

the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding



The Miracle Called

AMERICA

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a magazine of understanding

Vol. XLI, No. 6

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ABOUT OUR COVER

This famous painting, *The Nation Makers* by Howard Pyle, the father of American illustration, graphically depicts the grim determination of tattered Continental troops during the American Revolution. But was America really "won" by force of arms, or was it, in fact, a *divine bequest*? See page 6.

— Courtesy of Delaware Art Museum,
Wilmington, Delaware

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Few realize it! But even in affluent America, Britain, and other Western countries, we face an enormous and growing tragedy. The institutions of marriage and family life are being formidably attacked.

A solid family structure is the very foundation of any stable and permanent society. But today in the affluent countries a conspiracy is developing which seeks to destroy marriage as an institution, as well as the FAMILY. This is another decisive bit of evidence that this world's civilization is definitely in the END TIME — the end of this world as we know it!

The threat is dual: (1) Unrealized by most, there is a widespread and aggressive conspiracy to destroy the institution of marriage. (2) Marital relations and family life are breaking down, and divorces are increasing alarmingly.

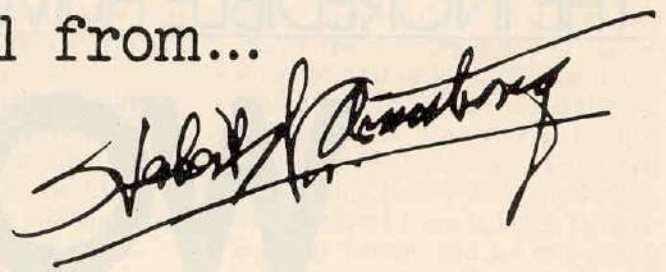
I talk to heads of nations and those high in their governments all over the world almost every month. We discuss the seriousness of world conditions, the CAUSES of the evils, and the WAY TO WORLD PEACE. But I feel strongly the need to talk to my *Plain Truth* readership of many millions about this major threat to civilization itself — and thus to YOUR life and mine. It's time the facts were made known.

Today many psychologists are saying that the institution of marriage is doomed — on the way out. And there is a definite movement to bring that about.

The conspiracy consists of a two-pronged attack: (1) a well-organized movement to subtly influence college students to prefer *alternatives* to marriage, and (2) an attempt to influence the general public by newspaper and magazine articles, television programs, the lecture platform, the women's lib movement, and student or former student rebels of the "New Left." How much of all this propaganda has been planted in the minds of the psychologists, professors, writers, publishers, women's lib crusaders, and others by trained communist propagandists can only be estimated.

There are publishers that seek out writers and authors to supply them

Personal from...



THE CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE FAMILY

with material offering alternatives to marriage — such as homosexuality, group marriages, sex outside of marriage, communal families — writers who will shout the gospel that "MARRIAGE IS FINISHED, OUTDATED, OBSOLETE, ON THE WAY OUT."

This is a war which is being vigorously and fanatically waged. Every subtle method is being employed to capture the minds of those of pre-marriage age.

Today virtually every college and university in the United States offers numerous courses in psychology and sociology. And almost without exceptions, these courses make required reading books and articles that picture marriage as now outdated and soon to become a relic of the past.

They represent that both men and women want variety in sex and other social relationships. They ridicule as a worn-out, old-fashioned idea the belief that one should confine all intimate relations to one person.

Some, especially some women's lib enthusiasts and propagandists, represent that marriage represses and degrades women. One's only commitment, some contend, ought to be only to *no* commitment. "Why should we need a piece of paper — a

marriage license — to link our lives?" some ask.

One book, required reading at some one hundred campuses in the United States, has a chapter on mate swapping, including the statement: "The family that swings together clings together." The book represents mate swapping as a beneficial experience.

A few years ago, the pioneers in applying methods of scientific research to the subject of sex, Masters and Johnson, held a symposium in Chicago with some six or seven couples who freely admitted to "swinging" as a regular experience at certain chosen intervals. They exchanged their philosophies on the subject, probed by questions from Dr. Masters and Mrs. Johnson (actually Mrs. Masters). Masters and Johnson checked five years later and found only one of the couples was still married.

But now what about existing marriages, home and family life? These have given great encouragement to the conspiracy against marriage and the family.

The so-called new morality — which is actually nothing but gross *IMmorality* — has gained considerable public acceptance since the end of World War II. This crusade

(Continued on page 44)

WORLD PEACE

HOW IT WILL COME

Yes, they tried Woodrow Wilson's League of Nations. They are trying the United Nations. Many have awarded the Nobel Prize, and many have been awarded the Nobel Prize for world peace. Yet world peace is coming in our time — but not through any of these efforts.

by Herbert W. Armstrong

I travel to all parts of the world as an ambassador (without political portfolio) for WORLD PEACE. I discuss world problems, evils and world peace with many heads of governments — kings, presidents, prime ministers, and those high in the government, leaders in science, education, commerce and industry. I'm not trying to bring about world peace — but serving as an ambassador of the power *that will* bring it in our time!

Most world leaders are of superior ability. Yet they are utterly unable to abolish world evils or bring about world *peace*.

Many scientists and leaders say that the only hope for world peace is the formation of a supreme WORLD GOVERNMENT, controlling the world's sole military power. Yet in the same breath they admit the utter impossibility of this, claiming that such supreme world power in human hands would enslave us all!

An Amazing Forecast

Few realize it today, but centuries ago a famous personage issued a

pronouncement forecasting this very solution. He was hundreds of years ahead of his time, and the world of his day rejected and suppressed the pronouncement. The world soon lost knowledge of his forecast.

World leaders would do well to search out that amazing forecast, in the light of present world conditions.

Few, indeed, know that Jesus Christ came, not as a religious leader to convert the world and not on a "soul saving" crusade, but as a world pioneer NEWS FORECASTER. No man of historic note has been so completely misrepresented — so utterly misunderstood!

He came as a MESSENGER with a MESSAGE from God Almighty to mankind. His message was BIG NEWS — a vital and sensational news ANNOUNCEMENT for the future. It announced world peace. It was good news for the future, proclaimed as an advance ANNOUNCEMENT OF WORLD PEACE in OUR TIME. That was Christ's GOSPEL! The very word "gospel" means "good news."

And what was that news an-

nouncement for our times which was suppressed by first-century enemies? The one official record which the first-century conspirators were unable to suppress — the Holy BIBLE — gives the official answer!

"The beginning of the gospel of the Jesus Christ, the Son of God . . . Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the *gospel* of the kingdom of God, and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the KINGDOM OF GOD is at hand: repent ye, and believe the *gospel*" (Mark 1:1, 14-15).

Believe *what* gospel — *what* GOOD NEWS? The good news of the coming KINGDOM OF GOD.

But what did He *mean* — the KINGDOM OF GOD? And how do we know it was suppressed? And if the original and *true* gospel of Jesus Christ was suppressed, what gospel or gospels were proclaimed to the world to replace it?

To answer those questions is the purpose of this article.

The Written Record

To say that the true gospel proclaimed by Christ was suppressed —

was not proclaimed to the world after A.D. 70 for nearly 19 centuries — is, indeed, a shocking and amazing statement.

This same written record the conspirators were not able to destroy confirms it. The Church of God was started the day of Pentecost, A.D. 31 (Acts 2). About 20 years later, the apostle Paul, under inspiration, wrote to the churches in Galatia, “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; but there be some that trouble you, and would *pervert the gospel of Christ*” (Gal. 1:6-7). The verses following pronounce a double curse on any who would preach any other gospel.

To the Corinthian church the apostle Paul wrote, “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 that cometh [speaking of false preachers] preacheth *another Jesus . . . or another gospel*, which ye have not accepted . . .” (II Cor. 11:3-4).

To the early Christians at Rome: “for the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who *hold [back] the truth in unrighteousness*” (Rom. 1:18). The Revised Standard Version has it: “who by their wickedness *suppress the truth*.” The message God sent by Jesus Christ was being *held back — suppressed*.

Then again, even Jesus Christ himself made it very clear that His gospel — the KINGDOM OF GOD — would be suppressed *until* our time.

His disciples had asked what would be the sign by which we might know when we were at the end of this world (age), just before Christ’s return to earth.

First he warned them against being deceived. Many would come, he said, in his name, claiming to be the ministers of Christ saying that He — Jesus — was the Christ and at the same time deceiving the many. But when “. . . this *gospel of the kingdom* shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations . . . *then* shall the end come” (Matt. 24:14).

This proclaiming of the KINGDOM OF GOD could not be the sign that we are at the end of the age, if it *had been* proclaimed all along!

Just as Christ himself directly prophesied would happen, many have preached about the *person*, saying that Jesus was the Christ — preaching about the message, but **SUPPRESSING** his message!

But the **END TIME** is now here. After almost 19 centuries, that message is now going out **WORLDWIDE**, by the Worldwide Church of God!

Some have preached a “gospel of salvation” (actually a false salvation) and some a “gospel of grace” — turning grace into license to commit sin. Still others have turned to a “social gospel.”

But Jesus brought from God the Father a vital message announcing the KINGDOM OF GOD! What did He mean — the KINGDOM OF GOD?

A Message of Government

Few seem to know, today, that Jesus’ MESSAGE was about GOVERNMENT! Few realize that this is NOT the time God is trying to SAVE (spiritually) the world. Few knew Jesus was concerned with GOVERNMENT.

Jesus was born to be a KING! Notice what was prophesied in Isaiah about Christ: “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the GOVERNMENT shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his GOVERNMENT and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever” (Isa. 9:6-7).

Notice what was said to his mother Mary: “. . . the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto . . . Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favored . . . Thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the

Lord God shall give unto him *the throne* of his father David. And he *shall reign* over the house of Jacob for ever: and of his KINGDOM there shall be no end” (Luke 1:26-33).

When Jesus was on trial for his life before Pilate, he was asked, “Art thou a king then?” Jesus answered, “Thou sayest I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world.” But he also said, “My kingdom is not of *this world*” (John 18:37, 36).

WHY has the whole world been deceived, not knowing WHY humanity was created and human life existed upon this earth!

WHY are we HERE? WHERE are we GOING? WHAT is the WAY — the WAY TO PEACE, well-being, happiness, abundance?

WHY no world PEACE? Why all this world’s evils? WHY can’t SCIENCE give us the answers? These questions are the MOST IMPORTANT in human life. WHY aren’t people concerned?

The greatest religion in the world, in number of adherence, is Christianity. People SUPPOSE the Christian religion came out of the Bible.

Then WHY don’t the various sects and denominations of traditional Christianity tell us the REAL THEME of the Bible? WHY do they not know the TRUE GOSPEL that Jesus proclaimed? It’s all *IN THE BIBLE* — not suppressed *THERE!* It’s plain and clear!

It’s time someone SHOUTED to lethargic, indifferent, sleeping humanity, *WAKE UP!*

Is There An Afterlife?

Some fundamentalist denominations of Christianity preach about spiritual salvation — about an afterlife.

IS there an afterlife? The truth is **PLAIN AND CLEAR** in the Bible.

Jesus’ gospel was the KINGDOM OF GOD. Does that have anything to do with *afterlife* — with spiritual salvation? It has *everything* to do with it. **BUT THE WHOLE WORLD IS DECEIVED** and **ASLEEP!** The gospel of the KINGDOM OF GOD has to do, basically, with **TWO** themes — government and spiritual salvation (which some call being “born again”). This article deals with gov-

(Continued on page 39)

COMMENTARY

PRESSURES INTENSIFY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

by Stanley R. Rader

The author accompanies Plain Truth Editor-in-Chief Herbert W. Armstrong on his frequent visits with heads of state and other leading international dignitaries.

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, May 27, 1976.

By the time this issue of *The Plain Truth* has reached many of you, the United States will have officially celebrated its 200th year of independence.

Conditions in the world do not permit Mr. Herbert Armstrong and me, however, to spend July 4 at home. We shall instead be in Jerusalem on that day, assisting in the dedication of the Liberty Bell Park in the heart of Jerusalem, where we will be creating a playground for children.

We arrived last night in Johannesburg after completing a three-day visit in the crucial Middle East oil areas of Oman and Kuwait. We shall be in this strategic area for some four weeks and shall also be visiting the neighboring states of Rhodesia and Tanzania.

Events seem to be moving at an ever accelerated rate on this continent and in Europe, as well as in all parts of the world. At the recent

semiannual meeting of the foreign ministers of the NATO nations in Norway, U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger stressed the dangers that would befall the Atlantic allies if the Communists came into power in Italy. At the same time, Mr. Kissinger was forced to also drop the word *détente* from his vocabulary in following the lead of President Ford. Observers here and abroad feel that the United States and her NATO allies are falling behind in the world arms race. Mr. Kissinger also found it necessary at the NATO conference to admit that the Russian ascendancy as an industrial and military power should have been anticipated and should be accepted.

Now that the world is disillusioned with *détente*, it is more concerned than ever about the United States' resolve and ability to repel aggression in the wake of the fall of Vietnam and the recent debacle in Angola.

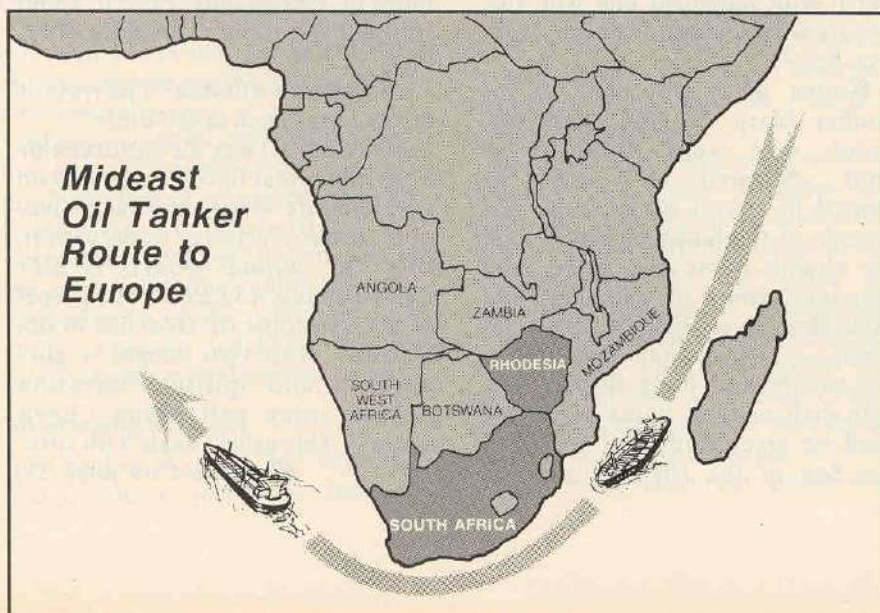
Curiously enough, however, in Russia a conflict similar to the one between Dr. Kissinger and former Defense Secretary James Schlesinger has come to the fore. Leonid Brezhnev has been elevated to the rank of Marshall in the Soviet Army, and a civilian has been named to head the Soviet Union's

Department of Defense. The Red Army "hawks" have attacked the policy of *détente*, however, and have warned that the needs of the U.S.S.R. are greater than those of the United States because the Soviet Union must prepare for a war on two fronts — against the United States and against China. Also, the Red Army chiefs argue that the Soviet Union cannot and must not again underestimate the dangers of a war engendered by "imperialism," remembering, of course, the mistakes of Stalin prior to 1941 — mistakes which cost the Russians so dearly in the early stages of the war against Germany.

Meanwhile, in southern Africa, the dangers appear even more imminent now that the war is more "hot" than cold. The Republic of South Africa, of course, was engaged militarily in Angola before pro-West forces capitulated to the victorious MPLA. In neighboring Rhodesia the guerrillas are stepping up their activities against the government from within and from without. Although Fidel Castro has now announced that his Cuban army will leave Angola within a year, there is still the possibility that some Cubans will remain in Mozambique to assist guerrillas in their efforts against the Rhodesian government.

It is, of course, clear that the Cubans would have never been in Africa except as agents of Moscow — perhaps to repay Russian aid extended to Cuba over the years, and also to effect secondhandedly what the Soviet Union was not prepared to accomplish in a direct manner. All of southern Africa is of great strategic importance. The east-west sea route around which the major oil tankers navigate, carrying Middle Eastern oil to Europe, extends around South Africa. Southern African nations also possess great mineral wealth, including chromium — desperately needed by modern industry for the production of steel — as well as gold, platinum, and other essential minerals.

There are many problems in South Africa, just as there are in other places around the world, and these problems will not be resolved immediately, but will require time and effort. But there would certainly



be less difficulty for the people of South Africa and those in the rest of Africa if the peoples in these areas were permitted to solve their own problems without outside intervention, pressure, and propaganda. We should, it would appear, do what we can to encourage the people of South Africa to work out their problems within their own country and with their neighbors in the rest of Africa, and we should do what we can to prevent further encroachment by the new imperialism of totalitarian communism.

For the moment, however, let us remember one interesting aspect of the propaganda leveled at the governments of both South Africa and Rhodesia over the past decade (and, in the case of South Africa, for more than 30 years). Majority rule is clamored for by the Russians, the Cubans, and others, but the overwhelming majority of the other nations of Africa do not have real majority rule. What they do have in almost every case is totalitarian rule by a *black minority elite*, under a one-party system. Should the same "black majority rule" be effected in South Africa or Rhodesia, it would undoubtedly end the freedoms and democratic processes in those countries (imperfect, albeit, as the democratic processes may be in either nation), and it would probably lead to the eviction or exodus of the white settlers who have developed both nations.

As we consider these problems, let us remember that the United States is the country most criticized in the world, but also the country most admired and imitated. Nothing happens in the United States that is not of interest throughout the rest of the world. Our capacity as a people to exhibit our wounds and not to hide them, as in the Watergate affair, makes us unique as a people and proves again and again the integrity and effectiveness of our democratic processes. Our capacity for innovation, invention, and initiative constitutes our greatest force. No nation has changed the human condition for the better so much. Let us continue to lead the way for a better world and for peace and understanding among peoples everywhere. □

SOVIETS PLAYING FOR HIGH STAKES

by Jeff Calkins

Soviet interest in the affairs of southern Africa has but one primary strategic interest: the denial of continued Western access to irreplaceable sources of raw materials.

"South Africa [alone] provides the United States, its NATO allies, and Japan with their most important minerals, including gold, diamonds, and uranium," notes Anthony Harrigan, member of the United States Industrial Council, writing in the *National Review*.

Another mineral, chromium, is an especially important mineral for the West. There is no known substitute for the substance in the production of stainless steel (comprising about 11% of the alloy). Stainless steel is the primary metal used to make jet airplanes, rockets, missiles, nuclear power plants, and oil refineries, as well as surgical equipment. By some quirk of fate, most of the world's chromium is found in either white southern Africa or in the Soviet Union — 67% of it in Rhodesia alone. A communist victory in that part of the world would give communists control over 97% of the world's chromium reserves.

U.S. chromium stockpiles, while swollen from the recent recession, could only enable the country to get along without Rhodesian chrome for a full year, notes Jacquelyn Bivins, editor of *American Metal Market*. The only domestic deposit is in Montana, in a mine which is currently unworkable.

As far as South Africa is concerned, it has the largest-known reserves of high-grade iron ore, as well as large quantities of asbestos and copper. It also has enormous coal reserves.

Busiest Sea Route

Few in the West also realize that the Cape route around South Africa is the most crowded sea route in the world. Over 24,000 major

ocean vessels sail around it each year, a rate of 66 per day. Many of these vessels are carrying oil to the United States or Western Europe. In fact, most of the oil Europe gets from the Mideast comes in ships which travel around the Cape since modern supertankers are too large for the Suez Canal. And, according to the United States Strategic Institute, by 1980, even 60% of *American* oil imports will have to travel around South Africa.

And yet at the precise time that the Western world has become more dependent than ever upon the southern African region for both raw materials and the maintenance of free world commerce, South Africa itself has become more and more disenchanted with the West. Specifically, South African leaders are perturbed — to put it mildly — over the recent American policy regarding Angola. Pretoria claims that Washington gave it the go-ahead to intervene in Angola, while Washington says it opposed the South African presence from the start. In any case, South Africa was forced to make a rather inglorious retreat from Angola — dealing a blow to its own carefully constructed "détente" policy with black African nations.

The growing estrangement between South Africa and the rest of the Western world is currently hardening the traditional Afrikaner predilection to go it alone. While it could cause some economic hardship in South Africa, the world's isolation of Pretoria would not be without adverse consequences for the West. Already some observers feel that in the event of a naval struggle for the Cape sea oil route, the West could not count on any help from South Africa, particularly in the use of its naval facilities at Simonstown, from which the South African navy currently monitors traffic in the critical sea lane.

THE SPIRIT OF AMERICA

From
PLYMOUTH
ROCK
to the
MOON



HOW AMERICA WAS REALLY WON

by Raymond F. McNair

From the inception of this nation, the peoples who colonized America had a burning conviction that they had a *special mission* to fulfill in life. The early American colonists sincerely believed they had a “divinely appointed destiny” and thought of themselves as “being chosen for a special mission in the world.”

In 1630, John Winthrop, governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony, wrote: “We shall find that the God of Israel is among us The eyes of all people are upon us.”

When the Pilgrims waded ashore at Plymouth, Mass., in 1620, according to their first governor, William Bradford, “they fell upon their knees and blessed the God of Heaven who had brought them from all the perils and miseries.”

America’s Great Seal (as can be observed on the U.S. one dollar bill) illustrates the “eye of God” above an Egyptian pyramid with the words *Annuit Coeptis* (“he [God] has favored our undertakings”). The early Americans believed God’s eye was upon their undertakings.

The historical account of how America was won, of how the struggling colonists from Europe were planted on the shores of this continent, and of how they succeeded in establishing the earth’s mightiest nation is an interesting, gripping story.

