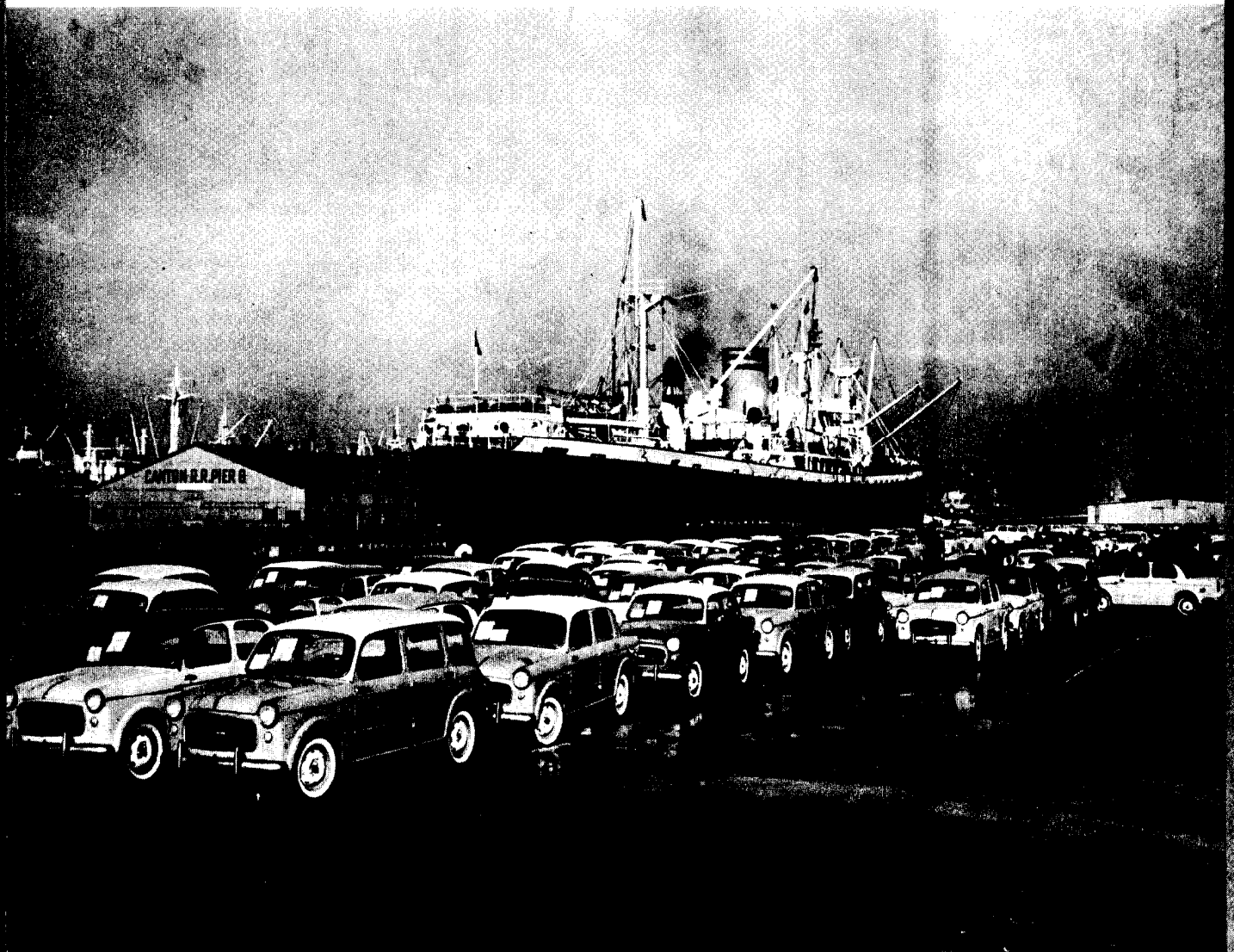


the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding

VOLUME XXV, NUMBER 8

AUGUST, 1960



Wide World Photo

FOREIGN CARS UNLOADED at Baltimore, Maryland, in the U.S.A. Italian Fiats line a pier after 417 of them were unloaded from Italian car transport Italmare. It was one of the largest shipments of foreign automobiles to arrive in the U.S.A. and the first which entered through the port of Baltimore. Here, as elsewhere, one can see firsthand the increasing tempo of trade war splitting the Western World.

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VOL. XXV NO. 8
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"I have followed your broadcasts and years ago your T.V. lectures closely, and value the guidance I received in my life-time search for the truth. However, I have been disturbed very much by one predominant factor in your teachings which is not compatible with the teachings of Christ.

"In your magazine, The Plain Truth, Volume XXV No. 3 of March, 1960, your son Garner Ted Armstrong quotes on page 9 Lewis Nizer, in the last chapter, describing the German people as a whole to be determined in their criminality in waging aggressive wars against mankind. He emphasized this by stating that they always were, still are, and always will be, aggressors against mankind. And he specifically quoted that not the German leaders in-

cluding Hitler were responsible, but the German people as a whole.

"Even if this was not a distortion of true history, the accusation as such and the publishing of this accusation in your magazine, The Plain Truth, will influence people, good people, to hate rather than to love as Christ did when He stated dying on the cross 'Father forgive them, for they know not what they do' . . . My wife and I were . . . born and raised in Germany, and our three sons were also born over there, and I can truthfully state that the bringing up of children is much closer to the Christian ideals and principles than the bringing up of children here in the United States. I personally was drafted into the war of 1914-18, and remember the strict disciplinary measures, including the death penalty we were threatened with if we were to plunder the dead or for committing any sacrilege; where when I came over here I was struck by the foul language that was used by the soldiers on this continent.

"Notwithstanding the facts, even if the German people were determined aggressors, I do not believe that it is right to inject hatred into the Christian congregation against anybody, regardless of the reason.

"I know, Mr. Armstrong, that you are very busy, but I would appreciate it if you could at your convenience, answer this letter personally, because it is so important to all of us.

"Yours in our Lord Jesus Christ."

From South Dakota

Editor's comment: We feel this letter merits a special answer in this column, as others may have the same feelings.

We quoted Mr. Nizer with full knowledge of the facts, and backed up by extensive research, not only into the history of the subject, but also from the careful analyses of the German national character and the individual German mind by those in this work having God's Spirit, who are Germans. Mr. Herman Hoeh, our Dean here at Ambassador College, and a minister, Mr. Kenneth C. Herrmann, our Registrar, Mr. Erhard Klammer, who broadcasts the World Tomorrow in German, and others in important positions in God's work, all concur with Mr. Nizer's statement!

However, let us clarify somewhat the seeming distortion referred to. The absolute necessity to combat the far-reaching propaganda of current Pan-Germanism may not be easy to understand. The American people (speaking of carnal, physical-minded citizens as a whole) are being told, as they were told after World War I, that only a select group, the "General Staff," the "NAZIS," were really GUILTY! They have been propagandized by clever Geopoliticians into believing ALL THOSE GUILTY for the wars were either killed, or since reformed! The populace has been fed the idea that HITLER was ultimately RESPONSIBLE! The common soldier merely "did his duty" and obeyed his officers. The officers obeyed higher officers, and the higher officers the generals, and the generals obeyed Hitler! Hitler, therefore—was holding demoniacal sway over all, and each was innocent—only HITLER was guilty. This is pure swill, trash, and propaganda. Need we refer to such noted works as "Hitler's Ovens," "The Scourge of the Swastika" and others? The sadistic brutalities experienced by millions of Czechs, Jews, Poles, etc., etc., cannot be so easily dismissed as this.

Do we mean then to intimate ALL GERMANS ARE GUILTY of direct crimes such as these? By no means! BUT THERE WERE MILLIONS OF GERMANS—MILLIONS, not just thousands, who KNEW about the genocidal policies of the NAZI party, and passively, if not actively, approved of them. Germans in World War II purchased baby shoes taken from dead Jewish, Polish, etc., children. Some of their soap came from human fat. Some of their mattresses were stuffed with human hair, some of their clothing had been worn by now butchered "foreigners." To be sure, NOT ALL, but SOME! However, there was far more acquiescence in the heart of the COMMON people than many might care to admit.

But now to the real HEART of the matter.

NOTHING in this article was intended, in ANY WAY to cause people to "hate the Germans." WE DO NOT HATE THEM! Rather, we admire them in many important respects. We admire their
(Please continue on page 8)

TRADE WAR!

Gullible Americans and Britons are ASLEEP TO A GRAVE DANGER! Read, with your own startled eyes, the frightening trends underway which could spell our collective DOOM!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

TRade war! These electrifying words will send a chill of apprehension over you when you realize their full meaning!

NEVER have there been times such as these! In just a few short years, look what's been happening!

At the close of World War II, the smoke of battle cleared to find the United States the most powerful, productive, energetic force the world had ever seen. Our military strength, our production figures, our industrial capacity was simply staggering! Europe was lying stagnant, reeking with the smell of death—staring balefully through the empty, shattered hulks of burned-out factories at a bleak, grey scene.

France was on her knees—Germany lay in ruins—Belgium, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, and all the eastern European nations were almost inert, still smarting from the ravages of a long and terribly destructive war.

The Red Octopus

And then, slowly, came the realization that the "peace" hadn't really been won, after all! The world was now gradually awakened to another spectre of terror! After the first public hints of secret concessions given to the Russians to help pay for their part in World War II, the western world looked, appalled, at the ugly tentacles of an encircling Red Octopus beginning to strangle eastern Europe. Britain sent tanks into Greece in 1946 to block a serious Communist bid for warm water ports in the Mediterranean. The rest of the free world complained—not knowing what was at stake!

Poland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Bulgaria, Austria, East Germany—all were caught in the grip of the Red arms encircling them.

Manchuria, Korea—all of China, in

Communist *revolution*—death-like echoes of MILLIONS being slain—"deprived of existence" was the Chinese word for it, in vast "reforms" aimed at bringing the teeming hordes of China under the hammer and sickle.

Finally the world began to understand.

War wasn't over, after all. Now a NEW war had begun—a "cold" war. A war of NERVES—but a real war, nevertheless!

Then the COLOSSAL ERROR

Western planners began frantically trying to "contain" the fungus rot of Communism. Pacts were signed, agreements reached—new plans put into effect.

Then came the colossal error of our day.

Smoking, ruined Germany was to become the "showcase of the West," the strongest "bulwark" of Democracy against the East! It was reasoned Germany was repentant. She was willing to change her age-old ways—denounce all her national heroes as filthy, brutal, sadistic criminals—see her traditions trampled in the mud, and immediately take up arms to DEFEND her bitterest enemies of just months before! She was to *emerge* from the shattered hulks of her factories and homes, which American and British bombs had destroyed (with TREMENDOUS PROVOCATION, such as Warsaw, Coventry, etc.) and she was to receive American dollars, American tanks, planes and guns, American uniforms, and American ways.

All these things were part of the colossal error!

Western planners were scared nearly out of their wits by the monstrous power of Russia. They envisioned a revitalized, remilitarized, reindustrialized EUROPE as a staunch ally, willing to become the battleground once again—this time

FOR the United States and Britain, not against them! Somehow, their eyes became SO focused on *Russia*, they began to believe she was the ONLY enemy left in the world. If Russia could be stopped—the world would SURELY have peace!

What WENT WRONG?

This, they said, was a "calculated risk."

Now—take a long, searching look at the world today.

What do you see?

The Russian threat—MORE SERIOUS, MORE DEADLY, MORE ALL-ENCOMPASSING THAN EVER BEFORE! And now EUROPE and JAPAN emerging as the most SERIOUS COMPETITORS TO FUTURE U.S. AND BRITISH ECONOMIC SURVIVAL!

We have been *warned*. For years, serious thinkers, foremost journalists living in Germany, have been telling the world the spark of Naziism was NOT dead—that Germany's feverish activity was NOT altogether unselfish altruism toward the West, that the United States was building a FRANKENSTEIN MONSTER!

The monster is stirring—beginning to move!

Today, the facts of WORLD TRADE tell a startling story. It's a story you can't afford to miss! It may mean YOUR LIFE!

What went wrong? Simply this. Europeans were *tired* of war. They began to realize the day of feudal states, rivalry, age-old suspicions and distrust had to be brought to an end. If Europe was to survive—Europe had to UNITE!

This was the dream of the famous "Iron Chancellor," Bismarck! It was the ultimate "utopia," the ethereal dream of a militaristic Germany for centuries! This was the *goal* for which Hitler had plunged Europe's millions into a terribly destructive war! It was his driving ambition!

This, then, was the precise ambition

American, British, French and other allied servicemen gave their lives to prevent!

And precisely THIS, a *United States of Europe* is what your tax dollars and mine have *bought and paid for!*

Repeated Warnings

For years, listeners of the *World Tomorrow* program and readers of *The Plain Truth* magazine have been frankly warned of the growing industrial and military resurgence of Western Germany, and of the coming *United States of Europe* as a real political entity! To repeat these dozens of warnings, in all their particulars in this article, would be out of the question. However, there could be *no clearer picture* of the deadly danger now facing the United States and Britain than the picture of present-day *world trade!*

In the Feb.-Mar., 1955 PLAIN TRUTH an article appeared, "World War III is Here—Now! In this article we explained the battlefield was not yet military, but economic. It was revealed Germany was one of the strongest economic powers on the face of the earth at that time! I have personally reported to readers of *The Plain Truth* magazine from such far-flung areas as Central America, where German imports are outclassing and underselling American imports at a frightening pace — from Colombia, Chile and Argentina, where the picture is the same. Mr. Benjamin Rea, head of the Spanish Department at Ambassador College and now Dean (Principal) of the new Ambassador College near London, England, reported on the phenomenal growth of German trade in South America in two articles appearing in *The Plain Truth*. A little over a year ago, my father, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, and I both reported to you direct from the *Ruhr*, in the heart of industrial Germany!

Notice what's been happening since!

A "Struggle for Survival"

Perhaps the *Rocky Mountain News*, May 19, 1959 keyed our present dilemma when it editorialized: "Those easy post-World War II days when 'made in U.S.A.' was a magic symbol are now as far away as the Middle Ages."

