

The PLAIN TRUTH

A magazine of understanding

VOL. XIX, NUMBER 7

AUG.-SEPT., 1954

CATASTROPHIC EVENTS soon to bring END OF THE WORLD!

Prophecies of BOOK OF REVELATION at last revealed! The closed, SEALED PROPHECIES are opened—long hidden mysteries of God now REVEALED! Here we begin a startling, eye-opening series of articles explaining to you the long-sealed prophecies of the BOOK OF REVELATION, dynamically illustrated, in following installments, with the most sensational pictures of our time, masterfully sketched by nationally famous artist Basil Wolverton, vividly picturing before your startled eyes the actual catastrophic world events soon to bring about the END OF THE WORLD!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

GOD'S time has come to reveal to the world the terrifying supernatural world-catastrophes, now about to hurl this world to oblivion!

Cataclysmic happenings of a magnitude never before remotely resembled, or even imagined, are soon to strike an unsuspecting, heedless and sinning world, and bring it to its awful END!

But first this world must be WARNED!

God's time has come to OPEN WIDE to human understanding the awesome prophecies of the BOOK OF REVELATION. Today this solemn warning is being thundered *around the world*, as a witness!

Take warning yourself, while you may, and mark well this fact:

NO PLAGUE NEED COME NEAR YOU! You may, if you heed and obey God, be accounted worthy *to escape all these things* that shall certainly come to pass!

These Not Normal Times

It's time to wake up to the fact that

these are not normal times! After nearly 6,000 years of comparative quiet, the whole world suddenly erupted in world-shaking VIOLENCE beginning in 1914. But we have seen NOTHING, yet, compared to what is soon coming!

Suddenly knowledge has increased. Scientific knowledge, technological development. Instantaneous communication, rapid transportation, frightening inventions have resulted. Man has learned at last the secret of the atom. Man has learned how to unleash powers and forces and energies of nature that can destroy human life from off this planet!

At this same time, God Almighty is opening up new knowledge to those He has chosen and called as His messengers in these last days of this Age! Mysteries of God, never before known or understood by man, *are now revealed* to God's true servants!

What Does All This Mean?

It all means that *a purpose is being*

worked out here below! And the time has come for The Eternal—the Creator-RULER of the universe—to reveal to us exactly HOW world events, *from here*, are going to work out the tremendous CLIMAX of that divine PURPOSE! The whole earth is now shaking with convulsions, preparatory to the mightiest happenings of earth's history!

We are now in the very CRISIS AT THE CLOSE of this present evil and unhappy world!

A Third of Bible Is PROPHECY

Approximately ONE THIRD of all the Bible is devoted to PROPHECY. Many whole Books of Scripture, especially in the Old Testament—Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and all the so-called "minor" prophets—are devoted exclusively to PROPHECY. And do you realize that the very CHURCH which Jesus Christ said He would build—the true New Testament CHURCH OF GOD, is actually built on the very FOUNDATION of these

PROPHETS, and of their prophetic writings? You'll read that in Ephesians 2:20.

But the actual FRAME-WORK, or superstructure of all the prophecies is found in two prophetic Books—one in the old, the other in the NEW Testament—the Books of Daniel and the Revelation. And in the Book of Revelation, *alone*, do we find events of the various other prophecies co-related in order of TIME SEQUENCE.

While the Book of Revelation, itself, is a vital KEY to a large portion of the other prophecies, there are certain KEYS which open up this Book to understanding. ONE important key is that in the Book of Revelation is a STORY-FLOW, relating one future event to another in time order—with occasional INSETS injected into the continuous story-thread.

So now, let's TURN to this Book that has appeared to many as the most mysterious and unfathomable of ALL prophecies. NOTHING could be more intriguing. NOTHING, in *today's* upset and jittery world, could be MORE IMPORTANT at this hour! For it describes this very HOUR in which we live—it draws back the curtain on the FUTURE!

A SEALED Prophecy

The Revelation was given as a mystic and CLOSED book, sealed with seven seals. Some of the prophecies revealed to and written by Daniel also were *closed* and *sealed* until this very time of WORLD-CRISIS at the *close* of this present age.

Daniel wrote, at the conclusion of his Book: "I heard, but I understood *not*"—that is, he heard what the angel had revealed, which Daniel wrote in his Book—but he himself did not understand the very prophecies he had been inspired to write. The angel said to Daniel: "The words are CLOSED UP, and SEALED, till the *time of the end*"—and the Moffatt translation renders it "*till the crisis at the CLOSE*"—that is, till this world-crisis at the close of this age! (Dan. 12:8-9.) Again, verse 4: "But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the *time of the end*; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."

As the prophecies of Daniel were CLOSED and SEALED until this time of the END—this world-crisis at the close—this time of rapid transportation, men running to and fro—this time of INCREASED KNOWLEDGE—so also the prophecies of the Book of Revelation were SEALED!

Yes, they were *sealed with seven seals*, as we shall see!

But today we live in the dynamic, exciting, terrible "time of the END"—the world-crisis at the CLOSE of the Age! The prophecies and mysteries of God, sealed *until now*, are today REVEALED to

those whom God has chosen to carry His last Message to the world as a witness! Jesus Christ, Head of His Church, is the REVEALER! Christ has opened these mysteries to His servants!

The time has come for God's servants to open up to YOU—to lay bare before your startled eyes—these tremendous prophecies of the Book of REVELATION!

I want you, now, to *look* at this Book! We're ready, now, to come directly to the first chapter and first verse of this mysterious, exciting Book. We're ready, now, to see what it *does* say—and you have SURPRISES coming!

The REVEALING of CHRIST

The very opening verse says:

"The revelation of *Jesus Christ* . . . to show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass."

The very word "Revelation"—the English word translated from the original Greek word "Apocalypse," as it is called in one version—means the REVEALING. Not the hiding, sealing, or closing up, but the REVEALING. Yet the prophecy of future world events in this Book was sealed with seven seals! Of course! And absolutely NO ONE, except Jesus Christ, was able to strip off the seals, to open up, to REVEAL the *meaning* of the prophecies.

Now notice, GOD gave this prophecy to CHRIST. The first three verses form the introduction. Let us read them: "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his servant John: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand" (Rev. 1:1-3).

So notice, the prophecy first CAME from God the FATHER! It is the REVELATION—not the concealing, but the REVEALING—the EXPLAINING—the OPENING UP—of JESUS CHRIST, but God gave it to *Him* sealed!

Christ is the WORD—the SPOKESMAN. And He tells us plainly, in John 12:49 and elsewhere, that He spoke NOTHING of Himself, but only as the FATHER commanded Him! Christ is the WORD. Christ is the REVEALER. Now we come to another popular error of men.

John NOT the Revelator

We hear the expression so commonly—and erroneously—"John the Revelator." But JOHN is not the Revelator. This is not the Revelation of John, it is the Revelation of JESUS CHRIST. It is CHRIST, not John, who does the explaining, the revealing. *That* is another

vital KEY to understanding. So it originated with Almighty God the FATHER. God gave it to CHRIST. Christ sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John—so John is merely a SERVANT, who BARE RECORD—that is, who RECORDED the Revelation to WRITING. He was merely the private secretary—the stenographer, so to speak, not the Revelator.

And now notice, John bare record—or recorded in writing—THREE THINGS: 1st, the Word of God; 2nd, the Testimony of Jesus Christ; and 3rd, all the things that he, John, SAW!

And so PART of the Revelation, like all Scripture, is the plain Word of GOD. But part of it is the direct saying, or quotation, of Jesus Christ—the very words of Christ Himself. If you have a "red-letter" Bible or New Testament, printing all the words in *red* which Christ spoke directly Himself, you'll find a good many passages in the Book of Revelation are printed in RED. And then, John recorded the things that he SAW, in VISION, or, as it is worded, in SPIRIT. Most of the actual PROPHECY of the Book is contained in the things that John SAW, in VISION—and most of these things are SYMBOLS.

And then, the third verse states: "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand."

A BLESSING is pronounced on you for READING these words—*provided* you are submissive and obedient to KEEP those things which are written therein!

And now the beautiful salutation begins with verse 4, continuing thru the remainder of the first chapter. The dominant *keynote* of the Book—its subject, its theme—is struck in the 10th, or MIDDLE verse of this chapter.

The THEME of the Book

And so here is the very KEYNOTE verse, sounding the THEME of the whole Revelation! And it is *here* that most people begin to stumble, and to misunderstand!

The theme is THE DAY OF THE LORD. Let us read it: "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpeter" (v. 10).

And not understanding this, endless controversy and strife and confusion have come from arguing as to whether the day of the WEEK on which John WROTE this message was Saturday or Sunday. John was NOT referring to *any* day of the week.

The day of the week on which this happened to be written—IF it could have been all written within one day—is not important, and that is not what

(Please continue on page 5)

SHOULD CHRISTIANS SMOKE?

Many say they can't find anything against tobacco in the BIBLE. Recently great controversy has arisen over the question whether cigarette smoking causes LUNG CANCER. Here is an eye-opening article, reporting the actual FACTS determined in recent tests, surveys and researches, and making PLAIN the Bible teaching about tobacco.

by Garner Ted Armstrong

IT'S TIME to learn the true facts! It's time we know the real TRUTH! MILLIONS are concerned—even frightened—by the shocking FACTS being revealed about smoking.

Recent surveys and investigations into the health of 187,766 smokers and non-smokers by the American Cancer Society have brought to light the definite danger of smoking! These findings directly affect MILLIONS of persons—perhaps YOU!

According to a recent nation-wide survey conducted by the American Institute of Public Opinion, 45 out of every 100 U.S. adults—or some 46,000,000—smoke cigarettes. They average a pack a day. The younger the age groups, the higher the percentage who smoke. This shows the trend! More than half of all men and women between the ages of 21 to 29 light up cigarettes, whereas only a little more than one fifth of the people over 60 years of age are smokers.

Cigarette Claims

The public is reminded daily in unescapable ads and commercials of cigarettes that are "much milder, smoother, rounder, fuller, freer on the draw, longer, cooler and safer, and that filter the smoke farther."

But leading manufacturers have become increasingly conscious of the public concern over recent investigations regarding heart disease, lung cancer, lip cancer and other ailments. Mounting evidence has shown these afflictions figure much more prominently in smokers than non-smokers.

In the light of this public unrest, the cigarette manufacturers sponsored various doctors' reports. The "scientific results" of their own surveys, of course, minimized the danger in smoking.

