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the

SEPTEMBER 1984

PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding

Rendicks



Europe's Uncertain Future

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OUR COVER

How best to understand the geographical position of the European Community? From a new perspective, looking from across the Atlantic rather than from the south! The magnitude and military potential of the Soviet landmass is dramatically conveyed along the dark horizon.

COVER ILLUSTRATION BY REN WICKS

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PERSONAL FROM



Understanding the Way to Peace

Let me give you a little UNDERSTANDING of war and PEACE.

Why can't the heads of government in the nations of the world realize that ONLY GOD has the ANSWERS? That the BIBLE is the most up-to-the-minute source of knowledge and UNDERSTANDING in today's world for the solution of all problems?

The Plain Truth is a world NEWS magazine, keeping you abreast of the KEY world happenings leading us directly into the PEACEFUL and HAPPY WORLD TOMORROW—but, too, it is MUCH MORE! It is a magazine of UNDERSTANDING—understanding *not only* of key happenings in world news, but UNDERSTANDING of life itself, of the PURPOSE and real meaning of life—of the CAUSES of problems and troubles, whether personal and individual, national or world problems—and of their SOLUTIONS, and of HOW, and WHEN, and by WHAT MEANS all these giant problems *are going to be solved!*

More, and most important of all, *The Plain Truth* brings you UNDERSTANDING of the very Word of God, the SOURCE of TRUTH—and of the PROPHECIES of events soon to occur, in the next two, five or 10 years!

WHY do nations go to WAR? WHY does God *allow* wars, violence, human suffering? Many reason if God is LOVE, he surely would not *want* all this suffering! And if he is all-POWERFUL, he could prevent it. So WHY doesn't he?

Certainly God could stop it—and in fact, soon will!

But why not millennia ago?

For a supremely important reason! A PURPOSE is being worked out here below. Man was put here on earth for the development of right CHARACTER. That PURPOSE requires free moral agency in man. It is necessary that man be given both the prerogative and the ability to *make his own decision!* Otherwise he would be an automaton—no character.

There is A WAY that will produce peace—a way to happiness, abundant well-being—and with it, God will *give* eternal life!

What is that way? The Eternal Creator set in motion not only the laws of physics and chemistry—laws like gravity and inertia—but also a *spiritual* law that is THE WAY to all these wanted blessings. It's a simple matter of CAUSE and EFFECT! That law is *the way* of LOVE. And love is outgoing concern. It is giving, helping, serving, sharing—but human nature *pulls* humanity in the exact opposite direction—into being SELF-centered, selfish, greedy, the way of vanity—the way of getting, taking, accumulating—of competition, strife, envy, jealousy, resentment, hatred.

God's great spiritual LAW is simply, the CAUSE of peace, happiness, abundant well-being. The violation of that law, by yielding to the pulls of human nature is simply, the ABSENCE of peace, happiness and abundant well-being.

God laid before man the knowledge of his law—his WAY! He compels man to CHOOSE! Would man *want* God to FORCE him to go God's way, *contrary* to the desires of human nature? Never! He would cry out, "God is unfair!" Man *wants* the right of free choice.

So to fulfill his PURPOSE, the Creator marked out a duration of 7,000 years. The first six of those millennial "days" were set aside for man to CHOOSE whether to OBEY God's law—that is, voluntarily come under GOD'S GOVERNMENT—or work out his own ideas of HUMAN government. Man chose to reject God, his government and his law. He elected to follow the desires of his carnal self-centered nature.

Yielding to HUMAN NATURE is the CAUSE of war.

Obedience to God's law of peace is the CAUSE of peace. □

THE ELECTION OF THE DECADE

by Gene H. Hogberg

The outcome of the U.S. national elections this autumn will have great bearing on the future of the Western world. Europeans especially are watching.

WILL incumbent President Ronald Reagan—riding high in popularity polls—be returned to office?

How strong a showing will his Democratic challenger make?

Will the relationship between Congress and the occupant of the White House be improved, or, as in recent years, marked again by contention and often radically different viewpoints on key issues?

Much is at stake, not just for the

differing approaches to the Soviet Union. Many believe the Western alliance is nearing a crossroads, demanding decisive, corrective leadership on both sides of the Atlantic.

Consensus to Unpredictability

Regardless of the actual outcome on the November 6 election date, political analysts are now saying that we are witnessing the end of what is called political consensus in American politics, particularly in foreign policy.

Throughout the post-World War

American foreign policy hardly changed when the reigns of power were passed from Democrat Harry S. Truman to Republican Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953. Even the changeover, eight years later, to the incoming Democrat administration of John F. Kennedy produced few ripples in the American perspective in world affairs.

During this period, a president of either party could count on major support in Congress. Differences were largely confined to domestic issues, as reflected in the Kennedy "New Frontier" program.

The same cannot be said of recent elections. Ever since the 1972 campaign a large gap has opened between the two parties in foreign affairs. This widening breach in the U.S. world view became apparent with the election of Jimmy Carter in 1976.

Launching the country on a new post-Vietnam course of action, Mr. Carter claimed that the United States had shed its "inordinate fear" of communism. The dominant East-West rivalry was to be replaced by an attempt to close the so-called North-South economic gap.

Third World regions were to be "depoliticized" in an anticipated "new global age." Hemispheric troubles—soon to erupt in Nicaragua and El Salvador—lay, said the President, "outside the context of the superpower relationship."

A different signal was picked up

II period, little significant difference was visible between the two major political parties, the Democrats and the Republicans, in the broad range of international relations.

United States, but for the entire Western world, especially Europe.

Relations between Washington and the capitals of Western Europe are strained over issues of trade and



At London Economic Summit, criticism of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, center, was muted so as not to harm reelection chances.

in Moscow and Havana. They could at last capitalize on the region's social and economic problems to make significant gains of their own.

In Western Europe, Mr. Carter's abrupt cancellation of the controversial but nevertheless defensive weapon, the neutron bomb, caused shock waves throughout the NATO alliance. West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt was particularly angry, from then on criticizing the Carter administration for being indecisive and unpredictable.

Sensing disarray in NATO, the Soviet Union stepped up its western defenses by the deployment of SS-20 missiles targeted against the cities of Western Europe, upsetting the East-West balance along the most heavily armed Cold War front in the world.

Mr. Carter's greatest misfortune was to be burdened with the situation in Iran in which U.S. officials were held captive in their own embassy. Negotiations proved futile. Even the attempt to rescue the hostages by military operation came to an early, dismal and fiery end on the floor of the Iranian desert. American prestige had sunk to perhaps an all-time low.

Abrupt Change with Reagan

Ronald Reagan came into office on January 20, 1981—the day the Iranians released the hostages—with the avowed purpose of restoring the nation's fortunes. The nation's fiscal priorities were reset with defense allocations immediately increased.

The President, a persuasive speaker, subsequently took to the television screens several times to warn the American public of the dangers in the revolutions brewing in the Western Hemisphere.

The problems were fundamentally economic and social in nature, he said, but outside powers were attempting to take advantage of them, with the ultimate aim of threatening the security of the United States itself.

Americans, the President said, could not afford to see the entire



FRANKLIN—SYGMA

region from the Panama Canal to the exposed southern border of the United States in the hands of hostile forces, ruling over 100 million people.

In Europe, it was felt by some that after the Carter administration experience, the governments of the NATO countries would welcome the changeover in Washington. This proved not to be entirely the case, however. European officials had adjusted to the lack of firm Washington leadership and were not quite ready to be led again—or lectured to.

Mr. Reagan's blunt talk concerning the Soviet Union disturbed many on the Continent, who were also not convinced of his clear-cut position on Central America.

The generalized European reaction to the Reagan administration in turn led to charges from so-called neo-conservative circles in the United States that, if Western Europeans were to go "soft on communism," that perhaps the NATO alliance no longer stood for anything and should be radically restructured, if not scrapped altogether.

"Light-switch Diplomacy"

The most disturbing element to outsiders concerning the American political scene today is that, from one election to the next, Washington's view of the world and its policies toward both friend and foe can now change abruptly.

"There simply is no longer a main line of American foreign policy to which the two major parties adhere. This is the new reality." So writes William Pfaff, an American

journalist living in Paris. What is lacking, he adds, is a "popular consensus of belief on where America stands in the world and what are its aims."

The result, he contin-



BOSSU—SYGMA



ATLAN—SYGMA

U.S. defense commitment to Western Europe comes under attack by vocal minority; pressure also builds inside U.S.

ues, is what Secretary of State George Shultz has complained of: "light-switch diplomacy"—policies turned on and off according to whatever philosophy and political outlook is in vogue in Washington at the time.

Light-switch diplomacy, Mr. Pfaff asserts, "is exactly what American diplomacy is likely to remain for the foreseeable future."

The prospects of future wild swings—if not in 1984, very possibly 1988—in U.S. foreign policy are already evident.

But should the Democratic Party prevail in the Presidential election in 1984, writes columnist Patrick J. Buchanan, "the most radical shift in America's direction and national priorities will be in foreign policy and national defense. The fundamental premise of U.S. foreign policy for 40 years from Truman to Reagan [the East-West struggle]... will be abandoned." One

indication of this is the position taken in foreign policy by Democratic challenger Jesse Jackson, who is having an impact upon his party's future directions.

Mr. Jackson sees the world through dramatically different lenses than President Reagan. He has made repeated references to America's "obsession with communism," expanding upon the theme of the Carter administration, but carrying it much further.

He has criticized the "Europe-centric" attitude he claims most U.S. politicians have had, and refers to himself as having grown up as a "Third World resident in the First World."

America Adrift

Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger expressed his own deep concerns over what he called the "crisis of confidence" in American leadership.

"I think we are almost approaching Argentine conditions in foreign policy," he said, referring to that nation's notorious deep social and political divisions.

The United States, he added, is beginning to look "incapable of mastering events. And then the question is, 'Who will emerge, a serious leader or a demagogue?'"

Reminded that he had warned against any more "debacles" in foreign affairs, he responded, "But we're headed for more." A "determined American policy," he added, could still remedy the slipping situation—"if there was one."

The very outspoken British Member of Parliament, J. Enoch Powell, was even more blunt in his assessment of where America finds herself in the world today:

"Huge and powerful still, but purposeless and ineffectual, the United States lies wallowing, like some dismasted man-of-war, in the trough of world events."

Impact on Europe

Growing U.S. unpredictability in foreign relations is playing a big role in the surging "Europessimism" on the Continent. Simply expressed, Europessimism is a widespread feeling that the nations of Europe are henceforth consigned to a largely irrelevant backwater,

especially in the world economic order. For example, the high-tech race, it is believed, has largely been lost to Japan and the United States.

Compounding the negative mood is the added belief that the United States is slowly abandoning Europe as a strategically defensible part of the world. The British news weekly *The Economist* put it this way:

"This American presidential year has shown that Americans are growing impatient with the anomaly [of spending so much money to defend Europe]. They will grow more impatient, as economic opportunities in the Pacific and political alarms in Central America turn their eyes westward and southward away from Europe."

The late spring decision on the part of the government of the Netherlands to delay by two years the acceptance of new NATO cruise missiles for deployment on Dutch soil adds to U.S. impatient concern over the reliability of European nations in the alliance.

The Dutch decision plays directly into the hands of conservative NATO reformists in the United States who claim it is further proof that the Europeans simply are not willing to hold up their end of the alliance—so why should the United States be a part of the alliance any longer?

The European head-of-state most publicly concerned over these developments is France's President Francois Mitterrand. He has proposed that an old institution, the Western European Union, should be revived, composed of Britain, France, West Germany, Belgium, Holland, Italy and Luxembourg.

As a first step, he sees the WEU serving to eliminate duplication in the European arms industry. Further ahead, it could actually develop into a European military command.

President Mitterrand is also attempting to translate European pessimistic anxiety into political action. In a vigorous statement of confidence in Europe's future, Mr. Mitterrand declared May 24 in Strasbourg, France, that his country is ready for formal discussions on a new treaty of European political unity.

Addressing a session of the 10-nation European Parliament, Mr. Mitterrand warned: "We are again in a phase when destiny is in the balance. For too long we have been held back by absurd quarrels."

To move the unity issue off dead center, Mr. Mitterrand proposed "preparatory conversations" leading to a "conference of interested parties" on a new political treaty.

The French president hinted that some members of the 10-nation European Community—implying Britain—may not be interested in such a political treaty. But the thrust of Mr. Mitterrand's speech was that Europe must move toward unity despite yearly complaints over the EC agricultural budget by the British.

"I am too confident of our history to allow that we could decline," stresses Mr. Mitterrand. "But we must not act too late."

Unite—or Perish

In the months and years ahead, more leaders in Europe are destined to step forth and demand the same thing that another Frenchman, historian Fernand Braudel, declared: "Unless we can revive the idea of a United States of Europe, we won't be able to rescue European culture, not to mention the European economy."

And central to such unity is the development of a common defense posture—at first in close coordination with that of the United States, but gradually acquiring greater independence.

In a practical demonstration of joint European defense development, the French and German governments, according to the May 28 *Aviation Week and Space Technology*, are expected to sign soon a joint memorandum of understanding for the development of a new antitank helicopter. The first flight of a prototype could be in 1987, and the first delivery—to the French military—could be as early as 1991.

Some circles in the United States are actively encouraging such a development. Columnist William Safire predicted that "winds of change" would eventually blow U.S. military forces home from Europe. Mr. Safire also foresees "in the com-

(Continued on page 42)

Beyond Europe's Present Crisis

COLOSSUS IN THE MAKING

by Keith W. Stump

Its very existence at stake, the crisis-ridden European Community seeks a strong political solution to otherwise unresolvable problems.

ONE QUESTION frequently asked by new readers is, "What is this European Community or Common Market you so often write about, and why is it so important?"

For more than a quarter century—since the Common Market began operations in 1958—*The Plain Truth* has regularly focused the attention of its readers on this dynamic association of West European nations, now the world's largest trading bloc.

With the dramatic increase in our circulation, it is time, once again, to do so. Here is the *real meaning* behind current efforts to unify Europe!

Advantages of Cooperation

Thirty-nine years ago, the continent of Europe lay in ruins, devastated by world war. Europeans had been their own worst enemies.

As recovery slowly got under way, the war-ravaged nations of Europe began searching for a means of avoiding such catastrophes in the future. How might they override the

deep-seated jealousies and hatreds of the past, the constant rivalry and repeated wars?

European statesmen suggested that if Europe's individual nationalisms could be sub-

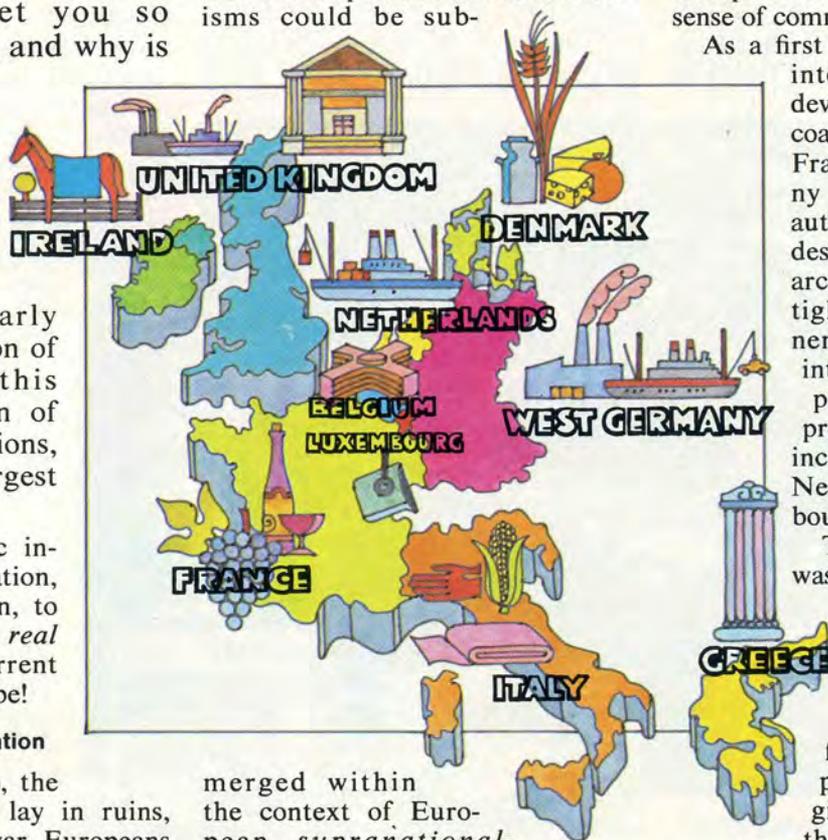
merged within the context of European *supranationalism*—if European interests could be placed above national allegiances—future conflagrations might be averted.

in September 1946, issued a dramatic call for the creation of a "United States of Europe." Many caught a glimpse of his vision of a federated Europe as a means of developing a sense of common identity.

As a first step toward European integration, a plan was devised to pool the iron, coal and steel resources of France and West Germany under a single high authority. If the economic destinies of Europe's two arch-rivals could be bound tightly together, proponents reasoned, another intra-European war simply could not occur. The project was extended to include Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

This economic venture was called the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). The Community began operations in July of 1952. This was the first large-scale European organization to be given supranational authority by its members.

The immediate success of this pilot project quickly showed Europeans the advantages of cooperation. They began to comprehend just how powerful they might become, if they combined their resources. Here was



a chance—maybe their *only* chance—to regain some of the power and influence they once enjoyed!

Thus began the Continent's economic resurrection from the graveyard of war.

Free-Trade Area

But a major problem hindered further progress.

Tariffs, import quotas and other trade restrictions kept the nations of Western Europe from trading freely with each other. An automobile manufactured in West Germany, for example, could not be sold in France or Italy without payment of a high tariff. This raised the price of the automobile to non-German buyers and thus limited the market for that automobile.

The next logical step was therefore to knock down the tariff walls that divided the six Western European countries in the Community and let goods move freely from one country to another. This, proponents declared, would expand the markets of member nations and increase their economic efficiency.

With the signing of the Treaty of

Rome on March 25, 1957, just such a plan was launched. The European Economic Community (EEC)—popularly called the Common Market—officially came into operation on January 1, 1958. Its six charter members were the same countries associated in the ECSC.

Another authority, the European Atomic Energy Community (EAEC or Euratom), was created at the same time for the joint exploitation of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

All three Communities—the ECSC, EEC and EAEC—are today administered by the same governing institutions. The collective term European Community (or EC) is now used as a colloquial shorthand for the three.

In January 1973, three new members were added to the trading Community: the United Kingdom, Denmark and Ireland. Greece joined in 1981, bringing the number of members to 10. (Negotiations are under way to add Portugal and Spain.)

Today, at its headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, more than

10,000 Eurocrats administer this huge 10-nation free-trading area. In the years since its inception, the Community has become the world's largest trading bloc. And it has created a vast network of preferential trading agreements with dozens of nations worldwide.

"United States of Europe"

But the business of the European Community is not just business.

Although the EC's field of action is largely economic, its founders' aims were essentially political. From the start, European planners envisioned the Community as the nucleus of a future political "United States of Europe" with a centralized political authority. Economic integration would be only the start. The ultimate product would be an entirely new *political* entity!

Many, even in those early years, saw the Community evolving into a strong politico-economic power, a European counterweight to Soviet Russia.

And indeed, strides *have* been made over the years in the political arena. In June 1979, for example, voters in the EC member nations went to the polls to choose, for the first time, *directly elected* representatives to the enlarged and strengthened European Parliament in

Strasbourg, France. This was an enormous milestone in European history.

But the old nemesis of self-centered nationalism still impedes progress. As yet, the EC's decision-making institutions are invested with few substantial powers. Only minimal surrender of national sovereignty has taken place.

National self-interest still dictates governments' positions in EC negotiations, notably in the area of agricultural policy. Quarrels over how the EC spends its money have even prompted some observers to suggest the possibility of a Common Market *collapse!*

The EC faces a series of crucial decisions in the
(Continued on page 43)



COURTESY EUROPEAN COMMUNITY INFORMATION SERVICE



PI PHOTO



BRUCELLE—SYGMA

Historic moment of the signing of the Treaty of Rome on March 25, 1957 (above). Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission of the European Communities (right). Posters promoting the European Parliament and Council of Europe (far right).

European Community Threatened With Collapse?

EUROPE is economically at the crossroads.

The European Economic Community's agricultural policy has threatened to destroy 25 years of arduous work toward the unification of Europe.

To update readers of *The Plain Truth*, senior writer John Ross Schroeder interviewed Martin Vasey, spokesman for the Commissioner of Agriculture for the EEC, in Brussels, Belgium.

In brief, what is the European Community's Common Agricultural Policy?

We have a common agricultural policy because we are a common market. That is to say, we have decided to abolish all obstacles to trade between member states. But you can't just remove the obstacles to cross-frontier trade. Otherwise the result would be chaos. You have to replace your existing national agricultural policies by a common policy.

This process is not 100 percent complete in the sense that you can still leave a considerable margin for member states. For example, we still leave health regulations very largely to member states and that creates a lot of problems for intercommunity trade. We still leave member states very largely free to spend money on improving infrastructure, encouraging technical training and modernization of farms, though we are trying to

strengthen the Community framework for that.

The part of the agricultural policy that we really have made Community [responsibility] is market support—the system of guaranteed prices and the means by which you support these guaranteed prices.

When people talk about the Common Agricultural Policy what they normally mean is the system of market support that takes up 95 percent of all Community expenditure on agriculture and about 60 percent of all Community expenditure.

