not available to lend to borrowers for a longer period of time.

Recycling, to be of any value, necessitates the type of investment whereby the lenders acquire a long-range stake in the customer nation, such as in one of its major corporations. But herein lies the dilemma. When Arab governments, for example, reveal intended plans for long-range investment in Western industry, fears and suspicions come to the fore, and host-country officials get excited, or at least suspicious.

Witness the unsuccessful Arab bid to invest \$100 million in America's financially ailing Lockheed Aircraft Corporation. Washington looked unfavorably on that deal. Note also the generally negative West German public reaction to the partial (15%) Arab purchase of stock in the automotive company of Duesler-Benz.

Arab financial sources viewed the Lockheed deal as a test of how much the U.S. was willing to allow Arab investment. They found an obvious reluctance.

Arthur Burns, U.S. Federal Reserve Board Chairman, has spoken for legislation to prevent Arab nations from buying control of "strategic" American industries.

"Foreign investment of any kind in some of our strategic corporations would concern me," he said, but putting industry in a non-strategic concern (such as Quaker Oats, Mr. Burns suggested) would cause no concern. Arab sources, however, believe that the "Quaker Oats" approach will only discourage investment.

The industrialized Western nations, therefore, find themselves in a terrible fix with the key question being: How much are they willing to let the oil producers control "strategic industries" in order to defuse the latest threat to the entire world economy, the rising petrodollar volcano (repeated)?

If Arab investors are turned off from making substantial and worthwhile purchases, it is certain they will continue to keep their money in short-term bank accounts. Should the Western nations, on the other hand, give the nervous Arab states free investment rights, they may find that key industries vital to both economic well-being as well as to military defense have fallen into foreign hands — or at the very least, would very likely become subject to a great deal of outside political pressure in the event of increased Arab-Israeli troubles in the Middle East. □

Trouble Along The 48th Parallel

A split and rather sudden escalation of economic disputes is threatening the uneasy but amiable relationship between the United States and Canada. Already the two neighbors who share the world's largest peaceful border have traded several punches in a small-scale trade war.

It began in earnest in the summer of 1973 when President Nixon froze beef prices in an attempt to curb domestic inflation. American producers evaded the ruling by exporting beef to Canada, where it was sent back to the U.S. at a higher price, since the freeze did not apply to imports.

The subsequent plot of beef crossing the border, however, undermined the economics of the Canadian cattle industry. Canada subsequently closed its border to American cattle for five months on a whim — and said U.S. cattle could be guaranteed to be abnormally (Continued on page 2, col. 1)

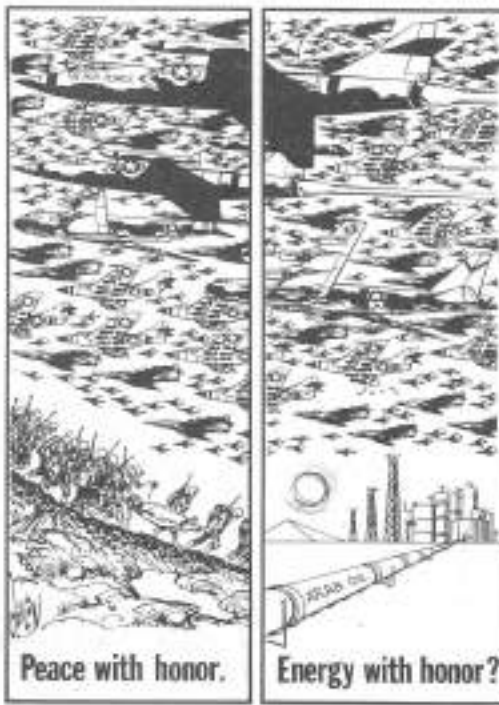
NEWSMAKER PROFILE

Takeo Miki— Japan's New Man at the Helm



A senior member of Japan's Diet, sixty-seven-year-old Takeo Miki, has assumed the post as Japan's seventh postwar premier. Miki (pronounced: mee-kee) was selected by his party last year to replace Kakuei Tanaka who resigned in November in the wake of an alleged financial scandal and low ratings (16%) in the popularity polls.

Mr. Miki, considered a "progressive" and a reformer, was the governing Liberal-Democratic (conservative) Party's compromise choice for the top office. Though barely even considered a slak horse initially, he was named after it became apparent that neither of the party's leading contenders — Masuyoshi Ohira and Takeo Fukuda — could be chosen without risking the complete breakup of the divided party, which has governed (Continued on page 4, col. 1)



MIKI — (Continued from page 3)
Japan since 1948. Both men are leaders of major factions within the L.D.P.

Born on March 17, 1907, on Japan's smallest island of Shikoku, Miki was the only son of a rural, middle-class fertilizer merchant. Unlike most of his predecessors in the premier's office, he did not attend a prestige school, but he earned Tokyo's Meiji University in 1926.

Because of his visits to the U.S. (where he studied for four years) and Europe, it took him 11 years to get through the law school. He received his law degree from Meiji in 1937 and soon thereafter was elected to the Diet, to which he has been reelected 14 times.

Miki publicly opposed war with the United States and came into disfavor with wartime Premier Hirohito Togo. He was consequently allowed to continue in politics during the postwar U.S. occupation. He is an experienced politician, having served in ten cabinet positions since the war, including Deputy Premier, Foreign Minister, and Minister of International Trade and Industry.

Miki energetically sought the premiership three times, in 1948 and 1970 against Eisaku Sato and in 1972 against Kakuei Tanaka.

Premier Miki faces numerous challenges, including reforming and modernizing the 68-year-old Liberal-Democratic Party and dealing with Japan's severe inflation problem (over 20% annually).

Miki will undoubtedly maintain Japan's pro-Arab stance, for which he is responsible in large measure for coming. He is also in favor of closer ties with Peking and a more active Japanese role in Asian regional affairs. Despite his pro-Americanism, some experts feel his desire for a more independent foreign policy may put a strain on Japanese-American relations.

Miki has also opposed large Japanese military forces and has deflected the "no war" clause of the Japanese constitution. He supports the Japanese-American Mutual Security Treaty.

Premier Miki and his wife have three grown children. His wife, the former Mutsako Mori, is the daughter of the founder of the large power Mori industrial empire. Mrs. Miki, who calls her husband "that man," has not been reluctant to publicly point out his various eccentricities. "Unabashed passion are among his favorite foods," she reveals. "But when he wants raising them, he scatters shells all around the room." □

THREAT OF EMBARGO

(Continued from page 3)
than U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. U.S. military intervention cannot be ruled out as a last resort if the West's economy is threatened with strangulation. Kissinger's low-key remarks contained in an interview in *Business Week* magazine drew an expected dire reaction in official Middle East circles.

Top U.S. government officials are more frequently discussing the "option" of armed action if the oil

ART BUCHWALD

2600 years before Vladivostok

WASHINGTON — It is written in the book of the Prophet Isaiah that the Lord promised the people, "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." It never really happened, and I have in my possession a Dead Sea Scroll which tells why.

At one time the Philistines and Judah signed a disarmament pact limiting the number of swords and spears. When the King of Judah brought the treaty back to his people, there was joy in the land.

"Does this mean we will not have to spend gold for arms?" they asked.

"It means no such thing," the king replied. "We will, in fact, have to spend more gold than ever."

"But," a scribe asked the king, "if we have a treaty with the Philistines, why do we have to spend more gold for armaments?"

"Because if we have to beat our swords into plowshares and our spears into pruning hooks, we must develop new weapons to oppose the Philistines," the King of Judah replied. "This will involve a sizable investment in research of rock throwing machines and armored donkeys, which as you know are not covered by the treaty. We cannot allow our agreement with the Philistines to put us at a military disadvantage."

"Sure," another scribe said. "Does the agreement mean that all swords will be beaten into plowshares and all spears into pruning hooks?"

"No, it doesn't. It means that both sides may keep the swords they now have and increase their spear careers to 2,000. The Philistines, as you know, have superiority in the weight of their spears, but our showers are twice as accurate. We have more than enough to repulse any first-strike attack, but we're still weak in conventional weapons such as sticks and large stones."

"How can we be sure that the Philistines will not put more than one lead on their spears?" a scribe asked.

"While the treaty does not limit the number of heads you can put on a spear," the king replied, "it does limit the number of careers to throw them. This is the first time the Philistines have ever been willing to discuss putting a stop to the spear race."

"What is to prevent the Philistines from beating their swords into plowshares and then attacking us with the plowshares?"

"At this time we have a three-to-one plowshare advantage over the Philistines."

"Our defense people have asked for an extra ton of gold to finance an anti-plowshare system which could detect the deployment of any plowshares by the Philistines. They also are asking for three hundred for a new sailing vessel capable of launching fireballs against a Philistine boat at 30 feet. This will make up for any loss we will suffer if not being permitted to make new swords. I shall make those requests in the council in six days of the Kingdom message next week."

"Sure, forgive me for saying this, but we don't seem any closer to peace with the Philistines than we were before the plowshare treaty. Could you tell us what we gained here?"

"The Philistines have agreed to buy all our wheat crops until 33 B.C." □

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crisis becomes insurmountable. A leading U.S. "think tank" has been commissioned to do a deep study as to how such intervention could be carried out. American Army and Marine units have stepped up desert warfare training, but on a low profile basis.

Interestingly, little attempt is being made to conceal this growing line of thinking from foreign intelligence. It is hoped, in fact, that Arab ears are listening — and getting the message. A top-level U.S. policy-maker stated that Washington is determined to avoid provocative threats. "But we want the Arabs," he affirms, "to understand that we are not relying on the use of American military power if the situation requires it."

Such military intervention is, of course, seen as a last resort.

Chances of success of such a drastic step? At present, most of the Middle East powers are considered military "jugglers in a world of horns." This, of course, could change in the future, given the huge quantities of sophisticated armaments being purchased by Iran and Saudi Arabia. Nevertheless, seizure of Arab oil facilities is

presently not considered insurmountable, according to strategic planners in the West. A glance at the map shows most Persian Gulf oil lies well within reach of sea-based striking forces. The problem of subways and harassing attacks by guerrilla raiders are relatively small dangers compared to the unknown reaction of the Soviet Union. Would the Russians intervene with their own fleets of naval ships to stop such an invasion? No one knows.

However, in late November, for the first time in 26 years, the U.S. aircraft carrier *Conestoguan* sailed the Persian Gulf just off the world's richest oil fields. The commander was "in keeping with our policy of more frequent deployments in the Indian Ocean region," U.S. officials said. But the cruise was alarming to some Arabs.

While it is presently expected for government officials in varying capacities to deny any planned or possible military action in the Middle East, the record of history speaks more eloquently. Trying the unthinkable becomes easy to do when a nation is backed into a corner. □



Worldwatch

By Gene H. Hogberg

REPORTING FROM ARMAGEDDON...

While warming up the early-morning coffee the other day, I was performing my customary dial-twirling ritual — flipping back and forth between NBC's *Today Show* and the CBS *Morning News*.

Television being the ultra-ridden competitive market that it is, the best shows are always on at the same time, even news and special events — which makes a full-time news-watcher like myself fatigued.