Then, to counteract dropping cigarette sales, the "filter" era was ushered in among the flurry of "medically tested" and "scientifically proven" claims in advertisements and commercials. Either by using counter-balancing additives, or

by taking away the "harmful tars" or nicotine, the "healthful, safe, sanctioned-by-doctors cigarette" was on its way once more to a normal level on the manufacturers' sales graphs.

Thus, the public's fears were being once more assuaged, and cigarette sales tended toward normal for a time.

However, in the light of the latest findings of the American Cancer Society, besides other smaller-scale surveys, it may safely be predicted that the cigarette manufacturers either will find a new and entirely different method of making their products, or else introduce even "better" filters or additives, to smooth the worried brows of millions of perplexed purchasers of "pleasure."

Shocking Statistical Reports

In the spotlight, rating front-page publicity in the July 2, 1954 issue of the *U.S. News and World Report*, were the statistics from the most recent investigations.

The *U.S. News and World Report* interviewed Dr. E. Cuyler Hammond, who headed the Cancer Society's study group, and reported findings to the American Medical Association at San Francisco. The actual results of these findings are shown, together with numerous questions and answers foremost in the minds of most smokers.

The actual statistics regarding the differences in the death rate between smokers and non-smokers cannot be denied! *Death due to lung cancer is at least 200% higher among AVERAGE cigarette smokers than among those who do not smoke!* There are 106% more average smokers than nonsmokers who die from all other types of cancer.

For heavy smokers (those who smoke a pack or more a day) the death rate is considerably higher! Death from lung cancer is shown to be more than 400% higher than that of non-smokers, while deaths from all other types of cancer are as high as 156%. Those suffering

death from heart disease are 95% higher for heavy smokers than non-smokers.

These are actual FACTS. These figures do not lie! They are the facts of case histories! No matter HOW much arguing, reasoning, cross-examining or side-stepping is done—these facts reveal the alarming TRUTH!

Does Smoking Cause Lung Cancer?

Before World War I, lung cancer was a rarity. But after 1920, doctors began to encounter it more and more frequently, and there was an abrupt uptrend in deaths due to lung cancer. Dr. Cuyler Hammond said in 1953: "The alarming fact is that the trend shows every indication of continuing."

3400 persons died from cancer of the lung in 1933, 8800 in 1942, and the staggering number of 22,000 in 1952!

Dr. Alton Ochsner, New Orleans surgeon, says: "Unless measures are instituted to stop the increase, I predict that by 1970 . . . one out of every ten or 12 men living at that time will have cancer of the lung."

Many smokers have attributed the rising trend in lung cancer, not to cigarettes, but to increasingly worse air pollution, especially in industrial cities. Of the particles contained in polluted air, breathed by millions of human beings the world over, smoke, soot, chemicals, and fumes from gasoline and other fuel oils may contain cancer-producing agents. But *there is this one irrefutable fact* to be considered! Men and women breathe the same polluted air about equally; yet lung cancer is at least eight times more prevalent among males than among females.

Why?

According to facts revealed by the Gallup Poll, "Well over half, or 57%, of all male adults questioned in the survey are cigarette smokers, but only one woman in every three, or 32%, smokes." "Not only do more men than women smoke, but men smoke more cigarettes

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VOL. XIX No. 7

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than do women." (*Los Angeles Times*,
June 30, 1954.)

There is your answer! Obviously, air
pollution is a contributing cause, but
not the major cause of lung cancer.

In the light of the foregoing—the
suspicion of cigarettes is inevitable!
When researchers compared the sales
figures for cigarettes and the statistics
for lung cancer, they noticed a remark-
able parallel. On the charts the rising
lung cancer curve bears a striking re-
semblance to the curve which plots the
cigarette sales. (*Reader's Digest*, July,
1954.)

The conclusion, then, is absolutely
apparent. Lung cancer *does* occur more
frequently among smokers than non-
smokers. Smoking can be a direct con-
tributing factor in cancer of the lung
—and in many other types of cancer!

What Do Doctors Say?

Disturbed smokers demand the an-
swer. They ask their doctors. Of the
thousands seeking direct medical advice
with regard to *their own* smoking, many
are being comforted and reassured.
How?

The smoker asks: "Can cigarettes give
pleasure to the person who does the
smoking if the nicotine were removed
completely?" Or: "Can't they find a way
out?"

And the doctors' answer is: "Oh, yes!
I hope they do. I am not against cig-
arette smoking if it can be made safe. I
hope the tobacco companies can find a
solution."

Doctor Cuyler Hammond, heading the
research and investigations for the
American Cancer Society, was asked:
"What do you think a heavy smoker
should *do* under all these circumstances?
Is it wise to cut down on his smoking,
or give it up altogether?" To which he

replied: "Well, I can tell you what I've
done—I've switched to a pipe." What
"scientific" medical "wisdom"!

How similar to three young boys at
the sea-coast. A cliff was nearby, with a
sheer drop of some 200 feet directly to
the surf-pounded rocks below. The three
began wondering *how close* they could
get to the edge of the cliff. Said the
first: "I could stand without falling ONE

FOOT from the edge." The second said:
"I think I could stand with perfect safety
ONE INCH from the edge." Replied the
third: "I believe it's a bad risk. I'd rather
keep CLEAR AWAY from it!"

Dr. Wynder told the Cancer Preven-
tion Committee: "Those physicians who
were hardest set against believing that
tobacco might play a role in lung cancer
were heavy smokers themselves."

Then, where can the smoker find the
true answer?

Why Do People Smoke?

Cigarette-smoking has skyrocketed
during the past decade. WHY?

In this chaotic age of catastrophic
world events, filled with cold wars, hot
wars, international sore-spots and con-
ference-table-disputes, the life of the
individual has kept pace.

In this world's helter-skelter search
for happiness, the various media of en-
tertainment have shown tremendous in-
creases in sales. Human nature wants to
be *pleased*! It is a search for the satisfac-
tion of the *senses* that drives men on in
a merry-go-round of sensual shocks and
thrills that temporarily quench an in-
satisfiable thirst for self-gratification. Any
smoker will admit he ENJOYS smoking.
This enjoyment is directed toward the
self. *No one has claimed to smoke in
order to benefit, uplift, or better please
others!*

What Is the Purpose of Our Lungs?

The human body is the most intricate-
ly, marvellously made "machine" in ex-
istence! (Ps. 139:14) The human lungs
have a two-fold purpose in the body:
1) to take in fresh air, thereby distribut-
ing life-giving *oxygen* to the blood and
subsequently to the body cells; and 2)
to ELIMINATE BODY IMPURITIES! Most
people today are *totally ignorant* of this
two-fold purpose!

All the blood of the body circulates
through the lungs, carrying certain im-
purities to it. The incoming *fresh* air is
filled with oxygen. To perform its func-
tion—it is "the breath of LIFE"—to keep
one healthily, vigorously alive, *this air
must be PURE!* The oxygen is retained
by the lungs, and the impurities are
given off. It's that simple! But—notice;
the intended function of the lungs is to
ELIMINATE, *not to take in* impurities.

Let's see the result of filling the lungs
with smoke—regardless of nicotine con-
tent—and see if we can find any real
BENEFIT from smoking.

First, the lungs are designed to be
filled with fresh air. If the inhalation of
breath is heavily laden with smoke, then
the amount of fresh air is cut down. If
the incoming air is *already* laden with
impurities, then *how* can it successfully
rid the body of impurities? Since the
smokers' lungs do not contribute prop-

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Herbert W. Armstrong analyzes to-
day's news, with the prophecies of
The WORLD TOMORROW!

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A.M. Sundays.

erly to the body's elimination of impurities, those impurities *must* be eliminated in other ways. Have you ever noticed that the smoker will have a greater problem with body odors? The answer is—there is NO real *benefit* from smoking.

Does God Forbid Smoking?

Many say: "But there is no command not to smoke in the Bible." True, nowhere in the Bible is there the statement or command: "Thou shalt not smoke." But what if there were? Would people obey it?

Is not the command "Thou shalt not kill" in the Bible? Do men kill?

Let's suppose for a moment that the direct command, "Thou shalt not smoke," *did* appear in the Bible. Would mankind cease immediately to smoke? Of course not! Because the carnal mind is ENMITY against God—is not subject to the law of God. (Rom. 8:7) Is it then a SIN TO SMOKE?

What is sin?

"Sin is the transgression of the LAW"! (I John 3:4) But there are different *types* of sin. While we may only break *one* point of the SPIRITUAL law and still be guilty of all (James 2:10), there is *another* kind of sin! When Jesus healed the crippled man at the pool called Bethesda in Jerusalem, He said: "SIN NO MORE" (John 5:14). So healing is the *forgiveness of sin*. (Matt. 9:2-7) But *what kind* of sin?—PHYSICAL SIN!

God not only instituted SPIRITUAL laws, but He also instituted PHYSICAL laws. God is the Supreme CREATOR-RULER of this universe! He created all physical laws, forces and energies, and He *sustains* those laws! We may break the law of gravity—but we will reap the consequences. If we jump from a high place, there is an inexorably binding LAW that says we're going to get hurt! There are also laws that govern your human body.

Because of total lack of understanding of these laws, we see this ENTIRE WORLD engulfed with a flood of sickness, disease, suffering and *death*! The loud cry that "man is getting better and better" has become a shameful whisper facing a mountain of human WOE and MISERY!

Yes, there is a REASON for our infirmities. Christ called it a SIN to endanger your physical bodies. In man's helter-skelter search for happiness, he has constantly sought to *please* himself. In looking for this pleasure—especially in smoking—he has forgotten to "count the cost" by looking forward to the inevitable RESULTS of his actions. "*Lust of the flesh*" is one of the most wide-spread sins. Have you noticed how often, how severely, the New Testament condemns it? This is a *physical* sin which also is a CAPITAL SPIRITUAL SIN. It is a direct

transgression of the command: "*Thou shalt not covet!*"

Directed Toward Self!

The smoker can hardly claim he smokes to satisfy others. Since the smoking habit satisfies temporarily a thirst for SELF-gratification, it is, in plain Bible language, "*Lust of the flesh*"—actually a capital SIN!

It is the way of the world to satisfy the senses! The WRATH OF GOD is going to come on those who are living in conformance to the ways and lusts of this world! Men are lovers of their own selves—and lovers of pleasures, MORE than lovers of God! (II Tim. 3:2-4).