Since the Community is, after all, essentially an industrial community, agriculture being 5 percent of GNP overall, there is a very great imbalance between the amount of resources we devote to agriculture and the amount of resources we devote to the industrial sector, such as steel, textiles and also the new technological sectors of industry. You can understand from that analysis why the debate over the future of agricultural policy is so immensely important for the future of the Community.

The European editor of a major international news weekly said the following about the Community's agricultural policy: "Even the stubbornly optimistic French admit that the . . . scheme . . . encourages waste and sloth, and produces little more than unsalable mounds of butter and surplus dunes of powdered milk." Would you agree with that statement?

No, I would not agree with that statement, and I would be very interested to find out which Frenchman agrees with it as well. The general view is that it has been immensely successful in encouraging the development of European agriculture—which 20 years ago was still very largely based on small peasant type farms—into a modern intensive form of agriculture.

In many sectors the Community has yields exceeding those in the U.S. The cost has certainly risen beyond what the member states consider reasonable, largely because of the growing surpluses in certain sectors, but these are the problems of success, not of failure. And these problems are also being met with on the other side of the Atlantic.

There are two kinds of agricultural policies in the world. You've got, on the one hand, the European Community and North America, which are having to deal with the problems of success and how to control the tendency of production to outrun the available markets. And, on the other hand, you have the socialist countries in Eastern Europe and a large part of the Third World, which are increasingly unable to feed their populations.

It would of course be nice to have an agricultural policy that was perfectly balanced, but if you've got to have a policy that does not achieve equilibrium it is better to have to deal with the problems of surpluses than it is to

deal with the problems of shortages.

Coming to the more specific criticisms, it is true that the Community has record stocks of butter and skimmed milk powder at the moment, by which I mean publicly purchased stocks. We also have very high stocks of beef. But apart from that the stocks are not unmanageable.

I should add that the United States has also got very large stocks of butter, cheese and skimmed milk powder and for very much the same reason. We have both provided our producers with guaranteed prices and unlimited public purchasing of all surpluses at those prices. The result is that we have both got a butter mountain and skimmed milk powder mountain, and as a matter of fact the Americans have got a cheese mountain as well.

We are both seeking in our own interests a way out of this. The American way is basically to hold down the price and to pay people to get out of milk production. We are rather skeptical that paying people to get out of production, if you don't actually forbid the others to go on producing more and more, will work. We tried that in the '70s and in our case it didn't work.

We are now examining the possibility of a quota system. It wouldn't pay anyone anything to get out of milk production. We would go on offering them a reasonable, guaranteed price, but we would impose a prohibitive levy of 75 percent of the current market price on all production over a ceiling.

So we are imposing, or planning to impose, a severe cut on the amount of milk that our farmers are allowed to produce. This is extremely unpopular politically. It's going to be extremely difficult to get unanimous agreement in the council, but we think it's the only possible solution to our difficulties.

And if it goes through then we will be able to dispose of our existing butter and skimmed milk powder mountains over the course of the next year or two—at a certain cost it's true—by means of

special disposal schemes: for food aid, for sale to certain categories of the population, and in fact by selling it cheap to whoever will buy it.

With regard to beef, the main problem is that the economic recession has led to a falling consumption. We are proposing various countermeasures.

What is fundamentally wrong with the agricultural policy from a point of view of the Community as a whole?

What is fundamentally wrong—and this has been said by numerous people in the Community and by the Commission in particular for the last four or five years—is that we have tended to give an unlimited price guarantee for unlimited volume of production irrespective of the capacity of the market to absorb that production. The justification for our policy has always been partly to ensure food security.

You should remember that for most of this century Western Europe has been unable to feed itself, and in the lifetime of those people now in power, food shortages have been the number one political problem. Even now Europe is still only 90 percent self-sufficient whereas the United States is considerably more than 100 percent self-sufficient.

Maintaining food security and raising the level of self-sufficiency is, with the possible exception of the United Kingdom, a widely shared aim of agricultural policy in Western Europe.

We have always justified our policy by the enormous social importance of the farming community that in Europe is characterized by the very large number of small family farms. To give you one example, there are as many farmers in Italy as there are in the United States, though Italy produces probably a 10th of the agricultural production in the United States.

Therefore you have got a real social problem which cannot be solved overnight, even in five or 10 years. We have, as a matter of fact, reduced our farm population by 50 percent in the last 20 years. But we

still have twice as many people on the land in the European Community as there are in the United States for a roughly equivalent volume of production. And so there is a very strong social motive to our agricultural policy.

But this having been said, everyone is agreed, now that the Community has become a net exporter of cereals, meat, dairy products and wine, that we cannot go on providing an open-ended price guarantee for unlimited quantities of production irrespective of the capacity of the market to absorb that production.

I'm repeating myself, but this is partly because the Commission has in fact repeated itself several times in the last few years, because it is extremely difficult to get member states and the farming organizations to give up what they have come to consider as their rights. We implemented quotas for sugar several years ago and we are currently discussing, as I explained, the implementation of a quota system for milk.

For other crops, particularly cereal and oil seeds, we have introduced what we've called a system of guaranteed thresholds. We fix a volume of production that we think reasonable; if production continues to rise above that level, we reduce the guaranteed price accordingly.

There are also some other products for which we use a kind of deficiency payment system. For processed fruit we are engaged in putting a limit on the volume of support. In some sectors such as beef we are hesitating about what to do, but we have now established the general principle that price guarantees cannot be open-ended.

It has been said by *The Economist* that EEC farm prices are twice that of world market prices. Such guaranteed prices have caused British farmers to put marginally productive land into cultivation to the ecological harm of the British countryside. Could you comment on this phenomenon?

The gap between EEC-guaranteed prices and world prices is often quite considerable. It has been over 100 percent, but normal-

(Continued on page 13)

The Sure Way to End the Fear of Nuclear War NOW!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

WHY civil wars and violence—with no hope in sight for peace? World leaders do not know! They do not know that they could have peace now, in 1984, in full security for the future. Read how in this eye-opening article.

THERE IS A WAY—a *tried and proven way*—a SURE way—to end all fear of any all-out nuclear hot war between the United States and the Soviet Union.

What a pity that the governments and the peoples of this world remain blinded to THAT WAY! And it is so simple!

It's just as simple as this: There is a CAUSE for every EFFECT—yet our whole society and way of life today is based on treating the *effect*, IGNORING the CAUSE! Our people do it in treating sickness and disease. They do it in dealing with crime. They do it in WORKING FOR PEACE!

Working for Peace

Everybody *wants* PEACE—or at least, so we profess! We WORK for peace! The Pope pleads for PEACE! Prime ministers strive for PEACE! Yet *there is no peace!*

WHY?

The very NEWS of all this “working for peace” was reported millennia ago in biblical prophecy! But, it was also reported, “The

WAY OF PEACE *they know not*” (Isa. 59:8).

So, the nations and world leaders CRY for peace—*work* for peace, while they endorse, sanction and continue *the way of WAR!* They follow *the way* that is the CAUSE of WAR, trying to STOP war by dealing with the *effect*, ignoring the CAUSE!

The world today is a good deal like the dope addict, who finds he is “hooked,” and can’t “kick it” on the one hand—and, on the other, he is forced to keep gradually *increasing* the dosage to just hold his own. It becomes very costly, and most dope addicts resort to stealing, crime—*anything* to get their hands on enough money to keep up their growing, escalating, ever-more-costly habit.

Isn't it about time we come to UNDERSTAND?

Nations Never NEEDED Go to War

Yielding to HUMAN NATURE is the CAUSE of war.

Rebellion against God's law of peace is the CAUSE of war.

So now let's take a look at one of the 10 POINTS of God's basic spiritual law. I mean that point that has to do with WARS!

In respect to WAR, the basic point is the Sixth Commandment. It says, simply, “*Thou shalt not kill.*”

If all nations obeyed that commandment and followed the way of LOVE toward other humans, there would be no war.

But, one argues, that's a pretty platitude—but it's not practical—it won't work. WHY? Because, he argues, if *your* nation obeys that commandment and is disarmed with no military force, it would be attacked and beaten by some *other* nation that disobeyed God's law, and believed in WAR. Your nation would therefore be helpless.

Oh, but it WOULDN'T! The Creator understands human nature better than we humans do. HE PROVIDED FOR THAT!

Let's open our eyes to down-to-earth practical TRUTH—to FACT!

You think the Almighty Creator-God is impractical—that he leaves those who OBEY him, who accept his GOVERNMENT over them, HELPLESS? One of the responsibilities of GOVERNMENT is to protect its own subjects! You think—do you?—that the GOVERNMENT OF GOD is so feeble and lacking in power that it is unable to protect

the individual or the nation it governs?

Open your eyes, now, to the FACTS! God did take a people to be his nation. He took a family of some two million helpless SLAVES—all descended from God's friend Abraham—and offered to set them up as a nation under his government.

Notice now, in your Bible, the specific application of the commandment, "Thou shalt not kill," to military force and war.

Notice how GOD says to those under HIS GOVERNMENT, that HIS GOVERNMENT—an all-powerful supernatural and supernatural government—will PROTECT his people against any invading force.

God said to Israel: "But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries . . . and I will cut them off" (Ex. 23:22-23).

God promised supernaturally to fight any invading enemy to protect the nation and people under HIS government. I intend to give you ample case histories to verify this.

But is it just as wrong for GOD to fight an invading army, and if necessary, take human life, as for humans? ABSOLUTELY NOT! God is the GIVER of human life. Human lives *belong to him!* He, *alone*, has the RIGHT to *take* human lives. The Sixth Commandment forbids MAN, of his own volition and at his discretion—to take human life!

Why Ancient Israel Went to War

But did you notice—there were CONDITIONS to God's promise of divine protection. He said he would protect them "if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak."

During this first 6,000 years, in God's master plan, he does not *force* any nation, or individual, to come under his GOVERNMENT. That decision is left to man's free CHOICE.

When God, with his own thundering voice, delivered the 10 basic points of his inexorable spiritual law from Mt. Sinai, he was outlining for MANKIND *the way* to peace, happiness and abundant well-being. This applies to every individual and to every nation. Transgression of this basic law is SIN (I John 3:4).

This law—the very principle of RIGHT as distinguished from WRONG—had, of course, existed from the time of Adam.

You'll find the account of God's delivering of this law in Exodus 20:1-17 and Deuteronomy 5:4-22.

But, beginning Exodus 20:18, you will read the account of God laying down basic laws and statutes of his national civil government delivered through Moses.

Then, once God had restated before this vast family of Israelites his basic spiritual law—the foundational PRINCIPLE for all the national civil statutes and judgments—and also basic civil statutes and ordinances, God put it to these people, through Moses, to CHOOSE whether they would accept HIS GOVERNMENT over them.

Notice the completing of the COVENANT—the AGREEMENT between God and this PEOPLE—to form them into a NATION under GOD'S GOVERNMENT.

"And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basins; and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the Lord hath said will we do, and be obedient. And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said,

Behold the blood of the covenant, which the Lord hath made with you concerning all these words" (Ex. 24:6-8).

Government Protection Against War

NOTICE CAREFULLY! A *part* of God's PLATFORM OF GOVERNMENT that he laid before the people *before* they became HIS NATION was the promise that HIS GOVERNMENT would protect its citizens from need of going to WAR. That is the OPEN PROMISE OF GOD, which would apply to ANY nation. Later, God offered the SAME government, and its protection and blessings, to the first WORLD EMPIRE—the gentle Chaldean empire under King Nebuchadnezzar—as we shall see. God plays no favorites. He does not bless one nation and harm another by his arbitrary choice.

But human nature is human nature—and facts are facts. And humanity had rebelled against God from the beginning—before the biblical Flood, and after the Flood. From the time of the Tower of Babel, men had *organized themselves* into nations, with HUMAN ideas of government—CONTRARY TO God's laws, and God's government over them. They had chosen *other gods!* Their religions were empty superstitions. And they were WAR-making kingdoms! God had dealt in no unmistakable manner with mankind, ever since creation!

NO PEOPLE, except a downtrodden SLAVE people in bondage, would have made the CHOICE to say to God, "All that the Lord hath said will we do, and be obedient."

Not only had this enlarged family of Israelites been suffering under the lash of slavery, but God had DEMONSTRATED to them HIS POWER—and HIS LOVE in outgoing concern for them—by delivering them from slavery by SPECTACULAR MIRACLES!

By the miracles in PLAGUES upon the Egyptians, God had freed the Israelites.

Human Nature at Work

And HUMAN NATURE? Yes, these Israelites were full of it!

WHY do world leaders, scientists and educators even today reject



Everybody wants peace—or at least, so we profess! The nations and world leaders cry for peace—work for peace, while they endorse, sanction and continue the way of war!

God, and ply their trades, professions and interests *as if God did not exist?* God himself tells us—in HIS WORD to mankind: “Because the carnal mind [human nature] is enmity [hostile] against God: for it is not subject to the LAW of God, neither indeed can be” (Rom. 8:7).

These Israelites, even while being blessed and delivered by God with MIRACLES, still were rebellious.

Even before they had reached Sinai a chain of significant incidents occurred. After the MIRACLES God had performed in FREEING them from slavery in Egypt, protecting them, blessing them, FIGHTING their military battle for them, leading them miraculously by a cloud by day and pillar of fire by night, these people began to gripe, grumble, complain and DISOBEY God. Even in the face of such incredible MIRACLES, they began, even then, to LOSE FAITH.

These people—600,000 men, beside women and children—came to the Red Sea. There were no ships, no bridges. They could not swim such a distance. They could not walk on the water. They were STOPPED by this obstacle beyond their own power.

They looked, and within eyesight, Pharaoh’s army was coming after them.

Right here, *before* they reached Mt. Sinai—*before* they heard God’s own great voice thundering his Ten Commandments—God *demonstrated* the pattern he would follow in preserving his people from having to undergo military service or fighting in war or taking human life!

Here is God’s *living* EXAMPLE NUMBER ONE!

Yet even here, the people of Israel, in fright, grumbled, com-

plained, accused—lacked faith in God.

These Israelites had *started* out of Egypt “with an high hand” (Ex. 14:8). “But the Egyptians pursued after them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, *and his* ARMY, and overtook them encamping by the sea. . . . And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the Lord. And they said unto Moses, Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt? Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness” (Ex. 14:9-12).

But God’s PURPOSE was not to be defeated. He PURPOSED to deliver them out of Egyptian slavery. He PURPOSED to *show them* and *all nations* and all humanity that HE would fight their battles for them. So, in spite of their faithless complaining in this initial EXAMPLE of God’s faithfulness, he was de-

The Israelites were not to fight—but STAND STILL! They were to *see* God save them from Pharaoh’s ARMY. God was going to SHOW THEM that he would fight their wars for them! They were to remain at PEACE!

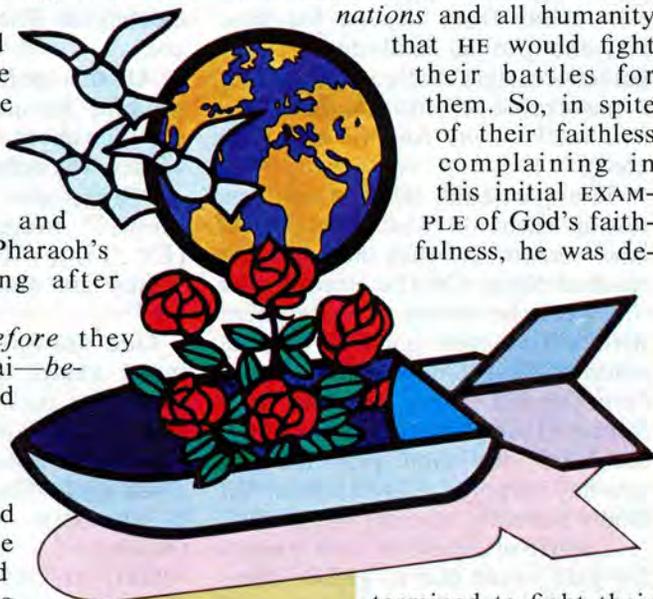
How GOD Fights for Us!

Then God’s angel moved behind the Israelites, and the great dark cloud moved between them and the Egyptian army. It held the Egyptian army from attacking Israel all night, but illuminated the way before Israel. Then God parted the waters of the sea, holding them back by divine MIRACLE, so that the waters formed a high wall on both sides, and the Israelites marched across on the dry floor of the sea.

Now notice the dramatic example of how God miraculously fought Israel’s battle for them, as recorded in the Moffatt translation:

“Moses stretched his hand out over the sea; the waters parted. Then the Eternal swept the sea along by a strong east wind, all night, till the bed of the sea was dry, and the Israelites marched through the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall to right and left. The Egyptians in pursuit of them went into the sea, all the Pharaoh’s horses and chariots and cavalry. And in the watch before the dawn the Eternal looked out from the column of fire and cloud on the Egyptian army and threw them into a panic; he clogged their chariot-wheels till they drove heavily.

“The Egyptians cried, ‘Let us flee from the Israelites! *The Eternal is fighting for them* against the Egyptians!’ Then said the Eternal to Moses, ‘Stretch your hand out over the sea, to make the waters flow back upon the chariots and cavalry of the Egyptians!’ Moses stretched his hand out over the sea. Then, as morning broke, the sea returned to its wonted flow, and while the Egyptians were fleeing against it, the Eternal overwhelmed the Egyptians in the middle of the sea; the waters did flow back over the chariots and cavalry, over the whole army of the Pharaoh which had followed them into the sea, till not a single



Would it seem preposterous, to believe that even now, in 1984, God Almighty actually would fight our wars for us—that our nations, today, could actually have peace this very year?

terminated to fight their battle and save them.

“And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which HE WILL SHEW TO YOU to day. . . . *The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace*” (verses 13-14).

one of them was left. But the Israelites walked through the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall to right and left.

“Thus did the Eternal save Israel that day from the Egyptians, till Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the sea-shore; Israel saw the mighty action of the Eternal against the Egyptians, AND THE PEOPLE STOOD IN AWE OF THE ETERNAL, BELIEVING IN THE ETERNAL and in his servant Moses” (Ex. 14:21-31).

Yes, for a short while, the spell of AWE still over them, these people actually BELIEVED in God. Trusting God to DO what he has promised requires believing in MIRACLES, you say? OF COURSE! Salvation requires miracles! God is a miracle-working God!

After this miraculous delivery from disaster—from a WAR—a whole army of a then great nation destroyed—those Israelites expressed a little temporary FAITH. With Moses, they sang a song of praise and rejoicing: “I will sing unto the Lord. . . . The Lord is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation. . . .” (Ex. 15:1-2).

But now UNDERSTAND the lesson here!

Ancient Egypt is a type of SIN. God was, figuratively in type, delivering these people out of SIN. They were starting out on GOD’S WAY of life.

But, UNDERSTAND!—God’s way of life requires FAITH. It is a life of OBEDIENCE to GOD. Obedience requires FAITH. WE are SAVED by GRACE through FAITH “and that not of yourselves: *it is the gift of GOD*” (Eph. 2:8). But not by a DEAD faith! It is a LIVING faith that makes obedience possible.

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego (Dan. 3) obeyed God’s command against idol worship—but their stout refusal to bow down to Nebuchadnezzar’s idol was possible *only* by their RELIANCE ON GOD to protect and deliver them. They TRUSTED God (Dan. 3:28). They exercised FAITH—*living faith!* Empty, dead faith—just BELIEVING that God exists—is not the faith that saves. “The [demons] also believe, and tremble” (Jas. 2:19).

But faith and obedience must ENDURE! The newly freed Israelite slaves, still under the spell of AWE after experiencing such miracles, expressed faith and sang.

But they didn’t believe very deeply or for very long. When they came to the oasis of Marah, they found the water too bitter to drink. This one little problem in their path brought them again to complaining and DOUBTING (Ex. 15:24). Again, by a miracle, God made the waters sweet.

Moses led these people on to the wilderness of Sin—between Elim and Sinai. They had now been gone from Egypt one month. And again, “the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron . . . and . . . said . . . Would to God we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt . . . for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger” (Ex. 16:2-3).

So God *gave them a test of obedience*, along with miraculously providing food. God said: “I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, *whether they will walk in my law, or no*” (Ex. 16:4).

The particular LAW God was testing them on was his Sabbath. And remember, they had not yet reached Sinai. On the sixth day of the week he would provide them with a TWO-DAY portion. On the seventh day, God’s Sabbath, he commanded them to rest and refrain from gathering manna. On the sixth day God provided the two-day supply. Nevertheless, on God’s Sabbath, some of the people, in a spirit of rebellion, and greedy for gain, went out to gather manna.

“HOW LONG refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws?” thundered God at them (Ex. 16:28). They were neither *trusting* nor *obeying* God.

The vast congregation journeyed on and pitched tents in Rephidim. Again, there was no water. Again they griped, murmured, accused, lost faith and “tempted the Lord” (Ex. 17:1-2).

Now we come to the CRUCIAL INCIDENT that explains WHY Israel went to war. Regularly they had been grumbling, complaining, accusing, disobeying, LOSING FAITH—in face of constant MIRACLES from God. Now, again, as God performed another miracle, causing water to gush forth out of a rock, the people DOUBTED that God was with them. “. . . They tempted the Lord, saying, Is the Lord among us, or not?” (Ex. 17:7).

