

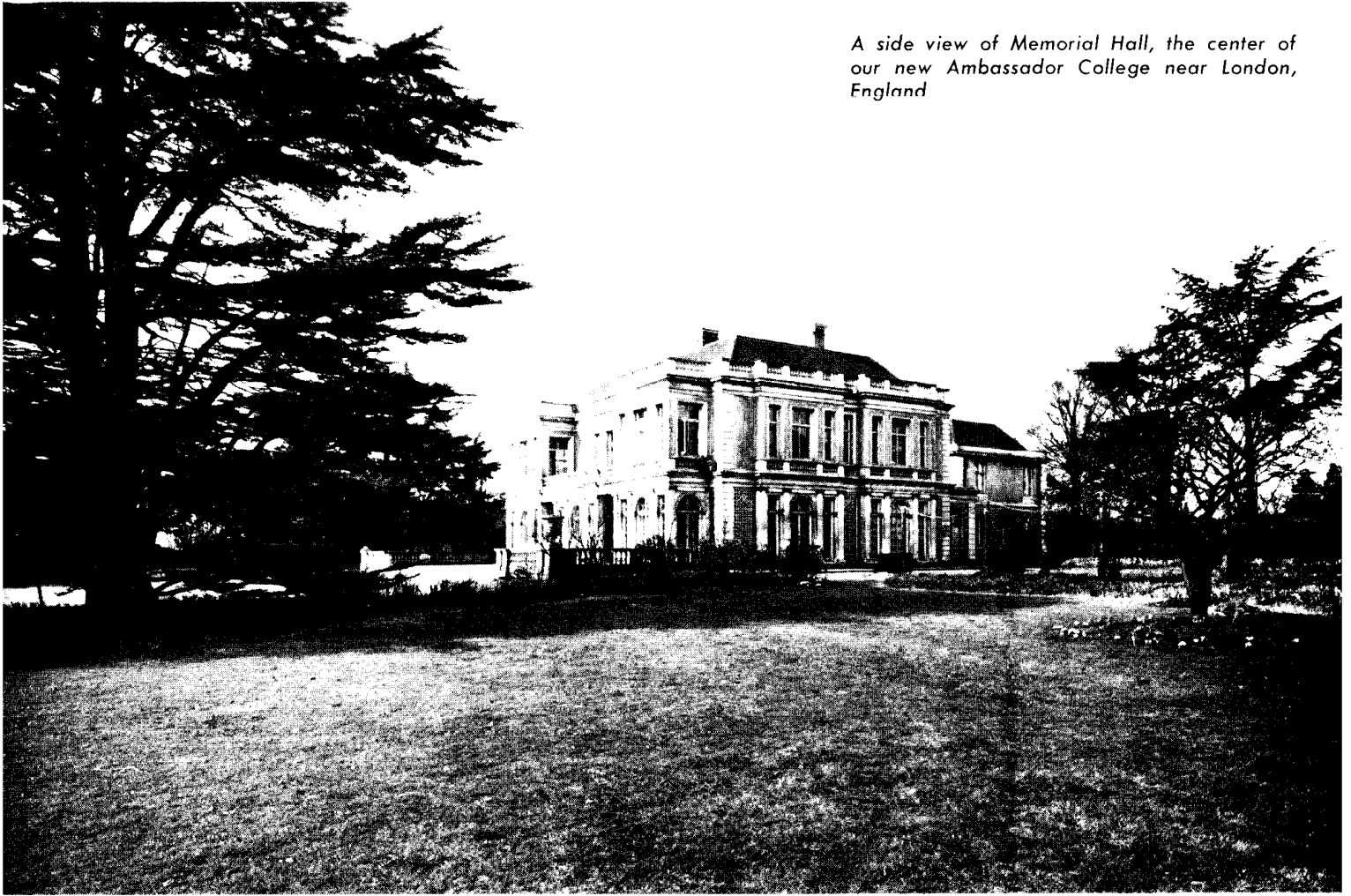
the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding

VOLUME XXV, NUMBER 6

JUNE, 1960



A lively view of the Ambassador College Library in Pasadena. Read in this issue a surprising message to high school seniors!



A side view of Memorial Hall, the center of our new Ambassador College near London, England



One of the many fine buildings on Ambassador grounds in England, this is to be the Administrator's residence.

A MESSAGE TO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

and those ready for university-level work in Britain

by Herbert W. Armstrong

IT'S TIME to get the *facts*—to make final and right decisions. Here are questions you need to answer—without further delay.

1) *Should* you go to college? Some should. Some should not. You need to realize, first of all, that not all people are fitted by heredity and abilities and preparatory training for the same work, profession, or occupation.

Aptitudes Differ

Years ago I was assigned by a national magazine to make a survey over the eastern two-thirds of the United States to determine why one man fails in business and another succeeds. Although lack of capital, and plain lack of ability were factors, the main factor in most cases was simply that the failures were square pegs in round holes. They were in a business they were not fitted for by ability, inclination, or training. The successful men had chosen the right field for them.

Let me give you an example. Some men are natural salesmen. With proper training they can become successful salesmen. Others could never succeed as salesmen, no matter how hard they try, and regardless of training. I knew a man who tried to be a salesman. He never could work up enough courage to open the door of a single business office and ask to see the manager. But this man had a good mind, was a good student, had natural aptitudes for teaching. He could teach children, or young men and women. But he could not even approach a business man, or a housewife, if he had something to sell. This man went on through college, began teaching, did graduate work summers for higher degrees. He rose in the teaching profession, found that he could manage and supervise other teachers as well as he could teach. He became an educator of some distinction.

I knew another man who had a natural aptitude for selling. He could sell an IDEA. He could sell advertising space in magazines, but he could not sell a commodity. When he tried selling a product instead of a service he was a total flop. So there are two types of salesmen. One can sell a service or an idea. The other can sell a commodity, a gadget—a visible product which the customer can SEE.

One man can become a great success in a certain profession. Another man would be a total failure in professional life, but a success in farming.

I knew an undertaker who found working over dead bodies so fascinating he was never satisfied doing anything else. Most men would flee such a profession in abject horror.

Some men and girls are good students, and will do well in college. Others have not been good students—but could be and ought to be. They simply have not yet learned *HOW* to study. When they learn this they will become good students. Others would be misfits in an occupation or profession which requires mind work rather than physical labor. They are fitted to work with their hands, and enjoy it—and cannot be happy in any other way.

Laboring with Hands is Honorable

We have had a few students at Ambassador College more or less of this type who did college work for some two years, then found important places in our work, laboring with their hands. The few years of college training was a great benefit. It taught them how to *THINK* on the job they do now. Yet further years in college classrooms would have been for them wasted time.

Did you ever stop to realize how wonderful is the human *hand*? If you could put a human mind in the head of any animal, so that it could think,

imagine, plan, work out the idea of a design, still it could never **MAKE**, or **BUILD**, or **CONSTRUCT** what its mind planned. Not with paws or hoofs! One of the marvelous creations of God is the human hand. It is no disgrace to **USE IT** in honest labor!

At Ambassador College the entrance aptitude examinations help us to counsel with students to find where they belong. We learn more about each individual student's aptitudes and abilities, and weaknesses and handicaps, as we go along. It is not always possible to determine immediately where each individual student fits—but we do try to help get each placed where he will be happiest and serve the best during the years at Ambassador.

One of the very important advantages of an Ambassador College education is the close personal relationship between instructor and student. In most cases, by this close contact, and observation of the student's performance in various types of work on the campus, we are able properly to evaluate the field in which the student belongs, and will do the best work, and will be happiest and most successful.

Needs in Many Fields

Although there is no promise this will continue, and certainly no obligation on the part of the student, yet up to now every student who has graduated from Ambassador College has found a place in this rapidly expanding world-wide work, and been either employed full time, or has continued in Graduate School.

However, it must be realized that only a minority are found to be called of God to become ordained ministers of the Church. The work today has need of many trained men and women in many different fields of service. No one is free to choose the ministry for him-

the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding

VOL. XXV NO. 6

Published monthly at Pasadena, California and London, England, by Ambassador College. Copyright May 1960, by Radio Church of God.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Herbert W. Armstrong, *Editor*
Garner Ted Armstrong, *Executive Editor*
Herman L. Hoeh, *Managing Editor*
Roderick C. Meredith, *Associate Editor*

REGIONAL EDITORS ABROAD

United Kingdom: Raymond F. McNair
Australia: Gerald Waterhouse
South America: Benjamin L. Rea

BUSINESS MANAGER

Vern R. Mattson, Controller

CIRCULATION MANAGERS

United States: Hugh Mauck
United Kingdom: Ernest Martin
Australia: Frank Longuskie
South America: Leon Walker

NO SUBSCRIPTION PRICE. Sent free to those who request it for themselves. Bulk copies for distribution not given or sold.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS to the Editor, Box 111, Pasadena, California. Our readers in United Kingdom, Europe, and Africa should address the Editor, B.C.M. Ambassador, London W.C.1. Readers in Australia, the Philippines, China and south-eastern Asia should address the Editor, Box 345, North Sydney, Australia.

BE SURE TO NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY of any change in your address. Please inclose both old and new addresses. IMPORTANT!

self. In this one profession, the call must come from God. However, God *is* calling a representative number of Ambassador graduates into His full-time ministry.

First Success Rule

The very first law of success is to have the right GOAL. Everyone ought to learn, first of all, the *purpose* for which he was born. God, the Creator and Supreme RULER of the entire universe, is working out a PURPOSE here below. To find *your* place in working out God's purpose is the most important thing in life.

But there is also a secondary goal—the kind of job, profession, or occupation for which you are best fitted. Most educational institutions in the fields of higher learning specialize in preparing the student to *earn a living* in whatever field he chooses to enter. The school may, or may not, help the student intelligently to choose the proper vocational field for him or her.

But this is certainly *secondary* in importance. First, above all, is learning HOW TO LIVE! First is learning WHY you were born—God's purpose, and where you fit into it—the TRUE VALUES of life—the way to happiness, peace of mind, abundant living.

This MOST important objective receives first emphasis at Ambassador College. But the secondary objective *is not neglected!*

2) Should you select a college purely for training in your chosen field?

This question has really been answered above. Many, if not most students of around 18, just graduating from high school, cannot know infallibly whether the field they feel they *want* to enter is the field in which they really belong. We find many students are unable to determine correctly where they really belong until their third or fourth year of college—and some not even then. The field a young man or young woman chooses, at age 18, may be merely one that appears attractive from a distance.

Mr. Meredith's Experience

I'm going to let you in on Mr. Roderick C. Meredith's experience. I think it was during his third year as a student at Ambassador. I had encountered him at the rear stairway in the Library building. We were discussing the matter of which field was the one where he best fitted.

"I'm absolutely certain of one thing, Mr. Armstrong," he said earnestly. "I am not called to the ministry. I could never *think* of becoming a preacher."

As a matter of routine in public speaking training, he was assigned to give a preliminary 15-minute speech before the main sermon in church service the very next day. It so happened that he had chosen a subject for his talk about which he was very much concerned, and in earnest. When he finished that talk, every one present *knew* that he was definitely called to become a minister! Yet the day before, he had been certain in his own mind that this was the very *last* field for which he was fitted.

Personally, I had a similar experience. The last field on earth I would have chosen was the ministry. When I was 18, I put myself through a course of

self-analysis, together with an analysis of all general fields of endeavor, with the aid of a book on "*Choosing a Vocation.*" I decided I fitted the advertising profession. And, as long as I was carnal minded, *I did!* But when God called me, and I tried to run away from His call, He plunged me into His ministry anyway. Afterward I learned that my training and experience in the advertising profession was precisely what was needed to fit me for God's ministry. However, this was God's doing. It does not by any means follow that the field the average young man or woman of 18 chooses is the proper one, or one that, like mine, will only train them for the proper *different* field.

No, my advice to every young man and young woman is to *put first things first!* First learn your OVER-ALL purpose—the purpose for which you were born—the TRUE VALUES—*HOW* to live—what you are here on earth for—where you are going—and *what is the WAY!* Then, before you are through college, you will be better prepared to determine, without mistake, what should be your immediate field of work.

3) *CAN You Afford to Go to College?*

The answer, so far as Ambassador College is concerned, is that *you can, definitely, afford* to attend IF you ought to go to college, and are accepted for admission.

Ambassador College, whether at the Pasadena campus in America, or the college near London, England, offers special scholarship grants, and work opportunities on our own grounds, by which any deserving student may finance a large part of college expenses without interfering with class hours or study. At both institutions we have set up a loan fund by which all deserving students may, without interest, finance the remainder of expenses—provided the student is industrious, and careful in the handling of money.

Actually, even the Pasadena campus might be said to be only half built. As the enrollment expands, additional adjoining properties are purchased, new buildings are planned. This constant building program has been in progress ever since the college was founded. It

(Please continue on page 18)

WHY PROPHECY?

One-third of the Bible is PROPHECY! Why was it written? Why is it so mysterious? Why does almost no one understand it? Here are the Bible answers!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

BIBLE prophecy has perplexed millions! Many hundreds of volumes have been written—articles, leaflets, tracts printed—thousands of sermons have been preached—all about Biblical prophecy!

And yet—look at all the *confusion!*

Many believe ALL the prophecies have been fulfilled. Others believe the prophecies were merely the pronouncements of wild-eyed fanatics carried away with visions of doom. Still others believe the prophecies are confined to the Old Testament, and are all *done away*.

Still others preach that MOST Biblical prophecy is for *our day—now!*

What is the truth?

What Is Prophecy?

The Hebrew word for prophet, *Nabi* means "one who announces or brings a message from God." The word "prophet" in the English language means essentially the same thing—"one who speaks by Divine inspiration as the interpreter or spokesman of God," whether it be a message of duty and warning, or a prediction of future events.

A prophet is one who speaks *for* God; hence, the prefix *pro* (from the Greek language—from which our word *prophet* is derived) which means "for" and "before" so that a prophet is one who speaks *for* God, or one who tells *before*—one who *predicts*, foretells, prophecies!

Common Misconceptions

Many people falsely *assume* all prophecies are merely dire foretellings of catastrophic events, of the wrathful vengeance of a harsh God who is about to descend with terrible fury upon His hapless subjects here below!

This is FAR from the truth! *Many* of the prophecies foretell a time of peace, of happiness, of restoration, of joy, of great prosperity and physical wealth for those who are serving God.

Many prophecies merely foretell, in advance, certain events which are to happen, the rise and fall of nations, the *course* of world affairs!

Prophecy IS a chronicle of the great PLAN God is working out here below! It describes this plan in *detail*, showing how God *knew* it would work out, according to human nature, together with other *special interventions* of God.

Prophecy is HISTORY *written in advance!*

Who Were the Prophets?

The prophets were not a special hierarchy, a guild, or a certain "class" of men! Many of them were chosen from various of the tribes, and, unlike those of the tribe of Levi, were not *born* into their office.

... The prophecy came not in old time by the *will of man*, but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" (II Pet. 1:21).

Daniel was a Jew, of the tribe of Judah, one of the *princes* of the nation, with whom God began to deal—revealing the meaning of Nebuchadnezzar's dreams, and causing Daniel to write many prophecies which he, himself, *did not understand!* (Dan. 12:8-9).