Paul, in his letter to the Hebrews, showed how Moses chose to suffer the affliction with God's people rather than enjoy the *pleasures* of sin for a season. (Heb. 11:25) WHY? Because Moses knew that by choosing to forsake the *temporary* pleasures that *seemed* so desirable he could obtain that longer-lasting satisfying HAPPINESS on beyond. Yes, those who seek after the temporary sensual PLEASURES are to *howl* for the miseries they reap! (James 5:1-5). Peter exhorted Christians NOT to go according to their former LUSTS in IGNORANCE, but to be as obedient children! (I Pet. 1:14) The Christian is commanded to *turn away* from the pleasure-seeking world! (Rev. 18:4)

Forsake All Pleasure?

Does this mean that God has designed that all Christians shall live unhappy, uneventful and devoid-of-pleasure lives? Of course not! Christ said He came *not only* to bring us life—but LIFE MORE ABUNDANTLY! (John 10:10)

We were *intended* by the RULER of this universe to live happy, eventful, fruitful lives! There are many things which we may ENJOY through our senses. The proper enjoyment of the senses is not wrong—but right! But *proper* enjoyment *builds up*—it never dissipates! We derive pleasure from delicious healthful foods—we enjoy seeing

beautiful things, we enjoy hearing beautiful music. We were intended to CULTIVATE and *use* our senses, but for the *constructive* purposes—not *destructive*! It is the UPBUILDING of our health and character for which we seek, not the tearing down—the destruction. God *wants us to be happy and healthy!*

Can We Smoke?

The converted child of God has absolutely FORSAKEN his own way (Isa. 55:6) and has come to realize that the WAY of man is WRONG. (Prov. 16:25). Then, after conforming with the *conditions*, the repentant sinner is PROMISED the Holy Spirit—which is the very *nature* of God. (Acts 2:38; II Pet. 1:4) If we call ourselves Christians, we're to GROW DAILY more like God! (Matt. 5:48). Then, instead of seeking to please ourselves by temporary sensual pleasures which dissipate and injure, we are to *forsake* the degenerating habits, and give our lives over to God! (Rom. 12:1) We are bought with a price (I Cor. 6:20), and are commanded to GLORIFY God in our physical bodies! Are you glorifying God with a cigarette in your mouth?

We should live in HARMONY with the laws God has set in motion—not go contrary to them. *Physical* as well as spiritual laws are included. After God has implanted within us that *gift* which we LACK to *start* us toward eternal life, (Luke 11:13), He tells us WE ARE HIS TEMPLE! We have His Holy Spirit abiding within us—are *bought with a price*, and we literally BELONG to God!

Can we do *what we please* with His property? No! God says *if we defile His temple—He will DESTROY us!* (I Cor. 3:16). HOW PLAIN!

YOU should be constantly WEEDING OUT the habits like smoking which *stand proven* to be degenerating, harmful—DANGEROUS! Instead, you should be cultivating GOOD habits in their place.

God give you wisdom and understanding to OBEY the unchangeable LAWS He has given us for our GOOD!

CATASTROPHIC EVENTS

(Continued from page 2)

this verse means at all. It does NOT refer to any day of the week—but to that prophetic period referred to in more than 30 prophecies as "The great and terrible DAY OF THE LORD."

The original Greek word here translated "on,"—"I was in the Spirit ON the Lord's Day,"—is *en*. In other places where this same Greek word *en* is used in the New Testament, it is translated "IN" or "INTO," not "on."

In *Spirit*—in VISION—John was car-

ried forward some 1900 years—projected *into* the DAY OF THE LORD—the time which is now just AHEAD OF US, to occur during this present generation!

The "Day of the Lord" is described by the prophet Joel as a time when God will send DESTRUCTION upon the *unrighteous* and *sinning* nations of the world. It is described by Zephaniah as *the day of GOD'S WRATH*. It is described all *thru* the Revelation as *the time when God Almighty will soon, now, step in*

and supernaturally INTERVENE in this hellish strife and friction and destruction among men, and send PLAGUES upon the sinners of the earth! It is the time which FOLLOWS the Great Tribulation, and leads up to and CLIMAXES in the glorious SECOND COMING OF CHRIST!

Now the House of John is John's House, and the Day of the Lord is the Lord's DAY. Listen to the translations of the ablest Greek scholars and translators:

In the Weymouth translation, which you can find in public libraries, this verse reads: "In the Spirit, I found myself present on the Day of the Lord."

Rotherham's translation: "I came to be, in Spirit, IN the Lord's Day." The Concordant Version: "I came to be, in Spirit, IN the Lord's Day." The BULLINGER translation: "I came to be, BY the Spirit, IN the Day of the Lord."

A Revelation for OUR Day

And so, in Spirit, or in the VISION, when He was shown the things of the prophecy—the things which John SAW—John was projected into the period of OUR present, and the immediate future. Just as the prophet Ezekiel, in Ezekiel 8:3 states: "And he put forth the form of an hand, and took me by a lock of mine head: and the spirit lifted me up between the earth and the heaven, and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the inner gate that looketh toward the north, where was the seat of the image of jealousy, which provoketh to jealousy."

Ezekiel was not actually taken to Jerusalem, but the SPIRIT lifted him up and carried him IN VISION to Jerusalem. In like manner, John, IN SPIRIT, was carried to see IN VISION the events of the DAY OF THE LORD—the events ALREADY, now, beginning to take place on earth—the events YOU AND I SHALL LIVE TO ACTUALLY SEE!

This vision is VITAL! The theme, or subject, of the prophecy is NOT the Middle Ages—it is the teeming, chaotic PRESENT—this very time you and I are just now starting to LIVE THRU! GOD HELP US, then, to UNDERSTAND!

And so the very purpose of this Book is to show US of this generation NOW LIVING, the coming world-shaking events of the DAY OF THE LORD—the time of GOD'S JUDGMENTS at this age—END leading up to, and climaxing in, THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST, and the happy, peaceful WORLD TOMORROW!

I have taken time to explain this introduction and salutation—because it is the KEY note of the whole prophecy—the THEME—the SUBJECT of the prophecy. It is IMPORTANT to get our bearings—to get off to a right START—to get the FUNDAMENTALS straight.

Message to the Churches

The first real Message of the Book is contained in the second and third chapters—the messages to the Seven Churches. These Messages come DIRECT FROM CHRIST—they contain the direct TESTIMONY OF JESUS CHRIST—if you have a red-letter Bible, you'll find these letters in red. Here Jesus takes the actual spiritual condition and FUNCTIONING of these seven Churches, then existing in Asia Minor, as a PROPHECY of the spiritual condition and the works and accomplishments, in carrying out Christ's Great Commission, of the true CHURCH OF GOD during the SEVEN successive periods of time up until the END of this age and the Second Coming of Christ.

Men have never understood these seven Messages! They have never known what to look for! These are not messages to the great, visible, PROFESSING churches in all their sectarian divisions and political organizations. These are messages from Christ, the living HEAD of His Church, to HIS OWN TRUE CHURCH in its seven successive eras of time from 100 A.D., until a period even YET future. Since these messages are not addressed to the public—since they do not concern the PROFESSING organized churches—since they do not contain actual prophecies of present or future WORLD CONDITIONS, with one exception, I pass on over these two chapters, in the present series.

The first five messages to the churches are prophetic of stages of God's true people on earth which have already been FULFILLED, and now are HISTORY. All this identity, and the AMAZING record from history showing how PRECISELY these prophecies were fulfilled, will be made plain in future numbers of "The PLAIN TRUTH."

And now we pass quickly on to the 4th and 5th chapters, where we find the PRELUDE—or the STAGE-SETTING for the MAIN PROPHECIES of the Book.

The Stage Is Set

John actually was on the Isle of Patmos, in the Mediterranean Sea. But in his VISION, he appeared to be taken up to heaven, to the very throne of God. In the vision he saw God the Father sitting on His throne. Before the throne were the four living creatures, and the 24 elders. And in the midst of them, STANDING in front of the throne on which the Father was SITTING, was Jesus Christ. The Book of the Prophecy was in the right hand of the Father.

Notice the actual description of it: "After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee

things which must be hereafter. And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne" (Rev. 4:1-2).

The remainder of this fourth chapter describes this heavenly setting which John saw in his vision. Around the throne were the 24 elders, seated on 24 smaller thrones, clad in WHITE garments, with golden crowns on their heads. On each side of the throne were the four living creatures—all worshipping God Almighty seated on His throne.

And now we come to the vital fifth chapter of the Book of Revelation. Notice: "And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the back side, sealed with seven seals" (Rev. 5:1).

A Mysterious Book

Here is the real BOOK of the PROPHECY. It is significant that this book was in God's RIGHT hand. But this was *not* the same kind of book we use today, made up of many pages bound together. This was a scroll, or a ROLL—one very LONG sheet of parchment, written on BOTH sides, rolled into a scroll, and SEALED with seven SEALS. That number is significant! Seven is God's number denoting COMPLETENESS. This Book of Prophecy, then, was sealed COMPLETELY—completely CLOSED UP, so it could not be seen or read, much less UNDERSTOOD. And the Book came originally from God the FATHER. As it came from God it was SEALED UP. And notice, carefully, the seven seals cover the ENTIRE BOOK of prophecy.

Its meaning was sealed—completely HIDDEN. Now notice carefully! "And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon" (verses 2-4).

I want you to NOTICE that!

This PROPHECY is SEALED! NO MAN is worthy or able to OPEN UP this prophecy—to read its real and true MEANING!

Why haven't men read that plain and simple statement? No MAN can open up—no MAN can REVEAL the meaning of this great prophecy. It's SEALED—utterly, completely SEALED—totally CLOSED! Why, then, have MEN been trying to tell the public they could read and reveal this amazing, this ASTOUNDING PROPHECY?

JOHN is not the Revelator. THIS is not the Revelation of JOHN, or of any modern man or church leader or religious sect or denomination! IT HAS BEEN SEALED from them all!

But NOTICE—HERE comes the KEY to unlock the doors of understanding!

"And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not, behold: the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof" (v. 5).

Who Will Open the Book?

THERE'S the key to this riddle! The Lion of the Tribe of Judah—the ROOT of David—is JESUS CHRIST! No MAN can interpret this momentous prophecy—but Jesus Christ—God the SON—here *standing BEFORE* the throne of God the Father—here standing at the very RIGHT HAND of God—is able to open these seals, and to REVEAL to us the meaning.