The former giant of world trade, the

United States, is now finding itself drastically and seriously challenged in every area of the world—and perhaps *most seriously challenged right here at home!*

"America's 'King dollar' is now being threatened by the resurging prosperity of Europe . . . Robert B. Anderson told the annual assembly of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (that) as far as international trade is concerned, *America loses four and one-half billion dollars every year. . . .*

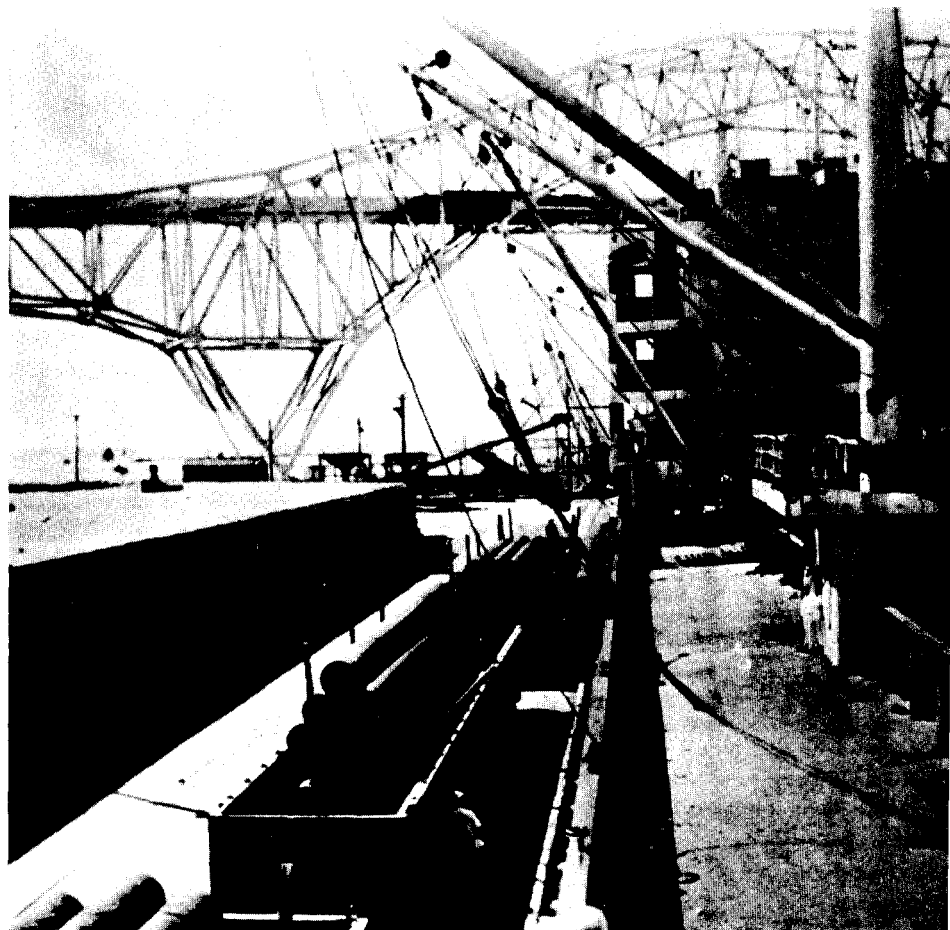
"America is no longer the one wealthy country amidst a decayed world; a country to which all the capitals looked for refuge. Those days have gone since the other half of the Occidental world, Europe, has found activity and health anew." (Translated from the *Paris Match* magazine, October 10, 1959, by Ambassador College French Department.)

Yes—Europe is *surging ahead*, while the United States and Britain have begun to STAGNATE!

The *New York Daily News*, March 30, 1960, clearly identified the root of the problem when it said: "The situation stems largely from our efforts to put back on their feet nations whose factories and laboratories had been damaged, if not completely destroyed, by war; and whose economies were sagging to the point where there was serious danger that they would go Communist."

"During the past decade and a half, we have poured *more than \$75 billion* into the countries to help rebuild their industries and to create jobs and buying power so the United States could sell goods abroad."

"We supplied them with the best machinery, engineers, and technical know-how we could provide. We invited their



Wide World Photo
FOREIGN STEEL UNLOADED at Corpus Christi, Texas. Over 6000 tons of foreign steel were unloaded from two ships in this port on one day. The steel, made in Belgium, West Germany and Luxembourg, was unloaded from the Yavari of Peru and the Polarglint of Norway. The local harbor has continued to receive shipments even though the steel strike of 1959 is long since over.

trade and engineering missions here to study our safe methods and production techniques. . . .

"Unfortunately, the project in part has *backfired*. The lot of the foreign worker has not, in most instances, notably improved. His wages have increased only slightly, while the production levels of foreign industries have increased tremendously.

"Modern, highly efficient plants, built with American subsidy and know-how, are flooding world markets with quality products which we, with our high cost and salaries, are often unable to compete against."

What does this mean? Does it mean America is about to surge ahead greater than ever before merely because of the added stimulus of real *competition*?

Said Leland A. Watson, President of the Maico Electronics Co.: "The challenge we as a nation face today is the *greatest in our history*. . . . If we fail, it will cost us, not just our jobs, but probably our freedom, our lives and the future of our children." Said Walter Reuther, President of the United Automobile Workers and Chairman of AFL-CIO's committee on economic policy: "Today we are no longer engaged, as a nation, in a competition for advantage over other countries. Our struggle is for survival" (*New York Daily News*, March 29, 1960).

Yes—our struggle is one for *survival*! Or is it?

What are MOST struggling for today? Look about you—what do you see? *Is it a struggle* of the average citizen in a nation with *great and deep national purpose*, to *build*, to *improve*, and *stabilize his nation*—or is it a *personal, lustful, greedy*, search for *self-satisfaction*? The answer is quite obvious. Most Americans and Britons are far more concerned about the acquisition of *more pay*, *fewer work hours*, more "fringe benefits," better "pension plans," hospitalization plans, insurance plans, and all types of job benefits; *far more* concerned about the acquisition of material goods and longer vacations than for the survival of their countries.

President Eisenhower has seriously warned that a nation can "glut" itself on its own production and high standard of living only for a certain period

of time—and then that very standard of living and the lazy, indolent gluttony by which it has indulged itself is going to come crashing down on its head with the furor of a landslide!

Foreign Goods Flooding the United States

"Twelve years ago, we imported less than one thousand five hundred foreign automobiles, during a 12-month period in which our car exports reached an all-time high of nearly 261,000. Last year, imports soared to a record-breaking peak of 668,000 cars, while our exports dropped to a post-World War II low of less than 117,000" (*New York Daily News*, March 29, 1960).

A few years ago, Lord Beaverbrook's *Daily Express* warned the *Volkswagen* was about to do to Great Britain what Germany's submarines had failed to accomplish in two world wars!

And now listen to *these* startling facts, showing the United States could have been *included* in those headlines!

"United States Volkswagen sales in the first three months of 1960 spurred 67.6 per cent ahead of the corresponding 1959 level, the West German auto firm reported May 9th." (*Christian Science Monitor*, May 10, 1960).

This is an almost *unheard of* figure! Think of it! A 67.6 per cent increase in the first three months of the year is a phenomenal, overwhelming, startling, *astounding* increase!

"Last year, one out of every seven sport shirts sold in the United States was made in a foreign country. . . . Ten years ago, bolts of cotton cloth were being imported into the United States in a mere trickle—under 20 million square yards a year. By last year this figure had jumped to a quarter of a billion square yards. Five years ago, only 180,000 shirts were brought into the country. In 1959 there were almost 2¼ million" (*New York Daily News*, March, 1960).

But this is only the *beginning* of the story! In every facet of industry, the alarming story is the same.

"In the typewriter field, five years ago only one out of every seven portables sold in the United States was made abroad. Today it is one out of every three" (*New York Daily News*,

March 29, 1960). "American glove-makers . . . are currently *suffering even more acutely than our textile industry*. There used to be two major leather glove-producing areas—Fulton county N.Y., and New York City. . . .

"Between 1947 and 1959, 90 glove factories and 14 tanneries ceased operations in the area, with the loss of some 3,000 production worker jobs. . . .

"Harry Moss, Jr., of Gloversville, executive secretary of the American Knit Glove Association, pointed out that of 44 manufacturers in business in 1947, only 12 remain today, and these have drastically curtailed operations" (*New York Daily News*, March 31, 1960).

Space prohibits more than just a *very few* quotations from various sources as representative of the all-encompassing, frightening picture of the great trade war now underway! In order to see the real picture *as it is*, it is necessary that you see, *with your own eyes*, the startling statements by leading men in various of the American industries!

"As president of the Tile Council of America, representing the 29 manufacturers who turn out most of our American-made tiles, Peter Johnson stated recently that his industry would be facing 'virtual strangulation' by 1970, if there were no halt to the 'marked acceleration of cheaply made foreign tile'" (*New York Daily News*, March 29, 1960).

"Our mosaic tile industry, which once supplied most of the wall and floor tile used in American homes, has lost 45 percent of its market to foreign imports since the end of World War II.

"In 1945, ceramic, mosaic and other unglazed floor and wall tile imported into the United States totaled a little over 6,000 square feet valued at \$1,000. By last year, imports of this tile had jumped to 24½ million square feet, valued at more than \$5 million. Tile imports in 1959 represented a fifth of all the tile sold in America" (*New York Daily News*, March 30, 1960).

"Today, 87 percent of the pottery sold in the United States is made abroad. . . . One of America's largest dinnerware manufacturers, the Homer Laughlin China Co., of Newell, W. Va., used to boast 4,500 employees. Today it has about 1,000 and is operating at about half capacity through intensive

mechanization. Laughlin was forced to the wall by Japanese dinnerware, selling at about *half* what U.S. manufacturers have to charge. It has driven a *dozen* other U.S. companies out of business" (*New York Daily News*, March 31, 1960).

"Last year, thousands of men and women in the plywood industry were laid off altogether or were working on short time. Why was this? Because 50% of the plywood sold in this country was imported from Japan" (*The Glass Workers News*, November 30, 1959).

"Foreign-made steels are coming in to Alabama in large quantities. . . .

"So far this year, approximately 7,000 tons of reinforcing bars, round bars and angles have been unloaded at Port Birmingham in the Warrior River for local fabricating concerns. All that steel came from foreign countries—Luxembourg, Germany, Holland, France, Belgium, and Japan. And mark this—those barges carrying that steel go back empty" (*The Birmingham News*, Fall, 1959).

Notice it! While we feverishly *import* cheaply made foreign goods, we are not *exporting*, in return. Why? Simply because our *greed*, our *lust* for higher wages and job benefits mean we cannot produce cheaply enough!

The *Pittsburgh Press*, Aug. 16, 1959, reported from Essen, Germany that "West German steelmen are predicting 'irreparable damage' to the American steel industry through the [recent] strike. . . .

"But the real threat to U.S. steel is from feverish world-wide steel production expansion. Twenty completely new, full-sized steel plants have been constructed in non-Communist countries since the Korean War, most of the plants in the so-called 'underdeveloped' nations.

"Of the 20, the Germans have built a third of the plants under German industry's private 'point 4' program of assistance to backward countries. . . .

"Moreover, a fundamental readjustment is taking place within the European steel industry which will reduce the cost of European steel exported to the American market.

"This is European steel's 'march to

the waterside'—the construction of steel mills at the water's edge. In Germany, Kloeckner Huette has just built a mill at Bremen, on the North Sea. A mill is being constructed in France near Dunkirk, and another in Italy near Genoa. . . .

"Thus, Kloeckner's Bremen plant will process ore from Venezuela, Labrador and Sweden with American coal. But little of Kloeckner's steel will reach the domestic market; nearly all will be exported to the American market."

Foreign Imports Skyrocketing— Exports Tumbling

Anyone familiar in the slightest degree with world trade knows any nation maintaining a high import, low export balance cannot continue to survive economically! And yet, this is precisely the picture in the United States today!

"The trade publication 'Purchasing Week' says U.S. industry has doubled its purchases of industrial machines and supplies from foreign sources in the past two years. In a survey, the magazine said *price was the major reason* for the switch. The survey showed the number of companies buying supplies from abroad increased from 14 per cent in 1957 to 28 per cent in 1959." (Industrial machinery has, until recently, been a vital segment of U.S. export picture) (UPI Release, Feb. 16, 1960).

"Already the profitable manufacture of barbed wire and buttons has practically left our shores for foreign lands. Nails and wire fencing are fading rapidly. One industry after another is being invaded by foreign competition.

"The most *alarming* attack is on the one basic industry of all industries—the massive machine tools industry, *without which the other industries of our modern world could not even exist.*

"In 1959, imported machine tools, at U.S. prices, stole 17½% of U.S. machine tool sales!

"Injuries from foreign competition have reached such proportions that 50 American companies are moving their production of machine tools to foreign countries — *in order to survive* (advertisement by Republic Steel in *Time*, May 2, 1960).

And yet, in the face of a 200% increase in imported industrial machin-

ery, which is a ridiculous occurrence, to say the least, notice what is happening to the United States' share of exports!

"Democratic Senator Clair Engle of Los Angeles, said that . . . 'the United States has lost 24 percent of its trade in the Far East and that is characteristic of what is going on in the world'" (*California Staats-Zeitung*, October 2, 1959).

"The U.S. share of the world export market in manufactured goods declined sharply last year in the face of growing competition from West Germany and Japan, U.N. economists reported today" (*L.A. Times*, April 13, 1960).

"In major manufactured lines, here's what happened to U.S. exports in the first quarter this year, as compared to a year earlier. Steel-mill manufactures were off 47 per cent. Railway-transportation equipment was off 38 per cent. Tire sales were off 23 per cent. Aircraft and parts were off 23 per cent. . . .

"Antibiotics sales were off 16 per cent. Cotton cloth, off 11 per cent; gasoline and lubricating oils, off 8.5. Man-made textiles off 8 per cent; tractor sales, off 6 per cent; machine tools, off 5 per cent; power-generating equipment, off 5 per cent" (*U.S. News*, May 18, 1959).

Even Agriculture Threatened!

The economic threat from over the seas is not confined alone to industrial machinery and manufactured goods. Even the American farmer faces a serious threat.

"A developing agricultural revolution in Western Europe poses a threat to the export markets of American agriculture. . . . Using modern technological developments, the common market area could greatly expand its food production. . . .

"A successful agricultural program along lines now envisioned by the common market countries could cut a large chunk out of U.S. export markets, aggravate surplus problems and possibly develop strong support for a return in the United States to more rigid farm production control programs" (AP Release, April, 1960).

"In spite of our government, we are

still the world's largest exporter of food and fiber. . .

"If we should lose all of our foreign markets, it is estimated that 50 million

acres of our crop land would have to be 'Soil Banked,' or our surpluses would get even more astronomical" (*Farm and Ranch*, March, 1960).

But *why* is all this happening—what has gone wrong? Because of our sins!

The apostle Paul, in looking over into our day at this present time said: "This

RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

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XERB—1090 on dial—7:00 p.m. every night.
XEAK—San Diego, Cal.—690 on dial—8:00 p.m., Mon. thru Sat., 7:30 p.m., Sunday.
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., Sundays, 7:15 p.m., Mon. 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., 19:00 T.D.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.
2GB—New Sydney, NSW—10:30 p.m. Mon. thru 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. thru 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 — CXA19 — Montevideo, Uruguay — 4:00-4:15 P.M., Sundays

know also, that *in the last days* [our day, right now!] perilous times shall come.

"For men shall be *lovers of their own selves . . . lovers of pleasure MORE than lovers of God*; having a *form of godliness*, but *denying the power thereof*, from such turn away!" (II Tim. 3:1-5).