During a commercial time-out on *Today* I switched over two dial spots to Hughes Ridd's *Morning News*. A special report was in progress from the volatile Middle East. The newsmen was interviewing Israeli citizens on whether they felt their nation was justified in developing and, more important, using atomic weapons. Of those interviewed the unanimous answer was "yes" — even from a gentleman philosopher who had been, up until now, a life-long pacifist. To him, Israel's hardened back was slowly but steadily being shoved up against a political Walling Wall. He felt that if worse came to worse in a future Arab-Israeli war, Israel would be justified in using the bomb — if it had it — and in risking even self-imposed extinction rather than submitting to the threatening Arab armies.

In rich symbolism, the CBS reporter, switching to a very appropriate outdoor location for his sign-off said, "This is Tom Fenton, reporting from the plains of Armageddon."

This made me think. Fenton just might have to do another report from the same spot in another six years, the way things are going in the world now.

Outside the singularly frightful U.S.-U.S.S.R. race (owed to a sure bet by means of the Vladivostok Summit agreement) the nuclear "pot" threatens to break out all over.

India shocked the world by exploding its "device" in May 1974. Now, Ali Bhutto, the president of Arab-ruled Pakistan claims that his truncated, impoverished country might be forced into a crash program to develop a "device" of its own.

France and China continue their expensive nuclear weapons research-development-deployment programs.

But it is in the extremely narrow geographical and political confines of the Mideast where nuclear proliferation could have the greatest impact on the world. Is a frightened Israel actually in the process of developing "the bomb"? Will Egypt, despite U.S. assurances to the contrary, divert the plutonium from her promised U.S. nuclear power plants into weapons production? Will the Soviets, despite the heavy aura of détente, supply tactical nuclear weapons to certain of their Mideast allies?

To make all of the above speculations truly dangerous, we are now treated to continual rumors from many circles — always "categorically denied" of course — of future military action against the Middle East oil producers unless crude oil prices come down to a case there is another embargo.

How near are we, then, to the time of Armageddon, spoken of in Revelation 18:16 when all the major nations of the world will be gathered for history's greatest Moodbath? □



"THE HOUSE WINS, GENTLEMEN—STRANGE, BUT I FEEL LIKE A PATRIOT!"

Europe's Inconclusive Summit

by Ray Konarka and Harry Stanton

PARIS — Europe is not yet weak enough to settle. That's the real message here at the conclusion of the latest conference of the nine member nations of the European Economic Community.

Having agreed beforehand not to disagree during the conference, the Nine produced a final communiqué that covered safe ground and stuck mainly to positive generalities. But it is no concrete matter were the assembled heads of state able to come to grips with the real message threatening Western Europe — the danger of a major economic depression.

Belgian Prime Minister Leo Tindemans — so far the most outspoken on Europe's economic plight — declared publicly that the situation parallel with post-World War II Europe could not be ignored. Yet despite the seriousness of their economic plight, the present governments are not yet under sufficient pressure to lay aside pet national projects and parochial interests to approach their numerous problems on a common level.

At the conference relatively unimportant side issues occupied much of the delegates' time. Lip service was paid to vague, far-off ideas such as a directly elected parliament by 1978, an economic and monetary union "some day," and even a common European passport.

While these minor preoccupations are perhaps substantive in times of economic stability, they border on meaningless in Europe's present state of mounting unemployment and inflation.

The soaring cost of energy, of

course, is the key factor in the gloomy economic picture. Yet, in Paris, the Nine were unable to come up with a meaningful united approach toward the oil-producing nations and vis-à-vis other major oil consumers, most notably the U.S.

In fact, in the twelve-page final communiqué released in Paris, only 19 lines were devoted to the critical issue of energy. The strong-

light of Germany. Only Germany has been able to hold its inflation rate to a near manageable level. Moreover, the monetary reserves of all eight other EEC members added together do not approach the formidable ones possessed by Bonn.

As a result of West Germany's continual good showing, leadership within the Community is passing to the Bonn government almost by default.

While Chancellor Helmut Schmidt did a remarkably laudable job at the Paris Summit in not flexing German economic muscle, the voice of Germany would soon become the dominant one in European affairs if — or when — its



President Giscard d'Estaing of France plays host to fellow European leaders at summit in Paris.

proposal read: "The heads of Government... have invited the Community institutions to work out and to implement a common energy policy in the shortest possible time." This sounds fine except it's what was said at the fruitless Copenhagen Summit one year ago!

An important undercurrent at this conference, sensed but not stated, was the growing economic

government chosen to use it.

Overall, the current scene in Europe reveals a leadership conflict showing off into the unknown after a summit conference that was for the most part reluctantly and unenthusiastically held. What is still lacking is the idealistic, dynamic leadership or direct action needed to confront the threatening realities of the moment. □

WORLD PRESS LOOKS AT... Europe's Plight

The meeting of the nine European leaders at the summit in Paris in early December provided a striking demonstration of Western Europe's political weakness.

Deterioration of worldwide economic conditions, shocks created by unilateral actions of member nations, unstable relationships within the EEC, the near-breaking status of Britain and Italy and finally the lack of energy have stopped the progress of the Market in its tracks.

Will only the threat of complete breakdown at some future date force the nations of Western Europe into the unity their leaders claim it will their goal?

Here are some comments on Europe's plight from major European and American news sources.

Aidless and Leaderless

"The European political scene is a mosaic of weaknesses... it is a Continent adrift, in part, and without a leader. Manifestly disunited, the European electorate has concentrated a vicious political cycle. It elects governments that are either too weak or so fragmented that the leaders must exhaust their energies in class survival, with neither authority nor power to handle basic problems."

J. Robert Scherrard, former U.S. Ambassador to the European Commission, New York Times, December 7, 1974

Fundamentally Sick

"Europe is in a profound crisis. This crisis will not be resolved in two days at a summit conference. Europe is sick, and she is fundamentally sick. For several years, she has experienced an economic and monetary crisis. On top of that, there is now the oil crisis. Each partner has reacted in its own way and according to its means. Each one in a different direction. The Common Market is therefore sick. Will it be capable of surviving the 1975?"

Maurice Courte de Marville, former French Minister of Culture, Le Monde Paris, December 10, 1974

Old Concept of Unity Gone

"The Common Market still remains a loose confederation of sovereign states groping toward unity. But in many official pointed out, the unity imagined in the past — an autonomous Europe with walls around it, assuming a role as a new superstate — is no longer possible.

"New goals have yet to be de-

vised. What emerges from the thinking of the European leaders is a looser, more flexible formation guided into a cohesive force by principles of self-interest and even economic survival."

Clyde M. Farnsworth, New York Times, December 13, 1974

Might Gas Dried Up

"Those days when maggy glue existed to make, perhaps, a federal Europe are gone. Under M. Giscard d'Estaing, France is trying, with various details whenever the opinion polls look particularly bad, to bury the hatchet with America. The opposition is Germany and besides not a united Europe of the future, although still passionately held by some, are now very sharp words. Despite the precise-looking commitments to direct election to the European parliament, monetary and economic union, and so on, this summit of the nine European community members put the stamp on the idea that Europe will remain a loose confederation of nation-states."

The Economist, London, December 14, 1974

Supranational Character Eroses

"Time and again EEC Commission President Walter Hallstein, and his successor Jean Rey of Belgium, reminded the world that the EEC was not a mere trading bloc but a political enterprise destined to change the face of Europe. But since their departure, the supranational character of the community has been eroded that the current president of the commission, Franco-Navier Driess, seems little more than the respected head of a vast and complex bureaucracy."

The Post International, November 2, 1974

Selfish Nationalism Revived

"The philosophy of the founding fathers was that the creation of a common market, with all that implicit in the way of common economic policies, would lead on to the inevitability of political union. In fact, this was an effective motive force for the first ten years or so, but recently it has been undermined by inflation which has spread and sharpened the selfish, every man for himself instincts of national governments."

The Guardian of Manchester, December 14, 1974



Canada's Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau

half a million surplus Canadian eggs. While this benefited price-conscious American consumers, U.S. producers fumed in anger.

Behind all the symptoms of distress lies a deep-seated Canadian fear of slipping deeper and deeper into the control of the industrial giant south of the border. Many Canadians fear they might become mere "shovelers of wood and drawers of water" for their American neighbors, who are said to covet the vast mineral wealth of Canada.

Accordingly, Ottawa is drawing up energy policies regarding the limits of foreign investment.

Energy Minister Donald MacDonald's decision to cut oil exports to the U.S. is another move in the same direction. Canadian oil to the U.S. will be reduced to 250,000 barrels a day, down from the 1.1 million barrels a day of last year. The supply will be cut off entirely by the end of 1982. President Ford tried in vain to persuade Prime Minister Trudeau to extend the deadline.

America imports about 10% of her oil from Canada. If America is unsuccessful in efforts to become self-sufficient in energy, the loss of Canadian oil could precipitate a severe fuel crisis in the U.S. — not unlike last year's embargo of oil from the Middle East.

Canada and the United States have historically been among the clams of the world's major nations — perhaps the closest. The recent economic squabbling raises doubts about this traditional friendship. Will the continuing crises of inflation and recession induce two neighbors to ever more bickering over the dwindling means of economic growth? □

48TH PARALLEL —

(Continued from page 3)

due to the growth hormone DES. Only recently Ottawa imposed quotas on American cattle and beef exports. The new move threatens to restrict the amount of beef going northward by as much as 65 percent of the 1973 level. The action sent angry shockwaves throughout the U.S. cattle industry already squeezed by inflation and a sluggish domestic market.

Under pressure from the cattlemen, President Ford, after the fall 1974 elections, agreed a retaliatory import measure restricting Canadian live cattle and hogs and dressed beef and pork.

Canadian cattlemen, picking up the battle cry, complained that the action was more severe than Canada's own quotas. The manager of the Canadian Cattlemen's Association said angrily, "There is no way Canada will accept it in the face of what it considers a naked threat."

Economic losses on both sides of this quota-war are estimated to be about \$100 million.

The livestock issue is not the only irritant that has cropped lately. Another was the "booding" of the U.S. egg market with more than

WEEK ENDING FEB. 8, 1975



The INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL...

The Missing Dimension in Knowledge

It's positively astounding! It has remained undiscovered by science! No religion has revealed it! Higher education has never taught it! Is it possible the whole world has been deceived — as to the awesome purpose of human life — as to the way to world peace and how it will come? And could it be true that the real gospel message Christ brought from heaven REVEALED this missing dimension — but was suppressed? This is the eye-opening story of the real gospel message of Jesus Christ — of how this missing dimension was withheld, and the whole world deceived.

PART I

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Does it seem as an astounding shock to learn that the most important dimension in all knowledge was sent by God the Father to the earth by Jesus Christ — but that message was suppressed by those living in the very first century? That Jesus himself was put to death for revealing it? That his apostles, with one possible exception, were also misled for proclaiming it?

Yet this message from the living God, if humanity had received and heeded it, would have saved this world from nearly all of its troubles, sufferings and evils.

The very word "gospel" means "good news." That message, when fully understood, reveals a human potential as stupendous — as awesome — it appears at first to be totally beyond belief!