Jeremiah was "of the priests" (Jer. 1:1), who argued he was *too young* to become a prophet of God! *Hosea* was apparently of Zebulun, *Jonah* ran from the call of God, *Isaiab* claimed he was a man of *unclean lips*, and didn't want to prophesy, and *Zephaniah* was one of the princes of Judah, possibly of the descendants of Hezekiah.

As the Holy Spirit inspired Peter to write, God *called* His prophets—sent them with a message as divinely commissioned *messengers*. On many occasions, they had to be *made willing* to carry the message of God. These men WERE NOT SEEKING for some kind of a "spiritual experience," they were not earnestly *desiring* the office of a "proph-

et," they were *chosen* of God!

Notice the way God called Amos!

"The words of Amos, who was among the *herdsmen* Tekoa, *which he saw*" (Amos 1:1). Amos was going about his daily life, *among the herdsmen*, minding his own business—and God expressly REVEALED a certain message to him. Later, when Amos was approached by Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, who told Amos not to prophesy, but to go into another country, Amos answered "... I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son, but I was *an herdsman*, and a gatherer of wild figs [margin] and the Eternal took me *as I followed the flock*, and the Eternal said unto me 'Go, *prophesy* unto My people Israel'" (Amos 7:14-15).

Amos was *herding sheep*—NOT "looking" for some kind of "religious experience"—and God CALLED him!

Who were the prophets? They were princes, shepherders, farmers, fishermen, or priests. They came from many different tribes, and God called them at many different times.

Your Bible says that they were "*holy men of old!*" And, *on these men* together with the New Testament apostles, is based the very *Church of God!* "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, and *are built upon the foundation* of the apostles *and* PROPHETS, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone" (Eph. 2:19-20).

Why Was Prophecy Written?

God selected *Jonah* as a prophet and, after making him *willing* to carry the message of God, commissioned him to go to the great city of Nineveh. *Jonah* finally went. *Jonah* prophesied, lifting up his voice in loud warning as he traversed the great, sprawling city of Nineveh!

Finally, the word came to the king. The king realized the *seriousness* of the

prophecy, and "... arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by a decree of the king and his nobles saying, 'Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed, nor drink water. But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God' . . . and God *saw their works* that they turned from *their evil way*, and God repented of the evil, that He had said that He would do unto them, and He did it not" (Jonah 3:6-10).

Notice it! Jonah fulfilled *his commission!* Jonah's job of orally shouting the warning was over! Jonah had been made willing, *had carried the message* to Nineveh, and Nineveh had actually REPENTED!

Then—if the prophecy had served its purpose, if the warning had been heeded, if Jonah's commission was over, *why the need of writing the prophecy?*

Jonah WROTE the whole thing, and it forms a part of your Bible today!

Again, notice the 36th chapter of Jeremiah.

"And it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that this word came unto Jeremiah from the Eternal, saying, 'Take thee a roll of a book [a scroll], and write therein all the words that *I have spoken* unto thee against *Israel*, and against Judah, and against all the nations . . . it may be that the house of Judah will hear of all the evil which I purpose to do unto them, that they may return every man from his evil way' . . . then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah, and Baruch *wrote* from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the Eternal, which He had spoken unto him, upon a roll of a book!" (Jer. 36:1-4).

After the writing of this dire warning toward Israel and Judah, notice what happened! "Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying, 'I am shut up, I cannot go into the house of the Lord: therefore go thou, and READ in the roll, which thou hast written from my mouth, the words of the Eternal in the ears of the people in the Eternal's house upon the fasting day . . . It may be they will present their supplication before the Eternal, and will return every one from his evil

way . . . and Baruch the son of Neriah *did* according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, *reading* in the book the words of the Eternal in the *Eternal's house*" (v. 5-8).

The people heard it, and also one of the princes who was present. He carried the message to other princes, whereupon they sent Jehudi (v. 14) to tell Baruch to come to them. He arose, took the scroll in his hand and began to read it to them. They then *told the king* (v. 20).

Now notice what happened! "So the king sent Jehudi to fetch the roll, and he took it out of Elishama the scribe's chamber. And Jehudi *read it* in the ears of the king, and in the ears of all the princes which stood beside the king. Now the king sat in the winter house in the ninth month, and there was a fire on the hearth burning before him. And it came to pass, that when Jehudi had read three or four leaves [columns] he cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until *all the roll was consumed* in the fire that was on the hearth" (v. 21-23). The king then commanded (v. 26) that Baruch and Jeremiah be seized. However, they escaped, being hidden of God.

Stop and think for a moment. God had revealed a message to Jeremiah. Jeremiah had caused the message to be WRITTEN. The message had then reached *all the people*. Then *all the princes* heard it. Finally, it reached the KING! On this occasion, unlike Nineveh, neither the king, the princes, nor the people repented!

However, the purpose of the prophecy was *fulfilled*—wasn't it? Everyone had HEARD, orally, the *exact words* of this amazing prophecy *read in their own ears!*

But—IF the whole purpose of this prophecy had *already been fulfilled*, and if there was not a DUAL application—if there was not yet a FUTURE fulfillment of this prophecy—*THEN WHY DID GOD CAUSE EVERY WORD TO BE WRITTEN THE SECOND TIME?*

"Then the word of the Eternal came to Jeremiah, AFTER that the king had burned the roll, and the words which Baruch wrote at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying, 'Take thee again *another roll*, and write in it ALL THE FORMER WORDS that were in the *first* roll, which Jehoia-

kim the king of Judah hath burned'" (Jer. 36:27-28).

Do you see? God caused every single word and other words besides to be WRITTEN the second time! He caused Jonah to *write* the prophecy even though the city repented. *God wanted these words preserved!* God wanted them to come right on down to our time—*now!*

Written for OUR DAY!

The very PURPOSE for *writing* one single word of prophecy is to *preserve* the prophecies for future generations! God saw to it, even by intervening in a Divine miracle, that His sacred words were to be *preserved* to all generations.

Here's *part* of the reason: "Now these things were *our examples*, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted" (I Cor. 10:6). God caused these prophecies to be written for our examples, *today!* "Now *all these things* happened unto them for examples, and they are WRITTEN for *our admonition*, upon whom the ends of the world are come" (I Cor. 10:11).

God caused the prophecies to be written to SHOW His servants how world conditions would work out. "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto Him, to *show unto His servants* things which must shortly come to pass, and He sent and signified it by His angels unto His servant John" (Rev. 1:1).

Why? So His servants in *this* modern age can come to *understand* the prophecies, *preaching* and *publishing* them to the modern nations for whom they were intended! *Read Ezekiel 33!*

God makes an ironclad promise that He will NOT cause any major world condition to occur, that He will not intervene in world affairs, unless *His servants*—those who are members of the very body of Jesus Christ—know about it *first!* "Surely the Lord Eternal *will do nothing* but He REVEALETH His secret unto His servants the prophets" (Amos 3:7).

One full third of the Bible is prophecy—and about 90% of all that prophecy still pertains to OUR DAY—*right now!*

The Amazing Prophecy of Ezekiel

Notice what happened to Ezekiel! ". . . I was among the *captives* by the

River of Chebar . . . and I saw visions of God" (Ezek. 1:1). *Read* the first chapter of Ezekiel! Here is a picture of the very throne of the One who later became Jesus Christ! Ezekiel saw a great whirlwind (v. 4) in the midst of which were four living creatures (v. 5), carrying, over their heads, an expanse of translucent material (v. 22) the color of glass, or crystal. On this expanse of beautiful, crystal-like material, was a throne! (v. 26).

Seated on the throne was One "as the appearance of a man above upon it, and I saw as the color of amber, as the appearance of fire round about within it, from the appearance of His loins even upward [compare with Rev. 1:13-16] and from the appearance of His loins even downward, I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and it had brightness round about . . . THIS WAS *the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord!*" (Ezek. 1:26-28).

Ezekiel then heard a voice (chapter 1:28) and the voice said, "Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee . . . and He said unto me, 'Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel . . . I do send thee unto them, and thou shalt say unto them **THUS SAITH THE LORD ETERNAL**'" (Ezek. 2:1-4).

Ezekiel was being sent with a message by the Eternal, the *Lord* of the Old Testament—who *is* Jesus Christ of the New Testament!

But Ezekiel was *in captivity*. He was sent to the House of Israel! He was also given prophecies against the Ammonites (25:2), against Moab (25:8), against Edom (25:12), against the Philistines (25:15), against Tyre (26:2-3). Against Egypt (29:2)—and against other nations, a great distance from his location in Babylon.

But Ezekiel was *in captivity*. The word of the Eternal came to him, giving him these messages—commissioning him to warn these specific nations!

But Ezekiel was *never released* to GO to these nations!

A Captive Jew

Imagine it! Picture, if you can, a young Jewish lad in a concentration camp in Germany, during World War II. Let's suppose Almighty God reveals to him startling visions, symbolizing

what is to happen to Egypt, Japan, Great Britain and the United States! God tells him to "get you unto Egypt, Japan, Britain and the United States."

Are his German captors going to *believe* he has received such a message? Even if they DID—is it feasible they would *let him go*, in order to travel all about the world during a time of warfare, reaching the leaders of these nations? Even if he COULD feasibly travel from place to place, is it possible anyone with such a message, claiming to be a prophet sent from God, would be ushered right into the White House of the President of the United States, into the Imperial Palace in Tokyo, or to No. 10 Downing Street in London?

Of course not!

Ezekiel never reached these nations!

Instead, he *WROTE* the prophecies!

Do you realize that Ezekiel, a young captive Jew, in a veritable "concentration camp" in Babylon, was given prophecies toward *Israel* over 120 years *after Israel had already gone into a captivity?* And that He *never reached* the Israelites with the message?

Ezekiel saw visions of impending destruction upon Israel "in the fifth day of the month, which was the fifth year of *King Jehoiachin's captivity*" (Ezek. 1:2-3). Jehoiachin went into captivity in 596 B.C. The fifth year brings us to about 592 B.C., or over 125 years *after* the removal of the last of the remaining Northern tribes, 718-721 B.C.!

If you have not yet seen the startling identity of Israel *PROVED*, write immediately for Mr. Armstrong's booklet *The United States and the British Commonwealth in Prophecy!*

Ezekiel's prophecy *never, in all history* until *NOW*, reached the ears of the nations, peoples, or kings for whom the messages were intended!

Rather, Ezekiel *WROTE* these amazing prophecies! He wrote them—because God was intending to *PRESERVE THEM*—for our day!

Prophecy is *DUAL!* Notice the *theme* of duality running throughout the Bible. There was the first man Adam, and the second Adam, who was Christ (I Cor. 15:45-47). There is the Old Testament, and the New Testament. There was the Old Jerusalem and a new heavenly Jerusalem. Study Matthew 24! Here, Jesus

ДА, ТАКЖЕ НА РУССКОМ
ЯЗЫКЕ!

Следующие брошюры вышли из печати:

"СУЩЕСТВУЕТ ли БОГ?"
"ДОСТОВЕРНОСТЬ БИБЛИИ"
"ДЛЯ ЧЕГО ВЫ БЫЛИ РОЖДЕНЫ?"

Высылаются бесплатно лицам которые обращаются за ними для самих себя.

Пишите по адресу:

THE WORLD TOMORROW
Russian Department
Box 111
Pasadena, California

answered the questions of the disciples about the *end of the age*, and His imminent return! Many believe Matthew 24 was totally *FULFILLED* in 70 A.D. at the destruction of Jerusalem. This is entirely baseless! They must believe, by this assumption, Jesus was a liar! But Christ *did not lie*—what happened in part in 70 A.D. was merely a *forerunner*, a former *type* of the *REAL FULFILLMENT* of ALL the prophecies of Matthew 24!

Ezekiel's prophecies are also *DUAL!* And the real, *LITERAL* fulfillment of the prophecies of Ezekiel are right ahead of us—*NOW!*

HOW to Understand Prophecy!

There are definite *keys* to the understanding of Biblical prophecy. Most have never understood what those keys are! The keys to prophecy have become lost!

Of *great* importance is the modern *identity* of the nations mentioned in Bible prophecy.

Also, in ancient times, when a prophet of God came to a king (such as Nineveh) the message was sometimes *believed*, and a great *REFORM* effected. From time to time, as God sent judges, and prophets, there were certain *reforms* carried out in Israel. At least *SOME* kings of Israel *recognized* these prophets spoke, *not* according to their own cleverly devised human reasoning, but according to the Divinely inspired *words*

of God! Notice how totally DIFFERENT we are today!

You know national leaders today would look upon preaching the prophecies of what God says is going to

happen as mere fanaticism. They would spurn, scorn, ridicule and scoff at any mention of "Biblical prophecy."

Today, prophecy seems to be a weird, fanatical sort of "religious ax-grinding,"

having no bearing on actual fact or present-day world conditions.

What a SHOCK lies ahead for world leaders!

(Please continue on page 18)

RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

TO THE U.S. & CANADA

WABC—New York—770 on dial—9:30 a.m., Sun., E.D.S.T.; 11:30 p.m., Mon. thru Sat.
 WNTA—Newark, N.J.—970 on dial—9:00 a.m. Sun.—8:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.—9:00 p.m. Sat.
 WEAW—Chicago—1330 on dial—7:00 p.m., Sundays, 7:00 a.m., Mon. thru Sat.
 WWVA—Wheeling, W. Va.—1170 on dial—10:30 a.m.; 11:15 p.m., Sun., E.D.S.T.; 10:00 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.
 WCKY—Cincinnati, Ohio—1530 on dial—5:30 a.m., Mon. thru Sat., E.D.S.T.
 WSM—Nashville, Tenn.—650 on dial—12 midnight Mon. thru Fri.; 8:30 p.m. and 1:00 a.m., Sun., C.D.S.T.
 WLAC—Nashville, Tenn.—1510 on dial—7:00 p.m., daily; 5:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat., C.D.S.T.; 10:30 a.m. Sun.
 WCAE—Pittsburgh, Pa.—1250 on dial—6:30 p.m. Sun.; 8:00 p.m., Mon. thru Sat.
 WPIT—Pittsburgh, Pa.—730 on dial—7:00 a.m. daily.
 WGUN—Atlanta, Ga.—1010 on dial—Mon. thru Sat. 11:00 a.m., Sun. 4:00 p.m.
 WMIE—Miami, Fla.—1140 on dial—8:30 a.m. Sun.; 11:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 WGBS—Miami, Fla.—710 on dial—10:30 a.m. Sun.
 CKLW—Windsor, Ontario—800 on dial—7:00 p.m. Sundays.
 WJBK—Detroit, Mich.—1500 on dial—9:30 a.m., Sun.
 KLZ—Denver, Colo.—560 on dial—10:45 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sat.
 XELO—800 on dial—every night, 8:00 p.m., M.S.T., 9:00 p.m. C.S.T.
 XEG—1050 on dial—every night, 8:30 p.m. C.S.T.
 KTRH—Houston, Tex.—740 on dial 7:00 p.m., every night.
 KOMA—Tulsa, Okla.—1300 on dial—12:15 p.m., Mon. thru Sat. 9:00 p.m., Sun.
 KBYE—Okla. City, Okla.—890 on dial—10:30 a.m., Sun.; 12:30 p.m., Mon. thru Sat.
 WFAA—Dallas, Tex.—570 on dial—6:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat. At 820 on dial 9:30 a.m. & 8:30 p.m. Sun.
 KGBX—Springfield, Mo.—1260 on dial—10:30 a.m. Sunday; 6:15 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 WEW—St. Louis, Mo.—770 on dial—1:00 p.m., Sun.—12:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.