Now consider what had happened. Repeatedly, God had given these people awe-inspiring and miraculous demonstrations of his intention *to fight their battles for them*. These were VISIBLE miracles, which the people witnessed with their own eyes. God had demonstrated his faithfulness, his POWER, his willingness, HIS WAY! Yet repeatedly, these people doubted, complained, found fault, grumbled. Repeatedly they LOST FAITH. After all of this OVERWHELMING PROOF, these people DOUBTED God’s faithfulness—DOUBTED his power—even DOUBTED his very existence. They disobeyed. They went *the way of SIN!*

At this point, Moses was distraught, his nerves shattered, his patience about exhausted. After all, Moses was only human!

“What am I to do with this people?” Moses appealed to God (Ex. 17:4, Moffatt translation). “They are almost ready to stone me.”

God answered Moses, had him move ahead of the people, and smite the rock at Horeb with the same stick he had used in the parting of the waters of the Red Sea. Then again God performed a visible MIRACLE—water gushed out of the rock.

But, at this juncture, Amalek came against the Israelites in great strength with an invading army. This time God ALLOWED the Israelites *to write the lesson of experience*. He allowed them to SIN. God does not forcibly prevent humans from sinning.

Moses, at the end of his patience trying to induce these stubborn, rebellious people to believe in and TRUST God, said to Joshua, “Choose us out men, and go out,

FIGHT with Amalek" (Ex. 17:9). Lacking the faith to trust God for their protection, Moses feared they would be slaughtered. Although Moses weakened and gave the order for WAR, it was THE PEOPLE themselves who actually had MADE THE DECISION for war, by their utter lack of reliance on God.

It was altogether unnecessary for these Israelites to arm themselves and wage WAR. It was WRONG! It was SIN. But God let the decision be theirs!

This incident was the *turning point*.

It occurred even before they reached Mt. Sinai. It was after this that God laid before them HIS PROPOSITION for them to become his nation, ruled by his government. It was after this that God promised, conditioned on obedience and faith, always to fight their battles for them—to protect them from war—to give them constant PEACE. It was after this that they accepted his government over them. But already they had shown lack of faith and trust, even during the days when God was DEMONSTRATING his power and faithfulness by so many miracles!

They had experienced a taste of war. They could have—*should have*—turned from it, afterward, and relied on God instead of their own power. But they didn't.

God's PURPOSE Stands!

Even though God ALLOWS humans

to make their own decisions—allows them to SIN—allows nations to go to WAR—nevertheless God's purpose must stand! HIS PURPOSE was to settle these descendants of Abraham in the land he had promised Abraham—"the PROMISED LAND."

God's promise to Abraham, 430 years before, had been made UNCONDITIONAL. Abraham had performed *his* part of that agreement. He had obeyed God, kept God's commandments and laws. Now God's faithfulness demanded that he plant these people in that land, regardless of their conduct!

These descendants of Abraham had *made their decision* to be a fighting, war-waging nation. That decision was theirs to make. And since they had made it, God used *them* to do the fighting in driving out the inhabitants illegally possessing the land God had allotted to Abraham's descendants. Consequently God gave orders for *them* to do what fighting—and killing—was necessary to accomplish God's PURPOSE of putting them in the land of promise!

But that did not make war RIGHT. Whether to DO right or wrong—that is MAN'S decision! These Israelites did not need to fight.

So it was BECAUSE of Israel's faithlessness and disobedience that God ALLOWED them to SIN by taking up arms. And therefore God used them as his instruments in

driving out the nations illegally in the land. Even now the Israelites could have REPENTED, *changed* their decision and trusted God to fight their battles for them.

Nations CAN Choose Peace!

Would it seem preposterous to chiefs of state today, to believe that even NOW, in our day, God Almighty actually *would* fight our wars for us—that OUR nations, today, *could actually have* PEACE—and have it *this very year*?

Undoubtedly it would! World leaders today—in ALL nations—have gotten so far from God and God's ways, and God has become so UNREAL to them that it probably would seem ridiculous even to suggest such a thing. The scientists, the industrial and commercial leaders, the educators—yes, and even the CLERGY—have all departed SO FAR from God and HIS WAYS, that such a thought would not even enter their minds.

Yet the ETERNAL has not left us without absolute ASSURANCE! He has recorded, in his Word, not only his promises and assurances, but three additional concrete *case histories*—in addition to those recounted in this article—proving that he ACTUALLY DID DO THE FIGHTING for a nation being invaded, when that nation and its rulers TRUSTED HIM.

We will continue this exciting story in the next number. □

Collapse?

(Continued from page 8)

ly it's the region of 30 or 40 percent, which is high enough. But I do think one should avoid exaggerations in this area.

The other question you raised concerns the effect on the environment, particularly the ecological consequences of the Community's agricultural policy. I would put it slightly differently. Modern intensive agriculture obviously contains a threat to the environment; for example, the extensive use of pesticides and fertilizers and the plowing up of marginal land. It is these that comprise the main threat to the environment. And I should add the destruction of hedgerows and

woodlands in England, as well, something that I regret very much. How much of this is the result of high guaranteed prices? The relationship is not very clear, but if you have low prices the pressure on farmers to survive by increasing production is also very severe.

But if you look at the Community as a whole you would find that the agricultural policy had a very important role to play in preserving the environment. If you fly around most of Europe, you will notice the pattern of settlement is very different from what you find in North America or Australia. You have little villages only a few miles from each other and then the small towns.

There is a network of human

settlement that has existed for centuries and that is integrally related to the structure of agricultural production. If you were to apply a completely free market philosophy to agriculture you would in a very few years depopulate vast areas of Western Europe, leading to the disappearance of many villages, possibly even of small towns.

The European countryside is a man-made phenomenon and the maintenance of a family-based agriculture is essential to the maintenance of the European countryside. So the argument cuts both ways.

There is a case for putting limits on certain types of agricultural development. This is one of the

areas I spoke about earlier that is still mainly a question for national governments. The British government, for example, gives subsidies to farmers to plow up marginal land. It's not the Community that gives them. The Community provides the price guarantees that may make the whole operation economically viable, but it is the British government that ever since

like Ireland or Italy or Greece—which are dependent on agriculture and less developed technically—could find the financial resources either to go on supporting farm incomes in the way that incomes have been supported over the last 10 years, or to go on financing the modernization and improvement of agriculture.

The countries that would be hurt

four years, but with rather limited success.

Now we are unfortunately in the situation where there is no longer any financial room for maneuver because the Community has, as Vice President Tugendhat said, practically reached the limit of its budgetary resources under the treaty. If the Council of Ministers adopts all the proposals that we have made for reforming the Common Agricultural Policy and in addition agrees to a virtual price freeze, then we might just be able to stay within budget limits in 1984. I profoundly hope that we will be able to do that.

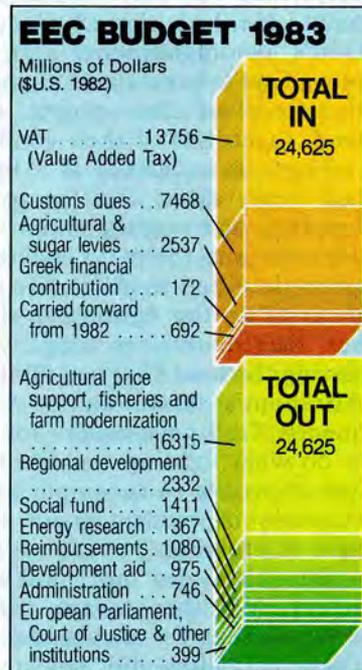
If the Council of Ministers can't agree to all the reforms or can't agree to the price freeze—it's very difficult at one and the same time to accept a cut in production and a freeze on prices, which is what we are proposing in the milk sector—then obviously we will not be able to stay within our budget ceiling.

Would you set the Common Market in historical context? Sometimes we forget that the EEC has only been in existence for 25 years.

Although the Western European nations may be old—actually not all of them are—the European Community itself is very young. It's been in existence 25 years, which is not very long in historical terms. The United States has existed for two centuries.

I think most people would agree that in the United States the “melting pot” is still in many ways an imperfect one; that is to say, there are still very strong regional senses of identity within the United States in spite of the fact that the U.S. has a common political system, common language and 200 years of history.

The European Community is a recent creation. It's limited to the economic sphere and increasingly the diplomatic, but there has only been a period of about 20 years for the process of European integration to become assimilated by our national political systems, and we are still a long, long way from any kind of political integration that you have in older federations like the United States or Switzerland. □



the wartime food shortages has pursued a policy of encouraging farmers by means of financial incentives to increase the amount of land under cultivation.

Since Britain is now more than self-sufficient in cereals and not doing badly in animal products, maybe the time has come for the British government, within the framework of its national responsibilities, to ask whether these financial subsidies for plowing up land are really justified.

What Common Market countries will be hurt the most if subsidy levels are cut rather drastically?

Those who will be hurt most will be those most dependent on agriculture in the first place. And secondly, those that have the lowest GNP per head and cannot easily afford to make up the loss of income to its farmers by direct national aids.

I very much doubt if countries

worst are Ireland, Italy and Greece, with France occupying a rather intermediary position. The Benelux countries plus Germany and Denmark would all be hit because they have all got an important agricultural sector. Nevertheless they've got relatively greater financial resources they could use.

In February the European Commission Vice President, Christopher Tugendhat, said in London: "The Community is virtually at the limit of its financial resources." What must be done to save the Community's agricultural policy and diffuse the budgetary crisis?

There is no doubt that the Community has left it to the 11th hour to make the necessary changes. The Commission, which is responsible for the management of the Common Agricultural Policy and also for making policy proposals, has been urging reforms on the Council of Ministers for the past three or

There Is a Perfect Government

by Keith W. Stump

If human experience has shown one thing, it is this: No human government has been able to achieve lasting peace or prosperity. But there is a government that will!

THE BIG question as the governments of this world look toward the 1990s is that of *human survival!*

Never before has the threat of human extinction been greater.

Leaders and would-be office holders promise better times ahead. They seek to reassure the public. But world conditions continue to deteriorate.

Why this tragic state of affairs?

Why have human governments failed so miserably throughout history? *Why* have they been unsuccessful in achieving the two chief goals they set for themselves: peace and prosperity?

In recent times, as in ages past, man's attempts to come to grips with the problem of government have been thwarted by problems beyond human capacity to control.

For millennia, leaders of honesty and integrity have tried to grapple with the immense problems of government. These men have tried to find responsible solutions, have tried to make the world better. But forces seemingly beyond their control have frustrated their efforts at every turn.

Regardless of their methods of achieving them, governments

claim to have the same basic goals. The primary aims of human government are peace and prosperity, often collectively referred to as the "common good." Throughout history, governments have set about achieving these objectives in many different ways. But no government in history has ever achieved these dual aims fully, or permanently. None has achieved lasting peace and prosperity. All human governments have, at some point, failed!

Instead of peace, mankind has known in almost every generation war and violence. War has been the way of history. There have been well over 15,000 wars throughout recorded history. Some 100 million people have died in wars in this 20th century alone!

Instead of prosperity, the vast majority of human beings have known nothing more than slavery or wretchedness and squalor. Prosperity for the few, poverty for the many has been the age-old rule.

The world's problems—today and throughout history—are a stinging indictment of the world's systems of government! In fact, governments, more often than not, have created more problems than they have solved!

Man has proven his utter incapability of ruling himself!

Why should this most gifted of

God's physical creatures have failed so miserably?

The Human Factor

There is a definite cause—a clear-cut reason why governments have fallen so short of the mark.

Governments have failed simply because they don't know the way that leads to success. Mankind has rejected the only knowledge that would allow its governments to succeed—the knowledge of God and his way.

Mankind simply does not know the way to peace and prosperity (see Isaiah 59:8). Man, separated from God, is incapable of understanding the requirements for peace.

Understand this: The world's problems are essentially *spiritual* in nature. They have a deep-rooted spiritual basis. They cannot be solved through the use of mere physical knowledge alone.

In rejecting the knowledge of God, man has had to rely on his own philosophies—on humanly devised approaches that appear right to him. He has failed to heed a vitally important biblical admonition.

Read it for yourself in Proverbs 14:12: "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

As editor in chief Herbert W.

Armstrong has often explained, the great archangel we know as Lucifer (who became Satan) *rejected* the government and the law of God. Later, the first man, Adam, rejected the way of God and chose to follow the way of Satan. Adam's descendants, cut off from contact with God, chose to pursue their own way—the self-centered, competitive way of “GET”—rather than the God-centered, outgoing way of “LOVE” or “GIVE.”

God, in effect, *sentenced* Adam and his descendants to form their own governments, based on the “GET” principle. Throughout history the human, civil governments consequently have become a punishment for rejecting God's divine government!

Man has chosen to pursue his own way, the way that seems right to him. He has rejected God as his ruler. Even God's own chosen people cut themselves off from him by *sin*.

Nations today are not imbued with the gift of God's Holy Spirit, which would open their minds to comprehend spiritual knowledge and give them the power to restrain human nature.

It is mankind's Satan-seduced nature—of vanity, jealousy, lust and greed—that prevents man from achieving a world of lasting peace and prosperity. Mankind has utterly failed to bring that nature into rein.

The human factor is the unrecognized seed of destruction within every form of earthly government. Man's governments are inherently imperfect because *man* is imperfect.

An additional factor compounds the problem even further. Not only does unrestrained human nature disqualify man from ruling—human nature doesn't want to be ruled! Satan's attitude of defiance and rebellion permeates this world. In recent years, the world's governments have been toppling at the rate of one each month!

In this world, the only check on human nature is human nature itself. One man's lust for power is equaled only by another man's greed to keep it. The result: civil strife,

chaos, struggles for political power, war.

Man's attempts to do it his own way, apart from God, have proved utterly disastrous!

This Is Satan's World

Unrealized by many, the Almighty God of the Bible is *not* the god of this world! Throughout history, the Creator God has generally kept hands off—with the exception of those occasions when divine intervention has been necessary for accomplishing his purposes.

God is permitting the world to go its own way, to learn for itself that Satan's way of rejecting the law and government of God can in the end bring nothing but disaster. That bitter lesson has been written in blood, suffering, unhappiness and death!

The record of history makes abundantly clear that this is Satan's world! The “god of this world,” your Bible reveals, is Satan (see II Corinthians 4:4). This world is under Satan's rule, not God's government.

Jesus Christ has

qualified to unseat Satan as ruler over the earth (Matt. 4:1-11), but he has not yet returned to earth to assume the throne and establish God's kingdom over all nations.

In the meantime, God is allowing human governments to function (Rom. 13), for the primary purpose of maintaining law and order (see verse 4). God will not allow anarchy. But God also places definite limits on these human governments. This world's governments do not have unlimited authority!

When governing authorities abuse their power and overstep their bounds, coming into conflict with God's laws and prerogatives, God's laws must clearly take precedence in our individual lives. “We ought to obey God rather than men,” the early apostles declared (Acts 5:29).

The Bible teaching is clear: As individuals, we must be *subject* to the humanly devised laws of the land—and when human laws are contrary to God, we must obey God and suffer whatever penalty men impose.

The primary aims of human government are peace and prosperity, often collectively referred to as the “common good.” Throughout history, governments have set about achieving these objectives in many different ways.



Satan has continually used civil governments to oppose God's way and God's purposes. But Satan's days of seducing the nations are numbered!

The Coming Solution

Few understand that the gospel of Jesus Christ is a message about government, not just about the person of Jesus Christ. (Write for our free booklet *What Is the True Gospel?*)

Jesus' gospel is his message. Jesus Christ, the Messiah, was a messenger. He brought to mankind the "gospel [meaning 'good news'] of the kingdom of God" (Mark 1:14)—a message about a literal, world-ruling government, soon to be established!

The gospel is an announcement—a proclamation that the imperfect, humanly devised governments of this world are to pass into history, to be replaced by the world-ruling perfect government of God.

At the climax of man's rebellion

against God in the impending period of global chaos and war, "the God of heaven [shall] set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed . . . it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms [this world's present governments], and it shall stand *for ever*" (Dan. 2:44).

This good news is also described in Revelation 11:15: "And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of

his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever."

Moreover, Jesus Christ is not going to do this ruling by himself! He is coming to set up a highly organized WORLD GOVERNMENT, with many positions of authority—positions which will be filled by former humans who have qualified for resurrection to eternal life! They will not be elected by men—but appointed and set in office by God's appointed ruler, Jesus Christ.

The perfect law of God will become the

very cornerstone of the kingdom of God (Mic. 4:1-2). Satan and his demonic cohorts who have deceived the whole world will be bound and imprisoned, that they "should deceive the nations no more" (Rev. 20:1-3).

Man's very nature will be changed! "And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh," God declares (Ezek. 11:19).

Man will be given God's Holy Spirit—the power to overcome his nature, and the power to comprehend spiritual knowledge. After about 6,000 years of human history, the way of "GIVE" will at last replace the way of "GET."

Sign of the End

Significantly, one of the major signs cited by Christ himself of the nearness of the end of this present age is that the gospel announcement would be proclaimed worldwide. Notice Matthew 24:14: "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

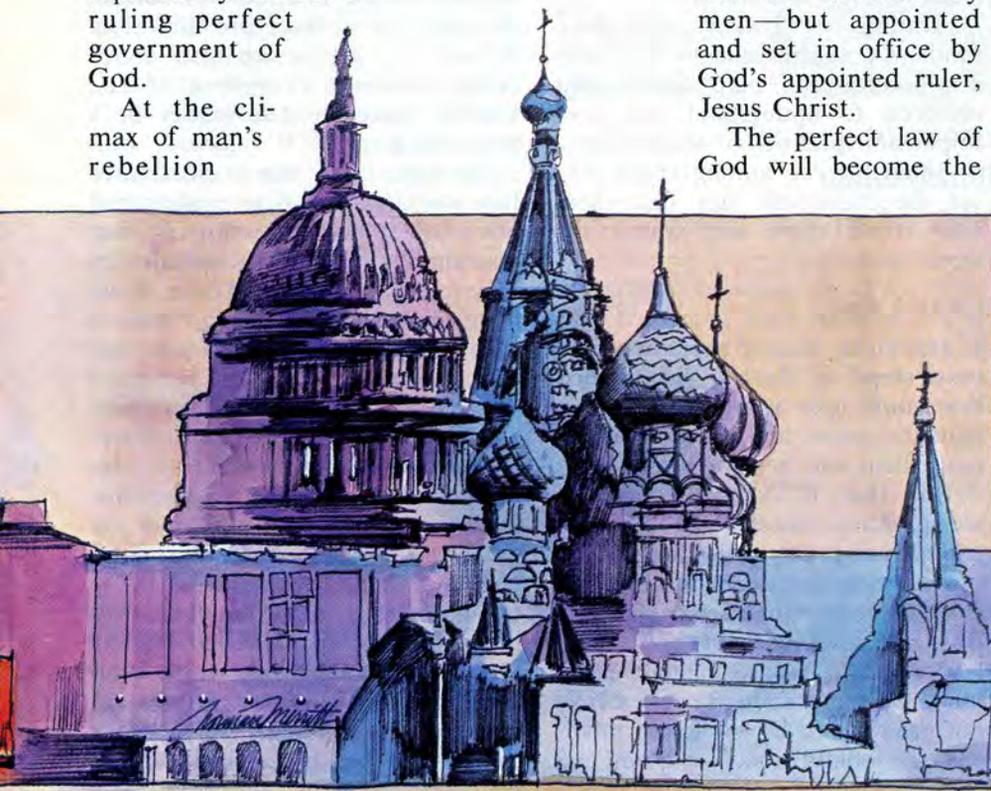
You are now hearing that announcement through the pages of the *Plain Truth* magazine and on the *World Tomorrow* broadcast. And the kings, presidents and prime ministers of this world are personally hearing it from Herbert W. Armstrong, editor in chief of *The Plain Truth* and apostle of Jesus Christ.

Yes, there is a perfect government. It is the government of God!

If you want to know more about this coming government—and your potential part in it—write for our free booklet *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like*.

A new age is coming! This "present evil world" (Gal. 1:4) is soon to pass away. In place of this world's humanly devised civilizations, all nations will learn the great lesson that God's government is the only way that will produce the peace and prosperity that all peoples seek! □

But no government in history has ever achieved these dual aims fully, or permanently. None has achieved lasting peace and prosperity. All human governments have, at some point, failed!



Four Great Qualities of Leadership

by Ronald D. Kelly

Do you know what they are?

IT STARTS early in life. This quality called leadership.

Do you remember as a youngster on the playground, someone would say, "Let's play a game"? Then another would say, "Yeah, let's do. Tommy and Johnny will be captains and choose sides."

What was there about the Tommys and Johnnys that made the other children look to them as leaders? It seems they were always captains and got to choose the teams.

Most children do not stop to think about it, they just accept that in any group of youngsters a few always seem to take the lead.

During adolescent years, leadership takes a more definitive form. A coach notes the outstanding athletic skill of a boy or girl on a team and appoints him or her captain. The band director rewards talent and long hours of practice and music skills by naming a leader of the group as drum major. Another student who has personality and stage presence is given the lead role in a school play. The students themselves usually select class officers based on the apparent leadership skills of a few in the group.

After the educational years are

over, leaders emerge in business, education and politics. But still, only a few rise to top positions. The majority stay buried in the pack—carrying out the policies and decisions of their leaders.

Among our readers are thousands of potential leaders. You who are parents can help direct your children to understand the most important qualities of leadership—so they may be among those who set the standards, not just those who stand there and watch the world pass by.

No Easy Way

It would be nice if there were 10 easy steps to develop leadership. We could just write them down, point by point, and everyone could read them and become a leader.

