

the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding

VIKING MISSION
TO MARS-WHY?
EUROPE'S "POLITICAL
DWARF" GROWS UP
HOW TO TALK
TO YOUR KIDS
ABOUT SEX

**MIDEAST
ARMS RACE**

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Vol. XLI, No. 9

October 1976

ARTICLES

Keep Your Eyes on Jerusalem	2
Mideast Arms Race "Out of Control"	4
Viking Mission to Mars — Why?	6
Europe's "Political Dwarf" Grows Up	11
How to Talk to Your Kids About Sex . . . Without Blushing	15
How to Get a Raise Out of Your Boss	18
The Search For Noah's Ark	22
Who Was the Real Jesus?	28
Why the Strange Customs of Halloween?	36

FEATURES

Personal from Herbert W. Armstrong	1
TV-Radio Log	33
In Brief	39
Garner Ted Armstrong Speaks Out!	45



ABOUT OUR COVER

Egyptian soldier takes cover in a shell crater during a military training exercise. Nations throughout the Middle East are buying weapons in unprecedented quantities. This volatile region is soon to become the prime focal point of world attention and concern. See articles beginning on pages 2 and 4.

Eddie Adams — Contact

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A few weeks ago, I was sitting in our Ambassador Auditorium here in Pasadena looking in on Mission Control Headquarters at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory located only walking distance away as scientists manipulated the safe landing of the Viking I spacecraft on Mars.

The JPL scientists had cooperated with Ambassador College and the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation so that everything at Mission Control — as the scientists maneuvered the Mars landing — was shown on a large screen in our auditorium. We had opened the auditorium to the public. A thousand or more people were there.

I had risen at 3:30 a.m. Many had been watching in the auditorium from 11:00 p.m. the previous night. I arrived in the auditorium just before 5:00 a.m.

The Viking I spacecraft is a marvel of mechanical precision. It landed safely right on schedule at 5:12 a.m. (It actually landed at 4:53 a.m. Pacific Standard Daylight Time, but due to the vast distance, the signal did not reach Mission Control at Pasadena until 5:12 a.m.) Enthusiastic applause — filling the auditorium — greeted the landing.

Very soon, just before 6:00 a.m., the first strip of two spectacular pictures arrived. We at the Ambassador Auditorium were looking in, just as if we were at Mission Control ourselves. Dr. Thomas Munch, geology professor and leader of the team of scientists in the Mission Control room, gave a cry of delight as the first strip of the first picture came through. As strip after strip of the pictures came through, he was unable to conceal his excitement. As the strips were pieced together, the scientists were absolutely amazed at the quality and clarity of the pictures of the Mars surface — pictures taken perhaps only four or five feet above the surface. It was just as if a man were standing there, pointing his camera straight down, taking close-up pictures.

Later, the second picture looked out over the landscape to the horizon. The pictures showed the Martian surface as a sandy desert littered with rocks — from very

Personal from...



VIKING I AND MAN'S DESTINY

minute size up to perhaps a foot or more in diameter.

But I had to think that it showed precisely what I had expected from what is revealed from the God of creation in the Bible. It was a dry, barren surface of futility.

Few indeed have any remote conception of the fact that God Almighty often *reveals* facts about this universe — the origin of planets, their present state, and the causes and reasons thereof. Sometimes it seems futile that many of the BEST MINDS of humans are devoted to a lifetime of vain speculation, based on erroneous hypotheses totally untrue.

I had to realize that from this scientific laboratory, right here in Pasadena, great minds are, in fact, uncovering facts ACTUALLY REVEALED IN THE BOOK THEY DO NOT UNDERSTAND AND PROBABLY DO NOT ACCEPT — the revealed FACTS and TRUTH of the ETERNAL LIVING GOD!

For example, in Hebrews we find this: "For unto the angels hath he [God] not put in subjection the world to come, whereof we speak" (Heb. 2:5). In other words, this passage is *speaking about* "the world to come." The Bible mentions three worlds: (1) the world "that then was," from Adam to Noah, (2) "this

present evil world," and (3) the coming millennial world — which we call so often "the WORLD TOMORROW." Also, the Bible speaks of three heavens: (1) the air, or earth's atmosphere, (2) outer space, and (3) the heaven which is the seat of God's throne, to which no man except the resurrected Christ has ascended (John 3:13).

So now, speaking of the NEXT world, "the world to come," continue in Hebrews 2: "...What is MAN, that thou [God] art mindful of him? ... Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands: Thou hast put ALL THINGS in subjection under his feet. For in that he [God] put all in subjection under him [man], he left *nothing that is not* PUT UNDER HIM. But now we see *not yet* all things put under him" (Heb. 2:6-8).

In the first chapter, "all things" is translated in the Moffatt translation as "*the universe*." It means EVERYTHING God has created — everything that exists.

This remarkable, almost INCREDIBLE revelation of the fantastic HUMAN POTENTIAL continues to reveal how what we do now see or know is that Jesus, as the firstborn

(Continued on page 44)



The Plain Truth

KEEP YOUR EYES ON JERUSALEM

Here are eye-opening facts about the city soon to become the capital of the world.

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Many times I have said, "Keep your eye on JERUSALEM AND THE MIDDLE EAST." From now on that will be the focal point of WORLD HAPPENINGS.

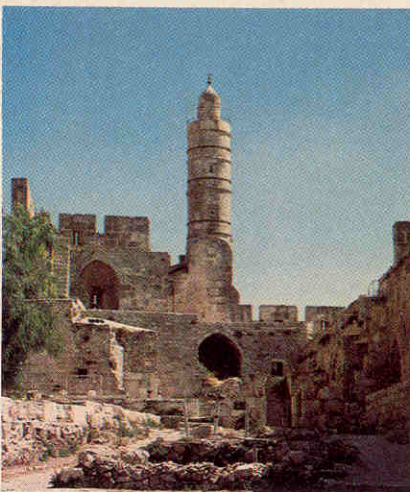
This is the *END TIME!* Never in the history of mankind have world conditions been so VIOLENT, never so much TROUBLE, never before so many NATIONS and their GOVERNMENTS toppling and being overthrown so often — now one a month on the average. NEVER has there been such widespread VIOLENCE by man. Add to this the VIOLENCE in NATURE — massive and violent EARTHQUAKES, tidal waves, and FLOODS.

Following the recent tremendous earthquakes in China, this morning's newspaper headline, front page, read: "PHILIPPINES QUAKE TOLL CLIMBS TO 5,300: 30,000 HOMELESS."

Yet from now on the very CENTER of world happenings will zero in on JERUSALEM and the Middle East.

I have just spent another four days and five nights in Jerusalem, the CITY GOD CHOSE over all places on earth. The city from which for a span of time God has HIDDEN HIS FACE (Jer. 33:5), yet the city that God SHALL YET CHOOSE AS HIS CITY (Zech. 1:17). The city soon to BECOME THE CAPITAL OF THE WHOLE WORLD WHEN, finally, we shall have WORLD PEACE.

Jerusalem is a city IMPORTANT TO GOD. It ought to be important to us! So I want to tell you about my most



Dexter Faulkner — The Plain Truth

THE CITADEL, with David's Tower in the background, is one of Jerusalem's oldest and most prominent landmarks.

recent visit there. It is a city I have visited many, many times.

My first visit to Jerusalem was a mere short stop at Jerusalem airport (not now in regular use) in 1956 — 20 years ago — en route from Cairo to Baghdad. Just setting foot on the ground of its airport for the first time was a thrill. It gave me a sense of awe. With my wife and elder son, Dick, I stopped again at Jerusalem on the return — first visiting the Old City then in Arab hands and then walking, luggage in hand, through the Mandelbaum Gate (no man's land) into the newer Israeli Jerusalem.

Back in 1969 and 1970, when our joint participation with Hebrew University in the huge archaeological excavation at the southern wall of the Temple Mount was getting well under way, General Yigal Yadin, organizer of the Israeli army and chief of staff from 1948, re-

ferred to my arrivals there as "monthly visits." In many ways I have had a deep personal interest in Jerusalem since December 1, 1968. On that date, in a formal ceremony at the palace of the late President Shazar, Ambassador College entered into this joint participation formally with Hebrew University and the Israel Archaeological Society.

"Do you want a formal, legal contract?" I was asked. "My word is good," I replied. "And I believe yours is, too, without any legal entanglements." That was good enough for them, and our friendship and mutual participation has grown ever since.

Our very important friends in Israel, from the president and prime minister of the country on down in the government and from President Harmon and the vice-president on down in the university, have been not only most friendly and cordial, but also affectionate!

And so I thought that in this article, you might like to hear a report on this latest Jerusalem visit.

We arrived late Thursday afternoon. On Friday morning, Mayor Teddy Kollek met us at the Jerusalem Hilton Hotel at ten. He took us on a 2½-hour tour of portions of the Old City where the mayor has been supervising rejuvenation and rebuilding. After all the years of being "trodden down by the Gentiles," the old walled city has become dirty, decayed — anything but beautiful. But Mayor Kollek is RESTORING much of its ancient beauty.

Israel is a very poor country — economically. The government does

(Photo story on pages 40 and 41.

Text continues on page 42)

PLAIN TRUTH Editor-in-Chief Herbert Armstrong (left) is escorted on walking tour of restored portions of Jerusalem by Mayor Teddy Kollek.

ARMAGEDDON IN THE MAKING

MIDEAST ARMS RACE "OUT OF CONTROL"

The escalating arms buildup in the explosive Middle East bodes ill for that region's future — and poses some knotty problems for Washington policy planners.

by Keith W. Stump

Massive sales of sophisticated weaponry to the Middle East — scene of four wars since World War II — has transformed that volatile area into "the most militarized region in the world," according to the annual report of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

"More than half of the total arms supplied in 1975 went to the Middle East," according to SIPRI's analysis. Middle East arms expenditures are now running at a staggering 16% of the region's combined gross national product — more than triple the percentage average for NATO nations in Europe.

In their scramble for new weapons, some Middle Eastern nations have ended up with more advanced arsenals than the countries supplying them! Iran, for example, will soon have, in the words of London's *Financial Times*, "the most advanced tank army in the world," as a result of a multi-million dollar arms deal with Britain.

Without question, the continuing Mideast arms buildup is far and away outdistancing the search for peace. The potential destructiveness of a future war is being raised to unparalleled new heights.

Vying for Influence

The United States, Soviet Union, and other major arms suppliers

(principally France and Britain) have dramatically stepped up arms sales to the Middle East and other areas of the Third World in recent years. SIPRI notes that the value of weapons going to the Third World increased by 20% in 1975, on top of a whopping 40% increase the previous year.

One reason for the stepped-up arms peddling is the continuing rivalry between the United States — the world's biggest arms merchant — and second-ranking Soviet Union for increased influence in strategic world arenas. In addition, lucrative arms sales abroad serve to bolster trade balances and create jobs at home for the merchant nations.

According to the nonpartisan Arms Control Association in Washington, America's most sophisticated non-nuclear weapons — including F-14 fighters, laser-guided "smart bombs," Lance missiles, "TOW" antitank missiles, and Spruance-class destroyers — are now being sold overseas.

The Pentagon's principal Middle Eastern clients are Iran and Saudi Arabia — both of whom are buying multiple billions of dollars worth of U.S. arms — and long-time customer Israel, to whom arms deliveries during the current fiscal year alone will total some \$1.5 billion.

For the first time in 20 years, the U.S. has also started to supply

Egypt, which severed relations with the Soviet Union earlier this year. The recent sale of six C-130 Hercules transport planes to Cairo is widely viewed as only the beginning of U.S. arms sales to that nation.

Washington is also the major supplier of arms to Jordan, which recently decided to purchase a \$540-million American air defense system (with Saudi Arabia footing the bill).

Though spurned by Egypt, the Soviet Union is far from out of the Middle East arms picture. The Kremlin is supplying large quantities of modern weapons to Syria, Libya, and Iraq — including advanced MIG-23 fighters, tanks, bombers, combat helicopters, and artillery. Many of these weapons have already found their way into the Lebanese civil war.

France and Britain, the world's third- and fourth-ranked arms suppliers, have relaxed their former restrictions on arms sales abroad, and are now also selling aggressively throughout the Middle East.

"The arms buildup in the Middle East shows every sign of being out of control," summarizes SIPRI. "The complexity of the present situation... has reduced the feasibility of maintaining some form of balance virtually to zero unless, of course, the arms-supplying countries all agree to stop or limit their supplies."

Fears are also rampant that for a number of Middle East nations, the chilling step to nuclear weapons may also be close at hand.

Deepening U.S. Commitment — Some Questions

For U.S. policy planners, the stepped-up arms flow to the Middle East is beginning to raise some serious and heretofore unforeseen questions.

A major justification for increased U.S. sales has been the idea that if Washington could become the major arms supplier to the Mideast — selling weapons to nations on both sides of potential conflicts — the U.S. would automatically acquire powerful diplomatic leverage to prevent outbreaks of hostility.

But a report issued earlier this year by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has pointed up



AMERICAN INSTRUCTOR briefs an Iranian Air Force pilot in the operation of an American-built helicopter purchased recently by Iran.

some unexpected side effects of U.S. arms sales. The report warned that "the U.S. assumes the obligation of long-term support for the equipment it has sold. The purchaser becomes dependent on the U.S. in much the same manner as a local automobile dealer becomes dependent on Detroit."

In other words, U.S. technicians — both military personnel and civilian defense contractors — are needed by the thousands over long periods of time to help maintain and operate the highly sophisticated equipment being sold to nonindustrial nations, which in many cases lack the know-how to use the weapons they are buying.

Much of the equipment being sold by the Pentagon is so complex that even the U.S. military is having difficulty keeping its own forces operational.

Iran is a case in point. The Shah of Iran, striving to build the largest military machine in the Middle East, has purchased over \$10 billion worth of the latest-model military hardware from the United States since 1972 — and that is apparently just the beginning. The Shah has declared his intention to make Iran militarily as strong in ten years as

France, Britain, and West Germany are today. He says he needs *three times* as many weapons as he now has to be adequately equipped against his neighboring enemies.

Following closely on the heels of the U.S. arms deliveries to Iran, a contingent of over 20,000 American technicians has descended upon that nation to train its armed forces in the use of their sophisticated new weapons. The Senate report projects that by 1980, that number could easily exceed 50,000.

Similar situations exist in other nations being supplied by the U.S. Several thousand American civilian personnel are already in Saudi Arabia, with many more to come as deliveries are made on recently signed arms contracts with that nation.

To Fight or Not to Fight

With the U.S. now supplying potential adversaries, the outbreak of war anywhere in the Middle East would pose some serious dilemmas for Washington decision makers.

Would the U.S. allow its technicians to remain in dependent client countries and participate in the hostilities? The Senate study revealed that Iran, for example, could

not go to war with its new weaponry "without U.S. support on a day-to-day basis." The same is probably also true for Saudi Arabia and will increasingly become the case with many other Middle Eastern nations as more and more U.S. arms flow in.

If the U.S. reneged on its commitments to keep the arms operational during hostilities, would the resident American technicians be held hostage? And if so, how would the Pentagon react?

And what would Washington do when warring client states began clamoring for ammunition shipments, replacement parts, and other critical supplies?

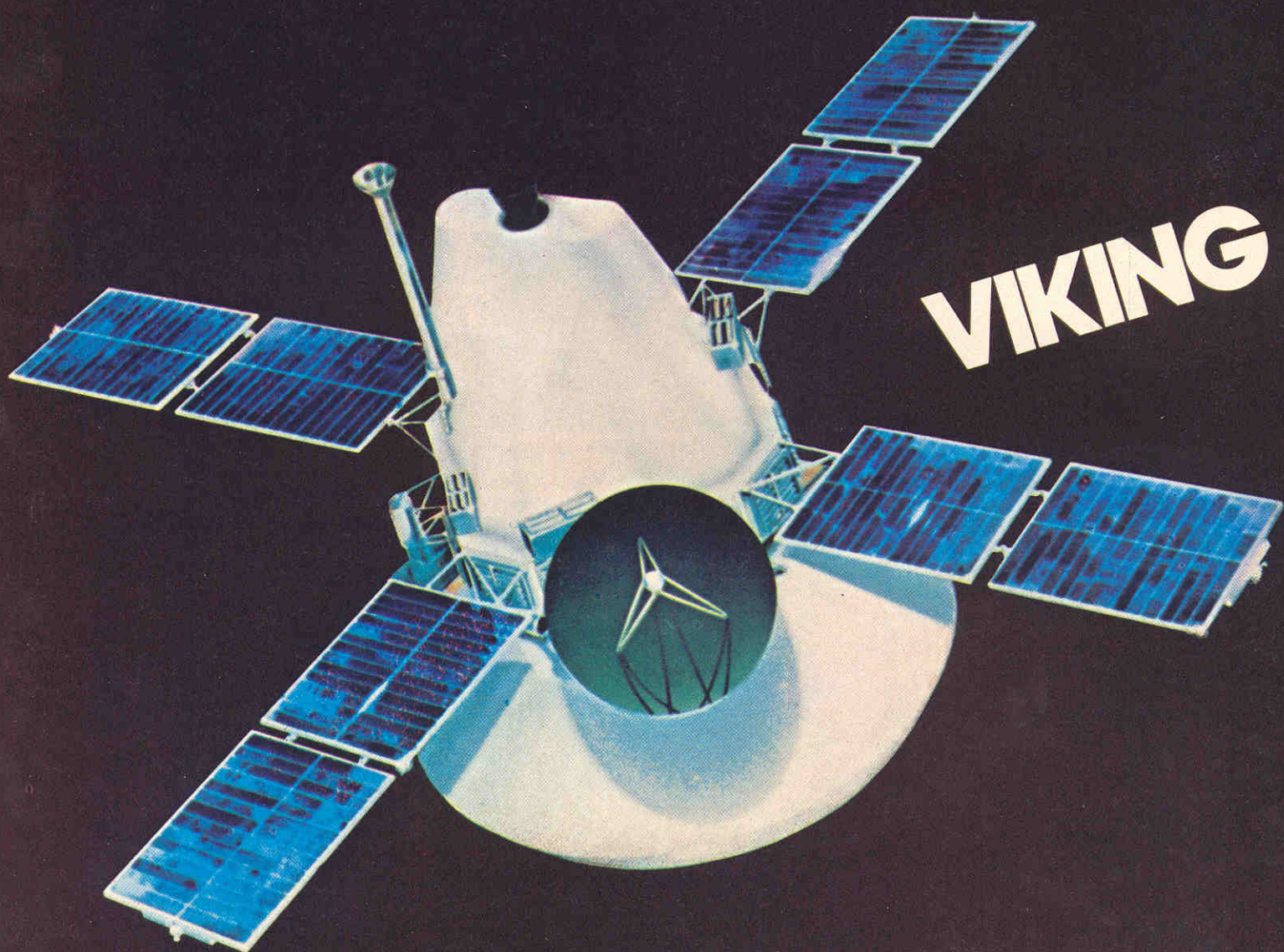
The failure of Washington to honor commitments and deliver essential supplies to its arms customers would shatter their confidence in the U.S. and almost certainly result in a dramatic upswing in Soviet influence and arms peddling in the region.

The Shah of Iran states the dilemma succinctly: "As far as arms sales go, there are plenty of places to buy. The question is, can you, the United States, afford to lose Iran [or other Mideast clients] either as a friend or as a customer?"

The consequences of U.S. weapons sales to the Middle East are difficult to calculate. With no international agreement on the horizon to restrict arms sales to the area, many Mideast analysts in Washington feel diplomatic action to avert war is the only alternative if the U.S. is to avoid being dragged into a future Mideast conflict.

But with no Arab-Israeli peace settlement at hand and tensions continuing elsewhere in the Middle East, "the continued unrestrained sale of armaments," in the words of SIPRI, "can only exacerbate an already dangerous situation."

For over 40 years, *The Plain Truth* has continually urged its readers to keep their eyes on the Middle East. Bible prophecy indicates that region will soon become the prime focal point of world attention — and the tinderbox of a global conflict which will climax in the end-time battle of Armageddon. The escalating arms race now under way is setting the stage for those very events! □



For over two hundred years they were a proud people of unparalleled vitality. Their organizational abilities were unsurpassed; their cultural and technological innovations were world renowned. With leaders of great ability and a surplus of manpower, they mustered their seemingly inexhaustible resources to reach for the unknown, to explore, and to conquer — and yes, to plunder — new worlds.

They poured prodigious amounts of men and resources into a wide variety of ambitious endeavors, and their profound influence on the civ-

ilizations of their time can hardly be exaggerated. On several occasions, they challenged the Russians with admirable determination.

But historians would speak of a rather sudden and dramatic decline in their influence shortly after some two hundred years of dominance and glory, in which there simply was no more motivation for external adventure.