That message reveals facts about humanity, what man is, the purpose for which mankind was put on earth, where we are going, what is the way to world peace, happiness and universal prosperity, what are the true values, what is the awesome human potential, and, how may it be actualized.

Answers to these questions form the most important knowledge ever made available to man. Yet man spurned and rejected it.

Christ's gospel message, when fully grasped, reveals what science has been utterly unable to discover. It reveals what religion in this world knows nothing of. It reveals what this world's higher education has never known or taught.

It reveals the most wonderful truth a human mind could ever come to know! It reveals what I call the missing dimension in knowledge, the knowledge most vitally necessary to know.

It was the most momentous good news ever revealed by our Maker to mankind! Why would man have wanted to reject it — hate it — put to death the messenger who brought it?

Yes, why? The answer is that men were deceived! And all nations are deceived today!

The purpose of this article is to reveal how men were deceived and to make plain what that good news really was. And it is.

Nevertheless, it was suppressed. And that all-important revelation from the living God was not again proclaimed to the world and our present century.

Even today, most of humanity has never heard the glorious *real* gospel. And even those millions who do hear it have been so dragged and misled by false religion and false "gospel" that they

only become confused. The result, indeed, is stranger than any fiction! Prepare yourself to read astounding truth — hard to believe, yet true!

The Anti-Deceiver

It is not intellectually fashionable today to believe in the actual existence of a devil. Biblical revelation explains this.

Biblical prophecies say plainly that in our time, today, the world's wickedness would be desecrated. Notice one such prophecy in the book of Revelation, chapter 12, verse 9:

"And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world."

This Satan is revealed as the arch-deceiver who has deceived the whole world. But how did he manage to deceive the human race?

In the third chapter of Genesis he is shown as the deceiver of mankind. Through him, he caused the first man, Adam, to commit the first sin by a bargain.

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, Satan was still here on earth as the god of this world (II Cor. 4:4). He is also the "prince of the power of the air" (Eph. 2:2), holding sway over the whole of mankind.

Christ's message revealed the advance news of the total abolition of Satan's power over the world and his banishment from the earth. It revealed that Christ was coming as his successor to take over the rule of all nations. In Satan's mind, it was necessary for him to go all out to prevent that message from going into the world.

But how could he do it?

First, he moved to destroy the Christ child and thus prevent his growing up to proclaim that message. He influenced King Herod, the Roman provincial ruler over the land of Israel, and Herod caused all infants in Bethlehem and surrounding areas two years old or under to be put to death. But God warned Joseph and Mary, moving them to flee to Egypt with the infant Jesus until Herod was dead.

Again, when Jesus was about thirty years old, Satan sought to destroy him spiritually before he qualified to preach a word of his message. But the supreme temptation with which Satan planned to ensnare Jesus became the very one which qualified Christ to depose Satan and to become ruler over all nations. Jesus thus qualified to receive the government of God on the earth and to set up the kingdom of God. However, it was not in God's master plan for Christ to be

induced into that office until the end of mankind's first 6,000 years on earth.

Nevertheless, Jesus proceeded with the mission for which he had come to earth at that time. He proclaimed his message and taught it to his disciples.

Satan, however, still was in power to sway the world. Even though many of the Jews to whom Jesus preached believed on him as the promised Messiah, they were swept against believing his message — his gospel.

How did, and does, Satan deceive, mislead, and sway humanity? The amazing answer will be given later.

His Gospel Rejected

Notice how it happened.

In the fifth chapter of John, verses 30 through 46, you will read: "As he spoke these words, many believed on him. But Jesus said to them, If ye continue in my word, [his message] then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.... but ye seek to kill me, because my word [his gospel message] hath no place in you.... But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath said unto you the truth, which I have heard of God.... for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but as our Father said unto me.... And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.... And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?"

It did not, the Roman crucified Jesus. But he rose from the dead and ascended into heaven. From there, he sent God's Holy Spirit to his disciples.

Christ's apostles went out, as he commissioned them, to proclaim his message to the world. God's church was raised up (A.D. 31) to back the proclaiming of the message. The church began to grow, first taught "free" and multiplied.

Satan contrived to set up a powerful Gentile religious leader with a counterfeit religion — the ancient Babylonian mystery religion. He hatched a counterfeit "gospel." He even appropriated the name of Christ, calling his religion "Christianity."

That, I know, is a breath-taking revelation, difficult today, 1900 years later, to believe. But since the less, it is true!

The Counterfeit "Gospel"

In Samaria, north of Jerusalem, lived a Gentile people whom the Jews of Christ's day spurned, calling them "hep." They had been moved there from areas of the Babylonian Empire about 700 B.C. by Salmannasser of Assyria (II Kings 17:18, 21-24). They had brought with them into the land of Samaria their own Babylonian mystery religion. In the fifth chapter of Acts you'll read of their religious leader in the time of Christ, Simon the sorcerer.

Christ raised up the church of God to stand back of the proclaiming of his gospel message by his apostles in A.D. 31. By A.D. 33,

after a storm arising (and growth), a great persecution set in against God's church (Acts 8:1). At that time, A.D. 33, this Simon the sorcerer had himself baptized along with multitudes of others. He then tried to buy an apostleship in God's church from the apostles Peter and John with money — but of course was refused and rebuked.

Thereupon this Simon appropriated the name of Christ, calling his Babylonian mystery religion "Christianity." Satan swayed this man and used this instrument to persecute and all but destroy the true church of God. Before the end of the first century — probably by A.D. 70, he managed to suppress the message Christ had brought from God.

There ensued "the lost century" in the history of the true church of God. There was a well-organized conspiracy to blot out all record of church history during that period. A hundred years later, history reveals a "Christianity" entirely unlike the church Christ founded.

It had taken the name of Christ and applied it to the Babylonian mystery religion. It had replaced the message Jesus brought from God with a "gospel" about the person of Christ — proclaiming the message but suppressing the entire missing dimension from his message.

And for at least 180 centuries the *real* gospel was not proclaimed to the world.

"Another Gospel" Gains Acceptance

By about A.D. 58, when the apostle Paul wrote his letter to the Galatians, many already were turning to this new new counterfeit "gospel."

Paul wrote: "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel, which is not another [it was not good news], but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ" (Gal. 1:6-7).

To the Thessalonians, about A.D. 54, Paul wrote: "For the mystery of iniquity is already at work...." (II Thes. 2:7) It was the Babylonian mystery religion, started by this Simon the sorcerer (Acts 8), a religion of iniquity — lawlessness — a religion rejecting the law of God. Much more of this later.

The True and The False Church

In Revelation are pictured two churches, each of which go under the name of Christ. One, pictured in the 12th chapter, portrays the true church of God, small in number, reduced through persecution and martyrdom, but obedient to God's law, hated by Satan. The other, in the 17th chapter, called "Mystery, Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the Earth" (verse 5); in other words, the Babylonian mystery religion stepped in "iniquity" — abolishing God's law.

During the time of Paul's ministry, these same Simon Magus ministers were troubling the Corinthians. Paul wrote to the Corinthians: "I am jealous over you with godly jealousy; for I have espoused you to one husband, that I

may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ [the true church] — on the resurrection, is to be married to Christ, spiritually. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he [a minister of Simon Magus] that converteth preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if he receive another spirit [of rebellion and disobedience] which ye have not received, or another gospel...." (II Cor. 11:2-4). More later, about the occasion with the deception of the two women, Eve.

But notice, they were proclaiming another Jesus — as well as another gospel — and they followed another spirit — of rebellion and no obedience. That deception has continued through the centuries and is the same today. They took the name of Christ. They called their Babylonian religion "Christianity." But they had only presented a counterfeit gospel but a counterfeit spirit of self-centeredness and a counterfeit Jesus. It is suggested the reader consult our free booklet, *The Real Jesus*.

Of these false ministers, Paul wrote further to the Corinthians: "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And to marvel! For Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness...." (II Cor. 11:13-15).

Peter, John and Jude Expose Them

Peter wrote of these deceivers: "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies.... And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you...." (II Peter 2:1-3).

John wrote of these same perverters of the true gospel, dropping obedience to the way of God: "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (I John 2:4). "They went out from us, but they were not of us, for if they had been of us, they would in truth have continued with us" (I John 2:19).

Jude warned us that we should "sincerely contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness [license to sin]. ... Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion [government], and speak evil of dignities.... Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and his greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gaining of gain. These are spots in your feasts of charity.... clouds they are without water, carried about of [Continued on page 11]

"United Nations" or Disunited Non-Nations?

From the early days of the Cold War, when the United Nations General Assembly appeared more of a sounding board for Communist propaganda than a serious attempt to solve the monumental problems of the world, to the mid 70s and the United Nations resolution recognizing the Palestinian Liberation Organization's claim to West Bank statehood, it has been clear there is nothing truly "united" about the United Nations.

Now, the term "nation" may not even apply to the United Nations. The Palestinian Liberation Organization, after all, is hardly a nation.

American officialdom may gurggle and

complain that the United Nations is little more than an opportunity for Afro-Asian bloc, "third world" revolutionaries to scream invectives at the United States, but there seems little the U.S. can do except continue to play the role of whipping boy. While possessing only one vote among over 100 nations, the United States continues to shoulder twenty-five percent of the United Nations' cost.

Today, what oil-rich Arab nations want, oil-rich Arab nations get. The U.S. is far more fearful of international reprobations from Japan and Western Europe, should another new oil embargo be precipitated, than the immediate energy crunch at home.

So far, it's been out with Nasserist China, next South Africa, but lay out the red carpet for a non-nation national leader, Yasser Arafat, and lay the groundwork for throwing out Israel.

"United"? How? "Nations"? Where? ☐

United Nations—Another "League of Nations"?

By Raymond McNeil

What has the U.N. accomplished during the past thirty years? Will it last till the end of this century? Or have recent nations hastened the ultimate sign-off with the U.N.?

With the birth of the U.N. in 1945, the League of Nations gracefully expired. As a world peace organization it had been weighed in the balance and found wanting. The League was created in 1920 for the explicit purpose of preventing future wars. But after abortive attempts to bring peace to the nations, it proved to be ineffectual.

When Japan invaded Manchuria in 1932, the League took no effective action. When Italy conquered Ethiopia in 1935, the League stood by helplessly. When Germany gobbed up Austria, Czechoslovakia and Poland, thereby beginning World War II, the League did nothing. And even though the League expelled Russia in 1939, it had no real power to prevent the U.S.S.R. from remaining helpless. Finland, National self-interest prompted Japan to withdraw from the League in 1932. Germany followed the same route in 1933.

Thus, the League of Nations proved powerless either to prevent or stop real wars. By 1939 men had lost faith in this organ of world peace. They turned to their own national peace efforts.

But at the end of World War II, the bleeding nations were war weary. Over forty million civilians and soldiers had died in that nightmare carnage. Men were once again sick and tired of war. But how could they prevent future wars?

Once again, it was obvious to many that the world needed some kind of a super-government if international peace were to be maintained.

The world's elder statesmen worked long and hard to create an effective instrument of peace, and in 1945 the United Nations was born. This was man's best attempt so far to build an instrument which, hopefully, could keep peace among the nations. Many be-

lieved it to be man's last hope at preventing future global wars.