JESUS CHRIST is the Revelator! Not John, not some modern church leader, not any man, not any religious organization, sect, or denomination. THIS is the Revelation of JESUS CHRIST, which God the Father gave to HIM! And now notice: "And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne" (v. 7).

NOW we are coming to the KEY that shall unveil this mystic prophecy that has confused and baffled all the religionists and the churches of this world for the past 1850 years: Jesus Christ is the Revelator who *alone* can open up the MEANING of this greatest of all prophecies, pertaining to WORLD EVENTS TODAY, and the tremendous world-happenings of these immediate years JUST AHEAD!

And now, just before we come to chapter 6, where we see what's actually written in this mystic Book, as Christ begins one by one to strip off these SEALS, notice: "And they sang a new song, saying, 'Worthy art thou to take the scroll and to open its seals, for thou wast slain and by thy blood didst ransom men for God from every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and hast made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on earth'" (Rev. 5:9-10, RSV).

Yes, the VISION appears in HEAVEN—but it portrays EVENTS to occur here ON THE EARTH. They sang a glorious SONG—saying that those whom Christ has REDEEMED are to RULE—they are to REIGN WITH HIM as kings, and to MINISTER to and SAVE people as PRIESTS—*where?*—up in heaven?—NO! Observe this carefully—"THEY SHALL REIGN ON THE EARTH!"

Jesus Christ said, "If I go"—and He went to the right hand of God the Father—to the FATHER'S throne, in heaven,—but He said if He WENT, "I will COME AGAIN!" And He is coming AGAIN to rule all the EARTH as the KING of kings, and the LORD of lords! The very last words of this Book of Revelation are: "He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen! Even so, COME, Lord Jesus!"

The SEVEN SEALS

We come to the sixth chapter of Revelation—the REVELATION PROPER. And now, one by one, Jesus OPENS these seals. SIX of the entire seven seals are opened in this sixth chapter alone. Only ONE chapter is devoted to the first SIX of the seven seals. Doesn't that strike you as peculiar? VERY little space is devoted to each of these first SIX seals—so little that SIX of the seven are condensed into one single chapter. There remain yet SIXTEEN WHOLE CHAPTERS in the Book. And since the SEVEN seals cover the ENTIRE PROPHECY—all of its remaining 17 chapters—we are left with 16 chapters for the events of that SEVENTH SEAL ALONE!

And now, as we come to this pivotal SIXTH chapter of the Book of Revelation, REMEMBER the stage-setting—it is recording the VISION of John; and altho John himself actually was on an island in the Mediterranean Sea, here on the EARTH, he appeared, in the vision, to be taken up to the very heaven of GOD'S THRONE. The BOOK of PROPHECY, in form of a ROLLED SCROLL, is in the RIGHT HAND of God the Father, sitting on the throne. And Jesus Christ, here pictured as the LAMB of God, is *STANDING before* His Father's throne.

Christ, the Revelator, now TAKES the book of prophecy out of the right hand of God the Father, and one by one He strips off the SEALS which SEALED the prophecy.

The PROPHETIC portions of this writing of John are contained in the things that John SAW, in VISION. Notice, now, the first verse of chapter 6: "And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals: and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see."

John is recording for us what he SAW, in the vision. He SAW the Lamb, Jesus Christ the Messiah, opening the first of the seven seals. And the four living creatures invited him to come and SEE what was under that first seal. "And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer" (v. 2).

The Revelation Is in Symbols!

And right HERE begins the real MYSTERY. What is this WHITE HORSE? It's merely a SYMBOL. And mark well this fact! — SYMBOLS are susceptible of MANY DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS! For generations men have been putting their own HUMAN interpretations on these SYMBOLS. This white horse has been interpreted many different ways.

But let's read on: "And when he had opened the *second* seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. And there

went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword. And when he had opened the *third* seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and, lo, a black horse: and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny: and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. And when he had opened the *fourth* seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth" (vs. 3-8).

And THERE are the well-known FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE. That word "apocalypse" is not an English word. It is a GREEK word. The apostle John wrote this book of Revelation in the GREEK language. And translated into the English language that Greek word *apocalypse* simply means, REVELATION, or REVEALING, or OPENING UP, or UNFOLDING. Some English translations of the Bible have left the word "apocalypse" untranslated, and have used the original GREEK word for the caption of this entire book. It all means THE SAME THING, whether we use the Greek word apocalypse, or the English word, REVELATION. So the famous FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE are merely these four prophetic SYMBOLS of the Book of Revelation.

But WHAT ARE these mystic four HORSEMEN? What do these symbols REPRESENT? Who has the RIGHT interpretation? The answer is that NO MAN, NO ORGANIZATION of men, whether religious or otherwise, has any power or ability to REVEAL THIS MEANING. Only JESUS CHRIST was found worthy, and able, to make this meaning known. JESUS CHRIST is the Revelator! This is the Revelation of JESUS CHRIST—not of John—not of any human religious leader, not of any sect, church, or religious society or organization!

When Jesus Christ stepped forward, in John's vision, and stripped off the first four of the seven SEALS that sealed this prophetic roll, John merely SEES what is WRITTEN THERE! And the writing is in SYMBOLS. And God uses symbols to HIDE the MEANING from men, *until* that meaning is revealed BY NONE OTHER THAN JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF!

And so mark well this situation! Here in these first eight verses of chapter 6,

we find the description of Jesus Christ revealing the WRITING, which is in mystic SYMBOLS; but Christ, who alone is the Revelator, DOES NOT AT THIS TIME AND PLACE OPEN UP THE MEANING! He has here merely opened up the WORDS, in SYMBOLIC form, but not HERE the MEANING.

The KEY to the SEVEN SEALS

To whom shall we look for the true MEANING? Why, to the true REVEALATOR, of COURSE! And since Jesus Christ the Revelator does NOT reveal the MEANING in this particular passage of Scripture, WE MUST LOOK ELSEWHERE, to find when and WHERE Jesus Christ DOES explain the MEANING of these SYMBOLS!

That is the paramount KEY to the Book of Revelation! That ought to make plain to you WHY the men of this world—religious leaders or church denominations—HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO OPEN TO YOU THE TRUE AND SIGNIFICANT MEANING OF THESE FOUR HORSEMEN!

Now keep in mind two things: first, Jesus Christ is called in the very first verses of John's GOSPEL, the WORD of God—God's SPOKESMAN. Jesus, in Person, 1900 years ago, was the personal, living WORD OF GOD. But today we have the WRITTEN Word of God—the Holy Bible. The entire BIBLE is the Word of God. Its real divine Author, then, is JESUS CHRIST—the whole BIBLE is His written WORD!

Second, a symbol is a good deal like a PARABLE. A symbol is a FIGURE or a THING, used to represent something else; and a parable is an *experience* employed to represent something else.

And now I want you to realize a most important FACT, bearing on our problem, which most of you never realized before. Haven't you supposed, along with nearly everyone else, that Jesus spoke in PARABLES in order to make His meaning CLEARER—as a sort of illustration, so that people would BETTER understand His meaning? Well you have supposed WRONG! On the contrary, believe it or not, Jesus spoke in parables to COVER UP, to HIDE the true meaning from the crowds that constantly followed Him! THIS knowledge puts in our hands the KEY that will unlock these symbols of the Book of Revelation.

So I want you to notice the parable of the sower and the seed:

"And when He was alone, they that were about Him with the twelve asked him of the parable. And He said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables: that seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest

at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them" (Mark 4:10-12) . . . and then Jesus proceeded to EXPLAIN in PLAIN LANGUAGE the meaning of the parable to His disciples!

UNDERSTAND THIS! Jesus used parables to CONCEAL the true meaning from those He did not intend to understand! He did not, at that TIME and PLACE, reveal the meaning of the parable. But, later, He did explain IN PLAIN LANGUAGE the true meaning, to His disciples.

And in exactly the same manner, we find in this sixth chapter of Revelation a prophecy cloaked mysteriously in SYMBOLS which has HIDDEN the true meaning from men these 1850 years! And so, if we want to really UNDERSTAND, we must do as those disciples did—we must GO TO JESUS, who alone is the true Revelator—and since His message to us of this day is now the WRITTEN WORD OF GOD—the Bible—we must look to see WHERE, in His written Word, this same Jesus explains to us, in PLAIN LANGUAGE, the same identical EVENTS which are represented by these SYMBOLS!

Did Jesus, then, in PLAIN LANGUAGE, explain these same events of this world crisis at the CLOSE of this Age—these turbulent world-war days leading to the DAY OF THE LORD, and the Second Coming of Christ?

He did! When His disciples came to Him on Mt. Olivet—when they to whom He revealed His parables—they to whom it WAS given to know these mysteries—came to Him PRIVATELY, and asked Him: "Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the Sign of thy coming, and of the END OF THE WORLD?" Jesus gave, in PLAIN LANGUAGE, a startling prophecy of these very world conditions of TODAY, and our immediate future!

What Do the SEALS Mean?

Here, then, is the explanation of the SYMBOLS of Revelation 6!

HERE is the KEY that opens up the meaning of the SEALS!

This tremendous Olivet prophecy is recorded in Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21. And here Jesus outlined in PLAIN LANGUAGE exactly SEVEN *things to occur*! Here in PLAIN LANGUAGE Jesus Christ the Revelator REVEALS the true meaning of the seven seals that covered the ENTIRE PROPHECY of the Revelation!

And now, from Matthew's account, let me read the first four stages of events Jesus foretold:

"And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive

many. And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows" (Mat. 24:4-8).

Here is the high-spot summary of world news from 31 A.D. until NOW!

Notice this consistent principle: Once a condition which Jesus predicts sets in, it REMAINS CONTINUOUS up until His very second coming!

I want you to notice a consistent principle in this prophecy of Matt. 24, and of the 6th chapter of Revelation. SEVEN successive things, or events, are to occur. As an example: The very FIRST condition Jesus foretells is that of FALSE PREACHERS, misleading and deceiving, not the few, but the MANY!

That condition set in almost immediately. The apostle Paul wrote of it, and said this spirit of iniquity was ALREADY WORKING, even as HE wrote! And it has never relaxed or ceased, but rather has developed in intensity, until THE WHOLE WORLD, as distinctly prophesied, HAS BECOME DECEIVED AND MISLED AS TO THESE BIBLE TRUTHS OF GOD!