WKYB—Paducah, Ky.—570 on dial—12:00 noon, Sun. thru Sat.
 WKYR—Keyser, W. Va.—1270 on dial—5:30 a.m., daily.
 KCPX—Salt Lake City, Utah—1320 on dial—7:00 p.m. nightly except Friday at 8:00 p.m.
 KIDO—Boise, Idaho—630 on dial—9:05 p.m., daily.
 KFYR—Bismarck, N. Dak.—550 on dial—7:00 p.m. every night.
 WNAX—Yankton, S. Dak.—570 on dial—8:00 p.m. nightly.

HEARD ON PACIFIC COAST,

ALASKA AND HAWAII

KGO—San Francisco—810 on dial—9:00 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.—10:00 p.m. Sun.
 KABC—Los Angeles—790 on dial—9:30 p.m., Sun.; 7:25 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.; 8:00 p.m., Sat.
 KRKD—Los Angeles—1150 on dial—6:30 p.m., daily.
 KBLA—Burbank—1490 on dial—7:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. daily.
 XERB—1090 on dial—7:00 p.m. every night.
 XEMO—San Diego, Cal.—860 on dial—7:30 a.m. daily.
 KITO—San Bernardino—1290 on dial—7:00 p.m. daily.
 KIRO—Seattle, Wash.—710 on dial—9:30 p.m., Mon. thru Sat.
 KNBX—Seattle—1050 on dial—12:00 noon every day.
 KWJJ—Portland—1080 on dial—10:00 p.m., Sundays; 9:00 p.m., Mon. thru Sat.
 KUGN—Eugene—590 on dial—7:00 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.
 KFQD—Anchorage, Alaska—730 on dial—9:00 p.m., nightly.
 KGMB, Honolulu and KHBC, Hilo—2:30 p.m., Sun. thru Sat.

TO EUROPE

RADIO LUXEMBOURG—208 metres. Mondays and Tuesdays: 23:30 G.M.T. (in English). Sun., 6:05 M.E.T. (in German).
 RADIO MONTE CARLO—1466 kc.; 11765 and 17855 kc. and 9705 and 15380 kc.; 6:00 a.m. M.E.T. Sat. (in Russian) and Fri. (in English); 6:00 a.m. and 10:10 p.m. Wed. (in Spanish).

TO AFRICA

RADIO LOURENCO MARQUES, MOZAMBIQUE 10:00 p.m., Saturdays; 10:30 p.m., Mondays and Tuesdays.
 RADIO ELIZABETHVILLE (Belgian Congo)—OQ2AD—7150 kc., 10:00 p.m., Sun. thru Fri.

TO ASIA

RADIO BANGKOK—HSIJS—4878 kc., Monday 10:35-11:05 p.m.
 RADIO TAIWAN (FORMOSA)—BED 62—1000 kc., BED 42—1190 kc., 18:00 T.S.T., Wed. and Fri.
 RADIO OKINAWA—KSBK—880 kc. Sundays: 12:06 noon.
 ALTO BROADCASTING SYSTEM—PHILIPPINE ISLANDS 9:00 p.m. Sundays—DZAQ, Manila—630 kc.; DZRI, Dagupan City—1040 kc.; DZRB, Naga City—1060 kc.; DXMC, Davao City—900 kc.

TO AUSTRALIA

2CH—Sydney, NSW—9:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 10:15 p.m. Sat.
 2GF—Grafton, NSW—11:30 a.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 9:30 p.m. Sun.
 2GN—Goulburn, NSW—3:15 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 10:00 p.m. Sun.
 2AY—Albury, NSW—10:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 10:00 p.m. Sun.
 3AW—Melbourne, Vic—10:30 p.m. Sun.
 3BO—Bendigo, Vic—10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; 4:15 p.m. Thurs.
 4CA—Cairns, Qld—10:00 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.
 4TO—Townsville, Qld—10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 4KQ—Brisbane, Qld—10:30 p.m. Sun.
 4WK—Warwick, Qld—9:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 6GE—Geraldton, WA—10:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 9:30 p.m. Sun.
 6KG—Kalgoorlie, WA—9:45 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.
 6PM—Perth, WA—10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 10:00 p.m. Sun.
 6AM—Northam, WA—10:15 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.; 10:00 p.m. Sun.

TO LATIN AMERICA

In English—
 RADIO AMERICA—Lima, Peru—1010 kc.—6:00 p.m. Saturdays.
 HOC21, Panama City—1115 kc., HP5A, Panama City—11170 kc., HOK, Colon, Panama—640 kc., HP5K, Colon, Panama—6005 kc.—7:00 p.m., Sundays.
 In Spanish—
 RADIO LA CRONICA—Lima, Peru—7:00-7:15 P.M. Sundays
 RADIO COMUNEROS—Asuncion, Paraguay—8:00-8:15 P.M., Sundays
 RADIO SPORT—CX19—Montevideo, Uruguay—4:00-4:15 P.M., Sundays

The Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong

Mr. Armstrong's first time on the air and other experiences in the starting of this present world-wide work are recounted in this 29th installment.

ACTUALLY, this great end-time world-wide work of God had started in that little one-room country schoolhouse, eight miles west of Eugene, Oregon.

An Angry Devil

The idea of a literal, yet invisible devil of supernatural powers is looked upon askance by the "liberal" clergy, and by many of the so-called "educated" of today. But you can PROVE that the Holy BIBLE is in actual fact the inspired very WORD of the Eternal God and Creator. And the Bible reveals that there is an existent devil! It reveals also that he is, in these last days, exceedingly angry and stirred to action against the true servants of God, who keep God's commandments, and have the faith of Jesus Christ (Rev. 12:12,17).

It is also revealed that Satan's method is to deceive, and that he and his demons have power to put thoughts, suggestions, or impulses into unsuspecting human minds—unless we are alertly on guard against it.

This unseen Master Competitor had instilled into the hearts of associated ministers a spirit of competition against me, even before the actual start of this present work of God in that little Firbutte schoolhouse.

The very second time in my life I ever "preached"—if those early efforts could be called that—an opposing minister had appeared, and devoted most of his sermon to an effort to tear down what I had preached just before him. Another minister had tried to prevent my articles from appearing further in *The Bible Advocate* organ of The Church of God. A plot had been hatched by two ministers, during the Salem, Oregon, meetings, by false accusations, to discredit me and get me off the payroll of the Oregon Conference of this

church.

And now, at the very start of what was to continue steadily expanding into a world-wide force for God, Satan tried, more viciously than ever, to stop this work while it was still small. Surely no activity could have started smaller. The things of God, when the Eternal works through human instruments, must start the very smallest—like the grain of mustard seed. But they grow. No power, no grouping of power, whether satanic or human, can stop or prevent God's PURPOSE! Satan may be far more powerful than man. But God is incomparably more powerful than Satan, and the devil can do no more than God allows.

I suppose these opposing ministers *thought* they were doing right. There is a way that seems right to a man. God says these ways are wrong, and end in death. But a deceived man cannot comprehend that. I do not wish to impute motives. I could not read these men's hearts. But I do know that, regardless of intent, their actions sought at every turn to DESTROY what has proved, by its fruits, to be the true WORK OF GOD! Today, far more powerful and formidable human powers are being marshalled against it. Today, just as the Pharisees and Saducees *hated* the Gospel Jesus was preaching, so modern organized churchianity *hates* that same identical Gospel now pouring like an avalanche over every continent on earth, preparing the way before Christ's coming to RULE all nations with GOD'S LAWS.

Thus prophecy is being fulfilled!

The "Pork" Obsession

The opposition through the spring and summer of 1933 had come through the two ministers who had moved up to Oregon from California, Elders Sven (Sam) A. Oberg, and A. J. Ray. Mr.

Ray was developing, through the summer, a sort of obsession against the eating of "unclean" meats—pork, ham, bacon, sea-foods, and those labelled "unclean" in Leviticus 11. The emphasis he continually put on this doctrine, almost with vehemence, rather gave the impression that, in his eyes, the eating of pork, which came in for his greatest condemnation, was the greatest of sins.

About the time the Firbutte school meeting started, July 9, 1933, Mr. Ray began aiming his "anti-pork" guns directly at me. He demanded that I state definitely my stand on this question. I had written him a Biblical exposition of the subject, showing that it was a physical FOOD question, rather than a spiritual principle. Unless a man broke the tenth commandment by lusting after it, the eating of pork did not violate the Ten Commandments, which constitute a SPIRITUAL law.

I quoted Mark 7:15-23, where Jesus explained that sin is a spiritual principle—that which is *coming out* of the heart of a man—evil thoughts leading to actions of adultery, murder, theft, deceit, blasphemy, pride—violations of the Ten Commandments; but that *nothing* from without, *entering in* his mouth, defiles the man *spiritually*. Jesus was speaking of SPIRITUAL principles, and SIN as a *spiritual* offense.

I explained that I was well aware that the unclean animals were unclean even before the flood—not suddenly pronounced so by Moses. I also explained that I was well aware of the fact they are still unclean, and unfit for the physical digestive process; that Peter's vision of the sheeps was given, *not* to cleanse unclean animals, but to show Peter that he should not regard a Gentile MAN as unclean (Acts 10:28).

Also that I well understood that I Timothy 4:1-5 did not make unclean

foods digestible and healthful, but only those which are "creatures of God," and "sanctified" which means SET APART "by the Word of God and prayer." The Word of God does NOT sanctify the flesh of swine, or set it apart for holy use—but rather forbids its use for food. Undoubtedly millions of people have contracted disease from eating unclean meats.

But, I pointed out, it still was a PHYSICAL violation, not a spiritual sin. The Kingdom of God (Rom. 14:17) is NOT meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit—SPIRITUAL things.

And, I explained, I was commissioned to preach to the outside world *The kingdom of God*, which is NOT preaching meat and drink. I explained that neither I nor any of my family ate unclean meats; that I taught all converts not to eat unclean meats, as a matter of good health. But I asked him if he could show me by the Bible where I was in error, or any Scriptural commission to preach sermons to the unconverted on the eating of pork. It *is*, of course, physical sin—but not spiritual. I told him I refused to make this food question a subject for sermons to the unconverted, unless he could show me Scriptural grounds for so doing.

He was unable to reply. Instead, he set out with renewed zeal to discredit me and get me ousted from the ministry.

There was a ministers' meeting one Sunday afternoon, about three weeks after the Firbutte school meetings had started, at the Jeans schoolhouse, four miles west of Firbutte. Both Mr. Ray and Mr. Oberg came to talk to me. They were not friendly. Mr. Ray, especially, was wrathful.

Hatching Another Plot

Then a general business meeting of the state Conference was called for the following Sunday, at the church building in Harrisburg. I was instructed not to let the Fishers or any of the people in the Firbutte or Eugene district know about it.

I well knew the purpose of the meeting. I was having, in the one-room country schoolhouse out in this sparsely settled rural district, a larger attendance

than Mr. Oberg was having in the larger church building in the town of Harrisburg. I already had three or four conversions, he had none.

At this Meeting with Mr. Ray and Mr. Oberg, they strenuously objected to my baptizing new converts *before* I had preached to them against pork, and had evidence they had given it up. I knew that Messrs. Oberg and Ray intended to use this against me in the business meeting, as their latest trap to get me ousted from the payroll.

I must repeat that I was receiving a salary of \$3 per week! The farmer members provided my family in Salem with a certain amount of food, in addition to the salary.

I have not mentioned it before, but in April, 1933, during the Salem meetings, I had started the issuing of a monthly *Bulletin* for members of the conference. It was mimeographed. At Salem, I had hired the Bulletin printed at the local mimeograph shop. At the Fisher home, after starting the Firbutte school meetings, I had borrowed a typewriter, and the Eugene mimeograph dealer permitted me to use one of his mimeographs without charge—though I had to buy the stencils and paper. These costs were paid by the Conference treasury.

After we started the meetings west of Eugene, some people in that area had begun giving me small amounts of money occasionally, which I began to use for the expenses and mailing of this conference Bulletin.

A Letter to My Wife

During this week, between the conference with the two ministers and the business meeting at Harrisburg, I wrote a letter to my wife. I was temporarily discouraged, and I was exasperated and indignant at the tactics of these ministers, professing to be the ministers of Jesus Christ. I simply felt I had to blow off the steam of righteous indignation. Some of the human nature asserted itself.

I really "got it off my chest" in a 6-page single-spaced letter I typed to my wife on this borrowed typewriter. Then, after "getting it out of my system" I folded up the letter. But I did not mail it. I must have neglected to destroy it,

for I have run across the letter in an old dusty file. I had refrained from sending it to my wife, for I knew she would reprove me for "griping." I felt I had "murmured" like the grumbling children of Israel being led out of Egypt under Moses.

Nevertheless, although some of this letter reflects a humanness of which I was ashamed, it does give an account, written at the moment, of the very *feeling* of the situation. Therefore, I quote here from portions of it: The date, August, 1933:

"Dearest Loma: Just received your letter. What shall we do? The other ministers are all against us. All spirit of love, harmony, co-operation, and wanting to see the work go ahead in the Spirit of the Lord has departed from them. They are contentious, fighting mad, jealous, rebellious, stubborn, self-willed. I have been painted as the stormy petrel of the church. Everyone points an accusing finger at me. 'We get all the tithes,' they say (\$3 per week, plus a smaller amount in offerings handed me), 'I am the last and least of the ministers, yet I get it all' they accuse. Even the *Bulletin*—it is looked upon, not as a work of the Conference to which I am giving hard work and labor, but as my own special pet and plaything, for my personal benefit.

"Two and a half years ago I was called to hold meetings in Harrisburg. Four were brought to Christ. Then the storm arose. Letters flew thick and fast to Stanberry. An awful fuss was kicked up because my expenses were paid out of the treasury.

"Less than two years ago I remained at Umapine after Roy got angry and left, and two were brought to Christ and baptized, three brought into the church, and a Sabbath School organized. Again a great furore was raised. Letters flew over to Mr. Hobbs' son asking what authority he had to let a whipper-snapper like me use their Adventist baptistry to baptize those people.

"Now I am again working in an effort alone. Again the Lord has produced fruit, and four have been brought to repentance and conversion. I am only trying to surrender and yield myself to Christ, and follow the Scriptures. But because I humbly do this, never having

The BULLETIN of the CHURCHES of GOD in Oregon

Vol. I. No. 6

October 1, 1933

The BULLETIN comes to keep you informed, during these last days, of progress in the Lord's work in Oregon; and to bind us all closer together in the love, unity, and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ. The BULLETIN is issued, the Lord willing, the first of each month. Address news or brief testimony to Herbert Armstrong, 1142 Hall street, Salem, Oregon.