Shortly after its creation, it became suspect that this organization, like the League of Nations before it, was ineffective as an instrument of peace. It proved to be a divided organization — divided between the Communists and Democratic nations. And a house divided cannot stand. A long, drawn-out cold war heightened antagonism within the U.N.

The U.N. proved unable to prevent the Arab-Israeli wars of 1948, 1956, 1967 and 1973. Likewise, it was unable to prevent, or, by itself, even shorten the Korean War. Neither was it able to do anything impressive in the Congo, Vietnam or any other major area of conflict.

The more recent 1974 war in Cyprus proved once again how helpless the U.N. really is.

Last in 1974, the General Assembly voted to suspend South Africa from the General Assembly for the rest of the year. And then, as if to add insult to injury, the U.N. took the unprecedented step of inviting the leader of a non-nation, Yasser Arafat, to speak before the General Assembly.

In his speech Arafat said he came bearing an "olive branch" in one hand and a "freedom fighter's gun" in the other. Though millions of TV viewers got a glimpse of Arafat's "gun," no one has yet claimed to have really seen any sign of an "olive branch."

Today, the U.N. is more divided than ever — between the wealthy "haves" and the poor "have-not" nations of the world.

The real voting power of the 138-nation U.N. is held by the "Third World" nations. It now looks like these smaller nations have stepped control of the U.N. — especially as Communist.

Many fear that they Israel will be expelled from that assembly because most of the 138-nation nations of the U.N. are openly pro-Arab.

To its credit, the U.N. has accomplished much good in the area of culture, education and economics. However, the U.N. continues to be used as a sounding board for various nations to hammer out their propaganda.

The U.N. has the form but not the substance or the power to keep the peace. It has a beautiful skeletal framework, but not enough muscle on its bones to really make it work.

How long will it be before the world recognizes that the U.N. cannot of itself ever bring world peace? ☐



HOW LIBERATED CAN YOU GET?

By Amy Bowman

If one can successfully look into the Women's Movement and not become "imprisoned" by the emotional impact of the battle cry, some interesting and sound concepts can be salvaged.

Between the black-bat image of the militant, man-hating feminist and the white-bat image of female gentility is the more balanced outlook, such as Margaret Fuller's — who sees woman "as a nature in growth, as an intellect to discern, as a soul to live freely and unimpeded to unfold such powers as were given her."

Theodore Parker observed that "the domestic feminism of woman does not exhaust her powers." It can certainly consume a great percentage of her time — the responsibility of becoming a wife and mother cannot justifiably be tossed aside in the sole pursuit of "human identity" — but the lives of most women can encompass more.

The need or impulse for personal expression is being more widely recognized and accepted by today's biologic, social scientists and psychoanalysts as a primary need, as basic as love and sex. Yet one long-term survey, conducted by a university, revealed the startling fact: When a selected group of graduating men and women were given IQ tests, the women rated slightly higher, on an average, than the men. The same group was tested 10 years later, and it was found that the men who were married had continued to increase their IQs (more or

less by 30 points) but that most of the married women's IQs had actually dropped. The men, through their contact with the outside world, were being constantly challenged and stimulated, while the women who had become housewives had filled their days with menial tasks. Interpersonal communication was limited to other mothers and the grounds made of two- and three-year-olds. Such diverse worlds create a communication gap between husbands and wives which can result in marriage problems.

What is true "liberation"? Does it mean being totally independent of the man and the family unit? Or can it encompass being a competent, efficient, independent woman who effectively fulfills her responsibilities in the home, but who may also apply them outside the home should there be such a desire or need (as in cases of death, divorce or disability of the man)?

Interestingly enough, the Bible answers these questions. Many would consider the Bible as a repressive book against Women's Lib, but let's see what the Bible says by examining the life of the woman of Proverbs 31. This woman was a wife and mother who performed all the womanly job pertaining to the home: cooking, sewing, shopping for food (v. 13-15); she was thrifty and energetic enough to plant a garden (v. 16). Yet she had developed such talents as upholstering with fine tapestry, and she was evidently informed and knowledgeable enough in the area of real estate to be capable of inspecting land and wisely choosing whether or not to buy it (v. 16). She was aware of the economy (v. 18). She had physical strength (v. 25) but wore very stylish and feminine clothing (v. 22). She extended herself beyond her own family unit to get involved with the community around her (v. 20). She had a part-time job which brought in extra income (v. 24). Finally, she was not a silent partner. She did speak with wit, yet kind, advice and suggestions (v. 26).

When did her family and the community think of this woman? Was she suspected of being too aggressive, too independent, and rebellious? Not in fact, quite the opposite. Her husband not only had trust in her abilities (v. 11) but praised her for them (v. 28-29), her children were extremely proud of their mother (v. 28); and her accomplishments in the home and the community brought her praise and recognition from the civic leaders (v. 31).

How did she become so liberated? First of all, she was a responsible person to her husband and family. She definitely had her priorities straight, yet her family and society did not deny her the opportunity to fulfill herself beyond her family unit. Another major key is that she was loved, encouraged and appreciated by her family. They didn't make her life a matter of "either/or" between family and greater personal fulfillment.

So how can we view the Women's Movement and apply it more rationally? We should realize that individual development is extremely important, but also that in an active, vigorous world the strength of one individual is of little consequence until it is linked up with others. Women have an awesome and vitally important opportunity, through their individual and collective uniqueness, to improve the quality of life.

And of the "woman's role" in the ultimate identity crisis, Jesus Christ himself speaks: "For in the resurrection they [a man and a woman] neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels [of God] in heaven" (Matt. 22:30; RSV; Mark 12:25; Luke 20:35). Paul explains, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye . . . heirs according to the promise" (Gal. 3:28-29).

Just how "liberated" can you get? ☐



"One lamp or two?"

PROPHECY- No Longer a Dirty Word

By Robert L. Kuhn

Ten years ago you would have been labeled a nut, a crackpot, a charlatan, a weirdo — for so foolishly or naively dabbling at the edges of society. Today you could be a scientist, an economist, a psychologist, a theologian — a highly respected member of your profession, investigating the forefront of human knowledge.

You are a prophet. You predict the future.

The Future Comes of Age

The future isn't what it used to be. It has invaded the present. What will happen has suddenly become terribly relevant to what is happening.

Though mankind has always been interested in the future, never before has the future so seriously concerned all strata of society and so dominated the present.

A virtual tidal wave of future-oriented books have flooded the market: computer simulations, technological forecasts, scientific projections, socio-political predictions, eco-environmental extrapolations, innovative futuristic approaches, wildly original conceptual ideas, transcendental philosophical musings, theological speculations, and even science fiction.

The approaches vary, but the effects are the same: human beings, uncertain of their prospects in this overpopulated, over-missiled world of the last quarter of the twentieth century, have become obsessed with the future.

In the past decade — really since the late 1960s — a steadily increasing public interest in the future has directly paralleled the advent of serious interest by professionals in widely diverse fields. Physical scientists are predicting what will happen to the earth's depleted resources; social scientists are predicting what will happen to man's hypertense society; economists are predicting what will happen to man's stagnating capacity to produce goods and services.

Forecasting the future has become serious business — and prophecy is now a respected member of the Establishment.

Parapsychology and the Occult

But it's not only in the traditional sciences that prophecy has suddenly

become culturally significant. Triggered by the downfall of man's total confidence in technocratic materialism, the past few years have witnessed the strange and paradoxical revival of widespread interest in the supernatural.

Both in parapsychology — the scientific study of ESP (extra-sensory perception) — and in many religious, quasi-religious and occult groups, prophecy is having a progressively greater impact on the general public.

In parapsychology the technical term *precognition* is used to describe awareness of future events or situations by nonphysical means. Precognition is currently being seriously and intensively studied by trained investigators around the world. As a result, the number of scientists who believe that the human mind can nonphysically apprehend the future has been rapidly growing.

Though the general public is largely unconcerned with these technical (and esoteric) studies in the sciences, economics and parapsychology, public interest in prophecy is high. Increasing numbers of people gorge themselves with the virtual smorgasbord of occult prophecy — mediums, ouja boards, tarot cards, I Ching, the popular prophets like Edgar Cayce, Jean Dixon, etc., and especially astrology. How many millions consult their daily horoscope can only be estimated — but it surely must exceed by many times the number of those who read their Bibles.

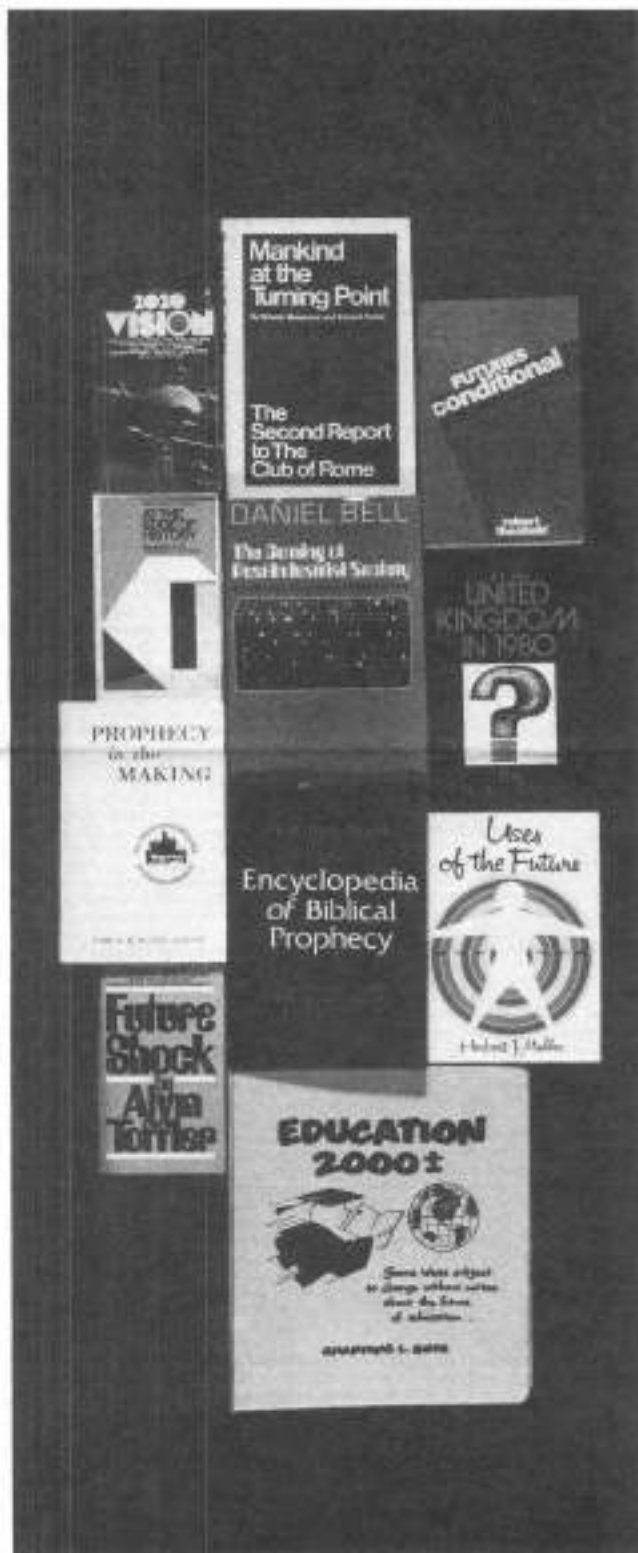
For such enormous appeal to continue, one is tempted to conclude that there must really be "something there" — and the accuracy (albeit occasional) of occult prophecies does seem to transcend the physical.