And so the *next* thing Jesus said would occur was WARS, and rumours of wars. There were wars in those days. But wars have not stopped. They have grown progressively WORSE AND WORSE, more and more horrible and destructive, until today, WE FACE THE QUESTION OF WHETHER HUMAN LIFE CAN SURVIVE THE NEXT ATOMIC AND HYDROGEN BOMB WAR! Yes, as Scripture says truthfully, SIN and sinful men WAX WORSE AND WORSE—and NOT better and better, as men like to believe!

And so Jesus named these four things:

1st, FALSE teaching about Christ, doing away with His true Gospel.

2nd, wars, climaxing at this CRISIS AT THE CLOSE of this age in WORLD WARS—nation against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. We are now in the SECOND recess BETWEEN stages of WORLD WAR!

3rd, FAMINE, and 4th, PESTILENCE, or epidemics of DISEASE which follow in the wake of great famines and wars.

And THAT'S where we are, RIGHT NOW! And this is JUST THE BEGINNING of the colossal WORLD EVENTS prophesied for this 20th century A.D.!

The first two world wars have occurred. Rumors of wars will continue. Next to strike the earth are *famine, disease epidemics and World War III—all of such staggering magnitude as this world has never dreamed!*

But now compare that with the first
(Please continue on page 13)

Did God Create a DEVIL?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

IS THERE a devil? Many people talk about the devil and Satan. Others scoff and say that's just superstition and imagination.

But *is there a devil?* According to most Christians the Bible is supposed to teach that the devil is the god of this world. Indeed it does teach that. He is represented symbolically as a serpent.

We find that at the creation of man, recorded in the 3rd chapter of Genesis, a serpent tempted the man and the woman and caused them to disobey God and take of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil—a mixture of good and evil. That's what we have had in this world ever since.

The Bible pictures the whole world under the sway of an invisible devil. What about it? Where did he come from? Did God create a devil to tempt us and to try to lead us astray? And then to punish us if we follow the devil? Let's return to the account of creation. I want to show you something that perhaps you never knew about creation—about the very creation of this earth, how man came to be upon this earth, and whether there is a devil, and where he got his power.

World NOT Created in Chaos

So, let's look back to the very beginning. Open your Bible to Genesis 1:1. "In the beginning God." It shows that God was before all.

The Bible begins in the beginning. That is a proper beginning. The next word is "created." "God created." In other words, God acted. God is active. He did something. He created. God, then, is the Creator. He created the heaven and the earth. But the very next verse says this: "The earth was without form and void." Now the Hebrew words there are *tohu* and *bohu*.

Translated into English they mean *chaotic, in confusion, waste, and empty*. And in some of the translations, you can find those definitions given rather than the definition "without form and void." In other words, without form and without order, without the form of order, and void in the sense that it was in confusion.

So then the earth was in chaos and in confusion "and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." Then we find what God did in a period of seven days. Yes, we find what He

did, not just in six, but in *seven* days, because He created something that seventh day! He created the sabbath not by work, but by rest. All that He created *by His work* was done in the first six days. And then He rested on the seventh day.

Notice again this first chapter of Genesis, verse two. Where does it fit? When God created the heaven and the earth, did He create this earth originally in a state of confusion? Did He create it all topsy-turvy and chaotic?

The Result of Sin

If you will stop to see, confusion is merely the result of *sin*. You couldn't have confusion, you couldn't have disorder, you couldn't have such a condition *except as a result of the violation of law* because God has set laws in motion that are perfect. They are inexorable. The laws of God are to create peace and to create order. The law is order. Law and order are two words that we associate together. When you have the opposite of law and order, you have the transgression of law—disorder and confusion.

Now, did God create the earth in a state of confusion?—in a state of chaos? We read over in I Corinthians 13:14 that *God is NOT the author of confusion*. God is the author of peace. God is the author of order and of law.

Of course today, people don't want law. And so you even find it preached in the churches that the law of God is bad and that it is abolished, which, of course, is not true.

Now did God create the earth originally in a state of confusion? If you will notice Job 38:4-9, where God is talking to Job, He is explaining the original creation. He says there that *the angels shouted for joy* when God created the earth. "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth." *The angels shouted for joy*. It must then have been a *perfect creation*, not a creation that was in chaos and confusion.

Why would He create it in disorder and then have to straighten it out? That doesn't make sense! Now again, Dr. Bullinger, the Hebrew authority, says that the Hebrew word for "created," used in Genesis 1:1, "implies that the creation was a perfect work." That very word "created" implies a perfect and a beautiful order and system, not chaos or confusion!

Then how did it become chaotic?

Now in Genesis 19:26, the same Hebrew word is used which is translated "was" in Gen. 1:2. And there it is translated into the English word "became." In the first three chapters of the Bible, and many other places where you find the word "was," in almost every case it is denoting a condition that was *different* from a former condition. In other words, whatever it was, it *BECAME* that way. It had not always been that way.

The Earth BECAME Chaotic

Plainly the word "was" has the meaning of "became." It is a synonym for the word "became." The earth, then, "BECAME chaotic and in confusion." It was *not* originally created that way because God is the author of peace and of order, not of confusion. The Rotherham translation of Gen. 1:2, out of the original Hebrew language, is this: "Now the earth *HAD BECOME waste and empty*." The earth *had become waste and empty*. It hadn't always been that way.

In Jeremiah 4:23, in Isaiah 24:10, in Isaiah 34:11, and in other places in the Bible, you find the same words, *tohu* and *bohu*, meaning chaotic and in confusion. In every case that condition is a *result of sin*. It is something that has happened by violation of God's order, or God's law, because God's law is the way of order.

Confusion can come only by its violation. In all of those passages, the Hebrew words *tohu* and *bohu* show a disorder and a confusion as a result of sin.

Now I want you to notice Isaiah 45:18. "Thus saith the Eternal that created the heavens." Now here is the Creator, that created the heavens, saying something important. He says, "God himself that formed the earth and made it, He hath established it, He created it *not* in vain." "In vain" is an incorrect translation. In your Bible, if you have the marginal references, you will find in the margin the proper translation "waste."

The original Hebrew word there is TOHU. This Hebrew word is the identical word used in Gen. 1:2, meaning confusion, or emptiness, or waste—a result of disorder, a result of violation of law. He created it *not* "tohu." Now in Isaiah 45:18 we have the plain statement that God created the earth *not* "tohu," that is, *not* in confusion, *not* in disorder. But in Genesis 1:2, the earth was, or *the earth BECAME*—as it ought to be translated—*chaotic and in confusion*!

Then it became that way after it was created. Now, what could have caused that confusion?—that disorder? What could have wrecked the earth and brought it into the condition in which it was found in verse 2?

What we find then, beginning with verse 2, is a straightening out of an earth *that was already created perfect and had been wrecked long ago*. Something had happened to bring about disorder and to cause confusion and destruction to the physical earth as a result of the violation of the laws that God had set in motion. What could have happened? Who was the author of this sin that brought this physical disaster to the earth?

In the six days, all God did was to straighten it out. In other words, the six days of Genesis 1 are not actually creation at all, but a straightening out of what had already been created. You will find the word "made" is used throughout the chapter except in the creation of animals and of man.

Now in verse 21, you will find God *created* great whales, and in a little further down God said, "Let us *make* man in our image." Then, it says in verse 27 that God "*created* man in His own image, in the image of God created He him, male and female." But you will find that God *made* these other things that are mentioned in the first chapter of Genesis.

The Hebrew word translated "*made*" implies exactly what we mean by that word, a putting together in a different manner, or form, or shape, things that already existed. But the meaning of the Hebrew word that is translated "*create*" or "*created*" is *to bring into existence something entirely new*. The only things that God *created* in that week were the animal life and the human life. He created human beings during that week. But He *formed* or *made* man out of already-existing dust.

Life Before Adam?

Now, what was the sin then that caused this physical destruction to the earth? It was *not* a sin caused by humanity, because there had been no man on the earth until the sixth day of that re-creation or that re-making. So it was not a sin of man. Adam was the *first* man. We find over in I Corinthians 15 that Adam is called the *first* man on this earth, and you find in Genesis that Eve is called the mother of all living human beings. There was no other race prior to Adam and Eve.

Some people talk about a pre-Adamic race. That is nonsense.

It is not backed up by the Bible in any manner whatsoever. Adam was the first man. Eve was the first woman. And all humanity has been begotten and

born from them. They were the human parents of the whole race. They were original creations.

So the sin which brought chaos was not caused by man. And yet life must have populated the earth because a sin had occurred on the earth that brought it into a condition of chaos and confusion by breaking up the laws of God.

What kind of life could it have been? It wasn't human life. What was it that populated this earth prior to the second verse of Genesis, the first chapter?

I want you to notice one other thing now. In Genesis 1:28 speaking to the man whom He had created, God said this: "Be fruitful and multiply and *replenish* the earth." What does that word *replenish* mean? To *plenish* is to *populate*. To *replenish* means to *repopulate*—to *populate* all over again. And those very words imply that the earth had been populated before!

Now we turn over just a little further, and immediately after the flood in Genesis the 9th chapter, the 1st verse, God spoke to Noah. The earth had been populated by millions of people prior to the flood. But because of the sins of the people on the earth, God brought about a *physical destruction* to the earth by a flood. The entire earth was covered with water. It was a result of the sins of that antediluvian world between the time of Adam and Noah. Only Noah and his three sons and the four wives of these four men—only those eight persons were left alive on earth. But the earth had been populated. Now God blessed Noah and His sons and said unto them: "Be fruitful and multiply and *replenish* the earth." Identically the same words that He spoke to Adam!

In Noah's case we know He meant *repopulate* the earth. Then didn't He mean the same thing when He used the identical words to Adam: "Be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth?" Certainly here is indication that the earth had been populated, and that it was to be populated *once again*. Then what kind of life had populated the earth prior to Adam, prior to the week called "creation week"? What had happened?

Sin of Angels

Next, let's turn on over to II Peter, the second chapter. You will begin to see something revealed that begins to throw light on it. In II Pet. 2:4, we read this: "For if God spared not the angels that sinned." There is the sin of angels mentioned. When did they sin?

It isn't said here. "But cast them down to hell." That is a mistranslation. *Tartus* is the Greek word used, and it is the only place where that word is used in the Bible. It is a place or a condition of restraint, in which the fallen angels,

called demons or devils, are held until the judgment as a result of their sin. They were delivered into chains of darkness. Darkness represents error, and error will enchain anyone and enslave anyone from the truth. They are *en*-chained by that darkness, that error—angels who once had knowledge—angels who once had great understanding and wisdom. Now all of their knowledge and their ways are perverted.

