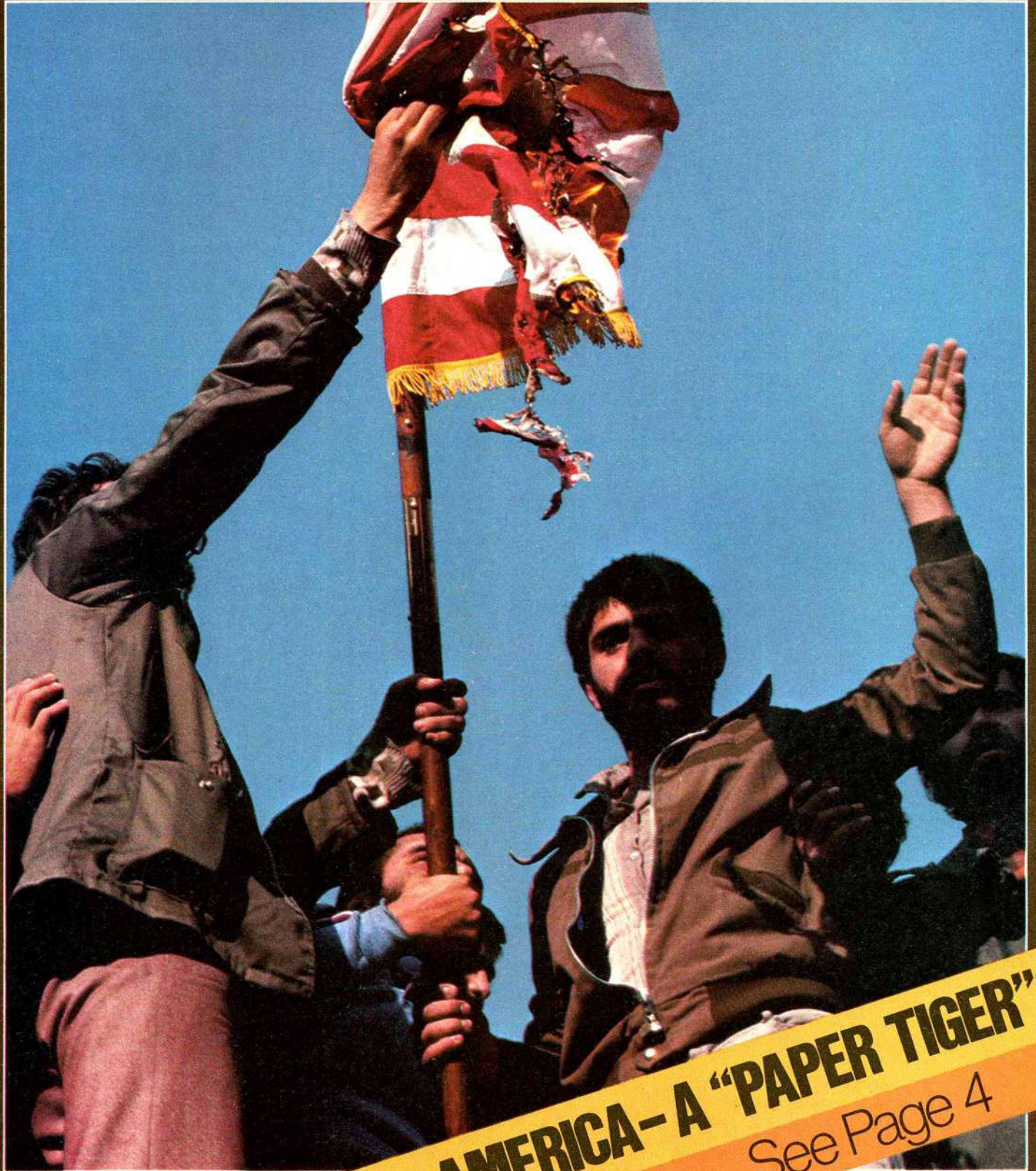


THE PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding



AMERICA—A “PAPER TIGER”?
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ABOUT OUR COVER

The American flag is set ablaze by anti-U.S. demonstrators in Tehran, Iran. Militant followers of the Ayatollah Khomeini, demanding the return of the exiled Shah, stormed the U.S. embassy in early November, capturing embassy personnel as hostages. Why is Washington seemingly incapable of protecting its interests and its citizens around the world? Has America become a "paper tiger"? The answers are found in the article beginning on page 4 of this issue.

Alain Mingam—Gamma

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Personal from...

Robert A. Armstrong

What is the most universal erroneous and false belief and teaching—that has caused the world's evils, troubles, sufferings and sorrows?

Fifty-three years ago I said to my wife, "All these churches can't be wrong!"

Well, could one single denomination of traditional Christianity—whether Protestant or Catholic—be wrong in its teaching on some one point? They do teach differently on many or most points of doctrine and belief, so some, if not most, must definitely be in error on some teachings here and there.

But if some, or most, are mistaken in some beliefs here and there, could it be possible that all of traditional Christianity today could be in error, misled, or deceived unintentionally on some major point of universal belief?

Now perhaps many people do not believe in the existence of a devil any more.

Yet your Bible says the whole world (including its religions) has been deceived by Satan the devil (Revelation 12:9). The inhabitants of the earth have been deceived by him through deceived religion (Revelation 17:2).

But your Bible also says the time is coming when God Almighty shall send an angel from heaven, "and [lay] hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and [bind] him a thousand years, and cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years [shall be] fulfilled" (Revelation 20:1-3).

Just who is this Satan? Where did he come from? Did God create a devil to deceive us? He is a former archangel, who was perfect in all his ways as God created him (Ezekiel 28:15). But he had a mind, and free moral agency with the right of free choice—forming his own decisions—just as God has given you and me and all humans that same free moral agency. Otherwise we could have no character.

This great archangel was named Lucifer, and God set him on the throne of the whole earth to administer the government of God over angels which inhabited the earth prior to the creation of man.

But this powerful Lucifer turned his angels into rebellion against God (II Peter 2:4-6).

But now could it be possible, in such a Satan-deceived world, that ALL denominations of traditional Christianity could be deceived—NOT KNOWING IT—into a WRONG BELIEF on a most important BASIC belief and teaching?

Sounds preposterous—IMPOSSIBLE?

Wait till you see the FACTS of what has happened, straight from the infallible WORD OF GOD HIMSELF! Consider what you never saw, heard of, or understood before! Open your mind to PROVED TRUTH—astonishing though it may be.

It might seem incredulous—yet it is TRUE!

That most widely accepted, universally believed error is the teaching that God is now trying desperately to GET THE WHOLE WORLD SPIRITUALLY "SAVED." That this, now, is the ONLY day of salvation. That Satan is trying to keep everybody "lost"—and that all who do not accept—receive Christ NOW in our time, will be "LOST"—condemned to an eternity in hellfire. And time is about up—soon it will be too late—soon probation will close.

The sole SOURCE of truth is GOD. He has given us HIS WORD. In it He tells us *whether* this, now, is the only day of salvation—or even the time of salvation for all who are willing. He *tells* us whether those who do not now accept Christ are "lost."

To understand we must go *back* to the beginning, and open our eyes to what GOD reveals from that time up until NOW, and even into the future. But our minds must be open or the shocking TRUTH cannot enter.

Jesus said: "No man CAN come to me, except the Father which sent me draw him." That says all are SHUT OFF—*unable* to come to Christ, except those whom the Father has predestined to be called NOW!

Is that UNFAIR on God's part? Are you sure you UNDERSTAND WHY Jesus said that—WHY God cut ALL HUMANITY off from Him and from access to Him, up to now—except the VERY few God has predestined to be called NOW? WHY God "hides Himself" from the world?

It all started with Adam in the Garden of Eden.

Now see if you can understand (*Continued on page 44*)

Part One:

A Voice Cries Out Amid Religious Confusion

Why the babylon of religious confusion in the world? Why so many differing religions? More than 250 denominations in Christianity, besides Judaism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Islam, Shintoism, Taoism, agnosticism, atheism and evolution.

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Editor's note: We are printing, serially, a new book by Herbert W. Armstrong on the same title as this article. The book will appear in bookstores later this year.

How could the world have become so mixed up? Out of this spiritual wilderness, a voice cries out in clarity and power, decrying this world confusion, with the reassuring TRUTH of the world's only and SURE HOPE!

Chapter I—Why This Book?

What a travesty of truth!

Of all the religions on earth, save the persecuted *true* Church of God, founded A.D. 31 by Jesus Christ, NOT ONE knows *who* or *what* God is!

NOT ONE knows *what* or *why* man is!

NOT ONE knows the true WAY to happiness!

NOT ONE knows what happens in the hereafter!

NOT ONE knows WHY humans

were placed on earth—the real PURPOSE and MEANING of life!

NOT ONE knows what *is* the gospel of Jesus Christ! NOT ONE knows how to bring WORLD PEACE!

Incredible? Yes, but TRUE!

The world's number one concern today is the question of human survival! Science and technology have produced the weapons of mass destruction that could blast *all human life* off this earth!

So many nations now possess nuclear weapons that one madman could ignite the nuclear World War III that could erase all human life from this planet!

Yet the truth of God could have saved humanity from this threat and all its evils!

Stop a moment!

THINK on this!

You live in a world seemingly far advanced in science, technology, higher education and diffusion of knowledge. We think it's a world of GREAT PROGRESS. We send men to cavort about on the moon, and return

them safely back to earth! Unmanned spacecraft land on Mars, and send back to earth close-up photographs of the Martian surface! Other unmanned spacecraft fly close to Jupiter and send back astonishing pictures of Jupiter! Surgeons transplant human hearts!

It's a magic, entrancing push-button world where work is done largely by machines. It's the glamour dreamworld of the three "L's"—leisure, luxury, and license.

But paradoxically, it's also a world of IGNORANCE! Even the educated *know not* how to solve their problems and the world's evils! It *knows not* the way of PEACE or the TRUE VALUES of life!

More than half of the world's population is still illiterate, in the grip of abject poverty, living in filth and squalor! The grim reapers of starvation and disease take human lives by the millions!

It's an unhappy, restless world in frustration, staring a hopeless future in the face. It's a world ridden with



Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong proclaims true causes of world evils before TV cameras in Phoenix, Arizona.

escalating crime and violence, immorality, injustice (even in its courts of law), dishonesty, corruption in government and business, and continual wars, pointing now to the *final* nuclear World War III.

WHY this paradox of "PROGRESS" amid DEGENERATION?

God's Truth Would Have Solved!

True religion—God's truth—would have pointed the way, and led to happiness, abundance, and eternal salvation.

When you see what's wrong with the world's religions, you'll have pinpointed the *cause* of all world evils!

What *is* religion? It is defined as the worship of, and service to, God or the supernatural. It is man's relation to his Creator. Some religions have perverted that definition. They worship not the God who created them, but gods which *they* have created. Religion involves one's conduct, his principles, his way of life, and his concept of the hereafter.

The real CAUSES of all this world's religious confusion—and all its evils—are revealed in SEVEN BASIC TRUTHS that decry this babylon of religious confusion and the resulting world chaos!

But now God's time has come! He now sends a voice to cry out with amplified world-covering power to reveal the *way out* of this senseless madness, into the world of PEACE and

righteousness that soon *shall* grip the earth!

In the book of Isaiah is a "NOW" prophecy: "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord. . . . lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid, and say. . . . Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him" (Isaiah 40:3, 9-10).

That voice now cries out!

The prophet Malachi confirmed this: "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts" (Malachi 3:1).

Both of these prophecies have a dual application. First, they refer to John the Baptist, who prepared the way before Jesus' human ministry more than 1900 years ago. BUT, as a type, or forerunner, they foretell one to prepare the way before Christ's SECOND COMING as the King of kings and Lord of lords to RULE OVER ALL NATIONS!

Malachi's prophecy, like Isaiah's, if you will read on past the first verse, refers primarily to a human messenger preparing the way before Christ's now imminent SECOND COMING, this time in supreme POWER AND GLORY as Ruler over all nations!

Understand the duality principle here. These prophecies refer to a "type" or forerunner.

John the Baptist was a voice crying out in the *physical* wilderness of the Jordan River area, preparing for the human *physical* Jesus' first coming to a *material* temple at Jerusalem, to a *physical* Judah. But that was a type, or forerunner of a voice "lifted up" (greatly amplified by modern printing, radio and TV), crying out in the midst of today's *spiritual* wilderness of religious confusion, announcing the imminency of Christ's SECOND coming as the spiritually GLORIFIED Christ, to His spiritual temple (the Church resurrected to spirit immortality).

He came, over 1900 years ago, to announce the FUTURE Kingdom of God. He's coming this time to ESTABLISH that Kingdom. That end-time last warning message is now going out worldwide in amplified power.

It's going before kings, emperors, presidents, prime ministers of nations—and to their peoples, on all continents of the earth!

In this series of articles we give you SEVEN MAJOR TRUTHS which belie this modern confusion of tongues, and concurrently provide seven basic PROOFS that identify the one original true Church of God founded by, and today headed by, the living Jesus Christ. □

(To Be Continued)



AMERICA - A "PAPER TIGER"?

The United States stood by helplessly as frenzied mobs stormed its embassy in Iran, capturing its citizens as hostages. A month before, President Carter capitulated to the Soviet Union over the stationing of Russian troops in Cuba. Why is the greatest power the world has ever known so weak and ineffectual? There are definite reasons—and you need to know the answers.

by Gene H. Hogberg

The crowds whooped it up in a mixture of hatred and wild glee. Placards proclaimed "Death to America Is a Beautiful Thought" and "Khomaini Struggles, Carter Trembles." President Carter was burned in effigy many times over. American flags were set ablaze time and again.

In the most humiliating episode of all, Iranian "students" were seen using "Old Glory" to haul trash on the besieged U.S. embassy grounds, finally stuffing the very symbol of the

United States into the trash bin like any dirty, oil-soaked rag.

And No Help Came

Inside the besieged United States embassy compound in Tehran, Iran—a slice of sovereign American territory—over sixty U.S. citizens waited for their release or rescue. After over two weeks of imprisonment, thirteen captives were released—leaving 49 possibly facing a mock trial as spies.

Seventy-five years ago, their or-

deal would have been a short one. The might of the U.S. military under Commander-in-Chief and President Teddy Roosevelt would have quickly been brought to bear in the situation. More likely than not, the ugly incident would never have erupted in the first place. If U.S. prestige—respect for American power—were as high in 1979 as it was in 1904, the zealots of Iran's Ayatollah Khomaini would not have dared scale the walls of the diplomatic compound.

The issue quickly boils down to the



"YANKEE GO HOME!" From left: Iranian student displays photographs of President Carter and the ex-Shah in front of captured U.S. embassy in Tehran; poster bearing caricature of Shah is paraded through streets of Tehran; Iranians use American flag to haul garbage on embassy grounds; jeering mob in Tehran demonstrates against U.S., carrying effigy of Uncle Sam.

factor of respect, or the lack of it. America has become the Rodney Dangerfield of the world ("I don't get no respect").* Because the U.S. enjoys so little respect and its worldwide prestige is so low, Khomeini's mobs could get away with storming the American embassy with no fear of reprisal. As former Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger said: "An image of weakness is going to elicit this kind of behavior. Wild as the Ayatollah seems to be, he would not dare to touch the Soviet embassy."

Schlesinger's words seemed almost prophetic. Shortly afterward, another U.S. embassy was stormed, this time in Islamabad, capital of Pakistan. One hundred diplomatic personnel were fortunately rescued by Pakistani soldiers.

The rioters had erroneously be-

lieved the U.S. to be responsible for damage the previous day to Islam's holiest shrine in Mecca. It was felt that some of Khomeini's followers may have spread the rumor.

A Policy of Impotence?

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, alarmed at the shocking episode unfolding in Iran, said that America "must not elevate impotence" on the international scene "into a political principle. . . . We must not turn a sense of our limits into a doctrine of abdication, for without our commitment, there can be no world security. . . . Without faith in us, our friends will despair, and without respect for our strength, our adversaries will be emboldened."

The most ringing denunciation of American foreign policy to date has been delivered by syndicated columnist George F. Will. He wrote: "Enduring the contempt of the con-

temptible is just one severity that life has in store for a declining nation.

"A nation that loses a war [in Vietnam] that it could have won by confidently employing its conventional military assets had better get used to humiliation. . . . A nation that has no serious response when three ambassadors are murdered (in Cyprus, Sudan and Afghanistan) had better get used to spittle on its cheeks. . . . A nation that collaborates in throwing to the wolves an ally like the Shah should not expect respect from the wolves. . . ."

Follows Cuban Retreat

The grim Iranian affair amounted to the second slap in the face for Uncle Sam in a month's time. In early October, President Carter acquiesced to the Soviets over the presence in Cuba of their 3,000-man armed brigade. The President had initially said he would not accept the "status quo" in Cuba, but ended up

*Rodney Dangerfield is an American comedian noted for his "I don't get no respect" routines.

doing precisely that. Mr. Brezhnev, in a much stronger position than his predecessor in a previous Cuban crisis (Nikita Khrushchev in 1962), would not budge an inch.

The Monroe Doctrine—once the cornerstone of U.S. foreign relations—now lies as dead as a doornail. (It's been dormant since 1962 anyway.) President Monroe, in his famous message to Congress in 1823, said with regard to independent Western Hemisphere countries: "... We could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing them, or controlling in any other manner their destiny, by any European power, in any other light than as the manifestation of any unfriendly disposition towards the United States."

Many have thought that Monroe's unilateral "doctrine" was directed mainly toward the colonial powers of Western Europe (Spain, France and England). However, the initial thrust was against Russia. Reports Latin American historian Donald M. Dozer: "This principle was intended to thwart the territorial pretensions of the Russian Czar, Alexander I, along the northwest coast of the North American continent. A specific warning to this effect had already been pointedly communicated by Secretary of State John Quincy Adams to the Czar's government, and in Monroe's message it was broadened into a general principle."

Now the Russians have been allowed to get away with stationing a permanent armed force in the Western Hemisphere, 90 miles from U.S. shores. And late reports indicate the Soviets are upgrading facilities at the Cienfuegos naval base for use by their naval vessels, including submarines.

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance even admits that one building the Soviets are erecting is of the same type they normally use for storage and repair of nuclear missiles! In 1970 the Soviets tried to sneak into Cienfuegos—but President Nixon put his foot down.

Why the Decline

How has the United States come to find itself in such a dilemma? A brief

review of current history gives us the answer.

In 1945 America emerged from World War II as the strongest military and economic power in the world. Never had there been a nation of such preeminence.

Because of its unchallenged position, the U.S. was thrust into the role of leader of the free world. It helped put defeated enemies, Japan and Germany, as well as the rest of war-torn Europe, back on their feet. It thereby prevented these strategic areas from falling under the world's newest threat to freedom—communism.

Washington subsequently proceeded to construct a global system of alliances to contain the advances of communism. For a while it succeeded. But slowly America's resolve began to erode. Communist aggression was thwarted but not defeated in 1953 in Korea. U.S. leadership spurned the advice of General Douglas MacArthur, who told both houses of Congress that there could be "no substitute for victory."

The United States failed to respond to an opportunity caused by relative Soviet weakness in 1956. A popular uprising overthrew the Communist regime in Hungary. Freedom lasted for about a week while Moscow waited to see if Washington would step in with more than mere words to seal the pro-West victory. When Washington did nothing, Red Army tanks rolled in.

When a similar event threatened to occur in Czechoslovakia in 1968, the Kremlin knew it didn't even have to wait for an American response. It would not be forthcoming.

Pride of Power Broken

The folly of fighting a "limited" war in the style of the Korea stalemate was doomed to be repeated later—in Vietnam—with far more devastating consequences. After an expenditure of \$300 billion and 55,000 American lives, Vietnam was lost.

Quickly, in domino fashion (proving that the theory was correct after all), went Cambodia and Laos. The appalling horror of Cambodia today—with the gruesome prospect of the starvation of three million people

(the ruthless Pol Pot regime having already killed off another three million previously) could have been prevented had the United States fought to win in Vietnam.

Furthermore, the experience in Southeast Asia shattered American confidence. True to Bible prophecy, the pride of America's power was broken (Leviticus 26:19).

Shortly after the Vietnam debacle in 1975, the pace of aggression and opportunism around the world picked up. Washington was in no mood to react. Angola was lost to the West—with victory in sight—in 1975, Ethiopia in 1978.

The fall of Ethiopia was extremely critical because another Communist government had already established itself across the southern tip of the Red Sea in the former British protectorate of Aden (a strategic "seagate" Britain gave up). The new People's Democratic Republic of Yemen—supplied with money from Moscow and radical Libya—now trains leftist terrorists from all over the world in the art of guerrilla warfare.

Cold War "Wished Away"

While the challenge of communism and radical "liberation" movements grew all the more severe, the most remarkable change of all occurred in Washington. The new Administration which took over in January 1977 unilaterally declared that the Cold War was over!

In a major speech at Notre Dame University in the spring of 1977, President Carter exclaimed that the American public was ready to shed its previous "inordinate fear of communism." Thus, with a whiff of rhetoric, the global struggle for power in existence since the end of World War II was magically whisked away. Better yet, *wished* away.

According to this new approach, world problems should henceforth be viewed in the light of supposedly commonly shared "human issues" instead of concentrating further on "political confrontations."

The man who became Mr. Carter's National Security Advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski, had earlier outlined this
(Continued on page 40)



Catherine Leroy—Liaison

Northern Ireland

THE UNWANTED WAR

Bloodshed and terrorism in troubled Northern Ireland show no sign of letting up. What is the solution to the protracted violence on the Emerald Isle?

by Keith W. Stump

“**T**heir feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood . . . wasting and destruction are in their paths. *The way of peace they know not. . .*” (Isaiah 59:7-8).