FRUITFUL MEETINGS HELD AT HARRISBURG AND FIRBURY

Since the last Bulletin, issued having the past week, July 14th, two more evangelistic campaigns, then starting, have come to a successful and fruitful close. Both campaigns started on the night, July 9th. The Harrisburg S.A.O. conducted by P.

tried to run or rule or dominate our conference or work, those who do these things are again stirring up a fuss. And now, *because* four more have been converted in these meetings, and none at Harrisburg, jealousy, strife, contention, bitterness, hard feelings are stirred up, and again I am painted as a culprit who is always doing something wrong.

"These others want to fight, contend, boss, dictate and run things. The things they do are CONTRARY to the Scriptures and a Christian life. Why don't THEY get out and DO something that will show RESULTS? Through whose work are the RESULTS coming?

"I have tried my best to suffer it all for Christ's sake. I have been called on the carpet while these my peers sit in solemn and stern judgment. I am constantly treated like a whipped pup, always having to account for my faults, my shortcomings and mistakes. No one else has any. No one else is ever called down. No one else would suffer it and take it! The Bible says 'BE YE KIND ONE TO ANOTHER.' I have tried to be kind to every one of them and have never said a cross word. But they have not been kind to me.

"Everything I do is wrong. When God is producing real fruit through my work, then that comes in for the harshest criticism of all. Other ministers may live every day of their lives in plain adultery, with women not their wives,

in violation of the Ten Commandments; their 'wives' can carry on romances with other men and be caught at it; these other ministers can be stern, harsh, unkind, cruel, dictatorial, violate literal commands of the Scriptures, but do they ever get criticized? They are able to have better clothes than we, plenty to eat, while we sacrifice, go without, see our children go hungry, see their little bodies become skinny for lack of food, take these men's abuse in a meek and humble spirit, and try to bear it for Christ's sake. I have almost borne it past the breaking point!

"I am told not to let Fishers know of the business meeting next Sunday. They must not be there. All who will vote for that pork resolution will be there. Those who might by my friends and back me are to be barred. Is this honest? Can this kind of work prosper? Can God bless this kind of politics? The quicker we separate from such ministers the better. God *will* honor a work carried on in the spirit our work is being conducted in. If these men could come to their senses, and repent of the way they have acted—of continually wanting me to get on my knees before them and grovel at their feet, and apologize to them for things I never did, and even for being used in winning souls to Christ, and following the Lord's commands and instructions to baptize them—then the Spirit of Christ could

The Bulletin as it appeared in October, 1933.

Below, news item in Oregon Conference Bulletin, Vol. I, No. 2, dated May 22, 1933, reporting Mr. Armstrong's chopping a year's fuel supply, as covered in the April installment.

Herbert Armstrong spent most of the past week at the home of Milas Helms, near Dever, getting down a years' supply of wood. We gratefully thank God for the hospitality, the interest, and the assistance of brethren like Milas, and A. J. Ray, and Yancy McGill, who make it possible for our ministers to have their needs supplied. These, and Brother and Sister Ryncorn, in the Salem district, have all done more than their share to see that the work is carried on.

come into our midst, and He could do something with our body.

"Now what shall we do? Brother Ray said with quite a little feeling during our Sunday ministers' conference that he is tired of going without his minister's expense allowance of \$10 a month, and that he was right then on his last trip with his car until the expenses were paid. He had the figures of every dime that has gone to us. He was saying things about all the money going to me, when he said this. I feel I ought to tell the Board of the Conference that I will continue on ONE CONDITION ONLY—and that is that we receive NOT ONE PENNY out of the

treasury until Sam and Bro. Ray have had their full share *first*. At the same time I will insist that both Bro. Oberg and Bro. Ray turn in to Florence (Mrs. Curtis, the treasurer) a record of EVERY DIME they receive, no matter from what source, just as I do—whether from California, Oregon, or elsewhere. As long as they are in the employ of the Conference, every dime ought to be reported or turned in. I am through having them receive money from California and elsewhere, as they do, that is never shown on the Conference books, while every cent we get is there shown. Bro. Fisher gave me \$5. He got a receipt from Florence, and every cent I get shows on the Conference books. No record of what Sam receives appears on the books, and only very few KNOW that he is getting tithes from outside, and no one knows how much or from whom. I know two families who have been giving him their tithes. Neither of them turn in anything to the treasury.

"Well, we must not resent these things. They ARE injustices. It is hard to bear, Loma. It is humiliating. Do we have to go on longer suffering this, letting them consider us as a charity case on their hands, a burden, just a scapegoat—does God want us to continue on with them—or does He want us to resign, so He can start thru us a work He can prosper? He can never prosper our Conference work as long as our people show the present spirit. I suppose I should not be writing in this way. I was up to the rock (my prayer rock atop a little mountainous hill) day before yesterday and cast this whole thing on the Lord. I know that He will work it all out His way. Our attendance was only 30 Sunday night, and fell to 17 Monday night, the lowest of the meetings. Everything looked black, with all these other troubles. It drove me up to the rock. I asked God to forgive and help, and revive interest in the meetings, and to send another large attendance that night. I also asked Him to hold Mike's truck for him, and to work out Sam and Madelene's troubles for them. I was so sure of the answer I told Fishers we would have a large attendance that night. We did. 45 came out—ten having to stand.

"I should not have written the things

I have here, or felt the things I could not help feeling when I received your letter. I just came to my room, sat down, and since have been writing out just what was going thru my mind. Guess I'll go up to the rock again, and just trust God. You have time to answer by return mail, before the meeting Sunday."

That is a portion—and the essence—of the letter. I knew I should not have written it—for in it I was complaining. I did not send it. I did go up the hill to my prayer rock, and get the complaining out of my heart. There it came to my mind that I should prepare a *written* defense of my action in baptizing the four so far converted at Firbutte. I have reproduced the substance of that letter here, because it pictures, better than I can with words now, the persecution we had to battle. Satan wanted this work stopped before it started.

Note the prophecy in this item reproduced from Vol. 1, No. 2 of the Bulletin. This prophecy came true. The Bulletin was fore-runner to The PLAIN TRUTH, which started February 1, 1934. Today its circulation is close to a quarter million copies, world-wide.

But the truth is, God never *did* prosper the work of that conference. With the Church then being raised up at Eugene, He DID start a work through us which He could, AND DID, PROSPER! He is still prospering it in a mighty way!

The "All-Day Wrangle"

Mr. Fisher drove me to the business meeting at Harrisburg on Sunday morning. But he, being excluded, returned home.

Both Mr. Ray and Mr. Oberg had their fighting tempers on. This time they were determined to have me put out of the conference. One of them preached an hour and a half or two hours in the morning—until noon—in one long tirade against me. The other followed in the afternoon session, with another two-hour denunciation of my baptizing people on repentance and faith, *before* they

Page 3 The BULLETIN

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE

To The BULLETIN:

I wish to express my thanks for the first issue of the Bulletin, which I truly enjoyed reading. It must be a wonderful help to isolated members who have no way of co-operating with the brethren. I wish to thank all isolated members for their help in the Lord's work, which has made it possible for this little Bulletin to come forth. The Scriptures say that the "Gospel must first be PUBLISHED among all nations." (Mark 13:10). Who knows? This may be the starting point of a wonderful publishing enterprise in the Lord's work. And we do want your prayers that the Lord might lead in this and the other Gospel work.

Yours in Him,
Milas Helms.

TO THE BULLETIN FAMILY:

The
and Sister
Oregon (C
Oberg, v
store for
John 14:
at the F
fell upon
her and
Dur
led by F
manifest
Sister F
impress
eyes. Af
Hobbs ex
ing he c
Those pr
services
day at C
On
afternoon
upon a y
along th
She was
dren, wh

had been given a complete education about God's Law, and before they had been instructed against eating pork. As usual, not much Scripture was given—but emotional arguments based on human reasoning, and worked up to a high pitch.

I knew they had swayed some of the brethren into believing I had done wrong in baptizing these people.

I then asked to be allowed to defend myself, and present the Scriptural reasons why I baptized as I did, FOLLOWING SCRIPTURAL TEACHING. Immediately Messers Oberg and Ray were on their feet in protest.

"If Brother Armstrong is allowed to speak, he will take up too much time," they argued.

"I anticipated that," I replied. "I have my reply to these long speeches by Brother Ray and Brother Oberg typewritten. I have timed it. It takes exactly 15 minutes to read it. Are you going to allow these men *hours*—all morning and afternoon—to accuse me, and then refuse me even 15 minutes to answer their accusations, and show BY THE SCRIPTURES, who is right?"

On promise I would not take up more than 15 minutes' time, I was allowed to read my defense.

In brief it was this: The natural, unconverted mind cannot understand the Bible, and is not subject to the Law of God, neither indeed can be. There is no *promise* in the Bible God will give His Holy Spirit to anyone prior to baptism—even though He did in the case of Cornelius (Acts 10:44-48). God's order is, 1) REPENT, 2) BE BAPTIZED as a symbol of FAITH in Christ, and 3) receive the Holy Spirit. Repentance means unconditional SURRENDER to God, and to God's will and His way, or whatever He commands. It means having the rebellion in the human heart against obedience to God BROKEN. It means utter submission to GOD, and to *whatever* He instructs in His Word. Those I had baptized had REPENTED.

In Matthew 28:19-20, God's order is, 1) Go and preach the Gospel (compare with Mark's version, same words of Jesus, Mark 16:15), 2) baptizing those who REPENT and BELIEVE; then, after that, 3) teach them to observe the COMMANDMENTS. Since people cannot

of our old
splendid
Praise God for placin
among us.

The conference is very much in need
of a mimeograph machine for printing the
Bulletin and certain of the tracts to be
published. Heretofore we have had to rent
the use of machines, and hire the work done
which is both unsatisfactory and unhandy.
A suitable machine will cost in the neigh-
borhood of \$30. Send special offerings to
Florence Curtis.

The Church needed its own equipment to increase its effectiveness. From the July 14, 1933 Bulletin.

fully comprehend the truth of the Commandments and the teaching of the Bible until AFTER they receive the Holy Spirit, and since there is no promise God will give the Holy Spirit until after baptism, therefore I baptized them after repentance and faith, just as the Bible instructs—and *then*, after laying on hands with prayer for their receiving of the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:12, 14-17; Acts 19:5-6; I Tim. 4:14; II Tim. 1:6, etc.), I taught them God's Commandments, and not to eat unclean meats, etc. Every convert I had ever baptized had obeyed all these truths as soon as I taught them. They were submissive, teachable, yielded to God, hungry for His truth. The KNOWLEDGE of the Lord is something to teach *converted* people whose minds are opened by God's Spirit. We must continually GROW in this knowledge.

The Double Cross

As soon as I finished, Mr. Fisher's car had arrived to take me back to the Firbutte schoolhouse for the evening meeting. I was forced to leave immediately. Under the circumstances, I asked the Board members and ministers if they would postpone any action until another meeting when I could be present. To this they agreed.

About half of the brethren present were very plainly on my side. As I left

the church, this half rose and walked outside to assure me of their sympathy, and that they would resist any action against me.

But as soon as I and all who would support me had gone outside, Messers Ray and Oberg broke their word! They immediately offered a resolution that I be required, if I remained in the conference, to baptize people their way instead of the Scriptural way, and those remaining inside the church building were swayed into voting for it.

And THAT was the severance from all direct connection with even the Oregon Conference of what historic records identify as the "Sardis" era of the Church of God, as revealed in Revelation 3:1-6; and the BEGINNING of the "Philadelphia" era of God's Church.

As soon as I heard of the action taken, I immediately wrote a letter cancelling the \$3 per week salary, and suggesting they give it to Messrs. Oberg and Ray, or else go throw it in the Pacific Ocean! I did not resign from the Conference, nor was I put out. But I refused further salary.

"As for me and my house," I then said firmly, "we shall serve the Eternal our God, and Him ONLY shall we serve. If MEN pay us a salary—even as small as \$3 per week—we have now learned we must preach only what MEN order us to preach. If we are to WORK FOR GOD we must look to God as our EM-

The Churches of God in Oregon stand upon the threshold of a year of mighty growth and accomplishment, if we can all yield sufficiently to the Lord, continuing the present spirit of LOVE one to another, and growing in the Spirit and in power for service by devoting a great deal more time to earnest prayer.

BULLETIN ONCE A MONTH NOW

The Bulletin will be issued only once a month for the time being, in order to economize on expenses. However, this makes it possible to enlarge it somewhat beginning with the next issue, the cost of two or three extra pages being very slight.

Another episode in the development of the early work of the Church in 1933, reprinted from the Bulletin.

PLOYER, AND TRUST HIM TO SUPPLY OUR EVERY MATERIAL NEED. And then," I added, "if we fail to serve Him as HE commands, He will stop our income." I wrote my wife to this effect.

It may seem like a step that required great courage to give up even a \$3-a-week income, when that was all we had. Of course, a few offerings were by this time being handed to me personally—but they were usually a dollar or less, and averaged less than the \$3 weekly salary. But it really did not require any great courage. My wife and I knew we were obeying and serving God. We knew He was using us. The FRUITS being borne were loud testimony of this. Therefore we knew, in perfect faith, God would supply our need.

The First Broadcast

The six weeks' meetings in the one-room Firbutte schoolhouse came to a close on Sunday night August 20, 1933. A total of more than 20 had come with us—but this apparently included the ten members of the Fisher and Ellis families, members of the Church before the meetings started.

The October 1, 1933 Bulletin carries the report that "with the Fisher and Ellis families, more than 20 signified their desire to establish a new Sabbath-keeping Church of God in this district."

Late in September someone brought to my attention the fact that the local

radio station at Eugene, KORE, then the very smallest minimum-power of 100 watts, had a Morning Devotional program scheduled, but that they were having difficulty getting local ministers to conduct the program. It was free time, carried by the station as a public service sustaining program, of 15 minutes, 7:45 to 8:00 A.M.

Immediately I went to the radio station. A woman secretary told me she felt sure they would be glad to have me take the program for a week. I was to call back later for the exact date.

On my second call I was assigned the week of October 9th.

October 9th was surely a great big day in my life—the day of my very first experience before a microphone, ON THE AIR!

I took this opportunity very seriously. It was an opportunity to speak to several HUNDRED people at once! I had never spoken to that many before.

I spent the preceding week preparing rather extensive notes and script. I might never again have such an opportunity, so I decided to strike directly at the very heart of the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. Since the Kingdom of God is based on the promises made to Abra-

ham, I began, on Monday morning's program, with the PROMISES made to Abraham.

"Mike-Fright"

I had heard a lot about everybody getting "mike-fright" the very first time on the air. I wondered if I would experience this. It was probably the most exciting adventure of my life.

On Monday morning I arrived at the radio studio early. The announcer did not come into the studio until ten or fifteen seconds before 7:45.

Mike-fright? Why, I thought to myself, I'm calm and cool as a cucumber!

"Listen!" I said quietly but quickly to the announcer. "I've never been on the air before. If you have any instructions, you'd better give them to me in a hurry. We have only 10 seconds!"

He looked at me disdainfully, and a little bored.

"Just stand up there in front of the mike, and start talking as soon as I announce you," he replied.

About three seconds later he announced me. While he was giving this very brief announcement on the air, I thought, "Well, I don't have any mike-

(Please continue on page 30)

This small announcement in the Bulletin records the invitation extended by KORE to Mr. Armstrong to speak on radio.