Never, it seems, since ancient Rome, has there been a nation that is guiltier of being self-indulgent, lustful, greedy, grasping, desirous of personal *pleasure*, rather than overall national welfare!

It is because we are ridden with SINS—the sin of vanity, as evidenced in our LUST and GREED, that we are now beginning to *lose out*!

Listen to the real root of the problem!

"The United States is beginning to come awake to the fact that we face a clobbering in the battle for world markets. Partly it's a matter of price. . . .

"Ford Motor Chairman Ernest R. Breech . . . returning from Europe, praised German and English labor leaders, who, he said, had not pressed for wage increases they felt their countries could ill afford. He cited Ford assembly-line workers' hourly wage of \$2.44, not counting a 50-60 cent fringe benefit, compared with \$1.05 in England, 69 cents in Cologne, Germany. . . .

(Please continue on page 30)

LETTERS TO EDITOR

(Continued from page 2)

willingness to WORK, to sacrifice, to put NATIONAL aspirations ahead of personal ones. We admire their respect for AUTHORITY, their adherence to God's own principles (to a degree) in the upbringing of their children, in the management of their homes and their communities. We admire their technical skills, their productivity. We use German-made stenorettes (dictating machines), German-made typewriters, write with German-made pens oftentimes, and must confess we are at times somewhat partial to a label entitled "made in W. Germany."

We love very much DOZENS of pure German people in God's Church—in a very real and a very personal sense. We have many, many FINE German families, some of whom are setting a truly ZEALOUS example in labors for

God's work, and are an inspiration to all of us.

If any think for ONE MINUTE we are on some kind of hate campaign against GERMANY, they are sadly mistaken.

But *God's Word is sure!* Germany is the ASSYRIA mentioned in your Bible—and we are one hundred per cent ACCURATE in our prophesyings of the impending CONQUERING of the United States and Great Britain by a rearmed, revitalized, reindustrialized, UNIFIED Germany! It will NOT be a mere handful of rabid hard-core NAZI's controlling the poor, misunderstood masses of Germany—but the GERMANS THEMSELVES—AS A NATION!—plus others this time united with them.

God's Word describes Gentile nations as having the *minds of wild animals!* This is not in any way discriminatory—God has allowed this for a PURPOSE! What does the BIBLE say then about the real CARNAL, unconverted, nationalistic German HEART?

Just this! "O Assyrian (Germany), the rod of MINE ANGER, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation. *I will send him against an hypocritical nation (the U.S. and Britain), and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge . . . howbeit he meaneth not so, neither doth his heart think so (THE AVERAGE GERMAN WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT WAS POSSIBLE TO CONQUER US . . .)* but it is *IN HIS HEART to DESTROY and cut off nations not a few.*" Notice it! It is in the HEART, it is the natural-minded carnal ASPIRATION of the Germans as a whole, to DESTROY AND CUT OFF NATIONS NOT A FEW! Historians, for *centuries*, have referred to the Germanic peoples as a "war-making" people?

War to this gentleman, if he now has experienced a change of heart, and is NOT guided by a carnal mind, would be a horrifying, undesirable, awesome thing. But to the minds of the modern German people it is *not!* We have BEEN to Germany, we have TALKED to ex-servicemen, to clerks, men on the street, hotel and restaurant workers, etc. and we find a deep-seated, proud root of EXTREME NATIONALISM, of RESENTMENT toward the U.S. and Britain, and a *tremendous* driving urge to be a part of a strong, MILITARY Germany—a

WINNING Germany! To be sure, there are some exceptions to this—and not EVERY German thinks this way—but your Bible says *most do!*

The great BEAST spoken of in Revelation the 13th and 17th chapter is WORSHIPPED BY ITS ADHERENTS. It is a great religio-military power, the great false Church over the "United States of Europe" with Germany its strongest, leading nation. STATE WORSHIP is *very* prevalent in Germany, and could be whipped into a strong fire at the slightest political upset at this moment!

We LOVE the German people. We respect them, as a whole, as much as any people on earth. But they, like our people in the United States, and like the people in ALL nations, are SINNING against God. They are CARNAL minded, as are our people here. God is going to use their inherent national character, their warlike spirit, their militaristic aspirations to fulfill HIS PURPOSE in punishing us! We can't change it—IT'S GOING TO HAPPEN!

We in this work of God cannot—we are not trying to—STOP it—but we have been commissioned to WARN this people, and the world, of what is coming. When we WARN by means of these broadcasts and articles we're trying to be a HELP to people—letting them see clearly what is coming so they may take the necessary steps to be protected from it. We are NOT setting our hearts on ANY nation here below. We are citizens of God's HEAVENLY Kingdom, soon to come down from above. We play no politics, we take no sides, we have no nationalistic antagonisms—but are strangers, sojourners, pilgrims here in this life, doing the job God has set for us—fulfilling the responsibility as HIS WATCHMEN!

If anyone will read the article again, he will see we repeatedly revealed the TERRIBLE NATIONAL CRIMES AND SINS OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN. We told how God is going to SPANK us for our sins, and He is going to use GERMANY as His "rod." We said *punishment* is coming on OUR people, God is indicting OUR people, that it is OUR nation that will LOSE the next war! *Certainly* this could not even remotely be construed as being *against* the Germans.

The Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong

Installment 30 brings us to the start of The World Tomorrow program on the air and Volume 1 Number 1 of The Plain Truth.

SURELY nothing could have started smaller. Born in adversity in the very depths of the Depression, this work of God was destined to grow to world-wide power.

But I did not realize its destiny then. There were no illusions of grandeur. It was not through any planning of mine that the little three-point campaign then being launched was to expand into its present global scope and influence.

Divinely Planned

Most people are conscious only of what they see—of that which is material. They fail to see the invisible Hand of GOD in the working out of things.

All I had in mind, as *The World Tomorrow* program was being planned late in 1933, was to serve God faithfully wherever He should lead in that local territory of Lane County, Oregon.

It is true that "where there is no vision, the people perish." But few people realize that the source of true vision is GOD. *There has been vision* behind the planning and phenomenal growth of this great work. But this is the WORK OF GOD, not of man; and the vision and the planning has been that of Jesus Christ, the active, living HEAD of this work, not of man.

I most certainly did not sit down, in the fall of 1933, and lay out detailed plans in my human mind for a great, powerful, earth-encircling program to reach and influence the millions in every nation; there was no thought, then, of a gigantic radio program, and a publishing enterprise, starting at Eugene, Oregon, but soon expanding to every inhabited continent; nor the remotest idea that we should, at the proper time along the way, organize and build colleges in America and Britain for training the personnel for a rapidly growing organization.

I had no more conception of these future developments than any other man who might have been walking down the streets of Eugene. All I had in mind was to share with such others as I might come in contact in that locale the WONDERFUL TRUTHS which God, by His Holy Spirit, had opened my understanding to see in the Bible. And at that time I had been merely grasping God's truth a single doctrine at a time. I had not yet come to see the *whole picture* of God's real PURPOSE, or of His PLAN for working out that purpose.

I was filled with joy over discovery of these glorious truths; I was imbued with energy and drive, and I *had*, literally, given my-self over to God for Him to use as HE saw fit. I was surrendered to God's will, yielded and dedicated to His purpose. I was driven by enthusiasm, good cheer, warm friendship and a feeling of real love for the brethren. And I *had*, without realizing it then, been put through a training and experience which prepared me to be Christ's instrument in carrying out His purpose. But I had no remote conception of the manner in which this work was destined to develop.

Rather, I had, in 1924, turned down the post of advertising manager of the Des Moines Register, rated by many as one of America's ten greatest newspapers, because I was convinced that I was not an executive and never could become one. I called myself a "lone wolf" so far as directing the work of others was concerned. Later, about 1926, I had turned down the offer to become advertising manager of a large corporation in Cleveland, Ohio, for the same reason.

I knew that I could work *with* or *under* other men—I could co-operate, but I firmly believed that I could never *direct* others.

So far as radio broadcasting was con-

cerned, I was not oblivious to its possibilities in proclaiming the Gospel. But what I had in mind, and tried to plan, was to help get Evangelist Sven (Sam) Oberg on the air. I felt that *he* had an excellent radio voice—but never dreamed that I had.

No, this work as it has developed was not of *my* planning or vision. This is THE VERY WORK OF GOD, and the vision behind it has been that of Jesus Christ—the planning HIS! I was merely His instrument—and an unwilling one at first—until He conquered my rebellious will.

How, then, did CHRIST cause the work to start on radio? A man in Eugene—I do not remember who—suggested I could speak on the morning devotional 15-minute period scheduled as a sustaining public service program on the local station, KORE. I did not plan it, or think up the idea. A man whom I do not remember suggested it.

I did not originate the idea of the half-hour *World Tomorrow* program. The owner and manager of KORE called me to his office, said there had been an unusual mail response from those 15-minute broadcasts, and it was *he* who suggested the every-Sunday half-hour program.

But I know now that CHRIST *planned* it!

Personally, I had no inkling, then, that this work was to expand into a world-encompassing operation. Always I had been ambitious to develop and enlarge whatever I was engaged in. I believed in growth—in progress—in accomplishment. I think there was normal human capacity of vision. But the vision, then, did not penetrate beyond the scope of a localized sector of Oregon.

A Powerful DOOR Opens

What actually was happening has been written for almost 1900 years. Of

course no one—least of all myself—had the remotest realization of it then. Jesus Christ said: "I will build my Church." He built it for a purpose—to become God's *instrument* in carrying on GOD'S WORK fulfilling His PURPOSE here below.

God *began* the work of His Church through Christ. Jesus said that He Himself was powerless—it was the POWER of God's Holy Spirit working in His *personal human body* which really did the work. But after His ascension to heaven, that same WORK OF GOD was carried on through the Spirit of God working in the *collective body* of God's CHURCH. That is why the true Church is called "the BODY of Christ."

God sent His Message—the GOOD NEWS of His Kingdom—of His REIGN — His GOVERNMENT — His divine FAMILY—to mankind by Jesus Christ. Jesus taught this Message to His disciples, who became the apostolic leaders of His Church as it started out. This Message from God—Christ's GOSPEL—was also recorded in the Scriptures of the New Testament. A few accepted that Message, and it *changed* their lives. They were begotten by God's Spirit as God's children and became co-workers in the WORK OF GOD. But mankind generally rejected the Gospel, and crucified Jesus for teaching it! Those who preached it were persecuted—martyred!

The continuation of that story on into the world *today* was not realized until near the middle of the decade of the 1950s. It was then, in retrospect, that the astonishing truth burst upon us. Specialists in historic research, in Ambassador College, had been for years patiently searching out the true history of that TRUE Church of God.

God marks off time-spaces, except the week, by the movements of the earth, the moon and the sun in relation to one another. These mark the duration of the day, the month, and the year. Also God divides time into 19-year time-cycles—for every 19 years these three bodies come into exact relation.

It was discovered that precisely one 19-year time-cycle after the apostles started proclaiming Christ's Gospel (A.D. 31), Christ *opened a door* for Paul to preach that Gospel in Europe (A.D. 50) (Acts 16:8-9; with II Cor.

2:12-13). Exactly one time-cycle later, A.D. 69, the apostles and the Church fled to Pella from Jerusalem according to Jesus' warning (Mat. 24:15-16). That was the END of the organized proclaiming of Christ's Gospel by His Church to the world! By the second century, the professing "Christian" church was preaching doctrines, and practising customs very *different* from those taught by Christ! More and more the visible professing church adopted pagan beliefs and practices. Scattered individual Christians, as Christ foretold (John 15:18-20; 16:2-4, 32, etc.), were persecuted, tortured, martyred. Through the years, and down through the "dark ages," millions were tortured and martyred because they individually held to Christ's teaching—the Word of God (Rev. 12:9; 17:6; 18:24, etc.). They were "cast out of the synagogues"—put out of the popular professing churches—branded as heretics. For 18½ centuries all world-wide organized proclaiming of *Christ's* Gospel was stamped out by the worldly popular, professing "Christian" churches!

But Christ also foretold that, *just before* the END of *this* world—*this* age—*this* man-built society rejecting the laws and ways of GOD—HIS very *same* Gospel of God's KINGDOM "shall be preached" (Mat. 24:14) and also *published* (Mark 13:10) "in all the world for a witness unto all nations."

And at last, in the light of fast-developing, world-encircling events, it became apparent that what was actually happening, back in 1934, was precisely this: Jesus Christ (Rev. 3:8) was opening the gigantic mass-media DOOR of radio and the printing press for the proclaiming of His same original GOSPEL to all the world!

On that tiny-powered radio station KORE—in that infant mimeographed *Plain Truth*—was going out an *astonishing* Message! Just as the public, 1900 years before, had been *astonished* at Christ's Gospel (Mark 1:14-15, 22), so were those who began to hear it in 1934. It was *so utterly different* from what had been palmed off as "Christianity."

The Church Identified

Careful research during the first half

of the decade of the 1950s finally established the true prophetic identification of the Church of God with which I had been co-operating. It was by their Oregon Conference I was ordained. Up until about 1933 they had headquarters at Stanberry, Missouri. This historic research revealed it to be the phase of God's Church represented by the symbolic "Church in Sardis" (Rev. 3:1).

Back in those first years of my conversion—1927 up to 1933 and past—during my search for the ONE *True Church*, this small, scattered group of people seemed to be the only church that could possibly fill the Biblical qualifications of the one true Church. As God opened understanding of the plain TRUTHS of the Bible, I could see plainly that this little Church had more truth than any of which I could find any record.

Yet I was constantly puzzled by the impotence—the lack of vigor or power—in these people. God reveals clearly in the Bible that His Spirit imparts Spiritual LIFE and POWER! But these people seemed to be spiritually dead! No "fruit" was being borne. No results were being accomplished. I inquired around among older members. Not one of them knew of a single person who had been, in those recent years, really *converted*—brought to real repentance, and faith, and baptized by the Holy Spirit with power into Christ's Body—*really changed*!

Back in those years now being covered in this Autobiography this paradox puzzled and disturbed me. I could not see how such a spiritually dead work could be that of God's True Church. That is the reason I never became directly affiliated with it. The members of the Oregon Conference were individually members of the Church of God at Stanberry, Missouri. But the Oregon Conference was a local state organization, and was not under the jurisdiction of the Stanberry organization.

But, when our researchers in Ambassador College traced the history of the true Church, during that first half of the decade of the 1950s, the mystery was explained. This was, indeed, the dying or dead remnant of the "Sardis" era of God's true Church. Christ Himself says of it, in Revelation 3:1: "I

know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead." Her "works" had not been found perfect. (Verse 2). This was a spiritually dead, impotent, fruitless Church.

But, immediately on its heels follows the "Philadelphia" phase of the Church of God. And to *this* Church Christ says: "I know thy works: behold I have set before thee AN OPEN DOOR"—WHY? Because "thou hast a little strength," or, as other translations make more clear, "only a little strength," yet "hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name." (Rev. 3:8).