Had the prophet Isaiah been transported through time to the battle-scarred streets of modern-day Belfast itself, he could not have rendered a more accurate description of

the decades-long violence which has wracked Northern Ireland (also known as Ulster). Outside of the continuing conflict in the Middle East, no problem today appears as intractable and seemingly farther from solution than that of Ireland.

Indeed, the situation has reached the point where many in Ulster have come to regard the bombings, shootings, barbed wire, street checkpoints and mil-

itary patrols as normal! No one seems to know the way to achieve peace.

2,000 Killed

Last August marked the tenth anniversary of the dispatching of British troops to the anguished province to put down violence between the Protestant majority and the Roman Catholic minority—a conflict which has claimed nearly 2,000 lives (and

Map by Ron Grove



tions of the island, replacing them with tens of thousands of loyal Protestants from Scotland and England—the ancestors of the majority of modern-day Ulstermen, or Protestant Scots-Irish. Their strategy was based on the premise that a Protestant community in Ireland would weaken Catholic opposition to English rule.

In 1649 Oliver Cromwell, the Protestant “Lord Protector” of temporarily kingless England, landed in Dublin with his army of 20,000 Ironsides and unleashed a reign of terror upon Ireland in an attempt to extinguish the spirit of rebellion forever—for which his name is cursed by Irishmen to this day.

Four decades later, in 1690, England’s Protestant King William of Orange routed Catholic forces under James II, England’s last Catholic monarch, at the decisive Battle of the Boyne—sealing Protestant control in Ulster for centuries to come. Banners bearing the slogan “Remember 1690” are still seen in parades in Protestant areas of Northern Ireland during Ulster’s annual “marching season.”

On January 1, 1801, the “Act of Union” took effect, bringing full political union between Great Britain and Ireland—much to the chagrin of the majority of Irishmen. British notoriety reached even greater lows a few decades later during the Irish potato famine of the 1840s, when directly needed food was exported from Ireland to England while the Irish were dying in multiple tens of thousands of starvation.

Partition

Throughout the following decades, the “Irish Question” continued to hang heavy about the neck of Britain. The political dilemma often dominated larger foreign and domestic policy questions. Clamorings for “Home Rule” in Ireland were regularly heard in London’s Houses of Parliament in Westminster, and the debate raged heatedly.

Irish sentiments finally came to a head in 1916, in the so-called “Easter Week Uprising” in Dublin—the start of the modern battle for independence from Britain. Led by the Sinn Fein (a political party demanding the political and cultural independence

disabled thousands more) over the past decade alone.

Only days after that grim anniversary, violence once again burst forth with a vengeance in the “Bloody Monday” bombing assassination of 79-year-old Earl Mountbatten of Burma, Britain’s wartime naval hero and Queen Elizabeth II’s cousin, by guerrillas of the Provisional Irish Republican Army (IRA). The bombing of Mountbatten’s yacht in Donegal Bay off the west Irish coast was followed five hours later by the ambush and murder of 18 British soldiers in Northern Ireland, also perpetrated by the IRA.

This bloody resurgence of headline-grabbing violence was a clear signal to all that the war in Northern Ireland had escalated to a new level, heightening already dangerous ten-

sions. Many believe a new wave of terrorism is on the way.

Stormy History

Violence is nothing new to Ireland. And Britain has been enmeshed in it since 1155, when Pope Adrian IV granted English King Henry II lordship over the Emerald Isle. For Britain, Ireland has been nothing but trouble ever since. And from the Irish viewpoint, Britain has been nothing but a curse.

Religion has played a large part in the Irish imbroglio from the start. Catholicism had been introduced into Ireland in 432 A.D. by Patrick, a Roman Catholic bishop who subsequently became a patron saint of Ireland. Over a thousand years later, Protestant British monarchs, including Queen Elizabeth I and James I, drove much of the native Irish Catholic population out of the northern por-



Michel Artault—Liaison

VIOLENCE AND BLOODSHED have become a virtual way of life to many in battered Northern Ireland. Left: British troops wearing protective riot gear move down a Belfast street in an attempt to quell fighting between Catholics and Protestants. Right: A bloodied British soldier takes a rest break prior to resuming his patrol. Over 13,000 British troops are stationed in Northern Ireland today.

of all of Ireland), the uprising was quickly crushed by British troops and its leaders executed. But it was nevertheless to be the catalyst leading ultimately to independence for a large portion of the island.

A compromise was finally reached in 1922 with the creation of the Catholic "Irish Free State." Under this arrangement, 26 of Ireland's 32 counties—80 percent of the island—were given dominion status within the British Empire. Britain hoped it would bring peace to Ireland. The six Protestant-dominated northern counties in Ulster Province—the size of the state of Connecticut—voted by referendum to remain part of Brit-

ain. They were granted their own parliament in Stormont Castle outside Belfast. (Britain dissolved Stormont in March 1972, and now administers the province directly from Westminster.)

In 1949, the Free State broke completely with Britain, proclaiming itself the sovereign "Republic of Ireland," or Eire. But Ulster remained firm as ever within the British fold. A clear majority of the people of Northern Ireland wished to remain an integral part of the United Kingdom.

Trouble in Ulster

Of Ulster's 1.5 million people, one million are Protestant and 500,000

are Roman Catholic. The two communities in Ulster became increasingly polarized following the creation of the Irish Republic. Catholics charged the Protestants with "gerrymandering tactics" to ensure that Catholics were not represented in the Stormont Parliament in proportion to their numbers.

Undeniably, Protestant control of political and economic power in Ulster has become virtually absolute. The Catholic minority today has little political clout, little voice in government. Discrimination has extended into other facets of society as well. Education is largely segregated by religion. Protestants go to state-

run schools; Catholics attend church schools. Housing, too, is divided in large measure along sectarian lines. There has also been a certain degree of discrimination against Catholics in employment, with Catholics holding, in general, the less attractive jobs and experiencing higher rates of unemployment.

The bitterness and resentment among Catholics over this "second-class citizenship" stiffened increasingly with each passing year. In 1968, a Catholic civil rights movement began in earnest, triggering violence between the two communities.

The sudden worsening of the factional violence, first in Londonderry and then in Belfast, led British Prime Minister Harold Wilson to send in the first contingent of 1,000 troops to Northern Ireland in August 1969 to restore order until a political solution could be effected. At the time, the British troops were generally welcomed by the Catholics, who saw them as protection from marauding Protestant gangs.

But the euphoria didn't last. Increasingly, many Catholics began to look upon the troops as an army of occupation, to be dealt with violently. Today, over 13,000 troops are stationed in Ulster, down from a maximum of 21,000 in 1972. Over 300 of these British soldiers have been killed in Northern Ireland over the past decade—victims of the militant Irish Republican Army.

"Brits Out!"

The IRA, formed in 1919, had waged guerrilla warfare against the British earlier this century to win freedom for Ireland. Though it had been officially disbanded by its leader, Eamon de Valera, it had reemerged in Ulster following the formation of the Irish Republic.

The IRA has never accepted the separateness of Ulster. The organization is dedicated to "liberating" Ulster by ending British control of the province and uniting the entire island as a single, democratic, independent nation.

The IRA is using force to seek the liberation of "their country." Its members assert that they simply

have limited options on how they can fight for their objectives. They see violence as the only solution. Their strategy is to wear down the British until they simply wash their hands of Ireland for good. A majority of IRA guerrillas live south of the border in the Republic, from which they stage hit-and-run attacks against the North.

"Brits out" is the IRA battle cry. But ironically, the IRA terror campaign is the main factor keeping the British troops in Ulster. It is generally agreed among observers that the withdrawal of British troops would lead to a full-fledged civil war in Ulster. It would, they feel, be a signal for Protestant extremists to take the law into their own hands to deal with the IRA—a move which could erupt into a civil bloodbath on a Lebanese scale.

Even Prime Minister Jack Lynch of the Irish Republic says he doesn't want to see British troops suddenly withdrawn from the north. "If it were not for the presence of the British Army," he observes, "the danger of civil war would be worse." Yet Mr. Lynch refuses, on the grounds of preserving the Republic's sovereignty, to permit British troops to chase IRA gunmen across the border in "hot pursuit."

The IRA had gained significant support among Ulster Catholics by the late 1960s. In 1969 the IRA split into two factions: the small left-wing "Official" group and the more militant right-wing "Provisional" wing. The "Provos," with a hard-core 400 or so fighting men and an additional 1000 reliables ready to join ranks, has now become the dominant force in the secessionist movement.

The increasing use of violence by the Provisionals gradually caused many Catholics to reassess their thinking, as they began to realize that they—the people who the IRA had been claiming to "protect"—were suffering the most. Though they largely supported the IRA's goals, they began to seriously question its methods. A majority of Ulster Catholics would prefer to eventually join the southern Republic, but what they are primarily seeking is simply to live

at peace in their own country—whether Ulster or the Irish Republic—as equals with the rest of the population.

To the south, the majority of Irish Catholics in the Republic have expressed a complete rejection of the IRA and its tactics. The Dublin government officially condemns the IRA. Prime Minister Lynch's Fianna Fail Party supports a united Ireland, but rejects the use of force as a means of achieving that aim, realizing that it can only come about by the consent of all the people of Northern Ireland.

Coming—Civil War?

A relative decline in violence in 1978 had been widely viewed as a possible indication that the situation was finally being brought under control. But not so. A marked increase in the level of violence in 1979—highlighted by the Mountbatten assassination—showed those hopes to have been ill-founded. Humphrey Atkins, Britain's Secretary for Northern Ireland, conceded recently that during the period of apparent peace the IRA had been "regrouping, retraining, re-equipping themselves and rethinking their future tactics." The IRA, intelligence reports show, has become a tough and disciplined guerrilla army ready for increased action.

This prospect raises the very real possibility of a Protestant backlash which could lead to all-out civil war between the two religious communities. Massive retaliatory action by Protestant paramilitary groups such as the Ulster Defense Association, the Ulster Volunteer Force and the Ulster Freedom Fighters is reportedly being planned. Militant Protestants have vowed a fight to the death against any forced reunion of the two Irish territories.

Northern Ireland is now bracing for an upsurge in bloody violence which could thrust the "Irish Problem" back into front-page headlines around the world.

Religious Conflict?

It is occasionally alleged that the strife in Northern Ireland is not primarily religious in nature. It is true

that the Irish were at odds with each other over the question of allegiance to Britain long before King Henry VIII split with the pope in Rome. Some Irish had fought against assimilation by England; others—the Ulster “unionists” or “loyalists,” in favor of union with England—cooperated willingly with London.

In the wake of the establishment of the Protestant Church of England in 1534, the two opposing Irish factions became split religiously as well as politically, and the factional strife assumed “Protestant” and “Catholic” labels as well. The subsequent confiscation of Catholic land in the north and the “planting” of Protestant Scots and English there added to the religious polarization.

Over the centuries since then it has become hard to tell where the political label leaves off and the religious one begins. Religion and politics have become inextricably intertwined. There is an almost total identification between religion and political party.

No one in the Northern Ireland conflict, of course, is disputing theological doctrine. In that sense the strife is not religious in nature. But the people of Northern Ireland define themselves in terms of religion. They think of themselves first and foremost as *Protestant* or *Catholic*. For all intents and purposes, then, the Irish Problem can be properly viewed as essentially sectarian in nature.

But one important fact must be borne in mind. Religious labels are often used as a cloke for the political activities of those who seldom engage in any form of religious activity. Many of the hard-core militants responsible for the bloodshed in Ulster have not darkened a church door in years. Some are even avowed atheists.

Needed: A Change of Heart

What is the solution to the Irish Problem? Is it possible for both communities to live together in harmony?

The efforts of politicians have accomplished little. The peace rallies and the work of the scores of peace groups trying to bring the two fac-

tions together have had only minimal success. A final, peaceful solution to the problem seems as far away as ever.

The solution to the Irish Problem—the only *real* solution—is found in the very Bible which lies in the homes of Irish Protestants and Catholics alike.

“From whence come wars and fightings among you?” asks the apostle James. “Come they not hence, even of your *lusts* that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss. . .” (James 4:1-3).

Each side in the conflict has largely insisted upon having its own way, on getting what it wants no matter what. Yet *neither* side has gotten what it wants, and the conflict continues unabated, with no end in sight. The reason, as the apostle James explains, is that they have not properly sought the assistance of *God* in their quest for a solution.

It has often been said that in Ireland there is “too much religion but not enough Christianity.” This is the heart of the matter. God will not hear the empty prayers of those who profess His name yet profane His Word—the Bible.

Christianity is a *way of life*—not just a once-a-week congregational ritual. Yet many Irish are involved in a way of life which includes prejudice, hatred, discrimination, resentment and in some cases outright killing and murder.

This is obviously not the Christianity of the Bible, the Christianity which says: “*Love* your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you” (Matthew 5:44).

Until the vast majority of Irish begin to really *live* the religion they profess, there simply will be no peace. And to make it work, *both* sides must change.

God declares: “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and *turn from their wicked ways*; then will I hear from

heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will *heal their land*” (II Chronicles 7:14).

To some, this may appear to be a “simplistic” solution. But the Irish, who pride themselves on being hard-headed realists, should of all people see that this is the only *workable* solution, for it is the only one which deals with the root *cause* of the problem, not just with the *effects*.

An imposed solution will never work. Peace can only be brought about by mutual agreement, not by force. Ulstermen must work out their own affairs by accommodation between the two communities, in a true spirit of Christianity.

This, of course, will not be accomplished overnight. But a start must be made sometime, and the sooner it is, the better for the people of Ireland.

Specifically, prejudice and hatred must begin to be rooted out of homes, schools, social activities and business. Irish of both religious persuasions must abandon their deep-seated antagonisms. They must break free from the shackles of the past and stop refighting their ancient battles. Parents, community and religious leaders on both sides must join hands to tear down the walls of hatred and bigotry. Only then will God begin to hear their prayers and heal their strife-torn land.

Ulstermen of both creeds must also clearly demonstrate their opposition to and complete rejection of those individuals who persist in pursuing violence as a means to their ends. It has been observed that if the right 500 men could be put in jail, the violence and terrorism on both sides could be stopped virtually overnight. It is actually only a tiny minority which triggers the violence—the extremists of both factions who hold a fanatical and impenetrable conviction about the justice of their cause and the legitimacy of their actions.

These militant zealots can and must be defied! A great public repudiation of violence and gangsterism and a refusal to give support and sympathy to the terrorists would go far toward solving the problem. The overwhelming majority of people in

(Continued on page 45)

Prepare to Greatly Reduce Your Standard of Living!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

It's time you knew the real meaning of the present inflationary spiral, rising interest rates, and fears of entering a severe depression.

There is far more to all this economic concern than appears on the surface. Its roots even penetrate back into ancient history and biblical prophecy. Where are the United States and British nations mentioned in Bible prophecy? What is prophesied about these very conditions?

What does it all really mean? What does it portend for the relatively immediate future?

We in the United States have enjoyed the most prosperous living standard of any nation in all the history of mankind. There is a reason for this unmatched prosperity that came to us. There also is a reason for the devaluation of the dollar in foreign markets, for our present abnormal inflation, and the fear in financial and government circles that we may well be in the beginning of the most severe economic depression in history.

A number of times I have published an economic analysis of the real causes of the inflation spiral and other economic distresses in the United States.

But now the stranglehold of inflation and other economic disturbances are tightening around our necks. This

trend is going to reach out and greatly reduce *your* standard of living, in the next two years or more.

More Than Mere Economic Factors

Actually, what is happening to us now is much more than purely economic causes and effects. Yet of course these have contributed their part.

I have written more than once about an incident in my personal experience which took place in early January 1914. This was before most of our readers were born. But I was covering a significant event. I was then an editorial representative of America's largest trade journal. I was traveling, by train of course in those days, eastward in New York state from Buffalo. At Utica I received a telegram from our editors instructing me to catch the first train back to Detroit to interview Henry Ford.

Henry Ford was on banner front-page headlines in that morning's newspapers. The Ford Motor Company had just come out with a sensational new \$5-a-day wage scale!

Don't laugh. Five dollars was a lot of money in 1914. My editors wanted me to cover this story and get all the facts in person.

In a sense, that was the beginning of the highest living standard ever enjoyed in any nation, although the American standard was already per-

haps the world's highest. But with Henry Ford's sensational new wage scale, our living standard was to escalate to an all-time world peak.

I saw Mr. Ford, but learned that the whole new plan had been devised and was administered by John R. Lee, head of the Sociological Department.

"I understand you are now paying by far the highest wage scale in the automobile industry," I said to Mr. Lee.

He smiled. "On the contrary," he said, "we are paying the *lowest!*"

I was taken aback. "But isn't the union scale \$3.75 per ten-hour day?"

"Correct," he confirmed.

"And are you not now paying \$5 per day for only a nine-hour day?"

"Right again, but we don't figure what we *really* pay on that basis. We compute it on the basis of what we get for each dollar spent. You see, our sales volume is now great enough to enable us to install a new conveyor belt or assembly-line system of production. We take full advantage of the fact that fewer men can produce much *more* by machines than a greater number of workmen by hand. We start each car at one end on a conveyor belt system. Each workman has to do his part as it passes him. This way we regulate the speed of production. Actually, we now are

getting twice the man-per-day production for \$5 that our rivals get per man per day working one hour longer than our employees.

"That means," Mr. Lee continued, "that other manufacturers in our industry pay for two days \$7.50 for the same production we get in one 9-hour day for \$5. So we pay \$2.50 less per day for the same results as others pay in two 10-hour days!"

It was not long, however, until all motor car manufacturers went on the assembly-line, mass-machine-production system. Not only them, but all large manufacturers in the U.S.

America offered her manufacturers a mass market for machine production. Other nations at that time—Britain, Europe, Russia, Japan did not have mass markets.

Two world wars have changed all that!

But in the meantime, beginning World War I, U.S. manufacturers, by this new mass machine production, began producing much more per dollar cost. This abnormally skyrocketed manufacturers' profits.

But labor union leaders were determined not to allow capital and management to keep all the vastly increased profits. The labor union movement surged, even violently, in the U.S. Strikes everywhere sought to transfer the huge escalating profits into the hands of labor.

Industrial labor attracted a rapidly increasing flow of the rural population of a previously rural majority into the cities. This converted industrial labor into America's primary consumer class.

Result? The American standard of living rose to a height never known by any nation in world history.

The labor union movement did not materially improve consumer living standards in the other industrial countries until quite recently.

Britain's Former Dominance

Prior to World War I the British Empire had risen to become the greatest in material wealth, and even in power, in all earth's history.

The world economic and power dominance began in both Britain and the U.S. in 1800-1804. In those years the U.S. leaped, largely through the Louisiana Purchase, from its original 13-colony status to a major nation.

But Britain leaped into material greatness first. By 1804 London was the financial capital of the whole world. The British had gobbled up large parts of Africa and Asia, including India. They boasted that the sun never set on their Empire.

But the top landed barons kept largely their vastly increasing wealth to themselves. Their wealth was not diffused among the lower classes. Until after World War I, a youth desiring a college education could not gain admission unless his father was university educated. The class system in England kept the lower classes low.

The upper class built great mansions, from about twenty rooms up to the Great Houses, like kings' palaces. In 1959 I purchased one of the smaller of such estates, with a mansion of some

“

*There is a reason
for the devaluation of the
dollar in foreign
markets, for our present
abnormal inflation.*

”

25 rooms, besides many horse and cow stables, and some beautiful gardens (we cleaned out the hip-high weeds and restored their original beauty). This became the start of the Ambassador College campus in England. Additional buildings were added as we went along.

Today England has lost her Empire, is no longer a major power like the United States and Russia. British labor has made some gains and the economy is more diffused. But Britain has been on the way down, in national wealth and power, since World War I.

And now the United States is STARTING TO FOLLOW on the downward path!

Our Rise and Fall Has Ancient Roots

There is a far more important CAUSE behind the Anglo-American rise and

fall than mass machine production and labor union action producing a greater diffusion of wealth.

There is a far greater CAUSE that is now starting in rapid descent to BRING DOWN YOUR PRESENT STANDARD OF LIVING.

It is true that even though Britain as a former world empire has *lost* her national greatness, yet today there is a moderately larger diffusion of what prosperity they have left. British labor has come to receive probably slightly more than half of America's present labor income. But Swiss, German, Swedish and other European living standards have risen markedly.

The real CAUSE, however, for the rise and fall of Britain and the U.S. dates back to centuries before Christ.

Our Ancient Roots

There is a far more significant reason—both for American ascendancy to the highest living standard ever enjoyed by any nation in earth's history, and our sudden PLUNGE we are now entering.

Few indeed realize that hundreds of years before Christ, God had made certain unbreakable and irrevocable PROMISES to the descendants of the patriarch Abraham. This has never been realized or proclaimed by "traditional Christianity."

Abraham, in the New Testament, is designated as the "FATHER of the faithful," since all of God's promises of salvation and eternal life through Christ were made to Abraham—and Jesus Christ was directly descended from Abraham.

But what not even theologians understand is that God made DUAL promises to Abraham. He made the promise of GRACE, to come through Abraham's descendant Jesus Christ—but also He made unbreakable promises of RACE—overlooked entirely by "traditional Christianity" and theological "scholars."

The promise God made to Abraham of GRACE was spiritual and individual (Galatians 3:16). But the promise of RACE was purely national and material. It is vital to the understanding of biblical prophecy to realize that God made also to Abraham promises of RACE—entirely separate from the spiritual prom-

ises of salvation and eternal life.

God said: "And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make NATIONS [plural] of thee, and kings [more than one] shall come out of thee" (Genesis 17:6). Notice, these nations and kings shall come *out of* Abraham—physical generation, not spiritual regeneration.

"And I will establish my covenant between me and thee . . . in *their generations*" [plural] for an everlasting covenant . . ." (verse 7).

Cannot Apply to Jews

This cannot apply *alone* to the Jews. The Jews have never been more than *one* nation.