But that is not the way life works. As in the case with Tommy and Johnny on the playground, some people just seem to have natural leadership qualities from birth. But not always do those young leaders grow up to benefit mankind. Or for that matter they may not grow up to be leaders at all.

Occasionally a rather quiet and shy youngster develops later in life those qualities of leadership and goes on to become a corporate president or political leader.

Leadership ability, though, can

be developed. But it must be channeled in the proper direction. As one teacher I know told a set of parents about their 10-year-old daughter: "This young lady is a natural leader. You must be certain to guide her in the right direction. When she grows up she could either become President of the United States or the leader of a guerrilla gang."

Perhaps that story illustrates how important it is to understand not only what leadership is, but also the responsibilities entailed in becoming a leader. There have been many great leaders in history who plunged the world into tragedy. In most recent memory no one can deny the leadership ability of Adolf Hitler whose leadership brought about one of the greatest catastrophes in the human experience.

To understand leadership and the awesome responsibility it entails is essential to the whole destiny of mankind. Today's leaders are creating tomorrow's world. And tomorrow's leaders are now in training. To one degree or another each of us has a responsibility to lead today and to train tomorrow's leaders.

The Quality of Greatest Importance

Of all the qualities of leadership

there are none more important to develop than wisdom and understanding. Men and women of dynamic personality, great education and charisma are not necessarily qualified to assume leadership roles. Yet when we think of leadership we most often think of personal appearance, great voice, a fine mind, dynamic personality.

In ancient Israel the people demanded a king to rule them (I Samuel 8:5). They wanted to be like the other nations. So God let them have Saul—a tall, handsome man of charisma. The results were traumatic. Saul lacked the most important quality of leadership—confidence in God. Saul was afraid of what people would say. So he departed from the ways of God that would have preserved tranquility and the nation greatly suffered.

Then God selected David, a man after his own heart (Acts 13:22), to be king. After the death of David, his son Solomon became king.

There is no better example to illustrate these important qualities of wisdom and understanding than the example of King Solomon. The responsibility of kingship should have been and was regarded by Solomon as awesome.

At the beginning of his reign, God appeared to him in a vision and asked, "What shall I give you?" Most human beings given this opportunity would ask for wealth, power, long life, good health. Solomon asked for none of these.

His request was: "Now, O Lord my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, but I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And Your servant is in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted. Therefore give to Your servant *an understanding heart* to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil" (I Kings 3:5-9, Revised Authorized Version throughout).

That must be one of the most unusual requests in history. God was so pleased with it that he gave Solomon the asked-for wisdom and understanding. In fact, he was wiser than anyone of his day (I

Kings 4:31). In all probability, apart from Jesus Christ, there has never lived a wiser person than Solomon.

Then God added, in addition to wisdom and understanding, prosperity and good health.

The key to his successful leadership, though, was understanding. A great leader has to be able to understand people.

And the best source of understanding is the Word of God. Solomon wrote the book of Proverbs so we might "know wisdom and instruction, to perceive the words of understanding, to receive the

learn lessons and press forward.

I read a statement many years ago that has given me a great deal of hope through life's frequent trials—"He is a success who does the right thing 51 percent of the time."

Or as someone else said, "The only ones who never fail are the ones who never try."

Those of you who are parents might well reflect on teaching your children that admirable quality of courage. To be able to step out and do—and to take the correction that comes from making a mistake. Then get up and try again.



The key to successful leadership is understanding. A great leader has to be able to understand people.

instruction of wisdom" (Prov. 1:2-3). Of special note he said, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge" (verse 7). There is no permanence in any other system of values.

Courage to Be a Leader

After understanding, another quality a leader must possess is courage. Leaders are not actors on a stage. An actor puts on, plays, a role. A leader *is*. After the play, the actor goes home to his real everyday world. The leader is at all times living real situations.

Those who lead will always make some mistakes. With mistakes comes a spate of criticism. It takes courage to put up with the critics. But a real leader has to have the ability to put aside the mistakes,

Perhaps the lessons of history will best bear this out. We have been living in civilized societies for nearly 6,000 years. In the course of human events, countless mistakes have been made. Thus, the study of the past, to learn lessons from history, is imperative for any leader.

It has often been said those who do not learn from mistakes of the past are doomed to repeat them.

Those who do learn those lessons can in confidence step out with courage, stand for right principle and lead humanity to greater heights. With this quality there is hope for leadership in the years to come.

Vision for the Future

Another of the important qualities a leader must possess is vision. One who leads must see beyond the

mundane problems of here and now and be able to envision what tomorrow can be.

There will always be plenty of problems for today. The future may at times indeed look bleak. But vision of what ought to be, coupled with knowledge of how to bring it about, separates great leaders from common people.

With nearly every change of leadership comes hope. This is especially true in what are called democratic societies where aspiring leaders promise, if elected, to bring about a much better world for the rest of us.

It is not at all uncommon to hear election rhetoric promising "a new brand of leadership." Many a persuasive politician has been elected to office based on promises of change.

But far too frequently, once elected, the hoped-for changes don't seem to appear. The promise to reduce the federal or national debt, to boost the economy, to relieve the public from burdensome taxes, to restore the pride of the nation abroad, all seem to fade so quickly.

So in the next election year, nations go through it all again. The incumbents tell us if we just give them another term, the policies they have implemented will work. The opposition parties point out the failures of the present leadership and promise their "new leadership" will bring the desired results.

The true leader with vision knows the way is difficult—that the road to success is indeed narrow and rutty.

The leader with vision is one who not only can "hang in there" when the going is rough, but can see the light at the end of the tunnel. The truly great leader can stand fast, maintain his poise and leadership with confidence when no one else can see the possibility there even is an end to the dark tunnel, much less light at the end of it.

Such leaders of vision are indeed few and far between.

Consistency and Dependability

There are few things more disconcerting than a fickle leader. If those who follow cannot depend on consistency, there is confusion.

Yet how many times have individuals risen to high positions and then wavered like reeds in the breeze on major issues.

Leaders need not only principles and values, but the character to stand by those principles. Thomas Jefferson once said, "In matters of principle, stand like a rock."

In today's complex world it is not easy to maintain strong principles. Should one be for or against abortion, gay rights, unions, big bonuses, taxation, capitalism, communism? Most of you readers probably have strong opinions on these subjects.

Yet many political leaders must be extremely careful not to offend any group or segment of society. To do so well might be political suicide. So in some democratic countries a bland society has developed.

In times of stress it is extremely important to have consistent and dependable leaders—ones who have stated their concepts and who can be depended upon to stand fast, in spite of whatever may come. If necessary a great leader even has to be willing to give his life for what he stands for.

To me, one of the most inspiring examples of leadership was a second-century Christian named Polycarp.

The Price of Dependability

After the death of the apostle John about A.D. 100, leadership of the churches in Asia Minor was in the hands of Polycarp. That was not an easy time in history. The Roman government had begun to persecute the Christian Church in the days of Nero. Other emperors followed suit over the next several centuries.

In the A.D. 150s the Romans severely persecuted Christians in Asia Minor. Polycarp, then an old man well past 80, still provided the spiritual leadership for the oppressed Christians.

The Roman senate had declared it atheism not to believe in the Roman gods. To be a declared follower of Jesus Christ, whom Pontius Pilate had crucified in A.D. 31, was forbidden.

Christians were sometimes called before magistrates and told

to renounce their beliefs. Those who didn't were often tortured or cast into the arenas to fight wild beasts.

Such was the scene in A.D. 156 in the city of Smyrna where Polycarp resided.

A recent plague and an earthquake had convinced the superstitious townspeople that Christians were to blame for the disasters. "The Roman gods must be displeased," they reasoned.

In the middle of one cold night in February, Roman soldiers placed Polycarp under arrest. The next day as the Roman games were coming to a conclusion, he was brought before the magistrates and ordered to renounce Jesus. Polycarp's answer was, as quoted by the early church historian Eusebius: "Eighty and six years have I served him, and he never did me wrong; and how can I now blaspheme my King that has saved me? . . . Hear my free confession. I am a Christian."

The crowd demanded the lions be let loose. But the time for wild beast sports was over.

In a rage they heaped broken pieces of wood together and bound Polycarp to a pole to be burned at the stake. A great wind blew the flames away from Polycarp, and an executioner thrust a sword into him—ending the life of one of the great leaders of Christianity.

It is this kind of courage and dedication that truly makes a great leader.

We live in an age that cries out for strong leaders of principle. In the family, on the job, in business and government, in one way or another each of us is a leader. Those of us who are parents are training tomorrow's leaders.

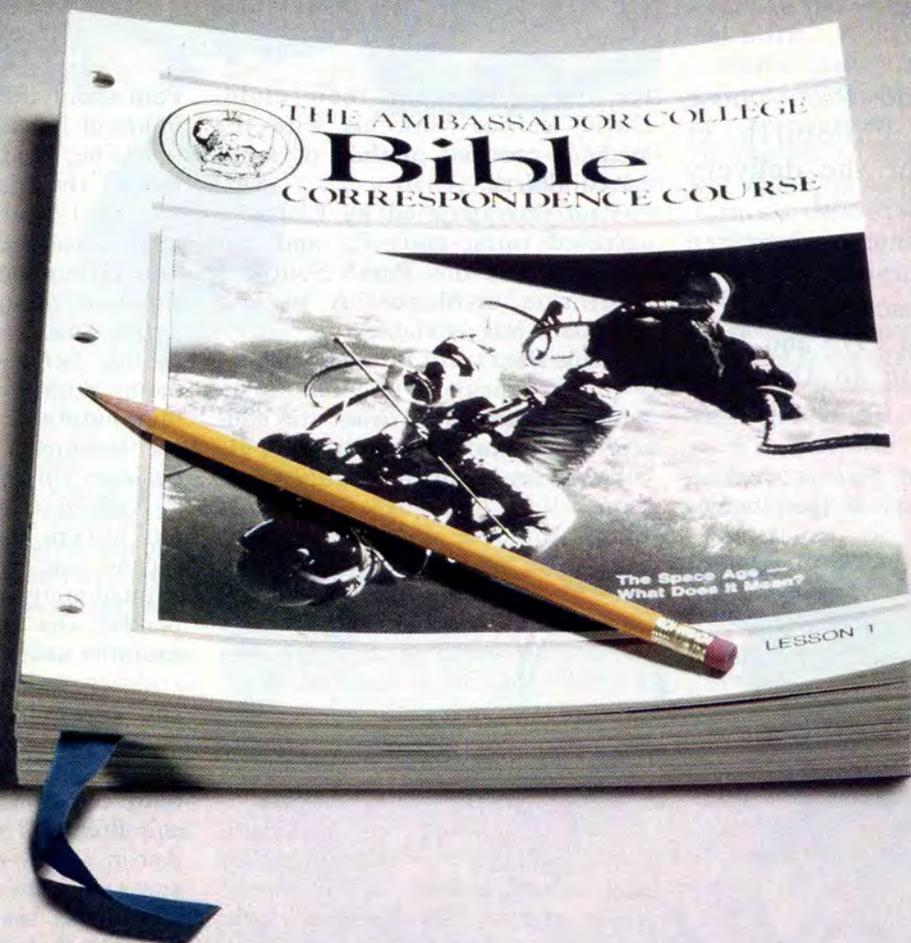
You can ask God for wisdom and understanding as Solomon did. You can grow in courage, learning from each of your mistakes along the way. You can look into the future with vision for a better world. You certainly can become consistent and dependable.

To choose the path of leadership is not the easy way. It never has been. It never will be.

But the world needs it now. And is waiting on strong men and women of principle who will stand like a rock. □

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The Choice Should Be Yours

by Sheila Graham

DAVID and Pam chose natural childbirth at home for the delivery of their second child.

The rate of children delivered outside of hospitals in America has increased each year by 30 percent between 1975 and 1980 alone, according to the U.S. National Center for Health Statistics.

The number of parents wanting more control over how their babies

for the delivery of their child. David learned with his wife the husband-coached method of natural childbirth.

Pam was attended by Elaine, a certified nurse-midwife, and her aide, in David and Pam's Southern California residence. A backup physician was available.

After Pam went into labor about 8 p.m., February 10, the nurse-midwife was called. Since the couple's bedroom was small, a single bed was set up in the family living room.

Pam spent the next six and a half hours of her labor.

Elaine, clad in surgical greens, herself the mother of a 6-year-old and a 1-year-old, checked the baby's heartbeat and Pam's progress throughout the night, as contractions intensified. David, whispering encouragements to his wife, cooling her face and arms with a damp cloth, straightening her pale blue nightgown, rested with her in the subdued light during respites between contractions.

At 2:26 a.m., February 11, without forceps or drugs, the couple's second son, Ryan David, is born. Immediately, an exhilarated Pam is handed the fruit of her labor to examine and admire.

After preliminary preparation of the baby by Elaine, David is handed the surgical scissors to cut the infant's umbilical cord. The baby begins to nurse at his mother's breast. The couple's first son, Aaron, a by-now wide-awake 2-year-old, joins his father and mother to greet his new brother.

After Aaron is returned to his bed, David gives his new son his first bath, supporting little Ryan as he floats contentedly in the warm water, his eyes wide and alert. The baby is dried, diapered and wrapped in a receiving blanket before being returned to his mother to be nursed. A joyful conclusion to an unforgettable set of events experienced by this family, and the author.

Not every couple would, or should, choose home delivery. Pam had already had an uncomplicated natural delivery with their first child. Her second pregnancy was also low risk. But home delivery is an option expectant parents are tak-



PHOTOS BY SHEILA GRAHAM—PT

Choosing natural childbirth allows David and Pam to spend the long hours of labor together in the privacy of their own home.

will be born continues to grow in spite of pressure from the medical community.

David and Pam, in their mid-20s and college educated, prepared well

Pam lay or sat on the bed, with her husband rubbing her back, or arranging pillows as she changed positions for comfort. Here, in her own familiar home surroundings,



Elaine checks Pam's progress (top photo) as contractions intensify. The final stages of labor climax and David sees his second child born.



decade the rate of cesarean deliveries has tripled in the United States, and the rate is still rising. Medical researchers are asking, Why?

A National Institutes of Health task force several years ago reported that for 80 percent of the cesareans performed, four major reasons are cited.

Difficult delivery or dystocia accounts for the largest part of the increase in cesarean birth rates. Of course, various abnormalities in labor could hardly have doubled in the last 10 to 12 years, so a change in the obstetrician's viewpoint of what is abnormal labor is acknowledged.

Next highest in the rate of increase is repeat cesarean births. Unlike other parts of the world, in the United States the great majority of women who have had C-sections will have one again if they choose to become pregnant.

Twenty years ago, only a small percentage of breech births were by abdominal delivery. Now, most breech births are cesarean.

Surgical intervention for reasons of fetal distress is the fourth major reason for the increase in the use of the cesarean birth. The question is whether fetal distress is better recognized by electronic fetal monitoring or whether fetal distress is being overdiagnosed.

Yet Other Reasons

Studies show that for at least 30

years, cesarean birthrates were high for those infants low in birth weight. Birthing complications occur more frequently in this group. An increase in the number of first-time mothers, along with the increase in the average age, is also given as reason for increased cesarean rates.

Genital herpes on the rise in the population is forcing cesarean delivery to avoid serious neurological damage or death that could occur to the fetus infected by vaginal birth.

Some obstetricians perform C-sections to avoid possible malpractice suits arising from the delivery of imperfect infants, although suits are also filed against them for performing cesareans.

Whether physicians' motivation for this alarming increase in surgical delivery of children in the U.S. is primarily humanitarian or economical is debatable. In some states the cost is almost double for the cesarean delivery.

Who performs cesarean deliveries? According to a report in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, obstetricians more than nonobstetricians such as general practitioners. Where? Larger hospitals, which have had greater increases more quickly in the rate of cesarean births.

Parents-to-Be React

Back in the 1960s and 1970s more and more expectant parents began

After recording birth statistics, Elaine returns Ryan to his mother.



ing as obstetric procedures become more complicated and hospital stays more costly.

Childbirth Is Big Business

Obstetrics is big business for physicians and hospitals in the United States.

Childbirth is the single most common reason Americans go to hospitals. Of the 38.5 million patients discharged from short hospital stays in 1981, 3.9 million—more than 10 percent of the total—were women who checked into hospitals to deliver children, according to a report by the National Center for Health Statistics.

The report, by Edmund Graves and Barbara Haupt of the agency's Division of Health Care Statistics, was based on data involving patients discharged from 550 hospitals nationwide.

Adding to the obstetrical activity in hospitals today has been the phenomenal increase in the surgical delivery of newborns. In the past



to rebel against hospital practices of separating the woman in labor from her husband, of routinely sedating her during birth and removing the infant from the parents' presence for more than a week during recovery time in the hospital.

Women, supported by their husbands, started to demand a return to a more natural form of childbirth. Experts in child psychology began to promote the importance of the early bonding experience for both parents. The pressure was on.

When family doctors wouldn't agree or cooperate, parents-to-be, only a few at first but the numbers began to increase, turned to mid-

wives and home births.

Physicians, arguing that home delivery was potentially dangerous (some even going so far as to call it child abuse), fought back by attempting to legislate against midwifery and by peer pressure on any of their field who would attend home births or agree to back up a midwife. The battle still goes on.

More and more birth centers

who support natural childbirth and bonding. The mother can have family members and her labor coach at her side during labor and delivery, and she can usually go home soon after her child is born.

Technical medical services are available if needed at birth centers, and delivery is generally less expensive than a hospital delivery.

Insurance firms are including birth centers in their coverage, happy to see the lower rates for deliveries.

Hospital administrators have noticed the trend, and therefore birthing rooms, ABCs—that is, alternate birthing centers,—homelike in decor as opposed to the aseptic coldness of labor rooms, are being made available in hospitals today.

An Educated Choice

Expectant parents should not endanger the life of their unborn child by irresponsibly trying every new fad in child delivery that comes along. Legal restrictions should be observed. But neither should parents neglect their responsibilities and leave all decisions about the delivery of



Pam invites Aaron to greet his new brother. Two-year-old Aaron, now wide awake, joins his family to share the first exciting moments of his brother's arrival.

are springing up around the country to give couples yet another option.

The birth centers are more likely to be staffed by nurse-midwives

An Informed Choice

So you are choosing where your baby will be born. And who your birth attendant will be, whether a doctor or a certified nurse-midwife. There are certain things you must take into account. They include your health at the outset of the pregnancy, your personal desires and the availability in your area of alternative birthing facilities.

Select someone whose philosophy about childbirth is compatible with yours. One whom you feel you can trust and with whom you

can communicate your feelings and desires. Be sure he or she is qualified and can handle emergencies should they arise.

Your attendant should believe that pregnancy and birth are not illnesses and that you should have a reasonable choice in the way your labor is handled. He or she should be able to give you an accurate and detailed explanation of any tests or diagnostic procedures performed. If medications or anesthetics

are necessary, their purpose and possible side effects should first be thoroughly explained to you.

Remember, doctors handle any type of birth, however complicated. Certified nurse-midwives, registered nurses with one or two years of additional training, accept only women with healthy, normal pregnancies that could take place outside of the hospital, without medical intervention. Certified nurse-midwives always work with a backup doctor in

case of complications.

The attendant you choose should be willing to listen to your questions and answer them to your satisfaction, but you should know what it is that you want and how to ask pertinent questions.

- Does your prospective attendant feel that the mother and father should be active participants in pregnancy, labor, birth and early parenting?

- Does your attendant provide complete prenatal care—a discussion of the use of drugs (including alcohol, cigarettes and over-the-counter



Ryan David's first bath, secure in his father's arms.

to better assure an alert, healthy child and a problem-free delivery? Indeed! Learn what they are. You're welcome to send for our free booklet *Principles of Healthful Living*.

What about the duration of pregnancy? Are there things each mother-to-be can do then to make delivery safer and easier? Again, yes. Many good books are on the market to guide couples toward healthy safe deliv-

eries through proper nutrition and exercise.

David and Pam made their decision to have their child at home only after thoroughly educating and preparing themselves for a low-risk natural delivery. A certified nurse-midwife, who had been highly recommended, was carefully chosen. Proper health and sanitation procedures were followed.

All you expectant couples may not be able to have your newborns safely at home. But whatever decisions must be made, you should be the ones making them. Be well prepared to not only decide where but how your children will be born. □

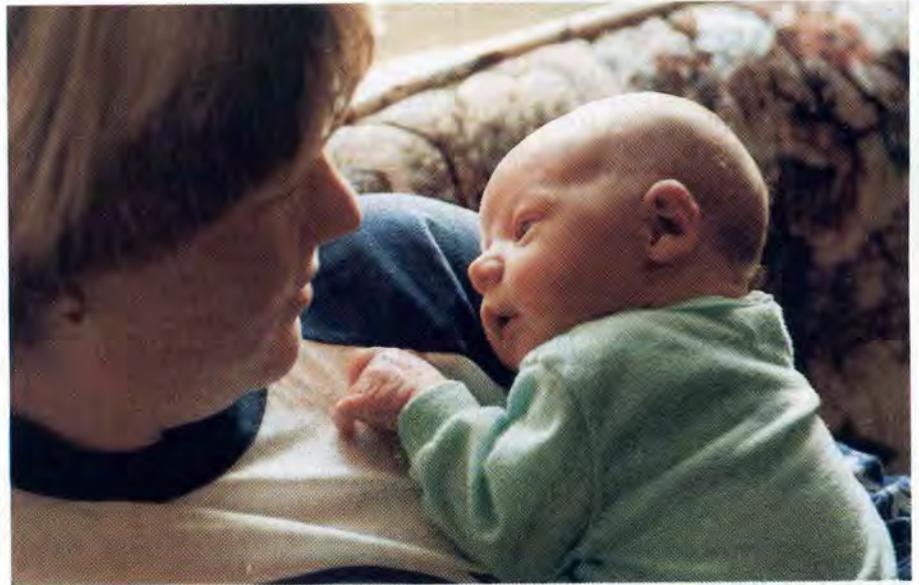
their child to a physician not in tune with their personal preferences or feelings about the matter.