Now notice. God spared not *the angels that sinned*. Not all the angels sinned, but a third of the angels, as we find in the twelfth chapter of Revelation, did.

A third of the angels *sinned*, and God did not spare them. Now notice the next verse, "And spared not the old world," between Adam and Noah, "but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly." There it mentions the sins from Adam to Noah, and it mentions the *physical destruction* to the earth as a result of the flood, a chaotic physical condition brought about on the earth by the sins of those men.

Was there a chaotic condition brought about on the earth *as a result of the sins of angels*? The sin of the angels is mentioned first, and *it occurred first!* There was a devil already there in existence by the time Adam was created. So the sin of the angels happened *before* the creation of man.

The sins of men between Adam and Noah brought about a physical destruction, a chaotic condition to the physical face, the geographical surface of the earth.

Read the next verse in II Peter 2. "Turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample to those that afterward should live ungodly."

There were two cities. Universal sin was in those two cities, and the cities were destroyed as a result. Physical destruction came to the entire part of the surface of the earth which those people occupied as a result of that sin. Then didn't such a destruction come to the earth *as a result of the sins of the angels* which occurred before Adam? We find in the Bible the statement that there is to come a destruction by fire to the earth as a result of the sins going on now all over this round earth.

In other words, then, sin brings physical destruction to the earth. There was physical destruction to the earth before man was created. There were angels that sinned before Adam was created. Therefore, it begins to look like the angels populated this earth, and they caused that sin before the week that we

(Please continue on page 13)

PROPHESED TO HAPPEN to the United States and Britain!

Where are the United States, the British Commonwealth and the democracies of Northwestern Europe mentioned in Bible prophecy? In this seventh installment of Mr. Armstrong's forthcoming book, we bring you the startling ANSWER!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS INSTALLMENTS

AGGRESSOR nations covet our wealth. The British lifeline at Singapore is in serious danger at this very moment!

Few realize that our vast wealth and resources—our control of the seas—were promised to the patriarch Abraham and to his descendants.

To Abraham dual promises were made. The *Sceptre* promise of a kingly line and of the Messiah were transmitted to his great-grandson Judah (Gen. 49:10), but the material promises of the *Birtheright*—of vast national wealth and power, of control of the gateways to the sea—were not given to the Jews. The *Birtheright* was transmitted to the descendants of JOSEPH (1 Chron. 5:2).

This astounding fact has not been understood because most people are unaware that Abraham's descendants were divided into *two nations* after the death of Solomon. The southern kingdom, headed by the tribe of Judah, seceded from the nation ISRAEL and formed the kingdom of Judah. But the northern kingdom retained the name House of ISRAEL.

The people of the separate nation—Judah—came to be known as "JEWS"—a nickname for Judah. But the House of Israel, made up of ten tribes, was *not Jewish*. The first place in the Bible where the term "Jews" occurs is in II Kings 16:6—and there you will find that the Kingdom of ISRAEL was *at war against the Jews!* The next place in the Bible where the word "Jew" is employed is after the ten tribes of the House of ISRAEL were invaded, captured and carried as slaves to Assyria where they became known as the LOST TEN TRIBES OF ISRAEL.

Remember, the *Birtheright* promises of great wealth and power were given to Joseph, whose descendants belonged to the House of ISRAEL, *not* to Judah. It is therefore among the descendants of the "lost" House of ISRAEL that we will find the *Birtheright* promises *fulfilled today!*

The Throne of David Still Exists

Although the *Birtheright* never belonged to the Jews, the *Sceptre* promise was given to them. To carry out this promise, God made an *unconditional* covenant which guaranteed that David's throne and his dynasty would be established thruout *all generations*, FOREVER. David's dynasty is never to cease, even for a single generation, unless God's Word fails! The last king of David's dynasty recorded in Biblical history was Zedekiah of Judah.

Where has that throne continued to exist?

In the previous installment we learned the strange TRUTH of the PLANTING and the REBUILDING of David's throne. The prophet Jeremiah was commissioned to rebuild the throne of David—to plant the DAUGHTERS of the Jewish king Zedekiah in a land which he knew not.

Jeremiah and these Jewish princesses, with Baruch the scribe, were taken down to Egypt from where they later escaped (Jer. 44:28). Upon their return to Jerusalem they journeyed to a distant land to rebuild David's throne (Isa. 37:32, 31).

Ezekiel, in a riddle and a parable, explains the location of the replanting. You will find it in Ezekiel, chapter 17. One of the king's daughters—symbolized by a tender young twig—was to be "planted in the height of ISRAEL"! *It was to Israel that Jeremiah and Baruch journeyed with the king's daughters.*

Notice that the *Sceptre* promise to Judah has never ceased! The descendants of the Jewish king Zedekiah were *replanted* in Israel, which possessed the *Birtheright*. Therefore today we must find a THRONE—the throne of David—ruling in Israel. That throne is also associated with a *commonwealth of people possessing the astonishing promises of national wealth and greatness.*

Where is the throne? Who are the people possessing the *Birtheright*?

CHAPTER VII Israel's New Land

We are ready, now, to search out the actual location of the lost tribes of the outcast House of Israel. We know they exist today as a nation, and a company of nations, powerful, looked upon as Gentiles. And when we find them, we shall find the throne of David!

Many passages of prophecy tell of these people in these latter days. Prophecies not to be understood until this "time of the end." Prophecies containing a Message to be carried to these people by those to whom God reveals it!

First, fix in mind these facts:

The prophet Amos wrote, in the days of the 13th of the 19 kings of the House of Israel, (Amos 1:1): "Behold the eyes of the Lord are upon the sinful kingdom (House of Israel—Judah had not yet sinned), and I will destroy it (the kingdom, or government, not the people) from off the face of the earth. For, lo, I will command, and I will sift the House of Israel among all nations, like as corn is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not the least grain fall upon the earth." (Amos 9:8-9.)

This prophecy usually is applied to the scattered condition of the Jews. But it has nothing to do with the Jews, or House of JUDAH, but refers to the ten-tribed House of ISRAEL—driven to Assyrian captivity, then migrating from there and scattering among other nations BEFORE the Jews were taken to Babylon. This prophecy says that ISRAEL, (not Judah), was to be sifted among other nations—these Israelites losing their identity—yet God has protected and kept them—"not the least grain shall fall upon the earth."

It was during this time that the children of the House of Israel were to "abide many days without a king" (Hos. 3:4). That these people did sift thru all nations is clear. Many New Testament passages indicate this. Although many of them still were scattered among various nations in the first century, A.D., a portion of them had become estab-

lished in a definite location of their own by Jeremiah's time—140 years after their original captivity.

But these Israelites who possessed the Birthright eventually were to come to a new land of their own. The Eternal says, in II Samuel 7:10, and I Chron. 17:9: "Moreover, I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will PLANT THEM," (Jeremiah was commissioned to do the PLANTING of the throne among them) "that they may dwell in a place of their own and *move no more*." The context of the whole passage shows this refers, not to Palestine, but a different land where these scattered Israelites were to gather, after being removed from the promised land of Palestine, and while that land was lying idle and in possession of the Gentiles.

Notice carefully! After being removed from Palestine, being sifted among all nations, abiding many days without a king, losing their identity, they are to be "planted" in a far-away strange land now to become their own. And, NOTE IT!—after reaching this place, *they are to move no more!* That is, of course, during this present world.

While other prophecies indicate these Birthright holders were to become a colonizing people, spreading around the world, it is plain that the spreading out must be from this appointed place, which must remain the "home" seat of government for David's throne.

Mark this clearly! Once this "place of their own" was reached, and the throne of David planted there, **THEY WERE TO MOVE NO MORE.** Therefore, *the location of this people TODAY is the place where Jeremiah planted David's throne more than 2500 years ago!*

Therefore prophecies pertaining to *this* day, or to the location of this people just prior to Christ's return, will tell us the location of Jeremiah's planting. The House of Israel is *yet* to return, at Christ's coming, to Palestine—yet to plant grapes in Samaria their original country. Prophecies telling where they shall, in that future day, migrate FROM, will reveal the location of "lost" retributed ISRAEL! The two succeeding "overturns" of the throne, too, must be located in this same place.

Lost ISRAEL Located

Without further suspense, let us see where prophecy locates these Birthright holders, now possessing the throne of David and earth's richest national blessings.

Remember they are distinguished from Judah—the Jews—by various names, "Ephraim," "Joseph," "Jacob," "Rachel," (the mother of Joseph), Samaria, (the former home) "Israel."

According to Hosea 12:1, "Ephraim followeth after the east wind." An "east

wind" travels west. Ephraim must have gone *west* from Assyria.

When the Eternal swore to David to perpetuate his throne, He said: "I will set his hand (sceptre) *in the sea*." (Psalm 89:25.) The throne is to be "set," planted, "in the sea."

Thru Jeremiah the Eternal said: "Backsliding Israel hath justified herself more than treacherous Judah. Go and proclaim these words *toward the NORTH* and say, Return thou backsliding Israel, saith the Lord." (Jer. 3:11-12.) Israel is clearly distinguished from Judah. And in these last days messengers are to go "toward the NORTH" (of Jerusalem) in order to locate lost Israel and proclaim this warning. So the location, we now find, is toward the north, also west, and in the sea.

The 18th verse, same chapter, says: "In those days the house of Judah shall walk with the house of Israel, (margin, *to the House of Israel*), and they shall come together *out of the land of the north* to the land that I have given for an inheritance unto your fathers." At the future Exodus, at Christ's coming, they are to return to Palestine out of the land of the NORTH!

After saying, "How shall I give thee up, Ephraim?" the Eternal, speaking thru Hosea, says: "then the children shall tremble *from the west*." (Hos. 11:8,10.)

Again: "Behold, I will bring them *from the north country*, and gather them *from the coasts of the earth*." (Jer. 31:8.) This prophecy is for consideration in the "latter days" (Jer. 30:24; 31:1), and is addressed to "Israel," (verses 2, 4, 9,) to "Ephraim," (verses 6, 9,) and "Samaria," (verse 5). Here is added another hint—"the coasts of the earth"—evidently they are dominant at sea.