The Stanberry headquarters had privately confessed, on proof from me, that they were preaching an error—but refused to admit it officially or repent or change to the TRUTH. Also their leader had confessed, privately to me—as photographically reproduced in proof in a previous installment—that new Biblical TRUTH had been revealed to me, yet he and the church rejected this truth, and later persecuted me because I did accept and proclaim it!

We, having but little real power or strength of ourselves, had been willing to correct error and accept TRUTH. Therefore God was able to reveal to us HIS TRUE END-TIME GOSPEL—the same original Gospel Christ preached! Therefore, also, He opened the mighty and powerful DOOR of radio and the printing press, that HIS MESSAGE might be thundered to the whole world in magnified and multiplied POWER!

Further, just as Christ had "opened a door" for the Apostle Paul to preach His Gospel in Europe, after one 19-year time-cycle, so in this END-time closing work Christ opened the mighty "door" of the most powerful radio station on earth—Radio Luxembourg—exactly 19 years after He started us on the air January, 1934. The first broadcast to Europe was early January, 1953!

But none of these things were understood in 1933 or 1934—or until after 1953!

The "Three-Point" Campaign

And so it was, that when Mr. Frank Hill, owner of KORE, urged me to produce a half-hour Sunday program, consisting of a regular church service condensed into a half hour, using radio

techniques, that I went to work on the idea with zest and enthusiasm.

It was Jesus Christ who had the VISION. I could see no farther ahead, at the time, than a local program in Lane County, Oregon.

But even this seemed BIG, compared to past activities. I saw in it immediately an opportunity to reach many more people with God's TRUTH.

Not only did I set out with a will to produce the radio program, but I realized there must be follow-up if this new effort were to be resultful.

Immediately the idea came of realizing, at last, the dream I had cherished since 1927—the publication of a magazine, to be called *The Plain Truth*. Back in 1927 I had made up an entire "dummy" of this proposed magazine. I had even written articles for it. I had, while my family went hungry to pay for it, even had a professional letter artist design a front cover idea in 1927—and I had tried designing one myself. But we had never had the "wherewithall" to start publishing a magazine.

This ambition to publish *The Plain Truth* was the natural outgrowth of earlier business experience. Much of my 20 years of advertising experience had been spent in the class magazine field.

Now, at last, I realized that this magazine was a "must" as a follow-up for the radio broadcast. Yet we were no more able, financially, than we had been in 1927.

Necessity is the mother of invention. If we could not afford to publish a high-quality, professional-appearing magazine, I would simply convert the mimeographed "BULLETIN" I had been issuing for our scattered church brethren in the Willamette Valley into *The Plain Truth*.

My idea for this magazine, from the start, had been to publish a magazine, *not* for church members, but for the general public—the unconverted and unchurched—an evangelistic-type publication to bring to the world God's TRUTH—making it PLAIN!

So now, even if it had to start with about 250 copies done by hand on a mimeograph, I would start it! Like the grain of mustard seed, it started, very possibly, the smallest of magazines. But

WHY THE PLAIN TRUTH HAS NO SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

So many ask: "How can you publish a magazine, without subscription price, and without advertising?"

The answer is simple. The GOSPEL must go to the whole world, and it must go FREE. It must not be sold like merchandise. "Freely ye have received," Jesus said to His disciples whom He was sending to proclaim the Gospel, "freely GIVE." Without money and without price, is God's way. We proclaim a FREE salvation. Therefore, we cannot put a PRICE upon The PLAIN TRUTH.

We have been called of God to conduct this work. It is not our work, but God's. We have set out to conduct God's work God's way. We rely, in FAITH, upon God's promises to supply every need.

God's way is the way of LOVE—and that is the way of giving, not getting. God expects every true child of His to GIVE of tithes and offerings that His work may go FREE—that His true ministers may GIVE the precious Gospel to others. We simply TRUST GOD to lay it on the minds and hearts of His people to give of their tithes and offerings that we may be enabled to GIVE the good things of God's Word to the hundreds of thousands who hear the Message over the air, and the scores of thousands who read The PLAIN TRUTH.

Many times our faith has been severely tried, but God has never failed us. We must not fail HIM!

it has grown into a professional-appearing 32-page (soon 36) magazine of 250,000 copies.

Also, I saw at once that the broadcasts should be followed up by continued public evangelistic services.

Therefore, I wrote to the small number of members on the mailing list I had—perhaps 150—the news of the forthcoming THREE-POINT CAMPAIGN: 1) The half-hour Sunday radio program; 2) the new mimeographed magazine for interested listeners, *The Plain Truth*, and 3) personal public meetings. I asked our members to pledge what they could for this new radio program. Mr. Hill had offered me the half hour each Sunday from 10 to 10:30 A.M. at a rate lower than the usual rate for broadcast time—the mere cost of operation—\$2.50 per program.

Today that price seems ridiculously, laughably low. But in those days, having just rejected the \$3 per week salary from the state Conference, receiving less than \$3 per week in tithes or offerings being handed me, it seemed a fortune.

The broadcast, and idea of the Three-Point Campaign, had been completely approved, of course, by the new Church organized as a result of the six weeks' meetings I had held in the one-room country school house, eight miles west of Eugene. And so now, the proposal of this new Gospel-spreading program was presented to the entire church membership up and down the Valley for approval and support.

The program was approved without

The PLAIN TRUTH



June-July, 1934

VOL. I, No. 5

What is Going to Happen!

When will the next world war come? Which will be first, the war precipitated by Russia---or the revival of the Roman Empire?

AMAZING Prophecies are being fulfilled before our very eyes!

Still more amazing things soon will occur in the world! But how can we tell what will happen NEXT?

How can we learn the exact ORDER in which coming events will occur?

For instance, all Bible students know that the 38th and 39th chapters of Ezekiel foretell a gigantic world war, in which Soviet Russia, together with many allies, will be the aggressor. But WHEN will this world war occur?

Most Bible students know, too, that the 17th chapter of Revelation tells us the ancient Roman Empire will once more be revived, this time by a federation of ten nations---and it will be the aggressor in war. But WHEN will this occur? Before, or after, Russia precipitates war?

What is the TIME when the "two witnesses" of Revelation 11: appear? The Bible, in scores of texts, prophesies the Second Coming of Christ. But WHEN---before the great Tribulation, to capture his "bride" out of it, or at the end of it and before the terrible "day of the Lord," or at the end of that? Will His coming occur before the final ending of the "Times of the Gentiles," or after Gentile "Times" have ended?

Here is a complete synopsis of impending events, placing each future prophesied event in its proper time-order, as revealed by the story-flow of the Book of Revelation.

Only by arranging these events in a chart can the many separate events prophesied be properly correlated, as to time-sequence.

We cannot really understand these prophecies at all, unless we can arrange them in their proper time-order.

The Bible is like the jig-saw puzzle that became such a fad a year ago; each text on a given subject is like a piece of a jig-saw puzzle; and if we get all the various pieces properly joined together, a beautiful picture, clear and perfect, is the result. But if they are not joined properly together, the picture is distorted. Neither is it complete if one or two of the texts are left out. We must have EVERY piece that fits into the picture, and every one in its PROPER place in relation to the others.

Time-Sequence Found ONLY in the Revelation

ONLY in the Book of Revelation do we find the various stages of prophesied events arranged in an orderly time-sequence. In the Book of Revelation there is a story-flow, relating one event to another in the time-order of occurrence.

But what is the KEY to an understanding of it? For Revelation is in symbols. The Book is the REVELATION---that is the revealing, not the concealing---of Jesus Christ (Rev. 1:1). What does it re-

we were ON THE AIR. The program has been continuously on the air, without missing a single week, ever since.

Mr. Hill had suggested that we produce a regular Sunday morning church service, abbreviated into 30 minutes. I had planned it according to his suggestion. In our new local church, then meeting out at the Jeans school house, 12 miles west of Eugene, we had a young couple, Claude and Velma Ellis. Claude was a very good tenor. His wife Velma sang alto. They sang duets, accompanied with Claude's guitar. They supplied the music.

I do not remember the exact format of the program, as it started, during those first few months. Very soon the duet was replaced with a mixed quartette, with our daughter Beverly singing soprano, Mrs. Armstrong alto, Claude Ellis tenor, and Alfred Freeze bass, with Mrs. Ellis at the piano.

As the program started out it was called the "Radio Church of God." It was, indeed, a church service on the air. There has been a gradual evolution in the format of the program. We were to learn, later, that an abbreviated church service appeals only to church-going people, who may want to listen in on a church service---or to "attend church" without leaving their homes. It attracts only what is called the "religious audience." Through the years the program changed, until it became a program pointed toward the NON-church-going public---people who are not religious and may never attend church.

But for the first two or three years it became a real condensed church service. In those days "The Radio Church of God" opened with an opening theme, the hymn composed by Elton Menno Roth (who later became my personal friend) "In My Heart There Rings a Melody," sung in lively manner by our "Radio Church Quartette." By that time I employed a leading choir director in Eugene to drill the quartette each week. My opening greeting came in over the music, as the quartette hummed a second chorus, announcing a lively opening hymn which they swung immediately into without a second's silence. Then came an opening prayer, with the quartette singing an "Amen" afterward---then announcements---then an anthem-

Here is a reproduction of the fifth number of The PLAIN TRUTH when it was still in mimeographed form. Notice the timeliness of the topic though written in 1934. In future issues we will publish pictures of earlier numbers.

a protest. But the pledges for financing the broadcast amounted to only \$1.25 per week. Our brethren were not in the upper strata income brackets. And these pledges had to be over and above tithes and regular offerings, which were sent to the state treasurer.

Mrs. Armstrong and I talked over the situation with Mr. Elmer Fisher, deacon and a leading member of our new local

Church, and other local members. We decided to go right ahead with the plans, trusting God in faith for the additional \$1.25 per week broadcasting expense, beside other needs for the new program.

"ON THE AIR!"

On the first Sunday morning in the new year, 1934, precisely at 10 A.M.,

ette or two verses of a melodic hymn, then a 22 minute sermon, and then final announcements and hymn as a closing theme.

Gradually, however, we learned that it was the MESSAGE which attracted listeners. Radio station managers began to tell us that we really had a SPEECH-type program, and a Message and type of speech which would attract and hold a bigger audience than music. Since this also gave more time for the message, we gradually reduced the music, until we reached the present "World Tomorrow" format of all speech—news analysis, prophecy, a dynamic Message of interest to NON-religious and NON-church people, or, in other words, the WHOLE of the public.

But back, now, to January, 1934.

The PLAIN TRUTH'S Modest Bow

Just as the 15-minute morning devotional programs had brought an unexpected mail response, so did the half-hour regular program of our own. Only it now brought a larger response. I began with the first broadcast, that first Sunday in 1934, inviting listeners to write in for the new magazine, *The Plain Truth*.

At the same time I began work on producing Volume I and Number 1 of this magazine of my dreams. I did not even have a "scope" for hand-lettering the headlines. Neither did I have the regular mimeograph lettering guides for tracing, with the stylus, larger headlines. I was still living with the Fishers on their farm seven miles west of Eugene—my wife and children still at the Hall Street house in Salem. I had to hold the mimeograph stencils up against a window, and try to cut the headlines with my right hand while I tried to hold the stencil without slipping against the window pane with my left. The headlines were a little shaky. That first issue of *The Plain Truth* was a pretty amateurish, home-made looking sort of thing. Probably no one but myself would have dignified it by calling it a "magazine."

No publication could have had a more humble, or a smaller start. But it was a start. It grew. It was improved, as scanty funds permitted. It took years before we were able to have it printed

on a printing press. But through the years it has been instrumental in making drastic *changes* in thousands of lives!

It was about November 1, 1933, that a few special offerings made it possible for us to purchase a very old, used, outdated Neostyle. It was predecessor to the mimeograph. It was entirely hand operated. The sheets of paper had to be fed into it one at a time by hand. There was *nothing* automatic about it. It cost \$10. We had also finally been able, before the first issue of *The Plain Truth*, to raise enough money to purchase a secondhand typewriter for \$10.

And so finally *The Plain Truth*, home-made at Fishers' farm on the Neostyle, but containing priceless plain TRUTH, made its humble bow to the world February 1, 1934. I have no record of the exact "press run" of that first edition, but it was in the neighborhood of 200 or 250 copies. I think we still have one copy somewhere in some old files.

Looking back now, we are a little amazed to see how far the broadcast and *The Plain Truth* have gone since then. Some 15 million people on every inhabited continent on earth hear the WORLD TOMORROW program every week. It is broadcast in English, Spanish, German and Russian. Soon is to be added French, Japanese and Italian. *The Plain Truth* now is published in three editions — the United States edition printed in Los Angeles; the British edition in London; and the Australian edition in Melbourne; now with a worldwide circulation of 250,000 copies! There is a special service for the blind. Literature is published in several languages. 25,000 students study the Bible Correspondence Course. That "grain of mustard seed" is multiplying mightily under the guiding power of GOD!

Driving a Hall Rent Bargain

January and February, 1934, saw the broadcast and *The Plain Truth* under way. Another "grain of mustard seed" was taking root. Now we turned our energies toward the third of the new 3-Point campaign.

I looked around for a suitable hall for public evangelistic meetings in downtown Eugene. The best opportunity

seemed to be the old Masonic Temple on Seventh Street.

We were still holding meetings three times a week out at the Jeans school house, 12 miles west of Eugene; Tuesday and Thursday nights and Sabbath mornings. We, Mr. Fisher, the Ellises and I, had decided to hold meetings in downtown Eugene three nights a week — Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday.

I found that the Old Masonic Temple — long since vacant and dusty from disuse, since the new Masonic Temple had been built — was owned by Mr. Frank Chambers. He was said to own about half of downtown Eugene, and reputed to be the wealthiest man in town.

After talking the matter over with Mr. Elmer Fisher and other church members, we decided the maximum hall rental we could afford would be \$10 per month. Mr. Fisher was going to have to sponsor most of it. Somehow enough money had been coming in, besides the pledges of \$1.25 per week, to continue paying for every broadcast on Sunday morning in advance. With our secondhand typewriter and old Neostyle I had been able also to have enough money to buy stencils, ink and the few sheets of mimeograph paper required for the small *Plain Truth* circulation.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Armstrong, in Salem, found odd jobs of work to help keep herself and our four children from starving. We were now *on our own*, financially. We had no regular or guaranteed income of any kind since rejecting the \$3 per week salary from the Oregon State Conference. But, very gradually, with this new 3-Point campaign under way, tithes and offerings, small though they were, did increase slightly.

Even though it was not our policy from the first to request money over the air from listeners, a few soon became interested in the program and began giving it small scattered support. Little by little this financial support of the work increased.

An old record book found in dusty files shows that, by May, 1934, including the month of May and first 4 days of June, we had a total income of \$58.89. Amount paid out totalled \$53.77. And that included our house

rent and living expenses for our family, as well as broadcasting expense, hall rent, and publishing cost of *The Plain Truth*! Some critics, bent on misrepresenting facts in an effort to discredit God's work, began calling this work "Armstrong extravagance." This report, covering a month and four days, is a factual example of that alleged "extravagance"!