Risk may be involved to mother and child whether in the hospital, in a birth center or at home. Couples should learn what those risks are and make an intelligent decision about how and where their children will be delivered.

Responsibility is the parents'. They, not the obstetrician, must live with the long-term personal results of whatever decisions are made. If you are an expectant parent or are planning to become one, learn what your responsibilities toward your unborn child are.

Are there things you can do even before you become pregnant

Not yet one day old, Ryan David is healthy and alert.



medication), nutritional counseling or referral, referral to childbirth classes, discussion of breast- and bottle-feeding? Is he or she willing to answer your questions in terms you understand?

- How much experience has the attendant had? How many births has he or she assisted at, and how have different complications been handled? Have the mothers been allowed to progress through the birth naturally and unhurried by drugs or equipment as long as no harm is being done to mother or baby?

- How does your

attendant feel about routine medical intervention (such as induced labor, episiotomies and intravenous procedures)? Does he or she feel they should be used only in emergencies when medically indicated?

- Will your attendant or his or her assistant sit through the entire labor with you? This is important, so if complications arise, appropriate action can be taken quickly.

- Do you and your attendant understand each other, what you will or will not tolerate, preferences, and a compatible idea of

what labor and birth should be?

If you are going to have your baby at a birth center or in your home, you should also ask:

- Does the attendant adhere to strict guidelines, screening each patient carefully, and accepting only those whose pregnancies are normal, with no foreseeable difficulties?

- Is the attendant willing to help with the delivery without interfering, as long as everything is going well?

- Will a trained assistant be with the doctor or nurse-midwife throughout

the labor and delivery to help out? Remember, there will be two people to take care of.

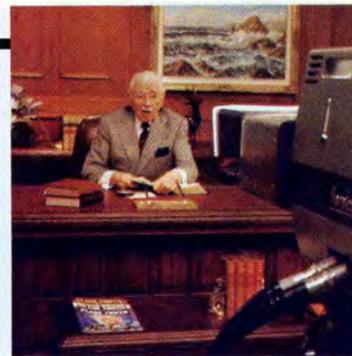
- How close are emergency facilities? Is the attendant willing to transfer you immediately to a backup doctor at a clinic or hospital if difficulties arise? Problems occur most often when attendants or parents are not willing to do this soon enough.

Your pregnancy and delivery should be something you look back on with pleasant memories. It's your choice—make sure it's an informed one.

—Karen Fergen

"THE WORLD TOMORROW"

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of *The World Tomorrow* on TELEVISION and RADIO.



RADIO LOG

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

U.S.

ALABAMA

WMGY, Montgomery — 800, 6:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.

CALIFORNIA

KIEV, Glendale — 870, 11:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WRC, Washington — 980, 7:30 a.m., Sun.

ILLINOIS

WMAQ, Chicago — 670, 4:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., 10:00 p.m., Sun.

INDIANA

WOWO, Ft. Wayne — 1190, 8:03 a.m., Sun.

WSBT, South Bend — 960, 11:15 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

IOWA

KXEL, Waterloo — 1540, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

KENTUCKY

WGRK, Greensburg — 1540, 8:05 a.m., Sun.

LOUISIANA

KWKH, Shreveport — 1130, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

MICHIGAN

WLQV, Detroit — 1500, 12:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

NEW MEXICO

KBCQ, Roswell — 1020, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

NEW YORK

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

WGY, Schenectady — 810, 10:30 p.m., Sun.

OHIO

WCKY, Cincinnati — 1530, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

TENNESSEE

WLAC, Nashville — 1510, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

TEXAS

KRLD, Dallas — 1080, 11:30 p.m., Sun.

KPRC, Houston — 950, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 10:00 p.m., Sun.

KEES, Longview — 1430, 12:00 noon, Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.

WOAI, San Antonio — 1200, 10:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 p.m., Sat.; 10:00 a.m., Sun.

UTAH

KSL, Salt Lake City — 1160, 12:06 a.m., Tues.-Sat.; 5:30 a.m., Sun.

VIRGINIA

WRVA, Richmond — 1140, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sun.

WEST VIRGINIA

WWVA, Wheeling — 1170, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

CANADA

BRITISH COLUMBIA

CISL, Vancouver/Richmond — 940, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKO-FM, Vancouver — 96.1, 8:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

CJVI, Victoria — 900, 10:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

ALBERTA

CKO-FM, Calgary — 103.1, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

CFCW, Camrose — 790, 10:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFRN, Edmonton — 1260, 5:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKO-FM, Edmonton — 101.9, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

SASKATCHEWAN

CJNB, North Battleford — 1050, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

CKBI, Prince Albert — 900, 7:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 11:00 p.m., Sun.

MANITOBA

CKDM, Dauphin — 730, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKJS, Winnipeg — 810, 12:05 noon, Mon.-Fri.

ONTARIO

CJNR, Blind River — 730, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CJSS, Cornwall — 1220, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKNR, Elliott Lake — 1340, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKNS, Espanola — 930, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKLY, Lindsay — 910, 7:00 a.m., Sun.

CKO-FM, London — 97.5, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

CKO-FM, Ottawa — 106.9, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

CKCY, Sault Ste. Marie — 920, 10:30 p.m., Sun.

CJMX-FM, Sudbury — 105.3, 7:30 a.m., Sun.; 5:30 a.m. and 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKO-FM, Toronto — 99.1, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

CFGM, Toronto-Richmond Hill — 1320, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

QUEBEC

CKO, Montreal — 1470, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

CFMB, Montreal (Fr) — 1410, 5:00 p.m., Sun.

CKVL, Montreal, (Fr) — 850, 11:30 p.m., Sun.

CHNC, New Carlisle — 610, 6:00 p.m., Tues. and Thurs.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

CJRP, Quebec City (Fr) — 1060, 7:15 a.m., Sun.

CJRS, Sherbrooke (Fr) — 1510, 6:45 a.m., Sun.

CKLD, Thetford Mines (Fr) — 1330, 8:15 a.m., Sun.

CHLN, Trois Rivieres (Fr.) — 550, 5:30 a.m., Sun.

ATLANTIC CANADA

CKBC, Bathurst, N.B. — 1360, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.

CJVA, Caraquet (Fr), N.B. — 810, 10:15 a.m., Sun.; 9:00 p.m., Tues. and Thurs.

CFLC-FM, Churchill Falls, Lab. — 97.9, 5:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFCB, Cornerbrook, Nfld. — 570, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFDL-FM, Deer Lake, Nfld. — 97.9, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CJEM, Edmundston, N.B. — 570, 8:35 a.m., Sun.; 8:30 p.m., Tues. and Thurs.

CKGA, Gander, Nfld. — 730, 8:00 a.m., Sun.

CKCM, Grand Falls, Nfld. — 620, 8:00 a.m., Sun.

CKMV, Grand Falls, N.B. — 8:35 a.m., Sun.; 9:00 p.m., Tues. and Thurs.

CHFX, Halifax, N.S. — 101.9, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFLN, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Lab. — 1230, 5:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CHCM, Marystown, Nfld. — 560, 8:00 a.m., Sun.

CKCW, Moncton, N.B. — 1220, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKEC, New Glasgow, N.S. — 1320, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFNW, Port au Choix, Nfld. — 790, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFGN, Port aux Basques, Nfld. — 1230, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFNN-FM, St. Anthony, Nfld. — 97.9, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

VOCM, St. John's, Nfld. — 590, 8:00 a.m., Sun.

CFSX, Stephenville, Nfld. — 910, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CHER, Sydney, N.S. — 950, 10:30 p.m., Sun.-Thurs.

CFLW, Wabush, Lab. — 1340, 5:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CARIBBEAN

ZFB-1, (Eng) Hamilton, Bermuda — 960, 1:30 p.m., Mon.-Sun.

ZNS-3, (Eng) Freeport, Bahamas — 810, 6:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.

Radio Cayman, Grand Cayman — 1555, 1205, 103.5 FM, 6:00 a.m., Tues.-Fri.

RJR-FM, Christiana, Jamaica — 101.3, 6:00 a.m., Tues., Thurs.; 6:30 a.m., Sun.

RJR-AM, Kingston, Jamaica — 720, 4:30 a.m., Thurs., Sat.

RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 92.7, 6:00 a.m., Tues., Thurs.; 6:30 a.m., Sun.

RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 94.7, 4:30 a.m., Thurs., Sat.

RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 95.7, 6:00 a.m., Tues., Thurs.; 6:30 a.m., Sun.

RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 104.5, 4:30 a.m., Thurs., Sat.

RJR-AM, Mandeville, Jamaica — 770, 4:30 a.m., Thurs., Sat.

RJR-FM, Montego Bay, Jamaica — 92.9, 6:00 a.m., Tues., Thurs.; 6:30 a.m., Sun.

RJR-AM, Port Maria, Jamaica — 580, 4:30 a.m., Thurs., Sat.

RJR-FM, Spur Tree, Jamaica — 90.5, 4:30 a.m., Thurs., Sat.

MBC Radio, (Fr.) Port au Prince, Haiti — 1430, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

ZDK, Grenville Radio, (Eng) St. John's, Antigua — FM 99, 7:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

Radio Caraibes, (Fr) Guadeloupe & Martinique — 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

Radio Caribbean, (Eng), St. Lucia — 840, 2:10 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

Rediffusion, (Eng) Bridgetown, Barbados — 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.

BBS, St. Michael, Barbados — FM 90.7, 6:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., Sat. & Sun.

Radio Antilles, (Eng) Montserrat, Eastern Caribbean — 930, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

Radio Antilles, (Fr) Montserrat, Antilles — 1450, 740, 6:00 a.m., Mon., Thurs., Sat.

NBS, Trinidad — 610, 10:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.

NEW ZEALAND

1XP, Radio Pacific, Auckland — 1593, 6:00 p.m., Sun.

1XX, Radio Bay of Plenty, Whakatane — 1242, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

2XS, Radio Manawatu, Palmerston No. — 828, 10:15 p.m., Sun.

4XO, Radio Otago, Dunedin — 1206, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

4XA, Radio Central, Alexandra — 531, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

4XC, Radio Central, Queenstown — 1359, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

4XE, Radio Central, Wanaka — 1359, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

OTHER AREAS

3GL, Geelong, Victoria, Australia — 1341, 8:30 p.m., Sun.

A3Z, Tonga Radio, (Eng) Nuku'alofa — 1020, 6:30 p.m., Sun.

C2AM, Radio Nauru — 1323, 9:00 a.m., Sun.

Hong Kong Radio, Kowloon — 1044, 6:30 a.m., 12:00 a.m., Sat.

Radio Ceylon — 7190, 9720, 15425, 9:00 p.m., Sun., Tues., Thurs., Sat.

Honduras, San Pedro Sula, Radio Norte (Sp.) — 780, 8:45 a.m., Sun.

Panama—HOA 1510, HORS 1410, HOI/23 FM 105.7, 7:00 p.m., Mon. - Sat.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.

Radio Luxembourg, (Fr) Luxembourg — 5:15 a.m., Mon.; 5:00 a.m., Tues., Thurs.

France, Radio SUD, (Fr.) Toulouse — 1161, 5:45 a.m., Tues. & Fri.

See next issue for TV log

IT WAS expected.

They knew it was coming.

It happened nearly every time they met new people, or those they hadn't seen in a while: "Do you have any children?" they are queried.

To most couples here is the golden opportunity to open their wallets

ing at his hand while gazing up lovingly for answers; a son receiving honors at graduation as he answers to his family name—these blessings are denied to millions of couples (whose numbers are increasing). And with this deprivation comes a pain that most people never knew existed, for they have not experienced this trial of life.

But several million couples would give up this "freedom" at a shot! *Nothing* in life, they feel, would fill this void except the birth of their child.

Conception?

Some even conceive and the birth process is on its way! The parents' long-awaited dream is becoming reality. Then—the miscarriage.

"I am sorry," consoles the doctor, "but your wife cannot carry a baby to full term."

New torment overwhelms the couple. It was almost in hand. Hopes have lifted and lowered, causing body stress and anguish anew.

Other millions, for varied causes, never reach conception. A physical problem may affect ovaries, uteruses or Fallopian tubes. Or a hormonal problem may prevent the monthly production of a ripe egg, ready for fertilization. Inherited abnormalities and premature menopause are other causes of infertility.

Some put off having a baby for economic reasons, waiting until their 30s when their careers are established and they've fulfilled other pleasures of life. Then they begin to think about having a baby.

At this point a problem they didn't anticipate hits. They realize they may have waited too long—their bodies are past peak fertility, highest for both men and women in their mid-20s. They learn they may also have affected their reproductive system by this delay.

What Is Infertility?

Couples are said to be infertile when no pregnancy occurs after a year of having sexual relations without using contraception (the average couple achieve success within this time).

Some find this far too long and are terribly distressed by midpoint. Yet they should not panic because only 63 percent of couples conceive during the first six months.

Becoming pregnant becomes an all-consuming goal of the childless couples' lives. Basal body temperature is checked each morning, sexual relations are on schedule and vacations are planned around medical procedures.

The Childless Couple

by Joan C. Bogdanchik

to their children's photos and pleasurable show the interested inquirer their offspring.

But in anticipation of this question nearly one out of every six couples in the United States (one out of 10 in Britain) brace themselves emotionally. Twinges of pain are felt. Their disappointment of being childless is relived anew.

Other reminders of what is considered their failure are everywhere: a friend's announcing she's pregnant, an invitation to a baby shower, a diaper (nappies) commercial on television.

Likewise, the cries of the newborn wafting from the nursery as baby readies to nurse at mother's breast; a bright-eyed child looking over Daddy's shoulder or clutch-

ing at his hand while gazing up lovingly for answers; a son receiving honors at graduation as he answers to his family name—these blessings are denied to millions of couples (whose numbers are increasing). And with this deprivation comes a pain that most people never knew existed, for they have not experienced this trial of life.

But some would not even consider it a trial, but *freedom!* Freedom to enjoy pleasures of life, freedom from the travail of childbirth, freedom from disturbed sleep at night, freedom from soiled diapers (nappies) and freedom from the constant responsibility of child rearing and its attendant expense from birth to or through college. These are the couples who have decided not to have children. Being a parent ranks low on their list of priorities.

Infertility investigation may include, for a woman, a daily temperature measure to show if and when she ovulates. During phases of her menstrual cycle, her uterus lining will undergo biopsies to see if it is responsive to hormones.

As blocking of the uterus and tubes can be a cause of infertility, the doctor will check by use of gas or dye. An optic instrument called a laparoscope may be inserted through the abdomen for a visual examination of her tubes.

Blood hormone tests, chromosome and immunologic studies will be made, as well as scrutiny for infections.

An evaluation of the man's sperm count will be undertaken. Testing will be done to check his circulation and look for any evidence of abnormal tissue or hereditary flaws. The prostate gland, hormones and immunological system will also be checked.

Although it may take years, about two thirds of infertility cases can be resolved by these modern medical techniques.

Years of Fertile Ability

A woman is most fertile between 16 and 18, but this is not the best time to give birth. In many societies the pelvic bones have not reached their full extension. Passage of the baby can be difficult.

A woman's bones reach maturity between 20 and 25 and conception is fairly easy, as these also are highly fertile years. Her maturation makes her aware of the necessity of proper care for both herself and her unborn baby—the new life she carries within. This is a good age for marriage.

Medical problems may begin to develop between 25 and 30, but if she is happily married and continues to take good care of herself (which would include the choice of a good doctor, a licensed midwife and hospital or birthing center), these should not negatively affect the baby's birth.

As she gets closer to 30 it is not as easy to get pregnant and to keep the pregnancy to full term. Between 30 to 35 a woman having her first baby is likely to show symptoms of medical problems, including endometriosis. This is

sometimes called the career woman's disease—a disorder in which tissue from the uterine lining implants elsewhere in the abdomen and can create scar tissue. Hypertension and diabetes can appear now also.

The chances of malformed babies are increased at this time. The woman's tissues become stiffer

Man's Role

With the superabundance of a woman's eggs, and a man's normal 40 million to 500 million or more sperm emitted during each act of sexual intercourse, it would seem pregnancy should be fairly easy. But the sperm must have open pathways in the male body from its formation



and miscarriage or premature birth can also occur. If she smokes, the chances of such occurring become even greater. Smoking hardens the vessels around the uterus, which in turn decreases the supply of blood needed for healthy development.

The problems become even more pronounced between 35 and 40, but that does not mean that pregnancy is not possible. Common sense, good health procedures and medical advice are recommended.

As there may be signs of early menopause with ovulation becoming irregular, a woman more than 40 has a slimmer chance of conceiving. Though a normal woman is born with 100,000 eggs, when a woman is 40, so are her eggs. But with expert care she can conceive and deliver.

onward—and all through its journey to the egg. If there is a faulty link anywhere in this path, infertility can result. Timing is also important, for the ovum may live as little as 12 to 24 hours, and sperm only one or two days.

In up to 40 percent of all infertile couples it's the man who turns out to have the physical problem. Upon realizing this, the husband can have a severe reaction. To some this means that he is not a complete man—his sense of masculinity is directly involved. Because of this mistaken attitude, men often do not want to consult to find out if it is so. This behavior is beginning to change.

In another 40 percent or so, infertility is female related. Ten percent of families have a combined prob-

lem. In another 10 percent of cases no reason can be found.

Some physicians state that as many as one fourth of infertile couples conceive within two months of consulting a physician. This is with no treatment whatsoever. So there is a significant emotional factor in infertility.

Much of the increase in infertility is caused by the surge of venereal disease. The pill is also blamed, as is the IUD, which on occasion causes pelvic infection.

Some researchers believe men are producing diminishing quantities of sperm and that environmental chemicals may be to blame.

Tension Rides High

Much emotional tension exists in the home of the childless couple. By some, artificial insemination is tried. Others opt for adoption. Divorce or separation seems the way out for others after years of trying for a baby. What a tragedy!

Many say they can't talk about their situation. Some women consider themselves a disappointment to their husbands and feel uncreative. Some don't have the support of their mate. Others find scheduled performances of sexual intercourse so demanding that impotence enters the scene.

But for others, their relationship is strengthened—this trial has brought them even closer together; it solidifies their marriage. Together they share a problem not experienced by the majority.

And closer they should grow! God gave sexual expression in marriage as a wonderful means of showing deep love and affection to each other, as well as for procreation.

On their wedding day it was just the two of them—and after the children of fertile couples leave home, it is still the two of them! Thus in a real sense, all women grow into infertility. Some have not thought of that. Certainly the lack of children that were not there in the first place shouldn't pull them apart!

Many well-known women of the Bible were barren for some time. Look at Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, Hannah and Elisabeth. Each had been barren for a reason. And while they were childless they didn't

know why. They longingly waited until God determined the time that their barrenness should end. During that time some tried their own "solutions" to the problem as some do today.

For those who do not conceive or carry a baby to term—those who are left as childless couples—this article is directed.

After all the stress, the time, the expense and the emotional seesawing, the couple are left where all couples normally start—childless.

Like a death of a family member, mourning takes place. But childlessness brings a strange kind of mourning, for there is no body over which to mourn. Yet it is real. Both husband and wife, who often grow closer together because of this problem, experience it. It must be worked on and accepted, for only then a really productive life may resume. Other avenues of expression must be embarked upon.

It has always been this way—childless couples throughout history have made up about 10 percent of the population.

In this pilgrimage upon earth, none of us walk exactly the same path of experience to reach his or her goal at life's end. All go through trials, and they come in such a wide variety of forms. Taken together, all trials are experienced by humanity, collectively, at life's conclusion. Of course, to the one experiencing it, that trial is the greatest. Nothing equals it. One might desire to trade one's trial for another's—after all, isn't the "grass always greener"?

And childlessness *is* a major trial to many! It is not to be minimized. It has to be accepted. How the couple react to it is of great importance.

As I write I am surrounded by my children. My first ones arrived in the 1950s. How excited I was! Thorough preparations were made for their arrival. I studied all I could about children.

As the big day approached—September 7 was the "due date," I recall—I could hardly wait! All was in readiness. I had tried to remember every detail; I left nothing to chance. I didn't want to give them a wrong beginning! I knew how important that was. And I didn't want to lose them as they grew. I

already had seen some of that happen to others.

Day and night my thoughts were on my children. I got to know them thoroughly. Their successes were mine; their shortcomings showed me where I needed to work harder.

Why should I be writing on childlessness then, the reader may wonder in skepticism. How can I understand the childless reader's plight?

Well, this is why: The children mentioned here were never born of me. They are my students.

Childless couples must come to look at their barrenness as a situation in life they must accept and live with. They could look for means to help individual children who are parentless because of wretched home life. They could work with groups in which children are involved. Such groups are often looking for leaders. One never knows where his or her influence can be of benefit.

In earlier years of world's history, single or childless relatives often played a sizable part in nieces' or nephews' education and training. And they still can today in many cases.

Childless couples must face life with strength. Expect that occasional unthinking remarks will be made by friends, relatives and strangers about your childlessness. But the childless, too, may have said the wrong words to a person newly widowed, or may have corrected, in error, a couple who were having child-rearing difficulties.