BULLETIN October 1, 1933

GOSPEL MESSAGE TO GO OUT OVER THE AIR

An invitation has come to the editor to broadcast the message of the Gospel of the Kingdom each morning for one week over radio station KORE, Eugene, operating on a wave length of 1440 kilocycles, at 7:45 each morning. The date has not been definitely decided, but probably will be the week beginning October 9th.

OTTO HAEBER SUFFERS BROKEN LEG AND ARM
fell in August Otto

The Fifth Commandment

WHY so much juvenile delinquency? WHY so much disrespect for all law and constituted authority? The true answer is found in this fifth installment of a series expounding God's Ten Commandments.

by Roderick C. Meredith

YOUTHFUL *violence and insolence* characterize the age in which we live. Broken homes are increasing. Teen-age crime is literally *sky-rocketing!*

Senator Thomas C. Hennings, Jr., chairman of a Senate subcommittee to investigate juvenile delinquency, recently stated: "Although our child population has increased only 25 per cent from 1948 to 1957, appearances before juvenile courts have increased almost 150 per cent in the same period. *This is a shocking situation.*"

Why Youthful Crime?

One of America's most respected authorities on juvenile problems, Judge Samuel S. Leibowitz, set out to find the answer to the frustration of America's youth. He decided to go to the Western nation with the *lowest* reported incidence of juvenile crime, Italy.

He sought the answer from police and school officials throughout the nation. From every part of Italy, he received the same answer: *Young people in Italy respect authority.*

Then Judge Leibowitz had to go into Italian homes to find out *why*. He found that even in the poorest home, the wife and children *respect* and *honor* the father as its head.

Judge Leibowitz found that the modern do-as-you-please, "permissive" world does not really make a child happy and balanced. Rather, he found, a child wants the solid walls of discipline and rules around him, defining his world—telling him exactly how far he can go.

Just as will be expected of him in the adult world, *a child must be DISCIPLINED to do things he does not necessarily want to do.* From babyhood, a child must be taught to *respect* and *OBEY* his parents.

Judge Leibowitz concluded his investigations with a nine word solution

to juvenile delinquency: *Put Father back at the head of the family.*

The remarkable ANSWER to juvenile problems given by this eminent authority goes deeper than might be realized. For it goes to the very *source* of the problem: *A lack of deep-seated respect for constituted authority beginning in infancy and continuing throughout life.*

This problem has its origin in childhood—in the HOME! Long before a child is even aware of the existence of the church, the school, the nation, he is forming *attitudes* and *habits* toward those who are his superiors in the nursery, the home, and the neighborhood.

Developed *from infancy*, this part of a child's character will undoubtedly affect his thoughts and actions *for the rest of his natural life!*

The Fifth Commandment

In discussing the *first four commandments*, we found that they define *man's relationship with God*. They teach us the *magnitude* of God's power and name—and exhort us to *remember* Him as Creator of all that is.

The *fifth commandment* is placed first among those which govern our human relationships. It is not only chief in importance among these when we understand its full meaning, but it acts as a "bridge" between the two sections of God's law.

For true obedience to the fifth commandment is inevitably linked with *obedience* and *honor* toward God Himself!

Our Creator knew this when He inspired it to be "the first commandment with promise."

"Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee" (Exodus 20:12).

Why "honor" our parents?

The true *answer* reveals the DEPTH of this commandment and its true import. If only EVERY *parent on earth* might come to realize the *tremendous INFLUENCE* upon a child's later life that automatically comes as a *direct result* of obedience or disobedience to this God-given command!

This commandment is one of the TEN GREAT POINTS of God's eternal, spiritual Law. Under the Old Testament dispensation, the penalty for directly and flagrantly violating this law was DEATH!

"He that smiteth his father, or his mother, shall be surely *put to death* . . . And he that curseth his father, or his mother, shall surely be *put to death*" (Exo. 21:15, 17). That is how IMPORTANT this command is in God's eyes!

The home and the *family unit* is the basis of all decent society. And the *relationship* of children to their parents is an exact type of the *spiritual relationship* between true Christians and God. The lessons of *character* learned in that relationship may last children *the rest of their lives*—and for ETERNITY!

In the eyes of a small child, a parent stands in the place of *God Himself*. For the parent is the child's provider, protector, lover, teacher and lawgiver.

A child's early training and response to this relationship will in large measure determine his later response to the larger relationships with society. And, ultimately, it is certain to affect his relationship with his spiritual Father in heaven.

Honor and Respect for Parents

The New Testament magnifies this command in many places. The Apostle Paul wrote: "*Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and thy mother, which is the first commandment with promise*" (Eph. 6:1-2).

The original command to "honor"

father and mother applies to all of us throughout our lives. But in this place *children*, specifically, are told to *obey* their parents "in the Lord."

Because of his total lack of experience and judgment, it is absolutely necessary that a child *be taught* to OBEY his parents *instantly* and *without question*. Explanations and reasons for this may and should be given to the child from time to time. But, at the moment a parental command is given, *there may not be time or opportunity to give the reason why!*

Therefore, it is imperative that a child be taught the HABIT of unquestioning *obedience* to his parents. For, until the young child develops, his parents stand to him *in the place of God*. And God holds them RESPONSIBLE for teaching and directing the child properly.

Obedience "in the Lord"

By direct implication, a parent is bound by the fifth command to *make himself* honorable. For to be honored, one must *be honorable*.

Every parent needs to realize that he *represents God* to his child! Realizing this, he should live a life *worthy* of the child's deep *respect* and *reverence*. Then, he should *teach* his child to *honor* and *respect* both of his parents.

As the child matures, the parent should *instruct* his child about the existence of the great spiritual Father of all life, the Creator of heaven and earth, the sovereign Ruler of the universe—Almighty God.

Christian parents should teach their children to *honor* and *obey* their spiritual Father with even more implicit faith and love than they do their earthly parents. For the GREATEST lesson that a child or *anyone* can be taught is that of *fear* and obedience to the One who set in motion all life in the first place!

The only stipulation placed on a child's total obedience to parents is the phrase "in the Lord." This has *no reference whatever* to the spiritual condition of the parents. From the beginnings of Christianity, young people sometimes have become truly converted while their parents have not. But, as a child develops into a youth and comes to know God personally, the instruction to obey his parents "in the Lord" may on rare oc-

casions limit his obedience toward parents who are hostile to the ways and commands of his Heavenly Parent.

In such unusual cases, if one is old enough to understand, then he is old enough to "obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:19). But, even then, he is bound to honor his parents in their role as his providers and earthly guides, and to submit to any punishment they might wish to impose.

Thus, a child will be taught the *habit of obedience*. He will learn to *respect authority*. In due time, if his mind is opened to know the Supreme FATHER of all life, he will already have learned *the very basis of God's character*—loving OBEDIENCE to God, and deep *respect* and *reverence* for all law and constituted authority.

BLESSING for Obedience

The Apostle Paul re-emphasizes the *blessing* attached to the fifth commandment: "That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth" (Eph. 6:3).

If a young person had been taught from childhood a *deep respect* for his elders and the *habit of obedience* toward those lawfully set over him, he would NEVER become a juvenile delinquent! He would NEVER think of robbing or beating an elderly person! He would NEVER think of contemptuously defying school or police authorities!

In plain language, *he would NEVER display the wilful rebellion and rottenness of character which is becoming so common among modern American and British youth!*

Obedience to the fifth commandment automatically results in the building of habits and character which tend to long life. A young person so trained will avoid the *recklessness*, the *violence*, the *wrong companionships* and the *rebellion against authority* which often result in untimely death.

And, in its ultimate meaning, those who learn to *respect* and *obey* their parents and later—because of this training—God Himself, will certainly "live long on the earth." For, as Jesus said: "Blessed are the meek (the *humble* and *obedient*): for *they shall inherit the earth*" (Mat. 5:5).

There are also many *everyday* bless-

ings to the obedient child. Certainly not the least of these is the sense of *security*. As Judge Leibowitz pointed out, a child is confused unless he is told the bounds of his activities. But if a child is told what those bounds are by his parents—and stays within them—he is then relieved of the *responsibility* which he innately realizes his parents must shoulder.

Frustration is another problem which is alleviated! The disobedient child is a *frustrated* child—for his mind is constantly plagued with feelings of *guilt* and *rebellion*.

A child who loves, honors and obeys his parents is a BLESSED child indeed! He will tend to live a more truly happy, carefree and purposeful life. And in his spiritual life, he will pass through the natural and beautiful sequence from the honoring of his parents to the joyful worshipping of his God!

Thus far we have dealt primarily with the application of the fifth commandment to children and young people. But the original command to "honor" our parents is not addressed to children—but to *everyone*.

Even Adults Should Honor Their Parents

The time may come when it is no longer necessary or right that a person should strictly obey his parents. But the days should NEVER come when he should cease to honor them.

The word "honor" has a much larger meaning than that of obedience. It indicates a *high respect* as for *worth*, *merit* or *rank*. It denotes a feeling of *high esteem* and *reverence*.

A person who has properly *obeyed* his parents in childhood later expresses his honor for them in a deeper appreciation of the comforts and training they provided him as a child. This honor expresses itself in *courtesy*, *thoughtfulness* and *kindly deeds*.

As we mature, it becomes increasingly evident that untold hours of work, of anxious thought and agonized prayer were bestowed for our welfare by faithful and loving parents. It should become the delight of every decent man and woman to *return this love which our parents created*.

In the evening of life, many parents

long for this affection and fellowship with their children more, perhaps, than for any other blessing.

Let us THINK and *act* on this opportunity to return the love our parents so freely gave!

A Common Sin

To the everlasting SHAME of our professing Christian society, thousands of elderly parents are reduced to living on a mere pittance that comes to them through governmental agencies. In all too many cases, the children are able but simply UNWILLING to provide additional comforts as generous as their ability allows.

Jesus Christ gave one of the most forceful interpretations of the fifth commandment in its application to this very problem. In His day, men were excusing themselves from providing for the necessity of their parents. They were saying that funds which might have been used in this way were "Corban," that is, dedicated to the service of the altar. These funds were *not* part of God's tithe, but rather an additional *offering* which was used to gain favor in approaching God.

Reproaching these hypocritical religionists, Jesus said: "Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition. For Moses said, Honor thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death" (Mark 7:9-10).

Now notice how these hypocrites "reasoned" their way around this commandment!

Jesus continued: "But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, *It is Corban, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me;* he shall be free. And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother; Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition . . ." (verses 11-13).

Jesus CONDEMNED these hypocrites! His words plainly teach that a Christian person MUST give material and financial assistance to his aged parents if it is possible and their needs so require. He must NOT excuse himself by saying that all his extra funds are "dedicated to God"!

This is a part of our obedience to the fifth commandment.

Jesus' Own Personal Example

Jesus Christ LIVED the message He taught. His own personal life is a dramatic illustration of *obedience* to the fifth commandment.

Just before His death, Jesus said: "I have kept my Father's commandments" (John 15:10). Through *obedience* to His heavenly Father, and to his human parents as well, Jesus grew in *wisdom* and *maturity* even as a youth.

Speaking of His childhood, Luke records: "And the child grew, and waxed *strong in spirit*, filled with WISDOM: and the *grace* of God was upon him" (Luke 2:40).

Then we read the remarkable account of His trip to Jerusalem for Passover at age twelve. After the days of unleavened bread, His parents started the trip home without Him—supposing Jesus was with neighbors or relatives (verses 43-44).

This in itself shows that Jesus' parents relied on His dependability and good judgment—supposing He was with other young people in the caravan as the group headed back toward Nazareth. As parents, Joseph and Mary had learned to TRUST His obedience and wisdom.

But now, perplexed about Him, perhaps, for the first time in their lives, they turned back and finally found Jesus. They did NOT find Him in a pool-hall, nightclub or place of amusement!

They found Him in God's temple, "sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions" (verse 46). He had remained to investigate and learn more of the ways of His *heavenly* Father!

Jesus' Wisdom as a Youth

Remember, He was only *twelve* years old. But His parents had instructed Him from *God's Word*. And He had HEEDED their instruction! He had STUDIED diligently. He had GROWN in the knowledge and understanding of God's ways.

Now, even in the midst of these highly educated doctors of the law, Luke writes: "And all that heard him were *astonished* at his UNDERSTANDING and his answers" (verse 47).

When Jesus' mother asked Him why He had remained behind in this way, He said: "How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my

Father's business?" (Luke 2:49.)

Jesus undoubtedly gave special emphasis to some of these words. "Didn't YOU know, Mother—you who have always taught me about God—that I must be about His business?"

There must have been a special understanding between them when Jesus said: "I must be about my *Father's* business," as He looked at Joseph and Mary. For it had been a long time now since His supernatural conception and birth, and Jesus may have been gently reminding His human guardians that He fully understood, more than they had realized, the nature of His birth and that His real Father was God in heaven!

Honor to the Very End

But although gently reminding them of this, "he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them" (verse 51). So Jesus continued to *respect* and OBEY His human parents while maturing physically and preparing for His Divine mission in behalf of His heavenly Father.

Even in His dying moments, *while suffering one of the most agonizing deaths ever devised by men*, Jesus HONORED and loved His mother to the very end.

Just before He died on the stake, John records: "When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home" (John 19:26-27).

Here Jesus made final provision for His mother to be taken care of by John after His death. At a time when the thoughts of all other men would have been of *self*, Jesus still remembered the fifth commandment and extended *love* and *honor* to the woman who bore Him, who had nourished Him from infancy, who had taught Him from the scriptures, and who now stood in this awful place—unafraid and unashamed—weeping at His death.

REMEMBER the *perfect example* of Jesus Christ!

"Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land

which the Lord thy God giveth thee."

Next month, we will expound the sixth commandment: "Thou shalt not kill." Don't miss this vital article in this continuing series expounding the Ten Commandments of Almighty God.

Why Prophecy?

(Continued from page 8)

YOU CAN understand Biblical prophecy. Here's how: God told Daniel the words which he had received were *closed* and *sealed*—but only UNTIL a certain time. Read it! "And he said, 'Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed TILL the time of the end! Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried, but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the WISE SHALL UNDERSTAND'" (Dan. 12:9-10).

Who are the "wise"? God says "the fear of the Eternal is the BEGINNING of knowledge" (Prov. 1:7). Wisdom comes from God! "For the Eternal giveth wisdom, out of His mouth cometh knowledge and understanding" (Prov. 2:6).

The way to get wisdom—to come to *understand* the Bible prophecies—is to FEAR (be in awe of) Almighty God! "Thus saith the Eternal, The heaven is My throne, and the earth is My footstool: where is the house that you build unto Me? and where is the place of My rest? For all those things have Mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the Eternal: but to *this man* will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and TREMBLETH at My word!" (Isa. 66:1-2).

The mere BEGINNING of wisdom is to fear God. Next, one must learn to *respect*, to *fear*, to TREMBLE before the Divinely inspired *word of God!*

Today people say, "Well, I know the Bible says that—but here's the way I look at it!" People do not seem to really *fear* to misapply, to misinterpret, wrest, distort and twist the sacred word of God! People do not really RESPECT the Divinely inspired words of Almighty God!