Another example is the hiring of the hall for public meetings. I sought out Mr. Chambers. I asked if he would rent out the second-floor old Masonic Hall for our meetings three nights a week. He would. I asked what was the lowest rental he would take.

"\$40 per month," he replied.

"We just don't have that kind of money," I said.

"Sorry, that's my lowest price," he insisted. "It would cost me more than that to clean the place up fit for use."

"Look, Mr. Chambers," I argued, "that hall hasn't been used in years. It isn't bringing you a cent of income unused. Anything we pay you is that much more than you are receiving now. We will clean it up ourselves. You'll have no expense. All we can afford to pay is \$10 per month. That's just \$10 per month income you are not getting now. And besides, you'll be doing a good public service."

"Mmm," he mused, "That's \$2.50 per week. Well, O.K. I'll let you have it for \$2.50 per week."

"Oh, no you don't," I came back. "I didn't offer you \$2.50 per week. That would figure \$12.50 every third month, and you are just sharp enough to figure in that extra \$2.50 every third month. I said \$10 flat per month."

Mr. Chambers grinned. He drove a sharp bargain. That is one reason he was the wealthiest man in town. But he respected me for catching him at it. In fact he respected me, and favored me from that time on.

"O.K.," he laughed. "I'll let you clean up the hall, and have it for a flat \$10 per month."

That \$10 per month may seem like less than pennies today. But, in March, 1934, that was going out on the limb of FAITH and adding just about 40% to our monthly expenses.

Where was this additional 40% of

income to be found? I knew this was GOD's work. I knew that God owned all the money there is. I knew that God had promised to supply all our NEED. This had become a NEED in His work. Of course, Elmer Fisher was a successful farmer, and I felt I could count on him for part of it—but he also was a thrifty and a frugal farmer, and I knew he would contribute only the part he considered "his share." But I could trust God blindly for the rest. Actually, that is the principle on which this work has progressed ever since. Our faith has been sorely tried—but always justified in the end!

The Family Arrives

It was now March, 1934. The broadcast was continuing each Sunday morning at 10 A.M. Somehow or other the \$2.50 had a way of turning up each week by Sunday morning—sometimes at the last moment. The February and March issues of *The Plain Truth* had been ground out on the old hand-operated Neostyle, and mailed to a gradually increasing mailing list. The hall had been rented for the meetings. We had set April 1st as the date to begin the meetings in downtown Eugene.

It seemed to be time, now, to move my family to Eugene. We stepped out on faith for an additional expenditure. I found a vacant house on West Fourth Avenue we could rent for \$10 a month—we had been paying \$7 in Salem.

Ed Smith, in whose home the new church had been organized, had a truck. He volunteered to go to Salem and bring Mrs. Armstrong, our four children, and our limited belongings in his truck. I needed Mrs. Armstrong to help clean up the old hall—although Mr. and Mrs. Fisher also gave quite a little help.

The truck with my family arrived one night after dark. It was too late to try to move into our house. We left the furniture and household goods on the truck overnight, and slept on cots in one of the ante-rooms in the hall.

About this time the reaction from the serious loss of sleep during that 15 months in Astoria—where I had averaged only 5 hours sleep a night, often getting none—and the driving grind

of meetings out west of Eugene, the publishing and broadcast work, constant private visits and Bible studies—left me in a condition where my nerves often refused to let me sleep of nights. At that time barbiturate sleeping pills could still be purchased at a drug store without a prescription. On this particular night I had been losing so much sleep I was desperate. For the first time in my life I took a sleeping pill.

I shall never forget the experience. I did sleep that night. But it was not a natural sleep. It was so obviously an induced, unnatural, artificial sleep, that I was frightened. I threw the remainder of the pills away. I have never used barbiturates since.

Prosperity in Depression

While these meetings were still being held three times a week out at Jeans schoolhouse, neighbors began to complain that Ed Smith was harassing them. He went around the neighborhood arguing with those not in the church that they ought to keep the Sabbath, and tithe their income. It was becoming embarrassing.

"Why do you come around arguing these things with us, when you don't obey them yourself?" the neighbors asked Ed.

"Because," replied Ed, "I ain't a Christian, and you are. I don't have to do these things—but Christians sure do."

Of course Ed Smith attended all our meetings, even though he made no pretense of being converted. My next sermon was on the NON-Christian's relation to God's laws.

These laws, I showed, are basic principles; living, active, inexorable laws. They are the WAY to peace, happiness, prosperity, and every blessing. They are no respecter of persons—whether converted or unconverted. Those who break them have to reap what they sow. Violation brings unhappiness, everything wrong. God *promises* to *prosper* the tithe-payer—whether converted or not. Salvation does not come by obeying God's spiritual laws. The *penalty* of transgression, which is sin, is curses here and now, and the final, *eternal punishment* of DEATH. Salvation is not earned by *keeping* the law. That is only

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The Seventh Commandment

What is the REASON for so much misery and frustration in modern marriages? What is the God-given WAY to really happy homes? The answer is revealed by understanding God's living LAW!

by Roderick C. Meredith

IS "SEXUAL COMPATIBILITY" the all-important thing in marriage? In this age of broken homes, juvenile delinquents and modern psychology, many will say that the answer is "yes."

But the fact remains that the more these "modern" theories are put into practice, the faster the *divorce rate* climbs and the more little children are doomed to grow up without the blessing of a stable, happy home. It is a painful FACT that almost *one out of three* marriages in America ends in the divorce courts. And the more educated and "modern" people become in their views, the more the divorce rate literally SKYROCKETS!

Take a look at California—one of the most "up-to-date" areas on earth. Recently, Dr. James A. Peterson, associate professor of sociology at the University of Southern California, cited evidence that *50 per cent* of California's marriages end in divorce. For Los Angeles County, the percentage is even higher—*70 per cent!*

Yes, where modern "scientific" views of sex and marriage are most widely held, *more than half* of all marriages end in divorce! The marriages *end*—but the *suffering* and *anguish* do not. For the little children of such broken homes, the years of *frustration* and *emptiness* are only beginning.

Is there a real MEANING to marriage that modern man needs to understand? Are there God-given LAWS and *principles* that can safeguard a Christian marriage and make it happy and purposeful?

The Commandment

The Creator God devoted *two* of His ten great spiritual laws—the Ten Commandments—to protecting the relationships in the home and family. In this series, we have already discussed the first of these: "Honor thy father and thy mother. . . ."

The other law directly governing the

home and family is contained in the *seventh* commandment: "*Thou shalt not commit adultery*" (Exodus 20:14).

Almighty God gave this commandment to protect the honor and sanctity of marriage. Immediately after the sixth command which declares the sacredness of human life, God gives this law to safeguard the *highest earthly relationship*. For marriage and the home is the BASIS of all decent society.

The words of the command directly forbid adultery as violating the sacred rights of the marriage relation. Its spirit makes evident the fact that all unchaste conduct before marriage is a wrong done to the future marriage; and unfaithfulness before marriage is violating the command as much as adultery committed after marriage.

In this "permissive" modern age, it is important to remind ourselves that God has promised to reward those who break this commandment with the penalty of DEATH. "And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbor's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be *put to death*" (Lev. 20:10).

Again, in the New Testament, God says: "For the wages of sin is DEATH" (Rom. 6:23).

WHY is the sin of adultery so great as to merit *death*, and, in God's judgment, *eternal death* in the lake of fire? The answer is this: The reason adultery is such a TERRIBLE sin in God's sight is that marriage is such a precious, righteous, holy thing that MUST NOT BE DEFILED!

The *meaning* of marriage and its great PURPOSE in God's plan needs *desperately* to be understood in this age of unhappy marriages and broken homes.

The PURPOSE of Marriage

It is impossible to understand the true *meaning* of marriage without first under-

standing that sex and marriage are *God-given* and *God-ordained*. To leave God out of the picture—as this modern age is doing—is to degrade the marriage union to mere animalism.

Notice God's PURPOSE in creating man and woman! "And the Lord God said [after He had made only the man], It is *not good* that the man should be alone; I will make an help meet for him" (Gen. 2:18). God saw that man was INCOMPLETE by himself, and so He decided to make a help "meet" or *suitable* for the man—one with whom man could really *share* his life.

Then God brought all the other living creatures to Adam—and he named them. "But for Adam there was not found an help meet for him" (verse 20). There was *no other creature* really LIKE Adam—one who could share his sorrows and joys, his hopes and dreams.

And so God created *woman* out of Adam's very flesh and bone. "And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man" (verse 23).

Here now was a creature *equal with Adam*, another *person* with whom he could share EVERYTHING. And she was created to be a suitable "help" to him, and to be his wife and companion. For God said: "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be *one flesh*" (verse 24).

God made us *male* and *female*. God created SEX as a beautiful and holy thing to be used to His glory. And, as we have just seen, GOD instituted *marriage*—not man, or the laws or courts of man.

So the *first* and primary purpose of marriage is to make man and woman *complete*. Each is *incomplete* without the other. Man alone was not able to fulfill the *purpose* for which God created him—was not able to learn the *lessons* of CHARACTER which God intended—

and so God created the woman as a "help" to the man. And, in the very creation, God showed that they were to dwell together as man and wife in one *fleshy union*—to share EVERYTHING in this life, and so make their lives *meaningful and complete* in a physical sense at least.

The *second* purpose of sex and marriage is the begetting and training of children. For God had told the man and woman: "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth and subdue it..." (Gen. 1:28).

In *begetting* children comes the responsibility of *protecting* and *training* them. A stable, happy home and marriage are indispensable to the correct nurture and training of a child. And God commands: "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22:6).

Both parents are responsible for the supervision and training of their children. But the minute-by-minute, hour-by-hour responsibility of care and training of the children falls the lot of the wife as the God-given "helper" of her husband. The Eternal God commands that the young women are to be taught "to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, **KEEPERS AT HOME, obedient to their own husbands**, that the Word of God be not blasphemed" (Titus 2:4-5).

The Home is a School for Character Development

The home and family is the **BASIS** of all decent society! The lessons of *character* learned in the home—patience, understanding, kindness—all these are qualities that God wants in man for *all eternity*, and the *family* relationship is one of the best places in which they can be learned!

Better than any other place, the lessons of *decency, loyalty*, and a sense of *responsibility* are learned in a happy and well-balanced *home*.

And so, in addition to making man complete and to the begetting and training of children, a *third* great purpose in sex and marriage is the building of **CHARACTER** in the home and family relationship. The kingdom and law of God is based on LOVE. Jesus said: "It is more blessed to GIVE than to receive" (Acts

20:35). To obey GOD's law of marriage, man and wife must literally GIVE themselves to each other in every phase and facet of their lives.

Showing that this principle must be practiced in the sexual relationship as well as in others, the apostle Paul commanded: "Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency" (I Cor. 7:3-5).

The material act of bodily union is a debt each marriage partner owes the other. But it is a debt of LOVE and is so intimate and holy that God often blesses it with a NEW LIFE.

The Divine purpose in sex attraction is to kindle love and intensify it until there is complete and mutual surrender of two lives. Love in its highest sense is union. The marriage union is of mind, heart and body. It is made sacred by God's command, for He instituted marriage to be the perfect expression of this love of man and woman.

Marriage Pictures Christ and His Church

As ordained by God, the marriage union is a HOLY thing. It is *so holy* that in His Word Almighty God uses the marriage union as a type of the relationship between CHRIST and His Church!

Notice Ephesians 5:22-33. "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, **EVEN AS** Christ is the Head of the Church: and He is the Saviour of the body. Therefore as the Church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything."

In this place, God shows that in the Christian home the wife is to submit herself to her husband as the HEAD of that home just as she must learn to submit to *Christ Himself* for all eternity! In this holy relationship, she is learning a *lesson* of LASTING *faithfulness*!

Then the husbands are addressed:

"Husbands, LOVE your wives, **EVEN AS** Christ also loved the Church, and gave Himself for it . . . so ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself" (verses 25, 28).

Jesus Christ *served, helped, trained, protected* and eventually GAVE Himself for His Church. So are husbands to protect, to provide for, to guide, to encourage, to *love* and GIVE to their wives!

A Christian man is to be the HEAD of his house. Yet he is to use that office to *serve* and to *give* protection, guidance and happiness to his wife and family. And Almighty God holds him *responsible* for being the RIGHT kind of head!

Because of this great *lesson* and *purpose* in marriage, God says: "For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be ONE FLESH" (vs. 31).

In the marriage union, man and woman are made ONE. Their relationship is then to picture the eternal, loving and serving relationship of Christ and His Church. Therefore, NOTHING can come between them!

The lesson of marriage is to teach us *eternal* FAITHFULNESS to Jesus Christ as our Head! To separate from one's God-given mate is to FAIL to learn the lesson which God intends for us to learn in marriage. It is a REPROACH to Almighty God—for it denies His wisdom in ordaining the marriage union in making us truly "*one flesh*" with our mate!

How can we ever be faithful to the living God throughout *all eternity* if we selfishly REFUSE to be faithful to the mate to which we are bound in this life for only a few years—and to learn the lessons of patience, kindness, longsuffering, self-control, LOVE and FAITHFULNESS in the sacred marriage union?

The Teaching of Jesus Christ

Now it becomes increasingly clear why Jesus Christ taught the BINDING quality of the marriage vow.

When Jesus was asked by the hypocritical Pharisees why Moses allowed divorce in Old Testament times, He answered: "For the hardness of your heart he wrote you this precept. But

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The Bible Story

by Basil Wolverton

CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

AT THE RED SEA

AS DARKNESS closed in on the Israelites who were leaving Egypt, a strange thing took place. The peculiar, upright cloud that had gone before them by day took on a startling, different appearance. It began to glow!

The darker the sky became, the brighter the cloud became. By an hour or so after sundown it was like a giant shaft of fire blazing silently up into the sky. (Exodus 13: 21-22.)

The Israelites gasped in wonderment at this amazing thing. If there were any doubts in the minds of any of them that their Creator was leading them, then all such doubts should have been wiped away by this awesome pillar of fire.

To add to their astonishment, a lesser light grew out of the blazing column and spread back over the miles of encamped people, insomuch that their camps were filled with a soft radiance from above all during the hours of darkness!

Next Morning's Events

Next morning, the light over and ahead of the Israelites encamped at Etham gradually lost its brilliance and turned back into cloud form. Now the people were at the edge of hot, dry desert country. The overhead streak of light that had extended over the camps turned into a long cloud whose vapors produced a cooling shadow. Otherwise, many infants and the aged would have become ill or would have perished in the burning heat of midday.

When the huge caravan was ready to move for another day, many were surprised to see the upright cloud turn to the right of Etham to lead them southward. Some of



At night the cloud turned into a giant shaft of fire blazing silently into the sky.

the elders who knew that the way to Canaan was northeastward hurried to the head of the caravan to speak to Moses and Aaron.