Look at life optimistically. Accept your childless state as fact. Trust God to make any changes in his time if he so wills. With him *nothing* is impossible. Even Sarah in her "deadness" at 89 laughed when she heard she'd be a mother! (Note what this did to infertility charting!) Lazarus came forth *from the dead*. Is anything too hard for God?

Accept life as it is and go on in faith. In the future, with your interests and energies channeled into helping others and not expended every month looking for signs of pregnancy, some of you reading this may find you'll be rejoicing over what perhaps you had long before stopped expecting! Leave all in God's hands! □

Life Can Get Better With Age!

by Clayton Steep

Here is what the Western industrial nations have forgotten about the elderly.

YOU'VE SEEN it on TV and in the ads. Who is associated with the glamorous, throbbingly exciting life-style? Mostly young people.

They are at the pulse of entertainment, clothing, cosmetics, travel and advertising in general.

That's not to say older people are not featured in the media also. They are. They sell denture cream, painkillers and laxatives.

The overall portrayal of old age in Western cultures is negative. Though increasing attention has been focused on the aged, it is usually in the context of "the problem of the elderly." But why should the elderly be considered a "problem" for society?

Growing old is a part of life, affecting every form of life. It is a natural process.

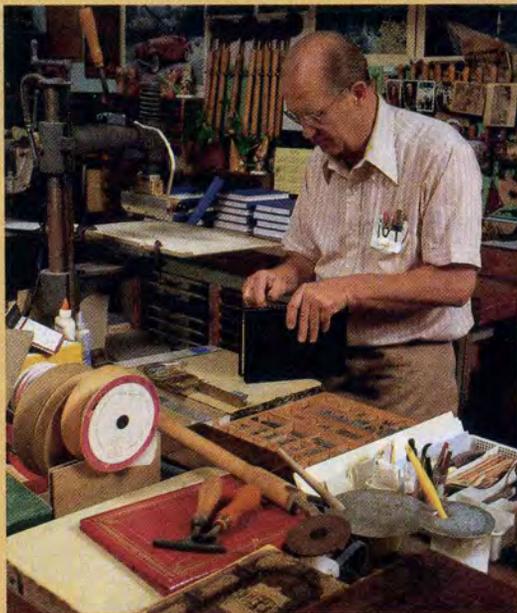
There is no basic problem involved in determining what part babies, children, teenagers, adults or middle-aged persons play in society. Why should it be difficult to define the role of the elderly?

The answer is that it should not be difficult and many Third World societies have proved it need not be. Indeed, in these cases the elderly enjoy a variety of fulfilling responsibilities. In most Western industrial nations, on the other hand, the

aging and aged are for the most part left out of the mainstream by a culture that worships youth.

Age is the crowning culmination of life—the golden years. It should be looked upon with honor, respect, even awe. It should be an experience made pleasant by the warm

world live in a throwaway culture. "No deposit—no return" are familiar words. Wrappings, packaging, string—who thinks twice about throwing them away? And the still perfectly useful items ranging from cars to clothing to kitchen cabinets no longer in fashion or not the



"It is a lost art to have patience and bookbinding requires patience. I give my best quality work to every person, no matter who he or she is."

Ted Bauer, 62, one of seven master bookbinders in the United States.

attention and support of family members, especially children and grandchildren. If society doesn't consider it in that light, then the problem is with society, not with the elderly!

Let's face it. We in the Western

latest model? They too are discarded or, if kept of necessity, grudgingly tolerated until they can be conveniently dumped.

Planned obsolescence—the idea that what is not new is not desirable—is the credo of the industrial

world. It is a way of life many have grown up taking for granted over the last few decades.

And so it follows, according to this reasoning, that when people wear out, when they become "old-fashioned," they also are to be put aside. They are confined to a narrow niche labeled "the aged." There, mere spectators of the supercharged society passing them by, they struggle against feelings of uselessness, loneliness, depression and fear.

How did this happen? It wasn't always this way.

The "Revolutionized" Family

Rapid technological and industrial changes have revolutionized society, have played havoc with the extended family structure.

Before the Industrial Revolution significant inventions and discoveries were infrequent. Life followed a fairly predictable pattern. Most people were generally content to maintain ties to the family circle, which in turn was tied to the land.

The extended family unit was anchored to a geographical area—babies, children, parents, grandparents, relatives, all together. Witnessed by all was the full cycle of life consisting of its various ages: babyhood, childhood, adolescence, adulthood, middle age and finally old age.

The explosion of technology brought rapid economic changes, a shift from a rural to an urban society. Industry and money-making opportunities attracted young people to cities. Improvements in modes of transportation made it easier to move great distances from other family members.

Rampant divorce, remarriage and alternatives to marriage have split the beleaguered family unit. To a lot of children grandparents are now far-away voices on the telephone rather than a present and real influence in their lives.

In a culture that did not change quickly, life had a sense of continuity. The wisdom of the older generation had value to the younger generations because it still applied to the experiences in life. But technology produced such rapid changes in life-style that the experiences of one generation appear old-fashioned to the next.

Further adding to the plight of many elderly people is that they have grown up in one mode of life,

on a farm, for example. When they move to a strange city, they fail to fit into the new environment.

Today's cities are not places where a person can easily hold on to personal and cultural history. Instead, one feels compelled to conform, to blend into the crowd. Personal identity is threatened, when not totally lost.

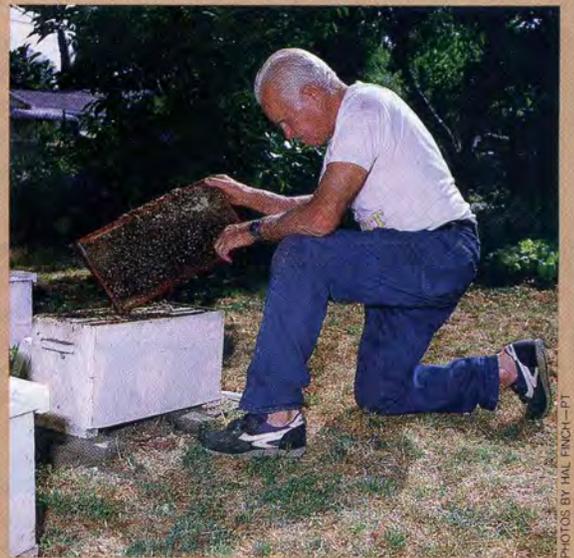
After a while people begin to wonder who they are and where their roots are. This is especially hard on older people who are suddenly called on to revise the habits of a lifetime in order to adapt to new ways of life.

Now, Add New Problems

The psychological and cultural stresses of the elderly are made worse by a number of other problems that are a very real part of existence.

Many people are in poor health by the time they reach their latter years. They may run up astronomical medical bills and be unable to care for themselves.

Many elderly who are physically able to live independently are prime targets for muggers and criminals. The aged must constantly be wary of where they walk, or



PHOTOS BY HAL FINCH—PT

"Diversify your interests while . . . young. Concentrate on a specialty, but maintain added interests."

Ted Baker, 72



"Keep helping people and sharing. Teach your children how to love. . . . Don't think about age. The body is shackled by arthritis, but the mind is still growing young."

Lizzy Hookfin, 86

the talkative stranger, or the person at the door.

Physical danger is not limited to criminal activity. A real but little talked-about danger is "parent abuse." In England it is called "granny-slaming." In growing numbers cases are surfacing of teenagers or adults physically or psychologically abusing elderly parents or grandparents that they are unprepared to cope with. Abuse may range from beatings to heavy doses of sedatives. It is estimated that of elderly people living with family members, 10 percent have been or are being abused.

The technology- and industry-based system with its built-in inflation inflicts yet another hardship upon the older generation: economic privation. The real value of small pensions or other fixed income, as well as savings, is constantly being gnawed away by inflation. The price of food, rent, transportation and medical care steadily mounts. The value of money shrinks. And the older become poorer.

It is in the industrialized, money-oriented cultures that the custom of retiring older people from the working force is most abrupt and traumatic. A diligent, wage-earning, productive worker at age 65 too often has become in one day's time a nonwage-earning dependent—suddenly old, cast out of the working community.

A Natural Resource

What a waste! You can talk about people wasted by society's neglect of the handicapped. You can point to the lives society wastes when it sends its young men to die in its wars. You can bemoan the lives wasted in society's crowded prisons and on skid row. But society's neglect of the elderly is in many respects the greatest waste of all.

Why? For one thing, because they have lived the longest. They are the richest resource in terms of experience in dealing with life and life's challenges.

Imagine, if you will, a person going through kindergarten, grammar school, junior high school, high school, junior college, college, doing postgraduate work, sacrificing, working hard, finally obtaining a doctorate in some field, and then

being told he must quit and be unproductive the rest of his days.

Sound unreasonable? It would be.

Most older people have gone through the "school of hard knocks"; by experience they have learned valuable lessons about handling life's difficult moments as well as its rewarding moments. And what happens when they are at the stage in life where they could share that information with younger generations? The younger generations for the most part turn a deaf ear.

should be respected, the place they ought to occupy in a society organized God's way, the way it will be when God restores his government to this earth.

Gray hair is to be regarded as a "crown of glory" (Prov. 16:31; 20:29). It is not something to be ashamed of, or that needs to be dyed. Younger people are to "rise up" in the presence of the aged (Lev. 19:32). Their advice and counsel are to be sought and heeded (Prov. 23:22-23). The aged are to be the wisest members of



"Have something new to learn. I am still planning ahead. Young people, it is good to listen to old people. I advise you learn different trades. Variety keeps the mind going and avoids drudgery."

Paul Pasche, 80

Modern youth-oriented society as it is set up simply does not warmly welcome the participation of the elderly. It does not as a whole show a genuine interest in the well-being of its senior members.

Solving the problem must begin with a change of attitude. The younger generations can begin to show genuine honor and kindness and care.

The law of God, as summed up in the Ten Commandments, specifically the Fifth Commandment, strikes directly at the root of this problem: the attitude of the younger generations toward the older generation. The Fifth Commandment stipulates: "Honour thy father and thy mother" (Ex. 20:12).

Your Bible shows how elders

society—here is where some elderly have failed. They are to teach the young the right way to live (Job 32:7; Titus 2:2-5).

The Western world has it backward. It has the older generation dependent upon the younger generations. God's way is for the younger generations to be dependent for wisdom upon the older generation (Prov. 13:22; II Cor. 12:14)!

The basis of a stable society is a strong, extended family circle anchored to the family property and investments. The world is learning the hard way that once a society cuts its ties with the land and residential property, it sets itself adrift. Notice how the Fifth Commandment in its entirety makes mention of the land in connection with sound family relations: "Honour thy father and thy moth-

er: that thy days may be long upon *the land* which the Lord thy God giveth thee."

And how might our days "be long"?

Respecting and heeding the wisdom of the aged makes it possible to avoid many mistakes, thus promoting a longer and happier life.

Raising the Level of Fulfillment

Aged persons have more than just experience to share. They have ideas, talents, skills and commit-

leges, Pastor General of hundreds of church congregations scattered around the world, frequent visitor to world capitals, Chairman of the Ambassador Cultural Foundation, writer, and regular speaker in personal appearances and on radio and television—all in his 93rd year.

There are other outstanding examples also. Unfortunately, most people, when they reach their later years, just do not have the opportunity to do "great" things. Nor are they physically or psychologically up to the task. Many who are

that says "you can't teach an old dog new tricks," a person is never too old to learn new knowledge, new skills, new ways of doing things. Some older people are even returning to school or taking up new professions. They are finding it pays to be adaptable and flexible, and to keep an open mind.

If you are an older person, why not cultivate new interests by frequenting the public library, watching educational programs on television? Consider participating in group activities, volunteering for community service in libraries, hospitals and such, taking up a hobby, getting yourself a pet. Broaden your horizons as much as you are physically able.

As far as relations with the younger generations are concerned, take an interest in young people and children when you have the opportunity. Make yourself interesting to them.

One of the complaints young people often make about the elderly is that sometimes they don't share themselves and their experiences, and when they do, it's usually the same story told over and over again. Try not to be repetitive. Strive to keep abreast with what is going on in the world today so you can make what you say relevant.

And relax. Look at life and your place in it with a certain sense of humor.

Above all, don't live in the past. Live for the future. You may not think you have much time left. But you are wrong! All eternity lies ahead of you.

Spend some of your hours studying the Bible—the book that tells you how to attain life that never ends—exciting, vibrant, abundant, rewarding life. Life that will never be dull. Life that will never be slowed down by age.

Why not enroll in the Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course? It's free and you can study it at your own speed. Or, if you have a problem reading, contact us about our tape program for the visually impaired.

Learn as much as you can about the Bible. Not only will it make your remaining years more pleasant, but in it you will find the true Fountain of Youth. □



"Eat right from early years and be active in sports. Senility doesn't come with age; it comes with inactivity. I didn't start in accounting till age 54."

Afton K. Cheney,
Assistant to Accounting
Manager

ment to offer—sometimes to extraordinary degrees. Both the Bible and secular history record remarkable feats accomplished by men and women in their old age.

Even in recent years, when the youth-oriented culture has been developing, there have been notable accomplishments by older persons. At 88 Konrad Adenauer was Chancellor of West Germany. In their 80s Winston Churchill, Leo Tolstoy and Alexander Kerenski wrote some of their most celebrated works. Grandma Moses still painted at 101. And what can be said of the music played by Casals, Horowitz and Rubinstein in their senior years?

The editor in chief of this very magazine, Herbert W. Armstrong, is President of two col-

lying in nursing homes or who are otherwise incapacitated would give anything to be well enough to function at a fraction of the degree attained by individuals such as those named above. But the reality is that they are not well or strong enough. In such circumstances the tendency too often is just to give up.

There are, however, some often-overlooked ways for older persons to make life more fulfilling, whatever may be the condition in which they find themselves.

To start with, it is important to hold on to whatever degree of health one has, so an effort should be made to eat a balanced diet, emphasizing fresh rather than processed food, and to be as active as the physical condition permits.

Contrary to the line of reasoning

WHERE Is the True Church?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Here is the concluding installment of this eye-opening series!

NOW once again, let's UNDERSTAND the dual relationship concerning the first man Adam, and Jesus Christ the SECOND Adam.

Duality in Scripture

The first human, Adam, was mortal. And the tree of LIFE, freely offered him, symbolized yielding to allow divine GOD-LIFE to enter within him.

If Adam had taken the fruit of the tree of life, he would have received the divine LIFE of and from God. He would have received the MIND of God by GOD's Spirit entering him and uniting with his human spirit. He would have had this close father-and-son relationship with God. But Adam chose to "go it alone." Instead of receiving sonship with God, accepting God's offer to come into his life, injecting into him life and mind of God, he took to himself the self-production of the knowledge of good and evil.

The tree of LIFE would have brought Adam into close father-and-son relationship with GOD. Jesus, the second Adam, had that close relationship with God. He

came to call sinners OUT of this evil world and UNITE them with GOD, as the first Adam and his family could have been. Jesus came to reconcile the called-out ones to GOD.

Jesus taught the gospel of the kingdom of GOD—the ruling, governing family of God. Not to repair the faulty and rotten superstructure of the building that was the expanded FAMILY of the first Adam. But to call his Church, the expanded FAMILY of God, out from the building that is this world, and unite them with GOD.

The God of this World

But this world is SATAN's world. He is the god of this world (II Cor. 4:3-4).

Satan tried to kill the infant Jesus. Then, when Jesus was about 30 years of age he tried to destroy Jesus through the great temptation. He caused the martyrdom of most of the apostles. He tried to destroy God's Church at its very foundation. But it was built upon the foundation of a Rock, "and that Rock was Christ" (I Cor. 10:4). The Church got off to a good start in spite of Satan's efforts to thwart it. Jesus had said the gates of the grave would never prevail against the Church. The rains might come,

the floods, and the winds blow in hurricane strength, but the Church would endure.

Satan wanted to destroy it. WHY? Because this world is Satan's world. He sits on the throne of this world (Isa. 14:13). And the Church of God will fill the earth after Satan is deposed and his world destroyed. Christ, the Head of the Church, will take over Satan's throne as world ruler.

So, when Satan failed to prevent the Church from being founded and getting off to a glorious start, what did he do next? He deceived certain humans into seeking to destroy the Church from within. There's a saying, "If you can't defeat them, join them." He caused some within the Church to turn to a false and counterfeit gospel.

In Galatians 1:6-7, we read that the churches in Galatia had turned to "another gospel." They had believed those who began to proclaim "another Jesus" (II Cor. 11:4). These false ministers professing to be ministers of Christ were in fact ministers of Satan (verses 13-15).

Thus, through false brethren within the Church, Satan succeeded at that time in deceiving even the vast majority in the

Church. He succeeded in turning this majority into a growing false and counterfeit church.

During the first few months of the true Church of God, the opposition in Judea was Jewish. Most Jews refused to believe that Jesus was the promised Messiah—God in human flesh. But the 12 apostles were eyewitnesses to Jesus' messiahship. They had been with him three and a half years before his crucifixion, and 40 days after his resurrection. Many, though only a minority of the Jews, believed and were baptized by God's Spirit into the Church. The Church, during its first few years, was mostly Jewish.

Then God sent Peter (Acts 10-11) to the gentile Cornelius to open salvation to gentiles. God raised up the apostle Paul to head a great gentile ministry. Some Jewish converts then tried to bring the rituals of the law of Moses, and circumcision, upon gentile converts. They wanted "more LAW." Paul and the apostles opposed this and cleared the issue through the Holy Spirit (Acts 15). Then gentile false members brought in the issue of "NO LAW." They claimed the law of God was done away—Christ had nailed it to the cross. They taught a false Jesus whom they represented to have done away with his Father's commandments.

So it was, that before A.D. 50 (the Church had been founded in A.D. 31) a fierce controversy arose as to whether the gospel to be proclaimed was the gospel *OF* Christ, or a gospel *ABOUT* Christ.

Soon the curtain was rung down on historic records of the Church. It attested the fact that a vigorous cooperative and systematic effort was made to destroy historic records of church happenings of the next hundred years. It was the "LOST CENTURY" in church history.

When the curtain of history is raised about A.D. 150, it reveals a church calling itself "Christian," but one totally different from the Church Jesus founded through his apostles in A.D. 31.

The Kingdom Is Not the Church

Jesus' gospel was the "gospel of the kingdom of God"—the government

of God in the hands of the born FAMILY OF GOD. The Church Jesus founded brought God the Father into the very lives of believers.

The disciples, during Jesus' ministry, were WITH him who literally WAS God in human flesh. After Pentecost, when the Church was founded, those baptized into the Church BY the Holy Spirit were also in close personal contact and communion with God and with Christ (see I John 1:3). God, and Christ, through the Holy Spirit, were IN the very lives of converts.

But, as the vast majority of professing Christians apostatized, they held only to a gospel *ABOUT* Christ. They turned grace into license to disobey God as Adam had done. They taught being GOOD—but it was only carnal, human good. Their human spirit was not united with God's Holy Spirit—their minds not united with God's. They came to worship Christ. But Jesus had said in Mark 7:7-8 they worshiped him in vain, rejecting the commandments of God, holding to their human traditions. Indeed, by today, this religion has come to call itself "traditional Christianity."

They began to build buildings they called "churches"—with a steeple atop, and a cross on their facades.

A cardinal point of distinction of the one true Church from the many professing sects and denominations is this: The deceived churches of this world put the focus on Christ. God becomes unreal—a mystic unreality. They are not taught that Jesus came to reveal the Father—that Jesus came to reconcile us to the Father—that it is the Father from whom our sins have cut us off—that Christ's shed blood does not of itself "save us"—give us salvation and eternal life. Rather (see Romans 5:10) the death of Christ reconciles us to God and we are saved (given eternal life) by Jesus' resurrection, making possible the gift of eternal life from God the Father through a resurrection from the dead. Jesus' resurrection made possible our resurrection, for he was "the firstborn [by a resurrection] among many brethren" (Rom. 8:29).

The true Church has Christ in

the right perspective—as mediator between us and God the Father—as personal Savior—as our present High Priest at the right hand of God the Father in heaven—as Head of the Church—as coming King and ruler UNDER God the Father.

Jesus, as the second Adam, came to call those drawn by God "out from among them" of this world and even its counterfeit "traditional Christianity," and to start a whole NEW WORLD—a NEW CIVILIZATION.

So, Satan succeeded in counterfeiting the Church of God, which Christ, the second Adam, founded. But the gates of the grave HAVE NOT prevailed against it.

True, on this building founded on a Rock, the winds blew, the floods came, the opposition beat heavily against it. Even the true Church, in the struggle to stay alive through the centuries of persecution and opposition, lost considerable original TRUTH. But it held fast to the true name of God the Father, whose Church it is. It held fast to God's spiritual law, the Ten Commandments. It held fast to the things HOLY TO GOD—his holy Sabbath, paying God's tithe. For this it was persecuted. But it has weathered the storm.

I Began to Find the Answer

I have described my own background and conversion. In that original six months' in-depth study and research regarding God's law, I came among a group of brethren of that Church. They were mostly vegetable farmers in the Willamette Valley of Oregon, in the northwestern United States. They were humble, God-fearing people willing to make any sacrifice to obey their great God.