[Note: Accuracy would not make the occult "good," only real, and not everything real is good!]

Human beings have an innate desire to know the future. In our day, this desire has almost become an obsession.

Prophecy in Religion

Many religious organizations have been quick to join the bandwagon. Some of the "new" Eastern-oriented religions (really quite old) that have recently invaded the West have



complex and frightening prophetic ideas of the future (sometimes only fully known to insiders), often regarding their own ultimate recognition and supremacy.

Until recently, mainline Christianity has largely (and ironically) ignored prophecy — when, according to its professed scriptures, it should have been leading the pack with continuous emphasis on prophecy as instructed by its claimed founder (Matthew 24, Mark 13, Luke 21, Revelation, etc.).

However, a growing segment of fundamentalist and evangelical Christianity has recently become more concerned about prophecy — actually since 1967 when interest was substantially enhanced by the Israeli capture of the old city of Jerusalem in the Six-Day War. In the past seven years, a large number of books and magazines have been published regarding all facets of biblical prophecy. And even more recently, with the specter of widespread massive famines, worldwide economic catastrophe, and Middle East geopolitics poignantly present in most people's daily consciousness, biblical prophecy has taken on new significance. (Even those people who vehemently reject the direct inspiration and/or the literal interpretation of the Bible are reluctantly being forced to admit that world events in the last quarter of the twentieth century will annoyingly make the Bible "seem" accurate!)

Though interest in prophecy has become universal, both the approaches to prophecy and the specific prophecies themselves widely diverge from one group to another. But strangely, the general conclusions of these widely diverse forms of prophecy converge — all agree that humanity is heading for its most calamitous, most tremendous, most perilous period of time in all human history. We are, as William Irwin Thompson put it, at the "edge of history."

Prophecy in Prophecy

It will be a time of great confusion — religious and prophetic confusion to add to the confusion created by the economic and geopolitical chaos in the years ahead. The buzz word of the day will change from "alienation" to "hysteria."

Bible prophecy — and now actual fact — shows that an increasingly distraught and anxious public will turn its attention to prophecy in the years ahead. Human beings, especially in catastrophic times, will desperately desire to know the future. And where there is a demand, there will be a supply: where there are buyers, there will be sellers. Prophecy will be provided, cheap and in abundance.

The last quarter of the twentieth century, as we approach the year 2000, will herald the greatest avalanche of prophetic statements, utterances and proclamations that the world has ever seen. As illogical and irrational as it would have seemed to a "logical" and "rational" society a few years ago, this is now coming to pass. To have then prophesied that prophecy itself would soon become commonplace and eagerly accepted by our modern masses would have sounded absurd. Yet prophecy now lives; it has been resurrected.

What about the current and soon-coming prophecies themselves?

Some will be partly right; most will be mostly wrong. To the confusion of everybody, or almost everybody, "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect" (Matt. 24:24).

Humanity's best minds have advanced various themes to characterize the last quarter of the twentieth century: an energy crisis, an ecological watershed, a population-food crossover, a war-peace crossroads. They are all right. But incomplete. Prophecy, and eventually religious fanaticism on an unprecedented worldwide scale, will dominate the scene so completely that other human events will become insignificant in comparison. Long thought to be dying, religion in general and prophecy in particular will make the greatest comeback in world history.

And that's what the *Plain Truth* has been saying for over 40 years. Prophecy has been one of the primary themes of the *Plain Truth* since its inception in February 1934; and prophecy will continue to be a primary theme of every issue in this new, more comprehensive, more urgent, more frequent format.

Subjects to be covered in future issues include: the uniqueness of the 20th century, alternative futures, incredible predictions, the rupture of history, the coming transformation, as well as all aspects of prophecy: scientific, philosophical, theological, religious, occult; the history of prophecy, the prophecy of history, when prophecies fail and the dangers of prophecy.

The *Plain Truth* staff will be analyzing every significant world trend and event. Personally I (and others) will be following developments in prophecy and religion, reporting them in these pages. All the forms and varieties of prophecy and religion in today's world will be analyzed in the context of biblical prophecy.

In other words, we will be watching "prophecy in prophecy."

The watch promises to be spectacular! □





Ambassador College Supplies Missing Dimension in Education

By Les Stocker

Now in its twenty-eighth year, Ambassador College has produced hundreds of graduates who lead successful lives outside of the college environment. Many of them have expressed their feelings to me about their Ambassador College education.

"The type of education an Ambassador student receives prepares him to be the best person that most employers want. And there's quite a lack of that out here," said one A.C. graduate. "Once we get out into society, it's not the beautiful buildings of Ambassador that impresses people. It's not necessarily the personal appearance that impresses people. What impresses them is the character—the individual, the attitude, the approach."

Those are the words of David Stone, Executive Director of the Bell-Whitely Action Agency, which administers millions of dollars worth of government programs in southeastern Kentucky. Mr. Stone should know. He is a graduate of Ambassador College.

W. Jack Kessler, a partner in the firm of Rader, Cornwall, and Kessler, Certified Public Accountants, in Los Angeles, reflected on his Ambassador education this way:

"You must have technical competence and specialized knowledge or you will never be able to enter a profession like public accountancy. But the real professional, the one who becomes a manager and later a general partner in his firm, has blended these skills with training of a more fundamental sort. The character attributes you need to succeed are no secret. The trick, if there is one, is to build them into your life as early as possible. That's why an institution like Ambassador College is such a stamp of beauty."

Mr. Kessler's experiences underscore the statement of Herbert W. Armstrong, founder of Ambassador College. He wrote: "At Ambassador College, students find true values. They learn the real purpose of human life. Life takes on meaning. There is not only mind development, but also that of personality, culture, and emotional maturity. Emphasis is upon character building."

"To that end, the small student body provides a distinct advantage. The relationship between student and instructor is as happy and helpful as it is unusual. The smaller

college, adequately staffed and equipped for its needs, offers special opportunity for self-expression in the area of the student's talents. It produces an altogether different and more desirable campus atmosphere. Students acquire a foundation for the art of living happy, useful, successful lives. This emphasis upon character building and spiritual development is aptly stated in the Ambassador motto: "Recreate True Values."

The principles and foundations for life taught at Ambassador were recognized by 1967 graduate, Earle Carrall, now a principal of a midwestern elementary school. He said, "I am very thankful for the opportunity I had to go to Ambassador. It's the basic principles that you learn more than the technicalities. It's the basic principles of life, how to get along with other human beings and how to work hard."

Whether they have gone into the profession, the business world, education, home-making — or for that matter any field — Ambassador graduates have all had the same foundational background of character training.

While presenting the profound principles of successful life, Ambassador also offers major courses of study in a number of specific fields. The list of majors offered is growing with each year, and presently it includes the following in Pasadena: business administration, chemistry, English, general studies, history, home economics, mass communications, physical education, Spanish, speech, and theology. Majors to be introduced in the next academic year are in psychology, environmental studies, and engineering science.

Major courses of study offered at Ambassador College, Big Sandy, Texas, are agriculture-business, communications arts, liberal arts, and theology. Courses of study to be introduced in the near future are environmental science, computer science, and human sciences.

You may apply to attend Ambassador College in Pasadena by writing to the Admissions Office, Ambassador College, 300 West Green Street, Pasadena, California 91123.

For an application to Ambassador College, Big Sandy, Texas, write Admissions Office, Ambassador College, Big Sandy, Texas 75755. □

How to Survive Scarcity

By Ron Horwell

Scarcity is not really a new word. We in the United States have practically forgotten such a term existed, but, believe it or not, it's been right there in your Webster's all along. I know, I just checked it to be sure.

Now all of a sudden the old standbys we use to describe the American economic scene — "plenty," "surplus," "growth" and the like — sound archaic. In fact, scarcity has achieved such dreaded proportions, at least in the minds of consumers, that we might well consider it a new word after all.

What most people don't know is that scarcity is one of the fundamental concepts behind a science (or perhaps more appropriately, an art) that's much in the news today, economics. If you browse through a high school or introductory college economics text, on one of the first few pages the author will probably go to quite some trouble explaining that the basic concept behind economics is not money but scarcity. In fact, there will likely be a definition somewhere like that found in Samuelson's famous text: "Economics is the study of how men and society end up choosing, with or without the use of money, to employ scarce productive resources that could have alternative uses, to produce them for consumption."

In short, economics is the study of how men allocate scarce wealth — how they handle scarcity.

In the supposedly free market economy, if



Rot-roo-ter Ratings

Who needs Nielsen? A more representative rating system was discovered down at the Water Works. During advertisements in the TV movie screening of *Airport*, city water pressure declined 26 pounds per square inch. *Pavane* could only muster a 22 pound p.s.i. drop, and third place went to *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* with a 19 pound p.s.i. drop. The cause was the city's simultaneous water flushing, which usually struck during the commercial following the dramatic climax of the movie.

a shortage of some commodity develops, it is only logical that consumers will bid the price of that commodity upward. This is why the Moon Lisa is so valuable — because there's only one.

Or, to take a practical and recent example, if there is a partial failure of the soybean crop, then the price of soybeans and of products made from them will logically go up. People will have to either buy less soybean products or buy less of something else, a fact consumers should be quick to recognize and accept. Unfortunately they're not. Instead of acting like capitalists and realizing that soybeans, due to their own degree of scarcity are more valuable, they act like socialists and start expiring the government to bring down the price. It's always good to have a government around so you have someone to blame.

Certainly a price rise could be partially the government's fault. A price rise could also be the fault of a private interest that is so large it can partially control the market, but when a price increase is induced by a crop failure, an oil shortage, or some economically similar cause, there are only three alternatives consumers can pursue:

* Use political pressure to force the price lower. Such efforts will more than likely backfire, since, with a lower price, producers will not be motivated to produce more, and the scarcity conditions will persist. That's partially what happened when former President Nixon first applied price controls.

* Artificially force their own income up. If such action becomes widespread throughout the economy, however, it does little more than spread more demand. This causes the price of one product after another to rise and threatens the economy with runaway inflation.

* Accept the price rise, realizing that it means they will have to either buy less of that newly scarce commodity or less of something else in order to balance their budgets. But that's such an unattractive idea to most of us.

So it seems entirely conceivable that should the entire food production of the United States be wiped out by natural forces, American businessmen would be searching in Washington, with their little remaining strength, instead that the government had gotten us into such a mess.

As painful as it may seem, the third alternative is the best solution to inflation in a free economy. Just buy fewer of those items which are inflated the most but need the least. Use the power of the consumer as it was meant to be used — in the marketplace, rather than on the sidewalks of the White House and Capitol Hill. □

Man of Few Words

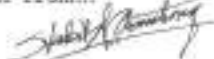
Extensive tape recordings of natural conversation reveal that 359 words make up 81 percent of all speech. The other 599,641 words in the English language appear less than once in every five utterances.