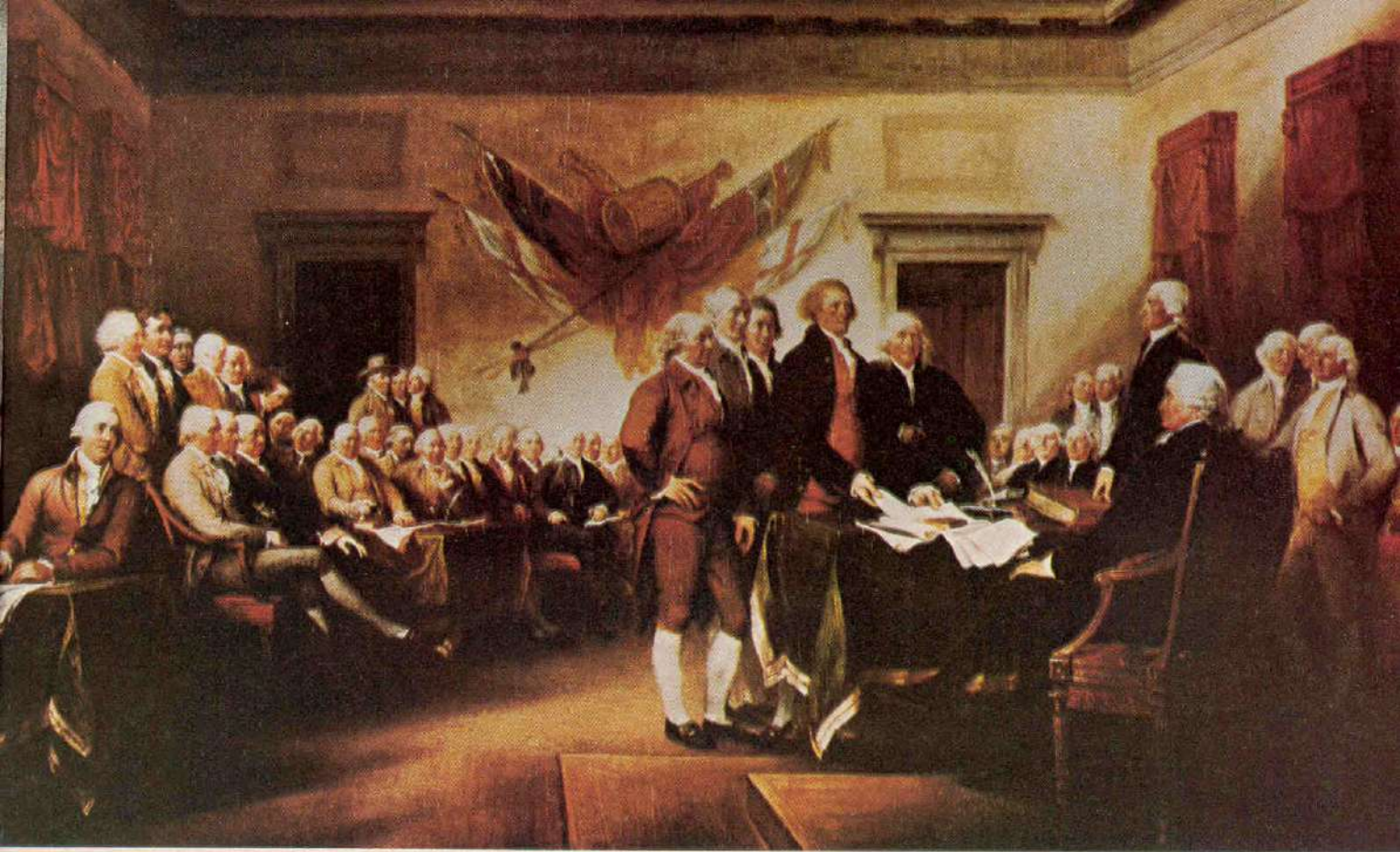
America at “the Summit”

Winston S. Churchill, while speaking at a dinner held in his honor in New York on May 25, 1949, acknowledged that America had “arrived at the *summit* of the world.”

What brought about America’s rise to greatness? How did she get her vast wealth and power?

How could this comparative late-comer on the world scene rise so swiftly to such an unprecedented pinnacle of economic and military power — dwarfing all other nations?

Is America’s fabulous wealth and her awesome power primarily the result of her own ingenuity? Has she just been lucky? Did she just happen to inherit the earth’s goodliest heritage — so far as a fortuitous blending of the earth’s most productive land, a mild, salubrious climate,



and a favorably placed land mass which, unlike the nations of Europe, is so located as to prevent it from being overrun by powerful neighbor states?

Or has an unseen hand guided this nation from its inception in 1607 when the struggling colonists from England established their first toehold in the New World?

A Three-Power Struggle for America

Few Americans realize that there was a fierce three-power struggle waged during the course of two centuries for the control of the vast land mass of North America. Spain, France, and Britain all sought control of this rich continent.

In the same year that Columbus made his epic voyage to the West Indies — 1492 — Pope Alexander VI granted to Spain and Portugal all of North, Central and South America.

After learning of the discovery of the previously unknown lands of the New World, Pope Alexander decided the best way to prevent rivalry and bloodshed between Spain and Portugal was to divide the newly

discovered world between them. Accordingly he drew an imaginary line from north to south through a point several hundred miles west of the present-day Atlantic islands called the Azores. All the land to the east of this “line of demarcation” went to Portugal, and all to the west fell to Spain’s lot.

By the Treaty of Tordesillas, signed between Spain and Portugal in 1493, this “line of demarcation” was moved slightly further west. The only territory in the New World which was assigned to Portugal was the big eastern bulge of the South American continent, roughly corresponding to present-day Brazil. All of the rest of the territory in the New World went to the Spaniards. This meant that Spain was given all of North and Central America plus most of South America.

However, there was one major problem with this imaginary division of the New World. Britain, France and Holland just did not believe any man (whether pope or king) had the God-given right to give away such vast amounts of the

THE BEGINNING: *The landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock in 1620; the signing of the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia, July 4, 1776.*

Credits: Reproduced by permission of Huntington Library, San Marino, Ca.; Copyright Yale University Art Gallery

earth’s unclaimed real estate. They therefore ignored the pope’s “line of demarcation” when it came to establishing, at a later date, colonies in the New World.

Britain’s Showdown With Spain

Later, however, a real struggle for possession of North America developed between Britain and Spain. As fabulous quantities of gold and silver began flowing from the New World — primarily from Mexico and Peru — back to Europe, the greed and curiosity of many nations were aroused. Greedy adventurers wanted to get their hands on some of this seemingly unlimited treasure.

At this point in history, England produced some daring men of the sea such as Sir Francis Drake and Sir John Hawkins. These bold ad-



venturers began to plunder the Spanish treasure ships. Of course, Philip II of Spain (1527-98) didn't appreciate this interference with his lucrative flow of wealth from the New World. Also, this very Catholic monarch did not like the way religious matters were going in England and Holland where Protestants were gaining the upper hand. Philip therefore decided to send his mighty "invincible armada" against England to subjugate that tiny island kingdom. After subduing the English, he planned to bring the Protestants of Holland to heel.

By the summer of 1588, Philip's mighty armada was outfitted and ready to sail for England. About 28,000 Spaniards were in the attack force. During the ensuing battle, the greatly outnumbered and out-gunned British seamen — aided greatly by the weather — defeated the Spaniards. Only about half of Philip's badly battered ships and men limped back to Spain. From that day forward, England knew she could successfully challenge the Spanish navy on the high seas.

One of England's greatest historians, Sir Winston S. Churchill, commented on the defeat of the armada: "To the English people as a whole the defeat of the Armada came as a miracle. . . . One of the medals struck to commemorate the victory bears the inscription '*Afflavit Deus et dissipantur*' — 'God blew and they were scattered.' Elizabeth and her seamen knew how true this was. The Armada had indeed been bruised in battle, but it was demoralized and set on the run by the weather. Yet the event was decisive. . . ." (*A History of the English-Speaking Peoples*).

From that time forward, England felt she could safely introduce settlements into North America without the fear that Spain would be able to destroy them. So in 1607, the first permanent English colony was planted at Jamestown, Virginia. Before long 13 thriving colonies were firmly established in North America.

Years before the English plantations in the New World, the Spaniards had colonies in Florida,

Texas and the southwestern part of North America. But those Spanish colonies never came into serious conflict with the British ones to their north, and it was with France that Britain was soon to be engaged in a bloody struggle for supremacy in North America.

Years before England commenced her first permanent colony in 1607, French explorers had sailed up the St. Lawrence River deep into what was to become Canada. Eventually those wide-ranging French explorers navigated the Great Lakes and down the Mississippi River — claiming all of North America west of the Mississippi to the Rocky Mountains and all parts east to the Allegheny (Appalachian) Mountains. This vast, unbelievably fertile land lying to the east and west of the Mississippi was called "Louisiana" after the French Sun King, Louis XIV.

Canada or Guadeloupe

The British finally won the French and Indian War and in 1763, the Treaty of Paris was signed. France



ceded to Britain all of her territory in Canada, plus all of the land east of the Mississippi from Canada in the north to the Florida territory in the south.

Interestingly enough, when France was defeated by England, she offered the victor either the island of Guadeloupe in the West Indies, or Canada. Fortunately, Benjamin Franklin happened to be in London at the time, and he realized the vast potential of the Canadian territory. He therefore wrote a pamphlet in which he urged Britain to take Canada rather than the sugar-and-rum-rich Caribbean island, and many Britons were disappointed when their government, following Franklin's advice, chose Canada rather than Guadeloupe!

American Revolutionary War

Not long after the 1763 Treaty of Paris had granted Britain all of French Canada plus the present-day states east of the Mississippi from Canada to the Florida territory, trouble broke out between the thirteen American colonies and England.

On July 4, 1776, the Thirteen Colonies declared their independence and began waging the American Revolutionary War to secure their freedom. All odds favored a British victory in that war, but Cornwallis' defeat at Yorktown on Oct. 19, 1781, by the combined forces of Washington working with the French navy, meant that America would soon gain total independence.

In 1783, Britain granted to the new United States not only the title deed to the original Thirteen Colonies, but she also gave those colonies all the land from the Atlantic west to the Mississippi River, that is, all the land between Canada in the north and the Florida territory in the south.

Beginning with this first title grant, the United States went on to eventually acquire all of the land encompassed in the contiguous 48 states.

How America acquired all of the original 48 states during a 70-year period is one of the most fascinating stories to be found in the annals of

SECURING THE BIRTHRIGHT: *The Battle of Bunker Hill; the drive west to fulfill Manifest Destiny — homesteaders, the wagon trains, the Gold Rush of 1849.*

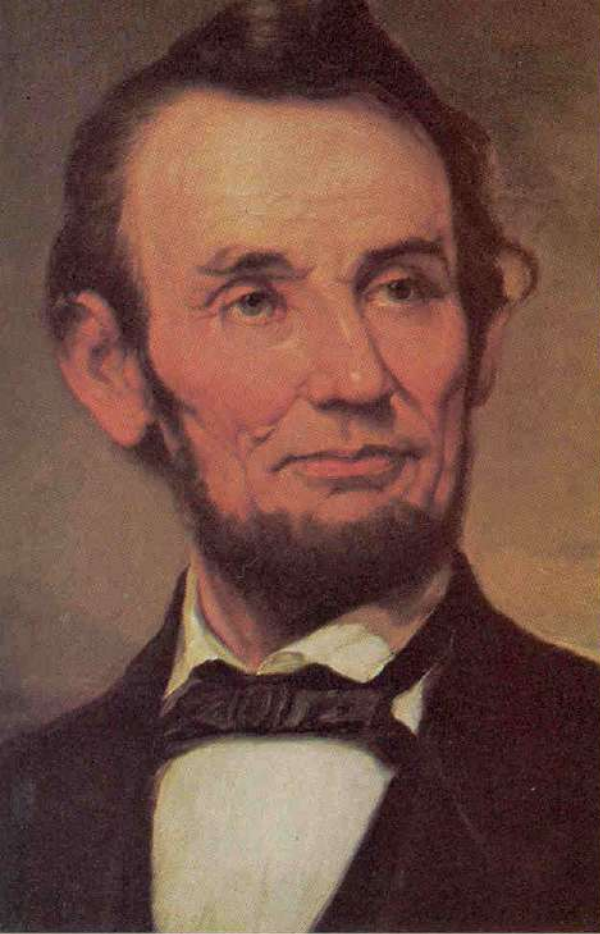
Credits: Copyright Yale University Art Gallery. Reproduced by permission of Huntington Library, San Marino, Ca., Security Pacific National Bank

any nation. In fact, there is no other similar parallel in all the world's history. At no other time did a nation ever acquire such a vast, rich, strategic tract of land in such a short period of time.

History's Greatest Bargain!

Only 20 years after the second Treaty of Paris — convened in 1783 — granted the United States the territory east of the Mississippi, other events moved swiftly to give her possession of the vast Louisiana Territory west of the Mississippi. Here is how America acquired that land — the most fabulous land bargain in the history of the entire world.

During the Napoleonic wars, the vain, ambitious Napoleon planned to establish a French empire west of



the Mississippi River to counterbalance the Anglo-Saxon dominated territory of Canada and the United States (east of the Mississippi). But Napoleon's ambitions knew no bounds as he continued to expand his empire across Europe, his main concern at that moment. He realized he would need *money* to wage that war — primarily against Britain. Napoleon therefore concluded that if he would sell the Louisiana Territory to the United States, this would provide him badly needed money and would at the same time cause America to be friendly toward him.

It just so happened that U.S. President Thomas Jefferson had recently instructed the American ministers in Paris to see if the U.S. could buy the port of New Orleans from France or at least some land on the eastern side of the mouth of the Mississippi so she could establish her own port by which she could then secure an outlet for her goods which flowed down the Mississippi and thence to Europe.

Neither Jefferson nor his Ameri-

can representatives in Paris dreamed that Napoleon would not only sell them the valuable port of New Orleans, but would offer to sell *all* of the Louisiana Territory west of the Mississippi River — for the paltry sum of only \$15,000,000! This purchase amounted to about 4 cents per acre!

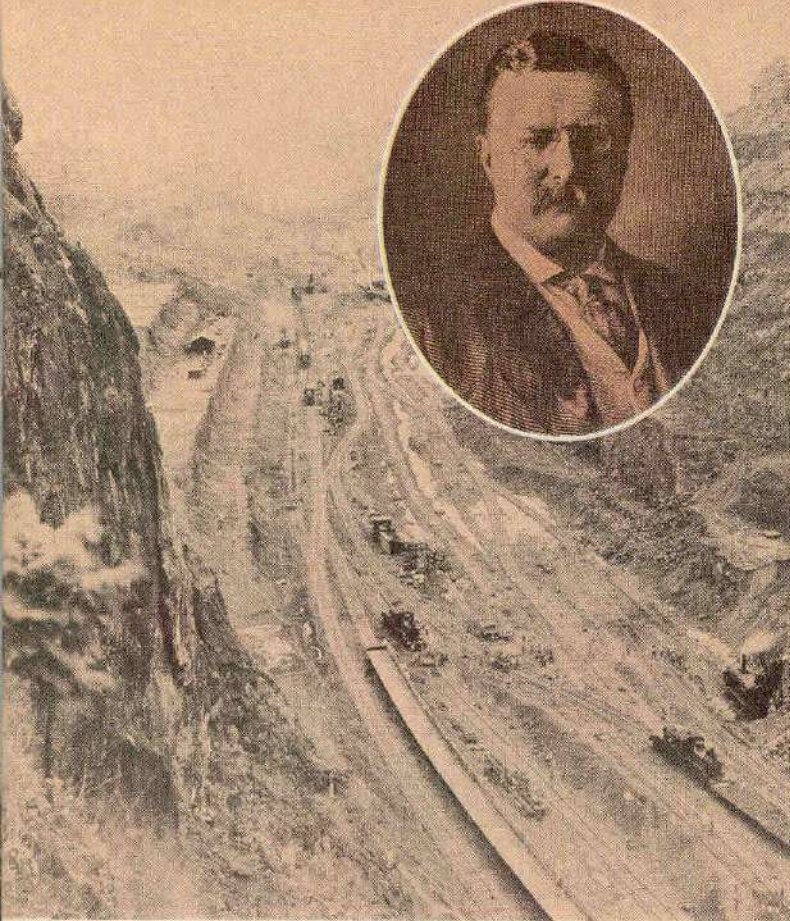
Never in the history of the world has such a fantastic purchase been made. This fabulous acquisition included all or parts of eleven states and some of the most fertile land in the whole world. This vast territory was later divided into Arkansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota, and parts of Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oklahoma and Wyoming.

Shortly afterwards, in 1819, America was successful in purchasing the Florida territory (including Florida and parts of Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi) for the insignificant sum of \$10,000,000. Now, America owned all of the land *east* of the Mississippi from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, plus the land called the Louisiana Territory

stretching west from the Mississippi to the Rocky Mountains.

In 1836, the Texans declared their independence from Mexico and established the Lone Star Republic. The U.S. didn't want to offend Mexico at the time and therefore didn't permit Texas to be admitted immediately into the Union. The U.S. finally did annex Texas in 1845, and this proved to be one more irritation between Mexico and America which finally led to the Mexican War of 1846-1847.

In 1846, Britain and the United States finally settled their border dispute in the northwest. Prior to this date, Britain had claimed the territory of Oregon and Washington, whereas the U.S. had claimed all of that territory plus British Columbia. Rather than come to blows both Britain and America agreed that all the land above the 49th parallel — which ran between the U.S. and the British Northwest Territory — would be British, and all to the south would be U.S. territory except Vancouver Island, which would remain under the British flag.



America's "Manifest Destiny"

In the mid 1800s, many Americans firmly believed in America's "manifest destiny" — that America was destined to inherit all the land from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Six of the original Thirteen Colonies had received royal grants giving them "sea to sea" rights. Those six states were: Massachusetts, Connecticut, Virginia, North and South Carolina and Georgia. But in actual practice, those royal grants only extended westward to the Mississippi River, since France and Spain claimed all of the land west of the Mississippi during America's early history.

It was during the 1840s that this idea of "manifest destiny" swept the nation like a religious revival.

"Manifest destiny, a persistent and cherished tradition of U.S. history which, in its broadest conception, declared that Americans are a chosen people, blessed with free institutions and ordained by God to create a model society in the wilderness. In this sense Manifest Destiny

may be said to have begun with the Puritan landings at Massachusetts bay in 1630. In its more restricted geographical sense, the phrase refers to the desire of American expansionists in the 1840's to extend the boundaries of the United States to the Pacific ocean..." (*Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 1970 ed.).

In 1845, John O'Sullivan, writing in *The United States Magazine and Democratic Review* prophesied "the fulfillment of our *manifest destiny* to overspread the continent allotted by *Providence* for the free development of our yearly multiplying millions [and] for the development of liberty and federative self-government."

The Mexican War

With the idea of "manifest destiny" pounding in many American breasts, it was only a matter of time until these dynamic, rambunctious, land-hungry Americans would spill over into Mexican territory, provoking a bloody conflict with Mexico.

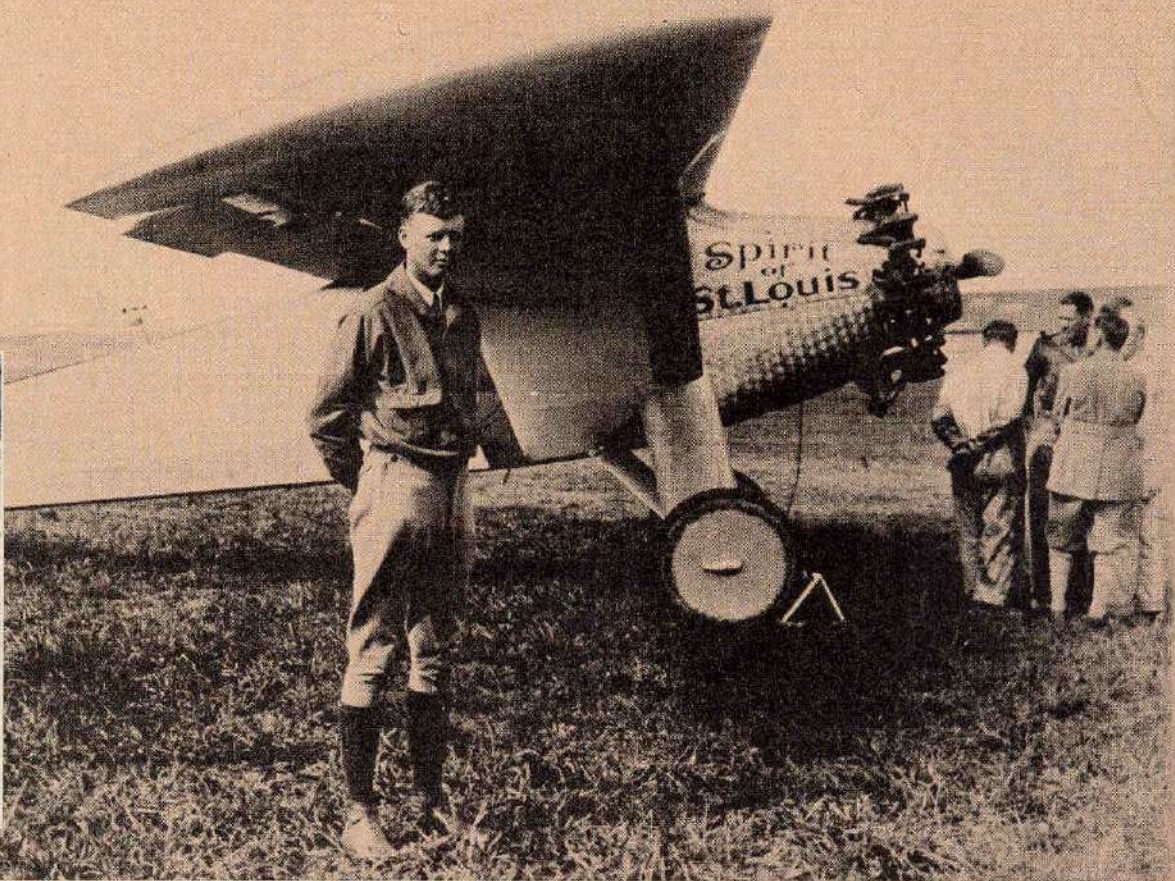
During the Presidency of James K. Polk, the war hawks finally succeeded in pushing America into a

INDUSTRIAL PROWESS: Abraham Lincoln, preserver of America's unity, guaranteeing a new age of greatness; the Golden Spike links America by rail, 1869; the Panama Canal (showing the big cut at Culebra) forms a water bridge between two oceans, 1914 (inset: its biggest booster, Theodore Roosevelt); Henry Ford develops the assembly line, 1913.