“Ah yes,” you say, “we Americans are indeed an adventurous and energetic people. But isn’t it a bit premature to be writing our obituary?”

True. But the above account is not about the



MISSION TO MARS—WHY?

As a bicentennial spectacular, it was literally out of this world. After a near flawless flight of over 400 million miles, Viking I became the first American spacecraft to land on another planet. The first pictures from the Martian surface were stunningly clear. No, there weren't any little green men running around; yet millions still hoped that some evidence of life would eventually be found. But why does man reach out to the unknown and search for life in the universe? What are the implications for man's perception of his place in the cosmos?

by Robert A. Ginskey

American people. It's about the Vikings, a people that flourished over a thousand years ago.

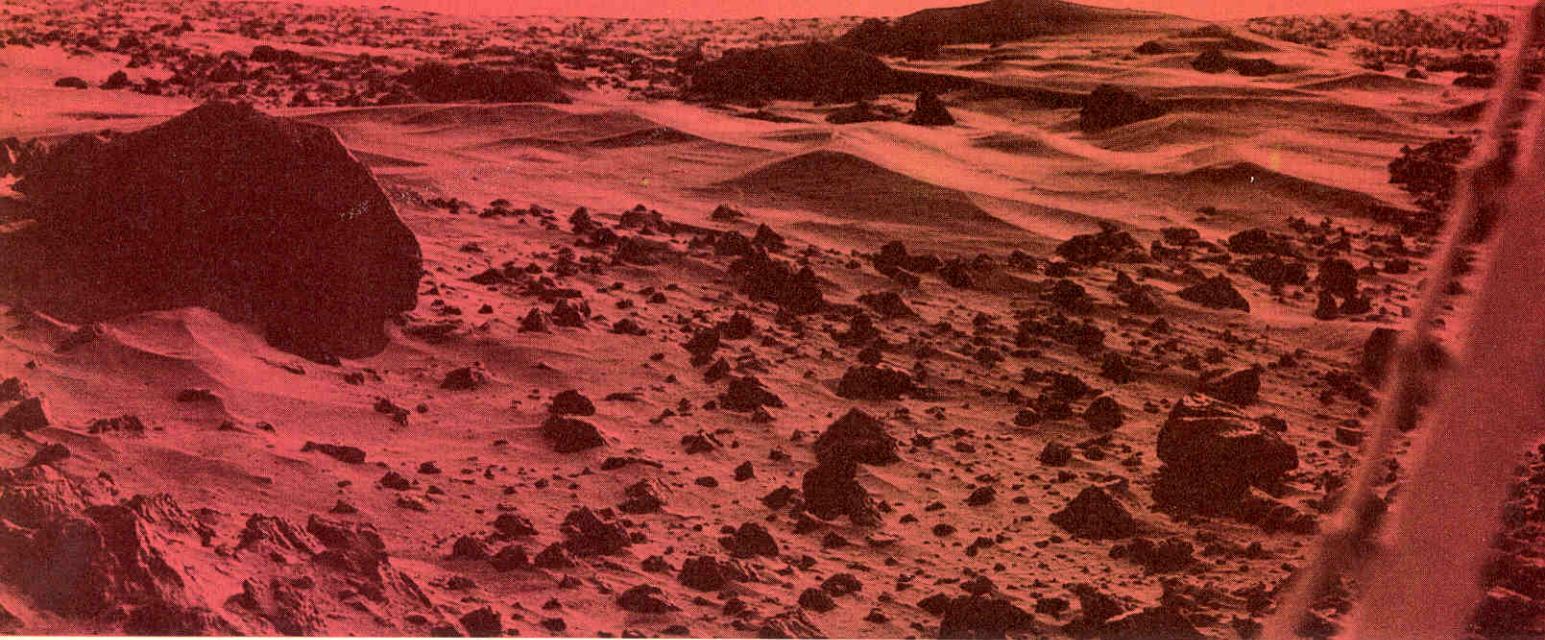
Viking to Mars

It is uncertain whether NASA dubbed the current Mars probes "Viking" for the remarkable similarities between these two peoples, but surely the name "Viking" is appropriate for one of the most awesome adventures not only of technology, but also of the human spirit.

"The space programs reflect not only technological skill of the highest order; they reflect the

best in the American character — sacrifice, ingenuity and our unrelenting spirit of adventure," said President Gerald Ford on the day of the Viking I landing.

The Viking craft landed on July 20, seven years to the day from the first manned landing on the moon in 1969. Proclaiming July 20 Space Exploration Day, Ford added, "In celebrating the Bicentennial, we have gloried as a people in the history of a great and successful venture in the human experience. We gave thanks for our blessings and offered prayers for the future. It is appro-



priate that we again call upon Divine Providence for guidance and protection in our quest of space and those endless horizons in all the centuries to come."

More than 10,000 people have worked on the now successful Viking project — a whole town's worth of scientists, engineers, and technicians — many of them since long before it even had a name. A billion dollars, a hundred major technological advances — the numbers are more like those of a moon landing than an unmanned visit to a distant speck in the sky.

On the eve before the historic Viking landing, I was a guest of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, where the mission's four spacecraft (two orbiters, two landers) are controlled. The team in charge of day-to-day scientific and engineering decisions numbers 750 people, three times the complement for typical previous interplanetary programs. Like other visitors, I was highly impressed by the intricate and sophisticated hardware, the giant space simulation chamber in which the Viking was tested, and the Space Flight Operations Facility, from which the mission is controlled.

As usual, the question of cost arose. "I figure it cost me \$4.63 to find out what Mars is like," said one observer. "That's about the cost of a movie, and I think it's well worth it." (The \$4.63 figure was derived by dividing the cost of the Viking mission by the population of the U.S.)

Others have discussed the Viking

mission in more philosophical terms. "The Viking mission to Mars is not primarily a scientific event," says science fiction author Ray Bradbury. "It's a spiritual experience. It's man reaching for the unknown."

"By the exploration of the solar system we find out . . . who we are," says Bruce C. Murray, director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

"Viking costs about as much as a fortnight of the Vietnam war," continues Murray. "I find these comparisons particularly poignant: life versus death, hope versus fear. Space exploration and the highly mechanized destruction of people use similar technology . . . and similar human qualities of organization and daring. Can we not make the transition from automatic aerospace killing to automated aerospace exploration of the solar system?"

Murray's question is yet to be answered, but already, the Viking probes have provided scores of detailed photos of the Martian surface and yielded extensive analyses of the planet's atmosphere, soil, and environment.

"This is truly a voyage of exploration," says Viking project manager James S. Martin Jr.

The Big Question

But the big question still remains: Will any hard evidence of life ever be found on Mars? And if so, what would be the implications for man and his perception of his place in the universe?

Even before Viking landed on the Red planet, scientists acknowledged the vanishingly small odds of finding anything but microscopic traces of life, if indeed, any life exists — or ever existed — on Mars. The previous Mariner 9 space probe had portrayed a bleak picture of an arid, dust-deluged, cratered planet, with a mere 1/1000 the atmospheric pressure of the earth.

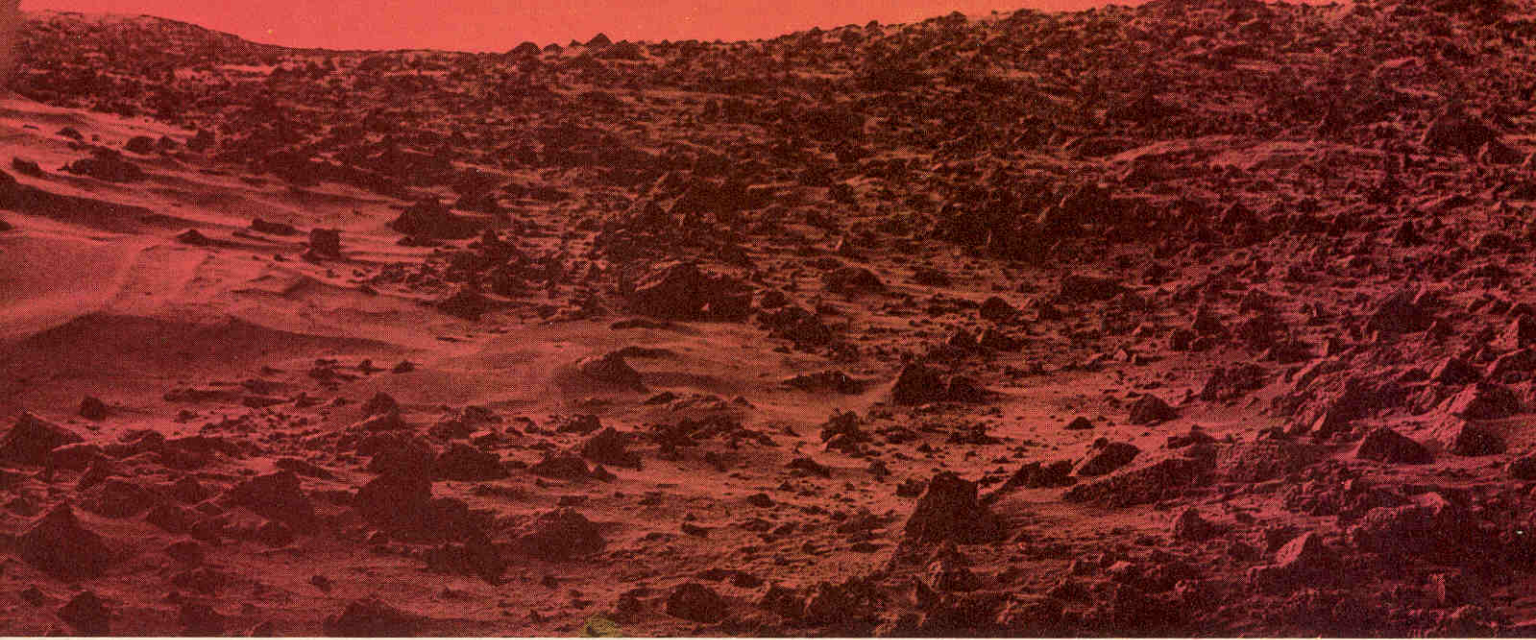
Even before the Viking mission, experts knew that Mars had no liquid water, had wild variations in temperature, and had no protective ozone layer to shield any organisms from deadly ultraviolet radiation.

Uniqueness of the Earth

All of this, of course, is in sharp contrast to the earth, which seems tailor-made for life. The Apollo astronauts reported that the earth's blue skies and white clouds, as viewed from space, made it by far the most inviting object they could see. And the growing information about other planetary bodies in the solar system tends to confirm that view.

Mercury and the moon are harsh, airless, desolate places, and Mars is scarcely less so. Venus, once considered the earth's sister planet, is so incredibly hot and inhospitable, with its massive atmosphere and acid clouds, that it approximates descriptions of hell. (If you'd like to know where hell really is, write for our free booklet, *Is There a Real Hell Fire?*)

The huge outer planets, constituted largely of fluids and having



NASA

SPECTACULAR panoramic picture of the Martian landscape shows rock-strewn surface and sand dunes remarkably similar to many desert scenes on earth. Photo was taken two hours after sunrise and covers an arc of 100° looking northeast at left and southeast at right. Large boulder at left is nearly 10 feet long and is about 25 feet from the Viking space craft. The sharp dune crests indicate recent wind storms capable of moving sand. An arm of the Viking lander's miniature weather station cuts through the photograph's center. Space explorations, such as the Viking mission to Mars, may dramatically alter our perception of the earth and of man's role in the universe.

crushing gravitational pulls, bear a closer resemblance to dead stars than earth. Their icy moons, with few exceptions, are scarcely more inviting.

Even the earth's moon may play a little realized but vital role in making the earth suitable for sustaining life. The moon, of course, is responsible for the tides, but it may also account for the planet's relative climatic stability and, possibly, for its strong magnetic field.

Only the earth of the inner planets has such a massive satellite. On Mars, large oscillations in the tilt of the planet's axis are thought by some scientists to lead to gross changes in the Martian climate. On the other hand, the earth's tilt changes very little, at present, because the presence of the moon acts as a sophisticated stabilizing force.

In fact, scientists say that without the moon, the earth's tilt would oscillate even more than that of Mars, leading to far greater climatic instability than we presently experience and perhaps endangering life itself.

Thus, the earth, particularly in its suitability as a habitat for life as we know it, appears to be unique in the solar system.

The Search for Life

Yet so strong is the tradition of "life on Mars" that man still feels compelled to search for life on the red planet, be it even the tiniest microorganism.

Indeed, the search for life is the keynote of the Viking mission. Scientists — particularly biologists — feel that the discovery of life on another planet would be the crowning event of the twentieth century. This discovery would have philosophical as well as scientific impact. To many, it would imply that life is spread throughout the solar system.

Carl Sagan, Cornell astronomer, believes such a discovery would "combat the 'earth chauvinism' that permeates so many of our philosophies."

"Man has now placed his feet in the cosmic ocean," muses Sagan, "and it just may result in a de-provincialization of some of our cherished concepts."

Philosopher James Christian of Santa Ana College in California maintains that "the ultimate implication [of finding life] is that we will at last have a mirror by which we

can look at ourselves as human beings." He speculates that such a discovery would spell the end of earth-centered religious beliefs.

The Bible Disproved?

But would the discovery of life on Mars — or anywhere else beyond the earth — really topple religions and philosophies, as many believe? Would the Bible be disproved if life were found in other parts of the universe? To answer such questions, we need to see just what the Bible says about the creation of the universe and life in outer space.

The book of Genesis, written over three thousand years ago, states that "in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

Today modern science attests that the universe did, in fact, have a definite beginning. Says astronomer John O'Keefe: "One result of the space research is the realization that the universe seems to have been created rather suddenly about ten billion years ago. This is a very awkward point for the apostles of dialectical materialism, the philosophy that goes with Communism. They have always said that the universe must be infinite and eternal; they have always fought against the idea that it was created at some particular time."

So twentieth-century science, at least in this respect, supports scripture. There was a definite beginning; the universe has not always existed. (For further information on this subject, write for the free

booklet, *Our Awesome Universe*.)

The book of Genesis also tells us that God designed plant and animal life on the earth. "Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth'" (Gen. 1:26, RSV).

Thus the biblical record declares that God gave man dominion or rulership over all that is on the earth. He did not, in this verse, mention outer space, the stars, or other galaxies.

Later King David wrote: "The heavens are the Lord's heavens, but the earth he has given to the sons of men" (Psalm 115:16, RSV).

So the Bible reveals that God made man and gave him dominion over the earth. But we also discover that man was made in the image and likeness of God.

The apostle Paul was inspired to look into the future and write: "For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere, 'What is man that thou art mindful of him, or the son of man, that thou carest for him? Thou didst make him for a little while [that is, during man's present, fleshly existence] lower than the angels, thou hast crowned him with glory and honor, putting everything in subjection under his feet.'"

Paul then explains: "Now in putting everything in subjection to him [man], he left nothing outside his control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him" (Hebrews 2:5-8, RSV).

God's Ultimate Plan

According to the above scripture, God ultimately intends for man to rule over everything he has created! That means that eventually God intends man to rule over the far-flung galaxies, stars, and quite possibly planets that now reside throughout the vastness of the universe.

Remember, God created man in his own image and likeness. We are, therefore, in a sense, like God.

In Hebrews 1:2-3, Paul says, "... in these last days he [God] has

spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed the *heir of all things*, through whom also he created the world. He reflects the glory of God and bears the very stamp of his nature, upholding the universe by his word of power."

Jesus is "the heir of all things." In other words, God the Father has entrusted all authority over the entire universe — "all things" — to Christ!

And Christians, when they become truly converted, become literal children of God, "and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ" (Romans 8:17, RSV).

In other words, Christ is the heir of the universe — and all men have the potential of being fellow heirs with him. That means we will eventually inherit rulership over the entire universe. That is God's remarkable plan for mankind.

The Bible clearly reveals that man has the potential to be like God, having power and glory like him. In short, man can become part of the divine family, ruling the whole creation.

Little wonder that the apostle Paul was inspired to write: "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him" (I Corinthians 2:9). (Write for our free booklet *Why Were You Born?* which explains in detail God's plan for you.)

God, Earth, and Life

The Bible reveals that God is very interested in what goes on here on earth. The earth, Jesus said, is God's footstool (Matthew 5:35). It is here that God made human beings. It is there that God sent the one who became Jesus Christ, born of the virgin Mary, to become the savior of mankind (Matthew 1:18-20).

The earth is not at the physical center of the universe; it's not even at the center of the solar system. But it is, unquestionably, a central focus of God's present interest. God is vitally concerned with events that occur on earth. It is on the earth that God is working out his supreme purpose and creating his divine family which will eventually rule the whole universe with him.

Is there life in outer space? The Bible reveals that outer space is inhabited by spirit beings (Mark 13:32; Rev. 5:11-14). But what about *physical* beings like we encounter on earth? The Bible contains absolutely no revelation that physical life as we know it exists on other planets at this time. On the other hand, neither does the Bible preclude the possibility that God has created other physical beings on other planets in other galaxies, for perhaps different purposes.

God never intended that the Bible answer every question man could conceive of, and the intriguing problem of life in outer space is one of those as-yet-to-be-answered questions. "It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honor of kings is to search out a matter. The heaven for height, and the earth for depth..." (Proverbs 25:2-3).

And one further point: The discovery of life on other worlds — on Mars or anywhere else — would definitely NOT prove evolution. The unfathomable complexity of life will always demand a great Creator, *no matter where it is found*. When the greatest minds of science, with ultra-sophisticated equipment, cannot create the simplest cell — nor even synthesize most of the components of such a cell — then the theory that life evolved by chance from dead matter becomes patently absurd.

Beyond Viking

The Viking exploration of Mars is truly one of the most amazing, incredible, and spectacular achievements of the twentieth century. We cannot help but marvel at the dedication, the organizational genius, the resourcefulness, and the spirit of adventure that has made such a mission possible. In terms of such qualities, Americans are surely twentieth-century Vikings.

Yet the Bible proclaims that a future time will come when all God's children may have a direct part in exploring and creating new worlds, not just in our own solar system, but throughout the vast reaches of God's fantastic universe.

That's the awesome and inspiring destiny God holds out for all mankind. □

There is no longer any doubt which nation is the "mover and shaker" in Western Europe today. It is West Germany, hands down.

Bonn's growing prestige and power were graphically revealed in the story behind the dramatic decision reached this past July by the heads of the nine-nation European Community on how to distribute seats for a new, directly elected Eu-

Long an economic superpower, West Germany is beginning to flex its political muscle. But the key to Bonn's future lies not in resurgent nationalism, but in the larger context of a united Europe.

ropean Parliament. For awhile, it appeared that it was going to be

"business as usual" by the Nine as they haggled back and forth over the right formula — so typical of the way every big decision in the 18-year history of the European Common Market has been reached.

The seven prime ministers, the president of France, and the chancellor of West Germany discussed a series of minor variations on a proposal that would have increased the

Europe's "Political Dwarf" Grows Up

by Gene H. Hogberg



existing, weak, nominated parliament of 198 members to a new body composed of around 400, directly elected by the people of the nine member states.

As the story goes, the heads of state were about to recess again when West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt banged the table, declaring: "No, we have to get on with it!"

In a short while the ultimate compromise was hammered out, breathing life once more into the badly tarnished vision of a united Europe. (See *The Plain Truth*, September 1976, p. 4, for details.)

And it was German persistence which made the difference. West Germany, it would appear, is at last shedding its image of being an economic giant but a political dwarf.

Still a *Wirtschaftswunder*

Behind Bonn's new — but still cautious — assertiveness in the political arena of Europe and the world lies some truly staggering economic statistics.

West Germany is the strongest economic force in Europe, accounting for one third of the total economic output of the Common Market. It produces more goods and services than any other nation in the world, with the exception of the United States and the Soviet Union.

Although its gross national product is only one third that of the U.S., its total yearly amount of foreign trade is nearly the same. About one fourth of Germany's GNP is exported as opposed to only 6.8% for the United States.

Next to the American dollar, the *deutschmark* is the world's most widely used currency. It certainly is the most coveted in many circles. While the dollar has depreciated slightly in the last five years (though it is relatively strong at the moment), the DM has increased 30% in value in the same period. Germany chalked up an incredible \$22 billion trade surplus in 1974 — the largest in world economic history — before slipping back to "only" a \$2 billion surplus in 1975.

As a result of over two decades of *wirtschaftswunder* success, Bonn's monetary reserves — gold, dollars, and other hard currencies — now

top out at over \$35 billion, by far the largest in the world and *twice* those of the United States.

Bonn, to be sure, did not escape the impact of the 1974-75 world recession and indeed is still climbing out of the worst of it. Unemployment is once again under a million. (It had climbed to a politically disturbing 1.35 million.) The inflation rate, which rose to 7% in 1974, is now down to slightly under 5%. Key industries such as steel, chemicals, and construction are still sluggish. Their poor performance was largely responsible for a 3.6% drop in West Germany's gross national product in 1975. But overall business indicators are pointing slightly upward once again.