The Book Tells You Why!

The publisher of *What You Should Know About Inflation* regrets to announce that the old price of 95 cents should be over stamped to read \$2.25. The price you must now pay to understand why you must pay such a high price has risen 137%.

WEEK ENDING FEB. 8, 1975

Personal from...



(Continued from page 1)

and the supporters of evolution, but also into Genesis and other books of the Bible.

I was astounded at what I saw in these books.

In Genesis I was intrigued with the incident of the "forbidden fruit." There I read of a Creator God revealing basic knowledge to the first two humans he had just created. Connecting the Genesis account with additions revealed elsewhere in the Bible, I saw that their Maker was revealing to this man and woman what they were, why humanity was put on earth, and the way to peace, happiness and joy in material and spiritual abundance. What he taught them, strangely, seems to have been entirely overlooked by all religions. I saw there, also, the cause of all humanity's troubles, evils, sufferings and wars.

Then, in the first four books of the New Testament, I saw where Jesus Christ came with a message from the great God in heaven. That message, scattered all through those four books, the writings of Paul, James, Peter and John, as well as much of the Old Testament, was the same revelation of truth their Maker had been teaching Adam and Eve.

That message covered the way to WORLD PEACE — and how it actually will yet come. It revealed the cause of all human troubles and evils. It revealed the incredible, awesome human potential. It revealed the purpose for which humanity was put here on earth. It revealed where we are going and what is the way. It revealed the serious perversion in KNOWLEDGE! Yet all this revealed truth appears to have been completely outside of and apart from the field of any religion, as taught.

But also I saw that even those who BELIEVED in Jesus as the messenger refused to believe his message. Just as our first parents disobeyed what their Maker said, so those who lived in Jesus' day (except 120 believers, including his disciples) disobeyed what he said (John 8:30-45).

Our first parents, instead of believing what their Maker revealed in basic vital knowledge, took to themselves the knowledge of good and evil — began to decide for themselves what is right and what is wrong. And all humanity has followed in their example. Thus humanity cut itself off from revelation as the source of basic knowledge.

Notwithstanding, an all-wise, benevolent and loving God caused that basic revelation to be committed to writing in the Holy Scriptures. Yet that "missing dimension in knowledge" somehow seems never to have found its way into any of the world's religions — even that called Christianity!

As stated in Jesus' day more than a handful of faithful disciples believed the message the great God sent by him from heaven, although many believed on the messenger — that is, that Jesus was the prophesied Messiah.



In Brief

By Stanley W. Rader

During the past seven years Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong has traveled as extensively as any man in the entire history of the world, and during that same period I have been privileged to accompany him in his worldwide efforts to bring to the people of all nations the Announcement and to establish and develop programs that are meaningful, relevant and important to the nation and the people involved that they may live more full and abundant lives. Each year has been one of increased activity, and as we look ahead into 1975 we realize that we will be in other countries with other people more than 75 percent of our time — spending more time in an aircraft than a professional commercial pilot.

People often ask me: "How does Mr. Armstrong do it? How can he keep up such a pace? How can a man approaching 83 years have the vitality and energy of one half his age?" In the Philippines recently, where Mr. Armstrong was interviewed by the national media and a live radio conference in Manila just prior to receiving an honorary doctorate degree, Mr. Armstrong admitted that perhaps the one determining factor in his vitality and comparative youth was the fact that he always had a mission to fulfill, and it was that determination to fulfill his duty that had permitted him to maintain the vigor and strength necessary for its accomplishment.

Still, it was very gratifying and inspiring to meet Maestro Artur Schnitzler recently in New York. Seldom, if ever, does Mr. Armstrong spend time with a man five years senior to him, and, in fact, the Maestro jokingly referred to Mr. Armstrong as a youngster, more child, and reminded him that when he was 13 and Mr. Armstrong was 8 he would not have even spoken to Mr. Armstrong, the difference in their age being so vast. Mr. Schnitzler is another man who has kept his vitality and youth by dedicating his life not only to music, but also to its humanitarian aspects, using music, the universal language, as an inspiration to peoples everywhere and for bringing people happiness. Maestro Schnitzler visited Pasadena and gave a special recital at Ambassador College on January 15. If circumstances permit, plans are being readied for a television production which will show how both the Maestro and Mr. Armstrong have, in their separate spheres and in their own ways, brought so much to mankind, and are making daily important contributions to peace and better understanding among peoples everywhere.

Immediately after the concert Mr. Armstrong and I departed for our first extensive trip of 1975, a year that will include public appearances in major cities around the world before thousands of people, as well as important interviews with world leaders in these troubled capitals. In this column I will endeavor to give you the benefit of my personal observations of these world leaders and Mr. Armstrong, as well as my comments from time to time on the significance of events as they have occurred and seemingly will occur in the near future. Our first meeting of 1975 will be with King Hussein of Jordan and will take place immediately after both the Shah of Iran and King Faisal of Saudi Arabia have paid official state visits to Amman.

Then a Satan-inspired conspiracy arose among Garmias living in that very first century in the country of Semans, north of Jerusalem, to suppress the message Christ had brought. Instead, they preached "another gospel" (see Galatians 1:8-7, II Corinthians 11:4) about the person of the messenger, Jesus Christ.

It is true, what is called "the gos-

pel" has been preached ever since — Christ has been preached to the world and is so being preached today — but His message is not, except in the Plain Truth and the literature of the World-wide Church of God.

Actually, Jesus' message — that revelation of the missing dimension in knowledge — was the original true gospel. But men living in the very first cen-

tury suppressed it, and others, each generation deceived and following the tradition taught them by the preceding generation, have followed their tradition ever since! But they did not know they were deceived — else they could not have been deceived.

So it is, even as foretold in the Bible (Revelation 12-9), that all nations ARE DECEIVED today.

It's absolutely amazing! It's astounding! But it seems that each generation since the first century, taught and indoctrinated by those of the preceding generation, have followed in the deceptive tradition. Those in the Christian religion who have looked into the Bible have tried to make their inherited tradition square with the Bible. So it has become common to think the Bible must not be taken literally. They do not believe what I say.

How often have others looked askance at me, shaking their heads and saying, astonished, "Why, you surely don't take the Bible literally, do you?" Why should it not be taken literally, just like every other book? Why? I have found that, if not bound by prejudiced tradition and indoctrination by the traditional "Christianity," it means sense and supplies the only answers to humanity's problems and evils today.

In this first issue of the new Plain Truth appears the first installment of the book I am writing, pulling out from the Bible this revealed serious scientific knowledge — revealing the INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL. IT MAKES SENSE — and no other explanation or revelation does! It will continue, serially, once each month.

Meanwhile I continue proclaiming this same message in major public appearance campaigns in capitals around the world. □

The INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL...

(Continued from page 8)

words — since that period up to the seas, raging waters of the sea, flaring out their own flames, wandering seas, in whom is reserved the brightness of darkness for ever" (Isaiah 3:13).

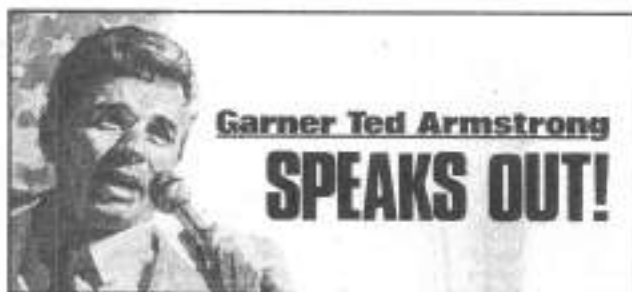
The Word "Gospel" Misleading Today

Even the very word "gospel" is misleading today, especially as used by evangelical Protestants, their missionaries, their evangelists and their literature. The world has been, and is, full of "gospel programs" on television, on radio, in print, and in personal evangelism.

Say to almost any person, "The gospel was not proclaimed in the world for 180 centuries," and he will think you are crazy. Certainly, what is the conventional "gospel" has been continuously proclaimed, but it is a "gospel" about the process of the message, while scientific knowledge is a "gospel" of salvation, offering and describing a false "salvation."

It is based on the assumption that this is the time and the only time when God is trying to "get the whole world saved." But they do not know even what salvation is, or how it is obtained.

What time is the true gospel? Be sure to read part two in the next issue. □



Garner Ted Armstrong SPEAKS OUT!

Only a few months prior to the 1973 Yom Kippur war, Western experts confidently predicted the Arab oil producers would never act multilaterally to use their oil as a political weapon against supporters of Israel.

Leading magazines with such reassuring statements were still in fairly current circulation when the Arab oil producers did just that.

Suddenly, it seemed that virtually unknown Arab sheikdoms, some of them barely entering the 20th century in development, were holding a scimitar directly over the jugular of much of the developed world.

Western Europe, almost totally dependent on oil imports, and Japan, wholly so, were quick to get the message. Diplomats scrambled to convince the Arabs of their governments' sincerest intentions to moderate their positions toward Arab countries, while softening their policies toward Israel.

Perhaps never before in history had the combined impact of embargo, followed by quadrupled prices of an essential commodity, brought such undreamed of results.

No one could argue, when all the facts were known, that the Arab oil producers were receiving too little for their oil, or that at least some significant price hikes were long overdue. But the sudden quadrupling of oil prices sent country after country into a balance of payments nightmare. India, as a case in point, suddenly found herself literally unable to pay for the now four times higher oil she needed to continue the government programs to achieve self-sufficiency in food. Only years before India had optimistic hopes of fantastic agricultural increases based upon the "green revolution." But this in turn required greater mechanization of agriculture, requiring massive use of gasoline and diesel-powered farm machinery, intensive fertilization with oil-based chemicals, and massive treatment with chemical pesticides and herbicides (oil-based), as well as modern storage facilities (heated by oil), and modernized truck and rail distribution methods (using gasoline).

India's hope for self-sufficiency has now vanished. The "green revolution" did not materialize as the salvation of traditionally food-deficient nations and the soaring costs of energy plunged India monthly into serious balance-of-payments deficits.

In country after country soaring oil costs have dealt equally cruel blows. Italy and Britain have been posting deficits of enormous proportions, up to 2 billion dollars per month. How do such countries pay for their desperately needed energy requirements?

They borrow. Britain has borrowed from central European banks, as well as directly from Iran. But even borrowing has its limits, not only from unmanageable economies at home, but even from international sources equally concerned about the viability of those sound economies. Worried about the desperately shaky economy of Britain, Saudi Arabia recently served notice it would no longer accept sterling in payment for its oil.

So, while the Western industrial powers were incurring massive record-breaking deficits, the Arab oil producers were collecting record-breaking surpluses.

For 1973, even including the last few months of that year following the Yom Kippur war, the oil-exporting countries were running surpluses of around \$5 billion. By year's end, 1974, the figure had leapt to \$65 billion.

At the same time, the eight major industrial nations were running up a total balance-of-payments deficit of \$31 billion, while the same countries had achieved a \$9 billion surplus in 1973.

So far, the only practical remedy has appeared to be borrowing back — recycling — the largest share of funds accrued by the oil producers.