"Why are we being led to the south?" they asked. "We should go northeastward!"

"God is leading us by the cloud," Moses answered. "Are we to question His wisdom?"

"But going south means traveling away from our goal—not toward it," the elders argued. "If we follow the cloud, we will end up in arid mountains on the west side of the Red Sea!"

"God is showing us the way He wants us to go," Moses patiently repeated. "Any who choose to go any other way will be lost."

God had already spoken to Moses, even before the cloud turned to the right from Etham, and he trusted God to lead His people in the direction that was best for them, even though there were those among them who believed that they shouldn't follow the cloud southward.

Most people have failed to understand God's ways and directions ever since the time of Adam. It has seemed wiser, in their human reasoning, to go just the opposite of the ways God has carefully pointed out in the Bible and through the teaching of His servants. There have always been men, regarded as wise and religious, who insist on teaching people to live contrary to

many of God's ways. They are often sincere men or women who believe what they have been wrongly taught by others before them. Or, in many cases they have tried to reason matters out by themselves.

God tells us that the thinking powers of man are far, far below His. We should understand how true that is when we realize that God made the universe, us and everything in it. To be as intelligent as God, we would have to be able to create a universe.

As it is, man is just beginning to stumble across a few of God's great secrets in the realm of physical things. But what we need most is wisdom to help us live happily. The Bible tells us that if we respect our Creator and believe what He tells us, wisdom will start coming into our minds.

Respect to God means living by His laws. And the more we obey the rules He has given to us, the more understanding and happiness will come to us.

When told that they would be lost if they didn't follow the cloud, the protesting Israelites gave up talking with Moses and Aaron, and fell back into their places in the caravan. They knew that the power within that awesome cloud and pillar of fire was something to be respected, and they didn't want to run any risks of getting cut off from the caravan.

Now that the caravan was in a desert region, food for the flocks and herds wasn't so plentiful. The first day or two of the escape journey had been through areas close to Goshen, where locusts hadn't eaten up every green thing. But now that the Israelites were turning into the regions where locusts had swarmed, grass became less plentiful. Some grass had grown up in the several days since the eighth plague. Also, there were tufts of grass yellowed by the sun. The locusts hadn't cared for that, but it made good food for livestock.

You will remember that it was suggested to Pharaoh that the Israelites be given freedom to make a three-day journey into the desert to worship God. At first the king of Egypt considered this a favor he could never grant. But after the tenth plague, in which he lost his oldest son, he was anxious to get rid of the Israelites forever. The idea of letting the Israelites go for only a few days was lost in the frantic desire of Pharaoh and the Egyptians to see the last of the Israelites and the plagues from God.

Pharaoh Again!

Later, when Pharaoh's scouts and spies brought word to him that the Israelites were still moving on even after a three-day journey, Pharaoh wasn't surprised.

"I expected it," Pharaoh muttered with a grim smile. "They were so anxious to get away that they were willing to go out into the desert that will surely take all of



The King's scouts brought him news from spies who watched to see which way the Israelites went.

them as its victims. Now I regret that I didn't send my army after them. But by now they must be moving across the sandy country where my chariots can't go. It is too late to either bring them back or slaughter them."

It was then that a panting messenger arrived with the very latest word about the Israelites. When the king heard the messenger's report, his glum expression suddenly changed to one of subdued glee. Then he glowered down on the messenger.

"Your report had better be true," Pharaoh told him. "Otherwise you will be rotting in a dungeon for a long time!"

"My report is true, O Pharaoh," the messenger insisted. "May these miserable eyes of mine dwell forever in the darkness of your royal dungeon if I myself did not witness the Israelite caravan turning southward along the western edge of the Red Sea!"

The king of Egypt sat for a few moments in deep thought while a slight smile, more cruel than agreeable, seemed to freeze on his face.

"Send for all my top officers!" he suddenly snapped at an aide.

A short while later Pharaoh addressed the men he had summoned. Only those who knew him very well could tell that he was trying to hide a great excitement.

"I have been thinking lately," Pharaoh told them, "that perhaps I acted hastily in letting the Israelites go. But a message has just been brought to me concerning them, and I have decided that it was best that they did leave. Now I want them back, dead or alive, and I want all their livestock returned as well as all the things

that were given to them by my people.”

“But it is too late to overtake them, your highness,” a military officer spoke up. “We have heard the report that the Israelites are by now well on their way into the desert far east of here. Foot soldiers could never catch up. Chariots would become stuck in the sands.”

“If that were entirely so, then I wouldn’t ask you to pursue them,” Pharaoh frowned. “But I have learned that the Israelite Moses has bungled matters by taking his people the wrong way. Instead of guiding them straight east, he has turned south to lead them along the rocky west coast of the Red Sea. They are headed directly into a range of mountains. If we go at once, we can’t fail to trap them between the sea and the mountains!”

A few moments of silence followed the king’s short speech. Then those who were before him, most of whom were men of war, began buzzing with excitement. Many who had tried to talk the king into letting the Israelites go now made it known that they wished to pursue the Israelites. They seemed to forget the terrible things that had come upon Egypt. The thing that seemed uppermost in their minds was the thought of crushing a defenseless mass of people without risking their lives to do it.

“You be our leader in destroying the Israelites, O Pharaoh,” one of the officers suddenly shouted. “We are happy that it is our duty to go with you to overtake and to overcome the cowardly Israelites and rescue the livestock and other things they have taken from us!”

There was a loud, long enthusiastic chorus of yells from others present. This sort of conduct was somewhat unusual for officers gathered before the king, but Pharaoh could hardly frown upon such zeal and agreement.

Although an Egyptian king generally went with his army into battle, the thought of roughing it for several days in the open was a bit distasteful to Pharaoh. However, the deep satisfaction that would be his at seeing the Israelites completely at his mercy promised to be worth more than any trouble or difficulty.

“I will lead you!” the king exclaimed, holding a fist up at arm’s length.

Egyptian Army in Hot Pursuit!

Time was short for the Egyptians, what with the Israelites being already more than three days’ journey by foot ahead. Thousands of horse-drawn chariots with drivers and fighting men were hastily mustered for speedy action. These included the king’s specially trained guard. This unit was made up of six hundred chariots, more than a thousand men and many hundreds of the strongest and most spirited horses in military service.

Chariots of that time each carried one driver and one or two fighting men. Often the driver was also considered a warrior, having been trained to handle spears or swords as he guided the chariot. Each chariot was pulled by either two or four horses, and when rolling at full speed it was no small task for the driver to keep the vehicle upright and all in one piece.

It was quite a sight for many Egyptians to see and hear Pharaoh's army thundering eastward out of Memphis and out across the plains in a vast cloud of dust. Besides chariots, there were many warriors mounted on horses. It was a remarkable fighting force for those times. It was a great display of the power of the greatest nation on Earth in those ancient days.

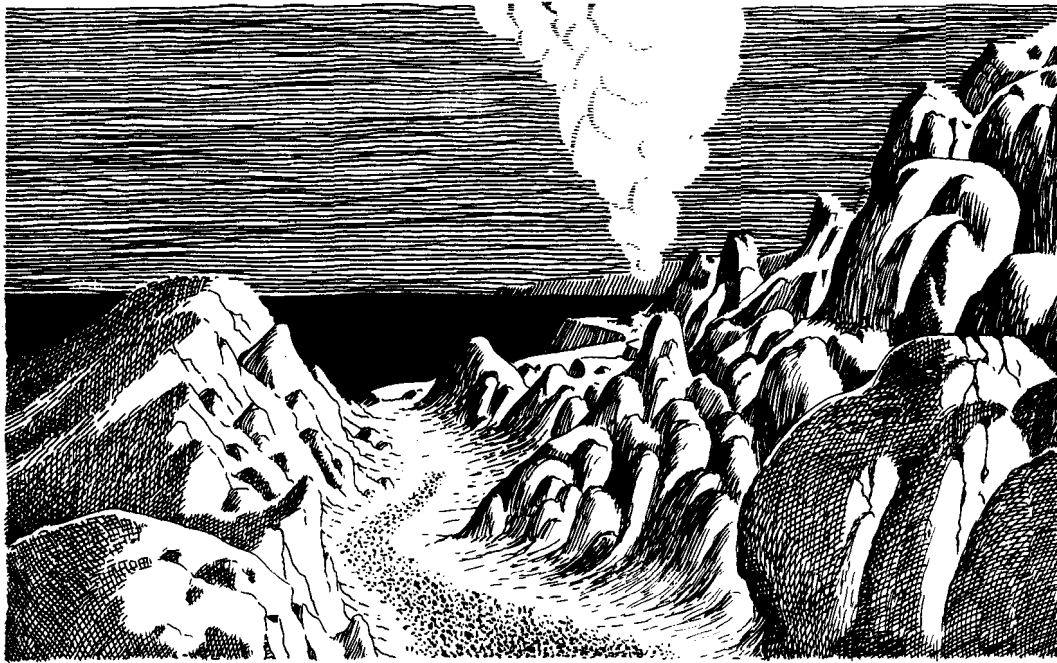
But even as the Israelites had to stop at night to rest, so did Pharaoh and his army. Horses couldn't gallop on hour after hour, and the speed of the Egyptian forces was soon slowed down to a walking pace. There was more than one overnight encampment by the Egyptian army before it could move up within sight of the Israelites.

At the Red Sea

Meanwhile, the Israelites had arrived at a point near the Red Sea where the mountains jutted up like an unfriendly wall. Nevertheless, the upright cloud continued to move southward as though beckoning them to



Pharaoh called for thousands of men, horses and chariots to set out after the Israelites.



The Israelites arrived at a point near the Red Sea where the mountains jutted up like an unfriendly wall.

move into the narrow passes. Again some of the elders came to Moses to voice their objections to moving to the south.

"This is madness," they declared. "Even if we manage to get through these mountains, we'll still be in Egypt. The Red Sea will be even wider between us and freedom."

"God knows what is best for us," Moses answered. "Either get back into line and move on or fall out and try to return to Egypt."

It was then that a lone Israelite rider came racing along the moving column.

"The Egyptians are coming after us!" the rider excitedly panted as he alighted from his mount and hurried up to Moses.

The elders who had complained to Moses glanced at each other in alarm. One of them stepped up and roughly seized the panting rider.

"What are you talking about?" the elder demanded of the shaking rider. "Explain what you mean!"

"My family and our herds are at the rear of the caravan," the winded man told them. "Part of our stock strayed away this afternoon. Some of us rode back several miles to try to round up these strays. We noticed a big cloud of dust off to the north. At first we thought it might be our cattle. We got just close enough and stayed just long enough to see that it was a whole army of chariots—thousands of them! It must be

the Egyptians, and at the rate they're moving, they'll overtake us very soon!"

"Have you told any one else of this?" Moses asked.

"Of course I did," the rider answered. "I yelled out an alarm all the way down the column of our caravan. People are getting terribly excited."

"Ride back to your place at the rear of the caravan," Moses told him. "On your way, spread the word to our people that I am asking them not to be afraid. Tell them that there is no reason to worry, because God will take care of us." (Exodus 14:13-14.)

Moses wasn't surprised at this turn of events. God had already told him that Pharaoh's army would set out after the Israelites. Moses hadn't told the people because he knew that they might become fearful even before the event took place.

After the rider had gone back, the elders who had come to Moses were more upset than ever. But realizing that they couldn't cause Moses to change his mind about anything, they hastily rode back to their places in the caravan.

Moses and Aaron and their officers continued riding southward, leading the Israelites along the rises at the foot of the mountain range towering so close to them. Then, as the sun began to slide out of sight behind the mountains, the guiding cloud ceased moving. This was a sign that the caravan should stop and camp for the night.

"Send the word back for the people to move up for the night as close together as possible without crowding themselves," Moses instructed some of the men.

"This is as God told you it would be," Aaron quietly reminded Moses when others couldn't hear. "But how shall we escape if the Egyptian army rushes in and traps us here?"

"I don't know—yet," Moses replied. "But we have obeyed God in coming to this spot and camping here. We must leave it to Him to take care of us."

At this same moment, several miles to the north, there was great excitement among the Egyptian officers. Sharp-eyed soldiers had spotted the rear part of the Israelite caravan moving slowly up into the higher areas. Pharaoh was so elated that he at first ordered his army to increase its speed and overtake their intended victims. However, the sun went down early in the mountainous area, and twilight came on so quickly that the king decided it might be unwise to attack in darkness.

"They cannot move at night in this region," Pharaoh triumphantly told his officers. "We will stop and camp here and attack when we choose tomorrow."

Pharaoh and his officers retired to their tents, satisfied that the next day would bring about the capture of the Israelites.

Meanwhile, the Israelites were becoming more and more fearful as the news

spread that the Egyptian army was pursuing them. With darkness coming on, some of them imagined that a blood-thirsty mob of soldiers would charge them at any moment. Anxiety grew steadily amid their millions. Most of them had little faith that their God would make any move to help them. They felt that Moses was mostly to blame for their terrible situation, and so a huge part of them moved up around the camp of Moses and Aaron, and shouted all kinds of unkind and threatening remarks.

"We told you at first that we didn't want to leave Egypt!" they yelled. "It would have been better to remain there as live slaves than to come out here in the desert to be slaughtered by Pharaoh's swords and spears!"

Moses Stills the People

However, not all the people were so rude to Moses and Aaron. Many of them realized that they should look to God for help. Thousands fell to their knees and begged for divine aid. But even as they prayed, the tumult and confusion increased as others kept on bitterly shouting against Moses for leading them out into the desert. (Exodus 14:10-12.)

Moses knew that something must be done to calm them. Ordinarily, Aaron spoke for Moses because Aaron was more gifted as a speaker. Moses felt that this was a time when he should do his own speaking. He asked God for wisdom in what to say and do, then walked to an elevated spot where many could hear him. But only a small part of all the Israelites were close enough to even see him. Though they had set up their camps closer together than usual, they were still spread out for miles around. Moses held up his hands and spoke as loudly as he could to as many as possible.

"This loud complaining and wailing must stop!" he cried out.

Perhaps it was the mere sight of Moses that caused the people for quite a distance to suddenly quiet down. Perhaps it was the ringing sound of his voice, made louder by echoing back from rocky cliffs behind him.

"This display of fear and confusion is anything but pleasing to God!" Moses exclaimed. "He has promised to take care of us. The only voices God wants to hear from us right now are those from you who are sincerely asking Him for help. You don't need to be afraid. Just be patient and see how God will rescue you. Remember that, and pass it back through your numbers. Some of you have looked back and have seen the Egyptian army approaching. Believe in God; that is the last any of you will ever see of Pharaoh and his chariots and his men!" (Verse 13.)

(To be continued next issue)

How Today's Religious Customs Began

Here is the tenth installment of the forthcoming surprising book "Satan's Great Deception."

by Dr. C. Paul Meredith

PART X

IN THE last nine astounding articles of this series we learned that the teachings of Christ's apostles were cleverly *changed* by the secret introduction of *similar* pagan customs. We traced these pagan customs back to their origin. We found they commenced at the tower of Babel, over 4,000 years ago.