"The Germans Will Pay"

Out of Bonn's bountiful largess have flowed funds to rescue the faltering economies of her weak-sister partners (such as a 5 billion mark loan to Italy in 1974), and more-than-proportional payments to help support French agriculture, European Community nuclear research work, and various and sundry other projects such as rural economic development schemes in Scotland and elsewhere.

"The Germans will pay," has almost come to be a byword — or at least a commonly shared assumption — as if Bonn has to continually penalize itself for its own economic success.

But the handouts can't last forever on their recent scale, not with an incompletely recovered economy at home — a sensitive issue with national elections just around the corner. (See box, p. 13.)

Recently, Chancellor Schmidt told the Bundestag that West Germany will continue to make financial sacrifices for the sake of the European Community — but only if other, weaker members try harder to sort out their own economic and social problems. In the meantime, Bonn will henceforth scrutinize community budgets, peppered as they are with numerous costly pet projects, with a much more critical eye.

The Nation-State Is Too Small

Bonn's commitment to the European Community — even though it

is in many respects a costly one — remains strong. And with good reason. The world is far different today than when the military-industrial might of the Third Reich rolled over Europe and nearly established world dominion. The world today belongs in large part to the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union. The borders of their competing alliance systems, curiously enough, slice right through the German nation.

The nation-states of Europe, East and West, individually are simply no match for the combined industrial and military might of their suitor powers.

No nation in free Europe recognizes this fact of life more than the Federal Republic. Her economic dependence on the rest of Europe and especially the Common Market is enormous. All of Europe, East and West, absorbs two thirds of Germany's exports — with nearly 45% going to her eight other partners in the EC alone.

The only hope for the nations of Western Europe to have an independent say of their own in the world's economic and political arena is by passing through the narrow gate of European unity — as arduous as that task may be because of conflicting nationalisms.

This realization explains why West Germany has tried so hard for so long to bring about common community positions on one front after another. In addition, by always espousing the common European cause, she is less suspect of nationalistic motivations. After all, World War II is not that far in the past.

Chancellor Schmidt has continually stressed to his countrymen that they are not to appear to be "European know-it-alls." Recently he cautioned Bundestag members: "We are not thinking of some kind of German leadership bid" in the EC. "On the contrary," he counselled, "I warn against that."

The free-speaking Schmidt, however, occasionally betrays his country's "good European" image. He stirred up a hornet's nest in mid-July when he told reporters that the United States, Britain, France, and West Germany had decided that no multilateral loans would be given to

any Italian government that included Communists in the cabinet. The Italians were enraged first at finding out that such a decision had been reached, secondarily at Schmidt's "arrogance." French, British, and American spokesmen were embarrassed and claimed "disapproval" of Schmidt's remarks, but they couldn't deny the existence of such a secret deal.

Chancellor Schmidt's indiscretion only points up that Germany's growing power position is causing no small concern among her European neighbors. According to a recent Associated Press report, "U.S. officials say the Ford Administration has been informally advised of these new fears of resurgent German influence. Among countries which have done so, informants said, are France, Britain, Holland, Norway, Belgium, and Luxembourg."

European authorities still acknowledge that the Germans are acting like good allies. But some countries are already quietly making counterbalancing moves, in the finest of European political tradition. President Giscard d'Estaing of France, for example, is edging closer to Britain. He has arranged to consult with British Prime Minister Callaghan as regularly as he does with Schmidt. French military forces are also being beefed up, ostensibly to counter Soviet strength, but also to prevent an over-reliance on German strength in Western Europe. The French military is cooperating more closely with NATO now than ever since De Gaulle pulled France out of the alliance command structure.

The British, too, are expressing guarded concern over Bonn's enviable position, especially its "open door" to Washington. Britain's lead-

ing news weekly, *The Economist*, cautions that "it would be a mistake if America were to try to give Germany responsibilities and a role for which history and circumstance have still not fully prepared it."

Both for Europe

As far as the "European issue" is concerned in the October 3 national election, there is virtually no difference between Social Democrat Schmidt and challenger Helmut Kohl who represents the Christian Democratic/Christian Socialist forces. Both are ardent supporters of a united Europe.

At a recent conference in Brussels of the European Movement — a private, nonpolitical "action" group advocating a united Europe — Kohl stressed that what is needed throughout Western Europe is a new era of unity fervor such as that which brought about profound

Vying for the Helm in West Germany

Polls indicate a close race in West Germany's October 3 national election. Here are the contenders for Chancellor:



CHANCELLOR HELMUT SCHMIDT

The incumbent West German chancellor is Helmut Schmidt, 57, who succeeded to the office in May 1974, after the resignation of Willy Brandt in the wake of a spy scandal. Brandt, though resigning the office of chancellor, retained the chairmanship of the Social Democratic Party (SPD).

Schmidt is national vice chairman of the SPD, which has governed West Germany since 1969 in coalition with the liberal Free Democratic Party (FDP). There has been talk of late, however, that the small FDP, headed by West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher, might pull out of the coalition and ally itself with the SPD's rival, the conservative Christian Democratic Union. If that were to occur, the SPD would probably have no chance of returning to power this autumn.



CHALLENGER HELMUT KOHL

Helmut Kohl, 46, is national chairman of the opposition Christian Democratic Union (CDU), as well as governor of the Rhineland-Palatinate state. Kohl's CDU is allied with the Bavarian Christian Social Union (CSU), headed by fiery ultraconservative Franz Josef Strauss.

The CDU governed West Germany during the 20 years following the nation's creation in 1949. In 1969, Willy Brandt's SPD/FDP coalition swept the CDU out of power and into opposition. In the premature national election of 1972, the CDU — led by Rainer Barzel — was narrowly defeated by Brandt. This year, the CDU feels it will do much better in the national balloting. But the key factor in who will head the next government may still be the small "kingmaking" party, the FDP.

changes in the fifties. He scored the governments of the Nine for their timidity and lack of political will.

At the same meeting, ex-Chancellor Willy Brandt confirmed that he will stand for election to the first directly elected European Parliament in 1978. (He has since been joined by other European notables such as French Socialist leader François Mitterand of France and Premier Leo Tindemans of Belgium. Two former British prime ministers, Harold Wilson and Edward Heath, have also shown interest in running for the new parliament.)

Other German politicians have made it quite clear which direction — regardless of which party wins in October — Germany should move in the years ahead.

In the prestigious journal *Foreign Policy* (Number 22, Spring, 1976), Walther Leisler Kiep, treasurer of the CDU and a member of the Bundestag, writes: "As regards a possible ascent of medium-class West European countries to world-power status, the general situation is that they could do so only via a political unification of Western Europe . . .

"West Germany," continues Kiep, "must use its *political* weight to spur the process of European unification. A united Europe as an equal partner of the United States is the prerequisite for the survival and extension of a free and democratic order. For West Germany to take on this task is not a national sacrifice for the sake of others, but a necessity."

Ties to U.S. — How Strong?

Mr. Kiep adds that "Europe cannot be defended without the United States nor can the United States be without Europe."

True — as things stand right now. The West German *Bundeswehr*, at slightly under 500,000 men, is a formidable, professional fighting force, the only European contribution to NATO that really amounts to anything. Bonn continually seeks to upgrade the quality of the *Bundeswehr* — in contrast to most of her allies who have been trimming their defense budgets. Over the last few years, Bonn has also developed a highly sophisticated arms industry.

But Bonn's independent maneu-

verability in military matters is sharply curtailed in two key areas: (1) Under international agreements Bonn has foresworn the development and deployment of nuclear weapons, and (2) as a condition of her membership in NATO, her armed forces are totally committed to the command of the alliance.

Thus, in the final analysis, it is the commitment of 200,000 American ground forces stationed in Europe, most of them in Germany, backed up by America's nuclear arsenal which guarantees European security.

Visit Raises Key Issue

In this context, Chancellor Schmidt's recent bicentennial visit to Washington looms of great significance for the near future.

Herr Schmidt told reporters that any unilateral reduction of U.S. troops in Western Europe would have a "catastrophic impact" on the world military balance.

Yet, significantly, Schmidt was able, on the same visit, to end Bonn's expensive "offset payments" which have borne the major cost of stationing American troops on West German soil.

In reaching agreement with the U.S., both sides felt that because of recent favorable economic upturns for the U.S. in American-German trade (the surplus is Washington's now) the old offset arrangements had lost their relevancy.

However, the world economic picture could change quickly again. Then what? Most observers feel it was only because of Bonn's heavy support payments that the U.S. Senate was able, in the last decade, to resist pressure from some influential quarters to drastically scale down America's military commitment to Western Europe.

"Bond of Trust"

On his visit to Washington, Chancellor Schmidt heralded the "unprecedented bond of trust" existing between West Germany and the United States.

Things are *not quite* as rosy as such a lofty pronouncement might indicate. Over one recent episode especially, Bonn and Washington came to verbal blows. U.S. officials

were incensed when Bonn persisted in selling an entire nuclear reactor facility to Brazil. Washington feared such a sale would greatly increase the likelihood of a nuclear arms race in South America.

But the Germans went ahead anyway. And in the future there is bound to be more friction between Bonn and Washington over foreign policy matters, international trade, and monetary issues. Says Robert Gerald Livingston, writing in *Foreign Policy*, No. 22, Spring, 1976:

"The new self-confidence in foreign affairs displayed by Brandt [who launched *Ostpolitik*, or Germany's reconciliation with the East], Schmidt, and the current generation of political leaders makes it evident that we [the U. S.] will no longer be dealing with a country ready to accept U.S. preeminence across the board."

Prediction Coming True

The Plain Truth magazine predicted, even before the collapse of Hitler's Third Reich, that Germany would rise again. Its editors further foretold that a revitalized Germany would ultimately be in the forefront of a united Europe.

This union of states, we have said, is based on the indications of Bible prophecy. Europe will eventually be united not only economically, but also politically and militarily — with its own nuclear weapons. Such a combine some day will be able to stand up to both the United States and the Soviet Union.

West Germany has become, by sheer economic weight, the dominant power inside the Common Market. The Community — with the landmark decision regarding the European Parliament — is once again back on the unity track. In subsequent months and years further historic steps will undoubtedly take Western Europe down the road toward what the Common Market heads of state in the Paris Summit Conference of 1972 announced was their goal: a European union.

It remains to be seen whether this ultimate objective sought by European leaders — especially the West Germans — will be good or bad for the United States. □



HOW TO TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT **SEX...** **WITHOUT BLUSHING** (When Young Minds Want to Know)

by Art Linkletter

(Begin article on next page)

Kids are the most honest people in the world. They've got nothing to hide, and they tend to think nobody else does either. That delightful misconception often caused considerable embarrassment for the parents of children who appeared on my "House Party" show. The kids I interviewed were never prompted or told what to say before the telecast. They didn't have to be. I just asked simple questions — usually about their life at home — and the kids responded with facts which they seemed generally to view as true, but dull. When these matter-of-fact descriptions of mommy's and daddy's behavior received adult interpretation, the result was often sidesplitting. "House Party" audiences frequently spent as much time rolling in the aisles as they did sitting in their seats.

Sex, being a subject which most of my young guests knew little or nothing about, frequently lent itself to this sort of double entendre humor. They didn't know what sex was, so of course they didn't know when they were talking about it or referring to it, or that many people considered it an awkward and embarrassing topic of conversation. The audience, on the other hand, was familiar not only with sex but also with society's taboos on the subject — especially on national television! I think people laughed not because the kids were funny the way a stand-up comedian is funny, but because their candor was entirely disarming and refreshing. Here are a few of my favorite examples of kids shooting straight from the hip and bringing the "House Party" house down:

One day I asked a young lady of about five to tell us what her mother did for fun.

"She plays golf," she replied, "with a strange man."

"A strange man?" I echoed. "Don't you know who he is?"

She shook her head. "Nobody knows who he is," she said darkly.

"Any other news?" I thought I had better change the subject.

"Well," she said, "mamma's going to have a baby, but no one knows why."

A few days later I tried the same question on a young man of seven.

"What does your dad do for fun?" I asked him, while millions watched and listened.

"Well," he said a bit sadly, "he used to like hunting and fishing, but now he's just interested in indoor sports."

"What sort of indoor sports?" I inquired.

"I don't know," he said. "He always locks the door."

I asked another young man who was about age six what his daddy did for fun.

"He sleeps on the porch," he said.

"Why is that?" I wanted to know.

"Because mamma keeps thrashing around in bed all night, and he can't have any fun there at all!"

Sooner or later, kids who don't know about sex are going to become adults who do. Since we're the ones who are likely to be passing on the information to them, maybe it's worth devoting some thought to how to go about it. There are as many schools of thought concerning how and what to tell your children about sex as there are psychologists. I expect my readers already know the "what" part, so I'll do a little talking about "how."

I'm no expert, and you'd be well advised to take what I say with at least one grain of salt. On the other hand, I don't honestly feel as humble as I'm trying to sound. After all, my opinion has been shaped by personal conversations with thousands of kids. That should prove I know something about children. As for sex, suffice it to say that I've never been troubled by the nagging feeling that there was something I didn't know — nothing too important anyway.

How Kids Find Out About Sex

I probably don't need to tell you that kids are not all alike. The more introverted, shy ones may never ask, "Where did I come from?" or "How did you make me?" They prefer the method of deductive reasoning to direct interrogation. Whether he asks his parents or not, I don't think there's any way for a child today to arrive at age twelve without at least a sketchy idea of the biological activity which precipitated his conception and birth. There are plenty of ways to find out short of asking:

overheard conversations, discussions with better informed siblings or friends, and sex education classes, to name a few. Nowadays, too, most people have at least one sex manual in their library which a curious child can browse through unobserved. A lot of paperback fiction pretty much tells the whole story, and even many PG-rated films don't leave much to the imagination.

As loving parents, we would all like to control every bit of stimuli to which our children are exposed and censor anything which might hurt them or affect them adversely in any way. We can't do that.

At this point, I have no evidence to prove whether it's better in the long run for a kid to learn about sex in the street or in his own living room on his daddy's knee. If you're sure you dislike the idea of your child hearing about sex from anyone but you or your spouse, why not volunteer the information?

There are several distinct advantages to this approach: You won't be caught unprepared by a tug on the sleeve and a pointed question from an upturned face while the boss and his wife are over for dinner. Choosing to tell your child the facts of life rather than waiting to be asked automatically delivers you from the defensive position which can result in prolonged stuttering. Playing in the offensive position, you can decide the time and place, and even discuss the game plan with your spouse beforehand if the confrontation is to be a team effort.

Sex Is Funny

No matter who he or she hears it from the first time, sex is going to sound more ridiculous than sublime. It's not until sometime after he has absorbed the shock of the stark biological facts that a child can begin to view the sex act as potentially pleasurable as well as mysterious and beautiful.

I think it's a waste of energy to insist that sex is *beautiful* to an eight-year-old boy who has just heard for the first time how his parents conceived him. He's just not going to believe you. Roses are beautiful, freshly fallen snow is beautiful, sunsets and full moons

are beautiful — but SEX? That's not beautiful. Don't press it. He'll think it's beautiful soon enough. Then you'll have a whole new set of problems.

In contrast to the deductive reasoners, some kids don't hesitate to ask about the birds and the bees the first time the question occurs to them. One inquisitive seven year old I know pressed her mother until all the cards were on the table. In response to the wide-eyed, rather alarmed expression on her child's face, the woman, feeling a little ridiculous, defended herself with "It's not as crazy as it sounds."

"Do you have a baby every time you do it?" the little girl inquired further.

"No," her mother replied.

"You mean if you don't get one you have to keep trying?!"

Though she was disturbed by her daughter's attitude, the young woman could think of no answer but "Yes."

The astounded child patted her mother on the shoulder and whispered, "Boy! Were you lucky!"

As I said, sex just doesn't sound appealing the first time you hear about it. It's one of those things that kind of grows on you.

Introducing Sex to Young Children

In the case of really young children (ages 3 to 5) who ask where they came from and how they got here, it's usually best to remember not to go overboard. A one-line answer is often enough. Tots don't enjoy concentrating for too long on something that, to them, is entirely abstract, and they will simply tune out your efforts at biological explanations and nomenclature. A brief answer is not necessarily an evasive one, any more than the reply, "Fine, thank you," is incomplete as a response to the greeting, "How are you doing?" More important than an elaborate answer is a clear understanding of the question. Listen carefully to your child, and make sure you know what's being asked.

A woman I know was alarmed when her four-and-a-half-year-old son tramped into the kitchen with a big smile and a question on his lips. "How did you and daddy get me?"

Feeling unprepared, the young

mother froze. Then, wanting desperately to do the right thing, she took her little boy by the hand, sat him down at the dining-room table and began an A to Z account of his biological origins, pictures included. Not being the world's greatest draftsman and also being less than an expert on the precise shape and location of the internal reproductive organs she was trying to draw, the well-meaning woman became quite absorbed in what she was doing and didn't notice that her son was no longer sitting next to her. When she did realize he was gone, it took her twenty minutes to find him where he had fallen asleep under the dining-room table.

The next time the little boy asked

Making love and conceiving and raising children is not something one does for fun at one's own convenience.

his mother how she and his daddy had made him, she replied, without looking up from the stew she was stirring on the stove, "We just loved each other so much that God gave us a baby to love some more." Completely satisfied, the little boy went outside and rode his tricycle around the block nine times until his mother called him in for dinner.

As I've said before, kids are honest, and they appreciate honesty in others. But part of the skill of communicating with young children is realizing what and how much is being asked, saying what needs to be said, and no more.

I have one more, rather sentimental feeling concerning how to impart information about sex to young children. I know this is old fashioned, romantic, and very personal, but I am sure that it is a thought shared by many. It bothers me that any explanation of how the male sperm fertilizes the female egg is likely to have a blank and clinical ring to it. There's not much you can do about it really. The facts are the facts, and as I said before, insisting that sex is beautiful won't help. But perhaps

there is some way for the magic and wonder of sexual intimacy to become visible through the attitude and demeanor of whoever's doing the talking.

I always admired a remark made by a Sunday school teacher whose tenth-grade class scoffed at the concept of the virgin birth. He replied calmly to his students that aside from the fact that a virgin birth had occurred only once in the history of the world, to him the conception and birth of everyone in the classroom and the entire world was no less astounding, mysterious, and miraculous.

Sex, Love, and the Teen-ager

Adolescence is a whole new ball game. Those in-between years tend to be awkward and painful not only for the gangling youth himself but also for everyone around him. Alarming glandular changes transform his body, which he begins to behold as something strange and separate and something over which he has little control. And what, the teen-ager wonders, are these feelings toward members of the opposite sex? The facts learned a few years ago on daddy's knee begin to seem, if not beautiful, inevitable, intense, and urgent.

Whether we like it or not, it's a fact that an increasingly high percentage of today's school kids have had considerable sexual experience by the time they graduate — experience which in many cases began as early as junior high. I have no statistics to quote in regard to whether this early sexual activity makes people happier, unhappier, or neither. To be frank, this is a subject about which I claim little or no objectivity. My opinion is very simple. I think sex is for people who are married to each other.

My birth was the result of an accident or indiscretion during a premarital affair carried on by my parents, whom I never knew. When it came time for me to be born, my mother and father drove to a small Canadian town called Moose Jaw. There I was delivered, put up for adoption, and raised by a fine man, the Reverend Mr. Linkletter. Though I never met my true par-

(Continued on page 42)

In today's economy, financial worries are a growing source of frustration to millions. Money may not be everything, but most of us feel we'd be a lot happier if we had a little more of it. This article discusses one way to move ahead on the financial treadmill: Get a raise.

Joe Farmington was worried. "I don't know what we're going to do," he confided to his wife Jeanie. "If we don't get more money coming in, we're going to have trouble meeting our house payments. Our car insurance has gone through the roof, and I really can't see how we can afford any new clothes for the kids this year."

For millions of middle-class citizens, such financial concerns are an increasing source of anguish. It seems almost everybody is struggling to earn more, just to keep his standard of living on par with what he had the previous year. Especially if you have a growing family, staying even with last year's life-style can only be done by significantly increasing this year's paycheck. It's a game of survival of the fittest, and the ever present wage-price spiral is an unmerciful antagonist.

To ward off the voracious wolf of inflation, several strategies may be effective: learn to manage your finances more wisely, live on less money, begin putting principles of success into practice, etc. Such techniques may be temporarily helpful, but many reach a stage where the only thing that will solve their financial dilemma is more money. How can they get it? They might begin training for a higher-paying profession or pursue an advanced degree. But this requires time — and money.