Credits: Reproduced by permission of Huntington Library, San Marino, Ca., Wide World, Panama Canal Co., Ford Motor Company (inset: Culver Pictures, Inc.)

war with Mexico. The Mexican War started out as a mere border incident during December 1846, but soon it escalated into a full-scale war. On March 9, 1847, General Winfield Scott landed a force of about 10,000 men at Veracruz and set out to capture Mexico City, reaching his goal on Sept. 14, 1847.

At the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, signed on February 2, 1848, Mexico agreed to cede to the U.S. what is now California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah and New Mexico, along with parts of what was to become Colorado and Wyoming. The United States agreed to pay Mexico



\$15,000,000 for the newly ceded territory.

Only about one week before that treaty was signed James W. Marshall discovered gold at Sutter's Mill — not far from San Francisco. This resulted in the famous California Gold Rush of 1849 — which helped bring a flood of settlers into that sparsely settled state.

Would America be satisfied with the territory which she now occupied? Hardly. America still coveted a sliver of Mexican territory. The U.S. finally agreed to acquire the "Gadsden Purchase" from Mexico in 1853 for the sum of \$10,000,000. With this purchase, the area comprising the original 48 contiguous states was now complete.

"Choicest Bounties of Heaven"

Ten years later in the midst of the bloody Civil War, Abraham Lincoln said about that rich land which America then possessed: "... We have been the recipients of *the choicest bounties of Heaven*; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have

grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation has ever grown.

"But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us."

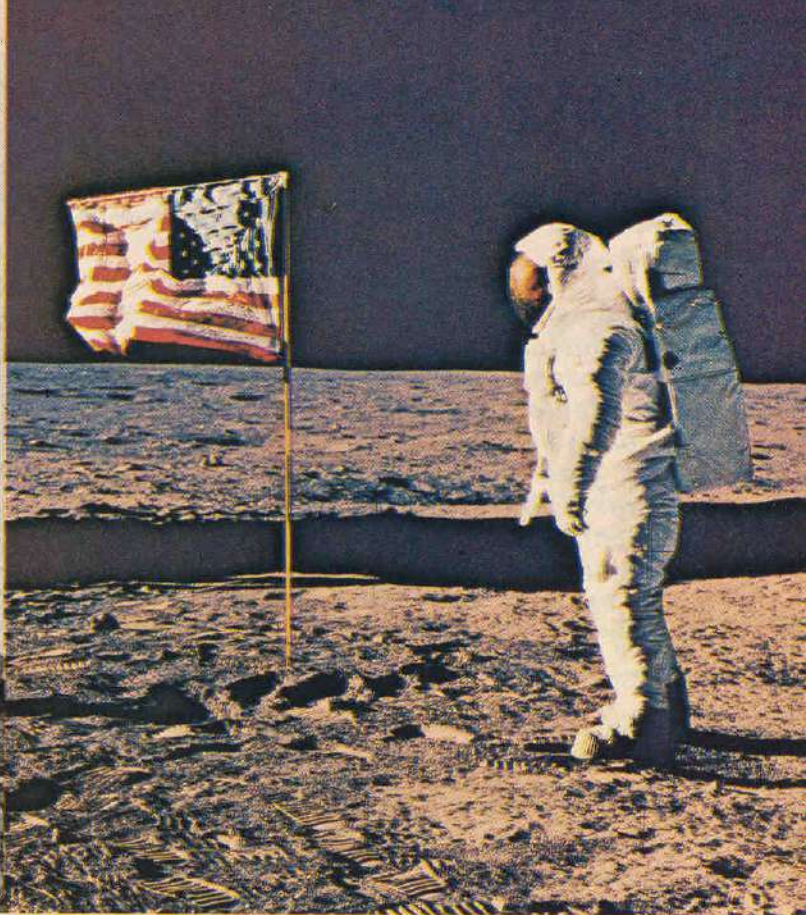
And on October 3, 1863, Lincoln made another proclamation in which he said: "No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy."

Then, near the end of the Civil War, Lincoln issued a Thanksgiving Day proclamation in which he urged his fellow Americans to prop-

erly observe the soon-coming Thanksgiving Day "as a day of thanksgiving and praise to Almighty God the beneficent Creator and Ruler of the Universe. And I do further recommend to my fellow-citizens aforesaid that on that occasion they do reverently humble themselves in the dust and from thence offer up penitent and fervent prayers and supplications to the Great Disposer of Events for a return of the inestimable blessings of peace, union, and harmony throughout *the land which it has pleased Him to assign as a dwelling place for ourselves and for our posterity throughout all generations.*"

How America "Stole" Alaska From Russia

Russia, as well as Spain and France, had been grasping belatedly for control of North America. She had taken possession of what is now known as Alaska, claimed parts of western Canada, and in 1812 even established a thriving colony of about 400 people at Fort Ross just north of modern-day San Francisco.



But Russia sold out her California colony to John Sutter in 1841 for \$30,000. This was only 7 years before gold was discovered on Sutter's property!

In 1867, only two years after the Civil War, Russia sold Alaska to the United States for only \$7,200,000, a little less than two cents per acre!

Truly, no nation in the long history of the world has ever been so blessed as this great land. Yet all too many Americans neither feel nor express much gratitude to the Great One who shapes the destinies of all nations and who has given us manifold blessings.

Is America Too Privileged?

This national ingratitude is sometimes obvious to others. The late prime minister of Japan, Kakuei Tanaka, seemed to sense that Americans today too often take their blessings for granted when he said in late 1973: "I often wonder why you [Americans] worry so much about domestic problems when you have such an abundance of resources. For example, look at Amer-

ican agricultural productivity. It's easy for the U.S. to expand its output whenever it chooses. We can't do that in Japan When I compare the situation here in Japan with the situation in your country, I think that as a nation *you are too privileged.*"

He then added: "Yes, I think God has not been very fair in the distribution of resources . . . of all the 3.7 billion people [now over 4 billion] on this earth, Americans have the most stable economy, they have an abundance of resources available within their own country, and they have more investments abroad than any other country."

If one considers the fertility of our soil, the abundance of our natural resources and the temperate climate with which we have been favored by Heaven, then, without doubt, we have been blessed above all other nations. If one takes into account our unparalleled standard of living, then he will have to acknowledge that we have been greatly blessed. If one looks at the precious rights and freedoms guaranteed by our Consti-

TECHNOLOGICAL REVOLUTION: Charles Lindbergh and Amelia Earhart glamorize aviation; America's "arsenal of democracy" preserves freedom in World War II; Americans plant the first human footsteps on the moon, Apollo XI, July 1969.

Photos: Culver Pictures, Inc. (Inset: Reproduced by permission of Huntington Library, San Marino, Ca. — Dick Whittington Collection); Wide World, NASA

tion and government, then he will have to conclude that we have been highly favored.

Will we give thanks to the Great Being who gave us all of these blessings, or will we say: "My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth"? Are our people willing to ascribe these manifold blessings to our Creator?

America needs to be mindful of the true *source* of all of her many unprecedented blessings: "But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: *for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth . . .*" (Deut. 8:18).

How was America won? It was won by the American people, not by their wisdom and might, but only because the great God willed it! □

DEMOCRACY: THE ULTIMATE GOVERNMENT?

by Roderick C. Meredith

The American people enjoy the oldest democratic system in the world, along with unprecedented freedoms and opportunities. But is the ultimate government still in the future? This revealing article not only reminds Americans of their many blessings, but also explains what tomorrow will bring.

From sea to shining sea!" That phrase once again came to mind as our 747 climbed over Long Island Sound, veered to the north and then headed west to the shores of the Pacific Ocean.

I was just completing a sort of "Bicentennial trip," a journey that took me, among other places, to renew my memories of Washington, D.C., Fort McHenry — where "The Star Spangled Banner" was written — and to the old Federal Building in New York City where George Washington was inaugurated.

Often when I see the nation's Capitol or the Statue of Liberty, chills run up and down my spine.

I remember the raw November evenings when Old Glory was hoisted aloft to flutter in the breeze — spotlighted in the Midwestern sky as we sang the national anthem just before a football game. I remember the shining faces of freckle-faced boys and little pig-tailed girls — straining at attention — as we recited the pledge of allegiance to *our* flag and *our* country at the beginning of each school day. And I shall never forget being shepherded solemnly into the auditorium of Joplin, Missouri's West Central School that raw December morning to hear the familiar voice of Franklin Roosevelt declare:

"Yesterday, December 7, 1941 — a date that will live in infamy — the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked....

We will gain the inevitable triumph, so help us God."

Quite a few years later, on my first trip to Europe, as our ship moved slowly out of New York harbor and the Statue of Liberty began to disappear in the fog, I remember feeling nostalgic pangs, realizing that I was leaving some place pretty special. And indeed I was.

Our Democratic Heritage

On our 200th birthday, America stands as the oldest democracy in the world today. And our Constitution is the oldest of any nation still in existence.

Under the blessing of a benign Providence, our ancestors devised the greatest government "of the people, by the people, and for the people" in the history of the world. Despite all its faults, our nation has done more for the world and given more to the world than any other in modern history.

From the Hoover Plan for the reconstruction of Europe after World War I and the Lend-Lease Act of 1940 to the massive Marshall Plan, the Alliance for Progress, the Peace Corps, and a host of other beneficent programs, the United States has set an example of giving, helping, and building to the rest of the world. Like the biblical patriarch Joseph, we today have been blessed with the largest grain supply on earth and have gladly distributed it to the hungry nations of the world — even, at times, to those who are our sworn enemies.

Energy and creativity? Again, it would be difficult indeed to find an equal to twentieth-century America in these traits. Early in the last century the renowned French historian-philosopher, Alexis de Tocqueville, described our nation as follows:

"The United States of America have only been emancipated for half a century from the state of colonial dependence in which they stood to Great Britain.... Yet no people

in the world have made such rapid progress in trade and manufactures as the Americans... and although their manufactures have to struggle with almost insurmountable natural impediments, they are not prevented from making great and daily advances.

"In the United States," continued de Tocqueville, "the greatest undertakings and speculations are executed without difficulty, because the whole population are engaged in productive industry, and because the poorest as well as the most opulent members of the commonwealth are ready to combine their efforts for these purposes. The consequence is, that a stranger is constantly amazed by the immense public works executed by a nation which contains, so to speak, no rich men. The Americans arrived but as yesterday on the territory which they inhabit, and they have already changed the whole order of nature for their own advantage. They have joined the Hudson to the Mississippi, and made the Atlantic Ocean communicate with the Gulf of Mexico, across a continent of more than five hundred leagues in extent which separates the two seas. The longest railroads which have been constructed, up to the present time, are in America."

Today America is still the world's premier democratic, free enterprise nation. The almost complete freedom of speech, action, and thought possessed by United States citizens is a marvel to most peoples of the world. For even in Britain, France, and other democratic societies, governmental control of the radio and television outlets, strict governmental regulation of business and industry and also what many Americans would regard as confiscatory taxation policies all act as a repressive influence on the kind of liberties most Americans take for granted.

America has striven long and

Since the national power of a democracy ultimately resides in the people themselves, rather than in an exclusive dictatorial elite, the nation as a whole is strong only to the extent that the individual character of its citizens remains strong.

hard to make our nation a living example of the proclamation of the Declaration of Independence: "... that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

A Lesson in Application

Eldridge Cleaver, a former revolutionary Black Panther who used to rant against "the pig power structure," has come home to America with a totally different outlook than when he went into self-imposed exile over seven years ago. Not only has he himself been "educated" to political realities in the world, he now can see that much has happened in the American system since the time he and his wife left the U.S. He now sees far greater participation by blacks and other minorities in government than he did in 1968. He feels that legal and governmental discrimination against minorities has virtually vanished in the United States.

Cleaver sees the ending of the Vietnam war and the ousting of President Nixon as signs that democracy is working — that the people can make their wishes known and carried out. He feels that this working out in practice of the principles of democracy is unique and makes America, politically, the best place in the world.

Cleaver has continually emphasized since his return that the ruling classes in most Communist and Third World countries exist only to perpetuate their own selfish interests. On the other hand, Cleaver finds it almost amusing that so many American intellectuals spend their time criticizing American society and praising the countries which Cleaver sees as politically rotten.

After experiencing seven years of self-imposed exile in various other countries, Cleaver is resolutely op-

posed to communism. He states: "After all my travels and seeing the socialists' world up very close, really seeing how the Soviet Union and China function, well, I now think that the U.S. should be second to none militarily..."

Unique Personal Freedoms

The above example could be multiplied thousands of times. For many Americans never fully appreciate what they have until they live in some other land. Under the democratic system of checks and balances — and the opportunity to freely elect our leaders — Americans enjoy a more open and flexible political system than has thus far come about by any other means.

For example, the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution reads: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

A few years ago, the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed the total religious freedom which has and must continue to exist in this nation. It said: "Freedom to worship was indispensable in a country whose people came from the four corners of the earth and brought with them a diversity of religious opinion. Today authorities list 83 separate religious bodies, each with membership exceeding 50,000, existing among our people as well as innumerable smaller groups... The place of religion in our society is an exalted one, achieved through a long tradition of reliance on the home, the church, and the inviolable citadel of the individual heart and mind. We have come to realize through bitter experience that it is not within the power of government to invade that citadel, whether its purpose or effect be to

aid or oppose, to advance or to retard. In the relationship between man and religion, the state is firmly committed to a position of neutrality."

How rare these freedoms of speech, press, and religion have been down through the years of human history!

Even though the democratic process is often slow and cumbersome — often impeded by human nature — it has provided the safest, the wealthiest, the most creative, and certainly the freest society in modern times. Emulating America's success, most Western European nations and Japan emerged from World War II as genuine democracies. Since that time the greatest wave of prosperity and creativity the world has known — affecting all classes of man — has blessed these nations as well.

Let us be thankful for the manifold *blessings* enjoyed within the freedoms which democracy has made possible. We in America have much to be thankful for in this Bicentennial year!

Creeping Doubt and Difficulties

There is no doubt that America is facing a *crisis of confidence*. We have seen Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos all fall to the communists. In February of this year, Angola fell to Marxist forces backed up by Cuban mercenaries and Soviet advisors — making a shambles of U.S. policy in Africa.

On the national scene, the scandals of Watergate, the almost daily news of corporate payoffs and other revelations of frailty in high places has undermined the confidence of the American people in their leaders and in their institutions. Renewed confidence in America's leadership and in our fundamental institutions must be restored if the United States is to continue as the leading world power.

Soon, an entirely different form of government will be brought to all the peoples of the earth. It will not come by human reason, politics, or force of arms. It will come as a result of divine intervention.

The Biggest Crisis of All

Finally, there is a *crisis of character*. Such scandals as Watergate reflect something which has been sneaking up on our blind side for many years. That is the fact that, more than we would like to admit, we have become a nation of liars, cheaters, thieves, adulterers, and blasphemers.

We read continuing exposés about the philanderings of a recent president and the lies and dirty tricks of another. We are in the midst of a virtual avalanche of violence in our entertainment media and pornography on the newsstands.

Our economy, like a narcotic addict, is dependent upon the continual refinancing of a mountainous burden of debt. The once-heralded virtues of thrift, self-discipline, honesty, and self-reliance have disappeared from vast segments of the American public.

Clearly, a fundamental change must come about in this broad area of declining national character.

Lesson of History

Will Durant, the historian, summarizes the causes of the fall of the Roman Empire with words that are vital to our situation today: "A great civilization is not conquered from without until it has destroyed itself within. The essential causes of Rome's decline lay in her people, her morals, her class struggle, her failing trade, her bureaucratic despotism, her stifling taxes, her consuming wars. . . ."

Speaking in a similar vein, Edmund Burke, the great English statesman, explained that: "Men are qualified for civil liberty in exact proportion to their disposition to put moral chains upon their own appetites. . . . Society cannot exist, unless a controlling power upon will and appetite be placed somewhere; and the less of it there is within, the more there must be without. It is ordained in the eternal constitution

of things, that men of intemperate minds cannot be free. Their passions forge their fetters."

But will we Americans put "moral chains" on our appetites? Will we build a strong individual character, strong families and thus a strong America in years ahead?

The truth is that a democracy is the most fragile of governmental systems. Since the national power of a democracy ultimately resides in the people themselves, rather than in an exclusive dictatorial elite, the nation as a whole is strong only to the extent that the individual character of its citizens remains strong.

The Ultimate Government

As beneficial as democracy is, this form of human government is not without its faults. As *The Wall Street Journal* recently observed: "Democracy has never been neat or tidy, but it has always been buoyant. One must hope it will stumble successfully into the future."

Right indeed.

We Americans can be extremely grateful that we are not living under a dictator or a vengeful monarch or any other totalitarian system. As selfish, bungling human governments go, we've definitely got the best.

However, regardless of political systems, the nations of this world are meanwhile girding for a gargantuan World War III that will lead to human extinction unless our Creator intervenes.

And intervene he will (Matt. 24:22). For the great Creator — of whom our founding fathers spoke so much — has better things in store — for America, as well as for the whole world.

Soon, an entirely different form of government will be brought to all the peoples of the earth. It will not come by human reason, politics, or force of arms.

It will come as a result of divine intervention in human affairs de-

scribed in literally scores of Bible prophecies understood and believed in by thousands of our Bible-believing ancestors, but misunderstood or scoffed at by most of our modern generation.

The "father of our country," George Washington, declared: "There is a great Being who rules over the universe." The message of this great Being is called "the gospel of the kingdom of God" (Mark 1:14). Strange as it may seem to some, it is a message concerning a literal world-ruling *government* to be established over the nations of the earth by Jesus Christ at his return (Revelation 11:15).

That government will be a *theocracy* — a government of and by God. But unlike all human governments that have ever been devised, it will be directed in perfect love, perfect justice, perfect wisdom and understanding.

It will be set up as a literal government on this earth in *our generation*. And this is as sure as the rising and setting of tomorrow's sun.

In the meantime, in this Bicentennial year, we should remember the deep respect and awe accorded the eternal sovereign of all by those who did, in fact, found this nation.

Let us acknowledge the wisdom of Abraham Lincoln, who described God's guidance of our first president and stated: "Without the aid of that Divine Being who ever aided him, who controls mine and all destinies, I cannot succeed. With that assistance, I cannot fail."

We Americans should gratefully acknowledge God's overall guidance in the destiny of our nation. We should thank him for the unbelievably abundant blessings that have accrued to our people these past two hundred years.

Then we should fervently ask that God would lead and bless this nation and each one of us in it in years to come. This should be our Bicentennial purpose and prayer. □

Faith of the Founding Fathers

by John R. Schroeder

How many know that Thomas Jefferson compiled a book based on the four gospels? It is widely assumed by cynics today that most if not all of the founding fathers did not really believe in God. This challenging article unearths many authentic, but little-known quotations relating to their religious beliefs.

The Bicentennial year has been marked by the re-emergence of religion as a major issue in American politics. The "religious issue" is once again a viable part of election-year strategy.

The 1960 election of a Roman Catholic to the U.S. Presidency had apparently taken religion out of national politics. At least many observers thought so. However, events of the last few months have shown that the religious issue was not completely dead, but only slumbering.

It has been widely reported that the front-running Democratic candidate for President, Jimmy Carter, is a man of very deep religious convictions. He is a deacon and a Sunday-school teacher in one of the largest and most respected Protestant denominations. He has not totally omitted his "commitment to Christ" from his campaign speeches. Major American news magazines have printed articles reporting on Mr. Carter's relationship with God.

Once again a man's religious beliefs may be one of the more important factors in the presidential choice of the American electorate.

The Oval Office — Responsible to God?

The vital importance of religious ethics reappeared on the American

scene in the wake of Watergate. The religious conversion of one of the convicted felons was widely circulated in newspaper and national magazine articles.

Atheists, agnostics and skeptics alike were shocked by the overtly religious Presidential pardon speech. In pardoning former President Nixon, Mr. Ford said: "The Constitution is the supreme law of our land and it governs our actions as citizens. Only the laws of God, which govern our consciences, are superior to it. As we are *a nation under God*, so I am sworn to uphold our laws with the help of God [emphasis mine throughout article]."

However, one writer for *The Humanist* (Nov.-Dec. 1975) took issue with our head of state. "Ford taking cues from God rather than the American people is not only an outrageous assault on a system of justice where we claim equity before the law, it is also an insult to our intelligence and our belief in alternative belief systems."

Notwithstanding the furrowed brows of worried nonbelievers, the theological beliefs of all our presidents have been colored by their religious backgrounds. Our founding fathers were no exception. The written testimony of the *historical record* cannot be summarily cast aside as "religious double-talk."

Declaration of Independence

On July 4, 1776, it was the unanimous declaration of thirteen united states that "When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bonds which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of *Nature's God* entitle them . . ." All fifty-six members of that congress apparently believed that God entitled them to their separate but equal status with Great Britain.