That's why people don't understand the Bible! You can come to understand the Bible, and Biblical prophecy, ONLY when you begin to really FEAR and

RESPECT *what the Bible says!*

The apostle Paul said, "The natural man receiveth not the things of the spirit of God, for they are foolishness unto him, NEITHER CAN HE KNOW THEM, because they are *spiritually discerned*" (I Cor. 2:14). The disciples of Jesus Christ couldn't even understand the simplest parables which Jesus taught them privately! However, AFTER they had been *converted*, after they had received the Holy Spirit of God, then they UNDERSTOOD!

It is only when one has truly come to fear God, to OBEY God, has REPENTED, and received God's Holy Spirit, that true *understanding* of the prophecies of God can come.

What Prophecy Means to You!

Jesus Christ commissioned His Church to preach the gospel of the kingdom of God to all the world as a WITNESS (Matt. 28:18-20; Matt. 24:14). The gospel is prophetic! It has to do with present-day world news, and the FUTURE of this whole earth!

The *whole meaning* of the gospel is PROPHETIC. Jesus Christ said, "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that you may be accounted worthy to *escape* all these things which shall come to pass [that are *prophesied*—that are to happen in the FUTURE] and to stand before the Son of Man!" (Luke 21:36).

You need to come to UNDERSTAND prophecy! Only by understanding the *prophecies* of the Bible can you intelligently WATCH—and Jesus meant watch *world news*. When you KNOW, in *advance*, what is GOING to happen—then you can be a real watchman of Almighty God! That's *why* God caused the prophecies to be recorded—to *warn* the world NOW!

Keep reading the *Plain Truth* maga-

Une Offre Speciale

Vient de paraître—le *Tome Premier* de "LA BIBLE RACONTEE AUX ENFANTS." Ce beau volume, composé de 12 chapitres, est offert *gratuitement* à ceux qui nous en font la demande.

Prière de s'adresser à:

LE MONDE A VENIR
P.O. Box 111
Pasadena, California

zine! Don't miss a single *World Tomorrow* program! Write for *every* booklet you hear advertised! *Study your Bible*—PRAY for God to give you an obedient, humble, submissive mind—giving you more and more a deep, respectful, AWE of the word of God! You can't afford NOT to—your very *life*—your FUTURE is at stake!

MESSAGE TO SENIORS

(Continued from page 4)

provides the means by which students defray their expenses. And, they are actually *helping to build their college!* In this they take a good deal of pride, and receive much joy!

It is really thrilling to see constant growth and improvement and progress in the physical plant of the college—as well as constant spiritual and cultural and mental development and progress in the students! Every month there is something NEW!

On the Pasadena campus we have our own full-time carpenter crew; our own modern new cabinet-making shop and staff of expert cabinet makers; our own licensed electricians; our own paving and cement crews; our own department of painters, plasterers, wallpaper hangers; our own plumbers.

Already at the new college in England we have a crew of carpenters and one of painters and one of gardeners. Under these experienced full-time department heads we employ part-time students. They experience great satisfaction in assisting, and having definite part in the *building* of the constantly growing college in this way. It becomes more than ever THEIR college!

Perhaps this is another reason our students will tell you that Ambassador College is the HAPPIEST place on earth!

Students interested in doing university level work are invited to write for the catalog of Ambassador College in Pasadena, and the prospectus of Ambassador College in England—and also, if you wish, for application forms. Addresses are: Box 111, Pasadena, California; and Ambassador College, Bricket Wood, St. Albans, Herts., England.

Source of Today's Religious Confusion

*Today's religious customs do not come from the Bible!
Here are the facts of their origin!*

by Dr. C. Paul Meredith

SYNOPSIS: The preceding articles have revealed amazing facts which most people are afraid to face!

An *impelling force*—Satan—working behind the scenes and *before* Christ's time, caused surprising, counterfeit religious practices to be formulated. They appeared like the genuine. They *seemed* to be Christian. Therefore they were secretly injected into the church *after* the time of the apostles.

These pagan practices have made it very difficult for each generation *after* Christ's time to discern and to follow the true ways to Salvation—the ways that *God* has commanded.

Why have old pagan religious practices, whose origins date usually from a period centuries before the time of Moses, such a vital INFLUENCE ON OUR LIVES *today*?

PATTERNED IN ADVANCE of Christ's Coming

The world just after the flood knew and understood that a Savior was to come (Gen. 3:15). After the death of Nimrod, the mighty leader and founder of civilization after the flood, his wife Semiramis succeeded him. *Babylon*—a word which means "confusion" (Gen. 10:8-10; 11:1-9)—was the home of this powerful family. Semiramis wanted to gain prestige so she could retain the large holdings which her husband had gained by war. She palmed one of her illegitimate sons off as the coming Savior and made herself the "Virgin Mother."

The Devil knew the *confusion* he could create by duplicating IN ADVANCE the teachings of Christ. So he inspired Semiramis to formulate a great number of clever teachings. These have an amazing similarity to the ones which Christ proclaimed when he came bringing the good news of the kingdom of God.

In each of her ideas AN EVIL TWIST IS

FOUND. These twists benefited her, and they benefit the Devil to this very day! After Christ came, these pagan ideas became mixed with His own, and this has thrown the world into great religious confusion.

THE VERY FACT, HOWEVER, THAT WE ARE NOW AWARE THAT THE VAST MAJORITY OF THESE CONFUSING DOCTRINES COME FROM ONE SOURCE MAKES IT RELATIVELY EASY TO QUICKLY TRACE THEM DOWN AND TO FIND WHETHER THEY CAME FROM GOD OR THE DEVIL. The Bible commands us to "Prove all things: Hold fast that which is good" (I Thes. 5:21). Soon Satan will, through *his* ministers, perform great wonders" so that "if it were possible, they would deceive the very elect" (Rev. 13:13 and Mat. 24:24). IT WILL PAY TO KNOW THE DEVIL'S METHODS!

PART VIII Vain Repetition of Prayers

Jesus *commands*, "WHEN YE PRAY, USE NOT VAIN REPETITIONS AS THE HEATHEN DO: FOR THEY THINK THAT THEY SHALL BE HEARD FOR THEIR MUCH SPEAKING" (Matt. 6:7). Where does this mechanical repetition and telling of prayers upon beads come from then, if it is *not* commanded of God?

The rosary (the instrument containing beads on which prayers are counted) was used as a sacred instrument among the ancient Mexicans (Humboldt's *Mexican Researches*, vol. ii, p. 29), also among the Brahmins. Hindoo sacred books refer to it often. It was used by the heathen of ancient Tibet, China, and Greece, and *ancient* Rome. (Rome *before* the time of Christ!) The name "Rosary" itself seems to be from the Chaldee (Babylonian) 'Ro,' 'thought,' and 'Shareh,' 'director'" (*Hislop*, p. 188). The very present name — Ro-sar-y — indicates that this

method came from Babylon.

The Rosary allows people to *think* that they are worshipping God but to overlook the great fact that God wants above all things that prayer should be *from the heart*.

As regards the Rosary of the Sacred Heart, the "Heart" was one of the sacred symbols of Osiris (the Egyptian Tammuz or Nimrod), when he was supposedly born again as the infant divinity, and carried in the arms of his mother Isis (the Egyptian Semiramis). Dryden's *Aeneid*, Book i. 937-940, shows *why* the heart was Osiris' symbol when he was born again: Venus (a Grecian name for Semiramis), speaking to the boy-god, her son, said, "My son, *my might* . . . To thee thy much afflicted mother flies." The son was called "the *Strength*" of his mother. "Thus the boy-god came to be regarded as the "god of the heart," or cupid or god of love.

In this Rosary of the *Sacred Heart*, therefore, it is Tammuz, the Sun-god, who is venerated—and in *our* day!

St. Valentine's Heart

Christ said: "I am the light of the world. He that followeth Me shall . . . have the light of life" (John 8:12). Through Christ's WORDS, LIGHT was shed to the people on *how* to attain eternal life. Did Satan have counterfeits formulated to correspond to this part of Christ's character? Let us see.

Nimrod being reborn as the incarnation of the SUN (the light-bringer), the "sacred heart" was frequently represented as being aflame. It became an emblem of the incarnate Son. "To be represented as a heart on fire, required also that burning lamps and lighted candles should form part of the worship of that Son" (*Hislop's The Two Babylons*, p. 191).

The Saviour is spoken of as the "Mes-

siah which is . . . Christ" (John 1:41). The word "Messiah," according to Peloubet's *Bible Dictionary*, means one who is *anointed with Holy oil*. Kings of Israel were called "anointed" from this mode of consecration. The *Saviour* was the Messiah, *the anointed one consecrated by God*.

Extreme Unction a Counterfeit of Salvation

We shall now see how Satan, knowing of the Messiah's coming—the One who would come to *make peace between mankind and God*—produced counterfeits hundreds of years before He came. It did not take Semiramis, inspired by Satan, long to incorporate this into her Mysteries and identify this title with her dead husband Nimrod:

"Among the many names of the Babylonian god (Nimrod) was the name 'Beel-samen,' 'Lord of Heaven,' which is the name of the sun. But Beel-samen also properly signified 'Lord of Oil' and was evidently intended as a synonym of the Divine name 'The Messiah.'" (Note here the subtle counterfeit of Semiramis, as inspired by the Devil, to duplicate the *real* Messiah!)

"This also accounts for the fact that the body of the Babylonian Belus (Nimrod) was represented as having been preserved in his sepulchre . . . floating in oil. And . . . at Rome the 'statue of Saturn' (Nimrod) was made hollow and filled with oil . . . As the olive branch was one of the symbols of their Messiah (Nimrod) whose great mission it was to *make peace between God and man* so, in bearing this branch of the anointed one, they thereby testified that in the *name* of that anointed one they came seeking peace" (*Hislop*, p. 165). IF ONE WAS ANOINTED WITH OIL BEFORE HE DIED, HE WAS SURE OF A GRACIOUS RECEPTION BY HIS GOD, THEY BELIEVED.

"The worshippers of this . . . 'Lord of Heaven' . . . were also anointed with 'magical ointments' . . . to fit and prepare them for being admitted *in vision*, into his awful presence . . . Thus the pagan system naturally developed into an 'extreme unction' . . . [which] *was entirely unknown among the Christians till corruption was far advanced in the Church*" (p. 166).

Extreme unction thus was being prac-

ticed by pagans hundreds of years before the great falling away from the truth occurred in the Church. It was being used to prepare those who were being initiated into the Mysteries to meet their god *in vision* in an initiation. It was also to prepare others to make their last journey into the unknown beyond.

After Christ's coming, the apostate Church, desiring to retain this pagan practice for the thousands of incoming pagans and also to pacify the professing Christians, concocted a scriptural basis: "Is any *sick* among you? Let him call the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, *anointing him with oil* . . . and the Lord shall *raise him up*" (James 5:14-15). THIS COMMAND IS OBVIOUSLY GIVEN FOR PHYSICAL HEALING AND NOT TO PREPARE MAN TO MEET THE CREATOR! This scripture was deliberately misinterpreted to allow a pagan counterfeit to masquerade as Christian. Repentance and Christ's blood make forgiveness possible. But by this pagan rite men claim to prepare one another to meet the Creator—but the rite or ceremony is only a continuation of pagan Sun-worship, worship of a false Messiah.

So those who *could have life by God's healing* COMMAND are led astray, by Satan's counterfeit, into other ways which *bring* death. They are deceived into honoring a false Messiah—into using a false method to prepare them for their final judgment!

Today this same deception is perpetuated in the name of "Christianity"!

Relic Worship of Pagan Origin

IN MANY CHURCHES TODAY THE WORSHIP OF RELICS PLAYS AN IMPORTANT PART. It is believed that, "Whenever a chapel is opened or a temple consecrated, it cannot be thoroughly complete without some relic . . . of he-saint or she-saint to GIVE SANCTITY to it . . . The grossest impostures have been practiced in regard to such relics . . . and their WONDER WORKING POWERS. . . ." In the realms of *Heathendom* the same worship had flourished for ages before Christian saints or martyrs had appeared in the world (*Hislop*, p. 176).

It was found in China, Greece, India and other places. Nimrod, it will be remembered, was cut in pieces. *Plutarch*

(vol. ii. p. 358, A), describes the search Semiramis made for these pieces, "Isis (Semiramis) set out . . . in search of the scattered members of her husband's body . . . and one reason assigned for the different sepulchres of Osiris ("Nimrod") in Egypt is that whenever any one of his scattered limbs was discovered she buried it on the spot. Not only were these Egyptian RELICS SACRED THEMSELVES, BUT THEY CONSECRATED THE VERY GROUND IN WHICH THEY WERE ENTOMBED" (Ibid. sect. 20, vol. ii. p. 359 A).

"If the places where the relics of Osiris were buried were accounted peculiarly holy, it is easy to see how naturally this would give rise to the *pilgrimages* so frequent among the heathen." In the Middle Ages such *pilgrimages* to the tombs of saints were to wash away sin (*Hislop*, p. 180).

Nowhere in the Bible are pilgrimages commanded!

Mankind spread from the *original* Babylon to all parts of the earth to form *Babylon the Great*. It is thus easy to see where today's "Great Babylon" acquired this practice. Such practices are entirely contrary to God's teachings. When a human being dies today, he *remains dead*. He cannot "sanctify," "work wonders," or "consecrate" anything. Even David, one of God's most beloved, is still dead (Acts 2:29). Only when Christ comes will the righteous *live again* (I Cor. 15:51; I Thes. 4:16). IT IS OBVIOUS WHERE THE FALSE IDEA THAT MAN CONTINUES TO LIVE AFTER HE IS DEAD COMES FROM!

Other Deceptive Counterfeits

Church government in the Middle Ages was patterned after the *Pagan* College of Pontiffs, with its "Pontifex Maximus," which had existed in Rome from the earliest times. It is known to have been framed on the model of the grand original Council of Pontiffs at *ancient Babylon*, and the keys that their human leader emblazons on his arms as the ensigns of his spiritual authority were the symbols of two well-known pagan divinities who existed at Rome before the apostate Church was ever founded—Janus (the Roman name for a god who represented *Nimrod* in one of his many forms), and Cybele (Nim-

rod's wife, Semiramis). Each of these two divinities had a key which opened the doors to the kingdom of *heaven*.

Clerical celibacy, the shaving of the heads of priests, the pontifical crosier, and the mitre were all known in *ancient* Babylon.

These are other pieces of evidence as to *what* the people of *today* are actually worshipping. DOES GOD HOLD PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE TODAY FOR WORSHIPPING THIS SYSTEM JUST BECAUSE THEY ARE DECEIVED? HE HELD OUR FOREFATHERS RESPONSIBLE FOR WORSHIPPING THIS IDENTICALLY SAME SYSTEM OF MYSTERIES EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE DECEIVED! Why wouldn't He hold *us* responsible? *He says He will!* (Rev. 18:4). *We are to come out of Babylon or we will receive of her plagues! The plagues will soon fall!*

"Mystery of Iniquity" A Secret System

As we have seen, the OPEN WORSHIP of the sun (or fire) and the snake (the Devil) was STOPPED when the righteous forces of Shem destroyed Nimrod, who had been the great power promoting this worship. SHEM FORBADE THE WORSHIP OF THESE SYMBOLS. When Semiramis started the *forbidden system* again, it *had to be* through a SYSTEM OF MYSTERIOUS SYMBOLS. We have seen that she deified her dead husband Nimrod, herself, and her son Tammuz. She associated them with great personages of the past, and set up a *system* whereby they might also be worshipped through symbols. Thus those who were *initiated* into the *meaning* of these symbols could *continue* their worship of the things which had been forbidden.