God put Abraham to the test. And Abraham, *through* FAITH, passed the test of obedience, even to being willing to sacrifice his only son. Then God made the covenant with Abraham UNCONDITIONAL.

A covenant is a contract—usually, as in this case, between two parties. One binds himself by contract to pay certain rewards IF the other performs certain conditions. But God made His covenant with Abraham UNCONDITIONAL—after Abraham had performed his part—fulfilling the CONDITION of obedience.

"By myself have I sworn, saith the Eternal, for because thou hast done this thing . . . that in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed [descendants] as the stars of heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore" (Genesis 22:16-17). These promises passed down through Isaac and Jacob.

Later the prophet Israel (Jacob) laid his hands on the two sons of Joseph, saying: "Let my name [Israel] be named on them"—that is, on their descendants. God gave the promise that the descendants of Manasseh, Joseph's elder son, would become a very GREAT nation, but the descendants of Ephraim his brother would become a "company of nations"—that is, a commonwealth of nations.

The spiritual promise God made to Abraham of the Messiah, and of eternal salvation through Him, is well known by the most superficial Bible student. But God made also to Abraham national and material promises of RACE.

The spiritual promises of eternal salvation are called the Sceptre, and the national promises of RACE the Birthright—that which is inherited by right of birth.

Respecting the promises of RACE, God said to Abraham: "And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations [plural] of thee, and kings [more than one] shall come out of thee" (Genesis 17:6).

The Messianic promises of GRACE pertained to the tribe of Judah, who were nicknamed the Jews. But "the Birthright [promise of RACE] was JOSEPH'S." The national, material promise of the birthright—RIGHT of birth—was handed down to the two tribes springing from Joseph's two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim (I Chronicles 5:1-2).

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*Once fulfilled, in the
British and Americans,
retention of the
Birthright by us became
conditional on our
performance.*

”

The twelve tribes of Israel split up into TWO nations after the death of Solomon. The nation ISRAEL rejected Solomon's son Rehoboam as king, because he threatened to make their taxes even steeper than Solomon had. They established a new capital city in northern Israel, Samaria, and chose Jeroboam as king.

Then the tribe of Judah (the Jews) seceded from the nation Israel in order to keep their king Rehoboam and their capital city Jerusalem, calling their nation the Kingdom of Judah.

So now the birthright promise made to Abraham was in one nation, the Kingdom of Israel, and the spiritual Messianic promise was in another nation, now called the Kingdom of JUDAH. The tribe of Benjamin remained with Judah. Jeroboam, new king of ISRAEL, threw out the tribe of

Levi from the priesthood in ISRAEL, and the tribe of Levi also went in with Judah—the JEWS.

Those of the nation ISRAEL were NOT Jews—never called Jews. The first place in the Bible where the name "Jews" is mentioned is II Kings 16:6, where the Jews were at war against ISRAEL.

We pick up the most critical prophecy as to the future of the nation Israel in Leviticus 26.

Now the Prophecies

In the 26th chapter of Leviticus we find God's promises and prophecies to Israel beginning in Moses' day.

God through Moses specially put emphasis on avoiding idolatry and keeping God's Sabbath.

Then He said that IF they would keep His commandments and His national statutes they should receive and enjoy the national and material promises of the Birthright *in their time*. He gave them NO PROMISE of inheriting, in the days of ancient national Israel, the spiritual promises (the Sceptre).

Even though the promises were made UNCONDITIONAL to Abraham for his future descendants, God now promised ancient Israel ONLY the material promises of the Birthright—and even that was CONDITIONAL.

Otherwise that Birthright phase of the promises would be withheld 2520 years and then in that far, far future, confer the Birthright national and material promises to the descendants of Israel through Ephraim and Manasseh.

God promised them, through Moses, ON CONDITION of obedience, adequate rain, abundant crops the year round, peace, and such military power that a hundred of them could put ten thousand enemy invaders to flight.

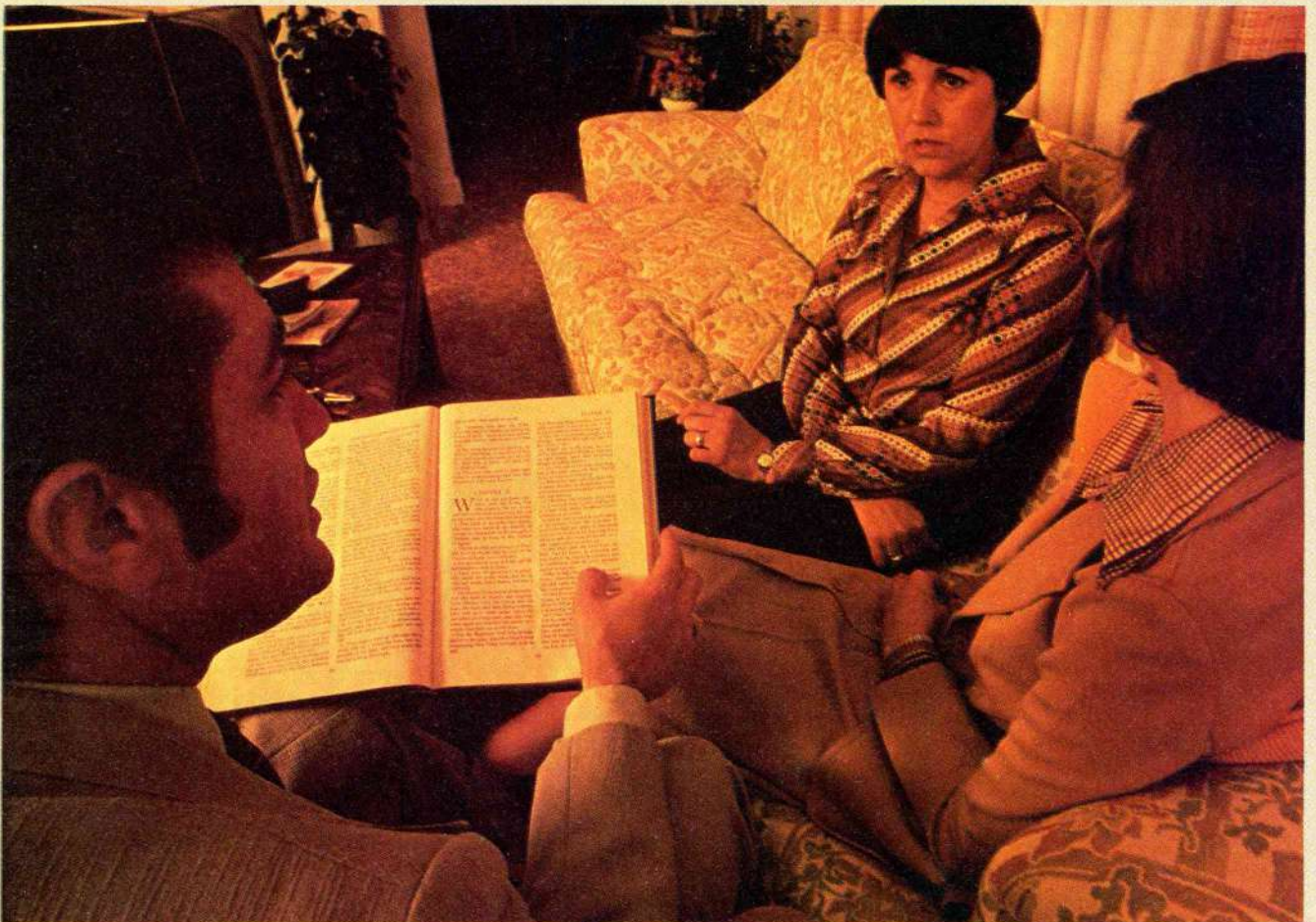
But Israel under Moses DID NOT OBEY OR KEEP THEIR PART OF THE OLD COVENANT!

They did so only at intervals during the days of the Judges. In the day when God ruled them through the prophet Samuel, they rejected God as their Ruler and King, and demanded a human king like the Gentile pagan nations of the world.

(Continued on page 42)

Are you lonely? Tired of wrestling with marital or financial problems? Wish you had somebody to talk to? Maybe we can help. The Worldwide Church of God has a counselor in your area who's willing and able to lend an ear. He can patiently, discreetly and confidentially provide a sounding board when you need it most. He can give you encouragement, answer your questions about the Bible, and let you know when and where the Worldwide Church of God meets near you. (Now *there's* a place you'll find hundreds of friendly people willing to reach out—people just like you who share the hopes and dreams you share—people who could end up being the best friends you've ever had.) So whether you need confidential counseling or would just like to know where you could meet some happy, sharing people, pick up your phone and call now. There's no cost or obligation—we're here to serve you.

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We
Can
Help**



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BOMBARDIER BEETLE

by Robert A. Ginskey

Famed British biologist J.S.B. Hildane was once asked what organic evolution had revealed about God's creation. "An inordinate fondness for beetles," was his reported reply.

There are, indeed, a multitude of amazing and exotic beetles on earth. What specific beetles Hildane had in mind is difficult to say, but the bombardier beetle is an excellent candidate for a very special fondness on the part of the Creator.

Bombardier beetles, commonly found near ponds and under rocks, are easily recognized by their orange and blue coloration, and they exhibit an absolutely unique defensive capability possessed by no other creature. When threatened or attacked, they eject a noxious and potent spray

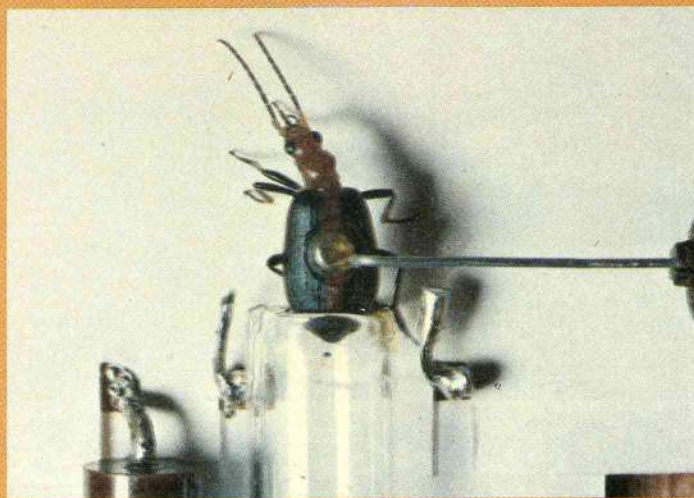
from a special "reaction chamber" located at the tip of their abdomen. Not only is the well-aimed spray strongly offensive and irritating, it is also literally hot—as hot, in fact, as boiling water.

Scientists have found that the bombardiers have two sacs that lie side by side in the abdomen. The bee-

gles can aim their vile spray with uncanny accuracy by swiveling the gun-barrellike openings of these sacs (see photos). Small predators such as ants, spiders, frogs or praying mantids are effectively repulsed by the spray.

How is the spray actually produced? German investigators have found that the special glands contain a mixture of hydroquinones and hydrogen peroxide. A smaller outer compartment on each gland contains a mixture of enzymes that catalyze a reaction when the mixture of the inner chamber is squeezed into the outer one.

The reaction occurs as a small but brisant explosion, with oxygen and highly poisonous benzoquinones being produced. The oxygen gas provides the propellant for the ex-





Photos by Thomas Eisner/D. Aneshansley

BLASTS EVOLUTION

pulsion of the benzoquinones. Because of the intense chemical reaction, the bombardier spray is very hot and has been measured at a temperature of nearly 100°C, or the temperature of boiling water.

Finally, the protective spray of the bombardier beetle is not continuous; instead, it is pulsed, just as a rapidly firing machine gun. The discharge can be heard as a distinctly audible “pop.”

But how could the bombardier beetle have *slowly* evolved as evolutionary theory suggests? The creature contains a complex and elaborate system for producing, aiming, and firing an explosive, poisonous mixture of unstable chemicals. The inner compartments containing the two potentially explosive chemicals must have always been securely isolated from the outer reaction chamber containing the special enzymes that initiate the explosion. Unless everything worked perfectly from the very beginning, the bombardier beetle could literally have blown himself

into extinction—or at least boiled himself alive!

Nor would the ability to produce such mini-explosions of noxious spray have been of much survival value unless the beetle also had the ability to properly aim the resulting spray at a potential predator.

Any slow changes in the anatomy of prebombardier beetles in preparation for the final configuration of a yet future bombardier would have little or no survival value and would be fraught with danger if the various chemicals mixed at the wrong time or in the wrong chamber. Surely a “proto-bombardier” would not have known that various precursor reactants, enzymes, storage compartments, reaction chambers, mixing muscles, diaphragms, and expulsion nozzles would “someday” be useful if they could somehow be properly combined in an integrated, functioning defense system!

Thus the bombardier beetle is living proof of intelligent design. The slow changes of evolutionary theory

A SKUNK OF A BEETLE, threatened bombardier directs a noxious spray (upper right) at the threatening forceps that are pinching the beetle's middle leg. When front leg is “attacked,” beetle accurately adjusts its aim to ward off the intruder. At lower left, bombardier is shown connected to apparatus designed by T. Eisner and D. Aneshansley of Cornell University that measures the temperature of the beetle's discharge. Through use of this device, it was discovered that temperature of the bombardier's spray reached nearly 100° C. Special glands produce the explosive chemicals used in the beetle's spray. The unique structure and complexity of the bombardier's defense mechanism defy evolutionary explanations.

simply cannot account for the absolutely stunning capabilities of the bombardier. The beetle's intricate survival mechanism must have been fully functional from the day it was created. With every “pop” of its defensive (or is it offensive?) spray, the bombardier beetle dispenses another blast to the theory of evolution. □

What the World Needs NOW...

Psychologists, psychiatrists and other learned men are now coming to the same conclusions through study and observation which Jesus Christ first gave man by revelation nearly two thousand years ago.

by David Carley

From the moment of birth we cry out for the satisfaction of our physical and psychological needs. We want to be fed. We want to feel comfortable and secure. We want to be loved and cared for. When, as babes, we don't get what we want, we demand it with a good healthy cry. Mother hears, and comes to our rescue.

Time passes and we grow up. Yet our basic needs do not change from infancy through adulthood. Psychiatrist and author William Glasser states: "No one seriously disputes that in all cultures and in all degrees of civilization men have the same essential needs. It is also generally accepted that needs do not vary with age, sex, or race. A Chinese infant girl has the same needs as a Swedish king" (*Reality Therapy*, p. 9).

Why People Do What They Do

It is obvious that our most basic need is for food and water. If this need isn't met we will soon die of starvation. However, there are yet other hungers in man which, if not satisfied, will also cause serious problems and eventual death.

Human beings not only have physical hungers which must be satisfied, but mental hungers which must be fed in order to stay healthy and alive. For centuries philosophers and religionists have observed these mental hungers and have speculated on exactly what they are and the best way to satisfy them. Within the last century a whole new "science" has been born in an attempt to understand human needs—psychology or the science of human behavior.

Since the dawn of time man has been a mystery to himself, a paradox, a study in contradictions. He loves and yet at the same time kills. He builds and destroys. He craves excitement and the unknown and yet grasps for security. His pursuit to satisfy his desires can lead to great destruction as well as great achievements. What is it that drives him to try to conquer the world or to sail uncharted waters? Why does he want to run the fastest mile, climb the tallest mountain, or set foot on the moon?

It is said that after Alexander the Great had led his Macedonian army in conquering the world, he wept because there were no more armies and nations to conquer. With the world at his feet he still wanted something more.

In all of man's pursuits there is within him a vacuum that has not and cannot be filled by any earthly endeavor.

What Is Missing

Dr. Robert Ardrey explained man's search this way: "I feel a restiveness in men. It is a dissatisfaction of a universal sort. . . . Its outlets are frequently senseless. . . ." It is like "the hunger of a man who opens the refrigerator door, finds nothing that he really wants, and closing the door goes back to bed" (*The Territorial Imperative*, p. 321).

What is the missing food man is looking for in the refrigerator of life which would satisfy his seemingly insatiable hunger? Sigmund Freud thought that everything you and I hunger for could be explained in terms of two basic needs: the sex urge and the desire to be great. American philosopher John Dewey said the deepest urge in human nature is "the desire to be important." William James believed that "the deepest principle in human nature is the craving to be appreciated." Alfred Adler postulated that it is man's need for power that explains his actions. Victor Frankel believed that the desire for meaning and purpose in life is man's most basic hunger.

But none of these theories provides the complete answer.

Love Is the Answer

The latest and most widely accepted theory regarding this basic need is that the common "taproot" of all human action is our need for love!

William Glasser expresses this "new, scientific" finding this way: "First is the need to love and be loved. In all its forms, ranging from friendship through mother love, family love, and conjugal love, this need drives us to continuous activity in search of satisfaction" (*Reality Therapy*, p. 11).

As a matter of fact, psychologists claim that it is a lack of love which is the cause of all individual human problems! Glasser explains it this way: "When we cannot satisfy our total need for love, we will without fail suffer and react with many familiar psychological symptoms, from mild discomfort through anxiety and depression to complete withdrawal from the world around us" (*ibid.*).

It could be concluded quite easily that man's every action, be it good or bad, is an attempt on his part to fulfill his need for love. Dr. Thomas P. Malone of the Atlanta Psychiatric Clinic says: "Almost every emotional problem can be summed up in one particular behavior: It's a person walking around screaming: 'For God's sake, love me.' Love me, that is all. He goes through a million different manipulations to get somebody to love him" (Dale E. Galloway, *You Can Win With Love*, pp. 14-15).

Some go so far as to state that love is the solution to all the problems of the world today—individually and nationally! Erich Fromm says, "Love is the only sound and satisfactory answer to the problem of human existence" (*The Art of Loving*, pp. 111-112). "This desire for interpersonal fusion [love] is the most powerful striving in man. It is the most fundamental passion, it is the force which keeps the human race together, the clan, the family society. . . . Without love humanity could not exist for a day" (*ibid.*, p. 15).

Glasser reiterates: "From birth to old age we need to love and be loved. Throughout our lives, our health and

our happiness will depend upon our ability to do so. To either love or to allow ourselves to be loved is not enough; we must do both" (*Reality Therapy*, p. 11).

Science and the Bible Agree

However "new" and "scientific" this may sound, Jesus Christ said the same thing nearly two thousand years ago. Love is so important to the health and happiness of mankind that God's law commanded it and Christ expressed it this way: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" (Matthew 22:39).

Isn't it strange that the psychological sciences have come to recognize what the Bible has taught for thousands of years? One might think that science now agrees with the Bible—there is a great need for man to love others as well as to be loved. Christ called this need "the second great commandment of God."

Karl Menninger said, "If we can love enough . . . this is the touchstone. This is the key to the entire therapeutic program of the modern psychiatric hospital. . . . Love is the medicine for the sickness of the world" (William R. Parker, *Prayer Can Change Your Life*, p. 83). Science has come a long way in recognizing love (as expressed in one of God's "great commandments") as the answer to all man's problems.

What is Love?

But understanding that man's greatest need is love does not automatically solve all our problems. The question arises, "Well, just what is love and how should it be expressed in actions toward others and ourselves?" Psychologists, philosophers and experts in ethics and morality may say that "love is doing whatever is reasonable and responsible to one's self and others in a particular situation." However, the weakness in this definition is that what may be "reasonable" to one person, group, or society might be totally "unreasonable" to another.

For instance, the Israelis and Arabs (whose differences have led to war) both feel their actions are "reasonable and responsible." However justified a war may seem to either of

them, it is hardly expressing love.

Menninger is right. The key to solving the world's ills is love; however, some people's understanding of love is vague, subject to various interpretations, incomplete, and therefore unacceptable. It is "situation ethics" wrapped up in a new package.

Surely there is a better definition of love than this—and there is! But the answer is a metaphysical one. Science therefore has not and will never discover it via the scientific method.

Man Is Only Half There

What man does not seem to understand is that he is actually not "all there." At birth he has within him a spirit. Not a "ghost." Not a spirit being—but spiritual essence, in the sense that air or wind or water is physical essence.

This spirit imparts the power of intellect to the physical brain. But with it he is incomplete—not "all there." He needs *another* Spirit to make him really complete—to supply that which alone can satisfy his *real* need, which is spiritual, and not physical. It is the Holy Spirit of God.

And God is love, so God's Spirit provides *God's love*—a spiritual love. God's Spirit is not *only* love, it is life—eternal life. It is godly power.

Man doesn't know it, but *that* is his real *need*—and the only one that will satisfy.

Science Has Only Part of the Answer

Man will never properly understand what real love is until he comes to realize he has a spiritual need which is greater and even more important than his need to love his fellowman and himself. The secret of who and what man's greatest need is was revealed by Jesus Christ when He said: "Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment" (Matthew 22:37-38).

Christ here shows that God is that missing spiritual element and that He must be involved in one's life before true love can be expressed. It is

for that reason Christ placed the command to love God above man's need to love others and self. In order to properly obey the second command, one must obey the first. It is God's Word that reveals spiritual understanding that we cannot discover scientifically.

The Commandments and Love

The apostle John said, "God is love" (I John 4:8). In short, God's only command to man is to become as He is—love! God explained His command to love further in the "two great commandments." These simply show the parties to be involved in God's one great command to love. Love God, neighbor, and self. God did not stop here in explaining His kind of love. He did not leave it to man to decide how His command to love was to be expressed. God gave the Ten Commandments to us as a further detailed explanation of exactly how He expects us to fulfill His two great commandments.

Many churches teach that "Christ did away with the commandments, and therefore we don't have to keep any law today except the law of love." This is a rather ridiculous and contradictory statement when one comes to realize the integral and vital relationship between true love and the commandments. The commandments are necessary in one's life, for they direct one in the proper expression of true love. One cannot "keep the law of love" unless he keeps the Ten Commandments! The apostle John realized this vital relationship when he said: "This is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous" (I John 5:3). Certainly they are not grievous, for they show how God's love is to be expressed to all parties in the love relationship of God, fellowman, and self.