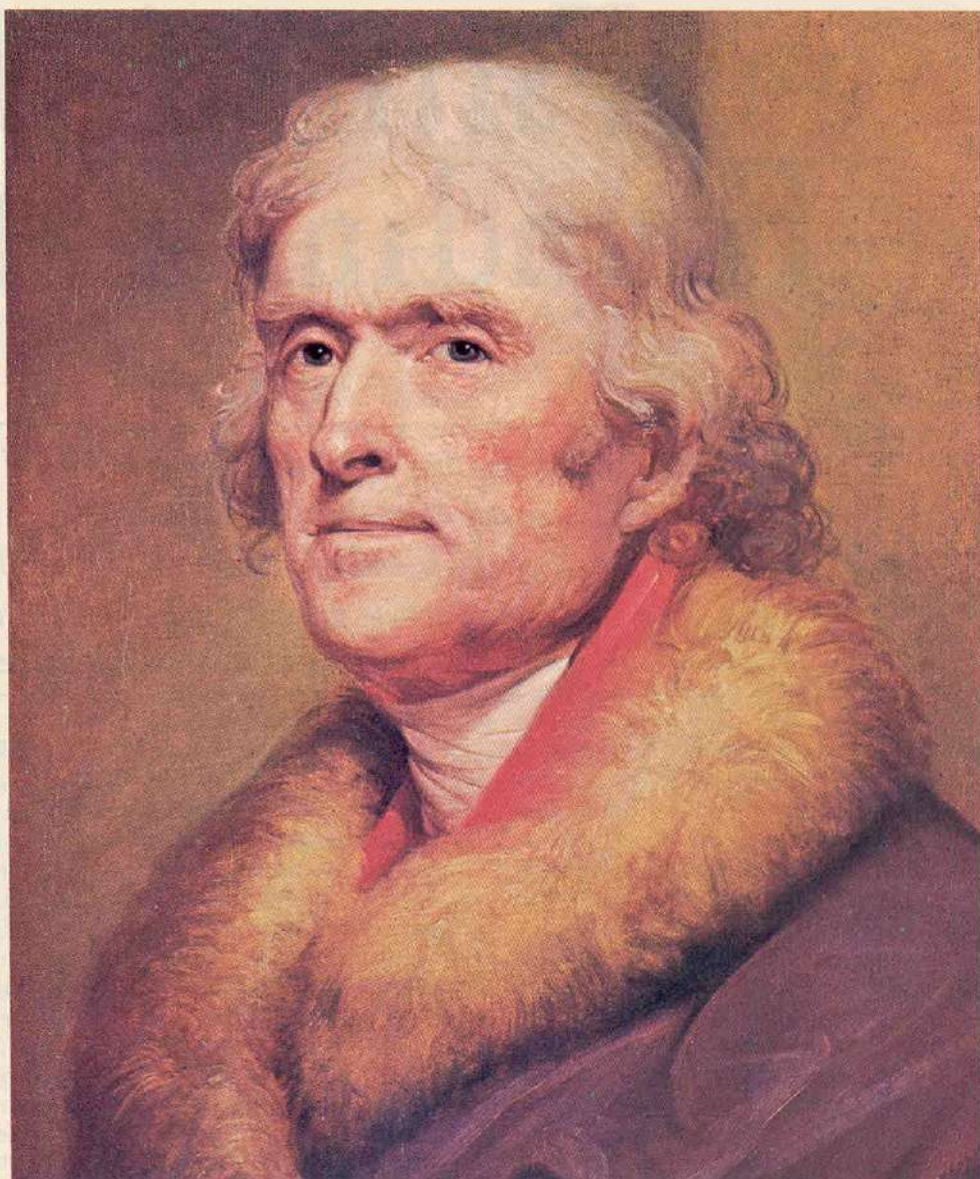
Continues the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men *are created equal*, that they are endowed *by their Creator* with certain inalienable rights . . ." The founding fathers at least *formally* believed all men were created by God.

The God-Consciousness

Several years down the road came the U.S. Constitution. Added to it were the first ten amendments called the "Bill of Rights." Amendment one stipulates: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or *prohibiting the free exercise thereof* . . ."

Decades later Abraham Lincoln decided to draw upon the wisdom of
(Continued on page 23)

*"To the corruptions of
Christianity I am
indeed opposed, but not
to the genuine precepts
of Jesus himself.
I am a Christian, but I
am a Christian only
in the sense in which I
believe Jesus wished
anyone to be."*



People — New York Historical Society

Thomas Jefferson

The third President of the United States was a champion of religious freedom as was his successor, James Madison. Jefferson wrote the bill for religious freedom in Virginia. He was a philosophical "father-figure" of the Bill of Rights.

Because of his disregard for denominationalism, Thomas Jefferson was frequently attacked as an unbeliever. He defended himself to the point of writing *The Life and Morals of Jesus* — his own compilation of the heart, root and core of the teachings of Jesus Christ.

However, it must be said of Jefferson that he leaned heavily in the direction of Deism — apparently denying the biblical miracles. On the other side, it must also be said that he had an enormous interest in the Christian religion.

To a good friend, "He wrote that his religious beliefs were the 'result of a life of inquiry and reflection, and are very different from the Anti-Christian system attributed to me by those who know nothing of my opinions. *To the corruptions of Christianity I am indeed opposed, but not to the genuine precepts of Jesus himself. I am a Christian, but I am a Christian only in the sense in which I believe Jesus wished anyone to be, sincerely attached to his doctrine in preference to all others; ascribing to him all human excellence, and believing that he never claimed any other*'" (*In God We Trust*, p. 117)



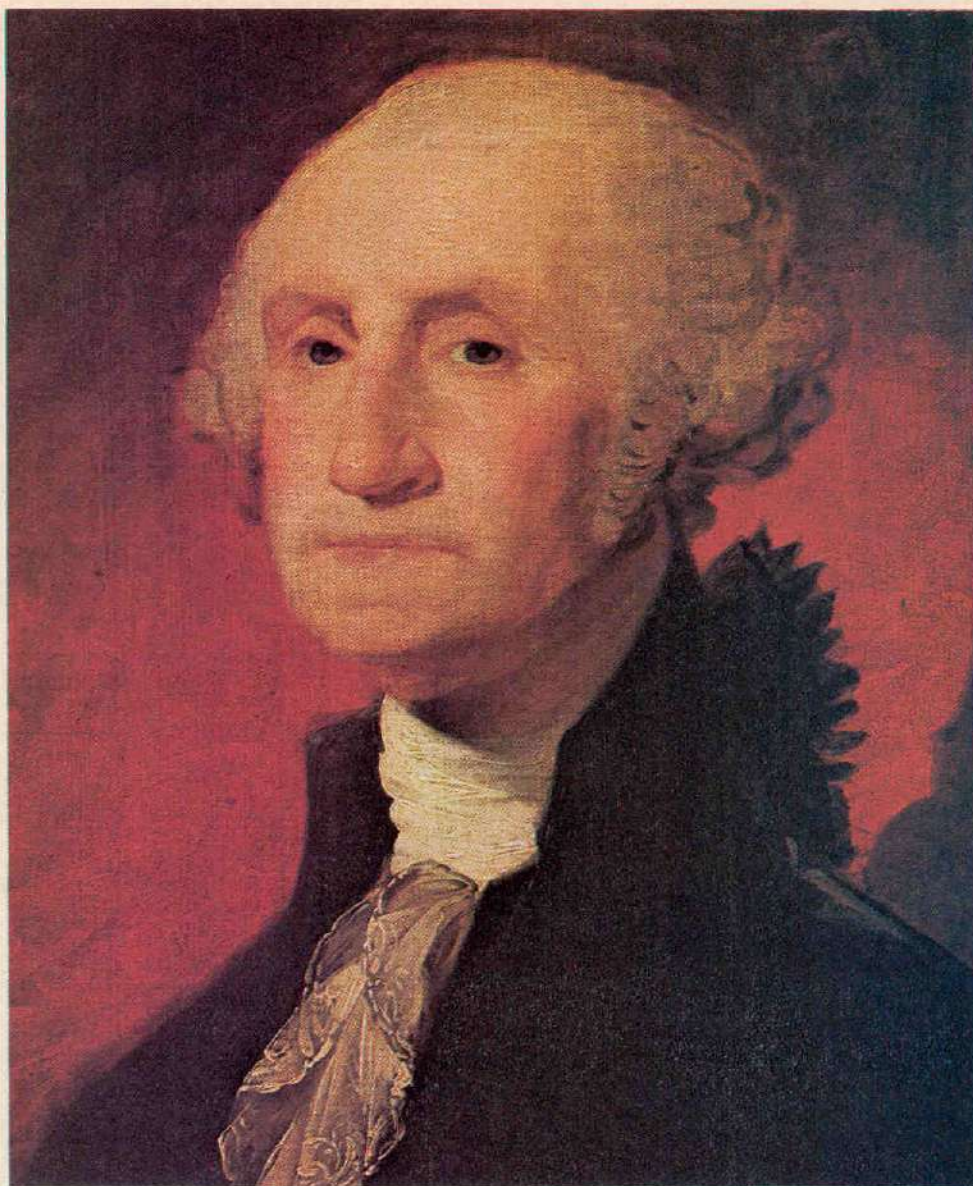
Benjamin Franklin

Franklin outlined his personal religious creed to Ezra Stiles in a letter written just before his death: "Here is my creed, I believe in one God, Creator of the Universe. That He governs it by His providence. That He ought to be worshipped. That the most acceptable service we render Him is doing good to His other children As to Jesus of Nazareth . . . I think the system of morals and his religion, as he left them to us, the best the world ever saw or is likely to see; but I apprehend *it has received various corrupt changes . . .*" (*In God We Trust*, pp. 18-19).

Like his colleague George Washington, Ben Franklin saw God in a national setting. The following excerpt from a speech to the Constitutional Convention on June 28, 1787, constitutes a perpetual warning to this great country: ". . . The longer I live the more convincing Proofs I see of this Truth. *That God governs in the Affairs of Men!* — And if a Sparrow cannot fall to the Ground without his Notice, is it probable that an Empire can rise without his Aid? — We have been assured, Sir, in the Sacred Writings, that 'except the Lord build the House, they labour in vain that build it.' I firmly believe this; — and I also believe that *without his concurring Aid* we shall succeed in this political building no better than the Builders of Babel: we shall be divided by our little partial local interests, our Projects will be confounded and we ourselves shall become a Reproach and a Byeword down to future ages."

"Without his concurring Aid . . . we shall be divided by our little partial local interests, our Projects will be confounded and we ourselves shall become a Reproach and a Byeword down to future ages."

"...humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of nations and beseech him to pardon our national and other transgressions...."



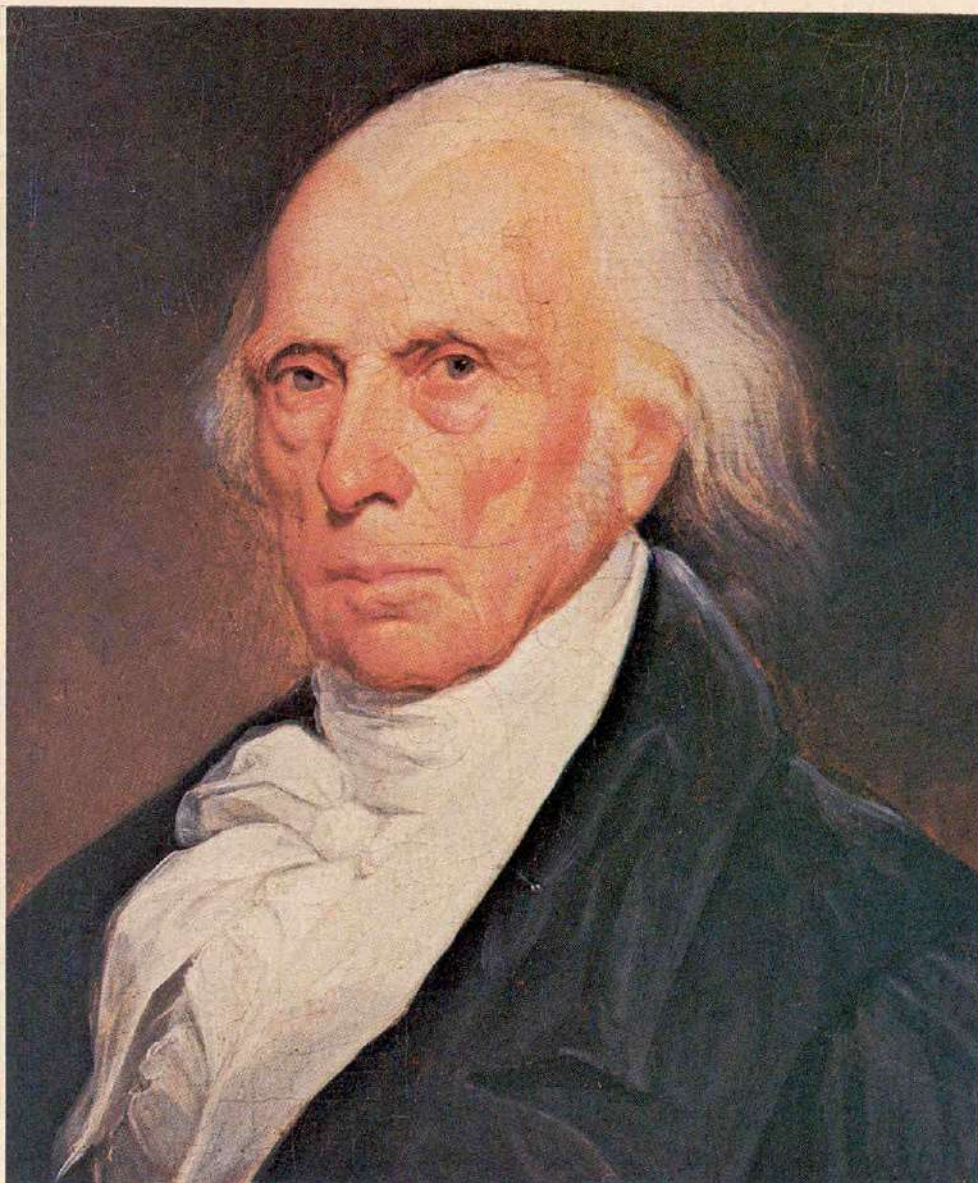
Stuart — New York Historical Society

George Washington

The father of our country was a very private person when it came to his religious beliefs. Specific *personal* views are, therefore, difficult to document. But "Whatever the precise facts, it is most certainly *untrue* that Washington was an Atheist, as was charged during his Presidency and at various times since" (*In God We Trust*, p. 47).

Most of his speeches and writings about Deity cast God in a national setting. Take for example the first Thanksgiving Day proclamation under the Constitution in New York City on October 3, 1789.

He said: "Whereas it is the duty of Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of nations and beseech him to pardon our national and other transgressions, to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually"



“...the duty which we owe to our Creator . . . can be directed only by reason and conviction, not by force or violence. . . .”

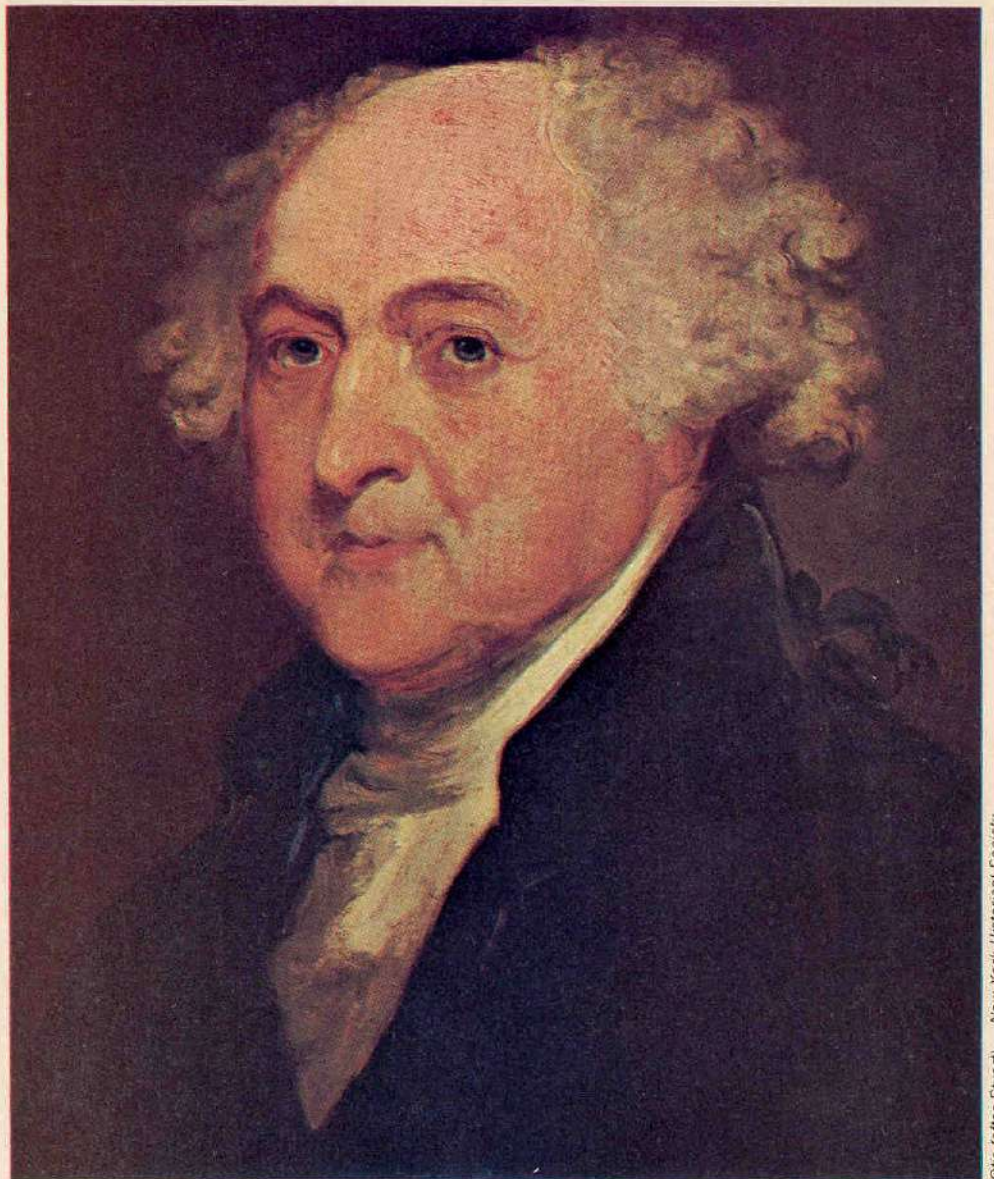
James Madison

Our fourth president excelled in biblical courses as a graduate student at Princeton, especially in Hebrew language studies. He continued his theological studies throughout his life.

In the field of religion, James Madison was first and foremost an advocate of freedom of worship. In helping draft the state constitution of Virginia, Madison wrote the first rough manuscript of the article on religious freedom. It proved to be a philosophical forerunner to the first amendment to the Bill of Rights.

We quote it here: “That religion, or the duty which we owe to our Creator, and the manner of discharging it, can be directed only by reason and conviction, not by force or violence: and therefore, that all men should enjoy the fullest toleration in the exercise of religion, according to the dictates of conscience, unpunished and unrestrained by the magistrate, unless under colour of religion, any man disturb the peace, the happiness, or safety of Society. And that it is the mutual duty of all to practice Christian forbearance, love, and charity, towards each other” (*The Journal of the Virginia Convention, 1776*).

"As I understand the Christian religion, it was, and is, a revelation. But how has it happened that millions of fables, tales, legends, have been blended with both Jewish and Christian revelation that have made them the most bloody religion that ever existed?"



Olis (after Stuart) — New York Historical Society

John Adams

The second President of the United States was perhaps more of a Puritan and a fundamentalist than the others, though it is difficult to hang a hard and fast label on him. He was "... called a Puritan, Deist, Orthodox Christian [fundamentalist], and Humanist in one lifetime . . ." (*In God We Trust*, p. 75).

Famous American historian Page Smith wrote: "John Adams was as determined to hold to *the reality of a personal God and life beyond death* as he was to eschew Calvinism's insistence on predestination, infant damnation, election, and other tenets held in strictest observance by his Braintree [Massachusetts] forebears" (*John Adams*, vol. 1, p. 29).

President Adams knew that churchianity could not resist blending "paganism with the Bible." He wrote: "As I understand the Christian religion, *it was, and is, a revelation*. But how has it happened that millions of fables, tales, legends have been blended with both Jewish and Christian revelation that have made them *the most bloody religion that ever existed?*" (*In God We Trust*, p. 75).

Adams asked the churches of his day some very hard questions: "Where do we find a precept in the Gospel requiring Ecclesiastical Synods? Convocations? Councils? Decrees? Creeds? Confessions? Oaths? Subscriptions? and whole cart-loads of other trumpery that we find religion encumbered with in these days?" (*The Adams Papers*, vol. 1, p. 8.)

Alienated as he was from church rituals, John Adams did believe in the existence of a personal God based on such things as "the amazing harmony of our solar system" and "the stupendous plan of operation" (op. cit., I, 27-30).

Even the miracles of Jesus did not bother him. His diary recorded: "The great and Almighty author of nature, who at first established those rules which regulate the world can as easily suspend those laws whenever His providence sees sufficient reason for such suspension. This can be no objection, then, to the miracles of Jesus Christ" (op. cit., I, 11).

This Puritan revolutionary also knew something of God's purpose for human life. He wrote in his diary: "Oh!, that I could wear out of my mind every mean and base affection, conquer my natural pride and self conceit . . . acquire the meekness and humility which are the sure mark and characters of a great and generous soul, and subdue every unworthy passion . . ." (op. cit., I, 8). He further observed in a letter to Richard Cranch: "He [God] has given me the reason, to find out the truth and the real design of my existence here [on the earth]" (*In God We Trust*, p. 92).

John Adams' belief in a literal, personal God survived the attacks of Thomas Paine, Dupuis and Voltaire. In 1816 he wrote: "Dupuis has made no alteration in my opinion of the Christian religion, in its primitive purity and simplicity, which I have entertained for more than sixty years. It is the religion of reason, equity and love; it is the religion of the head and of the heart . . ." (op. cit., p. 104).

Not many years before his death, Adams wrote to an old friend: "I am not tormented with the fear of death . . . A kind Providence has preserved and supported me for eighty-five years and seven months, through many dangers and difficulties . . . I am not afraid to trust its goodness to all eternity . . ." (op. cit., p. 113).

Adams died at 90 on the same day Thomas Jefferson did, the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

Founding Fathers

(Continued from page 17)

the nation's founding document. In his famous Gettysburg address, President Lincoln stated: "Four-score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal . . . that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom . . ." It was Lincoln who added the previously "officially unwritten" concept that we are a nation under God.