THIS MYSTERY SYSTEM BECAME THE MOST POWERFUL DECEPTIVE RELIGIOUS DEVICE THIS WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN, as will later be proved by the Bible itself!

Nimrod had many titles as did also his wife (Wilkinson, vol. iv, p. 179). As we have seen, *one of Nimrod's names is Saturn*, which signifies the Hidden god. To those who were initiated, he was revealed; to all others, he was hidden. Why is this word "Saturn" the very *key* that connects the idolatrous Babylon of that time with the Babylonish fountain-head of idolatry in our time?

"The name Saturn in *Chaldee* (Baby-

lonian) is . . . Stur. This name contains exactly the Apocalyptic number 666:—S=60, T=400, U=6, R=200 . . . But still further it turns out . . . *that the original name of Rome itself was Saturnia*, 'the city of Saturn.' This is vouched alike by Ovid, by Pliny, and by Aurelius Victor." *Thus ancient Rome was branded with the number 666* (Rev. 13:18). "Virgil . . . showed that *Latinoi*, to whom the Romans or Latin race traced back their lineage, was represented with a *glory* around his head, to show that he was a '*child of the Sun*'"—a symbol of devil worship (*Hislop*, pp. 269-270).

Note in particular that NIMROD, THE HEAD OF THE PAGAN SUN-SERPENT WORSHIP, WHO WAS FALSELY REPRESENTED AS THE VERY SON OF GOD, BORE THE NUMBER 666! This same number continues to be branded on the present-day Babylonish system, whose symbols hide the actual worship of the devil. How do we know? Because a world-wide religious leader who represents this system will brand himself with this number by his very actions!—by acting as Nimrod did—setting himself in the place of Christ, the Son of God!

It is prophesied that Christ will come and smite the nations and rule them (Isa. 2:1-4). But what is also prophesied to happen *just before* Christ will establish His rule in Jerusalem?

God says, "I will bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem" (Joel 3:1). Literal Jerusalem is soon to go into captivity to a coming union of fascist dictators in Europe. The religious head of this coming union will "Plant the tabernacle of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain" in Palestine (Dan. 11:45).

He will place his headquarters of worship in the land which prophecy shows Christ intends to use as His own headquarters and place of worship. Furthermore, this human religious head will "Exalt himself above all that is called God . . . so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God" (II Thes. 2:4).

Christ, THE SON OF GOD, is to come to Jerusalem to establish the worship of God on the earth, but there will be a mortal man who will come to this same place to spread the Babylonish

worship on the earth. This man will thus attempt *to usurp the authority of Christ* . . . he will actually try to be the only "*Representative of the Son of God*," which translated into Latin is "*Filii vicarius Dei*." It adds up to 666: i=1, l=50, v=5, c=100, d=500. The letters f, a, r, s, and e have no numerical value. THIS MAN WILL PLACE UPON HIMSELF THE SAME NUMBER THAT NIMROD, THE ORIGINATOR OF THE WORLD'S FALSE RELIGIOUS WORSHIP, CARRIED. NIMROD, AS THE "SON OF GOD," WAS REPRESENTED AS BEING CHRIST!

Here is *proof* that the *system* of Mysterious Iniquity, whose head will brand himself with the number 666, is the *same hidden system* that has existed from the flood and *only for the purpose of perverting God's teachings*. It is no wonder that Christ's gospel was "infiltrated" and twisted. The wonder would have been if this had not occurred!

In summarizing, recall that mysterious or hidden symbols are used. *These symbols exist today*, such as the Christmas tree, the Easter egg, the hot cross bun—there are *many* others.

Also, just as symbolic as the Christmas tree and other material symbols, are the *periods of time* set apart by Satan for the worship of *other* than the *true* God—Christmas, Easter, Lent—and many other symbolical periods which are *hiding* from people today the *real* "gods" they are worshipping! SATAN HAS ALWAYS TAUGHT ANOTHER GOSPEL—A WRONG AND IMPOSSIBLE WAY OF ATTAINING IMMORTALITY—YOU CAN'T WORSHIP THE SYMBOLS OF SATAN'S GODS AND ACHIEVE ETERNAL LIFE. Even to the initiated this worship was mysterious or *hidden* until explained. The individual (Satan) who is at the head is mysterious or *hidden*. God has given Satan's system the name "Babylon," which means "Confusion" (Rev. 17:5). No wonder the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with confusing doctrines (Rev. 17:2).

Satan *hid* in the form of a serpent; Adam *hid* in the garden after he had sinned; Nimrod was hidden in the Chaldean Mysteries. The Devil is now the (hidden) god of this world (II Cor. 4:4) and is deceiving the *whole earth* (*Please continue on page 29*)

The Bible Story

by Basil Wolverton

CHAPTER TWENTY

TWO MORE PLAGUES ON EGYPT

THE KING of Egypt tried to erase from his mind what Aaron had said about the coming plague of locusts. But the more he tried to forget it, the more he worried.

"There have been many locust swarms in the land from time to time," Pharaoh thought. "These insects have done damage, but they didn't bother people or animals. Surely another swarm of these creatures wouldn't mean great hardship."

Unable to sleep, Pharaoh got out of bed and quietly walked across the room to the curtained east windows. He didn't summon servants to pull the curtains, because he didn't wish to awaken his wife. He hoped that his children, bedded in adjoining rooms, would also sleep through the windstorm. There had been so much furore and excitement in the palace for so many days that everyone was in great need of rest.

The king yanked the curtains apart, disclosing a view eastward across the Nile river. The sun was just rising in a weirdly dull, red glow, apparently caused by flying dust and sand. But even as he watched, the sun became dim. Then it disappeared, as though blotted out by a vast, dark curtain!

"It must be a heavy bank of clouds coming in with the wind," Pharaoh thought.

Fascinated by the growing darkness, he kept staring into the sky. Gradually he was aware of a strange buzzing that grew louder above the low whine of the wind. Peculiar objects darted past his window. At first he thought that they were leaves carried by the wind. Then some of them landed on the window ledge.

Suddenly he realized that he was staring at huge red and black locusts! The eighth plague was starting!



As Pharaoh gazed eastward, he saw the morning sun gradually disappear in a strange, dark cloud.

Locust Plague Descends

Pharaoh backed away from the window, amazed at the size of the insects. They looked like grasshoppers, except they were much larger and brighter in color. Within seconds the wide window ledge was alive with them. The king snatched the ribbons that controlled the heavy curtains, and gave them a violent yank. But before the curtains could be drawn, an army of locusts had invaded the room. At first they flew and hopped aimlessly about, causing the king to duck and weave as he backed toward an inner door. Then the locusts located the flower beds in the long, stone planters built at one side of the room.

"My lilies! My rare, beautiful lilies!" Pharaoh gasped.

Before his eyes the hungry insects chewed the plants down to the soil. It was too much for the king, who had a special soft spot in his heart for flowers, if not for human beings. He stamped out into the corridor next to his bedroom, and shouted for servants.

Already the palace was in an uproar worse than the one caused by the plague of frogs. Servants and guards were dashing excitedly about, swatting and mashing the little invaders. But there were so many of them that it seemed impossible to keep them out.

During the next hours Egypt suffered terrible losses by the clouds of locusts dumped over the land. The strong east wind that brought them later died down. Every plant that grew out of the ground was chewed up by the insects. There were so many of the locusts that they crawled over each other in a horrible, live blanket several inches deep in many places. Although they didn't bite people or animals, it was

a ghastly experience for people and animals to be crawled upon and almost smothered by a sea of squirming, twisting, struggling, tumbling, buzzing insects. (Exodus 10:15.)

Meanwhile, Pharaoh's advisors and officers stormed back to his court to beg him to bring a quick end to the plague by calling Moses and Aaron.

"It makes no sense to keep the Israelites," they argued. "What good can they do us as our slaves if there is nothing left in our land for them to work with?"

"We have gone too far in opposing their God," the chief advisor said. "You are very close to losing your whole kingdom. Without a kingdom, how can you be a king?"

Pharaoh brushed a locust from his robe, then mashed it under the sole of his jewelled sandal. Somehow that one crushed locust seemed to be too much for the king. For hours and hours he had seen nothing but mashed locusts everywhere.

"Send for the two Israelites," he muttered, turning aside with a sick expression.

When Moses and Aaron were brought in later, Pharaoh hurried toward them with outstretched arms.

"I have done evil things against your God and against you," he sorrowfully said to the two Israelites. "I ask you to forgive me. I beg you to ask your God to take away these terrible locusts! Leave with your people whenever you wish, but don't let your God do any more damage to my land!" (Verses 16 and 17.)

Moses and Aaron silently regarded the king, who appeared to be quite sincere in his request. They turned and left the room, leaving Pharaoh in uncertain despair while locusts hopped and fluttered around him.

Out by themselves, except for the waves of insects milling about them, Moses and Aaron prayed, asking God to take away the locusts and spare the land from famine.

Shortly afterward a wind came up from the west. It grew in strength by the minute, until it was almost a gale over most of Egypt. People began to be fearful that it would destroy their homes. But instead of blowing houses down, it blew the locusts out of Egypt and eastward into the Red Sea. Thus it was that the billions of insects, which had probably been carried in from Arabia, were swept away and drowned. (Verse 19.)

When the Egyptians went out to see what damage had been done, they found that every green part of every tree and shrub and plant had been devoured.

After the wind had died down, Pharaoh walked through his outer courts to see what destruction had taken place in his expensive gardens. The king felt that if he hadn't been so hasty and stubborn, this last plague could have been avoided, and he regretted what he had done. But when he saw that his vast flower gardens, shade trees, hedges, lily ponds and walls of ivy had become nothing but stems, stocks and twigs,



The Egyptians found that the locusts had eaten every green leaf and plant.

he became angry.

"Send a fast messenger to tell Moses and Aaron that I have changed my mind!" he snapped at an aide. "Tell them that I refuse to let the Israelites leave Egypt, and if any of them try to go, they will have to deal with my army!"

Again Moses and Aaron, on receiving the message, were filled with disappointment. And again God gave instructions to Moses, who stretched the shepherd's rod toward the sky another time.

Plague of Darkness

The Egyptians must have been perplexed when they noticed a strange pallor creeping into the sunny, blue sky. Little by little the pallor grew into a weird grayness. The sun's light became less, as though some mysterious, drab veil were being drawn between the Earth and its source of light. Gradually the veil grew darker, until a deep, gray haze finally blotted out all sight of the sun. The haze descended, bringing a thickening vapor over all the land.

People were so filled with dismay that many of them almost forgot the terrible plague that had just ended. All of them, including Pharaoh, could only wonder at what evil thing was to result from the growing gloom. Soon that dismay turned to terror,

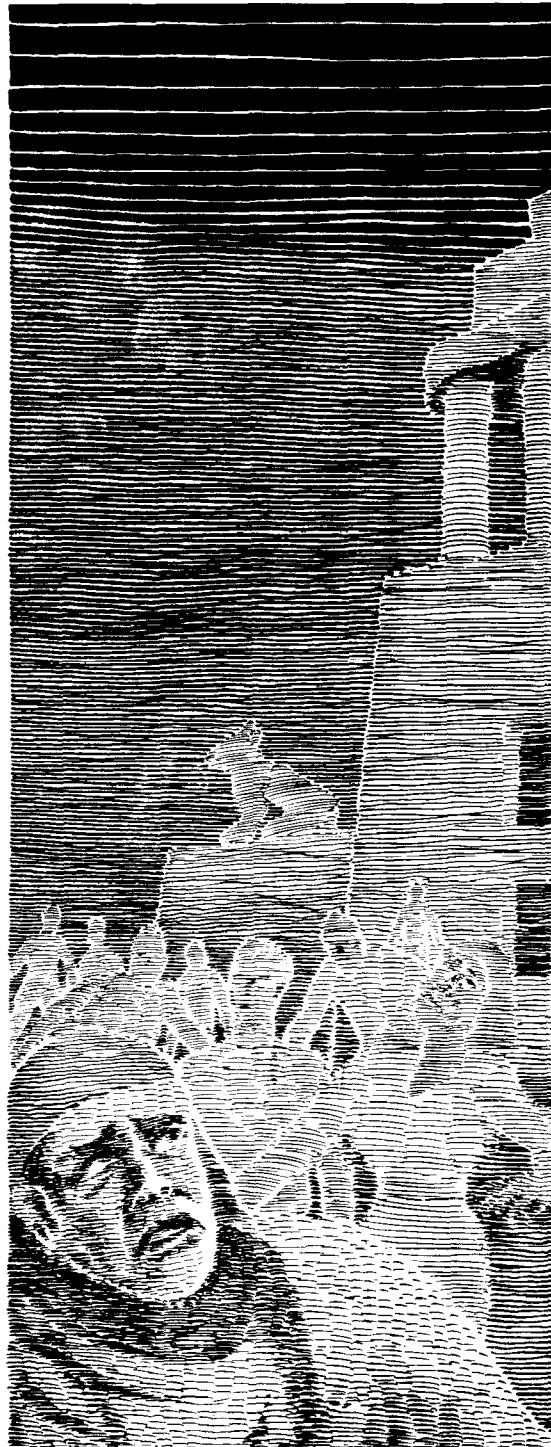
for within hours the gloom turned to the darkness of night, and from the darkness of night into horrifying, utter blackness! (Verse 22.)

Possibly God caused the blackness by producing a very deep fog layer carrying billions of particles of dust from recent dust storms. However He caused it, it must have brought greater fear to the Egyptians than did the other plagues. The darkness was so intense that no one could see anyone else. Even with fires, torches and lamps burning, there was a clammy murkiness in the air that seemed to almost drown the light. Figures took on a weirdness that added terror to the awful situation.

Most activity came to an abrupt stop. It was almost impossible to move safely about. Some were caught in the deserts, the fields and the river when the darkness came on. Many of these became lost, and some died in the hours to come because they were unable to find food or water. Most of the Egyptians stayed in their homes, hopeful that the frightful darkness would come to an end.

Meanwhile, in Goshen where the Israelites lived, there was plenty of light for the homes, although the sky was probably dark. (Verse 23.)

At the royal palace matters were especially in confusion. Pharaoh was more filled with fear than he had been during any of the other plagues, but he felt that the clammy darkness would probably last only a few hours, and that the next dawn would bring light. But when it came time for the



A strange, thick gloom began to settle over the land.



Even the brightest lamps and torches shone only with a weird, ghostly feebleness in the thick, dank darkness.

sun to come up, there was no light. Fright began to spread among the Egyptians in a way that sent many of them into a state of panic.

Even Pharaoh, a man of strong will, began to feel, after two days had passed, that the intense darkness would drive him into a state of madness if it were to continue very long. As did many of the people, he spent much of his time lying in bed, waiting for the terrible darkness to let up. Moving about was too dangerous.

In the sleepless, miserable hours that followed, Pharaoh could hear the wails and groans from the nearby temple, where priests were begging the Egyptian idols to wipe out the cause of the darkness and bring back the light of the sun. Pharaoh was quite sure by now that all the chanting and moaning to the many gods of Egypt meant nothing. Besides, it kept him from sleeping.