The apostle Paul also understood this. He said: "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law [here is where many stop reading, but let's go on, for Paul explains how one fulfills the law]. For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false wit-

ness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law" (Romans 13:8-10).

Again Paul said: "Is the law sin [a bad thing]? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet" (Romans 7:7). The Ten Commandments of God are not bad, for it is by them unloving actions, or sins, are exposed.

Love is the fulfilling of the law. But human love falls short. It requires the love of God, "shed abroad in our hearts" by the Holy Spirit of God.

Paul said, "The law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good" (Romans 7:12). Of course they are, for they direct one away from unloving actions to loving actions toward God, and fellowman, and ourselves. (For more information about the Decalogue, please request our free booklet entitled *The Ten Commandments*.)

Love Is More Than an Action

Although the commandments of God show us how God's kind of love is to be expressed in physical actions to God and others, keeping them does not mean we have the love of God in our hearts! Love is more than just an action! Any action is hollow if the motivation behind it is not based upon giving rather than getting.

One could even keep the Ten Commandments of God by doing what would appear to be loving services to others, but still not have love. One could give of his time, money and energies but still not be giving love to others. This is so if the motivating force behind one's actions is not based on real outgoing love and concern for others.

It is possible that a person could be a wonderful servant to others and thought of by others as a loving, self-sacrificing individual, and yet do it all for the honor, aggrandizement, and acclaim that his services bring. Paul knew this and stated: "Though I

bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity [love], it profiteth me nothing" (I Corinthians 13:3). Paul in effect said that a person could give of himself to others and even give away all his possessions to the poor and still not have love; that a man could go so far as to give the ultimate sacrifice, of his own life, and still not have done it out of love.

God's Love vs. Human Love

If just keeping the commandments is not love, what is? Remember the apostle John said, "God is love" (I John 4:8). Love is God's very nature and essence. John also shows us that God is made of a nonphysical substance: "God is a Spirit . . ." (John 4:24). So God is love and is made of spirit. True love is not an action or a feeling. Love is God—a Spirit Being! How interesting it is to see that the Creator of man is what man needs and that is love!

We have now arrived at our answer to what love is. God is love and is the only source of true love. And it is from Him that we must obtain the real love we need.

God's love is unconditional. Christ expressed it this way when He said, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you. . . . For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye?" (Matthew 5:44, 46.) This is an unconditional love. Simply stated, it is: "I love you though you may hate me."

Mere human love expresses itself in a conditional way. It says: "I love you because you are mine or because you love me back!" Christ stated the philosophy of human love when speaking to His disciples: "If ye were of the world, the world would love its own . . ." (John 15:19). The world offers love, but with a string attached. It is an "I-love-you-if-you-are-mine-or-love-me" type of love.

God's love gives in order to engender more love. John explained the results of God's love for us: "We love him [God], because he first loved us" (I John 4:19). And "God commen-

deth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). God's love is willing to sacrifice itself in order that hate in others may be turned to love.

Human love "gives" in order to "get." John referred to this love in the world when he stated: "Love not the world [its sinful ways], neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (I John 2:15). A man can "love" as John said, yet not have God's love in him. The "love of the world" is motivated by and in behalf of self, the way of "getting."

Receiving the Love of God

But how does man receive the love of God? The apostle Paul said, "... the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us" (Romans 5:5).

Either a person has been given the Spirit of God or he has not. If a person has real love, he has the Spirit of God in his mind. Paul said: "... ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his" (Romans 8:9).

When God gives man some of Himself, His very spiritual essence, something new is created within man. The Bible says he becomes a "new creature" (II Corinthians 5:17), or a "new man" (Ephesians 4:24). This "new man," composed of the spirit in man and the Spirit of God (Romans 8:16), is truly something special. It is this "new man" that can show forth the true love of God in his life and actions.

But what does man receive when he is given the Spirit of God? He receives a small portion (seed) of the very essence of God, which contains all His basic spiritual characteristics. Love is the best single definition of that Spirit; however, other "fruits" are revealed in the Bible. Some of these are "joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance..." (Galatians 5:22-23).

Paul describes the characteristics of God's love working in man this

way: "Charity [love] suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things" (I Corinthians 13:4-7).

How wonderful a world we would have if human beings had this kind of love in their hearts and minds! Humanity has been vainly searching for the fruits of love for thousands of years. However, they cannot be found on earth, for true love, joy, peace and all the other characteristics of God are spiritual in nature, and can only come from having the Spirit of God. It is only the Spirit of God that will give man access to the deep, satisfying, happy life that man's restless soul seeks.

God Will Give You His Love

Soon God is going to bring to all mankind their hearts' desire—true love, His Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ is coming back to this earth soon to set up the Kingdom of God which will rule all nations and peoples with God's law of love. Christ will put a stop to the total destruction of the world which Satan's way is bringing. And He will offer God's love to replace the mere human love that is now in people's hearts.

You do not need to wait until the return of Christ before you receive what God made you to need so desperately. You can find access to the complete joy, peace, and happiness that your soul longs for right now! God will give you His love, a bit of His very spiritual essence, now if you sincerely want it. For more on this exciting subject, write for the free literature advertised in the box below. □

ADDITIONAL READING

"How You Can Be Imbued With the Power of God"

"You Need God's Holy Spirit"
All About Water Baptism

Just What Do You Mean—Conversion?

(The above articles and booklets are free for the asking. Just write our office nearest you—see the inside front cover for addresses.)

100 YEARS FROM NOW

Where will you be?

Chances are that no one reading this is going to be a living, breathing human being 100 years from now. It's a bit unsettling, isn't it? Of course, we all know that human beings don't live forever. But thoughts of our own death, no matter how distant that event may seem, lead to thoughts about the "afterlife." Millions of people feel that for those who live a worthy life—for those who are "saved"—the afterlife is in heaven. Such beliefs are supposedly based on the Bible, but are, in fact, nonbiblical. The Bible does have a great deal to say about an afterlife, but it's surprisingly different from traditional beliefs. If you'd like to read more about the true biblical teaching on this subject, write for the free booklet *What Will You Be Doing in the Next Life?* Use the Literature Request card in this issue or write to *The Plain Truth* at the address nearest you.

What will you be doing in the
NEXT LIFE?



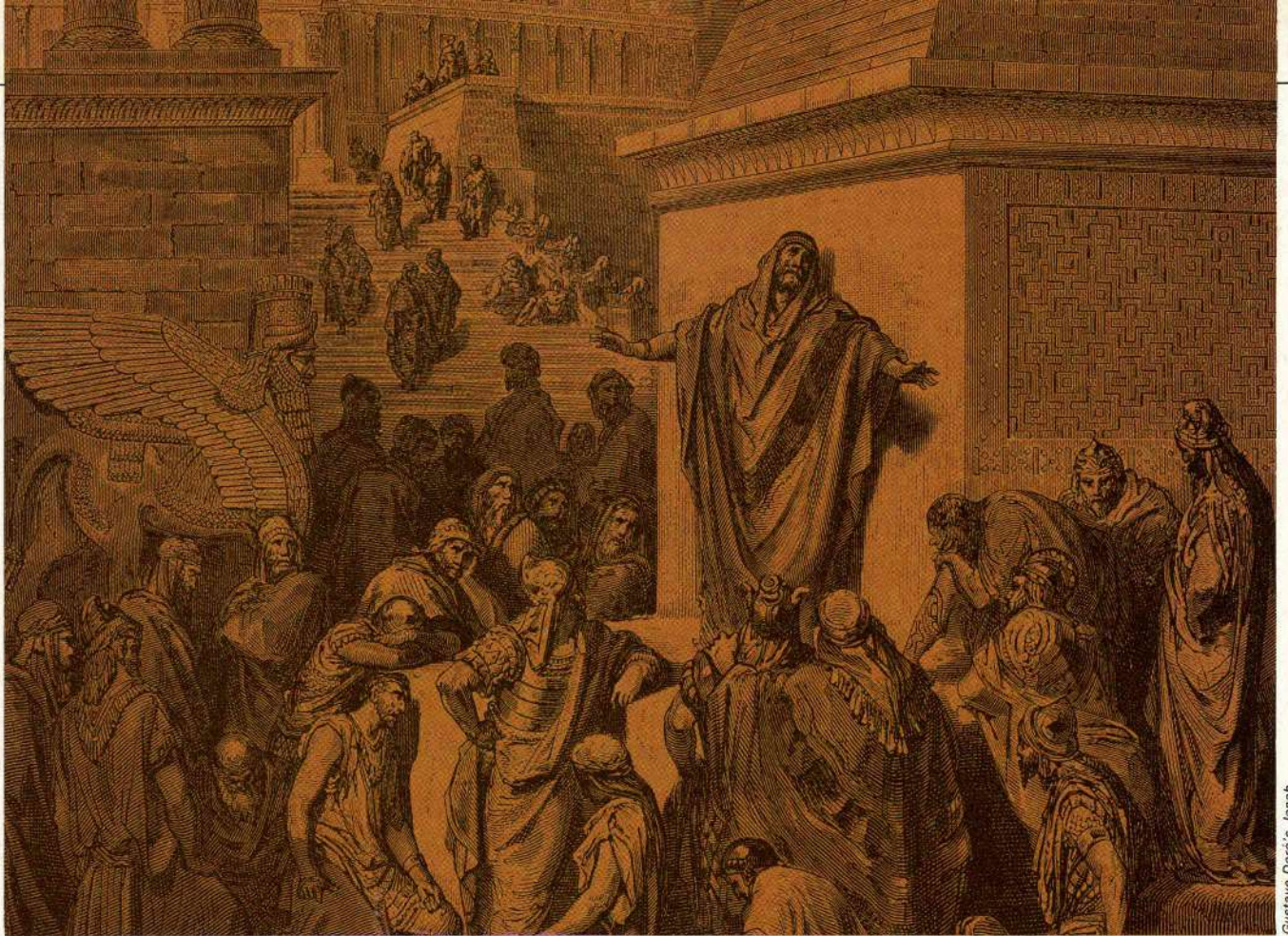
Illustrations by Garry Haggerty

WILL THEY RIDE AGAIN?

The book of Revelation contains a disturbing vision of four fearsome horsemen (Rev. 6:1-8). Each of them is a symbol of a major punishment to be inflicted upon rebellious mankind—probably in the not-too-distant future! Each represents the final, end-time culmination of a major crisis with which the world has been confronted for centuries—false religion, war, famine and disease epidemics. For an explanation of the significance of these symbolic horses and riders, send for the four free booklets illustrated. They'll let you in on the good news behind one of the most

frightening messages in all the Bible. For your free copies, send your request to our office nearest you (see inside front cover for addresses).





Gustave Doré's *Jonah*

ARE YOU IN THE SPIRIT OF JONAH?

The ancient prophet Jonah was sent to the doomed city of Nineveh to announce God's impending wrath. Surprisingly, the entire city repented of its evil and turned to God with fasting. The anger of the Eternal was abated—but Jonah's anger was kindled!

by Brian Knowles

Nineveh was the ancient capital of the Assyrians, one of the great peoples of biblical times. By the standards of the day it was a "great city." But the conduct of the people of Nineveh had aroused the divine wrath—"for their wickedness has come up before [God]" (Jonah 1:2). Jonah, the son of Amittai, was commissioned by God to warn the inhabitants of the city to turn from their evil or they would suffer the punishment of the Eternal.

Jonah balked at the commission. He attempted to flee to Tarshish but ended up inside the belly of "a great

fish" (not a whale) especially prepared by God for the occasion (verses 3-17). From this frightening vantage point, Jonah then reevaluated his position and decided to cease resisting the Lord (Jonah 2). God then induced the fish to "vomit" Jonah out on the dry land (verse 10).

This time Jonah didn't balk at God's commission. He went obediently to Nineveh and proclaimed the message God had given him (3:1-3).

He cried, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown"! (Verse 4.) Forty days! Jonah's message struck fear into the hearts of the

people of the city. Immediately they reacted by proclaiming a city-wide fast. Everyone from the "city fathers" to the "average Joe" fasted and wore sackcloth, a traditional sign of mourning (verse 5).

The king of Nineveh himself joined in and made a decree. Even the animals of the city were to fast! Everyone was to turn from the evil of which they were guilty and "cry mightily to God" in repentance (verses 6-8).

God Reacts

All did so and God heard. The great city of Nineveh was spared. "... God

repented of the evil which he had said he would do to them; and he did not do it" (verse 10).

Now you'd think Jonah would have rejoiced at this overwhelming positive response to his preaching. After all, the lives of more than 120,000 people had been saved! But not Jonah. Instead of rejoicing he sulked and raged. "But it *displeased* Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry" (4:1).

Incredible! Jonah was angry at the repentance of the people! He was actually displeased because they turned to God and repented! What kind of an attitude was this? Jonah then went outside of the city and sat in a heap and wished destruction on Nineveh (verse 5).

Jonah was typical of many religious people in all ages. He believed he had the inside track to God (1:9). He was a devout person and that made him feel "one up" on those who were not. So long as he could preach death and destruction upon these Gentile peoples, Jonah could feel superior. But like all similar prophecies, this prophecy was *conditional*. When the people of Nineveh repented, the prophecy "failed" (see I Corinthians 13:8). Now Jonah had lost his "one-up" position in relation to the people of this Gentile city. That's why he sat down and sulked.

Jonah Gets a Lesson

God questioned Jonah's attitude (4:4) and then taught him a lesson by means of a plant. While Jonah was sitting stewing and fretting in the heat of the day God produced a plant ("gourd") which grew up overnight and provided shade for the sullen prophet. Then God made a worm to destroy the plant and thus take away the cool shade. Jonah sweated it out, still angry—in fact, even angrier over the plant! God asked Jonah, "Do you do well to be angry for the plant?" Jonah replied that he was "angry enough to die." Then God said, "You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night, and perished in a night. And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do

not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?" (Verses 10-11.)

"I'm OK, You're Not"

God Himself was the ultimate source of the people of Nineveh. They, like all humans, were created in His very image (Genesis 1:27). They, as much as the Israelites, were "His people." God cared for these Assyrian Gentiles too. His mercy was extended to them as much as to anyone, including the haughty Israelites—God's "chosen people." Even the popular Jewish Soncino commentary acknowledges this: "The essential teaching is that the Gentiles *should not be grudged* God's love, care and forgiveness" (Soncino commentary on *The Twelve Prophets*, by A. Cohen, p. 137).



God is not a respecter of persons. God delights in and rewards the repentance of all peoples who turn to him.



God is not a respecter of persons. The gospel is to be preached to "all the world" (Mark 16:15). The message of God is universal in its appeal and application. God is unchanging in His mercy (Malachi 3:6-7). He will *always* extend mercy to those who repent and turn to Him, no matter whether they be "Jew or Greek" (Romans 1:16). Jonah apparently didn't realize this. Like many modern self-righteous Christians, he wanted to retain his one-up position in relation to these Gentile "sinners." He was in the position of "I'm okay, you're not."

There is a very important lesson in all of this for today's Christian. In fact, there are several lessons.

Lessons for Today

First, God has never smiled benignly upon self-righteousness. It was

for the sin of self-righteousness that Christ excoriated the Pharisees (see Matthew 23 and other passages in the four Gospels). In Christ's own teaching it was a self-righteous Pharisee who failed to receive justification from God because he trusted in his own works instead of in God's mercy. But it was the despised publican (tax collector) who received justification from God because he claimed no works of righteousness, only the need for mercy. He *acknowledged* his sinfulness as did the people of Nineveh (Luke 18:9-14; Jonah 3:10).

A second lesson we may derive from the book of Jonah is that God's true people should *delight* in the repentance of others, no matter who they may be. We are told that when one sinner repents there is "joy in heaven" (Luke 15:7). But there may be sorrow—and even anger—on earth over the repentance of one sinner if those who see themselves as righteous lose their "superior" position when others repent!

A third lesson we can learn is the one earlier mentioned—that God is not a respecter of persons. God delights in and rewards the repentance of any and all peoples who turn to Him. God is not a "racist." The apostle Paul clearly stated and taught: "There is neither Jew nor Greek . . . for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are *Abraham's offspring*, heirs according to promise" (Galatians 3:28-29).

God's Attitude

All who turn to God, no matter what their racial or ethnic heritage, can be considered "spiritual Israelites." God loves all nations equally, even though Israel was once called "the apple of God's eye." We are told in that oft-quoted passage, "For God so *loved the world* that he gave his only Son, that *whoever* believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). We are told further that "God sent the Son into the world, *not to condemn the world*, but that the world might be *saved* through him" (verse 17). Of course, God is not trying to save the entire world at *this* time—but that is the ultimate and

final *purpose* for which Christ came into the world.

You will notice that God and Christ do not have a condemnatory attitude toward human society! God is "not willing that *any* should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9). Jonah was willing that the whole city of Nineveh should perish. And some modern Christians would like nothing better than to see the fulfillment of some of the most dire of biblical prophecies. If such prophecies came to pass, this would place these people, like the ancient prophet, in the position of being one up on those about to perish.

Longtime readers of *The Plain Truth* magazine, and especially those who have read Mr. Herbert Armstrong's material on *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, are aware, for instance, that the Church of God has always taught the following: There are certain prophecies found in Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28 which apply to the peoples of modern Britain and the United States, and these prophecies have a "dual" application—that is, an original fulfillment in historical times, and a modern fulfillment in contemporary times. The peoples of modern America and Britain are the descendants of ancient Israel's northern house which went captive to the Assyrians in 721-718 B.C.

It has long been central to the message of this Church that God will soon step in to punish the peoples of modern Britain and America *unless* they repent and turn to God.

Unfortunately, many have ruled out any possibility of these nations repenting. Like Jonah, they are anxiously awaiting the fulfillment of these prophecies. They *want* to see literally millions of people "get their just deserts"!

But what if these nations "pulled a Nineveh" on us? What if the next few years saw a *massive* return to God and to biblical values? What if God *averted* the punishment of our peoples?

The "If" Factor

If you look closely at the prophecies under discussion you will note that there are qualifying words in them.

Like so much of Bible prophecy, these predictions are *conditional*. The key to this understanding is the biggest little word in the English language—"if" (Hebrew *'im*). Notice Leviticus 26:3, for example: "*If* you walk in my statutes and observe my commandments and do them, then I will give you your rains in their season, and the land shall yield its increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit."

Now notice a converse prophecy: "*But if* you will *not* hearken to me, and will not do all these commandments, *if* you spurn my statutes, and *if* your soul abhors my ordinances, so that you will not do all my commandments, but break my covenant, I will do this to you: I will appoint over you sudden terror, consumption, and fever that waste the eyes and cause life to pine away. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it" (verses 14-16).

Read the entire prophecy and notice how often the word "if" appears. This shows clearly that the whole prophecy is conditional. If the people turn to God in worshipful obedience, God will bless them in every aspect of life. Conversely, if the people insist on turning away from God, ignoring His standards, trampling over His laws, He will punish them.

The prophetic message of the Church must include *hope*. It must be presented in the spirit of optimism and faith that God's words will not "return unto [him] void" (Isaiah 55:11). True Christians should sincerely hope and pray for the repentance of all peoples. God has made us free moral agents. He has given us the opportunity to help make these dire prophecies *fail* as did the prophecy on Nineveh.

Can any truly converted person wish illness, plagues, crop diseases, hordes of insects, droughts, floods, earthquakes, famines, pestilences and hideous destructive wars on *anyone*? Is it Christian to wallow in the potential misery and death of millions? Surely not. The spirit of Jonah has no place in modern prophetic Christianity. It has no place in the Church of God.

Even the prophetic book of Amos warns us: "*Woe to you* who desire the

day of the Lord! Why would you have the day of the Lord? It is darkness, and not light; as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house and leaned with his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?" (Amos 5:18-20.)

Many who desire the destruction of our modern Western civilization don't, in fact, realize what they are asking. Can any of us really conceive of how catastrophic it would be if all of these prophecies were literally fulfilled?

Let us instead wish and pray for the national, and international, repentance of all peoples everywhere. Let us desire a massive, global turning to the living Creator God in deep and sincere worship. Let us rejoice in the possibility that man *can* repent and that a new era of peace and plenty could burst upon the world if only men will adopt the spirit of Nineveh. □

CONVERSION

Sudden experience... or lifelong process?

How do you define the word *conversion*? An adoption of religious belief? A "born-again" experience? Contrary to popular belief, the Bible teaches that there is more to conversion than a singular event, a one-time change. In the booklet *Just What Do You Mean—Conversion?* Herbert Armstrong supplies valuable insights on the subject. Request your free copy by returning the Literature Request card in this issue, or write to the editor at the address nearest you.

Just what do
you mean...
CONVERSION?

MARIJUANA- IT'S FAR FROM A HARMLESS HIGH!

Evidence continues to mount on the harmful physical and psychological effects of "pot." But what is worst of all is that marijuana and other mind-altering drugs prevent their users from achieving their God-given potential.

by Donald D. Schroeder

"I get a very sick feeling in the pit of my stomach when I hear talk about marijuana being safe," said Robert L. DuPont, former director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse. "Marijuana," he continued in an interview a little over a year ago, "is a very powerful agent which is affecting the body in many ways. Now what the full range of these consequences is going to prove to be, one can only guess at this point. But, from what we already know, I have no doubt that they are going to be horrendous."

Dr. DuPont is not the only expert to hold this view. Recent studies have accumulated formidable evidence that marijuana is not a harmless or "fun" drug without serious consequences.

Reflecting a less informed earlier opinion, one drug researcher stated several years ago: "My conclusions can only be that marijuana [in moderate use] is a remarkably innocuous substance." Another medical official said then that marijuana, according to his view, was "among the least toxic drugs known to modern medicine."

But now, summing up recent data to be presented in detail later in this article, a United States government official says: "Marijuana is definitely not harmless. We are just beginning to discover its dangerous effects, especially its physical and psychological effects on young people."