Actually, one of the fastest ways to bolster your earnings — other than by robbing a bank or inheriting money from Howard Hughes — is to obtain a raise.

Going After a Raise

What can you do to get a raise? Some have attempted everything from offering sexual favors to their

boss to blackmail, making threats, or initiating a work slowdown. These techniques, however, have a low batting average of success in the long run, and if you attempt some of these techniques and fail, it could mean absolute disaster for your career or future.

When you get right down to it, raises are won by those who have sized up the complete situation and then handled it with finesse and patience, rather than with guile or dishonesty.

When plotting to get a raise, too many think solely of *their* needs, why they must have more money, and how they can get it. But often the best approach is to climb into your boss' size twelve shoes and look at things from his perspective. Ask yourself, "Why should he want to give me a raise? What have I done to further his business or department's goals? Am I actually an asset to him, or just an expendable liability?" Then do an objective self-analysis of your performance on the job.

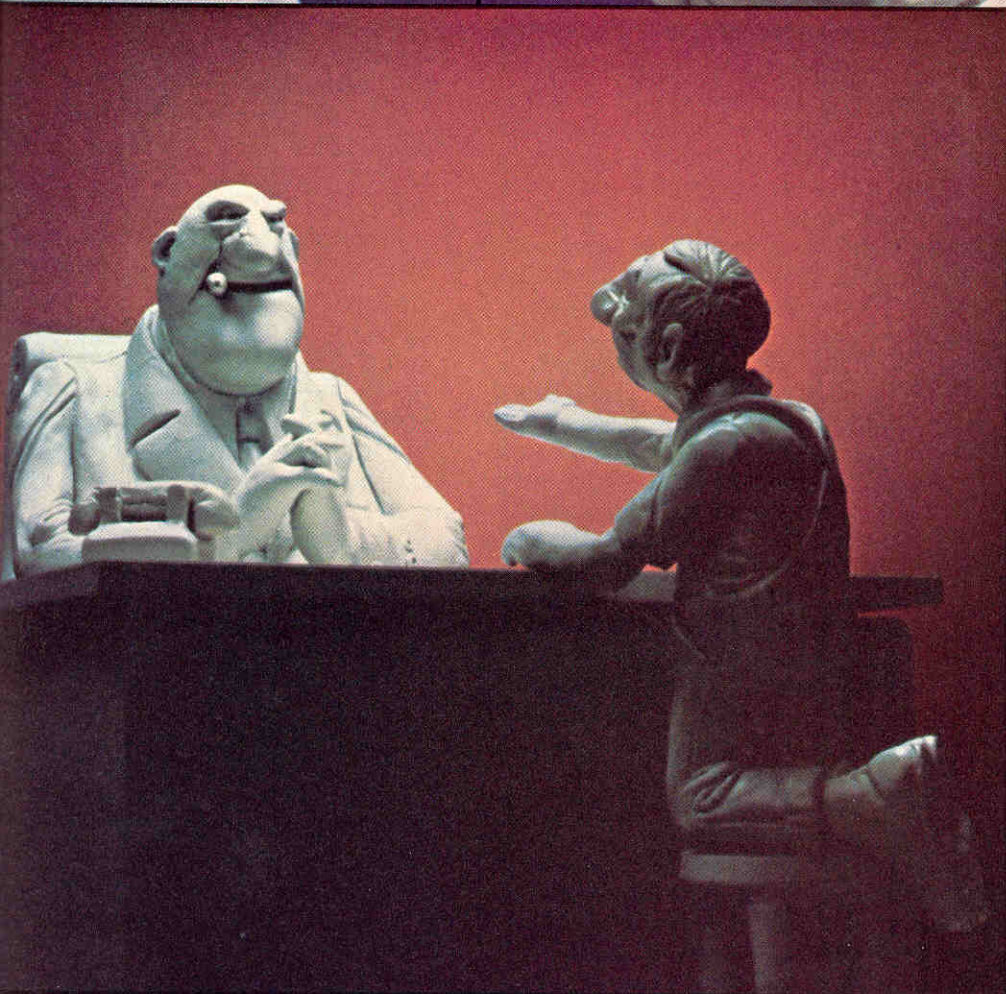
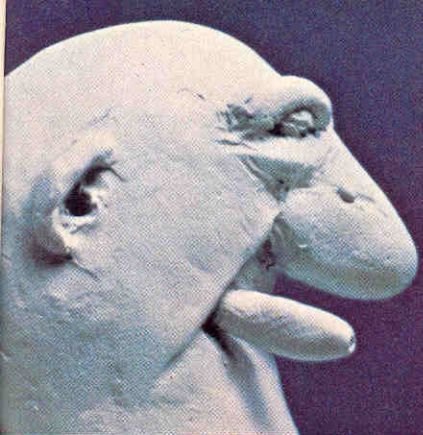
Financial advancement is not so much hitting the boss for a salary hike at the right time as it is influencing him to give you high marks for performance. Companies pay you for essentially two things: the importance of your job and how well you do it. Companies have various systems designed to determine when to give you a pay boost and the approximate amount to give you. They are constantly evaluating your work in what could be classified as three categories: personal traits, job skills, and job performance. Make an honest self-appraisal in each of the following categories and see if you are falling short in any areas:

I. Personal Traits

One of the first things an employer looks for in an employee is reliability. An unreliable employee is about as useful to an employer as a car that won't start. An employer wants someone who will be on the job day after day, enthusiastically churning out commendable work, rather than someone who perennially has an excuse why he was absent or couldn't perform his duties. Absenteeism raises havoc with production,

HOW TO GET A RAISE OUT OF YOUR BOSS

by Jim E. Lea



threatens quality, and creates unrest and friction among the other workers. Anyone who thinks he can create havoc for a boss by being absent continually and still expect a raise is living in a fantasy land.

Another highly prized trait is loyalty. It goes hand in hand with reliability. Employers take notice of loyal employees: those who can be trusted with company funds, who can be depended on to get the job done properly without constant supervision, and who are responsible. They literally can't "afford" to lose this kind of employee, and a good salary and accompanying pay boosts will usually follow.

One employee, Mary Kass, thought her age, expertise, and friendly disposition would make up for her disloyalty. She was one of the best liked clerks in the dry goods store where she worked. To enhance her image with customers, she secretly gave away samples of her store's merchandise — at the store's expense. When the boss discovered what was happening, she begged for mercy and got it, but she almost got fired instead of receiving the wage boost she had coming.

Employers love cooperative employees. There's nothing more irritating than an employee who stubbornly balks at every directive from his boss, who is regularly offending fellow workers, and who argues disrespectfully with his boss. That was Kay Mandel's problem. She had a good job at a nutrition store. She displayed intelligence and resourcefulness, but she almost never did anything the way her supervisor instructed her to. She continually went over her manager's head to the owner concerning picky problems and ended up angering both of them. She tried to pit one employee against another by gossiping about them, but it all backfired on her. She not only didn't get the raises she could have, but she also alienated everyone in the store.

You should not only strive to get along well with your boss and fellow workers, but also with your firm's customers. If you neglect this seemingly obvious point, you're about as useful to your boss as an air conditioner that conks out every time it gets hot outside, and you will soon

Raises are won by those who have sized up the complete situation and then handled it with finesse and patience, rather than with guile or dishonesty.

find yourself standing in a long unemployment line, rather than getting a raise.

In short, if you are diligently practicing the Golden Rule on the job, you should have no trouble pleasing your boss, your fellow workers, and your firm's customers.

II. Job Skills

You can be the most reliable, loyal, cooperative person alive, but if you don't possess all the technical skills required to perform your job properly, you'd better do something fast. You certainly can't expect a raise when you aren't even performing up to par or you aren't staying abreast of new developments in your field.

Jack Dixon thought otherwise. He was a budding writer on a growing publication. He continually turned in boring, repetitive, poorly researched articles. The few that were published were heavily rewritten by the editors. What do you suppose he did to better his performance? He took night classes on selling insurance. And to top that off, he asked several associates why the boss was so stingy about raises. Instead of studying insurance and complaining about his salary, Jack should have immediately begun to develop and carry out a program to stimulate his professional growth.

Such a program should be based on a sober and realistic appraisal of your strengths and weaknesses. When formulating it, you should discuss with your boss the areas in which he feels you need to grow and develop.

Exhibiting a willingness to learn and a desire to improve your job skills is the best approach to take to insure that you get the salary hikes you need.

III. Job Performance

Probably the most important thing you can do on your job is be productive. After all, you were hired to produce. A company, being in the business to make a profit, eyes very closely two aspects of an employee's performance record: the quality and quantity of the work he produces. These two traits go hand in hand. One is often of little worth without the other. What good is a financial report filled with errors, even if it is compiled in record time?

The person whose work is accurate and high-quality will generally have no problem earning his just due and collecting raises.

Employers appreciate employees like Stan Ball who worked at a manufacturing company. He was a real dynamo all day, exuding enthusiasm and drive. Stan was usually the last to leave, and he was well-organized and met production schedules. In fact his work was so impressive that he received three raises in less than 12 months on the job.

The employees who adopt Solomon's advice and do whatever their hand finds to do with all their might (Eccl. 9:12) will discover that, eventually, the diligent are always rewarded.

Go See Your Boss

Suppose, though, your diligence doesn't pay off as soon as you expect. Then you should consider discussing the matter with your boss. This is a big step and shouldn't be done hastily. Remember, the boss probably thinks he *is* paying you enough, and if you rush in madly and blurt out that you are being unjustly treated, he may want to throw you out the door headfirst. So before you sacrifice yourself on the altar needlessly, evaluate yourself. In some cases you might even check with outside firms who are hiring people in your field to determine how much they are being paid and whether or not you could be hired if you lost your present job.

Once you've done this, determine what you wish to say to your boss, and then confidently go and present your case to your supervisor. You might emphasize your financial needs. You should certainly stress

your value to the company and your work record. (Hopefully it's not below average!) You might even explain that others in industry are paid more for the same job — if that is the case.

Don't threaten your boss or go over his head, but go to him directly, calmly, and respectfully. If you do this and you're still unable to get the raise you feel you deserve, perhaps you should strongly consider selling your services to someone more appreciative — but you'd better be sure you really are worth what you are asking, or you may find yourself working in a less attractive job for less than you're getting now.

Setting Your Priorities

Money should not be the only thing you work for. If it is, you ought to sit down and seriously consider what you really want out of life, for a person's life consists of much more than the abundance of his possessions (Luke 12:15).

On the other hand, money is a necessary commodity in today's world, and you can't just stand idly by and wait for the Creator to shower you with gold and silver coins from heaven. In fact the Creator's book teaches that a Christian is worse than an infidel if he doesn't provide for his household (1 Tim. 5:8). And providing for your family takes work, sweat, and perseverance on your part — and often a boost in salary.

In short, to be able to earn the proper salary and obtain the wage hikes you need for survival, you must do one main thing: Please your boss. You need a service-oriented attitude to some extent to accomplish this properly. If you are trying to give to your job as well as get from it, you'll be happier in the long run, and you'll find that you won't just be working solely for all the money you can squeeze out of your company.

When your attitude is one of giving to your employer, you'll be rewarded many times over for your efforts — not only in satisfaction and fulfillment, but also in terms of financial security and advancement. □

GETTING A JOB THAT WILL LEAD TO SUCCESS

"Job hunting is tough," complained one frustrated breadwinner. "It's tough on my family. It's tough on my marriage. And right now, it's mighty tough on me."

If that is your attitude, be assured that you are quite right. There are no magic formulas for finding a job. There is, however, an approach you can use that will increase your chances of finding a job that will truly be satisfying.

Begin by asking yourself what you want from a job. Your answers will surely include money, security, and personal satisfaction. But in the final analysis, what you want from a job is the same thing you want from life — success.

A job that will give you a chance to succeed will probably be one that gives you an opportunity to make a meaningful contribution. Apply this concept now to the process of job hunting.

First, take a look at yourself. Determine your abilities and skills by making a list of the jobs and duties you've held and the kinds of training you've had. Then list those activities you've always found interesting and enjoyed doing. Some tests exist that may prove helpful to you in determining this. You may also desire to seek counsel on this matter. One place to check out is your State Unemployment Office, which will usually have good free advice and testing.

Once you have completed your self inventory, you should have a pretty good idea about the kinds of jobs that would be suitable for you and hence the kind of contributions you could make. Perhaps further training may be necessary. This might involve more formal education, but many skills can be picked up while working on the job.

Two books which may be of assistance in selecting the job that's best for you are the *Dictionary of Occupational Titles* and the *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, both

published by the U.S. government. They should be available in most libraries. Two other books that provide good advice are *What Color Is Your Parachute?* by Richard Nelson Bolles and *How to Get the Job That's Right for You* by Ben Greco. Many bookstores will carry them.

One final step in preparation which may be helpful is the writing of a resume. A resume is a summary of those experiences and talents you possess that proves you are qualified for the particular job of interest. Again, most libraries have many books on the successful preparation of a resume.

After making contacts with various companies, you come to the critical point of your job search, the job interview. Here you have a chance to sell yourself to your prospective employer.

Having done your homework, this should not be too difficult. Since you are interested in making contributions to this company, you will be reasonably knowledgeable about the company and its needs. (You should be!) You then explain to your employer that you are sincerely interested in making some positive contributions, that this job offers such an opportunity, and that you are qualified for the job you are seeking. (Your resume should help here.) Who could resist a sales pitch like that?

Once you have found suitable employment, you will find that the challenge of continually making positive contributions will strengthen your self-image as well as provide something good for others. As your contributions increase in quality and quantity, you will reap not only immense personal satisfaction but also pay raises and promotions.

So start on your road to success. Stop looking for just a job, and start looking for a chance to make a meaningful contribution.

— Richard S. Linton



THE SEARCH FOR NOAH'S ARK

FACT OR FABLE?

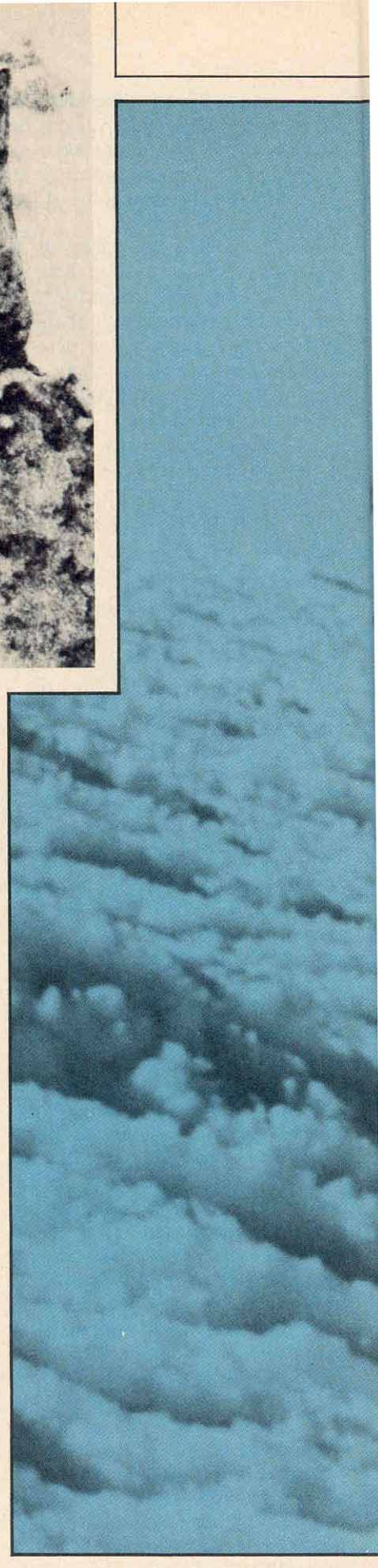
The folklore of many cultures tells of it; historians refer to it; and Jesus spoke of it. But is there hard evidence that a man named Noah actually built a great Ark to escape a worldwide flood? And could that Ark still be preserved to be found in the 20th century?

by Terry Wood

Not far from the Aegean sea, where Atlantis is supposedly submerged, sits majestic Mt. Ararat in eastern Turkey, a 16,946-foot mound of volcanic rubble which, some scientists and theologians believe, serves as the fortified pedestal for the remains of Noah's Ark.

Genesis 8:4 acts as their biblical verification: "And the ark rested in the seventh month, in the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat." Some five millennia afterward a dedicated coterie remains convinced that the Ark rests somewhere on that mountain, and with it lies a conclusive rebuttal to atheism, agnosticism, evolution, and any other disclaimer to the Bible's validity.

For Eryl Cummings, a New Mexico realtor and perhaps the most respected of all Ark hunters, the possibility that the Ark still exists is





NOAH'S ARK? Intriguing photo from Mt. Ararat (left) shows what appears to be a half-buried ship. Explorers (center) move carefully across an Ararat glacier. John Joseph (inset) claimed to have found the Ark in 1887. Lower inset shows Eryl Cummings (left) and guide as they appeared in a 1966 expedition.



All photos in this article used by permission of Beta Book Co., San Diego, CA, unless otherwise noted.

enough to keep him searching. "If you had the experiences I've had with atheists, agnostics, infidels, evolutionists, young kids who have given up their faith, even some of these church people who just don't believe the first 11 books of the Bible, then you know why I'm in it," he told *The Plain Truth*. "Just to see them change their whole attitude — because a tangible object could prove the Bible's story — would make it worthwhile for me."

Says 29-year-old scientist John Morris of the Institute for Creation-Research: "Its discovery would have a tremendous impact in the scientific realm to disprove many theories by proving the catastrophe of a flood."

"It would have profound implications on a lot of things," envisions John Bradley, Jr., president of the Scientific Exploration and Archaeological Research Foundation (SEARCH). "In education, politically, sociologically... it would be havoc if you really think it out."

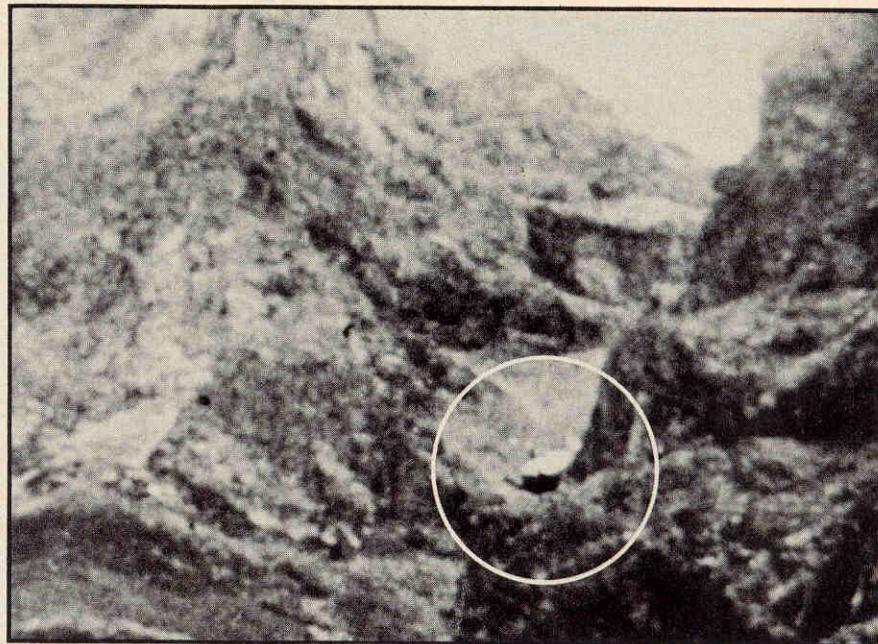
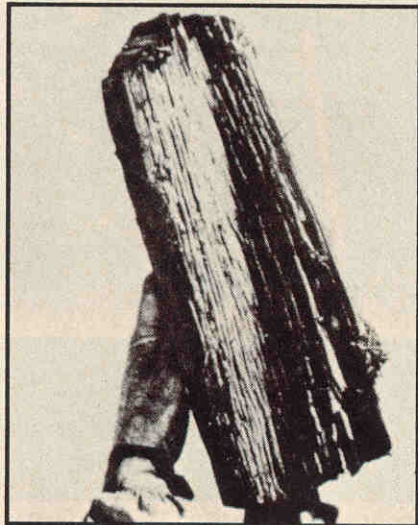
If they find it.

"There have been 37 expeditions since 1961, and I'm familiar with practically all the expeditioners," says the 71-year-old Cummings. "I don't know any one of them who has been successful."

Turkish Objections

In fact, the only success several Ark hunters have had has been in con-

HAND TOOLED WOOD, allegedly found on Mt. Ararat by Fernand Navarra, is partially fossilized and appears to be very old.