"Send word to the priests," he told a servant, "that they need not pray any more for now. Tell them that I suggest that our gods would perhaps be pleased by a period of silence, now that they have been prayed to for two days without ceasing."

But even after the wailing and moaning had stopped, the king was unable to sleep. The cold dankness of the darkness seemed to seep to his very bones. In spite of the many blankets on his bed, he shivered. From rooms close by he heard the muffled sobs of fear from his children. What bothered him most, however, was the weird, hazy

flickering of the lamps in his room. There were several of them—enough, in ordinary darkness, to make the room ablaze with light. But in this weirdly thick blackness, the lamps shone only with a maddeningly ghostly feebleness.

Suddenly Pharaoh sprang out of bed and struck a gong to summon an aide.

Pharaoh Calls for Moses and Aaron

"Send men to find those two Israelites, Moses and Aaron, and have them brought here as soon as possible!" the king commanded.

"But your highness," the aide gasped, standing very close to be seen, "those two could be far away—perhaps even across the river! It is almost impossible to move through this terrible darkness!"

"See that they're brought here at any cost!" Pharaoh thundered. "Use my whole army, if necessary, and plenty of the best torches. Get out the chariots, boats and anything that's needed. But get them here!"

More miserable hours passed. When at last Moses and Aaron were brought before Pharaoh, he was relieved to recognize them. However, he was still very upset.

"Get out of Egypt—all you Israelites!" he commanded. "You are free to go serve your God and do as you wish."

There was silence in the dark, shadowy court. Aaron didn't speak up, inasmuch as he felt that Pharaoh, only dimly visible by the flickering torches, had more to say. The next human voice came from a guard, who pointed toward a window and shouted something about light.

It was suddenly obvious that dim light was showing through the windows! It increased by the minute, returning after three terrible days of absence!

Pharaoh, who had almost gone out of his mind because of the three-day darkness, felt his self-control and power swiftly returning to him.

"I repeat my promise," he told Moses and Aaron in a tone that was a little more friendly. "All you Israelites are free to leave my land. All I ask is that you leave your flocks and herds behind." (Verse 24.)

Pharaoh didn't intend to lose the great numbers of livestock owned by the Israelites, especially now that the livestock of the Egyptians had suffered so heavily through the plagues. Besides, he believed that if the Israelites were to journey for three days into the desert without meat and milk from their flocks and herds, they would face starvation. If that happened, they would surely try to return to Egypt, and thus they would remain slaves to the Egyptians.

However, Moses and Aaron were aware of what the king had in mind, and they didn't intend for him to succeed in tricking them.

"We shall take all our livestock with us when we leave," Aaron announced. "We don't know yet how much we'll need for sacrificing to our God. Therefore we'll not leave even one hoof behind."

The wearying three-day darkness had already driven the king into a very unhappy state of mind. Now this bold remark from Aaron greatly annoyed him. His face became red with anger. His fingers clutched and unclutched the arms of his chair. Abruptly he jumped to his feet and shook a trembling finger at Moses and Aaron.

"You Israelites are as greedy as you are rebellious!" Pharaoh shouted. "That remark about taking your livestock with you will cost you your freedom! You shall not leave my land. You shall remain as slaves! As for you two—get out of this city and never return! If you ever come within my sight again, my guards will kill you!"

There was a tense silence in the court as the gray light from outside filtered in through the brightening windows. Moses and Aaron stood still before Pharaoh, calmly regarding him as he glowered down upon them. Moses said something in a low voice to Aaron, who stepped closer to the king.

"You shall have your wish," Aaron told him. "You won't see us any more. But there will be one more plague upon you Egyptians, and we won't come to ask our God to stop it. On a midnight to come very soon, all the firstborn in your land will be killed! That includes your oldest son and the oldest sons of even your lowliest families. Even the firstborn of all your animals will be slain. But no person or animal of the Israelites shall die!" (Ex. 11:4-7.)

Even while Aaron was talking, Pharaoh's expression of anger melted from his face, to be replaced by a look of mingled shock and disbelief. He well knew that these two Israelites had never made a prediction before him that hadn't come true, and with more awesome results than he, Pharaoh, could imagine. It would soon be a fact, therefore, that he would lose his oldest son! He sank weakly back on his throne and stared in silence as Moses and Aaron, angered by his constant threats and promise-breaking, walked from the court.

What Pharaoh didn't know was that God had already told Moses that after the next and last plague—the slaying of the firstborn—the king would finally let the Israelites leave Egypt without changing his mind before they could get out of the land.

(To be continued next issue)

Source of Today's Religious Confusion

(Continued from page 21)

(Rev. 12:9)! The WORLD TODAY THINKS IT IS WORSHIPPING GOD, BUT HE SAYS IT IS DECEIVED.

We have seen that there were *pagan religious practices* in the time of Christ and the apostles which *closely resembled* the doctrines *the apostles* practiced and preached. We have studied these pagan customs and found that they originated from a *common* source—the old Babylonian Mysteries of Semiramis, and that they have found their way into religious

practices of our day. *They mask the way to salvation which Christ taught.* THIS BABYLONISH SYSTEM MASQUERADING AS CHRISTIAN CONTROLS THE WORSHIP OF THE WORLD TODAY!

Fortunate will be the few who find their way out of this *morass of confusion* and STAND READY to be transformed at Christ's soon coming!

The AUTOBIOGRAPHY of Herbert W. Armstrong

(Continued from page 14)

fright. I'm sure glad of that!"

Then, for the first time in my life, I said into the microphone:

"GREETINGS, Friends!"

But suddenly something had happened! Before those two words were finished, something had hit me like a jolt! Something had started my heart pounding like a sledge-hammer! I felt myself gasping for breath! During those opening two words, MIKE-FRIGHT had seized me!

I struggled with all my might to control my hard breathing so it would not be audible over the air. It was agony, but I concentrated my mind with all the strength I had on two things—to carefully say the words of my typed script as naturally as I could, and to control my hard breathing so it did not sound.

After two or three minutes I was making good progress in gaining control. After some five minutes my breathing had returned to normal, and I was so absorbed in getting this vital message over to the largest audience of my life—even though that audience was invisible—that I forgot all about the mike-fright.

The Surprising Response

The second morning there was no mike-fright. I was beginning to gain assurance, and able to speak a little more naturally.

It must have been about Thursday morning that the announcer told me the station owner, Mr. Frank Hill, wanted to see me in his office later in the morning.

He had received several letters and telephone calls from listeners, requesting copies of my talks. I had offered no literature of any kind. I had invited no mail response.

"This is rather surprising," said Mr. Hill. "We never had any response of any kind, before, from this morning devotional program. They told me you

had not invited any. Yet it has been coming. I listened in on you this morning to see what was causing it. You have an excellent radio voice, and a way of delivering your message that arouses interest and holds an audience.

"Now, Mr. Armstrong," he continued, "I want to suggest that you work out a regular Sunday morning Church service, condensed into a half hour. I'd like to put that on as a regular sustaining program—free time—but I can't do that

...apostles, that all can reach home by dark. Be sure to come, and meet with those promptly at 10 A.M. and 3 P.M. I suffered mar-ouely died in get acquainted with our new brethren of this church. yet not hav- an unknown to the need t power com- only in an- sometimes a church g and stu- rayer for ich only ending

RADIO BROADCAST BRINGS LIVELY RESPONSE

For one week beginning October 9th, the editor had the opportunity of broadcasting the Good News of the coming Kingdom over radio station KORE, Eugene each morning at 7:45.

The response was a surprise. 14 letters and telephone calls came in requesting copies of the messages. While the plain, simple Gospel of the Kingdom was preached right out of the Bible, yet it was new and surprising to those who inquired.

Several Bible studies were held in different homes as a result of these inquiries, and good contacts thus established.

It is estimated by the radio officials that between 500 and 750 people composed our invisible audience each morning. We have been asked to broadcast again soon.

without offering equal time to every church in town. However I will sell you the time at bare cost of operation, \$2.50 per half hour."

And THAT suggestion from Mr. Frank Hill is what put the idea of the ultimate WORLD TOMORROW program in my mind!

Altogether 14 letters and telephone calls came in to the radio station requesting copies of the messages I had broadcast.

I thanked him, and told him I would see what I could do.

But, \$2.50 every week! WOW! That was almost as much as my entire salary had been! And I had just previously renounced even that small salary!

\$2.50 per half-hour broadcast seems, (Please continue on page 32)

The response to the broadcasts made in October over station KORE, in Eugene, was reported in the Nov. 10, 1933 issue of the Bulletin.

June, 1960

November 10, 1933

The BULLETIN

Page 31

DO YOU WANT THE PUBLISHING
WORK TO GO ON?

At last some real progress is being made in the publishing work. A mimeograph machine has just been purchased for the Conference, paid by special offerings from Miles Helms, Yancy McGill, O.J. Run-corn, J.J. McGill, Francis Shields, and E.E. Fisher.

With it we secured enough paper, stencils, and ink to get out this Bulletin and a few copies of one tract.

We are deeply grateful that the Lord has supplied this equipment, giving us at last a modest start toward a much-needed publishing work.

However, if this work is to continue, we must have, at once, a typewriter, and also supplies of paper and stencils.

The cheapest and oldest second hand typewriters cost \$25 at any dealers. We are now borrowing a machine which has been used but little since new, and can be purchased and put in useable shape for \$12, provided it is purchased at once. It is a real bargain.

Brethren, do you want to see the Gospel message go out in print? Do you want to continue to receive the Bulletin and have others receive it? Do you want to see tracts and literature printed on vital subjects, so that the many people now interested as a result of meetings and radio messages may receive the truths the Lord has commissioned us to preach?

Jesus has commissioned us to PUBLISH the last warning message to the world, as well as to preach it. (Mark 13:10; Mat. 24:14). We are in contact with many who are simply HUNGRY for literature setting forth in more detail these vital truths. And we have nothing to offer them.

This has been our most serious handicap, and no one but the ministers out in the field can realize just how serious is this lack. The success of the S.D.A.s has been due more to their splendid publishing work than to their preaching. We now have many tracts prepared in manuscript form ready for printing, only awaiting the typewriter, and the stencils, add the paper to print them on.

The whole conference work faces the necessity of having to stop. Tithes and offerings have almost ceased to come in to the treasury since last Spring. We are merely striving, thru hardships most of you do not realize, to obey the instruction to

faith.

The Lord is prospering the work. Since last Spring we have seen souls won to Christ, several brought into the Sabbath truth and kindred truths, and two new churches raised up in Oregon. Results have been accomplished such as you have not seen in this state in a long time. And the Lord has now given the start, long prayed for, in the publishing field by supplying the mimeograph.

And yet, as this Bulletin goes to press, it looks as if all the work in Oregon must stop — unless more of the brethren scattered over the state will get behind it and by united efforts make it possible to continue.

Since last summer you have enjoyed your Bulletins at the expense of one man. It has cost 5¢ for every Bulletin mailed. But now, with our own mimeograph, by increasing the mailing list to 150 and getting a penny postage, they can be produced and mailed for 2¢ each. It is not right or fair for one man to bear all the burden. Most of the other expenses of the work have been borne by three other men.

We are willing to make any sacrifice, and know these few who have been supporting about 90% of the expense of the work are willing also, but we have now come to the time of year when they cannot carry the load alone. Every member in this state must do his or her part however small it may be, if the good work is to continue.

During the war everyone responded to the appeal "GIVE TILL IT HURTS," to buy gun powder to murder human beings. Will we now give till it hurts for the salvation of souls and declaring the last warning to an unsuspecting world?

If enough of our brethren will respond, the purchase of these supplies and carrying on of the work need work a hardship on none. The needed amount can be raised before the end of next week.

Therefore we are making an urgent appeal to every reader of the Bulletin to send in, by this great world-wide work of God was at least one dollar. See the extract of the Bulletin, which presaged the Depression. This extract of the Bulletin, which presaged the Depression, reveals the constant trials and tests this state treasurer, Florence reveals the constant trials and tests this state treasurer, Florence reveals the constant trials and tests this work has weathered for almost 30 years!

But before you turn this page or lay this Bulletin down, place a dollar bill in an envelope, and send either to Sister Curtis or to the editor.

Autobiography

(Continued from page 30)

today, incredibly small. We have to pay more than that per minute on most stations, today! But it seemed like an insurmountable barrier then.

Yet I knew this was GOD'S WORK, not mine. I was only an instrument. God had promised to supply every need.

God had OPENED THE DOOR OF MASS EVANGELISM!

He had opened the first radio door (Rev. 3:8). I knew He wanted us to walk through that door. I knew He would somehow supply that \$2.50 every week. I knew also that we had to do our part, not lie down, do nothing, and expect God to do it without any effort from us.

I was continuing to hold meetings at the Firbutte school house, twice weekly—Sabbath afternoons and Thursday evenings.

Then, October 21st, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Smith, just across the road from the Jeans school, 4 miles west

of Firbutte, a new Church of God was organized, with Mr. E. E. Fisher as deacon, and myself as Pastor. Meetings continued from that date, three times a week, Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and Sabbath afternoons. Attendance was averaging 22. A first action of the new Church was the decision of whether to go ahead with the broadcast. They all approved it joyfully as an effective evangelistic activity of the Church.

So I sent out a letter to the small mailing list of members we had for *The Bulletin*. I asked for pledges from brethren to help raise this \$2.50 per week. In due time pledges came back for just HALF enough—\$1.25 per week! We decided we would trust God in faith for the other \$1.25 per week.

It was arranged with Mr. Hill to start the new half-hour program every Sunday, beginning the first Sunday in the new year, 1934.

In the next installment, we come to the beginning of The WORLD TOMORROW broadcast, and the first issue of The PLAIN TRUTH.

The Bulletin recorded the establishment of the new Church at Jeans, Oregon, in 1933.

The PLAIN TRUTH
Printed in the U.S.A.
Box 111—Pasadena, California
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

The BULLETIN of the CHURCHES of GOD in Oregon

VOL. I. No. 7

November 10, 1933

The BULLETIN comes to keep you informed, during these last days, of progress in the Lord's work in Oregon; and to bind us all closer together in the love, unity, and peace of which the Lord Jesus Christ. The BULLETIN is issued, the Lord willing, the first of each month. Address news or brief testimony to Herbert Armstrong, editor, 1145 Hall Street, Salem, Oregon.

NEW CHURCH OF GOD ESTABLISHED AT JEANS, WEST OF EUGENE

And the LORD added to the church . . . (Acts 2:47). Surely all the brethren will rejoice and praise the Lord for having raised up among us an entire new local Church of God, in the Jeans district about twelve miles west of Eugene. The new church is now holding its meetings in the Jeans school house, about four miles west of the Firbutte school where the evangelistic meetings were held thru July August. The organization took place on Sabbath eve 21st, at the home of Brother and Sister . . . Sabbath was first . . . with wings . . . The last message to the world is now given, and then the end will surely come. On the sea of time mer- winds are dr- done

CHURCH OF GOD, A W A K E !
O Church of God, be true to your name,
It was while men slept tares were sown,
So let us all work a home to gain,
If we be idlers we He will dis-own;
The last message to the world is now given,
And then the end will surely come.
On the sea of time mer- winds are dr- done

Nonprofit Organization
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 703
Pasadena, California