The tragedy is that it has taken so many people so long, via the hard road of experience, to come to this conclusion. Had our societies not earlier jettisoned many right and wholesome spiritual values, average citizen and "expert" alike could have recognized the inherent dangers in drugs and other mind-altering chemicals.

Our physical bodies and minds, Scripture reveals, are not our own to abuse as we please. Christians are commanded, in fact, "... glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's [not yours!]" (I Corinthians 6:20).

Use of Drug Skyrockets

In the last fifteen years, marijuana (*Cannabis sativa*) has skyrocketed from relative obscurity to become the fourth most popular recreational drug (after alcohol, cigarettes and caffeine). Over 43 million Americans confess to having smoked marijuana at least once, and current regular users exceed 16 million. Over half of the students in many colleges admit to having tried marijuana.

Figures from the National Institute on Drug Abuse indicate that one in nine American high school seniors smokes marijuana every day, nearly double the number of those who did in 1975. Fully one-fourth of high school seniors admit to using it weekly.

American users alone consume 130,000 pounds of marijuana a day,

quadruple that of 1974. The cost? An estimated \$25 billion each year.

Enormous recent increases in the use of marijuana and cocaine (another supposedly "safe" euphoric drug) are reported in Britain, Germany, France, Australia and many other nations. In London, an estimated 40 percent of youth have used marijuana.

No longer is marijuana (sometimes referred to as "pot," "grass," or "weed") a symbol of campus unrest, protest politics or "street-people" rebellion as it was in the sixties. Now it can readily be found in mainstream life—at middle-class and upper-class parties and homes and even businessmen's gatherings. Though illegal to use or grow in most nations, its supply is maintained by intricate worldwide drug-smuggling networks.

Many Uses of Pot

Why is marijuana so popular? Many people find marijuana to be an "escape drug"; it makes them feel "euphoric." It is also sometimes used as a substitute for tranquilizers, sleeping pills or other medication. Some use it in place of alcohol or as an aid to stop drinking. Some use it in the belief that it will "expand" their mental capacity, improve artistic or other skills, or revive failing sexual powers. Many, of course, have merely succumbed to peer pressure.



A major reason for marijuana's popularity boom is a widely proclaimed reputation of its being a relatively "safe" drug, without the serious consequences of "hard" drugs, alcohol, or even certain medical drugs commonly used in society.

Recent research findings, however, indicate how erroneous such thinking is. Former Secretary of the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare Joseph A. Califano warns: "The dramatic increase in the use of marijuana by our youth is particularly alarming. It is sheer folly for millions of young Americans to indulge in a drug while so little is known about its long-term consequences — and when much of what is known suggests, for example, adverse pulmonary effects and psychomotor impairment."

While the information is accumulating on certain kinds of health damage from the prolonged use of marijuana, it will be years before the full story is known, say health researchers.

Known Mind-Body Altering Effects

Marijuana's major psychoactive ingredient is delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). This substance was isolated in 1965, permitting more systematic studies as to its effects. Yet THC is only one of over 50 chemical substances found in marijuana, most of them also cannabinoids, possessing drug characteristics of their own. While little is known as yet as to their long-range effects on human health, certain health hazards have been established.

High potency marijuana, such as hashish, used heavily over many years can produce debilitating degenerative respiratory and lung damage and long-lasting neurological problems. Much more needs to be known about the long-term effects of marijuana use at low or moderate levels. But by definition a psychoactive drug alters sensory perceptions in the brain, which in turn affect physical reactions and responses.

Here is how the *First Report of the National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse* (1972) describes the variety of possible psychological effects at different levels of usage:

"A description of an individual's



American users alone consume 130,000 pounds of marijuana a day, quadruple that of 1974. The cost? An estimated \$25 billion each year.

feelings and state of consciousness as affected by low doses of marijuana is difficult; the condition is not similar to usual waking states and is the result of a highly individual experience. Perhaps the closest analogies are the experience of daydreaming or of the moments just prior to falling asleep. The effect is not constant and a cyclical waxing and waning of the intensity of the intoxication occurs periodically.

"At low, usual 'social' doses, the intoxicated individual may experience an increased sense of well-being; initial restlessness and hilarity followed by a dreamy, carefree state of relaxation; alteration of sensory perceptions including expansion of space and time; and a more vivid sense of touch, sight, smell, taste, and sound, a feeling of hunger, especially a craving for sweets; and subtle changes in thought formation and expression. To an unknowing observer, an individual in this state of consciousness would not appear noticeably different from his normal state.

"At higher, moderate doses, these same reactions are intensified but the changes in the individual would still be scarcely noticeable to an observer. The individual may experience rapidly changing emotions, changing

sensory imagery, dulling of attention, more altered thought formation and expression such as fragmented thought, flight of ideas, impaired immediate memory, disturbed associations, altered sense of self-identity and, to some, a perceived feeling of enhanced insight.

"At very high doses, psychotomimetic phenomena may be experienced. These include distortions of body image, loss of personal identity, sensory and mental illusions, fantasies and hallucinations.

"Nearly all persons who continue to use marijuana describe these usual effects in largely pleasurable terms. However, others might call some of these same effects unpleasant or undesirable."

Thus, depending on the amount used and other factors, the psychological effects of marijuana can range from negligible to sublime euphoria to acute paranoid psychosis.

The psychological results of using marijuana are not predictable. They differ from person to person with the same amount of the drug, or from occasion to occasion in the same person. And marijuana's effects are influenced greatly by the individual user's mental and emotional state.

A person smoking marijuana on one occasion may feel so light he seems to "float"; at another time, under different circumstances, emotional state or physical health, he may feel so "leadened" he feels heavily weighted down. One time he may feel hyperactive, another time apathetic — or he may switch from one to the other.

Marijuana is not just a relaxing, calming or "euphoric" drug. "Marijuana can act primarily as a hallucinogen, a stimulant, a depressant, or an intoxicant, and sometimes as a combination of all four" (Hardin Jones and Helen Jones, *Sensual Drugs*, p. 44).

Marijuana may loosen inhibitions at one level of use, increasing social interaction. A slightly higher level may produce the opposite effect, making the user less social, more withdrawn and involved in inner experiences.

Even advocates of marijuana usage are concerned about some of these problems. For example, one "how-to" book for novice pot smok-

Physical and Psychological Factors Vary Pot's Punch

The marijuana plant is simply the Indian hemp plant (*Cannabis sativa*). It has been cultivated for centuries, mostly in developing nations but also in the West, for its fiber and rope-making products. History also records its early use in many less developed nations for medical as well as personal and religious purposes.

Marijuana's leaves, stems, seeds and flowering tops each contain varying amounts of THC and can be dried and crushed into forms for smoking, drinking, eating, and, rarely, mainlining into the bloodstream. Smoking is the fastest and most popular form to get an effect, or "high," however.

The potency of marijuana depends on several important factors. First, there is a significant THC variation among marijuana plant varieties. The amount of THC will also vary as a result of how much sun, moisture and care any given plant receives.

Secondly, marijuana composed mainly of the larger leaves (called *bhanga*) commonly has a THC content of one percent or less (until recently the amount found in most American and Mexican varieties) but may contain an amount of up to four percent (mostly other foreign varieties). The flower tops and small leaves (called *ganja*) may contain four to eight percent THC. The most potent preparation is hashish (or *charas*), which is made from the concentrated secretions of flowers and possesses a THC content of five to twenty percent; hashish oil is from twenty to ninety percent THC.

Highly important, also, is how marijuana is used. A reaction from

smoking occurs in one to ten minutes, with effects lasting four to six hours. Effects from eating marijuana do not take hold for one to two hours, but then last up to six hours. Mainlining into the bloodstream (fortunately not common) packs a quick wallop and is very dangerous.

Three other important variables are: individual differences in metabolism of the marijuana user, the physical condition of the user, and simultaneous use of other drugs.

Finally, a major factor commonly overlooked or minimized by many drug users is the social environment and mental frame of mind (setting, mood and expectations of effects) at the time of use. A disturbing setting or emotional turmoil may produce a totally different effect than a tranquil frame of mind.

The truth is, the psychological effects of marijuana are as variable as the range of human personality and as complex as the factors which influence the user each time he smokes.

It is precisely this wide variability that produces greatly different and sometimes conflicting results among various scientific studies of the effects and hazards of this drug. Past marijuana studies have generally been relatively short-term projects aimed at narrow objectives and the achievement of quick results. Most studies are also based on relatively low numbers of users, who often have widely different smoking or living habits.

A further major problem with these studies is that marijuana investigators establish different criteria as

the basis of their research. For instance, one researcher may define heavy use as five to ten joints per week, another as five to ten a day. Some studies try to control the intake of THC yet use marijuana with different THC levels; sometimes levels in use are unknown.

Studies are also conducted in varying environments; results can appreciably differ between street settings and clinical, hospital or other controlled settings. Studies conducted in widely different national or cultural settings complicate any perception of certainties of real effects because of different diets, living habits, endemic health problems or job activities. (For instance, some damage might not be as noticeable in a subsistence farming region or nation as in a fast-moving technological society with mentally demanding occupations.)

Finally, attributed results are often based on the users' own subjective accounts of drug effects, which have often proven to be inaccurate.

It is not surprising, then, that research studies come up with varying results. And it is dangerous to assume that damages do not exist—and that the drug is safe—if one study fails to confirm physical or psychological damage indicated in other studies. Periodically such unwarranted conclusions have appeared in newspapers and magazines.

True, some negative findings in some studies have been blown out of proportion, sensationalized as fact when they haven't been verified. Yet what has been consistently demonstrated about marijuana indicates warning flags should be flying high.

ers warns that if the intended user is troubled or upset, he may be letting himself in for more than he can handle. He should probably wait, the book advises, until he's in a better frame of mind before lighting up.

One common psychological problem associated with marijuana usage is described as "acute panic/anxiety reaction." It is seen most frequently in inexperienced users who panic at unfamiliar effects of the drug. Such reactions can also follow an unexpectedly high dose.

In summary, then, a marijuana "high" affects perception of time, distance and speed. It alters motor coordination, sometimes causing a change in gait and a lag between thought and facial expressions.

At first use, from a joint or two, some smokers feel no noticeable effects. Others suffer from nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Temporary effects or sensations often include the reddening of the whites of the eyes and facial skin, the pupils becoming hypersensitive to light, markedly increased or decreased appetite, dryness in the mouth and throat and a feeling of coldness in the body extremities. The pulse rate commonly speeds up.

Alarming Link to Auto Accidents

The National Highway Safety Council reports "an alarming incidence of marijuana use linked to highway traffic accidents." The drug user is the more dangerous because he often does not perceive the subtle psychological and physical changes occurring in himself. Many smokers do not even recognize they have been on a high until they have fully come out of it.

Sixty to eighty percent of marijuana users questioned by the National Institute on Drug Abuse admitted they sometimes drive when "high" on pot. And many of these same smokers felt they were better drivers while under the influence. But tests have proven their claims are not true. Their false reasoning vividly points out the danger of relying too heavily on subjective reports from marijuana users themselves for a valid understanding of the effects of cannabis.

A recent report prepared for President Carter by the Strategy Council on Drug Abuse states: "Research has proven that marijuana intoxication



Studies show that long-term smoking of cannabis, particularly hashish, irritates throat and lung tissues more quickly than cigarettes.

clearly impairs motor coordination, reaction time and visual perception, which would affect driving or operating machinery."

In one study conducted in Canada, 64 psychologically stable marijuana users were divided into three groups: one-third were given a low dosage of one street joint; one-third two joints; the other third a placebo.

Under actual driving conditions, with a dual driver and an observer, low-dose subjects showed a 33 percent decline in significant driving skills, including judgment, caution and concentration. High-dose subjects showed a 55 percent decline in significant skills.

In another road test, marijuana smoking caused drivers to miss traffic lights and stop signs, handle their car poorly, and show unawareness of pedestrians and stationary vehicles.

Marijuana users often report they can more easily "tune out" the outside world. It is not surprising, therefore, that the drug has been found to be a major culprit in accidents.

Memory Loss and Addiction

Short-term memory has been singled out by many investigators as the mental faculty most affected by marijuana. Present data indicates

that marijuana usage does not significantly interfere with retrieval of information already present in the memory. It has been shown, however, that marijuana interferes with initial learning. Many researchers feel the cause is weakened concentration, so that the short-term memory does not register new material well and the information therefore cannot be transferred to permanent memory. This result, of course, is devastating to any scholastic work.

New Evidence on Addiction

Until recently, because of the nonexistence or mildness of withdrawal symptoms, marijuana was not considered to be a physically (or chemically) addictive drug. Some researchers, however, are not so sure. Unlike the addictive substance in cigarettes (nicotine, which is rapidly eliminated from the body in fluid wastes), THC is eliminated slowly. As a result, the user may experience no withdrawal symptoms or only low-grade effects.

THC has an affinity for fatty tissues and brain tissues, where slow metabolism causes long retention. So in reality an experienced marijuana user is experiencing a certain high even if he does not smoke for some time. As THC levels in the bloodstream drop, THC stored in body fat comes back into circulation, thus reducing severe withdrawal symptoms. Months of abstinence are required for all the accumulated THC to be excreted by the body.

On the average, if five milligrams of THC are absorbed into the body, at the end of one week 30 percent is still in the body, and 10 percent still remains at the end of seven weeks. Additional smoking merely adds more.

Data indicates that the body responds to THC as follows: It may take several exposures to marijuana before the body absorbs enough THC to produce noticeable effect, and the effect level may vary from occasion to occasion. In some individuals, doses must be continually increased to obtain the same "high." (There is debate whether true tolerance levels develop, but most smokers do start smoking more or using stronger pot to obtain new "highs.") Sometimes even a small amount may produce a high. This is called reverse tolerance.

Addiction to THC is supported by the fact that heavy users report they must smoke more when they use low potency marijuana. Those who smoke at low or moderate levels find escaping pot's grip much easier than strongly addictive drugs.

Other Serious Health Dangers

Obviously, drawing any hot substance into the lungs is not good for one's health. Studies show that long-term smoking of cannabis, particularly hashish, irritates throat and lung tissues more quickly than cigarettes. Pharyngitis, bronchitis, and other obstructive lung diseases have a high occurrence among heavy pot smokers.

One major reason for this irritation is marijuana's chemical makeup. THC and other similar substances in marijuana smoke are more tightly bound on the surfaces of the carbon particles than is nicotine in cigarette smoke. To release the active substances in marijuana and get an effect, pot smokers inhale the smoke deeper and hold it longer.

Regarding other major health areas threatened by marijuana smoking, the Strategy Council also reports: "Preliminary research has shown possible adverse impact of marijuana on such areas as the body's immune response, basic cell metabolism, and sexual functioning."

Marijuana researchers point out that some studies indicate possible chromosome and immune-system damage. Birth defects and deformed offspring could be the result. So pregnant women in particular should avoid marijuana (and, of course, other drugs).

"Habitual, chronic marijuana smoking can be said to be genetic roulette," reported one researcher (Nahas, 1976). Reports another researcher: "Carefully controlled studies of at least one generation and many thousands of people will be necessary to establish whether marijuana causes mutations and malformations" (Hardin Jones and Helen Jones, *Sensual Drugs*, p. 242).

From Advocate to Alarmist

Among concerned medical and health personnel who have personally witnessed tragic human deterioration



"Pot smokers are so enraptured by the illusion of warm feelings, they are unable to sense the deterioration of their own mental and physical processes."

from the habitual use of marijuana is Dr. David Harvey Powelson, who made a complete about-face regarding the drug.

In the mid-sixties he was a firsthand witness to marijuana's sudden boom in popularity at the University of California campus at Berkeley. In 1967, as director of a psychiatric department at the campus, he stated in the campus newspaper: "Marijuana is harmless. There is no evidence that it does anything except make people feel good. It has never made anyone into a criminal or a narcotics addict. It should be legalized."

Later he wrote: "Within five years I knew I was totally wrong."

Dr. Powelson "converted" after noticing thousands of students who came through his clinic in following years. He became closely involved in interviewing hundreds of these young students and observing a repeated phenomenon which cropped up among heavy or persistent users of marijuana. After a few years of increasing marijuana use, bright, agile, young students with high educational goals had difficulties in concentrating, doing memory work, and grasping a sense of time; in short, they became unable to finish their studies successfully.

Dr. Powelson noted that fields of interest among these marijuana users became narrower and narrower, ending up in focus on nothing but immediate sensations. He also reported that, while it was not true for all, dependence on marijuana led many to experiment with other drugs.

Powelson was one of the first to pinpoint the insidious and beguiling nature of marijuana: "Pot smokers are so enraptured by the illusion of warm feelings, they are unable to sense the deterioration of their own mental and physical processes. Its continued use leads to delusional thinking."

But the good news, Powelson reports, is that many who stop using marijuana eventually recover their mental and physical faculties and abilities, though some, apparently, go too far in their drug usage. Though improving greatly, they never fully recover their former abilities.

A Multitude of Hazards

Marijuana is clearly not a safe drug. Arguing that it may be less damaging than abuse of alcohol (an idea not at all established as fact) is dodging behind a literal smoke screen. The truth is, blandly or blindly accepting one more damaging or intoxicating drug does not make for a saner or safer society.

Contemporary "advanced" society is a drug-inundated one. It is also a hypocritical society where kids can say to parents, "You cope with your booze and cigarettes, why can't I have my pot?" But that merely begs the question.

Marijuana is composed of a multitude of substances that are by nature toxins to the human body. The toxins, tars, and gases from marijuana smoke pollute the human body and brain—the most precious possessions a human has.

Marijuana is a drug that alters sensory perceptions and skews or distorts normal interpretation of that information. A marijuana high produces a false sense of security. It fools the brain into believing it is operating normally, or even in a superior manner, when the opposite is true.

Whether or not this drug is truly physically addicting, it certainly has

(Continued on page 39)

'THE WORLD TOMORROW' RADIO AND TV LOGS

Herbert W. Armstrong analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of 'The World Tomorrow'

THE WORLD TOMORROW RADIO LOG

Listed by state are the station's call letters, location, frequency and the time *The World Tomorrow* is aired.

ALABAMA

‡WYDE, Birmingham — 850, 7 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

ARIZONA

KIKX, Tucson — 580, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:35 a.m., Sun.

CALIFORNIA

‡KFRE, Fresno — 940, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8 a.m., Sun.

KIEV, Glendale — 870, 11 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

KLAC, Los Angeles — 570, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7 a.m., Sun.

KGUY, Palm Desert — 1270, 6:15 a.m., Sun.

‡KFBK, Sacramento — 1530, 11:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 p.m., Sun.

‡KNBR, San Francisco — 680, 9 p.m., Sun.

KUNA-FM, San Luis Obispo — 96.1, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

CONNECTICUT

*WRCQ, Hartford — 910, 6:30 a.m., Sun.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WRC, Washington — 980, 8:30 a.m., Sun.

FLORIDA

‡WAPE, Jacksonville — 690, 8:30 a.m., Sun.

‡WINZ, Miami — 940, 12:05 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

WIOD, Miami — 610, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

GEORGIA

WPLO, Atlanta — 590, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

HAWAII

KKON, Kealahou — 790, 6 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

ILLINOIS

‡WMAQ, Chicago — 670, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 6 a.m., 10 p.m., Sun.

WMBD, Peoria — 1470, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.

WTAY, Robinson — 1570, 10:25 p.m., Sun.

*WTAY-FM, Robinson — 102.4, 10:25 p.m., Sun.

INDIANA

WSBT, South Bend — 960, 11:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 4:30 p.m., Sun.

IOWA

‡KXEL, Waterloo — 1540, 11:45 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 5 a.m., Sun.

*Denotes time or station change

‡Denotes 50,000-watt wide-area station

KANSAS

WIBW, Topeka — 580, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

KENTUCKY

‡WHAS, Louisville — 840, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

MARYLAND

‡WPOC-FM, Baltimore — 93.1, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

MASSACHUSETTS

‡WITS, Boston — 1510, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7 a.m., Sun.

MICHIGAN

‡WDEE, Detroit — 1500, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

MINNESOTA

‡KTCR-FM, Minneapolis — 97.1, 6 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

MISSOURI

KMBZ, Kansas City — 980, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10 p.m., Sun.

KGBX, Springfield — 1260, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9 a.m., Sun.

NEW YORK

WBEN, Buffalo — 930, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

‡WOR, New York — 710, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 6:30 a.m., 11:30 p.m., Sun.

‡WHAM, Rochester — 1180, 11:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 11 p.m., Sun.

WSOQ, Syracuse — 1220, 6:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

NORTH CAROLINA

WSOC, Charlotte — 930, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

OHIO

WSLR, Akron — 1350, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 p.m., Sun.

‡WCKY, Cincinnati — 1530, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:15 p.m., Sun.

WBBG, Cleveland — 1260, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.

WMNI, Columbus — 920, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

WCWA, Toledo — 1230, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8 a.m., Sun.

OKLAHOMA

‡KVOO, Tulsa — 1170, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

OREGON

‡KWJJ, Portland — 1080, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 p.m., Sun.

PENNSYLVANIA

WHP, Harrisburg — 580, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.
KQV, Pittsburgh — 1410, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7 a.m., Sun.

RHODE ISLAND

WEAN, Providence — 790, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
WGNG, Providence — 550, 9 a.m., Sun.

TENNESSEE

WREC, Memphis — 600, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

TEXAS

KPRC, Houston — 950, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.
‡WOAI, San Antonio — 1200, 10:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10 a.m., 7 p.m., 11 p.m., Sun.

UTAH

‡KSL, Salt Lake City — 1160, 5:30 a.m., Sun.

VIRGINIA

WCPK, Chesapeake — 1600, 12:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.

WNIS, Norfolk — 1300, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

WASHINGTON

KGRG-FM, Auburn — 89.9, 12 noon, Sun.

KAYO, Seattle — 1150, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.