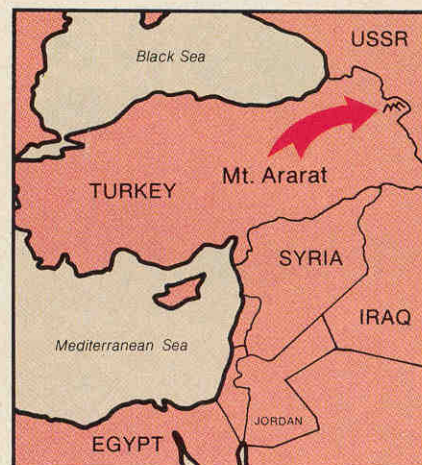


sistency of arrests. Too often groups with boundless zeal and a paucity of foresight charge boldly up Ararat's face without acquiring the appropriate government permission.

Turkey's uneasiness with a mountain full of adventurers is understandable considering that Ararat is only a short distance from the Soviet Union's border. "It's a very sensitive military zone," says Morris. "It would be like a bunch of Turks coming to the United States and messing around in Fort Knox without asking the government. You just don't do it."

Several would-be ARKeologists from France and Germany were arrested last year for barging up Ararat without a permit, and one American group of zealots was thrown in jail for the fifth consecutive year. "I told them not to go because it was October, they would run into snow, and they didn't have a permit," Cummings remembers. "It took them six days to cover five miles in snow up to their knees and sometimes their hips. One of their crew went stark crazy and had to be put in an asylum. When they got off the mountain, they were arrested, and it took high officials of the United States and Turkish governments to get them out of jail. It gives the whole endeavor a bad name."

Such flagrant disregard for Turkish concerns has severely hampered efforts to gain permits by expedi-



A STRANGE OBJECT (above) on Mt. Ararat is thought by some to be related to Noah's Ark. Below, map shows where the search is focused.

tioners who possess authentic scientific and archaeological intent. Hollywood film producer Bart LaRue, perturbed by Turkey's unwillingness to grant permits, filmed a 1974 documentary on his unauthorized search, including scenes of him bribing Turkish officials to gain access to the mountain. "I talked with LaRue about it," says Morris. "The reason he did it was to try and force the Turks to take a better view of the search, to get world opinion against them. Well, the Turks don't operate that way. You kick them in the face, and they'll kick you back. Certainly if he were to go back there, he would be thrown in jail immediately. I don't

know how it affected the rest of the search, but it couldn't have been good.

"The political tension in Turkey has lessened somewhat after being quite antagonistic for several years," adds Morris. "Now with American aid being reinstated there, our chances might be better."

But the prospects for permits this past summer were still dismal, and only a precious few permits were granted. Cummings' group, one of the most respected, did receive permission, but it hasn't yet returned.

Another renowned Ark hunter, John Warwick Montgomery, professed to have "secret leads" toward obtaining permission for future expeditions.

SEARCH's Bradley is already looking forward to 1977. "One of our directors with excellent Turkish connections is a brilliant nuclear physicist presently teaching at Princeton and Oxford," he says. "This individual has obligations that will tie him up until spring. Then he'll try and personally work out the necessary details to obtain permits, structured basically as a Turkish expedition which SEARCH could support. So we're hoping for an expedition sometime next year."

Wood From Ararat

That expedition would occur 22 years after the dramatic discovery of hand-tooled wood on Ararat. The wood was allegedly found high on Ararat's slopes by the French industrialist and amateur explorer Fernand Navarra. In July 1955, he and his 11-year-old son returned to the spot where three years earlier he had spotted a massive silhouette encased in a glacier at 14,000 feet. Working within a narrow crevasse, Navarra chipped ice away until he reportedly uncovered a section of a long wooden beam. Unable to remove the entire timber, Navarra said that he cut off a five-foot section which he later cut into even smaller pieces to conceal his find from any military patrols.

His sample was verified to be hand-tooled wood covered with a pitch-like substance. Examined at the University of Bordeaux in France and the Forestry Institute of Madrid, the fragment's age was esti-

mated at 5,000 years. As part of a SEARCH expedition in 1969, Navarra returned to a different slope on Ararat and discovered four other samples of plank-like wood. The wood is a tantalizing specimen, but hardly conclusive evidence. "The SEARCH organization claims the wood is from Noah's Ark, but I never have. Never!" stresses Cummings.

There also remains considerable controversy involving the wood's age. In 1970, Dr. Rainer Berger, professor of anthropology, geography, and geophysics and head of U.C.L.A.'s isotope laboratory, subjected Navarra's 1955 wood sample to radiocarbon tests. Berger concluded that the fragment was a mere 1,230 years old, plus or minus 60 years. This would make the sample a closer parallel in history with Leif Ericson than with Noah. The National Physical Laboratory of Teddington, England, dated the wood's age at 1,190 years, plus or minus 90 years. Similar tests conducted on 1969 specimens at the Geochron Laboratories in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and the University of Pennsylvania found the wood's age to be about 1,300 years.

But none of this is convincing to Ark hunters. "The very fact that the same wood can be dated at obviously differing dates indicates the whole dating method is off," says

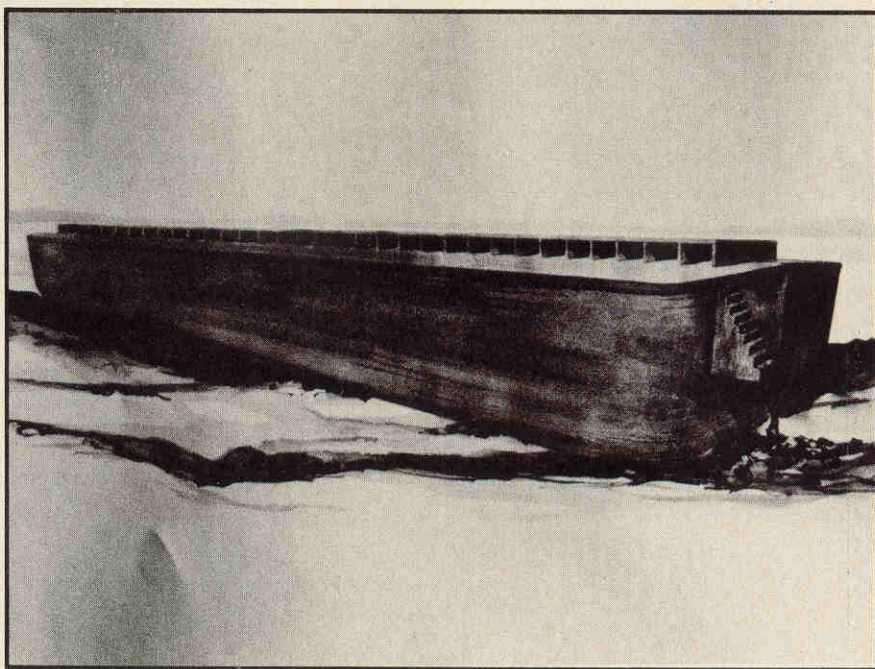
Morris. "The Skylab project came out with some data showing that the equation used to date the wood is invalid because at present the C-14 is being formed 20 percent faster than it decays. There's no equilibrium in the C-14 concentration in the atmosphere."

Berger defends the method's accuracy with data from thousands of consecutive Bristlecone pine tree rings which, he says, allow you to correct for minor changes and fluctuations in the C-14 content of the atmosphere. "I have complete confidence in this method of dating," Berger told *The Plain Truth*. "I know the sources of possible error, and I believe that with proper care they can be virtually eliminated."

Cummings, meanwhile, feels somewhat bewildered by the argument over the wood's age. "I've heard estimates that vary from 6,000 to 1,200 years, so I don't know what to tell the public. All I say is that there's been hand-tooled lumber found on a mountain without a hardwood tree around for miles, so where did these samples come from?"

Berger suggests one possibility: The wood is from some sort of struc-

A RENDERING of Noah's Ark by the artist Elfred Lee, as described by "Georgie," an Armenian who supposedly saw the Ark as a child.



The Ark and The Animals

Is it unrealistic and unscientific to believe that Noah could have saved all the earth's fauna in an ark? Traditional images and popular literature picture the Ark as scarcely larger than an ordinary fishing smack. But the Bible paints a far different picture of the Ark than most realize. Genesis 6:15 gives the Ark's dimensions: "The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits [450 ft. — based on an 18-in. cubit, its commonly accepted length], the breadth of it fifty cubits [75 ft.], and the height of it thirty cubits [45 ft.]"

Based on the 18-in. cubit, the figures show that the box-shaped Ark ["ark" means "box" or "chest" in the Hebrew] was ocean-liner size in cubic capacity.

It had a volume of about 1.5 million cubic feet, and virtually the entire capacity of the Ark could be used for storage. (It had no engine room or fuel tanks!) The Ark had a capacity equal to more than 500 standard American railroad freight cars!

Still, could Noah get all those animals into the Ark?

First of all, God specifically instructed Noah to select one pair of every "kind" of unclean animal and seven pairs of every "kind" of clean animal. The Bible term "kind" refers generally to a group of creatures, all of which interbreed. The horse kind could be represented, therefore, by one pair of animals having the genetic potential to produce after the Flood all the varieties we have today. The same would be true also for dogs, cats, etc.

Second, only air-breathing, terrestrial animals were included in the Ark. Genesis 7:22 states: "All in whose nostrils was the breath of life." This excludes all sea creatures and simple forms of life which could survive the deluge.

Now consider this. Only 40% of

the animal kingdom lives on land, and 70% of all species of land animals are insects. The remaining 30% of the terrestrial animal kingdom are on a mean average the size of a rhesus monkey.

Most animals can be maintained in small confinement for long periods and remain healthy. A rhesus monkey, for example, can be maintained in a cage about 2 ft., 6 in. cubed (15.6 cu. ft.).

Estimates of the number of land-living mammal, bird, reptile, and amphibian species on earth today totals about 18,000. Recognizing that only kinds, not species, were included, it would have been necessary to represent far fewer than 18,000 animals on the Ark. Most animals are "unclean" (Lev. 11), so most animal kinds would have been represented by one pair. But let's be liberal and say 40,000 animals, whose average size is that of a rhesus monkey, were on the Ark. How much room in the Ark would be needed for all these animals? About 40% of the Ark's 1.5 million cubic feet would suffice!

What about insects? Remember, the Ark had a storage capacity of 500 freight cars. Two hundred cars would be occupied by mammals, birds, and reptiles. Giving every pair of known species of insect 16 cubic inches of space, another 21 such freight cars would be required. (Counting Genesis kinds only, the required space would be far less.)

And so, viewed from the perspective of simple arithmetic, only about half of the space on the three decks would have provided plenty of room to accommodate "all those animals." That left the other half of the ship for food and supplies and for Noah and his family.

So the final question: What did Noah ever do with all the extra space?

ture built as a monument to the Ark story. "There is no reason for a building to be that high in the mountains other than as a hermitage or a monument," he says, "like St. Katherine's Monastery built in the Sinai desert on the spot where Moses supposedly saw the burning bush. Since the Ark was a common belief in the heritage of the people around Ararat, it is quite possible that a hermitage was built to pay homage to the belief, and they needed wood for the roof."

But those who have scaled the perilous slopes of Ararat are incredulous at the thought of such an undertaking. The volcanic rubble that is Ararat's composition is somewhat akin to walking up a mountain of ball bearings. One climber recalled that "rocks the size of an automobile can suddenly give way under foot, and one man's shout can start an avalanche."

"I can't conceive of packing hardwood timbers up that mountain to build a monument when there's rock right there on the spot," says Cummings. "I'll tell you one thing. It's hard enough to pack 70 pounds on your back up there, let alone four or five tons of wood."

A Universal Tradition

As tangible as the wood samples are, their dubious age and origin have given Ark hunters no concrete evidence. Instead, emphasis is placed on the rich history of Ark sightings recorded through time by explorers and historians, including a reference in Josephus' ancient writings. Theopolis of Antioch alluded to its existence in the second century A.D., as did Marco Polo in 1300. Though hardly conclusive, the similarity between these and more contemporary stories causes intriguing speculation.

Ignoring local taboos, J. J. Freidrich Parrot was the first foreigner to scale Ararat in 1829. He reportedly found wood. Near the base of the mountain was the village of Ahora, where many Ark relics had supposedly been stored. Unfortunately, an 1840 earthquake totally buried the village and any evidence therein. It remains buried to this day, an area which some day Cummings also hopes to excavate.

During World War I, a Russian airman, W. Roskovitsky, flew over Ararat and claimed to have sighted some sort of vessel. The Czar organized a search and allegedly found the Ark, even entered the ship and found hundreds of rooms. Yet another oddity of fate befell this new evidence. Only days after the discovery, the Russian government was overthrown during the Bolshevik Revolution, and all records were presumably destroyed in the zeal to discredit all religion.

Cummings has gone to great length to establish the story's veracity. "I know there were 13 Russian expeditions," he says. "I've talked to people who had relatives in the expeditions. Right now I'm trying to reach a man in Mexico whose mother was a maid in the Czar's palace when news of the 1916 discovery was made. I've checked this thing out backwards and forwards from many different viewpoints, but critics say it's just another big lie."

The Ararat Jinx

This "Ararat jinx" has apparently followed anyone who acquired evidence of the Ark. In 1952 a mining engineer, George Jefferson Greene, was flying his helicopter over Ararat on assignment and reportedly sighted the prow of a ship jutting from a glacier. He hovered above the object and took photographs from as close as 90 feet. Strangely he never published his pictures, showing them only to friends. In 1962, he was murdered in British Guiana, and none of his possessions were ever recovered, although 30 witnesses adamantly claim to have seen the pictures.

Then there was the 1920 deathbed confession of an 82-year-old Armenian who admitted that in 1856 he led a small group of English atheists to the site of the Ark. Enraged, the atheists tried futilely to destroy the ship and forced their Armenian guide to swear never to reveal the Ark's location under the threat of death. Yet this story too has never been completely validated.

Morris' favorite story is about a man named Georgie who died recently but claimed to have inadvertently discovered the Ark in 1904 as

a child. Individually, such accounts furnish Ark hunters with nothing conclusive; yet there is a cohesive similarity linking the stories to give them a collective significance. "The lost evidence is kind of odd," Morris admits. "It's been so elusive. None of the stories are as good as I'd like them to be. If there was just one, no one would pay any attention to it. Yet the fact that there are so many that are substantially the same, talking about substantially the same structure and area, makes it interesting. But it's circumstantial evidence at best. It's not firm stuff."

Cummings also feels the stories' similarities are encouraging. "The stories have come at different times, from people of different walks of life, from different countries; yet the stories pretty well coordinate when describing the positioning and condition of the ship."

Of course, this is of little solace to Ark hunters when they are unable to pursue their hypotheses on Ararat's slopes. SEARCH planned an extensive exploration in 1970, prompting Harry Crawford, a Seventh-Day Adventist and engineer who has climbed Ararat more than any other man, to describe the proposed search as "the most significant expedition since the moon landing."

But even after one and a half tons of equipment had been shipped to Turkey, the search had to be aborted because Turkish officials denied permission to explore the mountain. "One and one half tons of equipment," sighs Cummings, who has often invested nearly his net worth in expeditions, "and it's all been ruined by rain, rats, and mice. We're buying all new equipment this year. If we could use a helicopter, it would be great, but again we're talking about a restricted military zone, and none are allowed up there."

"There are some positive things," Morris hastens to add. "Turkey built a road which goes up Ararat's slopes a little way, which cuts out a day-and-a-half of walking. The use of a helicopter is not totally ruled out, but it would have to be a major government decision."

It is, in fact, the Turkish government which Morris feels may even-

tually uncover Ararat's mysterious treasure. "I tend to think the realistic chance for work in the near future is for the Turks to do it themselves. If it's not found by outsiders within three or four years, I think they'll go find it themselves."

"I've spent a lot of time with various officials in Turkey giving them all my research. I know some awfully good people over there who are involved with archaeological work who would really love to do it. Cummings and I both have a lot of friends over there. That doesn't mean the government favors us, but there are people there who will help us if they can."

"Realistically, I think the ideal search will be Turkish organized and manned with perhaps experienced Ark hunters serving as advisors. It would offer a major chance of success, and I think within four years it's a sure thing."

Discovery Inevitable?

No matter what methodology is used or who uses it, Ark hunters remain convinced that the discovery of the Ark — or whatever — is inevitable. "If it is there," Morris speculates, "God has protected it for 5,000 years. All logic would indicate that it has been destroyed on the hill. So much has occurred there: an erupting volcano, earthquakes, explosions, weathering, horrible storms. I don't think God would protect it without a reason, and it seems to me the reason is to uncover it."

Cummings hopes that the Ark's possible discovery would catalyze a spiritual renaissance. "It would be just like God to help people who are struggling with faith like doubting Thomas," says Cummings. "He wouldn't believe that Christ was with him until he had put his hand into Christ's side, and some people are like that with the Bible. They read the first 11 chapters of the book of Genesis and say: 'Well, I'm not going to believe it unless there's some proof.'" Cummings pauses and smiles, thinking perhaps of this year's expedition — his tenth in 30 years — which he hopes will be his last. "It would be just like God to give people some proof, wouldn't it?" □

In the August issue we saw proof that, contrary to popular tradition, Jesus Christ was a common, ordinary-appearing Jewish man with a fairly short haircut. This article clearly shows, from the Bible, that he was a hard-working builder, that he had four brothers and at least two sisters, and that he lived in a house just like anybody else.

Jesus Christ of Nazareth worked with his hands for a living. He was a builder by profession. He was well educated (speaking perhaps three languages) and well respected even in the official Jewish community, that is, until the time he began to proclaim his very highly controversial gospel message at about age 30.

Even after he began his ministry, Jesus Christ was never, at any time, a frustrated Jewish revolutionary who was constantly coming into conflict with the establishment. He was what we would call in modern parlance a "good citizen." He paid his taxes as a property owner and was always subject to the civil authorities of his day.

Jesus was born into one of the finest families in the whole area of Galilee with an excellent genealogy. And notwithstanding nearly two thousand years of fable and false tradition, he had several younger brothers and sisters — all of whom looked up to him as the oldest.

He and his family lived in what probably was a fairly fine home — certainly not a stone or adobe hovel. He was not, as popularly believed, a dirty, grubby, hippie-type vagabond who invariably slept out-of-doors with no opportunity to even bathe and clean up.

Jesus Christ had a well-rounded social life ranging all the way from

fairly frequent banquets with Roman soldiers, wealthy tax collectors, and clergymen in the well-to-do ruling class to his associations with the average man on the street.

He was *not* a broke, itinerant preacher-type who traveled around from town to town banging on doors and begging people to believe on him. He never at any time in his 3½-year ministry embarked on a "soul-winning" campaign designed to save the world then.

I realize I've said a mouthful. But don't quit reading until you've seen the proof with your own eyes from the only totally reliable source — the New and Old Testaments of your Bible.

Complex Carpentry in Palestine

The Bible reveals that both Jesus Christ and his legal father, Joseph, were carpenters by trade — builders in the hard and stony country of Galilee (Matt. 13:55; Mark 6:3). However, the English word "carpenter" does not properly connote the true function of a builder during the day of Jesus Christ. Perhaps "contractor" would be a better choice of terms in the case of Joseph.

At that time "carpentry" included much more than just the fabrication of wooden dwellings with hammer and nails. Most of the homes were a combination of stone and other types of masonry with hewn beams and "lumber."

Jesus spent much of his early ministry in the Galilean city of Capernaum. At that time, Capernaum was a gleaming, modern, beautifully sculptured Grecian-type city. It was filled with beautiful multi-leveled homes which had large central gardens, mosaic walks, fountains, and even, believe it or not, indoor bathrooms and steam baths equipped with pipes and cut-off valves.

A "carpenter" would have to have known a certain amount of mathematics, engineering principles

(working with block and tackle, levers, and knowing how to construct arches and cantilever overhanging balconies, etc.), and especially would have to be skillful in finishing work, such as interior surfaces, mosaic hallways, and walkways.

The New Bible Commentary: Revised says this about the English word "carpenter" as it is used in the New Testament: "The Greek (*tekton*) could mean a mason" (p. 834). M'Clintock and Strong's *Cyclopaedia of Biblical, Theological, and Ecclesiastical Literature* says of "carpenter": "A general name, applicable to an artificer in stone, iron or copper, as well as in wood" (vol. 2, p. 128).

The fact that Jesus was a carpenter also says something about his physical appearance. Although the profession was highly advanced in that day, especially when compared to today's popular conceptions, still there were no power saws or pre-cut timber. Much of the work was accomplished by fairly sophisticated hand tools that still required a lot of sheer physical strength. Foundations had to be dug out of the stony hillsides; trees had to be felled; stone had to be quarried. It is hard to imagine how Jesus could have been anything else but an evenly muscled person with a fairly well-developed physique.

Christ's ministry did not begin until he was "about thirty." That means, from the earliest age of apprenticeship (perhaps as soon as age 10 or 12) on up to age 30, Jesus labored with his hands all over the hill country of Galilee — no doubt principally in the city of Nazareth and perhaps later Capernaum.