But, I wondered, could they possibly be the one true Church of God founded by Jesus Christ? They were small, of no advanced formal higher education. Yet they were the ONLY church I could find who held to the Word of God and his commandments. They held faithfully to the things that are HOLY TO GOD—his Sabbath and paying his tithe. They held to the true biblical NAME, "the Church of GOD." No other church on earth

held to these three pivotal basic beliefs and practices. They were humble and sincere and would have sacrificed their lives for these basic truths.

But WHY did God bring me into contact with these people? I little realized the reason at the time.

At this point I must backtrack and relate additional facts that occurred in my own life.

I had been for 26 years in the commercial field of magazines and newspapers. I did not know it then, but subsequent events have evidenced that God was preparing me through this experience for the real calling that was to come later.

I was married at age 25. A week or two after marriage, my wife experienced a vision, or a most unusually impressive dream, which at the time embarrassed me. I had not been "religious." My whole mind and heart was in my business. I was living at the time in Chicago, Illinois. In her dream-vision my wife had seen an angel come from the sky, at a busy Chicago intersection, attracting hundreds of people. The angel had come directly to my wife and me as we stood in this busy intersection. He put his arms around us both, saying the Second Coming of Christ was not far off, and God had work for us to do. When my wife told me the dream-vision I was somewhat shaken, for it had seemed so real to her—yet I was embarrassed and my only thought was to get it off my mind. If it really was a call from God, like Jonah I wanted to run away from it.

"Why," I said, "don't you tell it to the minister of the church on the corner, and if it means anything, perhaps he can tell you?" I thought no more about it, but subsequently God took away my business, and then a later business established in the Pacific Northwest, followed by this challenge that led to the intensive Bible study.

The religious fanaticism (to me) that engrossed my wife concerned the seventh-day Sabbath. To me that was fanaticism. But I had to "eat crow." In the most intensive study of my life, I failed to prove my wife to be in error. This intense in-depth study and research proved to me the infallible existence of God, and the absolute AUTHORITY

of the Holy Bible as the directly inspired Word of God. Decades of continued in-depth study and research since have opened a vast labyrinth of biblical knowledge and understanding that HAD BEEN LOST. By the shattering agony of having two successful businesses swept out from under my feet, and this biblical challenge, God had softened me to the place of utter submission where I was willing to admit being wrong—willing to submit wholly to him, and willing to believe what he plainly said in his Word, regardless of the unpopularity of such belief.

Restoring the Truth

Thus the living God began RESTORING through me much true biblical knowledge and UNDERSTANDING that had been lost through the centuries.

Now it has been clearly revealed to me how a false Christianity arose during the first three centuries of the Christian dispensation. Satan led human religious leaders to proclaim a gospel of their own ABOUT Christ, substituted for the gospel OF Christ—Jesus' gospel of the KINGDOM OF GOD. This false Christianity is revealed in Revelation 17 and elsewhere in the Bible as "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."

Jesus' whole mission was to reconcile those called, to GOD THE FATHER. There is ONE lawgiver—God the Father. Sin is transgression against GOD. Repentance is toward GOD, and faith is toward Christ. Jesus came to reconcile us to the FATHER—not to replace him.

It is significant that, after God had beaten me down and softened me, ripe for submissiveness to him, he caused me to be so crucially challenged on the cardinal point of HIS LAW—his government—his preeminence above all else, his lordship over our lives. Of all the points of God's law, the Sabbath is the one test commandment. Professing, sincere Christians will freely admit we should have no other gods before the one supreme and true God. They will acknowledge we should not bow down to idols, or take God's name in vain. They accept the commandment about

honoring our fathers and mothers, the prohibition against murder, adultery, stealing, lying or coveting. They will even claim all these nine commandments are carried over into the New Testament.

The one commandment they reject and refuse to obey is honoring God by keeping his Sabbath day HOLY. God made that particular day holy, and told us to keep it holy.

A woman once told me she had heard that Saturday was my day, and she hoped this was not true. I replied, "No, Saturday is NOT my day. Sunday is my day."

"Oh, I'm so glad to hear that," she exclaimed.

"But you don't quite understand," I continued. "Sunday is MY day, and so is Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. But Saturday is NOT my day—it is GOD'S day."

In my intensive, in-depth, exhaustive study and research to prove Sunday is the Christian Sabbath, I left no stone unturned. I carefully examined every book, article or writing I could obtain that argued against the Sabbath and attempted to establish Sunday. I examined the religious encyclopedias, checked carefully the original Hebrew and Greek words in the relevant Bible texts; I read the Bible commentaries and the lexicons. I checked history.

The Test Commandment

But all arguments against God's Sabbath and favoring Sunday observance proved just that—arguments that couldn't hold water—arguments clearly in error and too often dishonest.

I found in historic records that there had been heated and violent controversies over this very question directly and indirectly during the first three centuries of the Church.

There also had been the historic Quartodeciman controversy between students of the apostle John and their opponents over the Passover-Easter question. The whole question was finally settled in this false church, called "Babylon the great," by the Nicene Council, called by Roman Emperor Constantine in A.D. 325. He was the

emperor, not a churchman. Then, in the Synod of Laodicea, A.D. 365, there was decreed one of the church's most famous canons: "Christians must not judaize by resting on the Sabbath, but must work on that day, rather, honoring the Lord's day. But if any shall be found to be judaizing, let them be anathema from Christ." This was tantamount to a death sentence.

Space does not allow me, in this present writing, to give a thorough and complete explanation of the biblical teaching on the vital importance of keeping God's Sabbath. Our free booklet *Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?* will present a far more complete explanation.

Briefly, however, here are some significant and high-point scriptural teachings:

At the end of what is called "creation week," the following event is revealed: "And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made" (Gen. 2:2-3). God was not tired or weary. But he set mankind an example, and put his own presence in that day. This he has never done in regard to Sunday or any other day.

Adam rejected God's tree of LIFE, God's law and God's rule over him. There is no evidence that Adam's family in general kept the Sabbath holy for nearly the first 2,500 years. But when God called the children of Israel out of Egypt—a type of calling the Church out of the world—God revealed to the Israelites his Sabbath.

In Exodus 16, the children of Israel complained they were about to starve. God said he would send food from heaven, in the form of manna, to "prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no." This concerned obedience or SIN. On the sixth day of the week God sent a double portion of manna, but God sent NONE on the seventh day. And Moses said on the sixth day, "To morrow is the rest of the HOLY SABBATH unto the Lord." Then on the Sabbath Moses instructed them: "To day is a sabbath unto the Lord:

to day ye shall not find it [manna] in the field. Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the sabbath, in it there shall be none" (verses 23-26).

On the seventh day some went out to try to gather manna. And God said, "How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws?"

Thus it was that God by a miracle from heaven showed his people which was the true Sabbath day. And history as well as Jewish tradition show that the days of the week have never been mixed up from that day till NOW.

In Exodus 31:12-18 we read God made the Sabbath an eternal COVENANT between him and his people. It was an identifying SIGN by which God would know they were his people, because in keeping the Sabbath they obeyed him in a manner no others did. It identified them as his people. For no other people but the people of God had ever kept God's Sabbath. It identified God, for creation is the proof of God. In six days he created life on earth, and on the seventh day he rested and made that day HOLY TIME—holy to GOD!

In the 56th chapter of Isaiah is a prophecy for our present time, respecting the Sabbath: "Also the sons of the stranger [gentiles], that join themselves to the Lord, to serve him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant; even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer" (Isa. 56:6-7).

In Mark 2:28 Jesus declared, "Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath." So the Sabbath is truly THE LORD'S DAY—not Sunday.

The Sabbath, as stated above, is the one test commandment—the one even professing so-called Christians refuse to obey. In I John 2:4 we read: "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him."

Sin is the transgression of God's LAW (I John 3:4).

The original Church of God, under the apostles, kept the Sab-

bath. The apostle Paul preached to gentiles on the Sabbath days for a year and six months, after he had turned to the gentiles in Corinth (Acts 18:4-11).

As the Sabbath is the identifying sign of the people of God (Jew, gentile or any race), so Sunday is the mark that identifies the AUTHORITY of false Christianity—"BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS"—because Sunday carries no other authority. The substitution of the pagan Sunday to counterfeit God's Sabbath is a primary stratagem of Satan in deceiving all nations, and counterfeiting God's TRUTH as well as God's Church.

One of the excuses used by "traditional Christianity" for Sunday observance is the false belief that Jesus' resurrection from the dead occurred on Sunday. But in actual fact the resurrection did not occur on a Sunday morning but late on a Sabbath afternoon. For proof that this tradition is false, read our free booklet *The Resurrection Was Not on Sunday*. Then read this truth in your own Bible.

Jesus said: "Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men. . . . Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition" (Mark 7:7-9).

This is one of the keys that unlock the door to the identity of the one true original Church of God, established by Jesus Christ, as it has continued to withstand the onslaughts of Satan through the years and centuries. But it is not the only identifying sign.

The True Name

Jesus prayed for his Church: ". . . Holy Father, keep through *thine own name* those whom thou hast given me, that they may be ONE, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them *in thy name*. . . . And now come I to thee. . . . I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because *they are not OF the world*, even as I am not OF the world. I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from

the evil. *They are not OF the world*, even as I am not OF the world. Sanctify them through THY TRUTH: THY WORD *is* TRUTH" (John 17:11-17).

Jesus said his true Church was to be KEPT *in the name* of the Father—GOD. *Twelve times* in the New Testament, the NAME of this one *true* Church is the CHURCH OF GOD! It is GOD'S Church, and Jesus Christ is its guiding, sustaining, directing HEAD!

In five passages where the true NAME of the Church appears, the entire Body of Christ—the Church as a whole—is indicated. Thus when speaking of the entire Church, including all its individual members on earth, the name is "the CHURCH OF GOD." Here are these five passages:

1) Acts 20:28: The admonition to the elders is to "feed THE CHURCH OF GOD."

2) I Corinthians 10:32: "Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to THE CHURCH OF GOD."

3) I Corinthians 11:22: "Despise ye THE CHURCH OF GOD, and shame them that have not?"

4) I Corinthians 15:9: Paul wrote: "I persecuted THE CHURCH OF GOD."

5) Galatians 1:13: This verse repeats the one last given—"I persecuted THE CHURCH OF GOD."

Where one specific local congregation is mentioned, the true Church is called "the Church of God," often in connection with the *place* or location. Here are four more passages:

6) I Corinthians 1:2: "THE CHURCH OF GOD which is at Corinth."

7) II Corinthians 1:1: "THE CHURCH OF GOD which is at Corinth."

8) I Timothy 3:5: In speaking of a local elder in a local congregation, Paul wrote Timothy, "For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of THE CHURCH OF GOD?"

9) I Timothy 3:15: "Behave thyself in the house of God, which is THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD." Here it is the Church of the *Living* God.

In speaking of the local congregation collectively, not as one gen-

eral Body, but as the total of all local congregations, the Bible name is "the CHURCHES OF GOD." Here are the final three verses of the 12 that name the Church:

10) I Corinthians 11:16: "We have no such custom, neither THE CHURCHES OF GOD."

11) I Thessalonians 2:14: "For ye, brethren, became followers of THE CHURCHES OF GOD which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus."

12) II Thessalonians 1:4: "We ourselves glory in you in THE CHURCHES OF GOD."

In some New Testament instances, a descriptive term is added to the name, as the Church of God at Corinth, or the Churches of God in Judaea. And today, it is the Worldwide Church of God.

In this world, churches are named after MEN, or after the SYSTEM men have devised, or the kind of church government MEN have thought out, CONTRARY to God's Word, or after a significant doctrine they emphasize, or what men hope to make it—all-encompassing, universal or catholic. But wherever that ONE *true* Church is, it will be named the CHURCH OF GOD.

But that is not all. Many have appropriated God's name, but are not proclaiming the KINGDOM OF GOD, as the GOVERNMENT of God, which we must OBEY—teaching obedience to God's law (Ten Commandments)—teaching REPENTANCE of rebellion and transgressing God's holy law—teaching that we may be now BEGOTTEN into the KINGDOM (family) of God, and may, by the resurrection, be BORN into the GOD FAMILY! That true Church is preaching the imminency of the coming of CHRIST as KING of kings and LORD of lords, to RULE all nations for a thousand years on earth. Not up in heaven, but ON THIS EARTH (Rev. 5:10).

There is only ONE such Church!

It is doing THE WORK OF GOD. It is, as Jesus said it would be, a "little flock," persecuted, despised by the world.

Personal Counsel

God's Church does have dedicated, consecrated, converted, fully instructed and trained, ordained MINISTERS in all parts of the world—available to call on you, visit you in

your home, answer your questions, explain the Bible to you—*IF YOU REQUEST IT!* But none of them will *EVER* call on you, unless YOU of your own free will request it! Regarding the general public, Jesus said, "GO NOT from house to house" (Luke 10:7). Paul had visited the elders (ministers) at Ephesus from house to house.

Neither Jesus, nor Peter, nor Paul, nor any of the original true apostles ever approached people and personally URGED conversion on them. God has made every human a FREE MORAL AGENT. God compels each to MAKE HIS OWN DECISION, *and the true* GOD will never force you to be converted.

But if you, of your own volition, want to know MORE about the *very* Church that Jesus Christ founded and heads today—if you'd like to ask questions about it, why not write your request for a personal visit? We will have one of God's own ministers call on you. And let me suggest that you JOT DOWN on paper the QUESTIONS you are going to want to ask. I've learned, personally, by more than 60 years' experience, that you'll forget them unless you do.

Hundreds and hundreds—yes, thousands upon thousands—are being *converted*—their lives CHANGED—by this WORK OF GOD, through the *World Tomorrow* broadcast worldwide, through the ministry of the Worldwide Church of God, through the Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course and other vital free literature we send upon request. Some, not realizing one of God's own called, consecrated ministers could call and explain, and answer questions, have JOINED one of the churches of this world. You cannot JOIN the true Church of God—the Almighty God *puts you in*. But if you have questions about fellowship, doctrines or practice—or ANY questions about the Church or the Bible, or the Christian LIFE—write me. I cannot call and visit with you personally anymore, as I used to do and wish I still could, but God has now given me many truly called and chosen men who CAN.

Weigh carefully the FACTS, according to your own BIBLE. *Then* make your decision and take what steps GOD shows you. □

MARK: The Man Behind the Gospel

by John Ross Schroeder

A British television channel ran a series called "Jesus: the Evidence." Viewers were left with uncertainty. How much of what Jesus said and did is fact? How much legend? Was a so-called secret gospel of Mark more important than the known gospel accounts? Here we take a behind-the-scenes look at the man who wrote the real gospel of Mark.

WHAT KIND of people would you have chosen to preserve in writing the life and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth?

A despised tax collector? A close personal friend of Jesus? A physician who would pass for a historian? Or perhaps Mark, a young aide who associated with Jesus' disciples?

Few have ever understood why such diverse personalities were chosen to write the four gospel accounts, or what the forces were that shaped their lives and perceptions.

Who was this Mark? What was he like? The evidence, though sketchy, is revealing. The New Testament itself supplies surprising information.

Early Encounters

First, a few points about Mark's name. His full name was John Mark. In first-century Palestine it was not uncommon for a man to have two names. John was his Jewish name, Mark his Greek name (*Marcus* in Latin).

Mark came from a fairly wealthy family that was influential in the early Jerusalem church. When Peter escaped from jail, it was to

the home of Mary, Mark's mother, that he came to contact a large assemblage of church members. The house was large enough to have at least one spacious room plus a courtyard with an outer door. Servants were obviously employed. (See Luke's documentation in Acts 12:12-13.)

What an opportune place to hear stories about the life of Jesus! Mark certainly moved in the right circles. He must have known Peter from the earliest days of his ministry. It would be unthinkable to suppose that he was not acquainted with all the original apostles. Few were in a better position to learn the facts about Jesus' life and teaching.

The book of Mark records a mysterious statement about an incident that took place in a garden outside Jerusalem. "And a young man followed him [Jesus], with nothing but a linen cloth about his body; and they seized him, but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked" (Mark 14:51, 52, Revised Standard Version, except where otherwise noted).

This was a moment of high tragedy. Jesus is about to be crucified. On the surface these two verses seem irrelevant to the essential story. So why this brief interruption in the main story? It has been suggested that the Garden of Geth-

semane may have been owned by Mark's family. If so (with a nose for news and feeling a big story about to break), Mark may have been near the events surrounding Jesus' final hours. Here was a young man who liked to be in on things.

Following the last supper, Mark shadowed Jesus and his disciples to see what was going on. (He got a little too close.) Few writers can resist painting a small portrait of themselves somewhere in a major work. Here Mark inserts himself into the crucifixion record. Under pressure John Mark flees the scene. Later he will run away again.

An Assistant to Apostles

Mark emerges again 15 years later at the time of a famine. The Church of God in Antioch, Syria, was not slack to help the Jewish brethren in the Holy City. Gifts were sent there by Paul and Barnabas. Later the two returned to Antioch and John Mark was with them.

There Paul and Barnabas were formally ordained and sent to the Greek world. (This was Paul's first tour.) Luke's historical account mentions that John Mark was their assistant or helper (Acts 13:5). The RSV has it: "And they had John to assist them." The Translators New

Testament: "And they had John as their helper."

The New Testament was written in the Greek language. The Greek in Acts 13:5 is, "They had John *huperetes*." The consensus of New Testament scholarship takes this word to mean a helper or assistant in the sense of looking after material needs as a kind of secretary.

In the 15 years that had passed since the crucifixion, Mark had had time to mature. But could he cope with the rigors of the journey and the interplay between two powerful personalities?

Events proved he could not. The book called the Acts of the Apostles simply states: "Now Paul and his company [including Barnabas] set sail from Paphos, and came to Perga in Pamphylia. And John left them and returned to Jerusalem" (Acts 13:13). No reason is given in the account. But Paul clearly was distressed.

After that first tour was concluded, an important ministerial conference took place in A.D. 49 in Jerusalem. Paul then returned to Antioch. It was now time to embark on a second extensive evangelistic tour. Barnabas sought to persuade Paul to take Mark along again. But the leading apostle to the Greek world was firm. "But Paul thought best not to take with them one who had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work" (Acts 15:38).

A sharp contention followed between Paul and Barnabas. Here their paths diverged. Paul took Silas with him and Barnabas took his younger cousin, John Mark, to Cyprus. It is not our purpose to try to sort out all the rights and wrongs. We will view the scenario from Mark's point of view.

First and foremost Mark showed himself clearly deficient in character to have abandoned the two apostles in midtour. They needed his services. He had all the qualifications for a fine assistant. Probably the two apostles now had to busy themselves with organizational details and other duties Mark normally would have handled. The tour was hurt.

Perhaps we can also recognize some extenuating circumstances. A

change of leadership had taken place. When the tour began Barnabas' name is mentioned *first* three separate times (Acts 13:1-2, 7). But by the time they are ready to set sail from Cyprus, Paul is clearly the leader (Acts 13:13). Realistically, such things do not happen without possible hurt feelings. Even Jesus' apostles were human.

John Mark may have been the man in the middle. Only one who has been an assistant to several fairly powerful personalities can fully empathize with the difficulties inherent in this situation. Misunderstandings inevitably occur at such close quarters. People with different upbringings are often required by circumstances to be together day after day, week after week. Humanly it is not easy even with conversion.

Luke does not chronicle Mark's activities between the time of his return to Jerusalem and his sailing to Cyprus with Barnabas. Perhaps he had assisted Peter in the meantime. Jerusalem was the center of the early church. And there are indications that the family home was a regular meeting place for leading church personalities.

Mark now vanishes from the record—to reemerge toward the end of Paul's life.

Restored to Paul's Favor

Paul's letter to the church members in Colossae in Asia Minor was written in the early sixties during his first imprisonment. By this time Mark is back in Paul's good graces.

Paul is moved to write of Mark: "... and Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, receive him), and Jesus who is called Justus. These [Mark and Jesus] are the only men of the circumcision among my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they [these two] have been a comfort to me" (Col. 4:10-11).

This statement is not without significance. Every church has its headquarters. Those who were privileged to have lived and worked at the center of church activities in Jerusalem had special insight in the way things were to be done. Of all Paul's companions,

only two, including Mark, could help the aged apostle in this special way.

Paul also wrote a personal letter to Philemon while he was under house arrest at Rome during his first imprisonment. Again he mentions Mark. "Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, and so do *Mark*, Aristarchus, Demas, and *Luke*, my fellow workers" (Philem. 23-24).

Obviously Mark, the gospel writer, knew Luke, the gospel writer. Both had traveled with Paul from time to time. There was ample opportunity to exchange accounts, traditions, happenings, even preliminary writings. It would be unimaginable that these two never discussed the all-important events of Jesus' ministry.

A few years later, in A.D. 68, Paul knows he is soon to be executed by decree of Emperor Nero. He must make provision for matters that would follow upon his death. During his second and final Roman imprisonment, Paul writes his second letter to the young evangelist Timothy.

In relaying his concluding instructions, Paul writes: "Do your best to come to me soon. For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. . . . Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you; for *he is very useful* in serving me" (II Tim. 4:9-11).

Since Paul's writing to Philemon, Demas has left the work of God. He is no longer a fellow worker. But Mark, by contrast, has grown in usefulness and service.

Peter and Mark

There is both biblical and later literary evidence for Peter's special relationship with John Mark. We already know that Peter immediately went to Mark's family home following his miraculous escape from prison during the early years of the church. He knew that the leading members of the Jerusalem church would be there.

Much later Peter writes his first general letter to those converts living in the northern part of Asia Minor. He ends the letter by passing on various individual greetings

to church members. Simon Peter writes, "She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings; and so does *my son Mark*"—the Authorized Version uses the Latin *Marcus* (I Pet. 5:13).