Referring to the House of ISRAEL (not Judah) in Isaiah 49:3,6, God says: "Behold these shall come from far: and lo, these *from the NORTH and from the west*; and these from the land of Sinim." (Isa. 49:12.) In the Hebrew, the language in which this was originally inspired, there is no word for "NORTHWEST," but this term is designated by the phrase, "the north and the west." It means, literally, the NORTHWEST! The Vulgate renders "Sinim" as "Australi," or "Australia." So we now have the location NORTHWEST of JERUSALEM!

Hence, Israel of TODAY—Israel of the day of Jeremiah's "planting" of David's

throne—is located specifically as NORTHWEST of JERUSALEM, and IN THE SEA!

Let us locate this land more specifically!

The same 49th chapter of Isaiah begins with this: "Listen, *O Isles*, unto me." The people addressed, Israel, are called "O Isles" in the first verse and "O Israel" in the third verse.

The 31st chapter of Jeremiah, locating Israel in the "north country," says: "I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my first born . . . Hear the word of the Lord, O ye nations"—(Ephraim, Manasseh)—"and declare it *in the isles* afar off." (Jer. 31:9-10.)

Again: "Keep silence before me, O islands . . . thou, Israel, art my servant Jacob whom I have chosen." (Isa. 41:5,8.)

In Jer. 31:7, the message to be declared "in the isles afar off" (verse 10), is to be shouted in "the CHIEF OF THE NATIONS."

So, finally, today, as in Jeremiah's day, the House of ISRAEL is IN THE ISLES, which are "*in the sea*," the CHIEF of the nations, NORTHWEST of Jerusalem! A coast-dwelling, and therefore sea-dominant people.

Certainly there can be no mistaking that identity!

Take a map of Europe. Lay a line due NORTHWEST of Jerusalem across the continent of Europe, until you come to the sea, and to the islands in the sea!

This line takes you direct to the BRITISH ISLES!

The Serpent's Trail

Of proof that our white, English-speaking peoples today—Britain and America—are actually and truly the Birthright tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh of the "lost" House of Israel, there is so much we shall have space for but a small portion in this article.

A most interesting fact is the Hebrew origin of the names of the British people.

Britain's Hebrew Names

The House of Israel is the Covenant People. The Hebrew word for "covenant" is "beriyth," or "berith." After Gideon's death, Israel followed the false pagan god Baal. In Judges 8:33, and 9:4, the word "covenant" is used as a proper name coupled with the name "Baal." This is quoted in the English text, Authorized Version, without being translated, as "Baalberith," meaning (margin) "idol of the covenant."

The Hebrew for "man" is "iysh," or "ish." In the original Hebrew language vowels were never given in the spelling. So, omitting the vowel "e" from "berith," but retaining the "i" in its Anglicised form to preserve the "y" sound, (Please continue on page 15)

NOTICE!

For lack of space we were not able to include the ninth installment of Dr. Meredith's amazing series on the *Origin of Today's Religious Customs*.

CATASTROPHIC EVENTS

(Continued from page 8)

four seals of Revelation 6. Here is the REVELATION of Jesus Christ. Here is JESUS' OWN interpretation, in PLAIN language of these mystic symbols of the four horsemen.

The Amazing Comparison

The *first* was a white horse. Many MEN, using HUMAN interpretation, have looked over into the 19th chapter of Revelation, where we find the description of the glorious return of Christ pictured as coming on a WHITE HORSE, and have made the great error of deciding that this first seal, then, since it is a white horse, pictures the second coming of Christ. But CHRIST'S OWN revealing of the meaning is that this WHITE horse of the first seal pictures exactly the opposite—those preaching a FALSE Christ, *different* from the Christ of the New Testament! It refers to this GREAT DECEPTION that has descended like a dark cloud to cover the earth and HIDE from it the glorious TRUTH of God!

ALL WAR is the result of VIOLATING the supreme spiritual law of God, which Jesus lived and taught! And the FALSE teaching, doing away with the LAW of God, and the GOVERNMENT of God, and endorsing the ways of MEN, led inevitably to WARS, which have grown progressively more frightening and colossal in scale, until it is now questionable whether the world can survive ANOTHER war, unless God Almighty STEPS IN SUPERNATURALLY TO INTERVENE!

And so the *second* seal pictures a RED horse—the color of BLOOD—and this horseman, as Jesus Himself reveals, is WAR. "And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto Him a great sword" (Rev. 6:4).

And in like manner the *third* horse is the FAMINE: "And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine (Rev. 6:5-6).

And, fourth, following in the wake of famine, DISEASE EPIDEMICS: "And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell (the grave) followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with the sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth" (Rev. 6:8).

And so THERE is CHRIST'S OWN explanation of the four horsemen! But this brings us to the fearful PRESENT, and is only the very beginning of the prophecy. WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT?

(To be continued)

Did God Create a DEVIL?

(Continued from page 10)

call creation week. Yes, their sin was before that antediluvian world.

Angels Possess the Earth!

Now quickly turn over to Jude. In the sixth verse, you read this: "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation (then they had a place where they lived, a habitation, an estate, and they left it), God hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day." There again, it's the *sinning angels* reserved in those chains under darkness, restrained from light, restrained from truth until the judgment of the great day.

How plain! They had an estate which they didn't keep. In Hebrews, the second chapter, the fifth verse, we read this: "For unto the angels hath God not put in subjection the world to come of which we speak." In other words, The

World Tomorrow, the Kingdom of God, will not be under subjection to angels. *The present one is under subjection of fallen angels.* These demons, and the devil who is their head, rule this present earth and sway its inhabitants. The Bible everywhere indicates and affirms that very fact. The present world is subject to demons and the devil.

How did they obtain their dominion? How did they acquire their power? How did they maintain their control? Where did the devil get the power to control and to lead and to rule this world? The devil is the leader of fallen angels, as you will find in a number of places, John 12:31, John 14:30, John 16:11.

In II Cor. 4:4 the devil is called the god of this world. He is the king or the prince of the evil world that we live in today. Let's go back and see something about the origin of the devil.

Turn now to Isaiah 14, beginning with

verse 4, "Thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, 'How hath the oppressor ceased, the golden city ceased?'"

Here is a king of Babylon.

This account continues to tell how he had disrupted the earth. He was an invader, a conqueror. He was a war-monger, trying to take away from others and trying to acquire all he could. He had just the opposite philosophy from that of God. In other words, he had the philosophy of the devil.

He represented the devil. The king of Babylon was the devil's instrument and tool. He ruled the earth. He was a type of the devil, the tool of the devil.

Rebellion of Lucifer

Now we find in verse 12 that this lesser human type *lifts to the great anti-type*—the devil—whom he represented and whose tool and instrument he was. Things are said about the great former archangel, the devil, *that could not be said about a human being.* God says, "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer." Lucifer is a Hebrew word, and it means *shining one*, or *shining star of the dawn*. God names things or people, or beings what they are. Lucifer was originally a shining "star." Stars represent angels (Rev. 1:20). He was a great archangel whose duties were represented by the bright morning star. He was a *light bringer*. In other words one who had great knowledge and truth and light, and who was to give it to those who were placed under him. He was placed in a certain rule and authority over others. As an archangel, he was over angels.

Continuing in Isaiah 14: "How art thou cut down to the ground which didst weaken the nations? For thou hast said in thine heart, 'I will ascend into heaven.'" Then he must have been **BELOW heaven**. He must have been **ON THE EARTH**.

He said, "I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars (that is, the angels) of God." I want you to notice *he had a throne*, but he wasn't willing to be content with his jurisdiction. He became an invader, a conqueror. He formed armies to invade. He was going to invade God's high heaven. He was going clear up to the sides of the north, the very throne of God in the heavens. He was out to rule the universe.

He wasn't satisfied with being *under* the heaven. He *was* under the heaven, for he said, "*I will ascend into heaven.*"

He had a throne; his throne was under the heaven. Therefore, it was on this earth. Now I want you to notice what else Lucifer said: "*I will ascend above the heights of the CLOUDS.* I will be like the most High."

"I'm going to be god myself," he said.

"I'm not going to be content with ruling just this earth where God has placed me over angels. I want to ascend up there and rule over everything, over all of the universe, over all of the other stars and planets. I'm going to be god."

Lucifer Becomes the Devil

So Lucifer became the devil. God changed his name when his character changed. He tried to make himself God. But we find HE WAS CAST DOWN TO THIS EARTH.

Now, quickly turn over to Ezekiel 28, and we will finish this story. Here, beginning with the first verse, is something very similar. "Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus." Now the prince of Tyre, or Tyrus, was a very evil man. He too was an instrument of the devil. The devil was in him, and the devil used him. But he was a ruler over a city. "And, say unto the prince of Tyre, Thus saith the Eternal God, because thine heart was lifted up, and thou sayest I am a God, and I sit in the seat of God and in the midst of the seas, yet thou art a man." *He was only a human being.* "Behold, thou art wiser than Daniel. There is no secret they can hide from thee. But with thy wisdom, and with thine understanding, thou hast gotten thee riches, thou hast gotten gold." When he acquired those things, it lifted up his heart. He became an aggressor, an invader, a conqueror.

He was a tool of the devil. Now, as we come to the twelfth verse, just as in Isaiah 14, the lesser type *lifts up to the great antitype*. We find the devil himself pictured! Now we find one that is *not* human at all. For a few verses, it is talking about the devil himself, and not about a human being.

Beginning at verse 12: "Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus." Here is the REAL king that ruled in and through the prince of Tyrus. "And say unto him, Thus saith the Lord God. Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty." Here was one who sealed up the sum total of perfection, of wisdom, and beauty.

Could that be said about a man? Does God speak like that of any mortal man? Never! He is speaking of some being far greater than man. Notice, "*Thou hast been in Eden, the garden of God.*" On the earth!

Then he said, "The workmanship of thy tabrets and thy pipes was prepared in thee *in the day that thou wast CREATED.*" This was not a human being who was born. This was not Adam. Adam was the *only man* CREATED.

Yet here is also one that was a *created* being.

The prophet continues to say, "*Thou art the anointed CHERUB that covereth.*" If you will refer to Exodus 25 verses

THE BIBLE ANSWERS

Short Questions

FROM OUR READERS

Should a Christian and a non-Christian establish a business partnership?

In II Cor. 6:14-15 we read, "*Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers:* for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?"

This scripture is generally taken to mean that a Christian and a non-Christian should not marry. But this same principle that applies to marriage would also apply to any close relationship or partnership that one might enter.