At Babel, Nimrod founded CIVILIZATION, based on a false way of life—man's rule *without* God (Genesis 11). After his death, his mother-wife Semiramis, for purposes of prestige and power, developed a false RELIGIOUS system which has deceived the world to this day!

After Nimrod's death, Semiramis, his wife, developed a religious system at **BABYLON**. IT DID NOT RECOGNIZE GOD AS CREATOR AND SUPREME RULER OF THIS EARTH. Knowing the Savior was to come, she formed a false religious system. She palmed herself off as the virgin mother and MADE HER DEAD HUSBAND THE RESURRECTED SAVIOR. She counterfeited Christ's teaching over 2000 years in advance.

With these doctrines and customs she deceived the world. And Satan has continued to use these SAME TEACHINGS to deceive the earth down to this very day! God speaks of today's world as "Babylon the Great"; for in all points it still remains basically the same as ancient Babylon in spite of Christ's birth.

Now let's trace the surprising story of these religious customs through Old and New Testaments. It is the story of our people—for we, the English-speaking world—are the descendants of the ancient "House of Israel"!

History's Secrets Unfold

God had promised Israel—the people He chose for a special mission—that if they would obey Him, the greatest *earthly* blessings any nation ever had

would be theirs. But He did *not* promise the nation, as a whole, *eternal life*. In Egypt they had lost much of the knowledge of the True God their ancestors had possessed. In bringing them out of Egypt, God performed many miracles, showing them *His power* (Jer. 32:21).

Were they going to obey the True God who could and would make His promise of *material wealth* and power come true if they obeyed Him? Or were they going to be misled by the Devil-inspired idols of Semiramis, which were, as we shall soon prove, all about them?

Were they going to believe the Devil's lie—that they could obtain *eternal life* by following the doctrines taught by the Mysteries of Semiramis, who falsely promised eternal life (a thing she could *not* bestow)? Or would Israel see through this *deception* and follow God's commands instead and obtain the material wealth of this earth, and ultimately, through God's promise to Abraham, eternal life? (Recall that Adam and Eve lost the material garden of Eden and eternal life at that time by following Satan's deception.)

Baal and Ashtaroth

Scarcely over sixty years after God led Israel out of Egypt, God says: "They forsook the Eternal and served Baal and Ashtaroth" (Jgs. 2:13). We find these two names used many places in connection with the Israelites.

Who were they? Why are they so important in Scripture?

The word "baal" means master or lord (*New Standard Bible Dictionary*, p. 820). As first and mightiest of the lords of the earth, *Nimrod, became Baal or Bel* (*Peloubet*, p. 80). He was recognized as the *chief* Babylonian deity (*Halley's Pocket Bible Handbook*, p. 95). Ashtaroth, as we have previously shown, was Semiramis. Israel was soon

worshipping these two under these names.

Israel also worshipped Baal-berith (Jgs. 8:33). Nimrod, as Mediator and head of the covenant of grace, took this name or the name of Mithras (*Hislop's The Two Babylons*, p. 70). "Solomon went after Ashtoreth" (I Kings 11:5, also verse 33). For a *short* time Israel "did put away Baal-im and Ash-ra-roth and served the Eternal only" (I Sam. 7:4), but they returned to this pagan practice (I Sam. 12:10). Please recall that Ashtaroth is just *another form* for the word "*Ishtar*" or "*Easter*" which the Christ-professing world observes today!

We, today, just as Israel was, are "*in Babylon*" or "*in Egypt*" which continued Babylon's pagan practices! "*Jeroboam . . . served Baal and worshipped him*" (I Kings 16:31). You have heard of him. Is modern Israel—the United States and the British Commonwealth—not worshipping Baal (Nimrod) by observing his birthday, Christmas?

The priests of Baal (remember, Nimrod was the first and mightiest of the baals, or gods) were the official *representatives* of Israel's religion (I Kings 18:26), while Ahab and Jezebel were the rulers. These priests, in their rituals, "*leaped*" or properly translated, "*limped*" or "*went sidewise*" just as their god Baal (or Nimrod) is said to have done when he, through Semiramis, Mysteries, was identified as Adam who "*went sidewise*" or turned aside when he disobeyed God.

The official representatives of Israel's religion in the reign of Ahab and Jezebel were the Priests of Nimrod! *Nimrod had become Israel's god!*

Do the *representatives* of modern Israel's religions not encourage us to keep Nimrod's Sun-days and birthday? Who is our national god today? Among all the millions in those days who fol-

lowed Baal under Ahab and Jezebel, only seven thousand did not follow him (I Kings 19:18). How many are *not* keeping these days today in *our* nation?

Other Names of Nimrod

Israel worshipped Milcom "the god of the children of Ammon." Who was this? None other than Molech whom we have identified as Nimrod (*New Standard Bible Dictionary*, p. 824). Judah was worshipping this god just before her captivity (II Kings 23:13). Jeremiah 7:17-20 warned Judah against her practice of worshipping the *Queen of Heaven*, who was Semiramis.

Now please notice II Kings 17:17, Jere. 8:18-22, and Deut. 4:16-19. Alexander Hislop in his book, page 309 says: "As Baal (Nimrod) the Lord of Heaven had his visible emblem the sun, so she (Semiramis) as Beltes, Queen of Heaven, must have hers also—the moon." Josiah (II Kings 23:11) "burned the *chariots of the sun* with fire."

With regard to Israel's and Judah's gods being represented by stars, the *New Standard Bible Dictionary*, p. 827, says "The stars formed a class . . . *corresponding to the Igigi or 'heaven gods' of the Babylonians.*"

High places, elevations used in the main for idolatry, were all over Israel and Judah (II Kings 23:13, Micah 1:3). Bel (Isa. 46:1) was Baal or Nimrod, as we have seen, and Nebo (same ref.) was Nimrod as the prophetic god (*Hislop*, p. 34). Dagon (I Sam. 5:2-5) was the fish god of Babylon, whom Semiramis created in order to associate the dead Nimrod with Noah (*Hislop*, p. 264). Recall that Semiramis associated her dead deified husband with great personalities for prestige.

As we saw in a previous chapter, Israel continued to worship the golden calf. God said He would cut off the horns of the altars at Bethel (Amos 3:14). Israel had a golden calf there (*Peloubet's Bible Dictionary*, p. 87). God warned Israel just before her captivity which He brought upon her for such practices, "Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves. Therefore they shall be as . . . the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind" (Hosea 13:2-3). God warns Israel *today*—the U.S. and Britain,

"Thy calf, O Samaria, hath cast thee off . . . they shall return to Egypt" (Hosea 8:5, 13).

Samaria was the capital of the ten northern tribes of Israel. They never returned to the land of Egypt after Moses' time but *we*, their descendants, will do so, as this prophecy shows—and soon!

We have seen that *Molech* was a title applied to Nimrod in one of his god forms and that in order to "purify" themselves, people, usually children, were made to "*pass through the fire* to Molech." In Leviticus 18:21, God warned Israel: "Thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to *Molech*." Again, "whosoever . . . giveth any of his seed unto Molech; he shall surely be put to death" (Lev. 20:2).

But they went right ahead and disobeyed God, for "Ahaz . . . the king of Judah. . . walked in the way of the kings of Israel . . . and made his son *pass through the fire*, according to the *abominations of the heathen*" (II Kings 16:1-3). That this practice was picked up from pagan nations is evident. "Thou shalt not learn to do after the abomination of *those nations* . . . that maketh his son or daughter pass through the fire" (Deut. 12:30-31 and 18:9-10).

Note carefully that the heathen—the gentiles—were doing these practices of Nimrod and Semiramis as the *Bible* affirms.

Solomon built a high place for Molech (I Kings 11:7). Israel and Judah were both being deceived by the Babylonian worship. They, like the other nations, were infected with it! More evidence: Josiah, one of Judah's good kings, "defiled Tolpet (a place where Molech was worshipped) that no man might make his son or daughter to pass through the fire of Molech" (II Kings 23:10).

This destruction of a worshipping place of Molech had no lasting influence, for Judah continued in idolatry. This was happening eight hundred years after God led Judah and Israel out of their Egyptian captivity.

What does God say of this practice? "Is this of thy whoredoms a small matter, that thou hast slain My children, and delivered them to cause them to pass through the fire?" (Ezek. 16:20-21). God says this worship of Nimrod

was a *great* sin. "They sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto *demons*" (Psa. 106:37). It is *Devil* worship.

We have now seen Bible proof that Israel worshipped the pagan gods of this "Mystery" system. What about the *customs* used in the observance of these pagan gods? Does the Bible speak of these? Let us examine.

Israel's Pagan Customs

God says of the days set aside by Israel on which to worship—days which had not been commanded by Him: "*Your new moons and your appointed feasts My soul hateth* . . . I am weary to bear them" (Isa. 1:14). *God* had *not* appointed these days and customs Israel had been observing.

But God did give Israel His days and His feasts—times which keep God's people in remembrance of His GREAT PLAN OF SALVATION. And the keeping of these times instills the habit of obedience to the True God!

What about today? Has *God, through His Bible*, appointed the days which Churches now observe? God, we have seen, *specifically* condemns the observance of *Christmas* (Jer., chapter 10), which actually commemorates *Nimrod's* rebirth as Horus but which *we* say is Christ's birthday—a day which was being observed by Israel, our forefathers, as the birthday of Nimrod long *before* Christ was born.

Israel had their *picture* of the *image of jealousy*—Tammuz, the counterfeit of Christ—hung upon their walls (Ezek. 8:5, 10, 14). Who knows what the *actual* Christ looked like, who men say was born on Christmas day? We hang his supposed pictures on our walls today.

Israel, our forefathers, worshipped the sun, as the United States and the United Kingdom, modern Israel, do today when they observe Easter sunrise service: "Their faces toward the east . . . they worshipped the sun" (Ezek. 8:16, Jer. chapter 8). God says "I gave them My statutes and . . . My judgments . . . also My sabbaths . . . but they rebelled against Me" (Ezek. 20:11-13). God said, "I will turn *your* (not God's) feasts into mourning" (Amos 8:10).

"I hate, I despise *your* feast days, and . . . *your* solemn assemblies . . . ye have

borne the tabernacle of *your* Moloch and Chiun *your* images, the star of *your* god, which ye made to *yourselves*. Therefore will I cause you to go into *captivity*" (Amos 5:21-27).

What a duality! Moloch we have identified as Nimrod the fire god of Babylon and Chiun was Nimrod in his hidden form as Saturn (*New Standard Bible Dictionary*, p. 823). They were setting aside days for the worship of Nimrod, and God said He would *scatter them into captivity*.

Today, *modern Israel*, the United States and the democracies of northwestern Europe, are doing the same thing in our Sunday, Christmas and Easter observances, and *our* captivity is foretold!

Read Ezekiel, Chapter 5. Note that verse 4 says the prophecy is to the house of Israel and remember that this prophecy was given about 600 B.C. This was long *after* ancient Israel was scattered. *This prophecy is for us!* It is the *same old story*—Israel *today* is deceived by the same old means the Devil used to deceive ancient Israel!

It is evident by now that the pagan gods that the ten and two tribes of Israel and Judah worshipped were none other than those that the Devil inspired Semiramis to concoct *for the deception of the world*. They were believing the lie of the Devil's—that they could obtain eternal life and material benefits through the worship of *these gods*. All through the history of Israel, while she was worshipping these gods which we have identified as those composing the Mysteries, God was warning her not to follow the way of the heathen. The *heathen* were following these *same* gods (see II Chron. 33:2; II Kings 17:15, 21:2; II Chron. 28:3, 36:14). Here is *Bible* proof that the Gentiles were being deceived by this *same* system. The *whole earth*, at the time that Israel existed *under the rule of God* as a nation, was deceived by these mysteries. Israel itself finally refused to be under God's direct rule and became *deceived*!

Why is it that God calls attention to only *this* system of deception—the Mysteries of Semiramis — and never mentions the many demon-gods of Asia? *Because Semiramis' counterfeit way is patterned after the true way of salvation so closely that God knows that if it*

were possible it would even "deceive the very elect" (Matt. 24:24). God has warned the few who follow Him about these "Mysteries." Other pagan practices *they* are able to recognize without Divine revelation. *He knows this one will deceive the earth!*

New Testament Mentions Mystery System

Paul warned the churches of his time against these same practices when he said, "Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years. I am afraid of you" (Gal. 4:10-11).

When Paul visited Athens in his day, "he saw the city *wholly given to idolatry*" (Acts 17:16). The Greeks *did not* know the *true* God (verses 23-28). Paul stood on Mars' hill to talk (verse 22). Mars was Nimrod as the Roman god of war (*Hislop*, p. 153). He was a *well-known* god. Diana, who was Semiramis as the "Bruiser of the Serpent's Head" (*Hislop*, p. 76), was worshipped by "all Asia *and the world*" in Paul's time (Acts 19:27). The Devil, the hidden head of this Mystery system is *not* an evil-looking person with a pitchfork and tail as we have been led to believe. The New Testament shows us he "is transformed into an angel of light" (2 Cor. 11:14).

Why Israel Was Deceived

Why did God allow Israel, which *He Himself* had called out of "Babylon" (Egypt), to be deceived? In Leviticus chapter 26, God said He would bless Israel above all nations *if* they would *obey* Him—five would chase a hundred of their enemies and one hundred would put ten thousand to flight (verse 8); they would dwell safely (verse 5) and have much material wealth (verse 10). He reminded them that *He* had brought them out of Egypt, the land where they had learned the Devil-inspired worship of old Babylon and had been in captivity both to this pagan religion and to the Egyptians.

God, bringing them out, warned them that if they would not obey Him, He would punish them *more* than other nations of the earth: they would be slain before their enemies (verse 17), suffer famine (verse 25), and be scattered among the heathen (verse 33). He

would punish them "seven times" (verse 18)—each "time" a year of 360 days, and each day a year—a total of 2520 years.

We have seen that they *were deceived* by the Devil into worshipping his idols. God says, "They rebelled against Me . . . *neither did they forsake the idols of Egypt* . . . they walked not in My statutes . . . My sabbaths they greatly polluted . . . I lifted up My hand that I would *scatter* them among the heathen" (Ezek. 20:8, 13, 23).

God did "scatter them among the heathen." The ten tribes, Israel, "worshipped all the host of heaven and served Baal . . . therefore the Eternal was angry with Israel and *removed them*" (II Kings 17:16-18). Israel was taken captive by the Assyrians, the ancestors of modern Austria and Germany. And as the Assyrian king was ruler of Babylon and other areas, he repopulated Israel's country with people from these countries (II Kings 17:24). Israel later migrated from Assyria. She was scattered into the "Babylonish" world—the pagan world that was saturated with the customs of old Babylon and the Mysteries of Semiramis—they were scattered in the world of Babylon the Great (Rev. 18:2). The two tribes (Judah) were taken captive by king Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon about a hundred and thirty-five years later because of the same sins.