WEST VIRGINIA

*WKEE, Huntington — 800, 6 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

‡WWVA, Wheeling — 1170, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

WYOMING

‡KTWO, Casper — 1030, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9 p.m., Sun.

KYCN, Wheatland — 1340, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

Canadian Stations

ALBERTA

CHFM-FM, Calgary — 95.9, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFCW, Camrose — 790, 11:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKYL, Peace River — 610, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CIOK, St. Paul/Bonnyville — 1310, 7:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKTA, Taber — 1570, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
CFOK, Westlock-Edmonton — 1370, 7:05 p.m.,
Mon-Fri.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

CKQR, Castlegar — 1230, 10:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CFCP, Courtenay — 1440, 9:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKGR, Golden — 1400, 8:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKGF, Grand Forks — 1340, 6:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKTK, Kitimat — 1230, 6:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CJJC, Langley — 800, 6:05 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKMK, McKenzie — 1240, 11:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CHUB, Nanaimo — 1570, 10:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKOO, Oliver/Osoyoos — 1240, 9:30 p.m., Sun-
Thurs.
CHPO, Parksville — 1370, 10:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKOK, Penticton — 800, 9:30 p.m., Sun-Thurs.
CJAV, Port Alberni — 1240, 10:05 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKPG, Pr. George — 550, 11:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CHTK, Pr. Rupert — 560, 6:15 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKCR, Revelstoke — 1340, 8:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKXR, Salmon Arm — 580, 8:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKSP, Summerland — 1450, 9:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CFTK, Terrace — 590, 10:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CJVI, Victoria — 900, 9:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.

MANITOBA

CFAR, Flin Flon — 590, 8 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CJAR, The Pas — 1240, 8 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CHTM, Thompson — 610, 6:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKJS, Winnipeg — 810, 12:05 p.m., Mon-Fri.

MARITIMES

CKIM, Baie Verte — 1240, 6 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKNB, Campbellton — 950, 9:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKVO, Clareville — 710, 6 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CFNB, Fredericton — 550, 11 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKGA, Gander — 730, 6 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKCM, Grand Falls — 620, 6 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CHCM, Marystown — 560, 6 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKCW, Moncton — 1220, 9:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKCL, Truro — 600, 6:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CJLS, Yarmouth — 1340, 8 p.m., Mon-Fri.

ONTARIO

CKPC, Brantford — 1380, 6:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CING-FM, Burlington — 107.9, 10 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CJSS, Cornwall — 1220, 10:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CJKL, Kirkland Lake — 560, 9:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKGL-FM, Kitchener — 96.7, 6:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKLY, Lindsay — 910, 9 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CFPL, London — 980, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
CJTT, New Liskeard — 1230, 9:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CFCH, North Bay — 600, 10:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKAR, Oshawa — 1350, 11:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CFGFM, Richmond Hill — 1320, 11:30 p.m., Mon-
Fri.
CHAS-FM, Sault Ste. Marie — 100, 12:30 p.m.,
Mon-Fri.
CJQR-FM, St. Catharines — 97.7, 11:05 p.m.,
Mon-Fri.
CJSD-FM, Thunder Bay — 94.3, 7 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKGB, Timmins — 680, 9:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CKLW-FM, Windsor — 93.9, 6:30 a.m., Sun.

QUEBEC (In French)

CKCH, Hull — 970, 7 a.m., Sun.
CFMB, Montreal — 1410, 1 p.m., Mon-Fri.; (in En-
glish) 5 p.m., Sat., Sun.
CKCV, Quebec City — 1280, 7 a.m., Sun.
CJSA, Ste. Agatha — 1230, 8:45 a.m., Sun.
CKLD, Thetford Mines — 1230, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
CHLN, Trois Rivières — 550, 7 a.m., Sun.

SASKATCHEWAN

CKSA, Lloydminster — 1080, 7:30 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CJVR, Melfort — 1420, 8 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CHAB, Moose Jaw — 800, 6:30 p.m., Sun.
CJNB, North Battleford — 1050, 6:30 p.m., Mon-
Fri.
CKBI, Pr. Albert — 900, 10:15 p.m., Mon-Fri.
CJME, Regina — 1300, 6:30 a.m., Sun.
CFQC, Saskatoon — 600, 8 a.m., Mon-Fri.

THE WORLD TOMORROW TELEVISION LOG

Listed by state are the station's
call letters, location, channel
number and the time *The World
Tomorrow* is aired.

ALABAMA

WAPI, Birmingham — 13, 7 a.m., Sun.

ARIZONA

KZAZ, Tucson — 11, 7:30 a.m., Sun.

ARKANSAS

KARK, Little Rock — 4, 10 a.m., Sun.

CALIFORNIA

KPWR, Bakersfield — 17, 4:30 p.m. Sun.
KTVU, Oakland — 2, 10:30 a.m., Sat.

CONNECTICUT

WATR, Hartford — 20, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WTTG, Washington — 5, 7 a.m., Sun.

FLORIDA

WCIX, Miami — 6, 7 a.m., Sun.

ILLINOIS

WCIU, Chicago — 26, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WFLD, Chicago — 32, 7 a.m., Sat.

INDIANA

WKJG, Ft. Wayne — 33, 11:30 a.m., Sun.
WISH, Indianapolis — 8, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WSBT, South Bend — 22, 11 a.m., Sun.

IOWA

KWWL, Waterloo — 7, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

KANSAS

KGLD, Garden City — 11, 12 noon, Sun.
KARD, Wichita — 3, 12 noon, Sun.

KENTUCKY

WLEX, Lexington — 18, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

LOUISIANA

WAFB, Baton Rouge — 9, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WWL, New Orleans — 4, 7 a.m., Sun.

MAINE

WGAN, Portland — 13, 6:30 a.m., Sun.

MARYLAND

WBFF, Baltimore — 45, 12 noon, Sun.

MASSACHUSETTS

WHYN, Springfield — 40, 9:04 a.m., Sun.

MICHIGAN

WUHQ, Battle Creek — 41, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WJRT, Flint — 12, 8 a.m., Sun.
WILX, Lansing — 10, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

MINNESOTA

WTCN, Minneapolis — 11, 6 a.m., Sun.

MISSOURI

KMTC, Springfield — 27, 6:30 a.m., Sun.
KNDL, St. Louis — 30, 11 p.m., Sun.

NEBRASKA

KCNA, Albion — 8, 8 a.m., Sun.
KWNB, Hayes Center — 6, 8 a.m., Sun.
KHGI, Kearney — 13, 8 a.m., Sun.
KSNB, Superior — 4, 8 a.m., Sun.

NEW MEXICO

KGGM, Albuquerque — 13, 6:30 a.m., Sun.

NEW YORK

WTEN, Albany — 10, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WUTV, Buffalo — 29, 11:15 p.m., Sun.
WOPR, New York — 9, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

NORTH CAROLINA

WNCT, Greenville — 9, 11:30 a.m., Sun.

OHIO

WAKR, Akron — 23, 11:30 p.m., Sun.
WLWT, Cincinnati — 5, 11:30 a.m., Sun.
WTVG, Toledo — 13, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

OREGON

KPTV, Portland — 12, 11 a.m., Sat.

PENNSYLVANIA

WIBC, Pittsburgh — 11, 10:30 a.m., Sun.
WSBA, York — 43, 12 noon, Sun.

RHODE ISLAND

WPRI, Providence — 12, 11:30 a.m., Sun.

TENNESSEE

WKPT, Kingsport — 19, 12 noon, Sun.

TEXAS

KTVV, Austin — 36, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

WASHINGTON

KXLY, Spokane — 4, 11 a.m., Sun.

WISCONSIN

WVTV, Milwaukee — 18, 10 p.m., Sun.

Why Is God the Father Called a FATHER?

Why should Christians call God "Father"? Why should we pray, "Our Father which art in heaven . . ."? Is the term a title, an anthropomorphism, a description, a theological euphemism, a comforting thought? Is God called Father because He's the collective Father of all mankind by virtue of creation? Is God really our Father?

by Jon Hill

Catechism, the Apostles' Creed and Jewish thought all point to God as Father—each with different interpretations and understanding. Long and eloquent are the comments and reasonings of Bible commentaries and dictionaries. Every analogy possible is explored and exploited to expound the vast scope of the awe-inspiring term "Father"—often ending in enthusiastic, but frustratingly impotent statements like, ". . . The glory intimated by the fact that we are to be called the sons of God is too glorious for us to comprehend the depth, nay the height, of its meaning."

Every analogy is magnified, examined in detail, verbalized: God is the Creator, the Beginner, the One who caused us to have life—and so is called our Father. He is Benefactor, Provider, Protector. He is Love-giver, Lawgiver and Forgiver, Punisher of sins, Rewarder of virtue, Maker of angels (and so *their* Father by creation), true and actual Father of Jesus Christ *the* Son of God. God the

Father is our Father in every way, and we are His sons in every way. . . .

Every way but ONE!

That one? To be God as God is God. That God is our Father because He is actively and presently in the process of begetting and bringing sons to birth, sons to be born in His image, spiritually perfect as He is perfect, everliving as He is everliving, God as He is God—the purpose of all creation, the goal of human life, the plan of God!

Blasphemy?

Don't be too hasty in your judgment. Don't, as ancient Israel did before you—don't limit God! (Psalms 78:41.) Read on. See what the Old and New Testaments of your Bible have to say on this most important question: Why is God the Father called a Father? Read what prophets and apostles of God alike tell us is the plan of God. Read what Jesus said, says and will say!

Jesus had this problem when He was here on earth some two thousand years ago! The way He answered the scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees of His time—the scriptures He used are still there. They still mean the same

thing today that they meant in that yesterday, and they will mean the same thing forever! (Hebrews 13:8.) No, they were not scriptures that just applied to Jesus alone! Remember when Jesus said, "Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods? [Jesus here quoted from Psalms 82:6.] If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken, say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified . . . Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?" (John 10:34-36.)

What got everyone upset was not that He taught His disciples to pray, "Our Father which art in heaven. . . ." (Matthew 6:9). All the people of the Book, Israelites and Jews alike, considered God as their Father. ". . . Israel is my son, even my firstborn" (Exodus 4:22). ". . . O foolish people and unwise, is not he thy father that hath bought thee? hath he not made [created] thee, and established thee?" (Deuteronomy 32:6). They knew the scripture which says, "Doubtless thou art our father, though Abraham be ignorant of us, and Israel acknowledge us not: thou, O Lord, art our father, our redeemer; thy name is from everlasting" (Isaiah 63:16).

Also, "But now, O Lord, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter, and we all are the work of thy hand" (Isaiah 64:8). The beautiful *analogy* was accepted by everyone. The *idea* of thinking of God as *Fatherlike* was everyone's doctrine. It was much like today. *Hastings' Bible Dictionary* says: "... Jesus taught His followers to *think of themselves as sons of God.*" The common thought of the day was not what Jesus had in mind when He taught them to pray, "Our Father. . . ." Neither did Jesus at any time in His life teach His followers to conjure up the nice spiritual feeling of thinking of themselves "as if" they were sons of God!

What stirred people up was that Jesus literally meant what He said. And what He said was, "I and *my* Father are *one*" (John 10:30). That is what triggered the charge of blasphemy! That is what drove His listeners to attempt to stone Him!

And people have not changed in two thousand years. People still get stirred up and snort, "Blasphemy!" when they hear a follower of Jesus Christ and His Father say that he literally believes Jesus' prayerful statement to His Father, spoken on that day He was sacrificed for us, when He said, "Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that *they* may be one, *as we are*"! (John 17:11.)

Jesus the Only Begotten

The apostle John, explaining about Jesus Christ, the Word of God, pointed out that He was God from the beginning and had always existed before His human birth (John 1:1). John went on to point out that everything that we see around us in creation was made by that One we call Jesus (John 1:3). And further, that God was made flesh and dwelt with human beings on the face of the earth—referring to Him as "the only begotten of the Father" (John 1:14, 18).

That Jesus Christ was and is the Son of God is a cardinal point of doctrine upon which all Christianity rests. No one who calls himself a Christian can at the same time deny that Jesus Christ was and is the Son of God.

One who had been God became man! That Jesus of Nazareth, "who, existing in the form of God [ASV], did not cling to his prerogatives as God's equal [Phillips]: but emptied himself [of his glory] [ASV & Conybeare] and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross [KJV]." (Philippians 2:6-8—several translations are used here to make the meaning of the original Greek more clear in today's language.)

That same Jesus who was God, yet also was with God from the beginning, was also the One who confounded His fellow countrymen by saying, "Before Abraham was, I am" (John 8:58). And by explaining to them that He was both the Lord of and yet also the son of David (Matthew 22:41-46), Jesus Christ was actually telling them that God had become a human being. This was the same Jesus who emptied Himself of the glory of being God (John 17:5) and became a human being, fleshly, subject to death.

That God could become a human being, subject to death, subject to all of the manifold temptations of physical man (as Christ was) was and is totally unacceptable to Jewish thinking—so they rejected outright the claim of Jesus of Nazareth that He was the Son of God. Now, before you judge that rejection too harshly, let us remember that the vast majority of those who call themselves Christian reject outright as blasphemy and consider unthinkable the fact that human beings can become God! So we have on the one hand a great body of people who deny that God can become man and, on the other hand, a greater body of people who deny that man can become God!

In fulfilling the prophecies which looked forward to the coming of the Son of man, the Messiah in His first coming, His humble, rejected-of-men coming, Jesus became the only begotten Son of His Father in heaven. He fulfilled what Isaiah prophesied (Isaiah 7:14). What so many of the other prophets looked forward to as well—that is: a human baby was

formed by the power of the Spirit of God (Matthew 1:18) in the womb of a virgin, and so was the only human being who ever had or ever will have the Father in heaven be the One who engendered Him in the womb. In this way Jesus is the only begotten Son of God the Father.

Jesus the Firstborn

Regeneration—new birth—being begotten—being born again into the Kingdom of God are all principles with which every Bible scholar is familiar. Jesus explained to Nicodemus that in order to gain God's Kingdom human beings have to be born again. He very patiently explained to him that it was not a physical rebirth that He was talking about, but a newborn Spirit being (John 3, especially verse 3). There are so many scriptures going over the details of this doctrine as Jesus explained it to Nicodemus that it is difficult to pick any one to explain this spiritual change, regeneration, new birth. Yet of any chapter in the Bible, perhaps Romans 8 best explains how it is that human beings become the Sons of God in every sense of that expression.

This chapter begins by showing that as physical human beings with carnal minds in our present fleshly state we cannot obey the laws of God and please Him. First of all, we have to have a sacrifice to pay for the sins which demand our death, and then receive a new mind, a changed mind, a spiritually, rather than a physically, oriented mind so that we can begin to think and act and live like God our Father in heaven, or as Paul better puts it, "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" (Romans 8:14).

The Father's Spirit, God tells us, joins with our spirit and proves to us that we are the sons of God (verse 16). It goes on to show that by joining His Spirit with ours, God does not immediately bring us into His Kingdom, His Family, but that we have to live through experiences, which in many cases are painful, to develop character, to bring us to maturity (Matthew 5:48) so that we can finally be born as the sons of God. Comforting advice is given to show us that despite all the trials and diffi-

culties we have to endure while we are still human beings, “. . . we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose” (Romans 8:28).

Paul goes on to explain in verse 29 that the purpose of God according to which true Christians have been called is that we might be sons of God as Christ is a Son of God, born into the Kingdom and Family of God as Christ was born into the Kingdom and Family of God! And so it is that Jesus, the Captain of our salvation, is called the “*firstborn* among *many* brethren.”

That is, Jesus Christ of Nazareth, the only human being to be begotten in the womb of a woman by God the Father in heaven, is the first human being to become a Son of God by the resurrection from the dead! (Romans 1:4.)

But only the first!

Any human being, by exercising the power of the Spirit of God, can join that Firstborn Son in God’s Kingdom once he is called by God the Father.

It was from the beginning the plan of our great God—the source of outgoing concern, the source of love—to share His eternal life, with all its joy and majesty! Speaking of Christ, Paul quoted the book of Psalms and wrote, “What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man, that thou visitest him? Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands: Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him” (Hebrews 2:6-8).

Certainly we recognize that all things are in subjection to Jesus Christ! We all remember the scripture quoting Jesus, after His resurrection explaining to His disciples, “All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth” (Matthew 28:18). Notice in reading this quote that Paul cites from Psalms that it is not just the Son of Man (Jesus) who is being talked about, but man-

kind. That God created mankind with the ultimate purpose of sharing His own rulership of all things is manifest by these verses. Christ is not the only One to have Sonship in the Kingdom of God—all of mankind was created with that purpose in mind.

“But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. For it became him [this Him, you will notice in the context, is not referring to Jesus Christ, but to God, the Father of Jesus Christ], for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing *MANY* sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation [this is referring to Jesus Christ] perfect through sufferings” (Hebrews 2:9-10).

Yes, God the Father intends, it is His will and purpose to add many sons to His Kingdom, His Family, to have the same glory that the Captain of their salvation, Jesus Christ, now enjoys. It is in this context that Jesus refers to called-out human beings as brethren (verse 11). Really brethren—not just called brethren.

“In the Beginning . . .”

In the first verse of the Bible, Genesis 1:1, God introduces Himself to mankind as the Almighty Creator. In the English translation of the Hebrew it is unfortunate that the term “God” is used because it does not describe fully the Hebrew word from which it is translated. The word “God” conveys the idea that one being or individual is involved. It is singular. In the Hebrew it is not singular!

God introduced Himself to mankind with a plural name!

God uses this plural name exclusively over and over throughout the first chapter of Genesis and through verse 3 of chapter 2. That plural word in the Hebrew is *Elohim*. In English we use “s” as a pluralizing letter on words. In Hebrew they use “im” as a pluralizing form. In some cases this is confusing. One example of this is in Genesis 3 and verse 24 where the Hebrew word *cherubim* is transliterated from the Hebrew. In order to make people understand that

there is more than one individual involved, this word is Anglicized and spelled “cherubims”! Although this conveys the idea to English-speaking people that there was more than one cherub involved—and so helps us understand the original language in which the Bible was written—it is also misleading in the sense that this practice is not consistently exercised throughout the Bible.

If the translators had been consistent with this form of translating, then the first verse of your Bible would read, “In the beginning *ElohimS* . . .” So the word translated “God” in Genesis 1—*Elohim* in the Hebrew—means the Everliving, Eternal Creating, All Powerful, Governing Family—Kingdom of God. *Elohim* does mean one God, not many Gods—but that one God is a Kingdom! It is similar to God’s Church. There is but one true Church—one Church, but many members! (I Corinthians 12:20.)

The Greatest Creation

As far as is revealed in your Bible there are only two Beings presently in God’s Kingdom—the Ones we call God the Father and Jesus Christ the Son. Those two, in that beginning chapter of Genesis said, “And God [*Elohim*] said, Let *us* make man in *our* image, after *our* likeness”! (Genesis 1:26.)

Mankind at that time was created physically in the form of God—“And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul” (Genesis 2:7). He did not have eternal life, or immortal life, at that time, but, as God said to him, “Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return” (Genesis 3:19). *Physical* creation was completed in the record we read in Genesis 1, but the greatest creation—the very purpose for the physical creation—was not complete. The great process of *spiritual* creation was just begun with the creation of two human beings to produce the entire race of mankind which was to be offered sonship in the Kingdom of God!

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong has said: “The purpose of life is that in us God is really re-creating His own

kind—reproducing Himself after His own kind—for we are, upon real conversion, actually begotten as sons (yet unborn) of God; then through study of God's revelation and His Word, living by His every word, constant prayer, daily experience with trials and testing, we grow spiritually more and more like God, until, at the time of the resurrection we shall be instantaneously changed from mortal into immortal—we shall then be born of God—we shall then be God!"

The Father Greater Than the Son

When Jesus Christ was here on this earth as a human being He constantly referred to the gospel of His Father—the gospel of the Kingdom of God—constantly turned people's attention to the fact that there was a Father. He revealed the Father. He never hesitated to show that He could do nothing except the Father guide, lead, support and sustain Him (John 5:19, 30). He said, "My Father is greater than I" (John 14:28).

Just as some human beings have greater jobs, responsibilities and authority than other human beings, so it is that that great God called Father has the greatest responsibility of any being—is greater in every way than any other being. Jesus Christ, who is next in responsibility, authority and office to His Father is joyfully, willingly and properly submissively fulfilling His responsibilities as second in command in the great God Family. Jesus gladly admits the Father's superiority. He focuses all His called-out ones' attention on that fact. He does not chafe under that authority but lives in perfect harmony with it.

It was through Jesus Christ in a total unanimity with His Father that all things were created—the invisible things as well as the visible; that is, great spirit beings such as angels and cherubim. It was *that* Jesus who by living His perfect life example through the power of the Holy Spirit showed us, manifested to us, made visible to us what the invisible God is like! It is that same Jesus whom God has made the Head of the body He calls the Church. That same Jesus who is the firstborn from the dead—the first to receive total Sonship in

the Kingdom of God (Colossians 1:15-18).

The Son's Responsibility

Let's briefly review the magnificent and glorious responsibilities and activities of Jesus Christ. Ask yourself the question as we do so—what greater thing can the Father do? By Bible definition, Jesus Christ, who is the Word of God, was the One who spoke, and all the great universe we see came into being. It was He as well that created the vast world of spirit beings that we do not see. It was He who called out Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. It was Christ who called Israel out of the bondage in Egypt. It was Jesus who spoke the Ten Commandments from Mount Sinai. It was Christ who chose David to be king of Israel. It was this same Jesus who sent Israel and later Judah into exile and captivity, wandering over the face of the earth, as a result of their having turned aside from His true way.

This was the Jesus who came, born of a virgin, begotten by God, who lived an entire lifetime perfectly within the Spirit of God's law, died as a perfect sacrifice, shedding His blood, pouring out His life—having already emptied Himself of being God, He now emptied Himself even of His human life. He gave His life's blood to pay for our transgressions, our spiritual sins.