So President Ford, in exercising his religious freedom guaranteed under the first amendment to the Constitution, extrapolated part of his now famous presidential pardon message from some very rich and deeply rooted historical precedents. He did not invent the God consciousness that has been with our nation since its inception.

Even Sir Winston Churchill considered the opening sentences of the Declaration of Independence to be both "familiar and immortal." He further considered the American Constitution as "a reaffirmation of faith in the principles painfully evolved over the centuries by the English-speaking peoples." Sir Winston commented that the Constitution "enshrined long-standing English ideas of justice and liberty."

These fundamental historic documents revealed something of the religious beliefs of their formulators. "Rights were 'God-given'; man was 'endowed by his Creator'; there were 'natural laws' and 'natural rights'; freedom was related to the 'sacredness' of man" (Norman Cousins, *In God We Trust*, p. 10).

It is certainly true that *not* everyone of our founding fathers professed a formal faith. However, most of them "maintained respect for the Bible as the source of the Judaeo-Christian religious belief . . ." and they "most certainly did not turn against God or lose their respect for religious beliefs" (*ibid.*, pp. 8-9).

It is axiomatic that we owe these men a great debt for the vast religious freedoms we now possess in

the United States. Each one contributed to our freedoms something a little different from the other.

What It All Means

The founding fathers could not guarantee spiritual happiness to any individual — *only* the pursuit of it. They could not guarantee anyone an adventurous, abundant and full life. What they could do was to create a climate for the further development of the human potential. And this they did!

"... The founders had a deep respect for the spiritual urge in man. They believed that religious experience was an intensely personal one, and they were historically mindful of the ease with which religions tended to be arrayed against each other, often at the expense of religion itself. Therefore, if man's natural right to his religious beliefs was to be upheld, he had to be protected not only against the authoritarian antireligious state but against religious monopoly.

"For confirmation, the founders had only to consult history. Many denominations, in a clear position of authority, were unable to resist the temptation of moving toward a monopoly. Hence the need to guarantee the religious freedom of all as the best way of serving the spiritual needs of the individual" (op. cit., pp. 9-10).

So the founding fathers separated Church from State. In a theocracy directly ruled by the Creator God, church and state would go hand-in-hand. But in a secular world often hostile to God, separation is an absolute necessity. Jesus Christ enunciated this principle in the gospels. "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's" (Matt. 22:21).

Our national and personal debt to the founding fathers is a heavy one! *The Plain Truth* family (its editors and readers alike) owes a great deal to the founding principles of this free nation. Without freedom of religion *The Plain Truth* would be in jeopardy of publication. Getting God's Announcement to the nations would be difficult indeed.

But thanks be to our Creator for his creation of America. "God mend thine every flaw." □

ARE WE NEGLECTING OUR NATION'S YOUTH?

Parents are increasingly neglecting their most important responsibility, often with tragic results.

by Donald D. Schroeder

Never have our young people had more leisure time, better food, better education, or more material goods. Yet youthful violence, aggression, and hostility is more pronounced than in any period of modern history. Forty percent of United States crimes of violence and two thirds of crimes against property (80% of vandalism) are committed by those under twenty-one.

And the U.S. is by no means alone in this phenomenon. Youth crime and violence are epidemic in almost all "advanced" countries.

"We are experiencing a breakdown in the process of making human beings human," stresses Cornell psychologist and career child watcher Urie Bronfenbrenner.

It would be grossly misleading to implicate that all modern youth are turning out "bad." There are innumerable notable exceptions with which we are all familiar. Still, our children and young adults — tomorrow's most valuable and important resource — are tempted to respond to alluring but warped social forces that have already pushed untold numbers into heartache, disillusionment, and ruined lives.

Parents on the Run

Many forces have caused this crisis, but without a doubt the biggest single factor is that youth and parents increasingly are going their separate ways.

Having lost their spiritual and moral roots, many parents are running, many literally, from one of the most important responsibilities in life: that of preparing the future generation under their charge to become intelligent, self-disciplined, responsible, productive, decent human beings.

"An increasing number of parents have resigned their responsibility

for the character of their child," says Dr. Amitai Etzioni, professor of sociology at Columbia University. "It's as elementary as that."

Caught up in a whirlwind of work, social, or entertainment activities, many parents have little time, desire, or energy to show affection or to give positive training and discipline to their offspring. Yet these are the basic essentials of "making human beings human."

Finding their children irritating, ungrateful, unrewarding, or "in the way," many parents have come to resent their children.

Backed up by stacks of social statistics from government agencies, Bronfenbrenner points to an alarming but irrefutable fact: Upside-down homes and family fracture, while more serious in poor and non-white groups, cut right across all income, race, and education categories.

To compound the problem, more modern women are beginning to desert their home and family. In some places, wives actually outnumber husbands as runaways.

Working Mothers

Another well-established trend — the desire of mothers to pursue a career outside the home — hasn't improved overall parent-child relationships or character training.

One third of American mothers of preschool children are in the labor force. More than half of our school-age children now have mothers who work outside the home, mostly full time. While this is not to say it is always harmful for mothers to work outside the home (much depends on the family circumstance, age of children, and quality of training), this situation has produced a growing number of neglected children who barely see or know their parents, or vice versa.

Worst Fruit from Child-rearing Extremes

While broken homes often engender a great deal of youthful problems, much dehumanizing is done in intact homes where child-rearing extremes or inconsistency is the rule.

Untold numbers of homes are not homes, but battlegrounds where children and parents endlessly "fight it out," with many parents intimidated and cowering before their child's every selfish whim.

In too many homes at the other extreme, harsh, oppressive, whimsical, or capricious parental discipline leaves a variety of deep scars on its youthful victims. The toll of emotionally and physically battered and abused children mounts up into the hundreds of thousands every year.

In between are a large group of parental oscillators; they swing back and forth between being too strict and too lenient. Unhappy with the results of their inconsistency, many just give up and take the path of least resistance.

Parenting — A Dying Art

Parental influence is rapidly diminishing to a very low point. Many parents seem to be blindly apathetic or demoralized while a growing list of ersatz "parents" indoctrinate their children with questionable values and attitudes.

For many younger children, television — with its violence and inanity — is frequently used as a flickering electronic parent. TV now occupies more waking hours of millions of young children than any other single influence — including both parents and schools.

Peer groups, schools, preschools, and various child-care centers have also taken over the role that too many parents seem reluctant to perform. While none of these are necessarily wrong, and in some regards may be quite beneficial, none fulfill the major responsibility of preparing youth for mature, responsible adulthood.

Even after six years of formal schooling, though, an average child has spent only seven percent of his or her life in school. Ninety-three percent of the child's life has been influenced by the moral, ethical,

and social values of the home, neighborhood, friends, community, or church.

So without the active participation of parents or guardians who value and exhibit some measure of the qualities of respect, cooperation, and concern for others, there is almost no possibility that the next generation can learn them.

"What is needed," says Bronfenbrenner, "is a change in our ways of living that will once again bring adults back into the lives of children and children back into the lives of adults."

Parents in Need of Help

Responsible parents dare not depend on hope and luck to fashion the critical attitudes they value in their children. We cannot really expect desirable behavior in our children if we haven't done our homework early in their lives. To a large degree, we reap what we sow.

There is a critical period during the first four or five years when a child can most readily get a solid foundation of proper attitudes and values. We must not fail the generation which is still responsive to sound values and principles of good character.

Too frequently young, immature or unprepared men and women find themselves saddled with the responsibility of an impressionable, helpless infant about which they know almost nothing.

How many parents have received one iota of formal training in the very critical area of child rearing? Society demands that those who raise chickens and pigs have more training than those who rear children. What a tragedy and travesty!

Many parents do not understand the emotional or intellectual needs of their children. Many parents are unwittingly reinforcing in their children the very habits they want to eliminate, largely from an improper approach or wrong emotional communications with their children.

No parent is perfect. And a child is not usually destroyed by a few mistakes. Every parent can improve on the parenting art; yet it will take effort to get the proper balance of knowledge, methods, and attitudes.

What is a good parent? Every parent needs to know right moral

WAYWARD TEEN-AGERS' ADVICE TO PARENTS

Several years ago, a minister, C. Galea, was assigned to the Guelph Correctional Centre for summer work. During his time there he developed an excellent rapport with the young lawbreakers there. After becoming acquainted with them, he asked the boys to delve into their backgrounds for clues as to why they had ended up in that institution for delinquents. He asked them to draw up a "code for parents," using as a basis specific areas where their own parents had failed. Here is what they advised:

1. Keep cool. Don't lose your temper in the crunch. Keep the lid on when things go wrong. Kids need the reassurance that comes from controlled responses.

2. Don't get strung out from too much booze or too many pills. When we see our parents reaching for those crutches, we get the idea that nobody goes out there alone, that it's perfectly okay to go for a bottle or a capsule when things get heavy. Remember, your children are great imitators. And we lose respect for parents who tell us to behave one way while they are behaving another way.

3. Bug us a little. Be strict and consistent in dishing out discipline. Show us who's boss. It gives us a feeling of security to know we've got some strong supports under us.

4. Don't blow your class. Keep the dignity of parenthood. Stay on that pedestal. Your children have put you there because they need someone to look up to. Don't try to

dress, dance, or talk like your kids. You embarrass us and you look ridiculous.

5. Light a candle. Show us the way. Tell us God is not dead, sleeping, or on vacation. We need to believe in something bigger and stronger than ourselves.

6. If you catch us lying, stealing, or being cruel, get tough. Let us know WHY what we did was wrong. Impress on us the importance of not repeating such behavior. When we need punishment, dish it out. But let us know you still love us, even though we have let you down. It'll make us think twice before we make the same move again.

7. Call our bluff. Make it clear that you mean what you say. Don't be wishy-washy. Don't compromise. And don't be intimidated by our threats to drop out of school or leave home. Stand firm. If you collapse, we will know we beat you down, and we will not be happy about the "victory." Kids don't want everything they ask for.

8. Be honest with us. Tell the truth no matter what. And be straight-arrow about it. Lukewarm answers make us uneasy. We can smell uncertainty a mile away. This means being generous with praise. If you give us kids a few compliments once in a while, we will be able to accept criticism more readily. We want you to tell it like it is.

— Ann Landers,
Field Newspaper Syndicate

values, how to set limits, how to encourage intellectual and emotional growth, as well as how to discipline within a framework of love. It's a mighty big task.

The helpful principles on the following pages, while not total answers to every child-rearing problem, are solid, common-sense methods to use in training your children to become responsible and useful members of society. □

RECOMMENDED READING

Joan Beck, *How to Raise a Brighter Child*, Trident, 1967.

John Milton Gregory, *Seven Laws of Teaching*, Baker Book House, 1971.

Dr. Thomas Gordon, *Parent Effectiveness Training*, Wyden, 1975.

Dr. James Dobson, *Dare to Discipline*, Tyndale, 1973.

4

CHILD REARING BASICS

by Brian Knowles

For so many unfortunate children, life is an endless series of "don'ts," "nos," "can'ts," "stop!" "don't do that," "be quiet," "maybe," "sit still," "no, you can't go there," etc. It's all completely negative.

Merely seeking to control a child's activities, noise level, and attitudes is a short-sighted approach to child rearing. Enlightened parents operate on the basis of long-range goals. They seek to produce an end product.

We are all the end result of our parents' child-rearing methods (or lack of them), our environments, etc. In fact, much of modern psychology is based upon the principle of tracing adult problems back to their childhood origins.

The Bible tells us: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22:6, RSV). It is an accepted axiom that the first six years of any child's life are the most impressionable.

Those of us who are "grown up" carry at least some scars from our childhood years. Habits were started, attitudes were formed, and patterns were set.

The rearing of children is one of the greatest responsibilities any human being can ever have. Those of us who are parents are presiding

over the formation of the next generation of mankind. That generation will be an outgrowth — a product — of this generation.

Will that generation be of lesser quality? Will it be of inferior stature? Or will it be responsible for creating a better age — an age of accomplishment and human emancipation? Believe it or not, the way you rear your children will have an important bearing on the answer.

Much can be said about proper child-rearing techniques. This article, however, will not attempt to "cover the waterfront" on the subject, but will discuss four vital keys for successful child rearing. (Further complementary information on this subject is contained in our free booklet *The Plain Truth About Child Rearing*.)

SHOW LOVE AND AFFECTION

Children thrive in an atmosphere of love and affection. They shrivel up in an atmosphere of anger and tension. Loving parents produce loving children! A father who is an overbearing tyrant cannot expect affectionate sons and daughters. Paul cautioned: "Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged" (Col. 3:21, RSV). Sooner or later a victimized child will turn bitter and resentful. Paul told parents how to avoid this when he warned fathers to bring their children up in the "discipline and instruction of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4, RSV).

Parents need to realize that there is a *right* time to discipline their child and a *right* time for righteous parental anger. But such occasions should be the exception rather than the rule! Parents should never allow themselves to go on a yelling, storming rampage. Such wild, uncontrolled parental emotionalism will only produce a negative result, and it certainly doesn't cause a child to grow in respect for his parents.

So remember, a constant demon-

stration of parental love for children is undoubtedly one of the greatest keys to successful, productive child rearing.

2 SET THE RIGHT EXAMPLE

Right parental example is certainly a critical factor in right child rearing. We've all heard the expression, "Monkey see, monkey do." It's also true of children. Children are often carbon copies of their parents. Bad-tempered, irritable parents produce bad-tempered, irritable children. Sullen, sulky parents often produce children of a similar disposition. Adulterous parents can expect to have promiscuous children. Parents who feel the world owes them a living generally produce lazy, ungrateful children.

Parents who are racists will produce children who use racist terms. By the time their children are old enough to comprehend the real impact of these derogatory slang terms, the die is cast and their attitudes are firmly set.

Children and teen-agers who smoke pot or take drugs will often — as an excuse for their habit — point to their parents' addiction to alcohol, tobacco, or prescription drugs.

Nothing renders a parent's efforts in child rearing more ineffective than simple parental hypocrisy. Children cannot be expected to adopt standards to which their parents are unwilling to adhere.

Speaking to the Jewish element in the congregation at Rome, the apostle Paul wrote: "... If you are sure that you are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, a corrector of the foolish, a *teacher of children*... you then who teach others, will you not teach yourself? While you preach against stealing, do you steal? You who say that one must not commit adultery, do you commit adultery?" (Rom. 2:19-22, RSV.) This admonition can be applied generally to parents of children as well as to anyone.

3 TAKE TIME TO TEACH YOUR CHILDREN

The mind of a child is pliable and impressionable. It is receptive to almost any input from any source.

It is most important that you, as parents, provide your children with a suitable learning environment. Give them experiences which teach, because the unknown is usually best explained by the known. Exploit your child's own frame of reference, and build on the knowledge he already possesses.

Often the most effective parental teaching is informal. Capitalize on situations that arise. Take advantage of the questions that emerge as a natural result of your child's innate curiosity.

This type of spontaneous, informal, give-and-take teaching session is often much more effective with children than the formal, stilted "lecture session." Children just naturally tend to resent being "lectured." They will often close their minds to parental input in such sessions and daydream about more pleasant things. (This does not mean that there is not an appropriate time for a formal lesson of instruction in which the child is obliged to pay attention. But this is not the most effective, nor should it be the most common, method of instruction.)

In addition to capitalizing on your child's natural curiosity and need for explanations, it is also important to encourage your child to *think for himself*. Wake up his mind. Stimulate his developing thought processes.

"The actual work of the teacher consists of the awakening and setting in action of the mind of the pupil, the arousing of his self-activities. . . . All explanation and exposition are useless except as they serve to excite and direct the pupil in his own thinking. If the pupil himself does not think, there are no results of the teaching; the words of the teacher [i.e., the parent] are falling upon deaf ears. . . . Make your pupil

a discoverer of truth — make him find out for himself" (John Milton Gregory, *Seven Laws of Teaching*, pp. 84, 85).

Knowledge should not be "shoveled" into a child's mind by parental "pressure tactics." The acquisition of knowledge should be one of the paramount experiences of any child's life. It should be an ongoing, thrilling, exhilarating process.

Each parent should strive to give his children a sense of discovery. Guide, nudge, and direct their thought processes in the right direction — but let them draw their own conclusions.

4 DISCIPLINE YOUR CHILDREN

Discipline is a means of curbing undesirable behavior. It is a form of punishment — *never revenge!* It is merely a method of effecting a "course correction" in a child's development.

"Most parents see the whole problem of discipline in child rearing as a question of being either strict or lenient, tough or soft, authoritarian or permissive. Because they are locked into this either-or approach to discipline, they see their relationship with their children as a power struggle, a contest of wills, a fight to see who wins — a war" (Dr. Thomas Gordon, *Parent Effectiveness Training*, p. 151).

Parents should not be at war with their children. This whole approach is a simple-minded approach to a complex and profound human relationship.

Parental discipline is most often associated with spanking (corporal punishment). And the Bible *does* teach the principle of "spare the rod and spoil the child" (see Prov. 13:24). God himself corrects and chastens every son he loves (Heb. 12:6). We are told by Solomon that the foolishness of a child will be driven from him by the rod of correction (stick or switch) (Prov. 22:15).

But spanking should be a *last* resort. Physical punishment should not be the *main* feature of a child-rearing program. Yet, many parents have emphasized this form of discipline at the expense of the first three listed essential keys. To some unfortunate children, corporal punishment has become a way of life.

Assuredly, there are times when a parent's will must prevail over that of his child. But there are more intelligent ways to bring this about than simply beating a child into submission.

Discipline can take *many* forms. Spanking is merely one of them. One of the most effective forms of punishment, especially for older children, is the withholding of privileges. Banning the use of the television for a certain period, for example, or withdrawing permission to play with a friend, to go to a movie, to use the family automobile, to go to a dance, etc., can be effective.

Dr. Dobson, author of *Dare to Discipline*, has this to say about the disciplining of teen-age children: ". . . Teen-agers desperately want to be thought of as adults, and they deeply resent being treated like children. Spanking is the ultimate insult. Punishment for adolescents should involve lost privileges, financial deprivation, and related forms of nonphysical retribution" (p. 61).

Often, making a child of any age realize the consequences of his wrong action or attitude is a very effective form of punishment in itself.

Children must be made to realize that wrong actions hurt other people. Undesirable conduct is such because it hurts everyone involved — including those who perpetrate it.

Poor child rearing produces maladjusted, unfulfilled, inferior children. Proper child rearing bears the good fruit of bright, responsive, well-adjusted, happy children.

If you build your child-rearing techniques upon the principles of love and open affection, right parental example, intelligent, balanced teaching, and effective discipline, you will succeed in rearing successful, happy, responsible children. □

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

by Garner Ted Armstrong

There's a little of the dreamer in all of us. Otherwise, you wouldn't see so many discontented, struggling, mediocre lives around you — lives dedicated to the "not quites" of living — searching, reaching out, hoping, planning, and usually failing.

What is a "not quite"?

Well, it's one of the dozens of compromises you have learned to live with. It's another of those excuses you offered yourself for small disappointments and failures. It's another dashed hope, broken promise, missed appointment, unread novel, cancelled trip, or broken date.

It's the whole series of little justifications you have offered yourself for being what you are, where you are: doing — and still being somehow dissatisfied with it all — just as you are, right now.

What about it?

Is your life a real success? Are you really happy? Is your job exciting, inspiring, challenging and rewarding? Is your marriage or your social life a constant delight — enjoyable and fulfilling? Are you out of debt and in solid financial shape?

Some Day

This is no "pull-yourself-up-by-your-own-bootstraps" article on "self-help" or some kind of personal betterment philosophy. I'll offer no shortcuts to some swift windfall or success. But it's about time we really saw the "waiting posture" in most of us — saw it in true perspective — and identified it as the culprit that brings us no end of private pain!

From your earliest recollections of frustrations you began waiting.

Remember how it was the day the little redheaded bully knocked you down in an argument over the marble game? You shook your skinny little fist and said "You just wait — you big bully — I'll get even! . . . you just wait!"

Or, you probably said, "One of these days — just one of these days! . . ."

Most people seem to spend life in a "waiting posture." Constantly planning, hoping, "waiting it out," they look for new experiences, travel, financial windfalls, and new breakthroughs in their marriages. It's time you made history, instead of waiting for it to pass you by.

But you never did. Somehow, the grand dream of your favorite little girl watching you turn the neighborhood bully into a quavering mass of tears just never materialized. Oh, you hoped it would. You may even have dreamed about it. You could have boasted of it to friends or looked at muscle-building courses in magazines. But this passed with other youthful hopes and dreams.

Does this sound far-fetched? I doubt it. Whether your experience was exactly this, or just something similar, so many of us have had such frustrations, missed opportunities, shattered hopes.

And it wasn't only the boyish or girlish hopes that were shattered, but the very most important ones: hopes of marriage, home and family, hopes of success, challenge, discovery, new thrills and experiences.

Let's face it. Millions — no, more than that — of people must live daily with their "not quites" of life.

Conditioned to Failure

It doesn't take many years for most of us to understand the hypocrisy in the world around us. As early teenagers, we begin seeing the double-standard world. Our parents may say one thing, and do another. The newspapers are loaded with scandals, "inside stories," infamous trials, Hollywood divorces, and a potpourri of sundry immoral trivia which soon convince us the idealistic dreams of early youth were really worthless, after all.

Probably, we begin wondering at quite an early age what we would

be. We wanted to be somebody — somebody, well . . . different. Everybody has had the same experience. Everybody has thought, at one time or another, "But why does it always have to be me?" This is mostly vanity, of course, but it happens, nevertheless.

From childhood, each person wanted to be something — someone! A fireman? Most boys have thought of it. A pilot? An astronaut? Probably so. Or a chemist, an aeronautical engineer? Or perhaps a captain of a ship, or a cowboy, or a corporation executive, an inventor, or famous politician.

But practically nobody planned to be what most people are.

How many boys longed to be truck drivers, plumbers, carpenters, laborers, machinists, elevator operators (there still are a few), concession operators, or door-to-door salesmen of at least two hundred different articles?