Now, suddenly, even that picture has changed. The reason?

Recent gold and monetary shuffling.

President Ford and President Giscard d'Estaing of France reached some significant understanding on the official price of gold at their meetings in the Caribbean recently,

which brought immediate response in the form of thinly veiled threats from some oil producing nations.

Obviously, any bilateral or unilateral action on gold policy by nations with significant gold reserves would immediately result in devaluation of such nations' currencies, making them far more competitive in payments for imports.

The Shah of Iran, earlier quoted as saying he would clamp down a total oil embargo in response to any such action, was later "explained" by a government spokesman in more moderate terms. But the Arabs were clearly worried, nevertheless. So long as the billions continued to flow into Arab hands, so long as the Western economies continued to wrestle with unacceptable "siege economies," the Arabs seemed content.

With the possibility of sudden reform of gold policy, all that was changed.

Iraq proposed an overall international agreement on gold and money policies.

Saddam Hussein, deputy chairman of the Ba'ath Revolution Command Council, said, "Any state, or group of states that takes steps that will worsen international inflation will be held responsible for them," meaning the United States and France, primarily since a dramatic shift from 442 an ounce for gold, as it is officially pegged, to, say, in the neighborhood of \$200 an ounce, would immediately make the dollar enormously more competitive in buying power. Should this occur, it would seem the Arabs are threatening one of two actions, or both.

They could once again clamp down on oil exports, even down to as little as 30% of present shipments, or they could simply raise prices (hence the warning about "worsening international inflation") which would effectively wipe off any such alteration in gold prices.

So, according to the Arabs, the use of oil embargoes, quadrupling of prices, and then additional price hikes from time to time, sending Western economies into fiscal chaos, is quite all right by them. On the other hand, for the industrialized nations to fight back by action on gold policies, thus rendering their currencies of far more value in international exchange, is supposedly immoral.

This strange attitude is further reflected in the thinking of the Algerian government spokesman who said it was "inadmissible" for nations to consider using commodities "necessary for human survival" as a political weapon! This incredibly ironic statement emerged in the aftermath of the world conference on food, resulting from whippersnats that

the large food producers might be considering retaliation in the form of halting grain shipments.

But try as you may, it seems impossible to work out projections of balance-of-payments and debt-carrying potentials for many of importers beyond the first few months of 1975. Some of the shakiest importing nations simply will not be able to pay for oil — and that in a matter of months!

Clearly, something has to give. Bible prophecy strongly indicates an international "pushing and shoving match" between a "king of the south" and a "king of the north" that will bring the opening round of a massive war in the Mideast (Dan. 11:40-45).

The language of the prophecy suggests a move by the nations (called "the countries," "many countries," and the "land of Egypt") constituting the "king of the south" (Saudi Arabia is interestingly enough ruled by a king — and so is Iran, where the word "Shah" means "king") to be in the area of trade or monetary policy, rather than in the military area.

"And at the time of the end shall the king of the south ruler at him [the king of the north], and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries; and shall overflow and pass over. He shall enter also into the glorious land [modern Israel], and many countries shall be overthrown. . . . He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: the land of Egypt shall not escape.

"But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver and over all the precious things of Egypt and the Libyans and Ethiopians shall be at his steps." Do these words also indicate that gold will start flowing into the Mideast from the monetary reserves of the industrialized world to pay for oil — and that the same gold will someday be forcibly recovered?

The Arabs have been "pushing" lately. Hard.

Yassir Arafat recently charged the United States and Israel with secretly conspiring to attack the Arab oil producers.

However, neither Arafat or other more bona-fide Arab leaders can guarantee that the enormous powers of Western Europe or of the super-giant of industry, Japan, will be found bereft of options in solving the continual drain of their financial reserves into Arab hands.

What 1975 may bring in the Mideast could quite literally be the spark which ultimately ignites World War III, unless something presently unforeseen prevents it. □

orchids & onions

Once upon a time, it is rumored and over-stated legend, there lived a very happy people. Happy because they lived their simple lives in the fall — and because their few possessions were, among other things, the freedom of "Orchids and Onions."

It never did rise the war instrumental in preserving a healthy atmosphere of openness, honesty — and even morality — throughout the kingdom. It was fearfully reported by all, in both public and private life. Simply stated, virtue and approval were rewarded with orchids, while an embarrassing public humbleness with onions was the reward for offenders — a devastating and unfortunate (thereby) public peeling of both mind and flesh.

Handing? Of course. But what makes this incentive for contemplation and improvement. And a lesson for the youth of every age. Be, for all, everyone down the line of "Orchids and Onions" was for his own good. There was even the danger of becoming to one about receiving orchids that a good peeling with onions was certainly to avoid.

Whatever happened to this wonderful culture it is not really discernible. But some can see that a steadily firm of it is still kept in our larger metropolitan areas by government politicians and businessmen who habitually receive their conclusions each afternoon in ability. At certain times, a certain amount of a little white onion, of course, it seems to make these feel better.

Well, with the new Plain Truth format, our editors and staff invite you, our faithful and growing family of readers, to share with others your thoughts, comments and criticisms on the world. There are orchids and your onions in the Plain Truth Editor, Dept. O, Pasadena, Calif. 91221. Thanks, and we'll be right back.

Arthur B. Farley
Managing Editor

letters

All of my life I have searched for what you call the Plain Truth. You have brought in the knowledge and understanding that we have sought all our adult lives. Please tell us, how in heaven can we ever express our gratitude for your wonderful work?

Henrich and Berna Goldaby,
Lynnwood, WV

I sincerely hope that everybody who is fortunate enough to receive Plain Truth has learned that the most important thing in our lives is not our material wealth but our strength to love reality.

Ralph Cardenas,
Linden, NJ

I am getting too disturbed regarding world conditions. I don't care to get more depressed. I can't face these facts. You may think me to be as much, but please send Plain Truth.

Kathleen Smith,
Seattle, WA

I've been looking for some time now for a suitable news source. I believe I have found credibility in Plain Truth. It is in-

possible to separate economic, sociology, natural sciences and politics from our activities as they are so interrelated. And a look at current events or at the past is, to say the very least, incomplete if God is left out of the picture.

James T.
Boston, MA

After reading in Vietnam I reached the respectable conclusion that life, at least in little more than a ridiculous obscurity. You haven't completely changed that opinion, but I must say that after reading an article in one of your publications, I usually feel a faint flicker of hope.

Tommy P.,
Oxford, MS

Some of your articles shake me sick, while others are read, and nearly all affect me emotionally. Under these conditions I probably should discontinue it, but I like the truth in your publications... enclosed is a small donation.

Luana G.,
Mayfield, KY

The format change of Plain Truth is great! I like the way you keep it alive and changing for the better.

William Ross

Print Plain Truth on some paper if you must, over print it on brown bags or wrapping paper, but print it!

Ada Corcoran Griffin,
New Orleans, LA

"The Family That Drinks Together" (Oct.-Nov. issue) is the most sensible article on drinking we have ever read.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Frank,
Zimmaron, MN

For the first time, I've read an article in Plain Truth I cannot accept. Christ may have made and drunk wine, but in his washing in the basin of Romans 14:21 it is stated, "It is good neither to eat flesh nor to drink wine nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth or is offended or is made weak."

Mrs. Barbara L. Ward,
San Antonio, TX

Your article on drinking is not the plain truth you need in here, and I've been reading it for some 20 years. We never know how old Dexter Ham will offend us as I say don't play with the rattlesnake. He is liable to strike!

Mrs. W. D. Hollingsworth,
Crown City, FL

• I'd drink to that! Ed

The family that drinks together... sticks together!

(Anonymous)

• ... and pretty close for somebody with no wine. Ed

I agree with your alcohol article on all points. In our home Dad and Mom set the right example and so we came to think of wine as a food supplement instead of something to get high on.

Ernie Clark,
Santa Cruz, CA

Food Taboos— Stronger Than Hunger?

by Charles Vinson

The ultimate tragedy in the world food shortage is that some of the hunger has been self-imposed.

Africa, for example, remains mostly in quest cattle outside the Sahara as does North America — not high-grade beef and dairy cattle, of course, but animals well adapted to a tropical environment. These cattle are not generally used as a source of food.

Stranded across Africa's midsection is a non-milking zebu. In it all animal milk has traditionally been considered a wife body occasion as repulsive as urine; hence it is a sin to drink it. Generally it is used only as a poison for sorcerers. In some areas only adults males (other than children) are allowed to drink milk. Healthy cattle are often kept as a status symbol, but not as a food source.

A similar situation occurs in East and South Asia, although milkable animals are abundant. Cattle owners have been known to refuse to kill an animal even though family members were starving.

The Indian vegetarian, with nearly one fifth of the world's cattle, is probably the most undernourished, protein-poor area in the world. Unfortunately, cattle associated in the Hindu, India's dominant religious body. Animals, rather than people, are commonly fed special foods and honored with sacrifices of other animals. Cattle roam through city streets unmolested, overgraze the land and browse on crops while humans hunger. Paradoxically, while most Hindus reject beef, many will eat no food of animal origin whatsoever because their religion forbids the taking of any animal life.

Improving International Conferences

by Jeff Calkins

By tradition, major international conferences are usually always staged in historical, cultural, and pleasure-oriented resort areas. Fun is the one business separate speeches.

Milton Friedman, the famed economist, once speculated that international monetary crises were deliberately misapplied by the teeth of various central banks so that they would have a good excuse to hold a meeting in the Bahamas or Rio de Janeiro.

Assembling in distant, such remote areas as war, peace, or world hunger, delegates usually find serene and often unproductive surroundings. The comfortable atmosphere produces three unfortunate effects: (a) the participants stall and delay in order to meet again next year — in another Fun City; (b) the participants are so worn out from extracurricular activities, they quite often become incoherent and illogical; and (c) the holiday atmosphere created for the occasion obscures the gravity of the real life-and-death issues at hand.

Last November's largely unsuccessful World Food Conference in Rome was just such a study in contrivedness. Delegates consumed generous portions of smoked salmon, fettuccine with truffles, and steak in wine sauce — all while attempting to stall over the fate of the estimated 300 million humans poised on the brink of starvation.

The menu passed at the conference center itself offered a lavish array of food for the

The chicken was first domesticated in Southeast Asia; yet today, chicken flesh and eggs are often avoided by the more primitive inhabitants in that region and in some parts of Africa too. Eggs are equated with ascension. Chickens may be used for feathers, rock-lighting, sacrifice and magic, but not for food. Many believe that eating chickens or eggs destroys fertility or hampers sexual performance. Some men believe eating poultry produces makes them effeminate. Women avoid them, thinking they might cause dwarfism, deformity or character flaws in their unborn children.

Fish is an inexpensive and reasonably plentiful source of protein in many areas. Yet large numbers of ill-fed people reject certain or all kinds of fish. In parts of Africa it is thought that fish are unclean or possessed of evil spirits. Eating them allegedly invites disaster. The taboo is so strong that servants have opted to lose precious jobs rather than prepare fish for employers.