What Kind of a Home?

One author who wrote a book about Jesus said that the house he lived in had no furniture except some beds. Does that sound very logical with at least two carpenters in the family? If

WHO WAS THE REAL JESUS?

by Garner Ted Armstrong

the family couldn't afford any furniture, that would say a lot about the quality and type of home in which he lived. It would be hard to imagine anything much better than a stone or adobe hut.

This type of thinking is in the same category with the traditional conceptions of Jesus' physical appearance. Jesus' legal father, Joseph, was a just and righteous man (Matt. 1:19). It is inconceivable to think he wasn't a good provider when the Bible plainly speaks of a deliberately unemployed ne'er-do-well as having denied the faith and being worse than an infidel (1 Tim. 5:8).

Hall Caine, in his book *The Life of Christ*, tells us: "Joseph is described as a carpenter, which is probably what we now, in country towns, call a builder, combining a variety of trades. Clearly he was widely known and generally respected, and it is possible that in the busy times that followed, when there was much building in Galilee, he became a man of certain substance" (p. 265).

Believe it or not, Joseph and Mary were handpicked as parents by the Creator God. The Father would not have chosen "just anybody" to bring up and educate his own Son. Joseph would have had to have been a masculine individual who could properly provide for a large family. He would have had to have been a man who would follow the biblical principle of laying up for his grandchildren (Prov. 13:22).

No accomplished artisan who is in the business of building homes in the modern world lives in a home that is not the finest reflection of his own craftsmanship — a custom-built home worthy of his profession.

No, Jesus did *not* grow up in a ramshackle hovel with no furniture except a couple of beds. Very likely he lived his adolescent years in a home that was a reasonable facsimile of the type of fine work that Jo-

seph performed as a true artisan of the building profession of that day.

But what type of furniture did Jesus have in his home? William Foxwell Albright, a well-respected archaeologist and scholar of that Palestinian period, commented briefly on the furnishings of the day: "... The Israelites and Jews of the New Testament period generally slept in beds — high beds if the owner of the house was rich, low cots if he was poor. In Israelite times [previous generations] people sat on chairs or stools and often ate sitting at a table. By New Testament times the Greek custom of reclining at meals [on a couch] had gained the day, and guests always reclined at formal dinners" (*The Archaeology of Palestine*, p. 215).

Professor Albright's succinct comment indicates that the Jewish people possessed the normal pieces of furniture including tables and couches. Mark 2:15 does say that "Jesus *sat* at meat," but the Greek word, *katakeimai*, means to "recline on a couch at table, dine" (Bauer-Arndt-Gingrich, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*, p. 412).

Jesus as an Adult

When Jesus grew into manhood, did he continue to live in a home, or did he usually sleep out of doors as a vagabond? Time and time again, in the account of his early ministry around the Galilean area, the Bible shows Jesus was in a house — either Peter's, one of the other disciples, or his own. Notice a few outstanding examples: "And when Jesus was come *into Peter's house*..." (Matt. 8:14). Peter owned a home in Capernaum. So did Jesus! "While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood *without*" (Matt. 12:46). Notice that Jesus was indoors on this occasion, and because of the large group of people

inside, his own family could not enter, but had to wait "without" or outside.

"The same day went Jesus *out of the house*, and sat by the sea side" (Matt. 13:1). Later "... Jesus sent the multitude away, and went *into the house*..." (verse 36). Again Jesus sent the crowds away and entered into a house. Very likely, it was *his own* since it was in Capernaum. Jesus continually went in and out of Capernaum in the normal course of conducting his Galilean ministry.

Notice a few more examples: "And again he entered into Capernaum after some days; and it was noised that he was *in the house*" (Mark 2:1). *The New English Bible* renders the expression "in the house" as "at home." So does the Revised Standard Version and *Today's English Version*. *The New International Version* has it: "He had come home." Clearly Jesus owned a home in Capernaum!

His house in Capernaum was probably a fairly large one. Look at Mark 2:15: "And it came to pass that, as Jesus sat at meat *in his house*, many publicans and sinners sat also together with Jesus and his disciples; for there were many..."

The companion account in Luke might lead one to believe that this was Levi's house. Notice the wording in Luke 5:29: "And Levi made him [Jesus] a great feast in his own house: and there was a great company of publicans and of others that sat down with them." However, the wording in Matthew's gospel is very similar to Mark's. Also, the context itself of all three accounts tends to indicate it was Jesus' house. "And as he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the receipt of custom, and said unto him, Fol-

low me. And he arose and followed him" (Mark 2:14; cf. Luke 5:27-28; Matt. 9:9). It would seem far more likely

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that Levi (Matthew) would have followed him to Jesus' house than to his own.

Private Cleanliness

In spite of the contrary witness of biblical and secular history, some few still cling to the ludicrous view that Jesus lived the life of a dirty, grubby vagabond who almost never bathed and cleaned up.

During the account of the first New Testament passover (commonly called the "Lord's Supper"), Jesus washed his disciples' feet, setting a deeply spiritual example for all Christians. (See John 13:1-17.) When it was Peter's turn, he protested at first, and then went to the other extreme of wanting his whole body to be washed. In verse 10, Jesus said: "He that is washed [bathed] needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit. . . ." Here it is obvious that Jesus Christ and his disciples had bathed prior to their meal, and that only their feet were dirty, since they wore sandals in that day.

W. F. Albright's book, *The Archaeology of Palestine*, adds this particular piece of knowledge: "Another point to be remembered is that the common people of an ancient Jewish village were much cleaner than the inhabitants of a native village a generation ago. Then people washed their hands before eating, instead of waiting until afterwards if they washed them at all. [Some of the Pharisees made a foolish ritual out of washing their hands up to their elbows.] Then the practice of taking frequent baths, or at least of partial bathing, was imposed by their law on all Jews, while Greek habits of bathing the entire body must have penetrated far down through the social strata of the day. These are only illustrations of the relatively high level of public and private cleanliness which then existed. . ." (pp. 215-216).

Jesus a Taxpayer?

Jesus not only owned a home and was a good example of personal hygiene, but was also a law-abiding taxpayer. In Matthew 22:15-22 Christ plainly said it was lawful to pay tribute (taxes) and to render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's (cf. Rom. 13:7).

Why would anyone pay taxes? He either had an income, owned property, or both. Notice this example: "And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute money [tax money] came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute? He saith, *Yes*." (See Matt. 17:24-25.)

A Family Man

Many find it very difficult to accept the fact that Jesus had real brothers and sisters. It has seemed important to the architects of religious philosophy over the centuries that Mary should remain virginal throughout life — thus somehow superior to the average woman. The Bible proves that Mary fulfilled the complete role of a wife to Joseph and that she bore at least seven children. The Bible exalts the state of marriage, not celibacy — for either sex. Salvation comes as a result of a spiritual relationship with God, which is likened to a *marriage contract* in the Bible. Christ's relationship to the church is said to be like that of a close, loving marriage (Ephesians 5:21-33).

Thus, it in no way diminishes a Christian's love, admiration, and respect for Mary's example — in no manner sullies a wonderful spiritual record during her physical life — to admit the clearly proven fact that Mary was a total woman: a loving and dutiful wife and a thoroughly competent mother.

There is proof that Mary was a complete woman in every respect. Notice a very clear-cut scripture. "And she [Mary] brought forth her

firstborn son . . ." (Luke 2:7). The hard fact that Jesus was Mary's *firstborn* (Greek, *prototokon*, meaning the firstborn among other children) ought to tell us that other children followed. The Greek word for an "only child" is *monogenes*. (See usage in Luke 7:12; 8:42; 9:38.) The New Testament writers knew the difference between a "firstborn" and an "only child."

The truth is that Joseph and Mary went on to have a large family by today's Western standards — which is clearly evident from Matthew 13:54-56: "And when he [Jesus] was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, in-somuch that they were astonished, and said . . . Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and *his brethren*, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas [Jude]? And his sisters [plural], are they not all with us?" So, by the very least reckoning, Mary gave birth to five sons and two daughters.

The age-old argument that Jesus' brothers and sisters were really his disciples, being his brethren only in the figurative sense, is rejected out of hand. The brothers are *specifically named* in the account, and Jesus certainly had no female apostles. Search the list of the apostles, and you will never find one named Joses.

John 2:12 is very plain in this regard. "After this he went down to Capernaum, he, and his mother, and his brethren, and *his disciples*. . ." Here the biblical account written by John shows that his disciples and his "brethren" were *two different*, distinct groups of people. Further, in Matthew 12:46-50 we are plainly told that the disciples were inside the house while the other family members were outside (cf. John 7:3-10; Acts 1:13-14).

Note the particulars: "While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood with-

Jesus was not a broke, itinerant preacher-type who traveled around from town to town banging on doors and begging people to believe on him. During his ministry, he never embarked on a "soul-winning" campaign designed to save the world then.

out, desiring to speak with him. Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples [showing his family and his disciples were two distinct groups] and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother."

Here, Jesus is simply capitalizing on circumstances to teach a vital spiritual lesson by way of an analogy to his physical family. But the account does *not* remotely indicate he had no physical brothers and sisters, but proves the opposite — that he was the firstborn of seven children.

Jesus Hobnobbed With the Upper Crust

Some people claim that Jesus did not associate with anybody in the "establishment." They apparently believe that he ate with the poor class only, avoiding the upper levels of society almost entirely.

But the Bible plainly speaks of Jesus as a guest in the homes of some of the greatest and most respected men of the day. He was personally acquainted with people on the topmost rungs of the economic and social ladder. (That is not to say that Jesus showed these people any more special attention than he did the masses. He was never "a respecter of persons.")

Notice an example in Luke 7:36-39. "And one of the Pharisees desired him that he would eat with him. And he [Jesus] went into the Pharisee's house, and sat down to meat [or to eat a meal]." Tax collectors (although very unpopular with the people of the day because they collected taxes from the Romans)

were part of the wealthy intelligentsia or upper class. Some were counted among Jesus' personal friends and acquaintances. One of the twelve apostles (Levi or Matthew) was an ex-tax collector.

But Jesus also knew others. Notice now the narrative of Jesus' visit to Jericho. "And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans [tax collectors], and *he was rich*. And he sought to see Jesus who he was. . . . And when Jesus came to the place . . . and said unto him, Zacchaeus . . . today *I must abide at thy house*. . . . And he [Zacchaeus] . . . received him joyfully" (Luke 19:1-6).

Jesus was fairly well acquainted with Joseph of Arimathea, who eventually obtained Jesus' dead body from Pilate and buried him. Look at what the Bible tells us of this man. "When the even was come, there was a rich man of Arimathea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple" (Matt. 27:57). Further: "And, behold, there was a man named Joseph, a *counselor* [of the great Sanhedrin or Jewish legislative body]; and he was a good man, and a just: (the same had not consented to the counsel and deed of them [to crucify Jesus];) he was of Arimathea, a city of the Jews: who also himself waited for the kingdom of God" (Luke 23:50-51). Jesus was also a personal acquaintance of Nicodemus, a Pharisee and ruler of the Jews. (See John 3:1-12; 7:50-53; 19:39.)

The occasion of the healing of a centurion's servant is another case in point. A centurion was a leader over one hundred men, which in all likelihood, meant the head of the Roman garrison at Capernaum.

The wedding feast at Cana in Galilee was yet another case where Jesus was hobnobbing with the upper crust. Such a great feast with so

many people present (attested to by the amount of wine) was obviously given by a wealthy host. This brings up another subject. Was Jesus a total abstainer, or did he drink wine when the social occasion demanded it?

Jesus Drank Wine on Social Occasions

Because of society's continual abuse of alcoholic beverages, many people recoil at the very thought that Jesus might have raised a glass of wine to his lips. But he did! (Both the Old and New Testament strongly condemn drunkenness [Deut. 21:20; Prov. 23:29-32; I Cor. 6:10; Eph. 5:18], but *not* drinking in moderation [Amos 9:14; Gen. 14:18; Eccl. 10:19; I Tim. 5:23, etc.])

Jesus Christ drank wine at the New Testament passover just before he was led away to his trial by the religious leaders. "I tell you I shall not *drink again* [proof that he had just done it] of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom" (Matt. 26:29, RSV).

Jesus drank wine regularly enough that some of his enemies falsely accused him of being a winebibber (Matt. 11:19). This in itself ought to tell us that the wine he drank was real fermented wine and *not* grape juice. His first public miracle involved turning water into over 100 gallons of wine, showing that he did not discourage the use of wine at a wedding feast.

The account begins in John 2. "On the third day there was a marriage at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; Jesus was also invited to the marriage with his disciples. When the *wine* failed, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine'" (verses 1-3, RSV). (The Greek word here rendered "wine" in English is *oinos* — a fermented beverage with a natural alcoholic content.)

Jesus Christ of Nazareth knew how to sing; he knew how to laugh; he was masculine and hard-working; he was always compassionate and understanding to the suffering masses around him; he was continually helping those in need on a day and night basis.

Elsewhere in the New Testament, *oinos* is used several times in the context of someone being drunk. Revelation 17:2 talks about "the wine [Greek, *oinos*] of whose fornication the dwellers on the earth *have become drunk*." Also Ephesians 5:18: "And be not *drunk with wine* [Greek, *oinos*]. . . ." Nobody ever got anything but a sick stomach and a purple tongue from drinking too much grape juice.

Now, back to the account of Jesus' first miracle in John 2, starting in verse 6: "Now six stone jars were standing there, for the Jewish rites of purification, *each holding twenty or thirty gallons*. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the steward of the feast. . . .' When the steward of the feast tasted the water now become wine [Greek, *oinos*] . . . the steward of the feast called the bridegroom and said to him, Every man serves the good wine first; and when men have drunk freely, then the poor wine; but you have kept the good wine until now" (verses 6-10, RSV).

As a long meal wears on, the senses are gradually dulled and the taste of the wine is not quite as sharp as it was. Then a wily host could slip in wine of poor vintage. This is yet another proof that this was wine and not grape juice.

Jesus did not do the things his generation expected of him. His actions were incongruous to his society — a far cry from what they expected. He just couldn't seem to satisfy anybody.

He himself said: "But whereunto shall I liken this generation? It is like unto children sitting in the markets, and calling unto their fellows, and saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned unto you, and ye have not lamented. For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, He hath a devil. The Son of man came eating and drinking [wine], and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a *winebibber*, a friend of publicans and sinners" (Matt. 11:16-19).

Neither did Jesus do the things that this present generation thought he did. The real Jesus simply does

not fit into our society's traditional image of him. For instance, many have been under the mistaken impression that Jesus converted people to Christianity during his 3½-year earthly ministry. But the shocking truth is that Jesus Christ not only did not personally convert one single person at any time during his physical lifetime on this earth, but also never even had acquaintance or association with one solitary converted person.

Jesus Didn't Disturb Spiritual Blindness

It comes as a profound shock to most to realize that Jesus did not attempt to convert people *then*, nor did he even attempt to get the world saved. It just goes against the grain. But the Bible is plain on the subject.

Jesus frequently spoke to the general public of that day in parables — all sorts of similes, analogies, and interesting stories mainly based on the agriculture of his generation. But neither those Jewish people nor even his disciples seemed to have the faintest idea of what he was talking about when he was conversing in parables.

His disciples asked him why he spoke in parables. They wondered why he was confusing people. Notice it in Matthew's account: "And the disciples came, and said unto him, *Why speakest thou unto them in parables?* He answered . . . Because it is given unto you [the disciples and future apostles] to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them [the general public] *it is not given*" (Matt. 13:10-11).

Conventional "Christianity" has always taught its Sunday-school children that Jesus spoke in parables because he wanted people to better understand the gospel message. But Christ continued in verse 13: "Therefore speak I unto them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand."

Jesus then added: "And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias [Isaiah], which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: For this people's [Jesus' generation — and it is no different today] heart is waxed

gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed: lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them" (verse 14-15). And then Jesus went on to explain and expound the real meaning of the parable to all of his disciples in the very plainest of language.

Does this sound like Jesus was desperately on a "soul-saving" campaign to the people of his generation? Or didn't he say in another place: "Fear not, *little flock*; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom?" (Luke 12:32.)

Later on in Luke's account someone asked Jesus: "Lord, are there *few* that be saved?" (Luke 13:23.) Jesus' answer was: "Strive to enter in at the strait [narrow] gate; for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able" (verse 24).

Not Even His Own Disciples

Believe it or not, Jesus did not even convert his own disciples — and that includes the twelve apostles. In the very last moments of his ministry while he was in Jerusalem, Jesus told Peter: ". . . *When thou art converted*, strengthen thy brethren," acknowledging he was not yet converted up to that time.

To sum it all up, Jesus Christ was a very normal person in the human sense except that he did *not* sin in any way or break the great spiritual law of God, though the potential for it was there. He was a flesh and blood human being just like you and me. He constantly called himself "the Son of Man," alluding to his humanity.

Jesus knew how to sing; he knew how to laugh; he was masculine and hard-working; he was compassionate and understanding to the suffering masses of his day; he helped people on a day and night basis.

Only this Jesus — the real Jesus — could qualify to be anybody's Saviour. Read the gospels of your own Bible and come to know more fully the tremendous personality, generosity, humility, and *divinity* of the real Jesus! □

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HATTIESBURG — Channel 7, WDAM-TV, 4:30 p.m. Sun.
HOUSTON — Channel 39, KHTV-TV, 3:00 p.m. Sat.
HUNTSVILLE — Channel 48, WYUR-TV, 5:30 p.m. Sun.
KANSAS CITY — Channel 4, WDAF-TV, 12:30 p.m. Sun.
KEARNEY — Channel 13, KHGI-TV, 11:00 p.m. Sun.
LUBBOCK — Channel 11, KCBD-TV, 12:00 noon Sun.
LUFKIN — Channel 9, KTRE-TV, 2:00 p.m. Sun.
MCCOOK — Channel 8, KOMC-TV, 1:30 p.m. Sun.
MERIDIAN — Channel 11, WTOK-TV, 10:00 a.m. Sun.
MIDLAND — Channel 2, KMID-TV, 5:00 p.m. Sat.
MINNEAPOLIS — Channel 11, WTCN-TV, 9:30 a.m. Sun.
MONROE — Channel 10, KTVE-TV, 12:00 p.m. Sun.
MONTGOMERY — Channel 32, WKAB-TV, 3:30 p.m. Sun.
NASHVILLE — Channel 2, WNGE-TV, 6:00 p.m. Sat.
NEW ORLEANS — Channel 4, WWL-TV, 11:00 a.m. Sun.
NORTH PLATTE — Channel 2, KNOP-TV, 6:30 p.m. Mon.
OKLAHOMA CITY — Channel 5, KOCO-TV, 11:30 a.m. Sun.
OMAHA — Channel 6, WOWT-TV, 3:00 p.m. Sat.
PEORIA — Channel 19, WRAU-TV, 10:30 p.m. Sun.
ROCKFORD — Channel 13, WREX-TV, 9:00 a.m. Sun.
SHREVEPORT — Channel 6, KTAL-TV, 12:30 p.m. Sat.
SIOUX CITY — Channel 14, KMEG-TV, 5:00 p.m. Sun.
SPRINGFIELD, MO. — Channel 27, KMTC-TV, 5:30 p.m. Sat.
SPRINGFIELD — Channel 20, WICS-TV, 12:30 p.m. Sat.

TEMPLE — Channel 6, KCEN-TV, 11:00 a.m. Sun.
TOPEKA — Channel 27, KTSB-TV, 12:00 noon Sat.
TUPELO — Channel 9, WTUV-TV, 5:00 p.m. Sat.
TYLER — Channel 7, KLTV-TV, 10:30 p.m. Sun.
WICHITA — Channel 3, KARD-TV, 1:30 p.m. Sun.
WICHITA FALLS — Channel 6, KAUZ-TV, 11:00 a.m. Sun.

Mountain Time

BOISE — Channel 6, KIVI-TV, 11:00 a.m. Sun.
GRAND JUNCTION — Channel 5, KREX-TV, 4:30 p.m. Mon.
GREAT FALLS — Channel 5, KFBB-TV, 10:15 p.m. Sun.
MILES CITY — Channel 3, KYUS-TV, 6:00 p.m. Sat.
MITCHELL, S.C. — Channel 5 KXON-TV, 8:00 p.m. Sun.
PUEBLO — Channel 5, KOAA-TV, 9:30 a.m. Sun.
ROSWELL — Channel 40, KBIM-TV, 4:00 p.m. Sat.
SALT LAKE CITY — Channel 5, KSL-TV, 12:30 p.m. Sat.
TUCSON — Channel 9, KGUN-TV, 1:00 p.m. Sun.