And how many girls really dreamed of marrying just the man they're married to — with the job he has, the home they live in, the car they drive, the children they have, the debts they're in, and the future they share?

But most people aren't terribly unhappy in such circumstances.

They're just "mildly" unhappy.

But unhappy at all isn't happy. And the unhappiness comes from the frustration of a whole series of small failures. These are the "not quites" in life.

Most people didn't have "quite enough" money to pay the bills. They "almost" got that raise, that trip, that vacation, that new TV set, or that new automobile.

Our Little Justifications

And even our accidents, failures, and financial mistakes are justified. When someone has had a minor traffic mishap, he'll usually speculate, for useless hours, on the "If I had just . . ." idea. That means he'll wonder why he didn't take just a little longer to fumble for his car

keys or not hurry quite so fast to make that green light or stop at the store like he'd intended — a whole host of ideas about events which could have placed him in the fateful intersection either ahead of, or safely behind, that other car.

We all speculate about what we call "fate." And soon, in our many, many little failures, our frustrations and "not quites" we just resign ourselves to our "fate."

Most people are fairly philosophical about failure. They shrug their shoulders in varying degrees of acceptance. Some are even seemingly content with it. These are the natural enemies and scoffers of the rich. To such a person, anyone with "money" just "got the breaks," but never, never earned it.

He'll usually be quite an authority on success even though he doesn't have much of it. In fact, it is a never-ending source of amazement that the lower the amount of success, the more authoritative, all-knowing, perceptive, and wise the person will appear to be.

Of course, many could say someone has to be the common laborers of the world — and, of course, many will agree. And nothing is wrong with work, nor with carpentry, plumbing, electrical engineering, or truck driving. They certainly can be *very fulfilling occupations!*

But unless a man is challenged by such jobs and finds them exciting, stimulating, and rewarding, then he's only "marking time" in another of those "not quites."

Too many people have had to "get a job" instead of developing their God-given talents into an occupation!

But we grow conditioned to failure. Even in the world at large, we see failure. We're told, sagely, that we must grow accustomed to living somewhere in the awful and unthinkable area between a war which must never be fought and a peace which can never be won. We're so scared of the bomb, we simply ignore it. Some have accepted the story that the bomb is a good thing, and that its awesome killing power — fifty times more than necessary for annihilating all mankind — is what is preventing war.

Even in world news and world

conditions, most of us are conditioned to failure.

And it happens in our state elections, our local counties, and our school boards. It soon begins happening with our children and in our closest companions.

The Age of Noninvolvement

But, we reason, there's nothing we can do about it all. Each of us has decided we're only one person, and therefore so infinitely helpless.

We know many of the wrongs around us. After all, we live with them daily. We see the tension in the Mideast and the political bribery and chicanery in the United States. Daily, we read in our papers of the huge problems of the world's governments.

Probably, we have a certain attitude toward each one of them: an opinion. But here it stops. We form an "attitude." We conjure up an "idea." And that, in itself, in our mediocre world, seems quite sufficient.

But a private philosophy of a barber, an electrical engineer, a plumber, or even a corporate executive or airline pilot doesn't change the world.

It's grown to the point that world conditions seem to us about like the weather. It's something everybody talks a lot about, but never does anything about.

Our political leaders haven't helped much.

But then, that's the way of leaders. They can hardly promise total solutions when not thoroughly understanding the problems. No leader, in his right mind, will promise solutions. He'll speak of "programs" and "progress." He'll talk of "studies" and "methods." He'll even mention the usual workaday terms of peace, safety, prosperity or attacks on poverty. But he will not promise an end to crime and violence, nor an end to race hatred, nor an end to wars in the world.

He cannot!

Because he only controls a portion of government. He does not control human nature.

Soon, then, the "not quites" of us simply resign ourselves to the vague, "living for the moment" attitude of the rest of us. Our "waiting" posture

is always evident. We're waiting for a better day in the world, a cleanup in the neighborhood, and lessening of taxes. We're waiting for a raise, or a chance to move, or for the weather to clear. But always we're waiting. Waiting and waiting.

So enter compromise. Enter noninvolvement. Most of us find out soon enough that the way to make things work for us in our own environment is to avoid getting "involved" in some novel or revolutionary thing.

What about it? Do you recognize the waiting posture in yourself? Can you think of the dozens of things you've yearned to do and to experience, and yet acknowledged that you never will?

Believe it or not, this vague frustration — this feeling of "not quite" — is one of the most important causes of unhappiness in life! It has broken up marriages, ruined businesses, thwarted education, shattered romance, and even caused suicide.

Usually, it's milder than that.

Most people just find ways to live with the "not quites." They keep thinking "some day." "Some day," they tell themselves, they'll really get busy and cut down on their drinking habits, widen their circle of friends, and trim off that ugly waistline.

But they never do.

Why Most Give Up

Let's face it, most people live accidentally. You probably don't know anyone who has planned, set a goal, and then patterned his life. Most people take life as it comes to them — haphazardly, accidentally, without long-range thought or planning. That's why the majority follows where the leaders lead.

Leaders must plan and have goals and purposes. History proves most of those goals and purposes have been incredibly selfish, and that the leaders of the world — not the "little people" afflicted with the "not quites" — have produced a nuclear stalemate. They have created a world fraught with more problems of more far-reaching and profound consequences than ever — a world armed to the teeth with hydrogen bombs and missiles and still di-

vided, suspicious, hostile, and self-seeking. And the majority of mankind seethes in frustration.

You were not asked whether you wished to be plunged into the nuclear age. Society was not consulted. No group of scientists, government leaders, military men, and representatives of all the millions of "not quites" sat down to seriously, carefully, studiously ponder the hazards versus the benefits of a nuclear age.

But wars are only a part of why people resign themselves to "not quites." The conditions of life around them are another vital part. Whether it's racism, the squalor of the ghetto, or the huge pile of rusting junk in the back yard now grown familiar to them, they soon learn to accept these things as the "status quo" and live with them. That's "just the way it is," they tell themselves. "That's the way the ball bounces" and "that's the way the cookie crumbles" are the catch-phrases for excusing the "not quites." They're expressions of futility, resignation, and frustration.

Perhaps you're one of the many who practically never fails to pick up a newspaper, hear a radio news broadcast, or read a particularly nauseating article in a magazine and get all-fired mad about it.

Perhaps it's reading, now, about continual new revelations of the dangerous side effects of "the pill."

Or maybe you grow angry (still it seems only the few do, anymore) when reading of terrible, brutal stabbings, slashings, bludgeonings, mindless terrorism, political kidnappings, rapes, shootings, bank robberies, burglaries — even when these things happen to someone else.

You probably express an opinion about these things. You may decry, deplore, reject, criticize, and generally condemn all you wish, but there's not a single thing you can do about it. Or at least so you think.

On decisions made by the local school board, the tax laws, or the intrusions into your private life by any number of other regulatory agencies, why bother to speak? They're all a part of the ponderous intricate, bureaucratic morass of society — something so huge you can't understand it, let alone try to change it.

So little by little, as you grew into a ready-made world, accidentally, you learned to accept mild opinions, indignations, and disgust philosophically.

You learned you could spout off in the barber chair, at the beauty shop, or on the courthouse steps, or in private conversation all you wish — but that you were powerless to do anything about it. You soon learned to live with many "not quites." And you patiently sit back and wait. "Some day" you hope things will change. "Some day" you figure people may begin doing the right thing even by mistake.

Do you get the point? There is a futility about us today — a defeatism — a willingness to live with no solutions and no answers that is everywhere evident. Too many people have resigned themselves to mediocrity in life. They're unhappy — mildly frustrated — yet willing to accept those "not quites" in life in favor of taking the knocks that will surely come with real involvement in some burning issue.

But it's about time more people became involved — really involved! It's time people did get a little excited about the issues, instead of mildly musing over them a few moments, and then continuing along in their own private rut of life.

You know the issues: the population explosion; the wars and threats of more; the starvation; the drought and famine in Asia and Africa; the mounting crime and violence in the Western world; the race hatred all around you; the sacrificing of millions of children on the altar of divorce and lust; the hard-core pornography.

Yet when confronted with these issues, most of us just grow little philosophical callouses — and "wait."

But you don't need to feel helpless. You can get involved in these vital issues — yes, worldwide issues of mammoth importance and significance!

We, of This Great Work, Are Involved!

We, of "The World Tomorrow" program on radio and television and of *The Plain Truth* magazine are involved! We don't merely philos-

ophize, argue or express a "point of view." Rather, we continue to warn this dying, sin-sick world of the horrible, unimaginable consequences of man's unbelievable stupidity! Man has rejected his God! He yearns for peace and is going in the exact opposite direction from peace toward war, unhappiness, futility, uselessness, and failure!

There is not another work on earth like this one!

We, in this Work of God, are not "waiting it out" — resigning ourselves to the "not quites" — the small disappointments. Rather, we're continually inspired, thrilled by new developments and new programs.

Millions listen to my voice over the air, and that is deeply rewarding and satisfying to me, and to all of us! Hundreds of thousands can now watch our programs on television.

Millions have read the vital booklet on the true origin of the American and British peoples, and their immediate destiny. Millions have read the hard-hitting articles of *The Plain Truth*, and dozens and dozens of thousands have sat down to deeply study and learn more about their Bibles, the very Word of the living God, through *The Good News* magazine and the Ambassador College Correspondence Course.

People in Ghana, India, Australia, Western Europe, North, Central and South America, Indonesia, and Mexico — in fact, people worldwide — are being moved! Their lives have been profoundly influenced — changed — by the impact of this last-ditch effort of Jesus Christ!

They're learning *how to live*, how to make their marriages happy, how to lovingly rear their children, how to obey God's laws given them for their good, how humanity will be saved!

And many of them are getting involved! Many of them are getting all the way involved with God their Father, and the Work of his Christ!

If you would like to know how you can become personally involved in this great Work, write for our free booklet entitled *Come Help Humanity*. This new publication shows what this global crusade for sanity is all about. Mailing addresses are on the back cover of this magazine. □



THE EAGLE OF THE EAST

From the ashes of World War II, Poland has risen to become the world's tenth largest industrial power. Here is the story behind one nation's indomitable spirit.

by Gene H. Hogberg
Photos by Dexter H. Faulkner

Last year, two Plain Truth editors visited the nations of Eastern Europe on a tour sponsored by the National Press Club of Washington, D.C. Here is the conclusion of their three-part story.

Out of the corner of my eye I could see that we were being watched. Dexter and I were sitting in the lobby of Warsaw's beautiful new Swedish-built Forum Hotel. We were checking out our camera gear and chatting somewhat nervously, as we waited for our tardy *Orbis* guide and driver to appear to take us to Oswiecim —

Auschwitz — site of the notorious World War II concentration camp. (See page 36.)

Finally our observer walked over and with a pleasant smile said, "I could tell from the way you were talking that you're Americans. Where are you fellows from? I'm from Detroit, myself, but I'm retired and I live here now."

Living the Good Life

Our new acquaintance told us how he — along with more than 6,000 other Polish-Americans — had reemigrated to the "old country" to live out his remaining years in comparative comfort and ease.

Thanks to an extra favorable ex-

change rate — 60 Polish zloty to the dollar instead of 33 — a meager American Social Security check of \$150 a month translates into a standard of living comparable to top-paid Polish doctors and engineers.

Our retiree from Detroit assured us that there were only two principal restrictions on reemigration. Processing applications usually takes well over a year — and every year over age 60 or 65 is precious. Also, an apartment in Warsaw or elsewhere must be purchased ahead of time for cash — usually costing around \$4,000 to \$6,000. (By contrast, Poles in Warsaw and other cities often have to wait up to eight years to move into a new apartment.

Once these not insurmountable conditions are met, living in Poland on an American income is easy. Food, highly subsidized by the government, runs only about \$30 to \$35 per person per month (but the average native Pole spends half of his income on food). Apartment services rarely amount to over \$10 a month; utilities, including telephone, perhaps another \$4. Public transportation is very cheap. Tickets to the opera or symphony concerts cost only about one dollar each — for the best seats in the house. Medical services, immediately available to the “new” Poles, are virtually without cost.

About five times a year, our friend told us, he and a group of other senior citizens take a group bus tour to some other European country, with much of the travel cost borne by the Polish government. He was soon going to leave on a two-week swing through West Germany. Poles, unlike Czechs and Romanians, can freely travel out of the country. The only limitation is obtaining enough foreign currency beforehand.

Combining all these money-stretching advantages with a total lack of fear of being mugged on the street at night or having one's apartment broken into, it is easy to see why growing numbers of Americans who were born in Poland have chosen to return to their native land.

Up From the Ashes

If any city has ever risen from the ashes of near total destruction, it is Warsaw. Poland's capital well deserves its Latin motto “*Contemnit procellar*” — “Defies the storms.”

Warsaw was all but obliterated by the occupying Nazi legions during World War II, culminating in the crushing of the Warsaw uprising in 1944. When Russian troops finally crossed the Vistula River (where they had paused to let the departing Germans conveniently wipe out *all* resistance) they found the city a complete shambles.

The Polish phoenix therefore is a new creation. Though Warsaw as a site has a long history, the city as it stands today is the result of thirty years of hard work and unstinting sacrifice by its proud citizens.

Reconstruction gave the city planners a splendid chance to carry out a master plan. As a result, major thoroughfares, though generally following the older road network, have been greatly widened; park areas were tripled in size; industrial zones were earmarked for outlying areas, often separated from housing estates by “green belts.” Most of the industry, furthermore, has been located “downwind” helping to alleviate air pollution.

Warsaw authorities, however, have been very careful to preserve centuries of Polish tradition and history in their reconstruction efforts. Buildings in the city's old town quarter, for example, have been reconstructed almost brick-for-brick as they once appeared. Fortunately, young Warsaw architects stumbled across some of the original building plans, hundreds of years old.

At night, roof-mounted spotlights shine on the facades of the buildings lining the square in the heart of Old Town, presenting one of the most attractive urban landscapes on the continent. Restaurants and wine cellars in Old Town are a great magnet for both citizen and visitor alike.

Combined with its many cultural amenities, Warsaw, in the opinion of many, is the most livable capital in all of Eastern Europe today.

Scars Still Remain

Warsaw's city fathers have not swept away all evidence of the World War II nightmare, however.

Walking the streets and boulevards of the city one occasionally comes across a peculiar sight — a section of wall from an old building, decorated with flowers and one or two Polish national flags. On such a site, one is told, residents of Warsaw were capriciously rounded up and shot by Nazi troopers, usually in reprisal for the death of a German soldier at the hands of the Polish underground.

Memories of Warsaw's once extensive Jewish population are preserved in two key locations. (Very few Jews now live in Poland, as opposed to three million before the war.) A striking monument stands on the site of the former Jewish Ghetto in memory of those who challenged the might of the Nazis in

the 1943 Ghetto uprising. Nothing else remains of the one square mile walled-in compound into which the occupiers had once compacted 450,000 Jews. Much of it is still a vacant, razed area.

On the outskirts of the Ghetto one can walk through the lower level of the prison where Jews were first held awaiting transport to Auschwitz. A tree in front of the prison bears the names of many Polish-Jewish families carried away during the Holocaust.

There is only one other scar which mars modern-day Warsaw, and that one dates back not to the war but to the early years of reconstruction. This “scar” is the much maligned “Palace of Culture and Sciences” — a multi-storied, gingerbreaded monstrosity of a building presented as a gift to the people of Warsaw by Josef Stalin in honor of the Red Army that “liberated” the city.

The architecture of the Palace of Culture befits Moscow (indeed it resembles Moscow State University) but is totally out of character with Warsaw's Western-style skyline. Nevertheless because of its sheer size, it dominates the center of town.

The residents of Warsaw will tell you that the best view of their city is from the top of the Palace of Culture because that is the only place from which you cannot see the Palace of Culture.

Americans may laugh at Polish jokes. The Poles, in turn, have their “Russian jokes.” The Palace of Culture is the butt of not a few of them. One goes like this:

A Russian walking along Marszalkowska Avenue on his first visit to Warsaw stops to admire the Palace of Culture. He enquires of a Pole: “You people of Warsaw must greatly appreciate this wonderful gift from our people.” The Pole replies somberly: “Yes, we must.”

Poles and Catholics First

The apocryphal answer given by the Pole to the uninformed Russian is characteristic of the entire Polish-Soviet relationship.

Having no alternative by virtue of geography and recent history, the Poles give unswerving loyalty to Moscow's desires and dictates in the field of politics and foreign policy.



BEFORE AND AFTER, thirty years apart: In 1945 buildings in Warsaw's Old Town square lay in ruins. Nearly same view, right, in 1975, dramatizes the richness of their reconstruction.

In return for this loyalty, the Soviets have shrewdly permitted Poland to express its own true self in the broad areas of culture and economics. Polish nationalism is a very powerful force, more so than elsewhere in the East bloc, and Moscow realizes it must be safely vented.

As a result, it is not communist ideology but nationalism reinforced by religion that animates Polish society.

The Roman Catholic Church constitutes the most powerful religious body anywhere in the communist world. At times it is referred to as "the other government in Poland." Nearly four fifths of all Poles attend mass every week; nearly all children are baptized and subsequently receive after-school religious instruction — including the children of many Communist Party members.

Poland is conspicuously free of the "sloganitis" one finds in other East bloc countries, where buildings are strewn with red banners proclaiming the virtues of socialism and pledging "eternal friendship" with the Soviet Union.

The country's number one citizen — Communist Party boss Edward Gierek — even refuses to allow his portrait to adorn government offices. Instead, Poland's traditional symbol, the eagle, is invariably displayed.

Keeping the Customer Happy

Mr. Gierek knows what he has to do to remain in power, because he can never forget the December 1970 worker riots in several port cities on

Poland's Baltic coast which brought him *into* power and swept out the old regime of Wladyslaw Gomulka.

The disturbances and strikes in Gdansk, Gdynia, and Szczecin were triggered by a price increase for essential consumer goods and were an expression of deep dissatisfaction with living and working conditions. As a long-time party boss of Katowice (Poland's most industrialized province) and a former miner himself, Gierek had a solid record of achievement in improving the lot of the workers. His assumption of top party office was, in effect, a reassurance to the workers that their grievances would be heard.

In its first year the new leadership rescinded the previously announced price increases and instituted a price freeze, gave pay increases to the lowest paid workers, postponed an unpopular wage reform, and eased the farmers' obligatory sales to the state. (About 80% of Poland's agricultural land is still in private hands, though the percentage of state and collective farms is slowly rising.)

Gierek also declared his intention to continue good governmental relations with Poland's powerful Roman Catholic hierarchy.

The lot of Poland's 34 million people has steadily improved under Gierek's determined efforts. This can be readily seen in the well-stocked shelves of the department stores in Warsaw's Central Shopping Center, a huge inner city mall located directly across the street from the despised Palace of Culture. There is no doubt that the quality of

many items could be improved, but the quantity and variety is staggering to anyone who had only the day before rummaged through the slim pickings of merchandise available in the shops of Bucharest, Romania.

Poles will tell you themselves that they are grippers by nature, and when they gripe about price increases or shortages of food and merchandise, their leaders listen. The government has recently commissioned public opinion polls, in fact, aimed at gauging the maximum price increases on key items that Polish consumers will tolerate.

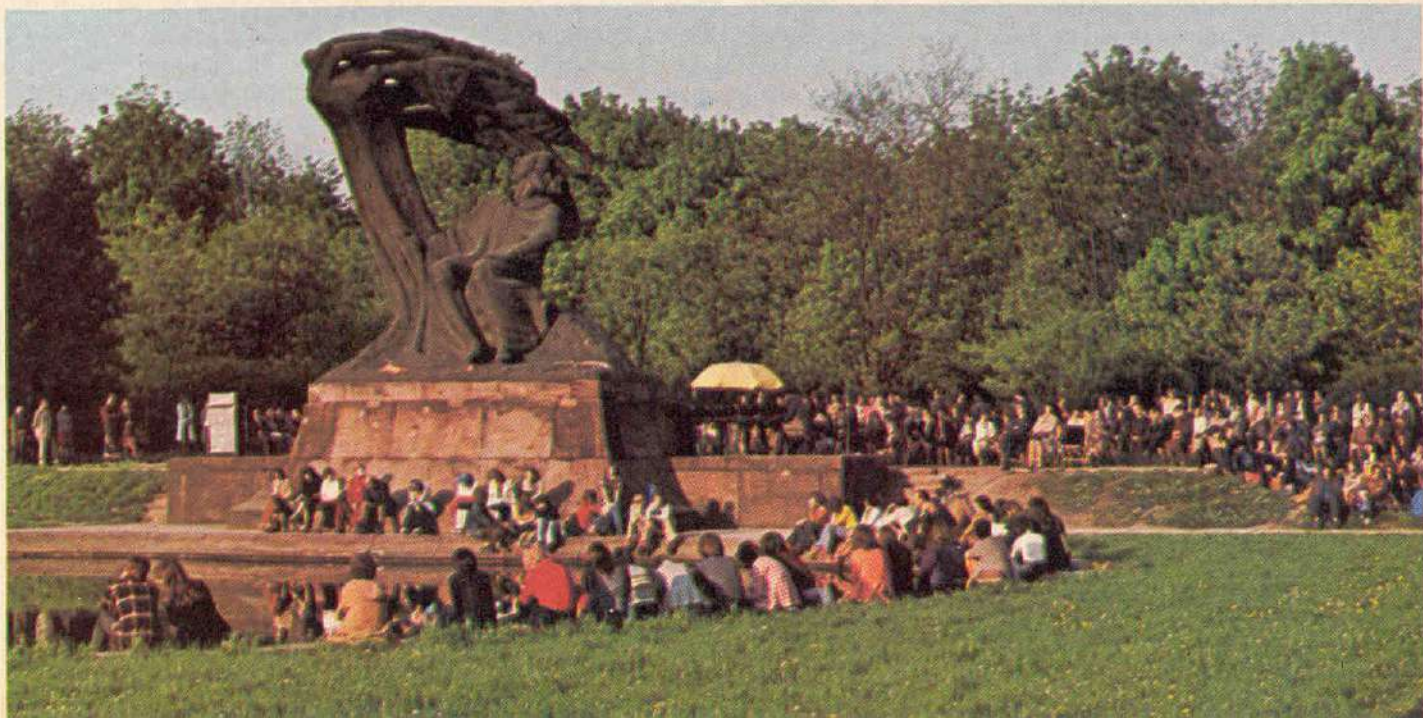
The Move West

Poland is now the tenth most powerful industrial nation in the world. Blessed with huge coal reserves — 28% of Europe's known supply — it is the world's second largest coal exporter, after the U.S. Huge sulfur and copper deposits have been found in recent years.