He gave His body, beaten, pummeled and bruised as a payment for our physical sins, so that we might be healed. (Have you ever wondered why the sacrifice of Christ can pay for the sins of all the world? Well obviously, if all the world and all that are in it and all of the created spirit beings and everything we know about was created by that one life, then the payment of that life was certainly sufficient!) This same Jesus, God the Father in heaven, by the power of the Holy Spirit, resurrected from the grave to be His firstborn Son.

This same Jesus began God's one true Church on the day of Pentecost in 31 A.D. This same Jesus has been with that same Church all these years, and death and the grave have not prevailed on that little flock, as He promised. This same Jesus is

coming again as King of kings and Lord of lords to rule, on this earth, all the nations in the wonderful world tomorrow, which is just around the corner.

If Christ, then, did all of these great things and fulfills these magnificent prophecies—what greater things is it that the Father does? *The Father begets and brings to birth very sons of God!* Jesus Christ does not beget us as the sons of God, the Father does. Of course it is only through Jesus Christ that we know about the Father, that we can go before the Father, our sins paid for by Christ's blood.

Father and Son, Perfect Unison

Jesus Christ, with His Father, in a perfect unison, works out the purpose for which creation was made. But only God the Father can beget sons! And each one of those sons He begets and brings to birth in His Kingdom is worth more than all the creation we see and do not see put together! And so God the Father is greater than Jesus Christ (and remember I didn't say it, Jesus Christ did! [John 14:28]) in that this God is the Father of that God we call Jesus Christ the Son—and the Father of all the other brothers of Jesus Christ to be born at the resurrection into that glorious Kingdom, called God. And Jesus Christ, as any true Son of God, is the first to admit that His Father is greater than He—the last to want it to be any other way!

Listen to this statement from the apostle John as translated by J. B. Phillips in his New Testament in modern English: "Consider the incredible love that the Father has shown us in allowing us to be called 'children of God'—and that is not just what we are called, but what we are. Our heredity on the Godward side is no mere figure of speech—which explains why the world no more recognizes us than it recognized Christ (I John 3:1). Continuing in the King James translation: "beloved, now are we the sons of God [begotten now, but not yet born] and it doth not yet appear what we shall be [that is, the manifestation of the sons of God, the time in which they will appear, has not yet come—Ro-

mans 8:23]: but we know that, when he shall appear [that is at the second coming of Jesus Christ to be King of kings and Lord of lords], we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is" (I John 3:2).

No human being can see God as He is and live. Even Moses, who was permitted to see God, saw Him only from behind, and God in His mercy would not allow him to see Him as He is! But at the time of the resurrection—when the promise of God the Father comes to pass and we are born from the grave—when our mortality puts on immortality and our corruption puts on incorruption—when we are changed from flesh to spirit and we become the living sons of the living God—when we become God as God is God, God as Jesus Christ is God—*then* we will be able to see Jesus Christ just like He really is in all His spiritual splendor and glory!

Oneness of Father and Son

That perfect unison that God the Father and Jesus the Son work in by the power of their Holy Spirit is fascinating to behold. Jesus said, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him" (John 6:44). And yet Jesus also said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). God the Father on His throne in heaven—active, living and in charge of His entire Family—decides whom He wants to call and when. He causes those individuals to be drawn to Jesus Christ, His Son. Jesus Christ in turn directs them to the Father in heaven!

What beauty! What unity!

We do not see here any conflict between Father and Son. We do not see a Jesus Christ who this world teaches rebelled against His Father and recommended some different way. We see total agreement and unity, peace and the perfect work of spiritual creation of which the Father is in charge.

Believe it or not, the time of your salvation is in the hand of God the Father. God the Father and Christ the Son [the *Elohim* of creation] have established a seven-thousand-year plan to bring mankind from the human level to the divine level! (II

Peter 1:4.) Six thousand of those years are allotted for mankind to rule himself, for Satan to have free reign. Then comes God's Sabbath rest. The thousand-year term of His Kingdom here on this earth ruling mankind under His government, His way. Each week that passes bears a foreshadowing of that plan. And finally a resurrection of all who have ever lived—those who have never had any chance, who have never been called by the Father—every human being who has ever lived to be brought back to life and given that one and only opportunity God gives to become His son!

We see human suffering around us. We see a history of human suffering for thousands of years. Only here and there throughout that history did the Father intervene in the lives of a few human beings. The Son followed that lead in perfect harmony as always, working with, guiding, leading, prospering, educating, blessing certain individuals whom the Father had chosen out of a world living in rebellion, led by Satan the devil, against God's government!

It was to that rebellious world that God the Father sent His Son Jesus Christ to live in the flesh and, "... As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but [born] of God!" (John 1:12-13.)

Why Haven't You Heard This Preached Before?

Has your minister preached this central, vital Bible truth? Have you heard before that your destiny is to become God as God is God?

Apollos, back during the early days of the New Testament Church, was an enthusiastic and eloquent speaker whose zeal at first exceeded his wisdom and understanding. He had heard, and he repeated certain things he had heard about Jesus Christ and John the Baptist, about the message they preached. He preached it himself and convinced many of its merits. Those many were baptized, believing in the message Apollos had taught.

But when Paul came to question the people who had been taught and instructed by Apollos, he found there was a key ingredient missing in Apollos' teaching. He had failed to instruct them regarding God's Holy Spirit! God's Spirit! His mind, His power, His very essence which He grants and gives to us to beget us as His sons, to give us the power to overcome our human tendencies. The power that will raise us from human beings to God Beings! Apollos himself needed further instruction and got it from a dedicated couple in the Church of God, and from the ministers in the Church of God. And, of course, those individuals to whom he preached needed further instruction, which they received from God's ministry of that day and were all rebaptized! (Read this in Acts, chapter 19.)

Surely you can see that there have been great areas left out of your Christian instruction from the ministers you have heard in the past—no matter how zealous and sincere they have been. In fact, it seems that in preaching the Father and the Son they have left out—perhaps vociferously rejected—the most important reason why God is called our Father, and why Jesus is called His Son!

Write for our free booklets *Why Marriage!* and *What Do You Mean—Born Again?* for a fuller understanding of this subject. If you have any specific questions don't fail to write them to us. If you feel you would like to talk to one of God's representatives about this most important of subjects—or any other subject of importance to you—don't hesitate to ask!

You've heard it said, I'm sure, that Jesus Christ promised the Holy Spirit to His followers, but have you ever heard it said that Jesus, in giving that very promise, labeled it the promise of His Father in heaven? Read Luke 24:49 and Acts 1:4, and see it there with your own eyes.

God is called a Father because He is a Father. And it is His will, purpose and plan to become the Father of untold millions—to become *your* Father to share in His life, His glory, His majesty, His Kingdom—God as He is God! □

MARIJUANA

(Continued from page 31)

psychologically addicting powers. After developing high tolerances for marijuana, many marijuana users cannot long function without it.

Making matters worse, in the last few years there has been a marked change in the quantity and quality of cannabis available in the United States and elsewhere. Before 1970, most of the marijuana consumed in the United States was a very weak domestic variety, with an average THC content of under one percent. After 1970, more potent Mexican marijuana, having a THC concentration of 1.5 percent to 2 percent, edged out the domestic variety. Now varieties from Colombia and elsewhere average up to 4 percent or more.

More alarming is the increase in the importation of hashish oil. Marijuana joints dipped in it may contain up to 90 percent THC.

A Spiritual Response

Everyone must confront the propaganda and false allure of a wide variety of illicit and dangerous drugs. It is a sad commentary on the moral and spiritual bankruptcy of modern education, and even of religion, that life is so meaningless, so lacking in hope and spiritual power, that millions are enticed to drugs and alcohol for a fleeting escape from life's problems or a bit of transitory pleasure.

The Bible reveals man's incredible potential. The purpose of a Christian's life is to develop, with God's help, the mind and character of God — with its crowning achievement to be changed into a literal son of God, ruling with God forever over His vast creation. Such a goal completely pales into insignificance the fleeting "pleasures of sin" (Hebrews 11:25) which permeate society.

Power to change the human mind toward this fantastic goal comes by the help of the Holy Spirit, which God gives to those who obey Him (Acts 5:32).

God's Word, the Bible, reveals that a Christian will be *rewarded* (this is in addition to being *saved*

through faith in Christ) according to how he develops his natural and God-given talents and abilities, and how he overcomes sinful pulls (Luke 19:12-27; Revelation 2:26). But God's Word plainly states that drunkards will never enter God's Kingdom or family unless they repent (1 Corinthians 6:10). And, of course, drunkenness can result from many other debilitating substances besides alcohol, such things as marijuana and other mind-altering drugs.

These things damage one's mental capacity to drink in of God's mind and character. They distort and deaden the priceless human mind with false perceptions, feelings, and thought patterns.

It can never glorify God to distort reality and to dull our motivation and attention. To alter perceptions, leading to serious accidents, or to slowly ruin one's health by poisoning body and mind, can only be a grave and serious threat—and disservice to oneself and others. Mind-altering drugs only destroy human potential. They do not expand it!

Nor can we become a better society by legalizing dangerous drugs. One tragic consequence of eliminating strong penalties for possession of marijuana is the consequent spawning of violence and corruption by greedy entrepreneurs intent on reaping quick profits. The next tragic step some feel compelled to ask for is to completely legalize growing or using pot to reduce profitability to criminal elements. In countries where marijuana has long been used, it is considered by leaders as a scourge, a stupefying drug particularly harmful to youth, human health, and social development.

Disturbed Brain Functioning

Many, young and old alike, are tempted through peer pressure or other reasons to experiment with marijuana and other mind-altering drugs.

If that applies to you, listen to a drug specialist who has had firsthand contact with thousands of individuals suffering the tragic effects of many modern drugs. Says Dr. Hardin Jones, former professor of Medical Physics at the University of Berke-

ley, who has dealt with drug problems of thousands of American servicemen returning from Southeast Asia and elsewhere: Sensations of brighter colors, clearer sounds, more intense odors, distorted images and sense of time, flashbacks and hallucinations, memory loss and sudden changes in mood "are indications of *disturbed brain function.*" They are not, he says, functions of a normal or healthy brain.

Writing in the October 1977 issue of *Executive Health*, Dr. Jones concludes: "When potential drug users come to understand that . . . [these] disorders induced by drugs are *interferences rather than additions to perception*, they will be in a better position to reject the use of mind-altering drugs."

God placed humanity here on earth for a fantastic purpose. Mind-altering drugs obliterate the possibility of fully achieving that purpose and of "glorifying God in your body and mind, which are God's"—*not yours!* □

WHY WERE YOU BORN?

Did human life develop over a period of millions of years from lower animal species by a process of evolution? Or was humanity created and put here on earth by an intelligent and Almighty Creator and for a definite purpose? And if there is a purpose in life, why is humanity so totally unaware of it? The free booklet *Why Were You Born?*, by Herbert W. Armstrong, discusses these vital questions. To obtain your copy, use the Literature Request card in this issue or write to *The Plain Truth* at the address nearest you. Why were you born? It's a question that demands an answer.

Why
were you
BORN?

"PAPER TIGER"

(Continued from page 6)

new approach when he wrote in a 1970 book, *Between Two Ages*: "Today the old framework of international politics... with spheres of influence, military alliances between nation states, the *fiction* of sovereignty, doctrinal conflicts arising from 19th-century crisis—is clearly no longer compatible with reality."

Did the Soviet Union share this new "reality"? Obviously not. But, according to Brzezinski, that was only because of the "delayed development" of Soviet society. It would surely "mature" to see things from this new "global perspective" rather than from traditional national self-interest.

This erroneous belief that there exists a common fundamental approach to world problems colors everything the Administration does with regard to the Kremlin. It surfaced during the recent Cuban crisis. Mr. Carter decided not to press the issue of the Soviet troops so as not to endanger the SALT II treaty. The entire issue, he claimed, is "certainly no reason for a return to the cold war... The greatest danger to all the nations of the world is a breakdown of a *common effort* to preserve the peace..."

But "can two walk together, except they be agreed"? (Amos 3:3.)

Amorphous "Forces"

Along with this new approach to Moscow came a new approach to the world in general: a type of fatalistic, deterministic approach. No more clear cause-and-effect relationships; no relative good versus obvious evil; rather, a sort of "situation ethics" approach to world affairs.

According to this philosophy, people—especially people supported by the Kremlin—are no longer responsible for world tensions; rather the tensions are due to complex (never simplistic), difficult-to-grasp, impersonal "forces."

The determination to see the world in this view discourages an active American response because the U.S.

is perceived as being powerless to control these "forces," which are said to be "searching for viable forms of government."

In a remarkable article entitled "Dictatorship and Double Standards" in the November 1979 issue of *Commentary*, Jeane Kirkpatrick, a political scientist at Georgetown University, writes: "Viewed from this level of abstraction, it is the 'forces' rather than the people that count. So what if the 'deep historical forces' at work in such diverse places as Iran, the Horn of Africa, Southeast Asia, Central America, and the United Nations look a lot like Russians or Cubans?"

"What can a U.S. President faced with such complicated, inexorable, impersonal processes do? The answer, offered again and again by the President and his top officials, is, not much. Since events are not caused by human decisions, they cannot be stopped or altered by them. Brzezinski, for example, has said: 'We recognize that the world is changing under the influence of forces no government can control...'

"Where once upon a time an American President might have sent Marines to assure the protection of American strategic interests, there is no room for force in this world of progress and self-determination."

America, its citizens were told officially, was "powerless" to influence deteriorating events in Iran that ultimately led to the downfall of an American ally in one of the most strategic areas of the world. As soon as the Shah got in trouble, the U.S. backed off, lest it be guilty of standing in the way of "forces" said to reflect the true feelings of the people.

The result? According to Dr. Kissinger, the collapse of the government of Iran and exile of the Shah resulted in "the biggest foreign policy debacle of the United States in a generation." He said the Shah's ouster "shifted the balance of power in the Middle East to radical forces."

America's fickleness toward the Shah was evident in that only a year earlier he had been praised by Mr. Carter on a visit to Tehran for his

wise, "enlightened" rule over a nation called at that time an "island of stability" in a volatile part of the world.

A similar situation occurred later in the year in Nicaragua, when Soviet and Cuban-backed guerrillas representing themselves as the "forces of democracy" launched an all-out campaign against the government of Anastasio Somoza. The American response—to shrink back from a government (however imperfect) it had earlier supported—was the same.

Now the Sandinista revolutionaries are purging nonradical "counter-revolutionaries" from their ranks.

In nearly every case, Washington overestimates the power of the "moderates" and "democrats" in the opposition movement and underestimates the strength of the well-organized Marxists or other radicals (the ones who eventually come to the fore and who have adopted a position hostile to the U.S.).

"The American commitment to change in the abstract," says Kirkpatrick, "ends up by aligning us tacitly with Soviet clients and irresponsible extremists like the Ayatollah Khomeini, or in the end, Yasser Arafat."

The same trend can be expected elsewhere in the future—until the United States is isolated without a friend left in the world.

"Misleaders" Instead of Heroes

America's leadership has lost its way. God, prophesying through the pen of Isaiah, said: "O, my people, your leaders *mislead* you, and confuse the course of your paths" (Isaiah 3:12).

Of our society, God says that "the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint... there is no soundness in it" (Isaiah 1:5-6). The "head" means the government; the "heart" refers to the "soul" of the country, its national morale and character.

Domestically we have become—and are proud to be, in all too many cases—a perverse society ("They proclaim their sin like Sodom, they do not hide it"—Isaiah 3:9). As a result of our appalling national sins, God has taken away "the mighty man and the soldier, the judge and the

prophet. . . the captain of fifty and the man of rank . . ." (Isaiah 3:2-3).

Our heroes and men of true wisdom and understanding are gone; their examples and sage advice of yesteryear forgotten and despised. Worse yet, our "Me generation" is not producing any giants to replace them. Instead, in comparison to the greats of the past, "boys" are our "princes," mere "babes" are our rulers (verse 4).

In our educational system, the function of American historians today, it seems, is to *rewrite* history. "Generals are out, sociology is in," noted one observer. The deeds of the great are whitewashed, their newly discovered "warts" fully exposed. History texts, said one, are now "loath to proclaim any values as self evident."

There are actually not a few in government who are so divorced from their own national past that the slogans and rhetoric of Marxist-style revolutions sound appealing. They are enamoured with the ideals of collective "socialism": their emphasis on reason, science, education, "progress," deemphasis of religion; with an overriding giant bureaucracy to control all aspects of the lives of the citizens.

Marxist revolutionaries now "speak our language," says one author.

What a remarkable turn of events!

In the 1940s and '50s America stood in the breach of the spreading cancer of totalitarianism. Now many of America's leaders find common ground with it. No wonder the United States can no longer recognize its chief adversary!

Identity Repudiated

Such a 180-degree transformation can only be explained by the rapid expansion of socialism and government control within America itself during the past two decades.

Former Secretary of the Treasury William Simon, in his outstanding book *A Time for Truth*, puts it succinctly: "There is a reason for our special degree of incoherence and confusion. The United States, in changing with relative speed into a

social democracy, has undergone an alteration that is more fundamental than any other nation's. It has actually repudiated its own identity."

Born a basically God-fearing, morally sound nation, emphasizing biblically based virtues such as honest work, thrift, self-reliance, expectation of rewards for diligence, with minimal supervision by government, it has been changed by "social manipulation" and vote-getting politicians into a radically different society. Old values have been tossed out the window. One example: "The redistribution of wealth from the productive citizen to the nonproductive citizen," says Simon, has "become the principal governmental activity."

Some government theorists are even speculating why all jobs within a certain industry, for example, should not be paid the same wage. Isn't a secretary's job "of comparable worth" they ask, to that of, say, a chief engineer?

Some would stop at nothing short of total equalization, every person receiving the same wages, working or not working. Such reasoning flies in the face of every biblical law and principle of economics. Even Communist societies, realizing the necessity for incentives, have moved away from such folly.

Wrong Kinds of Freedom

Americans still think they are a free people. But this is largely illusionary.

Writes Mr. Simon: "It is often said by people who receive warnings about declining freedom in America that such a charge is preposterous, that there is no freer society on earth. That is true in one sense, but it is immensely deceptive. There has never been such freedom before in America to speak freely, indeed, to wag one's tongue in the hearing of an entire nation; to publish anything and everything, including the most scurrilous gossip; to take drugs and to prate to children about their alleged pleasures; to propagandize for bizarre sexual practices; to watch bloody and obscene entertainment.

"Conversely, compulsion rules the world of work. There has never been so little freedom before in America to

plan, to save, to invest, to build, to produce, to invent, to hire, to fire, to resist coercive unionization, to exchange goods and services, to risk, to profit, to grow.

"The strange fact is that Americans are constitutionally free today to do almost everything that our cultural tradition has previously held to be immoral and obscene, while the police powers of the state are being invoked against almost every aspect of the productive process. . . ." (*A Time for Truth*, p. 234).

And now in an increasingly godless society, the massive powers of government are turning relentlessly against the free exercise of religion!

"Lovers" Will Not Help

The United States has totally lost its moorings. At home, government bureaucracy is running amok. Abroad, the United States doesn't even know what its policies should be. Instead, it's just blindly jumping on the bandwagon of "progressive change."

America wants to be "loved" by every other nation. Instead, it is respected by none. "The U.S. has never tried so hard and failed so utterly to make and keep friends in the Third World," says Kirkpatrick.

The United States is acting today just like its forefathers of old. "You have played the harlot with many lovers; and would you return to me?" says the Lord" (Jeremiah 3:1). America has long since forgotten the God in whom she officially claims to trust.

Worse yet, the U.S. has taken the wealth God gave her (Deuteronomy 8:7-18) and literally thrown billions of dollars at envious adversaries in attempts to buy their support! As Britain's noted philosopher Malcolm Muggeridge said recently: "America is a disengaging giant—it's washed up. . . . America had no heart for its role [as world leader]. It could only think of giving away money, and for doing this it was, of course, despised."

"Your hurt is incurable," says God, "and your wound is grievous. There is none to uphold your cause. . . . All your lovers have forgotten you; they care nothing for you; for I [God] have dealt you the blow

of an enemy. . . . because your guilt is great, because your sins are flagrant” (Jeremiah 30:12-15).

U.S. Decline: “Catalyst for Prophecy”

George Kennan, former American ambassador to both the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, wrote on one occasion: “I think this country is destined to succumb to failures which cannot be other than tragic and enormous in their scope. All this, of course, is not an easy thing to live with.”

The very near future, for those whose eyes are open, is truly alarming. Even the *New Yorker* magazine, on June 6, 1977, said that America’s decline involves “frightening knowledge, hardly utterable, opening to us a strange future.”

But it should not be strange to readers of *The Plain Truth*.

America’s loss of direction will change world-power relationships as never before. Her allies—Western Europe and Japan primarily—will soon be forced to make their own arrangements to guarantee their own survival.

During the ill-fated Cuban crisis, West Germany’s *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* said, for example, that “Mr. Carter has to do something, otherwise America stands before the world as a paper tiger. The Europeans await deeds from their strongest ally, for their destiny and that of the Americans cannot be separated.”

They are still waiting. Europeans may be forced to come to their own terms with the Soviet Union, even if only temporarily. In the long run, America’s decline will help generate the prophesied ten-nation European union.

America’s own destiny?

Professor Donald M. Dozer, quoted earlier, adds that, unless there are radical changes, “in front of us rises the appalling prospect of our own decline into powerlessness and oblivion.”

And eventually—as the editors of this magazine have repeatedly warned from the pages of the Bible—national captivity. “She that was great among the nations! She that was a princess among the cities has become a vassal” (Lamentations 1:1). □

Standard of Living

(Continued from page 14)

I have already covered how in the days of King Rehoboam, after Solomon’s death, they split into TWO DIFFERENT NATIONS.