Pacific Time

ANCHORAGE — Channel 13, KIMO-TV, 6:30 p.m. Wed.
*CHICO — Channel 12 KHSL-TV, 10:30 a.m. Sun.
FAIRBANKS — Channel 11, KTVF-TV, 5:00 p.m. Sat.
HONOLULU — Channel 2, KHON-TV, 12:30 p.m. Sat.
LAS VEGAS — Channel 8, KLAS-TV, 3:30 p.m. Sat.
LOS ANGELES — Channel 9, KHJ-TV, 9:00 p.m. Sun.
PORTLAND — Channel 12, KPTV-TV, 11:00 a.m. Sat.
*RENO — Channel 2, KTVN-TV, 3:00 p.m. Sat.
SACRAMENTO — Channel 13, KQVR-TV, 11:00 a.m. Sun.
SALINAS — Channel 8, KSBW-TV, 5:00 p.m. Sun.
SPOKANE — Channel 6, KHQ-TV, 1:30 p.m. Sun.
TACOMA — Channel 11, KSTW-TV, 11:30 a.m. Sat.

CANADIAN STATIONS

Atlantic Time

HALIFAX — Channel 5, CJCH-TV, 2:30 p.m. Sun.
ST. JOHN'S — Channel 6, CJON-TV, 1:00 p.m. Sun.
SYDNEY — Channel 4, CJCB-TV, 2:30 p.m. Sun.

Eastern Time

BARRIE — Channel 3, CKVR-TV, 12:00 p.m. Sun.
HAMILTON — Channel 11, CHCH-TV, 10:30 a.m. Sat.
KINGSTON — Channel 11, CKWS-TV, 12 noon Sat.
MONTREAL — Channel 12, CFCF-TV, 5:30 p.m. Sun.
NORTH BAY — Channel 4, CHNB-TV, 12:00 noon Sun.
PEMBROKE — Channel 5, CHOV-TV, 12 noon Sun.

The PLAIN TRUTH October 1976

KANSAS CITY — KMBZ, 980 kc., 10:30 p.m. daily.
LAKE CHARLES — KLCL, 1470 kc., 10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
***LENOIR CITY** — WLIL, 730 kc., 8:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
LITTLE ROCK — KAAY, 1090 kc., 7:30 p.m. daily., 9:30 a.m. Sun., 5:15 a.m. Mon.-Sat.
MEMPHIS — WREC, 600 kc., 11:00 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
MILWAUKEE — WISN, 1130 kc., 11:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
MOBILE — WKRG, 710 kc., & 99.9 mc. 11:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri., & 7:30 a.m. Sun. 8:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri. & Sun. (FM).
MONROE — KREB-FM, 106.4 mc., 5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
MT. VERNON — WMIX, 940 kc., 7:00 p.m. daily.
NASHVILLE — WSIX, 980 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 8:00 p.m. Sun.
NEW ORLEANS — WWL, 870 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
OKLAHOMA CITY — KTOK, 1000 kc., 10:30 p.m. daily.
***PADUCAH** — WDXR, 1560 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PAMPA — KGRO, 1230 kc., 6:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PEORIA — WMBD, 1470 kc., 10:30 p.m. daily.
ROCHESTER — KOLM, 1520 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
ROLLA — KCLU AM & FM, 1590 kc., 94.3mc 8:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
RUSSELLVILLE — KARV, 1490 kc., 10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
ST. JOSEPH — KUSN, 1270 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
ST. PAUL — KRSI, 950 kc., 8:00 p.m. daily.
SAN ANTONIO — WOAI, 1200 kc., 5:00 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 7:30 p.m. Sun.
SHERMAN — KTXO, 1500 kc., 5:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SIoux FALLS, S.D. — KIOV-FM, 104.7mc 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SIoux CITY, IO. — KSCJ, 1360 kc., 6:15 p.m. Mon.-Sun.
TEXARKANA — KOSY, 790 kc., 5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
WATERLOO — KXEL, 1540 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 8:00 p.m. Sun., 105.7 mc. FM, 11:30 a.m. Sun.
WATERTOWN — KWAT-FM, 96.1 mc., 12:00 noon Mon.-Fri.

Mountain Time

ALBUQUERQUE — KOB, 770 kc., 11:00 p.m. daily.
ARVADA — KQXI, 1550 kc., 1:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
BLACKFOOT — KBLI, 690 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
BOISE — KAIN, 1340 kc., 6:55 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
CASPER — KTWO, 1030 kc., 6:05 p.m. & 10:05 p.m. daily.
DENVER — KOA, 850 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 7:00 p.m. Sun.
DURANGO — KIUP, 930 kc., 6:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
FARMINGTON — KRZE, 1280 kc., 6:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
FLAGSTAFF — KCLS, 600 kc., 12:30 p.m. daily.
KALISPELL — KOFI, 1180 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
MISSOULA — KGVO, 1290 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PHOENIX — KJJJ, 910 kc., 10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PRESCOTT — KYCA, 1490 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
SALT LAKE CITY — KSL, 1160 kc., 5:06 a.m. & 11:06 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 5:30 a.m. & 11:25 p.m. Sun.
TUCSON — KTUC, 1400 kc., 12:45 p.m. daily, 6:00 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 6:30 a.m. Sun.
WHEATLAND — KYCN, 1340 kc., 5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Pacific Time

ANCHORAGE — KYAK, 650 kc., 9:00 p.m. daily.

***AUBURN, WA.** — KGRG, 89.9 mc., 12:00 noon Sun.
CHICO, CA. — KHSL, 1290 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
COVINA — KGRB, 900 kc., KOB-FM, 98.3 mc., 12 noon Mon.-Sat., 9:00 a.m. Sun.
EUGENE — KATR, 1320 kc., 7:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
FRESNO — KBIF, 900 kc., 1:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
FRESNO — KMJ, 580 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 5:30 p.m. Sun.
KEALUKEKUA, HI. — KKON, 790 kc., 6:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
LAS VEGAS — KTBI-AM & FM, 970 kc., 92.3 mc., 6:30 a.m. daily.
LOS ANGELES — KLAC, 570 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 8:30 a.m. Sun.
MEDFORD — KAGN-FM, 98.5 mc., 8:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
MEDFORD — KSHA, 860 kc., 7:00 a.m. Mon.-Sat.
OLYMPIA — KITN, 920 kc., 6:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
ONTARIO — KSWA, 1380 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PASCO — KOTY, 1340 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 12:30 p.m. Sun.
PORTLAND — KLIQ, 1290 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PORTLAND — KWJJ, 1080 kc., 9:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 9:30 p.m. Sun.
SACRAMENTO — KRAK, 1140 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
SALINAS — KTOM, 1380 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SAN DIEGO — KSDO, 1130 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Sun.
SAN FRANCISCO — KFMR-FM, 104.9 mc., 8:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
SAN FRANCISCO — KNBR, 680 kc., 11:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
SAN FRANCISCO — KKIS, 990 kc., 10:00 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
SANTA ROSA — KPLS, 1150 kc., 7:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
SEATTLE — KIRO, 710 kc., 5:00 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 11:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
SEATTLE — KXA, 770 kc., 7:00 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
SEWARD — KRXA, 950 kc., 12:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
SPOKANE — KICN-FM, 99.0 mc., 12:00 noon Mon.-Fri.
***VISTA, CA.** — KMLO, 100 kc., 9:00 a.m. Sun.
WAIPAHU, HI. — KAHU, 940 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
YAKIMA — KUTI-FM, 104.5 mc., 9:30 p.m. daily.

CANADIAN STATIONS

Newfoundland Time

***BAIRE-VERTE** — CKIM, 1240 kc., 6:00 p.m. daily.
CLARENVILLE — CKVO, 710 kc., 6:00 p.m. daily.
GANDER — CKGA, 730 kc., 6:00 p.m. daily.
GRAND FALLS — CKCM, 620 kc., 6:00 p.m. daily.
MARYSTOWN — CHCM, 560 kc., 6:00 p.m. daily.
ST. JOHN'S — VOCM, 590 kc., 6:00 p.m. daily.

Atlantic Time

***CAMPBELLTON** — CKNB, 950 kc., 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 p.m. Sat.
FREDERICTON — CFNB, 550 kc., 10:05 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
MONCTON — CKCW, 1220 kc., 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
NEWCASTLE — CFAN, 790 kc., 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
SAINT JOHN — CFBC, AM & FM, 930 kc., 98.9 mc., 9:30 p.m. daily.
SYDNEY — CJCB, 1270 kc., 6:00 p.m. daily.
YARMOUTH — CJLS, 1340 kc., 7:00 p.m. Mon.-Sat.

Eastern Time

BLIND RIVER — CJNR, 730 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
BRANTFORD — CKPC, 1380 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
CORNWALL — CJSS, 1220 kc., 10:30 p.m. daily.
ELLIOTT LAKE — CKNR, 1340 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
HULL — CKCH, (French) 7:00 a.m. Sun.
KINGSTON — CKWS, 960 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
KIRKLAND LAKE — CJKL, 560 kc., 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
***KITCHENER** — CKGL (FM), 96.7 mc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
LEAMINGTON — CHYR, 710 kc., 5:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. daily.
LINDSAY — CKLY, 910 kc., 10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
MONTREAL — CFMB, 1410 kc., 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 1:30 p.m. Sun.
MONTREAL (French) — CFMB, 1410 kc., 5:00 p.m. Sat. & Sun.
NEW LISKEARD — CJTT, 1230 kc., 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
NORTH BAY — CFCH, 600 kc., 10:30 p.m. daily.
***PEMBROKE** — CHOV, 1350 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 2:00 p.m. Sun.
QUEBEC — CKVC (French) 1280 kc., 7:00 a.m. Sun.
RIMOUSKI — CJBR (French) 900 kc., 7:00 a.m. Sun.
STE. AGATHE — CJSA (French) 1230 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon. Wed., Fri.
SAULT STE. MARIE — CKCY, 920 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
SHERBROOKE — CKTS, 900 kc., 9:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
SHERBROOKE — CHLT, (French) 630 kc., 7:45 a.m. Sun.
SMITHS FALLS — CJET, 630 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Thur. & Sat., 8:30 p.m. Fri.
THETFORD MINES — CKLD, (French) 9:30 a.m. Sun.
THUNDER BAY — CKPR-FM, 94.3 mc., 8:30 p.m. daily.
TIMMINS — CKGB, 680 kc., 10:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 9:30 p.m. Sat.
TROIS RIVIERES — CHLH, (French) 550 kc., 7:00 a.m. Sun.

Central Time

DAUPHIN — CKDM, 730 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
DRYDEN — CKDR, 900 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
FT. FRANCIS — CFOB, 800 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
KENORA — CJRL, 1220 kc., 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE — CFRY, 920 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
PRINCE ALBERT — CKBI, 900 kc., 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
REGINA — CKRM, 980 kc., 8:30 p.m. daily.
SASKATOON — CFQC, 600 kc., 8:30 p.m. daily.
SWIFT CURRENT — CKSW, 1400 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.
WINNIPEG — CKJS, 810 kc., 8:00 p.m. daily.
YORKTON — CJGX, 940 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.

Mountain Time

CALGARY — CFCN, 1060 kc., 11:00 p.m. Sun.-Fri.
CAMROSE — CFCW, 790 kc., 8:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.

PLEASE NOTE

This is only a partial listing. For a Worldwide Radio/TV Log please check inside cover and write to the office nearest you. Some time periods subject to occasional pre-emption. Please check your local listing for possible time or day changes.

* denotes new stations or changes.



Halloween is the strangest holiday of the entire year. On the eve of November 1, children dress as goblins or witches and knock on doors, yelling "trick or treat." Some soap windows of schools and stores, while others actually tear down mailboxes, steal objects left unguarded in a person's yard, and give the police a great many headaches with their juvenile vandalism.

To perpetuate this spirit of Halloween with its frolicking fun, stores are filled with black and orange masks, pumpkins, and other gaudy decorations that attract the eye. Even some older people enjoy Halloween's decorations, games, and frivolity.

In this "enlightened" age, with ignorance and superstition supposedly banished, nations are still celebrating the old holiday, with its goblins, the fear of black cats, and children masked as demons and witches. In schools, children participate in Halloween parties, anticipating a hectic night of fun and foolishness.

The Strange Origin of a Strange Holiday

Is this the way in which children should be brought up? *Why* is this holiday celebrated anyway? Where did the custom of "trick or treat" originate?

It is time that people who think themselves *intelligent* began to look into the origin of this spirit of frivolity and understand how it entered a supposedly Christian society.

How did we get Halloween? It certainly isn't Christian in origin. In fact, Halloween and many of the embellishments surrounding this strange festival are of superstitious and pagan origin.

The American celebration can be traced back to Celtic folk customs, which in turn originated in pre-Christian times. The earliest Halloween celebrations were held by the Druids in Britain in honor of Samhain, lord of the dead, whose festival fell on November 1. On this night, it was believed that Samhain called together the wicked souls that

had within the preceding 12 months been condemned to inhabit the bodies of animals.

Spirits Casting Evil Spells

It was a pagan belief that on one night of the year the souls of the dead returned to their original homes to be entertained with food.

WHY THE STRANGE CUSTOMS OF HALLOWEEN?

Where did Halloween come from? Should it be observed? Few realize just how enlightened, twentieth-century man came to observe such a superstitious custom.

by G. O. Marx

If food and shelter were not provided, these spirits were believed to cast spells on those failing to fulfill their requests. It was the original trick or treat, a time when wicked spirits visited their earthly haunts.

"It was the night for the universal walking about of all sorts of spirits, fairies, and ghosts, all of whom had liberty on that night," Alexander Macgregor tells us in his *Highland Superstitions*. And the liberty was often of a destructive nature, so the belief went.

But why was November 1 chosen for this annual spiritual get-together? The Celts and other northern people considered November 1 as their New Year. This was the time when the leaves were falling and a general seasonal decay was taking place. It seemed a fitting

time for the commemoration of the dead.

Since the northern nations at that time began their day in the evening, the eve leading up to November 1 was the beginning of the festival. According to the Roman calendar, in which days began at midnight, it was the evening of October 31.

And the meaning of Halloween? It is a contraction of All Hallow Evening, later to be known as All Saints' Day. Halloween was kept in one form or another throughout the pagan world.

"There was a prevailing belief among all nations that at death the souls of good men were taken possession of by good spirits and carried to paradise, but the souls of wicked men were left to wander in the space between the earth and moon, or consigned to the unseen world. These wandering spirits were in the habit of *haunting the*

living... But there were means by which these ghosts might be exorcised" (*Folklore*, James Napier, p. 11).

Exorcising Ghosts

To exorcise these spirits, that is, to free yourself from the supposed evil sway, you would have to set out food — give the demons a treat — and provide shelter for them during the night. If they were satisfied with your offerings, they would leave you in peace. If provoked, they would "trick" you by casting an evil spell on you.

Leaving food about didn't always satisfy the spirit world. Sometimes more drastic measures needed to be employed to escape their wrath such as starting bonfires. Uninvited spirits, fairies, and ghosts were believed to wander around the area and could only be dispersed by bonfires or burning torches. John Brand, in his *Popular Antiquities of Great Britain*, written in 1849, mentions that during his lifetime there was a custom in north Wales on the eve of November 1 of "making a great fire called *Coel Coeth*, when every family for about one hour in the night made a great bonfire in the most conspicuous place near the house."

Sinclair's *Statistics of Scotland* for 1793 shows that in Perthshire on the eve of November 1, bonfires were lit in every village. In Ireland, the custom of displaying lighted candles in the windows of the house on this night was common practice as late as the nineteenth century.

This, then, is the way the Western world celebrated their Halloween, their All Saints' Day. Although some aspects of the Halloween festival varied with each country, the overall pattern and purpose remained the same. But how did the professing Christian world come to accept and observe such a day as Halloween?

Halloween Becomes "Christianized"

When Charlemagne invaded and conquered Saxon Germany early in the nineteenth century, he compelled the conquered German king, Wittekind, to be baptized and to accept Christianity.

Wittekind's Germans, now professing Christians, and other conquered peoples soon began to exert a profound influence on the ecclesiastical affairs of the church. These conquered people brought with them outright pagan practices and celebrations, Halloween being one of them. They were fervent in clinging to their past ceremonies and observed them openly, though they were supposedly converted to Christianity.

What was the church to do? Excommunicate them and thus reduce its membership? This it would not do. Should it force them into discarding their heathen practices and adopting Roman ones? This, as the church had learned in past times, was impossible.

There remained only one other way. Let the recently converted pagans keep certain of their heathen festivals, but call them "Christian." Halloween was one of these festivals. Of course the masses were asked not to pray to their ancient pagan gods on this day. They were told to use this day to commemorate the death of "saints."

Originally, the Catholic All Saints' Day was observed in May, and only later (A.D. 834) was it transferred to the beginning of November since the northern nations

The Bible reveals a purposeful way of life for both now and the future. Man's ultimate destiny and the way to prepare for that destiny has absolutely no room for superstitious festivals that are embellished by heathen practices and concepts.

were already observing their Halloween in November.

Many other pagan festivals were Christianized in a similar way. Notice just such an admission:

"Thus, at the first promulgation of Christianity to the Gentile nations... they could not be persuaded to relinquish many of their superstitions, which, rather than forego altogether, they chose to blend and incorporate with the new faith" (*Popular Antiquities*, John Brand, p. xi).

Halloween Today

Now come down to the twentieth century. You might be surprised to what extent our "civilized" world has inherited outright pagan rites and ceremonies from our forefathers, so obvious in the celebration of Halloween.

What about you and your children? What comes to your mind when thinking about Halloween? You probably picture weird and frightening masks, persons portrayed as witches and demons, and pumpkins and turnips hollowed out in the shape of eerie-looking faces with lighted candles placed inside to help bring out the more frightful side of these carvings.

The *Good Housekeeping Book of Entertainment*, on page 168 has a section on what to do on Halloween. Notice the advice given: "Orange, black and red, the devil's colors, are the colors associated with Halloween and this scheme should be carried out as far as possible.... Have paper streamers and lanterns hang-

ing from the ceiling, or, if you would like to have something less usual, you could make a giant spider's web with black and orange strings, or in narrow strips or crepe paper coming from the four corners of the room, complete with a large spider — one of the devil's favorite followers."

Notice further the aspects of black magic associated with this festival: "To decorate the walls, make large silhouettes of cats, bats, owls and witches on broomsticks.... For the supper table small witches with broomsticks can be made by using lollipops on 4-inch sticks."

The Origin of Our Ideas

Halloween and other common festivals which people observe in the Christian-professing world have no biblical basis and often originated in rank paganism. You ought to sit down and ask yourself how many other formerly pagan ceremonies have received a Christian dressing and ecclesiastical sanction. It's time we questioned the origin of the practices we follow and the beliefs we adhere to. As for Halloween, the testimony of history stamps it a heathen festival.

Of course, right here many people might say, "Well, what difference does it make? We don't worship spirits. It's all harmless fun for the kids."

The Bible reveals a purposeful way of life now and in the future. Man's ultimate destiny and the way to prepare for that destiny has no room for superstitious festivals embellished by heathen practices and concepts. As professing Christians, we should opt for the true religion and not be sidetracked by superstitious and meaningless practices. True Christianity must always have its basis in the divinely inspired Word of God. The spiritual concepts and religious practices of Jesus Christ — so often ignored and often wholly discarded — must not be minimized if we are to lead a meaningful and rewarding life. □

Gerhard O. Marx is a freelance writer and lecturer on ecclesiastical history, as well as a frequent contributor to The Plain Truth. He is now residing in London.

NEEDED: MEN OF GOOD WILL

by Stanley R. Rader

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

JERUSALEM, August 13, 1976:

Arriving yesterday at Ben-Gurion Airport near Tel Aviv, we learned that yet another act of terrorism had taken the lives of four innocent persons, wounded 21 others, and endangered several hundred more. Only the swift and effective intervention of Turkish security forces prevented a virtual slaughter from taking place at Istanbul's Yesilkoy Airport.

This latest terrorist episode came only a few weeks after the daring and successful Israeli rescue mission that freed more than a hundred innocent people held hostage in Uganda after the hijacking of an Air France aircraft by Palestinian terrorists, aided and abetted, as it was ultimately learned, by President Amin of Uganda.

Last weekend Mr. Herbert Armstrong and I were in Kenya, which played a role in the events of last month. In fact, in the aftermath of the Israeli rescue mission, President Amin appeared ready to involve his fellow Ugandans in an armed conflict with Kenya. President Amin was very disturbed that the Israeli planes had landed at Nairobi, had refueled, had treated some of the wounded passengers, and had left some of the more seriously wounded in Kenya so that they might have proper medical care.

For weeks tensions had

mounted between the two East African countries, and many feared an immediate outbreak of hostilities. As we left the office of President Kenyatta, we met the Kenyan foreign minister, who had just arrived from Uganda aboard President Amin's personal aircraft. The foreign minister was about to report to President Kenyatta the glad tidings that the two countries would be able to resume normal relations and live together, at least for a time, in peace and security.