To keep the "Polish miracle" alive (and to keep the all-important man-on-the-street satisfied) Gierek has turned heavily to the West for trade, investments and technology.

One half of Poland's trade is with the capitalist West — up from only 29% in 1971. Mr. Gierek has been called a "credit card Communist" because of the massive, wholesale import — on credit — of Western technology. Over 300 Western industrial concerns have located plants in Poland under agreements that permit production to be sold in Western markets to pay back Po-

(Continued on page 38)



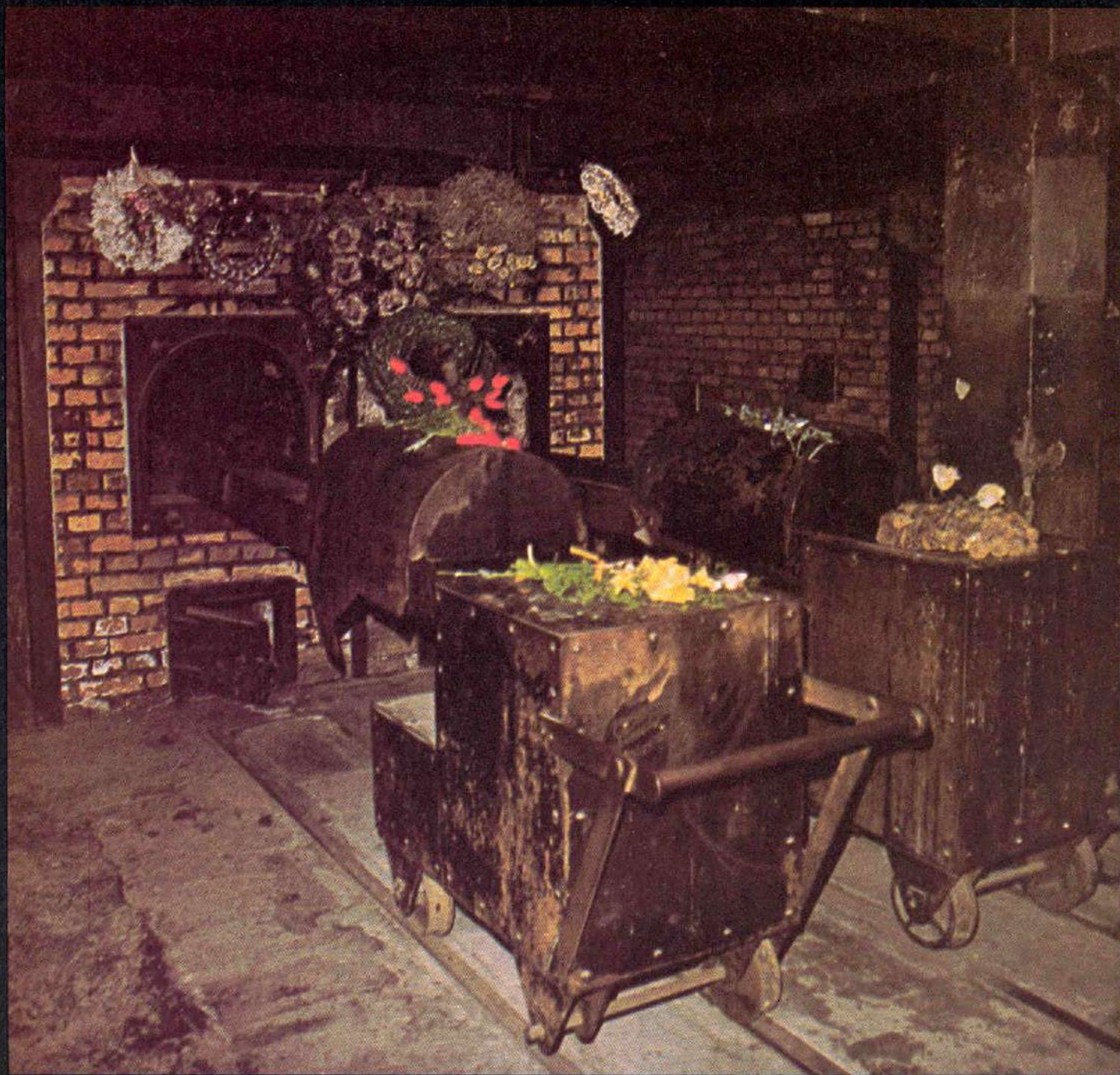


Gene H. Hogberg — Plain Truth

WANDERING THROUGH THE NEW WARSAW

Clockwise from above: Russian-built "Palace of Culture" contrasts sharply with modern, Western-style architecture of Warsaw (wide-angle camera lens makes buildings "lean"); tree in front of former Warsaw Ghetto prison displays the names of prominent Jewish families of Warsaw sent to their deaths at Auschwitz; shaded by an umbrella, a pianist performs at the base of the monument to Frederic Chopin in a Warsaw park. Music written by Poland's favorite composer is performed at this location twice every Sunday afternoon before large crowds; Warsaw housewives stop to purchase vegetables at a sidewalk produce stand. The Polish government subsidizes food and basic commodities heavily. Riots in late 1970 over price increases brought down the government; three young lasses play on the site of the old Jewish Ghetto, with the monument to the abortive 1943 uprising in the background; Warsaw residents relax and enjoy the late afternoon sun in the city's beautifully restored Old Town square. The leisurely pace of Warsaw makes it a good city for strolling and enjoying family-type outings. In postwar reconstruction, major thoroughfares were widened and park acreage was tripled.





AUSCHWITZ

HAVE THE LESSONS BEEN LEARNED?

The barbed-wire fences with their "Danger High Voltage" warnings are still intact, as are the prisoners' cell blocks, the guard houses, the gas chambers, the crematoria, and the giant room piled ceiling-high with human hair shorn from its hapless victims.

This is Auschwitz, which, along with its nearby sister camp of Birkenau, represented the most gruesome of Nazi Germany's chain of death factories. Located 160 miles south of Warsaw at the convenient junction of four rail lines, Auschwitz was chosen as the site for the "final solution" to Europe's "Jewish problem."

At least three million people, representing 28 nationalities, but the majority being Jews, perished at



Auschwitz-Birkenau. Polish and Soviet authorities place the total one third higher.

One of the first things that crosses the mind of anyone who strolls through the eerie silence of Auschwitz is: "How could this have happened, only three decades ago?" Then one reflects on today's world: hundreds of thousands of people killed in mass purges in countries of Southeast Asia this past year, with additional millions forceably "reeducated" to communist ideals; similar, though smaller, convulsions in newly "liberated" African states; the horrors of Soviet Russia's "Gulag" — which both predated and postdated Auschwitz.

How far has humanity progressed since 1945? Very

GRIM HERITAGE OF HATE: the two remaining ovens at Auschwitz (opposite page); At peak of operations, two thousand corpses were burned every twelve hours; prisoners arrived at Birkenau portion of compound (above left) on special rail spur; plaque at international memorial (above, top right) details grim statistics; cell blocks and barbed wire of Auschwitz (above) remain much as they were during the holocaust.

little, it would seem. And before 6,000 years of human misrule are brought to an end, a stubborn humanity is prophesied to yet go through a time of "great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be" (Matt. 24:21).

THE EAGLE OF THE EAST

(Continued from page 33)

land's huge indebtedness to the West — now some \$2 billion.

The latest wrinkle in Warsaw's economic program is the decision to permit direct investment in Poland by people of Polish origin living in the West. It remains to be seen how responsive the estimated six million Americans of Polish ancestry will be, along with smaller Polish settlements in Canada, France, and Britain who together comprise an international community known informally in Warsaw as "Polonia."

The Soviets, by their acquiescence if nothing else, approve of Gierek's full-fledged Western connection. After all, they're doing much of the same thing themselves. But even more importantly, Mr. Brezhnev doesn't want internal dissension to erupt inside Poland any more than Mr. Gierek does.

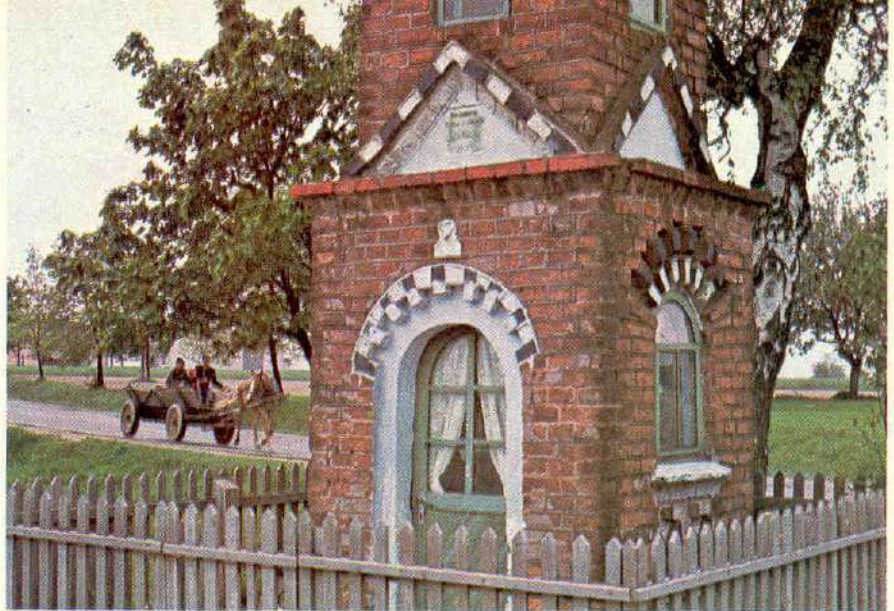
This does not mean that the compromising Polish approach to economics pleases the far more ideologically puritanical Soviets. Proof of this is the fact that it is easier for a Pole to get a visa to visit the United States than the U.S.S.R. — his ideas, his appearance, the very quality of the clothes on his back might "corrupt" Soviet citizens. (Poles gloat over the fact that the "imported" perfume sold in Moscow is made in Poland — while in Warsaw one can buy the leading French name brands.)

Showdown Over Productivity

Despite the impressive statistics, the halcyon 1971-75 heyday of the Polish consumer may be drawing to a close.

Gierek is still promising to improve and expand consumer lines in the next (1976-80) five-year plan, but he is emphasizing that improvement from now on will be more closely tied to the principle of "better work, better pay" and a marked improvement in the quality of Polish export items.

Like all East bloc countries, the quality of industrial output lags considerably behind Western economies. This is largely because Poland, like other Communist states, has "outlawed" unemployment, which



A COMMON SIGHT in rural Poland — a horse and wagon passing by a roadside religious shrine. In devoutly Roman Catholic Poland, private farmers own four fifths of agricultural land, usually in small six- or seven-acre plots.

automatically guarantees lower output per man and wasteful manpower utilization.

Not enough work to do on the job has led also to a nation of chronic moonlighters, who find more rewards in their second jobs — upon which also they pay no taxes. A high rate of absenteeism rounds out the list of industrial woes.

Mr. Gierek clearly has his work cut out for him in the years ahead.

Last Thoughts

Despite these drawbacks — and what nation, East or West, capitalist or communist doesn't have many — a visit to Poland and Eastern Europe as a whole is a refreshing one. It destroys prejudices and ingrained stereotypes.

Eastern Europe is not a Sovietized — not yet at least — bleak, gray area on the map. Each nation in the region has its own set of unique national characteristics — qualities based upon centuries-long development of distinct traditions, customs, languages and religious philosophy which survive and, to a great deal, surmount the overlay of Soviet-style communism imposed only in the last three decades.

In visiting this part of the world, one can only come away with profound compassion for the Poles, the Czechs, the Hungarians, the Romanians, and the Yugoslavs. To a nation, these people have suffered

greatly throughout history. It has been their sad lot to have been sandwiched in between more powerful nations and kingdoms. It has been their fate, as the smaller states of Europe, to be repeatedly conquered, occupied, absorbed and occasionally wiped off the map as national entities. To be sure, some of them have done their fair share of mischief-making down through the years, but for the most part, these peoples have been the victims of, not the perpetrators of, international intrigue and tragedy, culminating in the incredible compendium of horror that was World War II.

In the case of the Poles, one can only admire their tremendous determination to rebuild a nation depleted by the wartime loss of six million countrymen, including nearly all of the intelligentsia, accomplished with 40% of the country initially in ruins, and the heart of the country, Warsaw, nearly totally wrecked.

Americans, in this bicentennial year, should thank their God for having been spared such destruction in two global conflicts this century. Ingratitude to our God — perhaps America's greatest national sin — is a dangerous indulgence in a thermonuclear age which reduces America's once-formidable ocean buffers to the size of the Bug River, Poland's eastern border. □

WORLD PEACE

(Continued from page 3)

ERNMENT. In a later installment we will give the answer to the question: What do you mean "born again"?

But once again, what did Jesus mean THE KINGDOM OF GOD?

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

CHRIST'S Gospel

Jesus went everywhere preaching the GOOD NEWS of the KINGDOM OF GOD. He taught in parables about the KINGDOM OF GOD. He sent out seventy men preaching, and commanded them to preach THE KINGDOM OF GOD (Luke 10:9). He sent the apostles, on whom the Church of God was founded, to preach only THE KINGDOM OF GOD (Luke 9:1-2).

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

The apostle Paul preached THE KINGDOM OF GOD (Acts 19:8; 20:25; 28:23, 31).

Daniel Knew!

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

Because they *rejected* Christ's gospel 1900 years ago, the world had to supplant something else in its place. They had to invent a *counterfeit*! So we have heard the Kingdom of God spoken of as merely a pretty platitude — a nice sentiment in human hearts — reducing it to an ethereal, unreal NOTHING! Others have misrepresented that the "CHURCH" is the Kingdom. Others confuse it with a "millennium." Still others have, in our century, claimed the British Empire is the Kingdom of God. How DECEIVED CAN THIS WORLD GET?

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

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

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

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

First, God's purpose was to reveal to this world-ruling human king that there is a GOD in heaven — that GOD IS SUPREME RULER over all nations, governments, and kings — that GOD RULES THE UNIVERSE! This Chaldean king knew only about the many pagan demon gods. He knew nothing of the true *living* ALMIGHTY God. Like people and rulers, even today, he did not know that GOD is the living, REAL, active, RULING and GOVERNING PERSONAGE who actually and literally *governs* the UNIVERSE ENTIRELY!

The whole purpose of this DREAM was to *reveal* GOD'S GOVERNMENT — the *fact* that GOD RULES — the truth of THE KINGDOM OF GOD — the very thing that is the one and *only* true GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST! And, secondly, to reveal — preserved in writing for us TODAY — what is to happen "*in the latter days*" — actually within the next two decades — THIS LAST HALF OF THE 20TH CENTURY!

For US, Today!

This is no dry, dull, dead writing for a people of 2500 years ago. This is

LIVING, TREMENDOUS, *BIG NEWS* for *OUR DAY*! It is *advance news* for us. *NOW*. News *before it happens* — of the most colossal event of all earth's history certain to occur *in your lifetime* — during the very next few years!

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

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

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

What did it mean? *Did* it have meaning? Yes, because this was God's doing. Unlike ordinary dreams, this one was caused by God to convey the message of God's sovereignty to Nebuchadnezzar — and, because it is part of the written Word of God, to us today — to reveal important facts of the TRUE GOSPEL!

"This is the dream," said Daniel (verse 36), "and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king."

This, then, is GOD'S interpretation. It is decidedly *not* Herbert W. Armstrong's interpretation. Men ought never to *interpret* the Bible. The Bible gives us GOD'S OWN INTERPRETATION! Here it is:

"Thou, O king, art a king of kings" — he was the first real WORLD RULER over a world empire! "... for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory." God was revealing Himself to this human world-dictator as the MOST HIGH Ruler over all.

People today, like this Chaldean king, seem not to think of God as a

RULER — as the Supreme One who GOVERNS — as the head of GOVERNMENT. The Eternal was revealing Himself through Daniel to Nebuchadnezzar — and through the Bible to you and to me TODAY — as a SOVEREIGN, ALL POWERFUL, GOVERNING GOD who is to be obeyed!

“Thou,” continued Daniel to this human emperor, “art this head of gold. And after thee shall arise another KINGDOM inferior to thee, and another third KINGDOM of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth” (verses 37-39).

What IS a Kingdom?

Notice! This is speaking of KINGDOMS. It is referring to kingdoms that bear rule over the people on earth. It is speaking of GOVERNMENTS! It is not speaking of ethereal sentiments “set up in the hearts of men.” It is not speaking of churches. It is speaking of the kind of GOVERNMENTS that bear RULE and AUTHORITY over nations of PEOPLE here on earth. It is literal. It is specific. There is no misunderstanding, here, as to what is meant by the word “KINGDOM.”

There is no misunderstanding the interpretation. GOD gives His own interpretation through the prophet Daniel. The great metallic image represented national and international GOVERNMENTS — real, literal KINGDOMS.

It represented a *succession* of world-ruling governments. First was the head of gold. That represented Nebuchadnezzar and his kingdom — the Chaldean Empire. After him — later, in time sequence — was to come a second, then a third KINGDOM “which shall bear rule over all the earth” — *world empire!*

Then, verse 40, the legs of iron represent a *fourth* world empire. It was to be *strong*, even as iron is strong — stronger militarily than its predecessors. Yet, as silver is less valuable than gold, brass than silver, iron than brass, though each metal was harder and stronger, the succession would deteriorate morally and spiritually. The two legs meant the fourth empire would be divided.

After the Chaldean Empire came the still larger Persian Empire, then the Greco-Macedonian, and fourth,

Jesus' gospel message was about government! Few people today realize that this is not the time God is trying to save spiritually the world.

the Roman Empire. It was divided, with capitals at Rome and Constantinople.

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

“And in the days of these kings . . .” it is here speaking of the ten toes, part of iron and part of brittle clay. This, by connecting the prophecy with Daniel 7, and Revelation 13 and 17, is referring to the new UNITED STATES OF EUROPE which is *now forming*, out of the European Common Market, before your very eyes! Revelation 17:12 makes plain the detail that it shall be a union of TEN KINGS OR KINGDOMS which (Rev. 17:8) shall resurrect the old ROMAN EMPIRE.

So, mark carefully the *time element!* “In the days of these kings” — in the days of these ten nations or groups of nations that shall, *IN OUR TIME*, resurrect briefly the Roman Empire — notice what shall happen:

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

Yes, in OUR TIME!

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

Six of those have come and gone. The seventh is now forming — the last, final, *brief* resurrection of the Roman Empire by ten European groups or nations. These are the ten toes of iron and clay mixed.

In their days — and they shall last but a *very* short space, possibly no more than two to three-and-a-half years — shall the GOD OF HEAVEN SET UP A KINGDOM.

This, then, shall be THE KINGDOM OF GOD!

Compare with Revelation 17. Here is pictured a church. Not a small church — a GREAT church. She rules over “many waters” (verse 1) which are described in verse 15 as different nations speaking different languages. She posed as the Church of GOD — which Scripture says (Eph. 5:23; Rev. 19:7; Matt. 25:1-10, etc.) is the affianced “bride” of CHRIST, to be spiritually MARRIED to Him at His second COMING.

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

She is, therefore, to “sit on” this last “head of the Beast” — this final resurrection of the Roman Empire. It will be a *union* of church and state. It is to endure but a *very* short time. It is to FIGHT AGAINST CHRIST at HIS SECOND COMING! That will be its END.

We see it in process of rising, now. Therefore we are CLOSE to the coming of Christ! We are now *very near* the END of this world!

When Christ comes, He is coming as KING of kings, ruling the whole earth (Rev. 19:11-16); and HIS KINGDOM — *the KINGDOM OF GOD* — said Daniel, is to CONSUME all these worldly kingdoms.

Revelation 11:15 states it in these words: “The kingdoms of this world are become THE KINGDOMS OF OUR LORD, AND OF HIS CHRIST; and He shall reign for ever and ever!”

This is THE KINGDOM OF GOD. It is the END of present governments —

the governments that rule Russia, China, Japan, Italy, Germany — yes, and even the United States and the British nations. They then shall *become* the kingdoms — the GOVERNMENTS of the Lord JESUS CHRIST, then KING of kings over the entire earth.

This makes completely PLAIN the fact that the KINGDOM OF GOD is a literal GOVERNMENT. Even as the Chaldean Empire was a KINGDOM — even as the Roman Empire was a KINGDOM — so the KINGDOM OF GOD is a government. It is to *take over* the GOVERNMENT of the NATIONS of the world.

Jesus Christ was BORN to be a KING — a RULER!

These Scriptures tell you PLAINLY that GOD is supreme RULER. They tell you in plainest language that Jesus was born to be a KING — that He is going to RULE ALL NATIONS OF THE EARTH — that His Kingdom shall rule eternally.

But all this is only *part* of the fantastic, amazing, actually SHOCKING TRUTH about the KINGDOM OF GOD.

The KINGDOM OF GOD will rule *over* the peoples and nations of the earth. Yet these mortal peoples and nations will *NOT* be the Kingdom, not even *in* the Kingdom of God. They shall be merely RULED OVER BY IT!

We still have to learn OF WHAT OF OF WHOM it is composed. Can *YOU*, as an individual, ever become a *part* of this Kingdom?

Can Be Entered!

In Jesus' day, the religious leaders *knew* He was a teacher sent from God with GOD'S TRUTH. They branded Him a false prophet, heretic, and seditious. Yet *they knew* His was the voice of God!