Simple superstitions to change eating habits is one of the most prevalent food taboos. Most people naturally refuse to ingest strange or repugnant foods simply because an outside man they might see. Starving, rice-consuming Asians have in times past abandoned gifts of wheat or millet because they weren't used to cooking them. That may sound foolish, but most "civilized" people would probably be equally reluctant to change ingrained eating patterns based on the advice of an alien stranger.

It is politically chic for some states to attempt to poison a jiggish America, granting and spending its way through mountains of poisonous snake and manure-berry skeletons, while the rest of the world dreads. Yet even if America were to give its food away — as some feel she ought to do — the problem would still not be solved.

Only education can eliminate food taboos — and only education can correct overcrowded nations of the urgent need for birth control. Eliminating starvation is a question of being needs as well as demands. □

first day's lunch: four varieties of pasta, four kinds of meat, a choice of vegetables, dinner and wine, beer, mineral water, or soda drinks. All in all the diplomats ran up a \$1.5 million food and beverage bill.

Solutions?

Delegates never might be caused by a more appropriate choice of city for international conferences. The setting is extremely important. For starters, the following recommendations are offered:

• The next population conference should be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

• The next food conference should be convened in Adis Ababa, Ethiopia, with a preliminary conference in Calcutta, India.

• A meeting on international terrorism would be most appropriate in Belfast, Northern Ireland, or Myra's Israel.

• Strategic arms limitation talks should be held in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The pre-conference planning is also important. Food conferences should require that each delegate fast a minimum of three days at the conference. Population conferences would be much more effective if no housing assignments were made, thereby allowing delegates to sleep on the street, Calcutta style. Peace conferences should ban all identification of nationality, race, religion, or ethnic background.

Another means for stepping up the effectiveness of international peace conferences would be a requirement that all delegates meet in their underwear. No ostentatious party — no facials. This bare-bones approach might help defuse chauvinism and make all participants — regardless of race and nationality — realize they are really all broken under the skin. □

WEEK ENDING FEB. 8, 1975

Parents Smoke—Children Suffer

Mounting evidence indicates that parents who smoke expose their children to numerous health hazards.

Researchers at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine have found that children of smoking parents are subjected to double the risk of an attack of pneumonia or bronchitis during the first year of life. The London

study also points out that children who survive respiratory illness in the first year of life have been found to be subject to chronic respiratory disease later in life.

Of course, smoking has already been convincingly linked with lung cancer, heart disease, and many other maladies. But the harmful effects on children — and presumably on nonsmoking adults as well — add an extra dimension of concern. Perhaps those who won't quit for their own health's sake, will quit for someone else's. □

The BIBLE—A Contemporary Book?

by Lester Kibbe

I recently returned from the 10th annual convention of the Society of Biblical Literature, held in Washington, D.C. Hundreds of scholars from North America and abroad gathered for five days to read and discuss papers, conduct seminars, consult on professional matters, and in general keep abreast of the latest research by their colleagues.

The basic message of salvation has never been obscure. The way of life which leads to eternal life has always been clearly from the pages of the Book of books.

But in such an ancient piece of literature, there are many questions concerning that language, design, symbol and meaning which help to keep that ancient book forever young and forever new. There are differences of approach to the Bible and differences of opinion about its origin, preservation and continued value. But the majority of biblical scholars, whether liberal or conservative, are convinced of its relevance to the 20th century.

The Society of Biblical Literature promotes research into various disciplines relating to biblical study. Sessions and seminars were devoted to such diverse topics as Pauline Studies, Septuagint and Cognate Studies, Acts of the Apostles, Early Rabbinic Literature, Midrash, Form Criticism,

Textual Criticism, Masoretic Studies, Hebrew and Cognate Literatures, and Targumic Studies. While some of these may sound somewhat exotic to the average man, they all have potential value for a better understanding of the Bible.

The three-day sessions of the society's annual meeting were primarily of interest to scholars and professional theologians. But from these academic discussions came new understandings which filter down into the commentaries, religious magazines, and finally to the layman himself. A biblical truth affecting your life may have had its origin in an archaeological dig in an obscure corner of the world or in the midnight efforts of a Ugaritic scholar peering over logs of a long forgotten people.

The Bible lives! Its very vivacity is witnessed by our entire modern Western world with most deeply embedded in the Judeo-Christian heritage. Even those who want to minimize the Bible cannot deny their own heritage.

The pages of the *Plain Truth* continually demonstrate how the biblical message is not only relevant, but ever vital, to contemporary man. Future issues will also carry articles showing how modern research and discovery contribute to making that message more heard and even more urgent. □

No Room for God in the World's First Atheistic State

by Gerhard Marx

One of the basic freedoms guaranteed by the American constitution and those of other Western nations is the freedom of religion, the freedom to embrace the faith of one's choice. But can you imagine living in a country where this privilege is withdrawn? Can you picture a situation where it is impossible for you to legally purchase a Bible? Where you are unable to attend any church for divine worship? Where there is no priest or minister to be found?

There is such a country — Albania. The tiny Balkan state is today unique among the communist world. Unlike other East European nations, Albania's doors to religion have remained tightly shut for the last 30 years. So have practically all trade links with the West. For the Western world or businessmen to get a personal glimpse of Albania is next to impossible.

Who then can travel to this "forbidden" land? I put this question to a Yugoslav government official in Titograd, the city bordering Albania. He explained that only a select few are granted the privilege from time to time, but then only in specially-picked groups under the rigid supervision of the Albanian government. A person must have an extremely good reason — and the promise of a job — to be allowed a sight-seeing tour of this smallest of communist nations in East Europe.

What is unique about Albania is its claim to being the first really



atheistic state in the world. It is the only communist country that has made the practice of religion a punishable crime. Whereas other communist nations "guarantee" religious freedom in their respective constitutions, Albania does not even concede this verbal formality to its two million inhabitants. No religion, whether practiced privately or collectively, is officially tolerated.

The architect mainly responsible for this situation is Albania's leader, Enver Hoxha. His aim is to force upon his nation a particularly "pure" form of socialism. The creation of this egalitarian society, according to Hoxha, leaves no room for religion. The Albanian regime is aimed for its ruthlessness in suppressing any opposition, which would dare grant any religion

accepted status in the country.

Historically, Islam, Catholicism and Greek Orthodoxy constituted the main religious streams in Albanian life. In fact, prior to communist takeover, Albania, which was once under Turkish rule, was Europe's only predominantly Muslim nation. But since 1967 all mosques and churches have been closed, bringing all religious worship to an abrupt end.

The country was then proclaimed by its communist overlords to be "the world's first atheistic state." It was further decreed that all citizens should remove their icons and other religious symbols from their homes. Some church buildings were turned into public meeting halls while others were permanently padlocked.

As a result of the policy instituted several years ago, priests no longer officiate, lay are no longer permitted to congregate, and church doors are no longer open to welcome the devotee.

A tragedy? In some respects, yes, especially for those few who actually would trust God if given the opportunity.

We in the Western world take freedom of religion for granted. Yet in spite of our religious freedom, ignorance of the Bible and knowledge of the precepts of Christianity are far too high.

Which is worse? A nation that openly admits no desire to serve God — and doubt? — or a nation that professes Christianity but worships only with its lips — not with obedience?

The latter perhaps is an even greater tragedy than the outlawing of religion in the "world's first atheistic state." □

The 10 Commandments—Backbone of Western Law and Morality

by John R. Schroeder

Much of the Mosiac Law has disappeared into history. Animal sacrifices discontinued with the end of the Jewish Commonwealth of Palestine in A.D. 70. The importance of the Jewish civil codes also diminished with the abolition of temple sacrifices.

Most of the other artifacts of the Old Testament Jewish state were discarded in the Christian era. The Jerusalem Conference recorded in Acts 15, for example, voided the death penalty of circumcision as a religious practice for Christians.

Ecclesiastical laws seem to come and go; even the ancient Code of Hammurabi is now merely an interesting historical fossil.

National constitutions are also eroded as times change. Even such sacred oaths as the prohibitions against high interest and the other "blue laws" are coming into question, and dying the death.

You are not of laws but survive free from men's law. Spoken by the mouth of God and written by His hand, the Ten Commandments are the universal basis for much of Western law and morality. Violations of the second five commandments still form the basis of the F.B.I. Crime Index.

Why haven't these laws also guided our history? Do they indeed form any basis for Christian — or even "humanistic" — behavior?

The Ten Commandments, though disobeyed with regularity, have guided the vast of time (6,000 years) precisely because of the positive results that we directly

experience when obeying all of them!

No law as pervasive as the Ten Commandments was ever instituted. The Ten Commandments (Matthew 19:16-22; Matthew 5:17-19) form summarized the Ten Commandments into two fundamental principles — love toward God (the first four commandments) and love toward man (the last six). On these dual foundations hang all the Mosiac law and prophetic precepts (see Luke 10:25-28 and Matthew 22:36-40).

The apostle Paul, the most profound and prolific theologian, scholar, and Christian writer of his time, faithfully followed Christ's teaching in regard to the Ten Commandments. He understood and taught that the Ten Commandments of God provide the underpinning of all sound doctrine (Rom. 13:9), and it is the duty of every Christian to obey these basic laws. In fact, you can't be a Christian if you choose otherwise.

What many Christians have not realized is that the Decalogue (Ten Commandments) was in force prior to Moses, prior to Hammurabi, prior to Abraham and even prior to Noah's flood! For study guides on this subject, write for your free copy of "Were the Ten Commandments in Force Before Moses?"

For deeper insights of much of the ten major points of the decalogue, write for our full-length, 144-page book entitled *The Ten Commandments*. □

Just a "Little White Lie"?

by Ted Heroldson

Lying and dishonesty are commonplace in today's "sophisticated" lifestyle. We hear and read lies so often that very early in life we learn thinking of them as such. They become an integral part of our existence. To think that a small lie could be all that important in the sophisticated societies is a concept that is almost quaint. It's an idea that some claim is better suited to the day of the rocking chair and croquet pipe, not to this day of the sophisticated lie.

Lies are so common that you might find it difficult to recall the last time you heard — or told — one. Some lies are so obvious that we even find them ineffective; the gift politician making campaign

promises he has no intention of keeping, or the fast-talking salesman assuring you his product will last a lifetime when it obviously won't last a year. In such cases, we usually hope rather than believe.

Other forms of lies are less obvious, more insidious appearing: the manipulative media, with its ability to stand and shade the news; television commercials that use repetition to build believability; or the hero of your favorite television thriller who lies to entrap a gang of hoodlums.

During the Nixon administration, the two highest political offices in the United States were emptied, due to dishonesty. Many in that administration had been so

entraped in their own web of lies that there was no other recourse but to leave office.

There simply is no such thing as a little white lie. Whether it's a great big dirty black lie or only an intentional shading of the truth, degree is incidental. A lie is a lie is a lie. It is an intent to deceive.

Unless each individual comes to the place where he strives with all his heart to speak the truth, God says he will never enter eternity. To stress the point, God inspired double emphasis in the book of Proverbs when mention is made of those seven things he hates most. Lying is mentioned twice (Proverbs 6:16-19).

God loathes deceit, lies and hypocrisy! Don't be taking lightly, Beggs, right now, thinking, speaking and living a life of integrity. Honesty is always the best policy. □

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