We in the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation hope that it is a lasting peace, because we intend to play a more permanent and significant role in Africa in the coming years. Our most recent visit was designed to further the development of a cooperative project on the outskirts of Nairobi between the AICF and the people of Kenya. The project will be known as the President Jomo Kenyatta Technical College. In the coming years it will provide the kind of technical skills

which are so desperately needed by the country and which we are so very pleased to have a part in developing.

Africa, of course, will play an increasingly important role in world affairs during the coming years. We are hopeful that the world will be able to avoid a racial conflict — a major war between peoples of the black and white races. We know that there are men of good will and peace throughout Africa, as well as the rest of the world, who are doing their utmost to avoid strife and bloodshed and to resolve problems in a peaceful manner.

Somehow all of us must begin wherever we are to change our relationships with other people. We must begin by changing our own way of life first. We must try to achieve a solidarity and oneness with our neighbor that usually appears only at rare moments, such as in the case of war or a natural calamity.

Man's normal inclinations are competition and strife. People do not love other people instinctively, and they certainly do not love those whom they do not even know.

The Plain Truth has for years striven to help people, whatever their color, sex, age, position, or class, to recapture the true values that will produce peace and harmony among all men. □

ISRAELI PILOT welcomed on his return with rescued hostages.





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Photos — The Plain Truth

JERUSALEM ACTIVITIES

Pictures 1, 2, & 3: Mayor Teddy Kollek discusses with Mr. Herbert Armstrong the restoration projects under way in old Jerusalem.

Picture 4: Mr. Armstrong renews acquaintance with ballet artists Valery and Galina Panov who have settled in Israel after emigrating from the Soviet Union. The woman to the left of Mr. Armstrong is Mrs. Michael Ravid.

Picture 5: Replica of Philadelphia's famous Liberty Bell which will be on display at Jerusalem's Liberty Bell Garden.

Picture 6: Liberty Bell Garden is now under development.

Picture 7: Mr. Armstrong speaks at a dinner attended by leading Israeli officials.

Picture 8: Professor Benjamin Mazar of Hebrew University affectionately greets Mr. Armstrong in the traditional manner.

Pictures 9 & 10: At a luncheon hosted by Teddy Kollek, Jerusalem's popular mayor presents Mr. Armstrong with a 300-year-old book entitled (as interpreted into English) *The Strong Arm*.



JERUSALEM

(Text continued from page 3)

not have billions upon billions of dollars for such purposes. Much of this restoration is being done by volunteer labor. It made me think of the early days in building Ambassador College. In those days, as we purchased gradually more and more property, we used old, dilapidated frame houses for many purposes; we used volunteer student labor; we improvised as was necessary to keep building and growing. That is the way the Israelis are building up their country.

First the mayor took us through the Citadel, an agglomeration of old buildings located to the right of Jaffa Gate along the western wall of the Old City. Some of the stones in its base date back to the second century B.C. The tower at the far end of the Citadel has been known as the Tower of David since Byzantine times — but neither the Citadel nor Tower of David has any connection with the ancient King David. The Citadel has many walls and many rooms, and it is being restored into a beautiful and modern condition.

From the Citadel we were taken over to the old Jewish Quarter of the old walled city. Here were a cluster of low, very old domed houses which were very unimpressive from the outside. But upon entering, we were struck by the BEAUTY and the MAJESTY of the rooms — the high ceilings which had looked like very low buildings from their dingy appearance outside. Mayor Kollek had done a remarkable job of restoring this area. There were about four synagogues, each in a different room in the same building — now very modern, very bright, and beautiful inside.

I was really impressed with all the plans Mayor Kollek told us he has in mind for renewing and rebeautifying the city of Jerusalem.

I could especially appreciate it, personally, since I have — the past 30 years — gone through the job of building Ambassador College in Pasadena (not to speak of similar jobs at the other two campuses). The college was built out of what — at the lower downhill level — had



MR. ARMSTRONG, left, Stanley R. Rader, executive vice-president of the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation, Mayor Kollek, and Mrs. Rader inspect the site in Liberty Bell Garden where the AICF is funding a children's playground.

been the nearest thing to a slum section Pasadena had. We were then buying up the property — a 40-foot lot at a time — usually with two old shacks, one behind the other, on each narrow, 40-foot lot. With the fine help I have had, we have built this area of Pasadena into a campus that twice the past two years has won the national award for being the most BEAUTIFUL, the best landscaped, and the BEST MAINTAINED campus in the United States!

God turned THIS EARTH over to father Adam in the Garden of Eden to “dress it and keep it” — not let it run down to weeds. But MAN has befouled this earth God gave him in every way — polluted the waters, befouled the air, and ruined the soil.

Mayor Kollek later took the group of us to a special restaurant for lunch. There, several other friends joined us. After that, we drove to the site of the new Liberty Bell Garden park.

I had been scheduled to be there on July 2 for the official groundbreaking ceremony for building the new park in the heart of the new city. I had undertaken to build the children's playground area of the new city park. The last day of June,

I had boarded my G-II jet aircraft, bound for Jerusalem. We were forced down at Bangor, Maine, after crossing the United States from southwest to northeast because of a cracked window in the cockpit. We were forced to return to Pasadena — flying at low altitude. So the mayor conducted that ceremony alone.

When we reached the park area, I saw a large sign posted, in both Hebrew and English, saying: “Under construction here: *A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND: A GIFT OF THE AMBASSADOR INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL FOUNDATION, H. W. ARMSTRONG, PRESIDENT.*”

Sabbath afternoon we had a Bible study in my hotel suite at the Jerusalem Hilton. About 30 came. We now have a very small Sabbath group meeting in Jerusalem, but no local pastor as yet, though one man serves as leader.

I gave them an hour-and-a-half Bible study on *Jerusalem: past, present, and future*. I think you'll find a brief outline of that study helpful, interesting, and enlightening — if you'll take the time to take your own Bible and carefully read all the biblical passages in

THEIR CONTEXT. I shall give you here the biblical passages:

Jerusalem originally was named Jebus. (See Joshua 18:28 and Judges 19:10.) The Jebusites were Canaanites (descended from Ham through Canaan) (Gen. 10:16). God promised to drive out the Jebusites if the Israelites would submit to Him as His instruments (Ex. 33:1-3 and 34:11-15). This was after Joshua led Israel into the promised land. (See Joshua 16:10 and Judges 1:8, 21.) Notice God's warnings of what would occur IF the Israelites left the Jebusites there and the two peoples were to dwell in the same land.

David took Jerusalem (II Sam. 5:1-13) and built a house from which he ruled. The archaeological project proceeding at the Temple Mount is hoping to uncover that site. Solomon enlarged Jerusalem and added to the wall around it (I Kings 3:1). God CHOSE Jerusalem as His city (I Kings 11:13).

The second temple was finished about 70 years after Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, destroyed it (Ezra 1:1-2). Although later God turned His face from Jerusalem, due to Israel's rebellions, He will again choose it (Zech. 1:17). At Christ's coming (Zech. 14) Christ will RULE the world from David's throne (Isa. 9:6-7 and Luke 1:26-33) in Jerusalem. Sometime after the millennium, the NEW Jerusalem will come down from heaven (Rev. 21).

Saturday night, in the ballroom of the Hilton, we had a dinner with about 45 present. At the center table were ministers of the Cabinet — Moshe Kol and Gideon Hausner and wife. General Yigal Yadin, organizer of the Israeli Army in 1948, former chief of staff, noted archaeologist, scholar, and author; Professor Mazar; Mr. and Mrs. Rader, myself, and many other top people in government and education were present. We renewed friendships that now have lasted and grown deeper for eight years.

Sunday afternoon we went over to Professor Mazar's home, and many other top Israelis dropped in while we were there. Professor Mazar is director of our big dig at the Temple Mount and a former president of Hebrew University.

Sunday evening, we had dinner

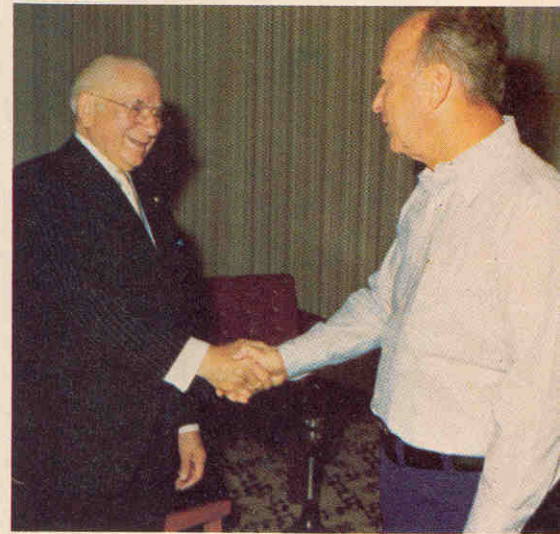


Photos — The Plain Truth

TOP-LEVEL MEETING: On this trip to Jerusalem, Mr. Armstrong was received by Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in the prime minister's office. A handshake (right) concludes Mr. Armstrong's visit with Mr. Rabin.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

We are reserving space in a later issue for a full cover story on Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.



with the Panovs — ballet artists who appeared last fall in a masterful ballet production at the Ambassador Auditorium. They are among the very top Russian ballet artists. They have emigrated from Russia and are now building a home in Jerusalem. It was delightful to meet them again, with some of their company. Also with us were our VERY dear friends Ambassador and Mrs. Michael Ravid. He was formerly consul general at Los Angeles.

But Monday was our BIG DAY — our meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Usually it is contrary to protocol in many countries to see both the president and the prime minister on the same visit. This time I did not see President

Katzir, but I had already had two or three fine personal meetings with him, and he sent to me his personal regards and best wishes on this visit.

My appointment with the prime minister was at noon Monday. Ambassador Ravid (formerly ambassador to Guinea) went along with us. As you know, I am nearly always accompanied on such visits by Mr. Stanley R. Rader, our chief legal counsel, and now also vice-president for Financial Affairs, and executive vice-president of the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation (AICF). This time Mrs. Rader also accompanied us.

Mr. Rabin is not noted for a big, wide, vote-getting political smile like Jimmy Carter. Usually he is a

very solemn man, and being the chief executive handling all the troubles of a modern Israel, he has reason to be serious. But he met me and our party with a warm and cordial smile.

"Mr. Prime Minister," I said, "I'm sorry it's been such a long time before I've had an opportunity to meet you, but it is indeed a pleasure and an honor."

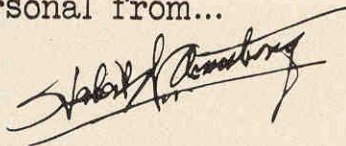
"Well, Mr. Armstrong," he smiled in return, "it's just happened that I've been in *your* country or Europe or some other place every time you've been here since I became prime minister. But of course I know a great deal about you, and we all do deeply appreciate your interest in Israel."

The entire meeting, lasting perhaps 45 minutes, was warm and friendly. We spoke about the two jet planes that have more or less "commuted" between Jerusalem and Cairo, and he was candid in telling us of Secretary Kissinger's peace accomplishments. He was very appreciative of my efforts toward WORLD PEACE, especially in bringing nations like Japan and Israel closer together — also Kenya and Israel — and my friendships with Arab chiefs of state, and efforts toward a better approach to harmony and understanding between them and Israel. Actually there has been a slight lessening of tensions between some of my Arab friends — heads of governments — and Israel. And through the AICF we are supporting the ICCY (International Cultural Center for Youth), directed by Minister of Tourism Moshe Kol, which is bringing about a new and friendly relationship between Israeli and Arab youth, especially in Jerusalem.

Somehow, returning to Jerusalem seems like returning home — and it *may be* my home for a thousand years, beginning VERY SOON. NOW! □

EDITOR'S NOTE: The conclusion to the article "South West Africa — Racing Against Time for Peace" will appear in the November issue of The Plain Truth.

Personal from...



(Continued from page 1)

(by resurrection) of many brethren, as our pioneer, has gone on ahead of us paving the way and now already is SUSTAINING THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE BY THE WORD OF HIS POWER (Hebrews 1:2-3).

Chapter 8 of Romans ties in with this. We — if His spirit dwells in us and if we are being LED by His spirit — are HEIRS of God and CO-HEIRS with Christ, who *already had* INHERITED THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE!

In my *Plain Truth* series on the "Incredible HUMAN POTENTIAL," I have shown how angels inhabited this earth prior to the creation of man. That might have lasted up to millions of years. Those angels SINNED (II Pet. 2:4-6). As a result, physical disaster came to the earth's surface. It became (Gen. 1:2) "without form, and void" — better trans-

KIDS AND SEX

(Continued from page 17)

ents, I know that they eventually married and had children which they kept. I have long since forgiven them, but the subject is still a painful one to me.

My own experience has reinforced my conviction that sexual intimacy is one of the things the Bible refers to when it says, "To every thing there is a season..." Sexual feelings and drives are among the most powerful felt by human beings. Like any kind of power, sex can be used constructively or abused. Making love and conceiving and raising children is not something one does for fun at one's convenience. These are precious privileges which must be consciously exercised with respect, caution, and love.

I began this article by extolling the uninhibited honesty of young children, and now I've asserted that adolescents should inhibit their sexual drives. Life isn't easy, is it?

"Where did I come from?" and "How did I get here?" questions are formulated in the minds of young

lated "in confusion and chaos, waste and empty." In six days God "renewed the face of the earth" (Psalm 104:30) and then created man. Since the angels FAILED to improve and develop this earth, they were disqualified from developing and improving the rest of the universe, and God has created MAN after God's own image and likeness — form and shape — to be developed into God's own perfect, holy CHARACTER. And what evidently was the original possible heritage of the angels becomes that of MAN — after man is *changed* from matter into spirit composition — from human to divine — from mortal to immortal.

This is all part of the wonderful TRUE GOSPEL — the GOOD NEWS of the KINGDOM OF GOD, soon now to come — the gospel the world has NOT HEARD from the first century A.D. until now — revealing this glorious GOOD NEWS of the future GLORY OF MAN in his SALVATION and what we shall accomplish throughout the ENTIRE UNIVERSE! □

children during their first, magical moments of awareness and appreciation of the fact that they are ALIVE. A child's vitality and joy in life is a constant inspiration to me.

Now, one more story:

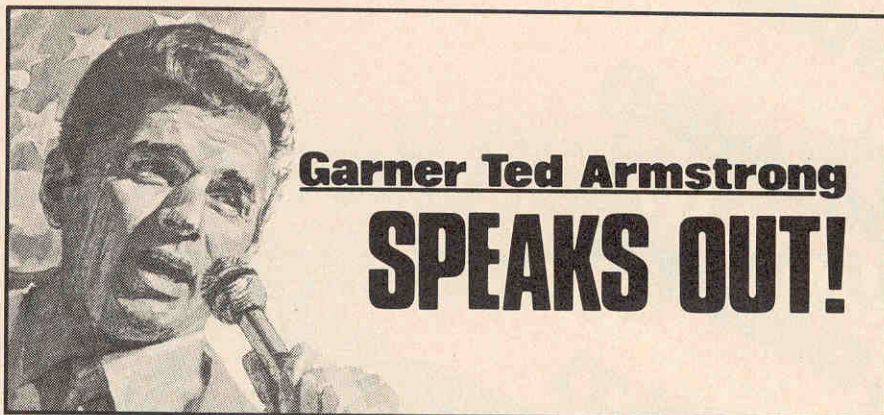
A girl of about six came in from an afternoon at play and, beaming, said to her mother, "I'm so glad I was born!"

Delighted with her daughter's exuberance, the woman replied, "It's good to be alive, isn't it?"

"Yes," said the six-year-old, "because when you're dead, all you get is privacy."

Truthfully, I'm hoping for a little more than that when I pass on, but I know what she means — don't you? □

Art Linkletter, who hosted two of television's most popular programs ("People Are Funny" and "Ark Linkletter's House Party"), is the author of nine books, the most recent of which will be published next fall. This article was written in association with Storytellers, Inc.



Idolaters? Who, Us?

If you were to page through the biblical prophecies of the Old Testament, you would see what would appear at first glance to be an excessive amount of copy about *the sin of idolatry*, or simply the worship of other gods. You might wonder how that could possibly apply to our modern space-age era. Worshiping grinning, leering idols is definitely not a major problem in the "enlightened" Western Christian-professing world of the Judaeo-Christian ethic.

However, the biblical definition of idolatry is nowhere near so constrained or narrow as that. It includes much more than a mere stone sculpture of some god-form. Idolatry involves anything (including any philosophic concept) that comes between you and the true God.

The number one commandment in the Decalogue is "you shall have no other gods before me." Number ten is "you shall not covet." It should come as no surprise that these two commandments are closely intertwined and interrelated. Paul, the New Testament apostle to Gentile Christians, wrote that *covetousness is idolatry!* (Col. 3:5.)

Perhaps covetousness is the major form of national idolatry in America. Covetousness rears its ugly head in myriads of ways in the United States. Take TV quiz shows. Watch one if you get a chance. The contestants sometimes become so mentally incapacitated with lust that it's embarrassing. They gibber; they can't remember their own names

for the moment; their eyes bulge out; they're gasping; they hug and kiss the master of ceremonies; they jump up and down at the prospect of owning that fantastic new sports model on the other side of the curtain. The lust, the greed, and the vanity you see exposed in these people's eyes is nothing short of incredible.

In the United States today, we worship automobiles, money, and the status that money brings with it — material possessions, fine homes, and swimming pools. James Moffatt put the words of the prophet Isaiah in the modern vernacular: "They worship the things that their hands make" (Isa. 2:8).

Actually, this manifestation of modern idolatry is perhaps the gravest and most serious sin in the United States of America today. We



"Please, sir, I want some more."

claim to be a Christian nation, but our greedy conduct belies our outward profession! Covetousness is eating away at the vitals of our nation.

All but ignored is the biblical admonition of "let your conversation [conduct] be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have" (Heb. 13:5).

What about the white-collar executive who is basking in a six-figure income? Sadly, sometimes these people in the highest income brackets are the most unsatisfied and unhappy of all. Some of them so deeply desire more and more and more!

This drive for materialistic security with all of its unwanted side effects is yet another form of covetousness in this country.

Once a nation sinks into idolatry, it loses not only contact with and blessings from God, but its appreciation of the lessons of history, its sense of direction, and its national purpose. And, not the least, it loses its sense of justice, rightness, and high moral values.

Alexander Solzhenitsyn, ever since his forced exile from the Soviet Union, has been stressing his view that the major reason for the apparent success of the communist philosophy is the existence of a religious-moral crisis in the West, along with the abandonment of God for materialism, leaving the so-called Christian world defenseless against communist inroads.

The last verse of the last chapter of Judges in the Old Testament states the nadir of idolatry into which a nation can descend: "... every man did that which was right in his own eyes" (Judges 21:25) — in other words, total self-gratification, "doing your own thing," serving and being concerned only for the self instead of honoring, obeying, and worshiping the Creator God.

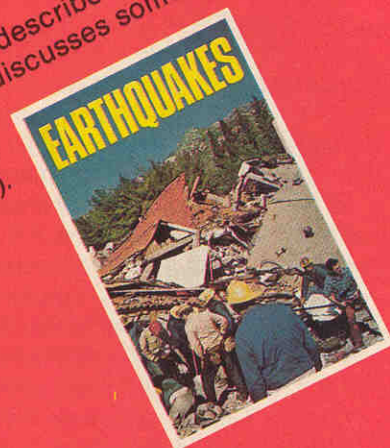
Idolatry, simply stated, is the glorification of material things and human ideas.

Now, with that definition, do you see idolatry being practiced around you? □

6:01am, Jan. 14, Kericho, Kenya (6.5)
 6pm, Jan. 14, Kericho, Kenya (6.5)
 2:58am, May 17, Soviet Union (7.2)
 7:19pm, June 25, New Guinea (6.1)
 7:14am, July 15, Indonesia (6.0)
 3:45am, July 27, China (8.0)
 10:35pm, July 28, China (7.7)
 9:49pm, Aug. 16, Philippines (8.0)
 4:11pm, Aug. 23, China (6.7)

EARTHQUAKE!

Are we seeing a dramatic increase in earthquake activity? The first half of 1976 continued the lull of recent years. But several major quakes in rapid succession have focused world attention on what could be an alarming new trend. Already this year three great quakes (8.0 magnitude or above) have struck — the first since 1971. In the United States, scientists say Southern California is overdue for a major quake — potentially one of the worst disasters in history. An informative free booklet entitled Earthquakes describes the terror and devastating power of major quakes. It also discusses some significant statements in the Bible concerning earthquakes. For your free copy, write to The Plain Truth (see inside front cover for addresses).



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