This reference indicates that Mark was so close to Peter that the older man refers to him as his son in the faith. Perhaps Peter's preaching brought about Mark's conversion. Remember Paul referred to both Timothy and Titus as his sons in the faith.

Additionally, if Mark's real father were dead, Peter may have increasingly stepped into his shoes as a sympathetic adviser and counselor to the young man.

Exactly when John Mark served Peter as helper is not clear. It may have been at various points in Peter's ministry when Mark was not serving either Paul or Barnabas. The Acts of the Apostles and the New Testament letters show that these men (apostles and assistants) moved about a great deal.

The Evidence of Tradition

Extrabiblical tradition unanimously links up the gospel of Mark with the preaching of Peter. Details tend to vary, but there is no disagreement on this central point.

Papias of Hierapolis in Asia Minor spent much time in collecting traditions of the early church. He lived from about A.D. 70 to 130. He is said to have been a friend of Polycarp of the city of Smyrna in Asia Minor.

Papias wrote an extensive work in five volumes. It was called *The*

Exposition of the Oracles of the Lord. The work itself either was lost or perished in a pagan, book-burning exercise. Fortunately some interesting fragments survive in the form of quotations in Eusebius' *Ecclesiastical History*.

Succeeding church writers referred to Papias in their own statements about Peter's relationship to Mark's gospel. Their declarations are thus less valuable. But hear just one. Irenaeus wrote: "After their death [Paul and Peter's] Mark, the disciple and interpreter of Peter, also handed down to us in writing the things preached by Peter" (*Against Heresies*, 3.1.1,2; Eusebius, *Ecclesiastical History*, 5.8.2). Back now to the Bible.

Further Biblical Evidence

Certain points about Mark's gospel account tend to bear out its intimate connection with the apostle Peter. Mark, of course, begins his book with the onset of Christ's public ministry. Early events in this gospel account occur at Peter's house (Mark 1:16-18, 29, 36). Near the end there is a private message to Peter found in no other gospel account (Mark 16:7).

Further, Mark's gospel account is harder on Peter, in a concentrated form, than the other three gospels. A.E.J. Rawlinson remarks that Peter is hardly ever mentioned except in terms of Jesus' rebuke and disgrace (see *The Gospel According to Mark*, 1925, page 28).

A faithful helper and assistant is highly unlikely to picture Peter in such unfavorable terms—either

before or after his death—unless he had his explicit direction.

About Mark's Gospel

Mark had unique qualifications for authorship. His family home was a center of the early church. What Jesus said and did was repeated over and over again in his presence as the years sped by. Many people were still alive who knew exactly what had happened.

Mark has many parallel accounts with Matthew and Luke. That's why these three are often called *the synoptic gospels*. Of course, both Matthew and Luke contain much material that Mark omits altogether. But where they are all parallel or very similar in content, Mark nearly always remembers in more vivid detail. Perhaps this is Peter's as well as Mark's memory. Mark, in any case, must have been an observant person.

Apart from his importance as a writer of the gospel account, there would be no real reason to write an article about Mark's life. His life is only significant to a wider public because of his gospel. He was a very human person. He made some serious mistakes. When young he tended to flee a crisis. Yet Mark was used of God to write a portion of the gospel of the kingdom of God.

Maybe you are a person who would like to get started reading about Jesus. Maybe you want to know more about the kingdom of God. Why not request, free of charge, the Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course? It will take you through a study, in your own home, of the big questions in life. □

ELECTION

(Continued from page 4)

ing decade" that West Germany and France will pool their military resources to form what he called "a new axis of power."

Business Week magazine warns that "the Paris-Bonn axis" and other steps to strengthen autonomous European defense arrangements "tend to set Europe apart from the U.S."

Some leaders in Europe are openly thinking past current taboos into the future. For example,

Juergen Todenhofer, the chief disarmament spokesman for West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democratic Union, called, on April 17, for a greater role for Europe in its own nuclear defense, and, eventually, a West German voice in the use of nuclear weapons.

Todenhofer's remarks do not constitute official West German policy and they received considerable criticism. Nevertheless they reflect a growing West German concern for greater control by Europeans of their own defense.

Thus, the potential for further wild swings in American policy from election to election and the grave uncertainty that these will produce, could have a great deal to do with the eventual emergence in Europe of the final stage of the historic revivals of the Roman system, prophesied in your Bible.

It will comprise a political, economic, military—and even religious—union. If you have not already done so, write for our free booklet *The Book of Revelation Unveiled at Last*, which explains the future in significant detail. □

COLOSSUS

(Continued from page 6)

near future. Most Europeans realize there can be no going back. Many remain hopeful that the remaining years of this century will yet witness a coherent, full-functioning United States of Europe.

And they are right!

Foretold Long Ago

Bible prophecy—as so often explained in the pages of this magazine—reveals that a powerful New Europe *is* on the horizon!

The Bible foretells a gigantic world-trading system to be formed in our time, possessing worldwide political power and influence. Ultimately, this prophesied New Europe will possess greater population, greater industrial and economic capacity, and greater *military* power than either the Soviet Union or the United States now possesses!

Nearly a quarter century ago, editor in chief Herbert W. Armstrong declared with reference to the newly created Common Market:

“It is one of the crucial developments of world history. It is bringing to life a slumbering giant. It is developing into—creating—a GIANT NEW WORLD POWER, that will be mightier than either Russia or the United States! It is swiftly, dynamically, fulfilling PROPHECY! It is resurrecting the ROMAN EMPIRE!” (*Plain Truth*, September 1961).

The dream of a united Europe has permeated the history of the Continent. The original Roman Empire fell in A.D. 476. But Bible prophecy revealed it was to be restored again and again over the centuries. The most recent attempt to revive the Roman Empire was by Benito Mussolini. Today we see the last resurrection of the Roman Empire springing to economic life! It will be composed of 10 nations or blocs of nations—but not necessarily the 10 now associated in the EC.

The final political union in Europe will not come about through slow, evolutionary means, but *suddenly*—in reaction to dire external threats to the Continent’s very existence! The “founding father” of the Common Market, Jean Monnet, foresaw this when he

remarked that “*necessity* is the real federator.” The years *just ahead* will provide the specific events that will trigger the final, sudden, desperate fusion of Europe.

Moreover, prophecy reveals that *religion* will have its part to play in inspiring enthusiasm for European unity. The Roman Catholic Church, locked in a struggle with Soviet atheism and U.S. secular consumerism, will reassume its historic role as a “glue” for Europe, cementing together the diverse peoples and cultures of the Continent.

New Superpower

The stage is set.

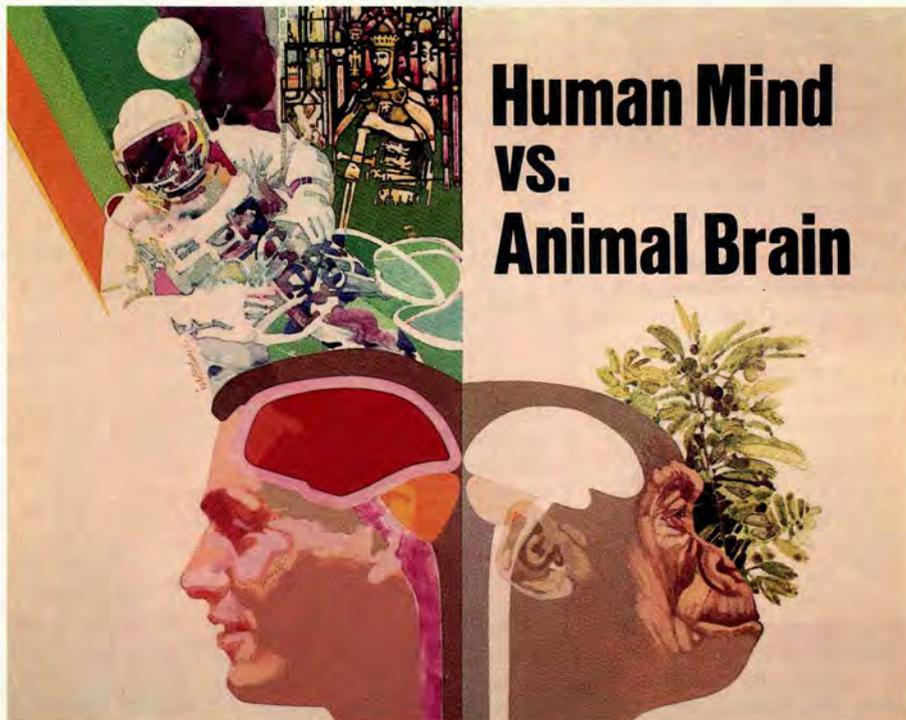
Europe stands on the threshold of unparalleled world power. By virtue of its economic dynamism, political muscle and continuing need for Middle Eastern oil, the

coming United Europe will be in a position to reshape the geopolitical balance of the world!

But will this new power be able to avoid conflict with today’s superpowers as she herself rises to superpower status? Write for our revealing free booklet *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* for the startling answer.

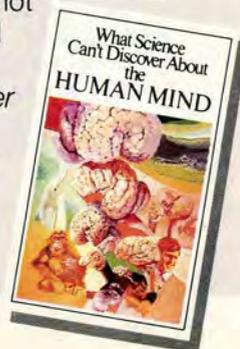
The last, climactic revival of the Roman Empire is even now in the making. Prophecy is fast being fulfilled, especially in the Middle East. This European political-economic-military-religious empire will have a profound effect on the future of the world—and on the lives of all our readers.

That’s why *The Plain Truth* continues to closely follow ongoing developments in the European Community! □



Human Mind vs. Animal Brain

Science has long struggled to understand the human mind. Though the human brain is similar in size, shape and structure to the brains of many animals, man’s mind makes him infinitely superior. But the difference is not physical and therefore cannot be discerned by the techniques of modern science. Our free booklet *What Science Can’t Discover About the Human Mind* offers startling evidence that science has overlooked. For a free copy, mail the request envelope or write to our office nearest you.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



New China

I read with great interest your article "The New China Reaches Out" in your April edition. While I agree with most that was said, I can't understand why the great murders that occurred in China are not mentioned. Your magazine should come out and condemn this, or at least mention the price that was paid by the Chinese people for their "victory."

Here are the facts (according to the *Guinness Book of Records*): 26,300,000 Chinese were killed during the Mao Tse-tung revolution between 1949 and 1965. (Incidentally those are figures released by the Russians.) If we only take the Russian figures, this is a high price which should not have been overlooked in your article. It is high time for your magazine to speak up for those millions who were killed in the name of "progress and peace."

B.A. Fischbach
Port Moody, British Columbia

• *The principal purpose behind the article "The New China Reaches Out" was to give readers of The Plain Truth a clear picture of the social and economic directions in which the People's Republic of China is headed. The editors did not intend to delve into China's checkered past. All nations have skeletons in their closets, some more numerous than others. All men and nations "have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." One of the greatest impediments to international understanding is the continual reference to the historical faults and past shortcomings of other nations and peoples.*

Poland on Map

I would like to bring to your attention the issue of

May 1984, page 11, which shows a map of Europe in 1942 explaining via color the Axis and Allied control of Europe at that time. I was appalled by seeing part of Poland marked red which comes under the heading Germany, Italy, and their allies.

The way you have depicted the situation in the color scheme, anyone not knowledgeable of Poland and Poland's part in World War II would immediately assume that Poland was allied with Germany. Rather than showing part of Poland marked in red, it should have come under the yellow stating, "Areas under Axis control." That is exactly what Poland was—a captive nation—a nation of people who fought the Nazi war machine.

Chester Grabowski
Editor in Chief, *Post Eagle*
Clifton, New Jersey

• *With the destruction of the Polish military establishment near the end of September 1939, the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany signed an agreement that abolished Poland as a State and carved up Polish lands between them. By the terms of the partition treaty, most of eastern Poland was allocated to the U.S.S.R. Western and central Polish lands went to Germany. Nearly half of the region awarded to Germany was incorporated into the Third Reich by outright annexation. The remainder became a German protectorate. All administration was in German hands.*

In showing a portion of Polish lands in red on our map, we were not implying that Poland was an ally of Nazi Germany, but rather that the area involved had become forcedly an integral

part of the German Reich. No one map can tell the whole historical story. Also, the word Poland was placed in parentheses on our map. We used the parentheses to show that Poland as a political entity had ceased to exist, and to indicate only the geographical region of partitioned Poland. Many historical atlases depict the situation in this way. Perhaps adding the phrase "and incorporated areas" to the definition of the red-colored areas would have further clarified the situation.

Terrorism

I just read the interview with Mr. Christopher Dobson in your May issue, and it was really a great surprise for me that Mr. Dobson did not say even a word about the Armenian terrorists who have assassinated nearly 30 innocent Turkish diplomats in over 50 assaults for the past five or six years. While listing the countries that give shelter to terrorists, Mr. Dobson did not include France, which is, nowadays, much more than a shelter for the Armenian terrorists.

I have once written another letter about the article "Seeing the World Through Islamic Eyes," stating a fact that the only entirely secular Moslem country is Turkey, but my letter was not published then. I hope you'll publish my letter this time.

Serdar Ulger
Istanbul, Turkey

Nineteen Years Later

I was a listener of your program in the 1960s and the last magazine I received was in 1965. This was due to a change of address. As predicted in the 1965 issue there is vast unemployment today; there are arcades which are full of fruit machines and

other sources of gambling equipment. People in general are getting no richer in wealth or their knowledge. The streets are full of crime, etc. I do wish people would take this magazine seriously.

I have missed not having an up-to-date copy of *The Plain Truth*. I was unsure whether you were still printing until I happened to see a friend with a copy. I was very pleasantly surprised to see the magazine is still in existence.

Miss I. Prescott
London

Newsstand Reader

I first picked up a copy of *The Plain Truth* in Kensington High Street. I found it extremely interesting and am now asking you to enroll me in your Correspondence Course. I have enclosed a list of free booklets which I would very much like to read. I would appreciate it if you would send them to me. My life is one mass of questions at the moment and I hope these will help me. Thank you for your wonderful magazine, which has brought me back to God.

Ms. A. Negus
Enfield, Middlesex

Berlin

Thank you for your very interesting and illuminating article on divided Berlin in the May 1984 issue. As a first generation American, I have been constantly in the habit of voraciously reading anything about Deutschland.

In your article "Exclusive Interview: Terrorism in the '80s" you misspelled the Baader Meinhoff gang. Your article had it "Bader." It hurts press credibility when something is not spelled properly.

Radd Zedrick
Saco, Maine

• "Bader-Meinhoff" is a spelling current in major British newspapers. "Baader-Meinhoff" is the American spelling. Variations in spelling names are inevitable in the English language. Since the article was written in England, the author used the British spelling.

Child Neglect

As a victim of both child neglect and abuse, I read both of your articles with great interest. My parents systematically lied to the world, to themselves, and to me—by telling me that what they did was love. As a result, I grew up seriously disoriented as to the nature of reality, which tremendously complicated and prolonged my other problems. Now, after years of psychoanalysis, I find myself still unable to connect normally with other people. I have recently turned to God to solve my problems.

A. Martin
(address withheld)

I just finished reading "I Was a Victim of Child Neglect." I work in a boys' home and truly understand what this man went through and that is one of the reasons I put others first, myself last. I wish your magazine had more articles like this as a greater understanding is gained through personal experience. I also like the article about child abuse.

Dale Swire
Sweet Valley, Pennsylvania

Domestic Violence

I would like to say a few words about Ronald D. Kelly's article on domestic violence. I was a troubled man, and I used to hit my wife. I came across your magazine from a friend at work. I read the entire magazine and the domestic violence piece hit home.

I sought help through my local church and found God. I am happy to say that I am on the way back to repairing my marriage. Believe me domestic violence is a real problem. Thank God I found the plain truth before

it was too late.

(name withheld)
Brantford, Ontario

Unknown Warrior

"Salute to the Unknown Warrior" was the most fascinating article I have ever read. After reading the truth about the resurrections of the "just and the unjust" and God's eternal plan for this world, I was simply amazed by the awesome power and merciful love of the Almighty God. To prove this, all I have to do is open up my Bible and read the truth for myself. Hats off to Malcolm Tofts and his God-inspired article!

Brad Hall
Youngstown, Ohio

Against My Better Judgment

Regarding "... Against My Better Judgment," I can only say, What an eye-opener! It is easy to try to put the blame elsewhere and to look for excuses for sinning, but anyone reading that article and having even the least bit of understanding has to admit that there really aren't any excuses.

David Bonaroti
Cincinnati, Ohio

Orphan Train

In your April '84 issue, an article was published entitled "I Was on the Orphan Train," by Henrietta Wiens.

We would like permission to reprint this article in a booklet of articles about an orphan colony that existed in New Mexico in the latter part of the last century.

Dorothy Wills
Lexington, Kentucky

Though I am only in seventh grade, I found that your magazine is "in touch with reality." After reading "I Was on the Orphan Train," I understood some of the displeasure of being an orphan. Not only being mistreated, but the whole idea of not knowing your past, and always asking yourself, "Why am I here?" must be frustrating. I know I am a fortunate child.

Thank you for publishing your magazine. I picked up a

copy of your magazine and enjoyed reading it and have been a subscriber since.

Mary K. Sweeney
Danbury, Connecticut

Hello! I cried to read "I Was on the Orphan Train." Within the span of one short lifetime, America has gone from sending thousands of orphans into its heartland to killing 6,000 unwanted pre-born babies a day by abortion. America: weep for your children!

Olga Fairfax
Wheaton, Maryland

Building Bridges

Thank you for your interest in the way of giving and helping others. If I may be of assistance to you in setting up a kind of readership of *The Plain Truth* in the Soviet Union please do not hesitate to let me know. I thought you may appreciate some history behind my services. About two and a half years ago Lev-Aire did an about-face from the popular courier deliveries in the USA and Western Europe and turned all its energy to promoting its unique ability to deliver door-to-door in the U.S.S.R., Iran, socialist countries, Israel and other hard-to-get-to areas.

Lev-Aire also tried yet another move: Message services to U.S.S.R., Poland, Yugoslavia, Iran and Israel. That, too, turned out to be a success. These "Message Services" are utilized to satisfy urgent communication needs and often preclude the use of courier delivery altogether. Lev-Aire has become the communication bridge between the West and the East, the Capitalist and the Revolutionary, between the governments and businesses on both sides of the Iron Curtain.

L.A. Wyszynski
Lev-Aire Courier Ltd.
New York, New York

Meaning of Life

I'd always been bothered by the fact that what the churches taught and what the Bible taught were sometimes conflicting. The *Plain Truth* magazine has been like a

beacon in a thick fog. My confusion is clearing up, and I feel I have finally found the true meaning of man's relationship with God. I would like to do my part to help further your work. Please accept this donation as a monthly tithe.

Ginger Kimberlin
Danville, Illinois

It's hard to believe that a magazine worth so much, could cost me so little—nothing at all! I've been reading your magazine for almost two years now and am very impressed. Your articles have helped me understand many areas of religion that really confused me. Thank you especially for the constant referrals to quotes from the Bible. That allowed me to check for myself and to discover the "plain truth" in the Bible.

Leatha M. Seabaugh
Lake Charles, Louisiana

Europe and the Church

I have just received and read my first issue (May) of your wonderful magazine, for which I gratefully thank you.

As one keenly interested in European history because I am researching my family tree, I found the article on the History of Europe and the Church—Part 9 extremely interesting and informative.

I especially appreciated the clear and concise manner in which the article was written. I found it very understandable for such complex material.

Maryanna K. Ordine
Las Vegas, Nevada

Tithing

I read an article you had written on tithing, and though it took me a while I finally had enough guts to stop robbing God. I sent you my tithe just a couple of days ago and I already feel better for doing it, plus the fact that I find that my honeymoon will cost me less than I had anticipated. It will cost me *substantially* less! Anyway, here is an offering I would like you to accept to further continue your work.

John A. Hall
Vandenburg AFB, California

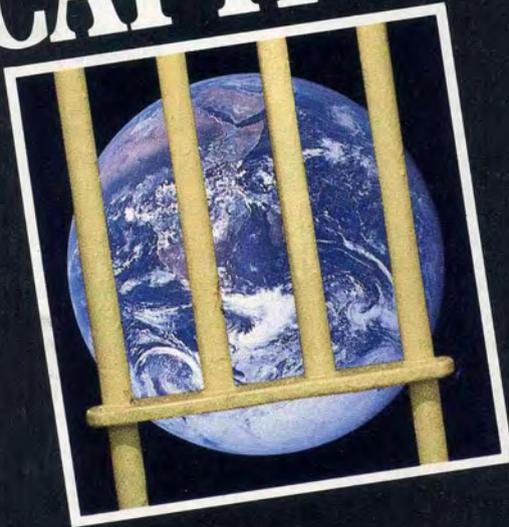
Kidnapped, and Loving Its Captor!

Nearly 6,000 years ago, the human race was kidnapped—taken captive—by a powerful and diabolical being whose evil influence on humanity has caused every woe from which the world suffers. But amazingly, humans have remained willing captives of this evil being, Satan the devil, wholeheartedly embracing his way of competition, hate and selfishness.

But the catastrophic archkidnapping cannot overthrow the supreme purpose of the almighty God. Deliverance from captivity is coming—and soon!

Our new, free booklet *A World Held Captive* explains what is to happen shortly—and how. You may have a copy by mailing the request envelope inside this magazine or by writing to our office nearest you.

A WORLD HELD CAPTIVE



FREE Booklet Offer

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