One of them, a Pharisee named Nicodemus, occupying an office of authority over the Jews, came secretly by night to see Jesus.

"Rabbi," said this Pharisee, "we know that thou art a teacher come from God" (John 3:2). Yes, *we Pharisees*, he said, *know that!* He did not say "I know it." He said "*WE know*" — *we Pharisees!* They knew He spoke the TRUTH — yet they not only rejected it, they crucified Him!

The scriptures say over and over again that Jesus was born to be a king, that He is going to rule all nations, and that His Kingdom shall rule eternally.

But Jesus hewed straight to the line! He told Nicodemus about THE KINGDOM OF GOD. He told him some things you need to UNDERSTAND!

Notice! "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). Yes, notice! The Kingdom of God is something that CAN be seen, but only by those who have been "born again." It is something others *cannot see!* Request our free booklet *Just What Do You Mean — Born Again?*

But what about the CHURCH? Can carnal people who make no claim to having been "born again" SEE a CHURCH? Of course! But they *cannot* see the Kingdom of God! So SAID JESUS! Then, if you believe Jesus, the CHURCH cannot be the Kingdom of God!

Notice further: "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (verse 5). The Kingdom of God is something that *can be entered into* — BUT, only those "born of water and of the Spirit" can enter into it!

Notice further! In the resurrection chapter of the Bible, we read: "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption" (1 Cor. 15:50). The Kingdom of God is something *no human, of flesh and blood, can enter or inherit!*

Now do flesh and blood people enter into the CHURCH? If so, then the Kingdom of God *cannot* be the CHURCH — for the Kingdom of God is something flesh and blood humans *cannot enter into!*

What do you think the "church" is? Is it the building? Flesh and

blood people can and do enter buildings and cathedrals called "churches." Is it the converted PEOPLE? Flesh and blood people can and DO enter into the membership of any group of PEOPLE that may call itself the church. But flesh and blood *cannot* enter the Kingdom of GOD — so the CHURCH is *not the Kingdom of God!*

In Men's Hearts?

Now some think the Kingdom of God is some ethereal sentimental feeling or something set up in men's hearts. If so, then the Kingdom of God enters into mortal man. But these plain scriptures say that it is men after they are no longer flesh and blood — but resurrected into spirit-composed bodies — who can *enter into* the Kingdom of God. It does not enter into men. Men enter into it — *after* they are resurrected in glory — *after* they are no longer "flesh and blood."

Is it the "god within you"? Absolutely not. It is not something that was born inside of man, or that has ever entered into man. It is something man may enter *after* he is "born again."

What about the British Empire? Well, I have been pretty well over the British Isles, Canada and Australia — and all of the multi-thousands I have seen there were flesh-and-blood humans. They *did* enter the British Empire — but they *cannot* enter the Kingdom of God, in their present flesh-and-blood life. So the British Empire *cannot* be the Kingdom of God.

But, someone misunderstanding the Scripture may ask, "Didn't Jesus Himself say that the Kingdom of God is 'within you?'" In the 17th chapter of Luke, verse 21, King James translation, is a MIS-TRANSLATION which has led some to suppose the Kingdom of God is some thought or feeling or sentiment within man.

In Hearts of Pharisees?

Let's take a good look at this. First realize, if it does say that, it is contradicted by all the other Scriptures I am giving you in this article. If the Bible does contradict itself, you can't believe it anyway — so then it still would prove nothing.

First, *to whom* is Jesus speaking? Read it!

"And when He was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, He answered them and said, the kingdom of God cometh not with observation: neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you" (Luke 17:20-21).

He was speaking to the unconverted, carnal, hypocritical, lying Pharisees. Notice, "He answered *them*, and said." It was the Pharisees who asked Him the question. Were they in the CHURCH? No, never! If one thinks the Kingdom is the CHURCH — and the Kingdom was "within" the Pharisees — was THE CHURCH *within* the Pharisees? Such an assumption is rather ridiculous, now, isn't it?

Notice again, precisely WHAT JESUS SAID. Remember the CHURCH had not yet been set up. Jesus *did not say* "the Kingdom of God shall be set up in your hearts." He said *none* of the things people interpret *into* this verse. He said to the Pharisees "the Kingdom of God *IS*" — present tense *is*, *NOW!* Whatever He was saying the Kingdom of God is, He made it present tense, not future.

Luke *wrote* these words, originally, in the *Greek* language. The Greek words he wrote were translated into the English words "within you." But, if you have a Bible with the marginal references, you will notice that this is alternately rendered "*in the midst of you*," or "*among you*." The *context* indicates that this indeed is the better translation. If your Bible is a Moffatt translation, you will notice that the translation recognized that Jesus was talking of His *reign* or *rule*, at the head of *government*.

This is the Moffatt translation of the same verse: "He answered them, 'The Reign of God is not coming as you hope to catch sight of it; no one will say, "Here it is" or "There it is," for the Reign of GOD IS NOW IN YOUR MIDST.'"

The Revised Standard translation renders it "the Kingdom of God is in the midst of you." All these translations render it *present tense*.

Jesus was not talking about a church soon to be organized. He

The Kingdom of God cannot be the church, for the Kingdom of God is something that flesh and blood humans just cannot enter into!

was not talking about sentiments in the mind or heart. He was talking about His REIGN, as the Messiah! The Pharisees were not asking Him about a church. They knew nothing of any New Testament church soon to be started. They were not asking about a pretty sentiment. They knew, from the prophecies of Daniel, Isaiah, Jeremiah and others, that their Messiah was to come. They overlooked completely the prophecies of His first appearing as the "Lamb of God," to be slain for the sins of humanity — being born as a babe, growing up, being rejected and despised by them, as recorded in Isaiah 53. They looked only to the prophecies of His *second* coming as the all-conquering and ruling KING. This the Pharisees anticipated as the Kingdom of God.

World-Ruling Government

Jesus set them straight. He explained that it would not be a local or limited Kingdom for the Jews only. It would not be merely one of many human and visible kingdoms which men could point out or see, and say, "This is it, *here*"; or "that is the Kingdom, over *there*." But He, Himself, was born to be the KING of that Kingdom, as He plainly told Pilate (John 18:36-37). The Bible uses the terms "king" and "kingdom" interchangeably (see Daniel 7:17-18, 23). The KING of the future Kingdom was, then and there, standing *in the midst of them*. And in the language in which He spoke to them, that is precisely what He said — as the marginal rendering and other translations state.

Jesus went on, in the following verses, to describe His second coming, *when* the Kingdom of God shall rule ALL THE EARTH. In Luke 17:24 He refers to lightning flashing, just as in Matthew 24:27, describing His

second coming to RULE the whole world. Verse 26 — as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be when Christ comes in power and glory as world Ruler. Verse 30 — the day when He is *revealed*.

Plainly, Jesus was not saying that the Kingdom of God was *within* those Christ-hating, hypocritical Pharisees. Nor was He saying that the church would be the Kingdom.

Now continue with the other scriptures, and it becomes very PLAIN!

Jesus distinctly said that those Pharisees *would not be in* the Kingdom of God. To them, He said: "There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye [you Pharisees] shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, *in the kingdom of God*, and you yourselves thrust out. And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down *in the kingdom of God*" (Luke 13:28-29).

The Kingdom of God is something men shall ENTER — at the resurrection of the just! Yet Abraham is *not there yet* (see Heb. 11:13, 39-40).

Has Not Yet Appeared

But one may ask, did not Jesus Christ say the Kingdom of God was "at hand"? Yes, we quoted this, in the beginning of this article, from Mark 1:15. This naturally led some to mistake what He said, and what He meant, and assume the Kingdom of God was established and set up during Jesus' ministry. Thus some supposed it was the church.

But Jesus did not say the Kingdom of God had been established. It was now being *preached* (Luke 16:16). He did not say it was already here. Jesus, Himself, corrected this false notion. Jesus "added and spake a parable... because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear" (Luke 19:11). WHY did Jesus speak this parable? Because some, even then, mistakenly thought the Kingdom *should immediately appear* — because some thought it would be THE CHURCH!

Now continue: "He said, therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return" (verse 12).

Christ is that "nobleman." He is speaking of His ascension to the throne of God His Father, in heaven. Notice, He went there to be given rulership of the Kingdom — to receive the Kingdom. Notice, too, He is to return, when He has received it! *He has not yet returned!* Other scriptures explain this. We will turn to them a little later.

Continuing the parable, spoken because some thought the Kingdom of God was immediately, then, in the first century, to appear: "And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading" (verse 15). When Christ returns, we shall all be called before the judgment seat of Christ — to give account!

Now notice in verse 17, the one who had gained ten pounds is given authority to RULE CITIES — "have thou authority over ten cities"! To the one who had gained five pounds, he said, "Be thou also over five cities."

This is speaking of the SECOND COMING OF CHRIST — and of His delegating authority to rule to saints converted during this Christian era, between Christ's first and second appearances on earth.

This parable, then, was spoken to make clear to us that the Kingdom of God is a literal GOVERNMENT, to be set up AT CHRIST'S SECOND COMING — and not before! The CHURCH, then, cannot be the Kingdom of God. But the true Church of God is to be changed, by a resurrection and instantaneous change from mortal to immortal, INTO the Kingdom of God. The church, when all its members have been changed to immortality, shall BECOME the Kingdom of God. But it is not, now, the Kingdom!

Saints to Rule

Now read the description of Christ's actual receiving authority to RULE the Kingdom. He is the nobleman who went to heaven to receive this kingship, and to return.

We have already seen how the prophet Daniel recorded the setting up of the Kingdom of God — at

The church of God, when all its members have been miraculously changed to immortality, shall become the Kingdom of God. But it is not, now, the Kingdom.

Christ's coming — to consume all present national governments on earth, and set up the world-ruling Kingdom of God. This was recorded in the second chapter. Notice now chapter seven:

"I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man [Christ] came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him" (verse 13). Jesus continually referred to Himself as the "Son of man" — all through Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Christ ascended to heaven in clouds (Acts 1:9). He ascended to the very throne of God in heaven (Mark 16:19). Now continue:

"And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed" (Dan. 7:14).

That is plain! Christ ascended to the throne of God in heaven. God is sovereign over the entire universe. This vision shows God Almighty, Father of the resurrected living Christ, conferring on Christ dominion. Dominion means sovereign or supreme ruling authority. Also given to Him was "a kingdom." Where is that Kingdom to be? It says "a kingdom that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him." The people, and the nations speaking different languages, are here on earth. He is given dominion over ALL NATIONS — the whole world!

Important Word "UNTIL"

Now will you read, in your own Bible, Acts 3:21? It says the heavens have received Jesus Christ UNTIL — not permanently, just until a certain

time. Until when? Until the times of RESTITUTION of all things. Restitution means restoration to a former state or condition. It is speaking of restoring God's laws, God's government — of restoring happiness and universal PEACE.

In this 7th chapter of Daniel, the prophet had experienced a dream, and visions. He had seen four wild animals. Notice verse 16; *the interpretation* begins verse 17. This is GOD'S inspired interpretation — not mine: "These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth. But the saints of the most High shall take the KINGDOM, and possess the kingdom forever, even for ever and ever" (Dan. 7:17-18).

Notice it! Not *only* is Christ to rule — but the *saints* — that is, converted true Christians — those begotten as sons of God — are to take and possess the Kingdom! They are to rule under, and *with* Christ! In the New Testament it is recorded that converted saints are co-heirs with Christ!

In this same 7th chapter, Daniel explained another power. The fourth beast of his dream — the fourth empire (the Roman Empire) — was pictured as an animal having ten horns, explained here and in Revelation 13 and Revelation 17 as ten revivals or resurrections of the Roman Empire, after its original fall in A.D. 476. But among them — after A.D. 476 — arose another little horn — a religious kingdom, actually ruling over the last seven of the other "horns" or revived Roman kingdoms (verse 20).

Now read about this "little horn" — the religious kingdom — verse 21: "I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them, UNTIL [note, another "UNTIL"] the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom."

The saints — then no longer human flesh and blood, but immortal — are to possess the Kingdom, at the second coming of Christ!

Jesus Christ makes that plain. It is Christ who is speaking in Revelation 3:21, and 2:26-27: "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with

me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in His throne." The Father's throne is in heaven — where Jesus Christ is *now*; but Christ's throne, in which the saints shall sit with Him, is the throne of David, in Jerusalem (Luke 1:32).

Further: "And he that overcometh and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron."

Can't Know the TIME

After His resurrection, on the Mount of Olives at the very hour of His ascension to heaven, Jesus was explaining to His disciples how they would receive the inspiring God-begetting POWER of the holy spirit on the approaching day of Pentecost.

His disciples wanted to know whether the Kingdom of God was to be set up *at that time!* The CHURCH was established on that imminent day of Pentecost. Was *that* CHURCH, then, to be the setting up of the Kingdom?

"Lord," they asked, "wilt thou *at this time* restore again the kingdom to Israel?"

Jesus again made plain that the church is *not* the Kingdom.

"And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in His own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost [Spirit] is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight" (Acts 1:7-9).

The commission He had given the CHURCH was to preach His gospel to all the world. They were to receive the holy spirit, begetting them as saints — as Christians — putting them into God's CHURCH. This would infuse them with the power to carry out the mission of the church. But it was NOT the setting up of the Kingdom of God. Of that they were not to know the time.

Just what did Jesus mean, "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons"? He explained it another

time. It is recorded in Matthew 24:36: There He was speaking of the end of this world, and His second coming:

"But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." He was speaking of His second coming and the setting up of the Kingdom, the time of which no man knows, but only the Father.

However, though we do not, even now, know the day or the hour, *we do know*, from God's prophecies, *that it is today very near!* Notice this, in Luke 21:25-32: He had been foretelling the world events, *right now beginning*, leading to "distress of nations" in world troubles and world wars, "with perplexity" — "men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth" — world trouble such as never before experienced. "When ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand. Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled."

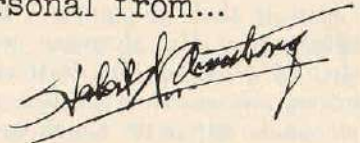
The Two Fateful Alternatives

This world trouble began in 1914, with World War I. There was a recess from 1918 until 1939. We are in a second recess now — although we are in what we call "COLD WAR." But now at last we have nuclear energy. We have hydrogen bombs stockpiled in such power and volume that they could blast all human life off this planet several times over. There are two other destructive weapons today in existence, either of which could erase humanity from the earth.

Today world-famous scientists say only a super world government can prevent world cosmocide. Yet MEN cannot and *will not* get together to form such a world-ruling government.

It's time we face the hard, cold, realistic FACT: humanity has two alternatives: either there *is* an Almighty, all-powerful God who is about to step in and set up THE KINGDOM OF GOD to rule all nations with supernatural and supranational FORCE to bring us PEACE — or else all human life will be obliterated (Matt. 24:22). □

Personal from...



(Continued from page 1)

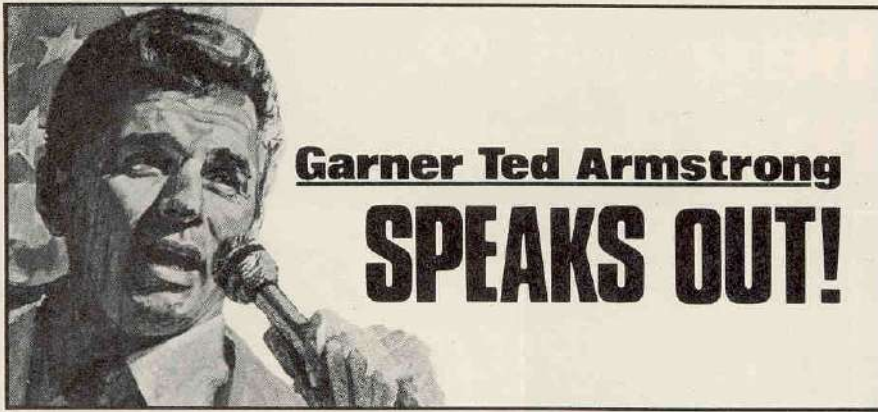
of the "new morality" has brought about, first, far more openness and frankness of discussion and conversation about sex and morals; and second, a much more lax behavior, especially among the oncoming younger generation. And one of its greatest dangers is the advent of a new and almost total PERMISSIVENESS.

I think it probably started in the "Roaring 20s" in the days of the "flappers." Those, especially the girls who were in their late teens and early 20s in the 1920s, became much more permissive. They married and became mothers, but they relaxed authority and parental guidance over their children. Then World War II produced another generation — still more permissive, exercising even less authority and parental guidance over growing children.

Discipline relaxed and virtually disappeared in almost all of the public schools. And now, in the past decade, most of the college and university campuses have provided "co-ed dorms" where men are free to visit girls in their rooms, and girls are free to visit men with almost no restrictions.

On Ambassador College campuses the conditions have been different. Here there is discipline, though we have recognized that even when using discipline, a proper balance must be maintained. Faculty and administration cannot build and develop right CHARACTER in students with a harsh and overzealous use of authority. But I think the character of Ambassador students — and graduates — speaks for itself.

Of course the worldwide conspiracy against marriage and the attack against the FAMILY institution has not, as yet, made any sensational dent in the number of marriages taking place. But it is becoming a THREAT which I feel our readers should know about. □



Garner Ted Armstrong SPEAKS OUT!

Will America Have a Tricentennial?

In our Bicentennial year, we Americans have much for which to be thankful. This country has given us precious rights that few peoples in history have ever enjoyed.

On our 200th birthday, we are still the greatest single power the world has ever known. Blessed with the most fabulously rich piece of real estate available on this good earth, we have risen to dizzying heights of technological and scientific achievement. American footprints dot the moon. Our language, our culture, and our products girdle the globe. Our standard of living is still the envy of the world. I, as an American citizen, am exceedingly *thankful* for all these blessings.

Nevertheless, our American way of life is being seriously eroded by mounting crime, political chicanery, divorce, pornography, racial stress, pollution and massive urban crises.

And on the world scene, a number of problems threaten the very survival of the human race. If the oceans were to die, mankind would probably last no more than a 100 years before breathing his last. Add to that the largely unrestrained proliferation of nuclear weapons, greatly intensifying the possibility of a thermonuclear holocaust. When you sum it all up, you wonder whether any Americans will be around for our Tricentennial celebration — 100 years from now.

It goes without saying that you also wonder whether or not there will be any *citizens of the world* left by then. The answer to that question is the very substance of the good news of the kingdom of God.

The following words were spoken by Jesus Christ well over nineteen hundred years ago. But they were never truer than they are today:

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: *repent ye, and believe the gospel!*" (Mark 1:15). The word "gospel" simply means "good news." Jesus Christ was the newscaster who announced the good news of the kingdom of God.

He prefaced this wonderful good news with some stark warnings about, first of all, a plethora of false religion. Then he talked about the outbreak of world wars, famines, epidemics and earthquakes in different places — look what has happened recently in Guatemala, in Italy and in the Soviet Union — adding: "For then shall be *great tribulation*, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, nor ever shall be" (Matthew 24:21).

That's the bad news. The good news comes in the next verse: "Except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake *those days shall be shortened!*" (verse 22).

While God absolutely gives us an incontrovertible guarantee that mankind will survive 2076, he gives no such guarantee that the United States of America will survive as a national entity that long.

The answer to our national survival depends on our spiritual status as a nation. Right now we're running a pretty high temperature. *If* we don't repent of some of our national and individual problems pretty soon, it may be too late to

reverse many of our major national evils. *Repentance is the key to our national survival!*

An Old Testament prophetic book contains an ancient admonition for America today, if we would only listen and heed! The ancient prophet Jeremiah relayed God's stern warning to the Jews of his day who were then threatened by a mighty, heavily armed foreign power. "Thus saith the Lord of hosts . . . *Amend your ways and your doings*, and I will cause you to dwell in this place" (Jer. 7:3).

The wonderful promised land of ancient Israel is not without parallel to this great country of ours today. Only a couple of Israel's twelve tribes were left in the land by the time of Jeremiah. A sin-laden house of Israel (the northern ten tribes) had long since been driven out. Only the house of Judah — the southern nation — remained. Jeremiah was tirelessly stating and restating *the conditions for their continuance* in the Promised Land. Those conditions have even greater import for the U.S. today.

As recorded in the seventh chapter, Jeremiah began to spell out some of the specifics. "For *if ye thoroughly amend your ways and your doings; if ye thoroughly execute judgment between a man and his neighbour; if ye oppress not the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and shed not innocent blood [murder] . . . then will I cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers . . .*" (vs. 5-7).

The ancient house of Judah ignored God's warning through Jeremiah. God kept his word! Nebuchadnezzar vanquished the nation and brought it into captivity.

Can we afford to gamble on the possibility that God will deal differently with us today? Maybe we'd better realize that God says he's no respecter of persons and that he does not change!

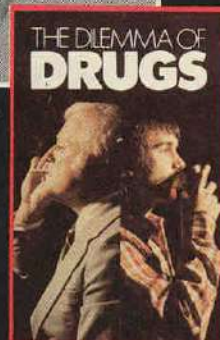
Can't we see that *national repentance* is our only viable alternative? We need to drop to our knees before our God and cry out to him in heartfelt repentance for deliverance from our awesome national problems. Our Bicentennial year wouldn't be a bad time to begin! □

DRUGS: the good, the bad, and the deadly



We are all familiar with mood-altering drugs such as heroin, LSD, mescaline and the like. Their dangers have been well publicized. But most of us are unaware that whiskey, coffee and cigarettes also contain mood-altering drugs. The alcohol, caffeine and nicotine in these commonly used products can, if misused, be as dangerous as some of the illegal drugs. From booze to hash, from caffeine to heroin, drugs have become an integral part of our way of life. For good and for bad. For

medical purposes, for pleasure, for escape from reality. If you'd like to know more about the full scope of drug use in our society — who uses drugs, why, and the attendant benefits and dangers — write for the free booklet *The Dilemma of Drugs*. Send your request to *The Plain Truth*, Pasadena, CA 91123. (If you live outside the United States, see inside front cover for nearest address.)



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