At that time, the Birthright promise remained with the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh in the kingdom of ISRAEL, while the Sceptre promise, to be realized through Christ, remained in the nation JUDAH.

In the years 721-718 B.C., King Shalmanezzar of Assyria invaded, conquered and removed the northern nation ISRAEL from their land of Samaria, carrying them off as slaves to Assyria.

In the years 604-585 B.C., King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon invaded and moved the nation JUDAH as slaves into the land of Chaldea.

Meanwhile the Assyrians, with the ten tribes of ISRAEL, had migrated northwest. The Assyrians settled in the land known today as GERMANY. The Ten Tribes, now known as the “LOST Ten Tribes,” moved on into western Europe and Britain—Ephraim and Manasseh largely settling in Britain.

But they had LOST their identifying Sabbath, their Hebrew language, and their identity. They supposed, and the world supposed, they were Gentiles.

About 515 B.C., a contingent of Jews of the former Kingdom of Judah were sent by King Cyrus of Persia back to form a colony in Jerusalem, under Zerubbabel as governor, to build the second temple on the site of Solomon’s temple. It had been destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 585 B.C.

BUT NONE of the ten-tribed “lost” ISRAEL were among those of this colony. Their tribal names are recorded in the book of Ezra, and NONE of the ten-tribed ISRAEL is mentioned.

Other Jews, outside of this colony, were scattered into various nations through the centuries.

Where the U.S. Is Mentioned in Biblical Prophecy

Prophecy mentions that Britain (Ephraim) would lose her first colony. The colony that grew into

the United States was that colony.

Now the 2520 years the Birthright was to be withheld from ISRAEL because of their continued disobedience, breaking their part of the Old Covenant, expired in the years 1800-1803.

The big colony Ephraim was to lose was the United States—descended from co-Birthright holder Manasseh. The United States became the ONE promised GREAT nation. Britain became the great COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS.

Neither Britain nor America *deserved* the unprecedented wealth, greatness, and national power of Abraham’s BIRTHRIGHT. But God had promised it UNCONDITIONALLY to Abraham. It was CONDITIONAL to ancient Israel.

Though our two great peoples did not deserve it, God was bound, and kept His PROMISE! Yet, once God had FULFILLED His promise to Abraham by giving us that national wealth, power and greatness, it became CONDITIONAL on us *whether we should retain it!*

As ancient Israel did not keep God’s statutes, commandments, sabbaths, NEITHER HAVE WE!

At this point let me bring in another bit of historic background.

Go back, for a moment, to the first man, Adam. Prior even to Adam’s creation, the earth had been populated by angels. The angels had SINNED (II Peter 2:4). God had set over them HIS GOVERNMENT, administered by the mighty archangel Lucifer (Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28). This Lucifer, the most powerful spirit being God had created, was placed on the throne of the earth. But he rebelled against and rejected the GOVERNMENT OF GOD. He led his angels in the opposite direction—rebellion against the law of God—vanity, lust and greed, envy and jealousy, competition with strife and violence, darkness of error instead of light of truth, destruction instead of creative construction. This Lucifer had become Satan the devil. His angels had become demons—evil spirit beings.

Until a successor qualifies and is set on that throne of the earth administering the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, Satan remains, though now disqual-

ified—and the GOVERNMENT OF GOD not being administered over the earth, earthwide.

When God created the first human, Adam, He thoroughly instructed this man and Eve, his wife. He instructed them in the law and government of God, in the rebellion and sin of the angels. In the Garden of Eden were two symbolic trees. One, the tree of life, symbolized the Holy Spirit of God—the way of life of God and His law—the gift of eternal life. Adam and Eve were created with only mortal, temporary physical life. The other tree, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, symbolized the taking to themselves—IF they disobeyed God in so doing—the knowledge of what is good and what is evil, rejecting the gift of eternal life.

When Adam and Eve chose the forbidden fruit, rejecting God and His government, God drove them out of the garden, and barred the way of entrance, lest humans rejecting God's sovereignty over them go back, take of the tree of life, and receive eternal life IN SIN. This would have brought on all such an eternal life in the indescribable misery and torment of unhappiness, despair in resentment and bitterness, and pain of mental frustration.

God is a God of LOVE—outgoing concern for the GOOD OF MANKIND, created in His image, with the potential of being BORN into the very GOD FAMILY!

God could not allow any such indescribable eternity of anguish and mental torment to come to the humanity He had created.

Therefore He BARRED entrance to the tree of LIFE—to an immortality in the supreme torment of eternal anguish and frustration. That is, God put an impassible WALL between Himself and all humanity—EXCEPT those infinitesimally few He would specially call to Him—for 6,000 years! Afterward—after Satan is conquered by Christ and those called to be HIS, and Satan is imprisoned forever, every human who ever lived will be called, mostly in a special postmillennial resurrection, and offered repentance, forgiveness of sin, and the gift of ETERNAL LIFE!

HOW WONDERFUL are the ways of Almighty God!

So God had said to Adam, in effect: "YOU have made the decision for yourself and the whole world that shall spring from you. Therefore, go, and devise your own ideas of government, your own religions, form your own gods, produce your own store of knowledge and its dissemination, during the next 6,000 years."

Mankind was CUT off from God, except those predestined to be specially called by God.

Jesus said plainly: "No man CAN come to me, except the Father which sent me draw him" (John 6:44). Others who *think* they are "saved in Christ," accept Him IN VAIN—in a FALSE RELIGION promulgated by Satan! Jesus also said plainly: "... IN VAIN do they WORSHIP me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the

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We have rebelled against the authority of God over us, worshiping the false gods of science, evolution, and greed.

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commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men" (Mark 7:7-8).

Now Prophesied for the U.S.A.

The United States and the British peoples did inherit the NATIONAL and MATERIAL promises of the Birthright promised unconditionally to Abraham. Therefore God has FULFILLED His unconditional promise of the Birthright to Abraham.

Once fulfilled, in the British and Americans, retention of it by us became CONDITIONAL on our performance.

And WHAT HAVE WE DONE with all this vast wealth, economic prosperity, and world power?

We have made physical SCIENCE the new Messiah—our false God—which boasted we no longer needed to wear the swaddling clothes of superstition, or lean on the crutch of religion. SCIENCE promised to deliver

us from all our troubles! But it failed utterly, and only produced the weapons of mass destruction that can now erase all humanity from the earth.

Our educational systems worshiped at the shrine of the false god of EVOLUTION, making it the foundational approach and basic CONCEPT upon which all KNOWLEDGE is based! Evolution is the atheist's attempted explanation for the presence of a CREATION, without a CREATOR!

Our governments have been corrupt. Our business, industrial, economic and commercial systems have been shot through with deception, dishonesty, selfishness.

We have adopted the WAY OF LIFE of Satan—utter selfishness, lust and greed, envy and jealousy, competition in every walk of life—business, politics, sports, society—leading to violence and destruction! We have rebelled against the authority of GOD over us, worshiping the false gods of science, evolution, and greed. We have gone the WAY of SATAN! And Satan is the god of this world (II Corinthians 4:4).

And now, FOR OUR OWN GOOD, an all-wise and all-loving God is about to PUNISH our nations, in order finally to bring us to HIM!

I will use just one prophecy here. In Leviticus 26:19, God said of OUR PEOPLE, TODAY: "And I will break the pride of your power."

God has given the U.S. more national POWER than any nation ever had! But since Korea we have been afraid to use it! Small nations like North Korea, Cuba and Panama thumb their noses at us, and we run. A gang of students in Iran break into the U.S. Embassy, hold our U.S. staff as hostages, and we DO NOTHING but protest.

I won't take more space here. This whole story is given in great detail in my forthcoming book, *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. It will be available in bookstores in March.

But already the noose is around our necks, and is almost daily tightening! Skyrocketing inflation, devaluation of the dollar in all foreign markets, other economic ills are starting GREATLY to reduce our standard of living! I warn you, PREPARE greatly to reduce your standard of living! Even GREATER punishments are to follow! □

Personal from...

(Continued from page 1)

something perhaps you have never really understood before. What has been overlooked is that in the CHOICE Adam had to make, God required that he choose which tree to REJECT, as well as which to TAKE.

Satan was just around the corner, so to speak, waiting for a chance to tempt Adam into REJECTING God, even as he himself had rejected God, God's LAW and His WAY—God's GOVERNMENT—when he was the archangel Lucifer.

If Adam REJECTED God as Creator, and Ruler over the GOVERNMENT OF GOD—as he did—what did God do?

Actually, the tree of LIFE was symbolic of God's Holy Spirit, but also of God as LORD over the government of God, as source of religion, as revealer of basic knowledge.

Satan tempted Adam through his wife Eve. Adam took of the forbidden tree.

In so doing, he TOOK TO HIMSELF THE KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT IS GOOD AND WHAT IS EVIL! In so doing he REJECTED God as revealer of that and all basic knowledge, as well as Lord and Ruler in government. He rejected God as Giver of ETERNAL LIFE!

In taking of the forbidden tree, he REJECTED the tree symbolic of the HOLY SPIRIT and sovereignty of God. He REJECTED GOD, God's government, God's WAY of life.

Then what did God do? God drove him out of the garden and BARRED access to the tree of life lest he take, in sin, and receive eternal life. God cut Adam, and the world which would spring from him, OFF from God and the gift of the Holy Spirit—EXCEPT the infinitesimal few God predestined to be specially called in preparation for the future KINGDOM of God.

WAS GOD UNFAIR?

Suppose God had NOT cut mankind off from access to His Holy Spirit. Consider what would have happened!

Satan was still on earth's throne, though disqualified as earthwise ruler. Man would have TAKEN God's Holy Spirit, the gift of eternal life,

without repentance—while being led by Satan, living in sin that would have resulted in an ETERNAL LIFE in total UNHAPPINESS, mental torment, wretchedness, utter hopelessness!

Can you see how it would have been supremely UNFAIR had God allowed man to bring such a fate on himself?

That is WHY God cut mankind off for 6,000 years—until CHRIST could come, REJECT and OVERCOME Satan, take on Himself the penalty of human sins, qualify to RULE in GOD'S LOVE on that throne of the earth, replacing Satan, and putting Satan AWAY from mankind!

God put mankind—all but the few CALLED—in a state cut off from God, but NOT YET JUDGED OR CONDEMNED!

Meanwhile He has called those He chose because they were the ones God felt might REJECT, as Christ had, Satan and His evil ways, ACCEPT the GOVERNMENT OF GOD through faith in Christ, and, as Jesus did, overcome Satan, even though specially tempted by him.

Those of us called now, IF we repent, overcome Satan, this world, and ourselves, shall inherit the KINGDOM OF GOD, and SIT WITH GOD ON HIS THRONE, when we shall then—with Satan gone—undertake to SAVE THE WORLD!

Those from Adam to now who died, not yet being judged, will be resurrected to mortal life in the GREAT WHITE THRONE judgment, and be then, after the millennium, called to repentance and the gift of IMMORTAL LIFE—with no Satan to tempt and oppose them!

Above all, the Creator GOD is creating RIGHTEOUS AND HOLY CHARACTER! That comes from REJECTING the evil way, and turning voluntarily to the way of God's LOVE.

Satan poses as an angel of LIGHT! He deceives the world into accepting HIM as GOD! He deceives into thinking evil is righteousness, and God's law is evil. He deceives the Christian world into believing that they can gain ETERNAL LIFE through Christ WITHOUT repentance of transgressing God's law!

Satan deceives the traditional Christian world into believing they can have free access to the "tree of

life"—eternal life—salvation—while still in their sins.

Jesus warned first that "many shall come in my name, saying I am Christ, and shall deceive MANY" (Matthew 24:5). He said, through Paul, of these deceived ministers: "For such are FALSE APOSTLES, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles [those sent with the gospel] of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of LIGHT. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed [misrepresent themselves] as the ministers of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 11:13-15).

Actually, the false gospel of the professing Christian world represents that God did NOT bar entrance to the "tree of life"—or eternal salvation. But that humanity may freely go right back into that "tree of LIFE" and gain eternal salvation WHILE CONTINUING IN THEIR SINS—while rejecting and transgressing GOD'S LAW—rejecting GOD'S GOVERNMENT which is based on His law (His way of life).

They do not preach that sin is "the transgression of the law"—God's SPIRITUAL LAW as summed up in the TEN COMMANDMENTS. Rather they teach falsely that "the law is done away."

About 38 years ago, while the Church was still headquartered in Eugene, Oregon, an evangelistic team from southern California was conducting a tent crusade in the neighboring town of Springfield. There was the principal evangelist, and eight or ten young men of college age. These young men cruised about the town during the day, each carrying a Bible, accosting people on the streets, inviting them to the big tent meetings.

Two of them accosted me.

"Does your preacher teach salvation from SIN?" I asked.

"Oh yes, of course," they answered.

"Well, does he tell them what sin is? What they need to quit doing?"

"Christ died for our sins," they answered.

"Yes, I know. But what is sin? What have we done that is sin? Can you show me in your Bible there, a plain Bible definition, saying 'sin

is... and then giving the Bible definition of what sin is?"

"Christ died for our sins," they replied, now becoming defensive.

"But if I come to your meetings, I want to know if your preacher can show me what the BIBLE defines as sin—what is sin. Would one of you run and bring your preacher, so I may ask him direct?"

By this time quite a little group of curiosity seekers had gathered around us. They urged: "Yes, go bring your preacher—let's see if he can answer."

The "great" evangelist came. I asked him the same question.

"Jesus died for our sins," he replied, just as he had instructed his young men.

He refused to answer, or open his Bible and show us the biblical definition of sin. He and his young men slunk away.

The crowd which had gathered laughed. "When someone knows how to ask the right questions, they can't answer from the Bible," one said.

"He could have, but he didn't dare, because he knew if he read the true Bible definition of sin, it would destroy his whole teaching," I said. "Would YOU people like to see that Bible definition?"

They would. I was carrying a briefcase from which I took out my Bible. Turning to I John 3:4, I read, "Sin is the transgression of the law." Then from Romans 7:14, I showed them WHAT law it is sin to transgress—"For we know that the law is spiritual"—that is, a SPIRITUAL law. Romans 7:7: "Is the law sin? [Satan represents that God's spiritual law—His way of life—is evil, but that its transgression is RIGHT.] God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin [what sin is], but by the law." WHAT LAW? "... for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet." What law said, "Thou shalt not covet"? THE TEN COMMANDMENTS!

This incident illustrates what I mean. A world-famous evangelist tells his vast audiences that death is uncertain—it may strike you when least expected. Someone somewhere may unexpectedly drop dead before tomorrow morning. What would happen to you if that someone should be YOU? If you don't come forward and

accept Christ tonight, you have no insurance for tomorrow—tomorrow may be too late. So, to the mournful tones of the choir singing "Just as I am"—in my sins—"I come, I come," the hundreds and even thousands begin the trek down to the "altar."

The whole teaching of traditional Christianity is that we do not have to REJECT Satan's way of sin—the self-centered way of this world—that we may crash right back through that impassible BARRIER God put to guard the "tree of life"—that we may TAKE immortal life IN OUR SINS!

Jesus came to save us FROM our sins, not IN them. Repentance is toward GOD, and faith is toward our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We come to God *through* Christ, but Jesus said plainly: "No man CAN COME to me, except the Father which sent me draw him" (John 6:44). YOU or I cannot take the initiative. GOD must first call and draw us to Him. We must first REPENT—square ourselves with GOD the FATHER! There is one Lawgiver—GOD THE FATHER. We must first repent—and repentance is GRANTED by God, and TOWARD GOD (Acts 11:18; 20:21).

On the day of Pentecost, at the very founding of the Church, the inspired Peter said: "REPENT, and be baptised [into Christ]... and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). Jesus said: "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3).

We who were predestined to be called by God the Father NOW, were called for our PART—if only by our heartrending prayers for the Work, our tithes, our encouragement, and whatever is delegated to us to do—were called to this DEFINITE GREAT COMMISSION behind Christ's apostle whom He uses as His instrument.

But WE have to overcome SATAN even as Jesus did—as well as Satan's world and the human nature Satan has instilled within us. Those called in the millennium, or in the Great White Throne Judgment, will not have Satan to overcome. On the other hand, WE, if we overcome, shall sit with Christ in His throne at Jerusalem, and be given power to RULE THE NATIONS!

God unfair? NEVER! God is the God of justice to ALL—but to each in HIS TIME and in HIS WAY! □

Ireland

(Continued from page 11)

Ulster oppose violence, but most have been afraid to speak out for fear of retaliation. This silent majority must come to realize that "whosoever will save his life shall lose it" (Mark 8:35). He who allows himself to be intimidated into compromising with men of violence may well lose his life amid the continuing bloodshed they perpetuate. "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God," Christ declares (Matthew 5:9).

The people of Northern Ireland must call a halt to violence once and for all. Once the bloodshed ends, it will be far easier for ordinary, decent Irish men and women to put aside their antagonisms and get along with one another.

In the final analysis, peace will come only when the people of Ulster get together and live in Northern Ireland not primarily as Catholics or Protestants but as *Ulstermen*, with a fair political and economic role for all, free of prejudice and bigotry.

Otherwise, the strife in Ulster will continue as before—and probably escalate—further brutalizing the national spirit and holding up as a laughingstock before the world the spectacle of a "religion of peace" destroying a people who profess it.

The good news is that there *will* be peace in Northern Ireland, whether or not Ulstermen choose to have it *now*. If they will not solve the problem themselves, it will ultimately be solved *for them*—by the returning Christ in His soon-to-be established millennial rule over this earth. At that time—for Ireland and for the world at large—the Bible predicts that "violence shall no more be heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders" (Isaiah 60:18).

Will the slaughter continue in Ulster in the days ahead? Will there be more tragedies yet to come? The answer is up to the men and women of Ulster. "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you," God declares, "that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore *choose life*, that both thou and thy seed may live" (Deuteronomy 30:19). □

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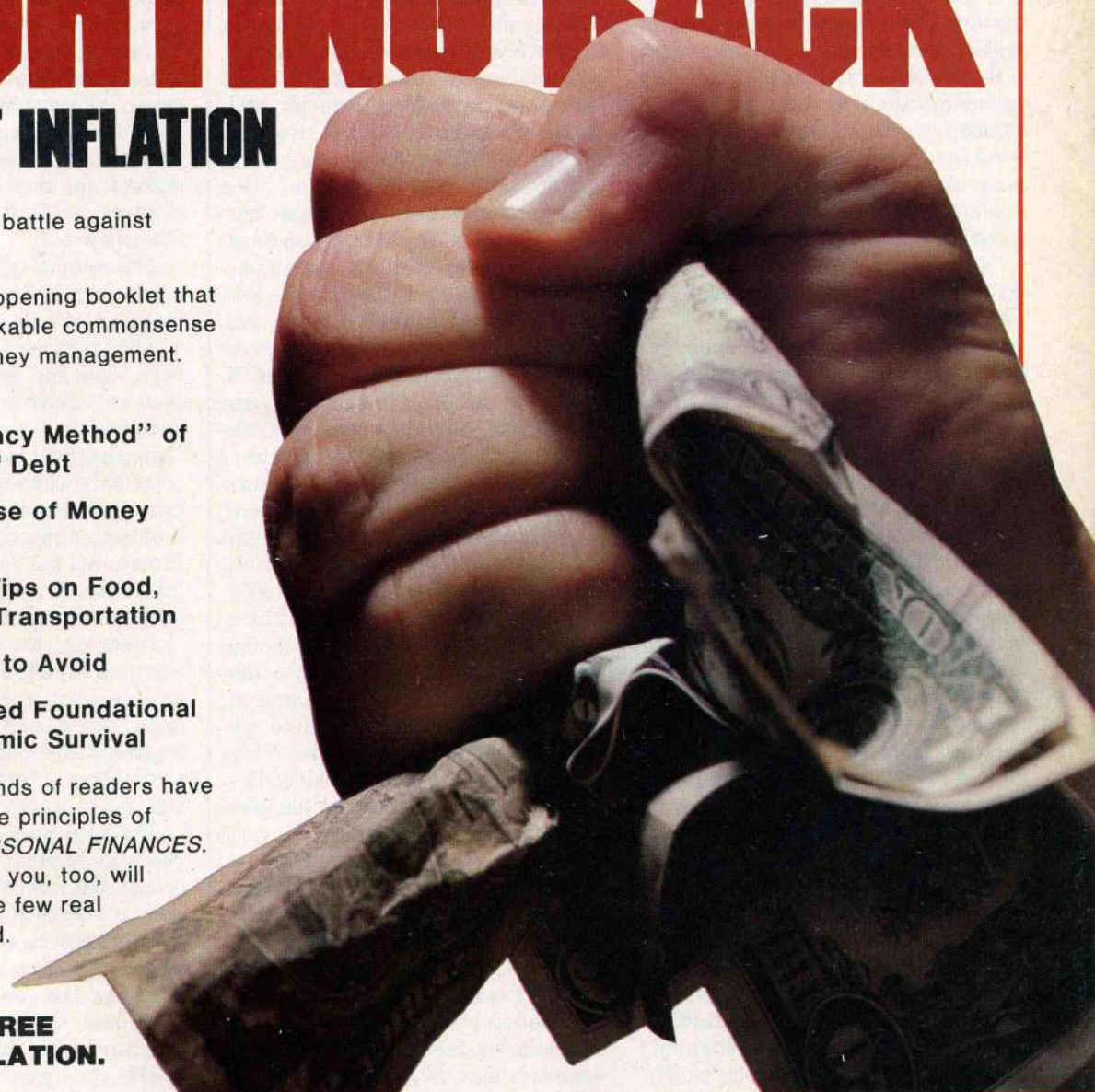
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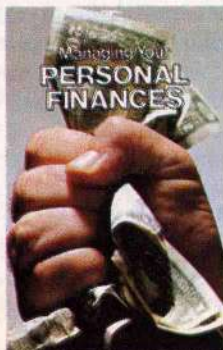
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