Why did God allow all of this? We need not guess—the Bible, as usual, tells us. It is explained hundred of years later in the New Testament times. Stephen, speaking to the Jews, the present-day descendants of Judah, said: "Our fathers would not obey, but thrust Him (God) from them, and their *heart* turned back again *into Egypt* . . . then God . . . gave them to worship the host of heaven" (Acts 7:39, 42). Continuing with verse 43 in the Moffatt translation, "So now I will transport you beyond Babylon." *God* was doing this. God says *He* has fixed the nations allotted periods, and boundaries of the nations (Acts 17:26).

Why then did He remove Israel? Paul says of Israel, "with many of them God was not well pleased: for they *were* overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things were *our examples* to the

from the beginning of the creation God intent that we should not lust after evil things, as they . . . lusted . . . neither be idolaters . . . and they are *written for our admonition*" (I Cor. 10:6-7, 11). Idolatry is defined as worship of anything that is not God (Webster's *Columbia Reference Dictionary*). God is building *historical examples* of the great penalty of worshipping *anything* other than Him, and of the great reward for worshipping *Him only*!

Remember, Abraham worshipped God only after God called him. Through these many historical examples, God was building for the time when He will really start to save the people of this earth. He was then using Israel as this *example* to the world, just as He used the people existing at the time of the flood!

(To be continued)

The Seventh Commandment

(Continued from page 16)

from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; and they twain shall be ONE FLESH: so then they are no more twain, but *one flesh*. *What therefore GOD hath joined together, LET NOT MAN PUT ASUNDER*" (Mark 10:5-9).

The Christ of your Bible stated that divorce was permitted in Old Testament times *ONLY* because of the "hardness" of the hearts of those carnal, unconverted Israelites who had *no access to the Spirit of God*! Jesus showed it was only a *temporary* thing for that carnal nation and that "from the beginning" God intended man and wife to be "one flesh." And after two people who are free to marry are legitimately joined as husband and wife—regardless of race, color or creed; for God ordained marriage for ALL HUMANITY—man is commanded on the authority of the *Almighty*: "What therefore GOD hath joined together, *let not man put asunder*!"

Man is commanded on that authority which transcends and supersedes ALL other authority *not* to divorce or separate husband from wife! And any such lesser codes of men granting such di-

vorice or separation are simply acting in defiance of the higher law of Almighty God in heaven!

In plain language, the teaching of Christ is that *divorce and remarriage is nothing more or less than legalized adultery*!

Divorce generates divorce! A women's reflection will recall that the commonplace granting of divorces was absolutely *UNHEARD-OF* only fifty years ago. The religious leaders of that time and before warned us that if divorce were once tolerated there would be no restraint powerful enough to keep it within the limits then fixed or foreseen. Today we see the TRUTH of this warning! We now behold the sad and miserable spectacle of *one third* and in many areas as many as *ONE HALF* of all marriages—a *holy* and *sacred* and *lasting* relationship ordained by Almighty God—end in FAILURE in the divorce courts of men!

And after divorce, what?

It is a matter of record that most divorced persons seek another mate, and many find a *second* or a *third* or a *fourth* mate to satisfy a desire which GOD intended should be satisfied and channelled and uplifted in the *holy* and *sacred* marriage with their first and only real mate—who in most cases is still living.

And the words of the living Christ THUNDER: "Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, *committeth ADULTERY* against her. And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another she *committeth ADULTERY*" (vss. 11-12).

The God of creation through His Son Jesus Christ calls divorce and remarriage *ADULTERY*!

He did NOT say that the second marriage *ceremony* is adultery. He says the one who remarries "*committeth*" adultery. The word is used in a progressive sense and means such individuals *practice* or *continue in* or *live in* *ADULTERY*!

The penalty for ALL *adulterers* is to be *burned alive* in the lake of fire! This is indeed a SERIOUS matter!

Marriage is BOUND by God

We now see that marriage is not something that just "evolved" through the reasoning and gradual civilization of

man. Rather, marriage was *ordained* by the Creator GOD. He ordained marriage as a *holy union* picturing the everlasting FAITHFULNESS between Christ and His Church!

And every form of adultery is so very *wrong* and EVIL because marriage is so *holy* and SACRED in the sight of Almighty God.

Adultery is not only an offence to the grieved husband or wife involved. It is an offence to their *home* and their *children*. It is an offence against *society*—because it strikes at the very *basis* of all decent society. But, most of all, it is an offence against GOD Himself and against an institution which He has ordained and made *holy*!

In America and Britain today, a God-rejecting society all too often sentimentalizes about remarried couples who may both have living mates by a previous marriage bound by God. Modern society thinks it is a "shame" to *speak evil*—as they would put it—about such a "love" between two formerly married people. They think a second marriage must be blessed because children come along—and that it must not be spoken against on their account. Or they sympathize with the "love" and "happiness" that such a couple claim to have found in such a second "marriage."

What they do NOT consider is that GOD sets the laws concerning marriage and divorce! They often fail to consider the *suffering* and the *frustration* of the children involved in the original and *God-ordained* marriage of such a couple being married for the second time. Society often *refuses to consider* that this couple ought to have learned the *patience, wisdom, self-control* and real LOVE which would have made a success of their *first* and *ONLY* real marriage in which God BOUND them for the remainder of their natural lives!

People fail to realize that anything which constitutes adultery such as divorce and remarriage—*unfaithfulness* to a marriage partner—or even *lust* which is the beginning of all adultery—is regarded as REBELLION against the law of Almighty God Who gives them every breath of air they breathe!

The sin of *lust* is more fully understood when you realize how *righteous* and *holy* the proper use of sex in mar-

riage is to Almighty God the Creator. The process of *adultery*, and the process of *divorce* and *remarriage* usually begins in the *heart*.

Notice how Jesus Christ covered this point in magnifying the law of God and making it holy: "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, thou shalt not commit adultery: but I say unto you, that whosoever LOOKETH on a woman *to lust after her* hath committed *adultery* with her already in his heart" (Matt. 5:27-28).

Jesus taught that you **BREAK** the *seventh commandment* when you even so much as entertain thoughts of *sexual lust* toward another person. Action follows thought. So it is part of the development of Christian character for every God-fearing person to learn to guide and to channel his thoughts AWAY from all lust and sensual desires.

The CRIME of Modern Society

More than most people even begin to realize, the sordid emphasis on SEX in our modern society is *terribly wrong*! Yet that sex emphasis is so deeply permeating every phase and facet of modern society that most people have become accustomed to it and do not even fully realize what is going on.

The dress and clothing styles of modern women emphasize one thing—*sex*. Our newspaper headlines emphasize and exploit things having to do with *sex*. Most modern magazines emphasize *sex* continually—and often think that they will not be able to sell enough copies unless they can get the word "sex" in the title of some article appearing on the magazine cover!

Throughout the newspapers, magazines, billboards and TV advertisements, SEX is emphasized over and over again in different and varying ways. More modern books and novels are using just plain "raw" *sex* as a theme than ever before. And now we have entered the age of the "pocket book"—and we behold row after row of these paper-back filth purveyors in our book stores, cigar stores, magazine counters, drug stores, dime stores and our American supermarkets continually! On the cover of each of these books is a picture of a half naked woman in a suggestive pose and a directly erotic and suggestive title.

This sort of thing is simply the lowest form of degrading human FILTH! And yet this type of literature, and advertisements and articles are literally FLOODING the markets!

Meanwhile, in the industries that control the most realistic, life-like media that *influence* and *move* young people to action—movies and television—the emphasis in an ever increasing number of productions is upon SEX or violence, or a combination of both.

But modern society is *paying* a terrible PENALTY for these widespread sins and abominations! More and more homes are made miserable and wretched because of adulterous relations of one or both mates. Increasing numbers of homes are ending in divorce. More children are being left without the love and guidance of both parents! And illicit sexual intercourse before marriage—called "fornication" by God—is becoming almost a commonplace thing among young people in today's society.

Yet any and all of these things are *breaking the seventh commandment*!

Those young people who are cheapening and damaging the happiness of their future marriages through illicit sex before marriage are not only damning their future in this present life, but are forcing God by an eternal necessity to exclude them from His Kingdom and everlasting life and happiness therein (I Cor. 6:9). Rather, with the "abominable" and "whoremongers," they will have their part in the lake of fire which is the *second* DEATH! (Rev. 21:8).

OBEY the Seventh Commandment

God gives some important advice to those who are tempted to commit fornication or adultery. In this age of sex stimulation and lust, it is invaluable to HEED this advice if you would enter into the Kingdom of God and eternal life.

God says: "*Flee fornication*" (I Cor. 6:18). He does not say to let your mind dwell on wrong sexual ideas or desires. He does not say to place yourself alone with another man's wife or with a single woman with whom you might be sexually tempted. He does not say to watch movies or television or read books which wrongly stimulate the sexual appetite.

God DOES say to *get as far away* from these things as you possibly can! He

says to *run*—to FLEE—away from temptation to sexual sin.

Sex is NOT a "toy" to be played with and experimented with. It should be regarded as a God-given *blessing* in the *holy* and *sacred* marriage union which the Creator Himself has ordained. It should always be thought of with reverence, and as an expression of unselfish LOVE in a Christian union which pictures the everlasting FAITHFULNESS of Christ and His Church!

Those who are married or are about to be should look forward toward marriage as an expression of *love* in the sense of GIVING—not selfishly getting and taking. They should look forward to home and family as a *training ground* to build CHARACTER to better fit them for eternal life in the Kingdom of God. Realizing this, they should let nothing turn them aside from their *faithfulness* to each other, from their growth in *patience*, in *understanding*, in *kindness*, in *self-control*, in *wisdom*, in LOVE.

"Cheap" and *temporary* loyalties are wrecking and ruining many of the departments in our governments—as they all sadly realize. They are hurting industry, the schools, and even the Church.

The God-intended *blessing* of being able to really **DEPEND** upon your own beloved partner in marriage is being withheld from *most married people* in our modern "scientific" society! And the *fears*, *doubts*, *mistrusts* and *frustrations* that this breeds are affecting the relations of people through *every phase* of *their lives*.

The generation *needs desperately* to learn the lesson of *lasting* FAITHFULNESS in marriage and in the home! It needs to obey both the *letter* and the *spirit* of God's seventh commandment: "*Thou shalt not commit adultery*."

Be sure to read and study next month's article on the *eighth commandment*. This commandment provides the *answer* to a growing problem which is affecting every level of human life in our western world, from the highest government officials down to the smallest child!

TRADE WAR

(Continued from page 8)

"U.S. Steel Chairman Roger Blough described a Düsseldorf, Germany, steel



Wide World Photo

Post-war butane gas storage tanks at the Shell Berre refinery, France. Though it has taken 15 years, Western Europe now leads the world in production.

plant laying down barbed wire in Cleveland at \$40 a ton less than wire his own company sold there. Even with Germany's progress, a Cleveland steel worker, with his highly productive tools, can turn out more steel than a German worker. But, said Mr. Blough, Cleveland's three-times-higher wages shove U.S. costs above those of Düsseldorf" (*Pittsburgh Press*, Feb. 16, 1959).

There is the root of the problem!

German and Japanese workers are willing to *work harder, stay at the job longer, and get less pay*—to BUILD THEIR NATIONS!

Many American workers want to leave the job *sooner, get more money, resist the boss, curse the foreman, produce inferior work!*

Our spiraling wages, bloated standard

of living, and national gluttony are heading us right toward the shoals of national disaster!

"Representative Cleveland Bailey of West Virginia pleaded before the House of Representatives recently that "all evidence of the past 2 years points to the incontrovertible fact that we cannot stand further tariff reductions; that in international competition we are already on the run. We are being driven out abroad. We cannot withstand this twin force that batters our industries. . . . This refusal to look the facts in the face is *sheer madness* and the Congress should register its displeasure" (*Congressional Record*, April 7, 1960).

These facts are REAL! This dire threat to our people's future is a tangible, *immediate danger.*

Think of it:

A nation with SO MUCH—with the myriad blessings of a loving, longsuffering God—an industrial potential that is *staggering*, and yet our LUSTS, our GREED, our INSATIABLE DESIRE FOR PERSONAL PLEASURE, our total *unwillingness* to make *any* sort of personal sacrifice is rendering this great CAPACITY almost useless!

THE HANDWRITING IS ON THE WALL OF AMERICA AND BRITAIN!

WE ARE BEING INDICTED BY ALMIGHTY GOD FOR OUR SINS! It's time you KNEW what the *prophecies of your Bible* say about this great TRADE WAR that is underway! *Make sure* you read the important sequel to this article in next month's PLAIN TRUTH!

It will shock you!

AUTOBIOGRAPHY

(Continued from page 14)

what everyone ought to have been doing all along. Salvation comes only as God's free GIFT—through GRACE, and by FAITH. Yet, *repentance* of sin, which is transgression of God's Law (I John 3:4), is a prior *condition* without which we cannot be reconciled to God by Christ's blood. Without repentance, and surrender to *obey*, we cannot have remission of past sins by Christ's death. But, once reconciled to God the Father thru faith in Christ's atoning work, we have the promise of receiving God's Holy Spirit—the begetting of ETERNAL LIFE.

Yet, even if one expects no salvation, he will fare better and profit more—and suffer less—if he OBEYS these inexorable principles of RIGHT AND HAPPY LIVING! If he does not, he is here and now living under a CURSE. And, even if finally lost, I was careful to point out—since Ed fully expected to be—those who have sinned *most* are to be punished with *many stripes*, and those who have sinned less with *fewer*. (Luke 12:47-48).

After that, Ed Smith quit working on the Sabbath. At the Tuesday night meeting, Mrs. Smith handed me a dollar bill.

"All the money we have in the world is ten dollars," she said. "Ed has decided to start tithing. Here is a tenth of all we have."

On Thursday night she came in beaming. She handed me a five dollar bill.

"The next day after Ed tithed that one dollar, a man who owed him \$50 came and paid up. This had been due for over a year, and we had never expected to collect it."

Ed Smith was a well driller by profession. But in these depression years he had been getting no wells to dig—and the few he had drilled previously had not been paid for. In a few days a new customer came along, and he began drilling a new well. Then another, and later another. He continued to prosper, until he had more business than he could handle. He hired other

men to work for him. Finally, he had to dig three wells simultaneously or lose one or two of them. Now he decided he had to work seven days a week.

The very first Sabbath Ed and his crews were working, his drills broke, and he lost all three jobs. After that, Ed met with other adversity. His wife and son were sent to the state T.B. hospital in Salem. Finally, Ed Smith gave in, and surrendered to Jesus Christ. I baptized him. His wife and son were healed and returned home.

Ed Smith is dead, now. But his experience is still living testimony that *God, His laws, and His promises are STILL LIVING!*

In next month's installment we shall see how the persecution started, and what happened.

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