A Christian should never include non-Christians as his bosom friends, even though he should love all men. This does *not* mean that a Christian cannot have any dealings with one who isn't a Christian, "for then must ye needs go out of the world" (I Cor. 5:10).

Christ said, "Go ye *into* all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). Christians are supposed to be "the light of the world"—"the salt of the earth" (Mat. 5:13, 14). But at the same time we are to come out of this Babylonish civilization referred to as "this present evil world" (Gal. 1:4)—established by man under the sway of the Devil. "Wherefore come out from among them, (the people of the world) and be ye separate, saith the Lord" (II Cor. 6:17; Rev. 18:4).

The teaching of the Bible, when all

16-22, you will find the type of the throne of God described. Included in the earthly type—the tabernacle in the days of Moses—was the mercy seat which was a picture of the very throne of God. On it two cherubim were placed. They were made of metals, of course, but their wings stretched out and covered the very throne of God. They symbolized the two great archangels or cherubs whose wings stretch out and cover the very throne of God.

Through Ezekiel, God says: "Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth." In other words, one of the two great *archangels* ruling over millions of other angels!

He was a created being. He sealed up the sum total of perfection, of wisdom, and of beauty. Then in verse 14, we read this: "I have set thee so," God said. God had set him as an archangel, as one

of the scriptures are put together, is that we are to go into the world, but that we are not to become a part of the world and its Babylonish societies, customs and traditions. God's plagues will fall on those who will not renounce this present evil world (Rev. 18:4).

Any Christian who yokes himself unequally with an unbeliever—whether in marriage or in a business partnership—is certainly treading on dangerous ground.

There are some "unequally yoked" marriages, and Christian and non-Christian partnerships that have succeeded. But how much more successful would they have been had they been yoked together with those of like faith!

Practically every person with whom you come in contact influences you to some degree. It is important, therefore, that you wisely choose your associates. Remember, "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump" (I Cor. 5:6).

It, however, you are already unequally yoked with an unbeliever in a harmonious partnership which does not interfere with your Christian life or growth, you may continue until God makes it possible to do otherwise. Whenever such a relationship develops to the place where you are not able to *obey* God and *grow* in grace and knowledge as you *must*, then, you should "obey God rather than men" and be prepared to *immediately sever* your association in such a partnership!

who was perfect. "Thou wast upon the holy mountain of God,"—Palestine or Eden! "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day *thou wast created.*" No human being was ever perfect. But here was a being that was *created perfect UNTIL INIQUITY WAS FOUND IN HIM.* That iniquity was described in Isaiah 14. He said, "I'm not satisfied with what I have. I'm going to become an invader, a conqueror, an adversary, a rival, a competitor; I'm going to invade God's throne; I'm going to do away with God; I'm going to take his place and be the God of the universe." That was his *sin*—INSUBORDINATION.

How the Earth Became Chaotic

He was given a place of rule over this earth. A third of the angels united with him in the rebellion. *That is what caused the chaos of this earth.* The sin

of angels wrecked much of the heavens and brought chaos on earth. What the astronomers see is not an evolving universe, but the fragments of a titanic battle scattered throughout space—a battle fought before man's creation.

The distorted strata of this earth's surface are also a mute witness to a once-wrecked earth. The earth did not evolve. It was created perfect and complete. Then it BECAME chaotic as a result of rebellion. And in six days, God *re-made* the earth, *re-shaped*, *re-fashioned* it, and created human beings upon it.

He gave Adam a chance to take the place of Satan the devil. Remember, Lucifer had been placed *in rulership*. The whole plan is a matter of *government*.

God Almighty, by virtue of being Creator, is the Ruler of all. He is the Creator. He is the Sustainer of the universe and of the laws that He set in motion. And so, God has a system of government. He placed the great archangel, Lucifer, to carry out His government on the earth; but Lucifer refused to carry out God's will, God's commands, God's government. He wanted to substitute his own.

God's way is the way of love, and of giving. That is the substance of all of God's commands. The devil chose the way of lust and of greed and of vanity to make himself God, to acquire, to take, to invade, to be a conqueror. So *he disqualified himself*.

Adam had the chance to supplant him. In the contest to see if Adam would conquer, if he would obey God, he failed. He obeyed the devil instead, and man *became the property of the devil*, and the whole human race was sold down the river to the devil ever since.

Jesus Christ came 4000 years later and He entered the great contest—the contest of the temptation on the Mount. He *REFUSED to obey the devil*. He quoted scripture correctly. *He obeyed God*.

Finally, He turned to the devil, and *He gave Satan a command*. He said, "Get away from me," and the devil obeyed!

From that time on, the successor of Satan has been qualified to take over the rule of the earth. But Jesus went to heaven for 1900 years. He is soon coming again, and when He does, *the devil will be DISPLACED*. Christ will rule the earth; God's laws will be restored. Order and peace will come at last!

So God did NOT create a devil. He created an archangel, Lucifer—perfect in his ways, but with the power of free choice—and Lucifer transformed himself into a devil by rebellion against the government of God!

Today, YOU face the question: Will YOU obey the ways of Satan, or the LAWS of GOD?

Prophesied to Happen to UNITED STATES

(Continued from page 12)

we have the Anglicised Hebrew word for covenant, "Brith."

The Hebrews, however, never pronounced their "h's." A Jew, even today, in pronouncing the name "Shem," will call it "Sem." Incidentally this ancient Hebrew trait is also a modern British trait. So the Hebrew word for "covenant" would be pronounced, in its Anglicised form, as "Brit."

And the word for "Covenant man," or "covenant people," would, therefore, be simply, "BRIT-ISH." And so the true covenant people today are called the "BRITISH." And they reside in the "BRITISH ISLES!"

The House of Israel not only was to lose its identity, but its name. It was to be called by a new name, since they no longer were to know their identity as Israel, as God said plainly in Isa. 62:2, referring to these latter days.

To Abraham, God said, "In ISAAC shall thy seed be called," and this name is repeated in Rom. 9:7 and Hebrews 11:18. In Amos 7:16 they are called "The House of ISAAC."

They were descended from Isaac, and therefore are Isaac's sons. Drop the "I" from "Isaac" (vowels are not used in Hebrew spelling) and we have the modern name, "ISAAC'S SONS," or, as we spell it in shorter manner, "SAXONS!"

Dr. W. Holt Yates, Yale University, says, "The word 'Saxons' is derived from 'sons of Isaac,' by dropping the . . . 'I.'"

Dan a Serpent's Trail

As the Eternal intended that "lost" Israel was to be located and found in these last days, we should expect some kind of signs or waymarks to have been left along the trail by which ancient Israel journeyed from Assyria, the land of their original captivity.

Speaking to Ephraim (verse 20), the Eternal says in Jer. 31:21, "Set thee up waymarks, make thee high heaps; set thine heart toward the highway, even the way which thou wentest." In Scripture we find the "waymarks," or highway signs which they set up along the road they traveled.

In Gen. 49:17, Jacob, foretelling what should befall each of the tribes, says, "Dan shall be a serpent by the way." Another and better translation of the original Hebrew is: "Dan shall be a serpent's trail." It is a significant fact that the tribe of Dan, one of the Ten Tribes, named every place they went after their father, Dan.

The tribe of Dan originally occupied a strip of coast country on the Mediterranean, west of Jerusalem. "And the coast of the children of Dan," we read in Joshua 19:47, "went out too little for them: therefore the children of Dan went up to fight against Leshem, and took it, . . . and called Leshem DAN, after the name of Dan their father."

In Judges 18:11-12, it is recorded that Danites took Kirjath-jearim, "and called that place Mahaneh-*dan* unto this day."

A little later the same company of 600 armed Danites came to Laish, captured it, and "they called the name of the city DAN, after the name of Dan, their father" (verse 29).

So notice how these Danites left their "serpent's trail" by the way—set up waymarks by which they may be traced to-day.

Remember, in the Hebrew, vowels were not written. The sound of the vowels had to be supplied in speaking. Thus, the word "Dan" in its English equivalent, would be spelled, simply, "Dn." It might be pronounced as "Dan," or "Den," or "Din," or "Don," or "Dun"—and still it is the same original Hebrew name.

The tribe of Dan occupied two different districts, or provinces, in the Holy Land before the Assyrian captivity. One colony lived on the sea-coast of Palestine. They were principally seamen. It is recorded "Dan abode in ships." (Judg. 5:17.)

When Assyria captured Israel, these Danites struck out in their ships and sailed west through the Mediterranean, and north to Ireland. Just before his death, Moses prophesied of Dan: "Dan is a lion's whelp; he shall leap from Bashan" Deut. 33:22). And David declared of Dan, "He breaketh (driveth) the ships of Tarshish with an east wind." An east wind travels west. Along the shores of the Mediterranean they left their trail in "Den," "Don," and "Din." In the peninsula of Spain their "waymark" name "Me-*din*-a Si-*don*-ia" remains to this day.

Irish annals and history show that the new settlers of Ireland, at just this time, were the "Tuatha de Danaans," which means, translated, "Tribe of Dan." And in Ireland we find they left these "waymarks:" "D~~ans~~-Laugh," "D~~an~~-Sower," "D~~un~~-dalke," "D~~un~~-drum," "D~~on~~-egal Bay," "D~~on~~-egal City," "D~~un~~-glow," "Lon-~~don~~-derry," "D~~in~~-gle," "D~~uns~~-

more" (meaning "more Dans"). Moreover, the name "Dunn" in the Irish language means the same as "Dan" in the Hebrew: "Judge."

The Overland Route

But the northern colony of Danites were taken to Assyria in the captivity, and thence with the rest of the Ten Tribes they traveled from Assyria by the overland route.

After leaving Assyrian captivity, they inhabited for some time the land just west of the Black Sea. This we know from the fact this land is bounded on the south by Mace-don-ia and the Dar-dan-elles, and on the north by the river Dan-ube. Then we find the rivers "Dnieper, Dniester, and the Don."

Then, in either ancient or later geography, we find these waymarks: Dan-au, the Dan-inn, the Dan-aster, the Dandari, the Dan-ez, and Don, the Dan, and the U-don; the Eri-don, down to the Danes, and the Scan-din-avians. "Den-mark" means "Dan's Mark."

When they came to the British Isles, they set up the "waymark" names of Dun-dee, Dun-kirk, Dun-bar, Dun-raven, in Scotland, and E-din-burgh is its capital. The British capital is London, and the Dans, Dons, and Duns are as prolific as in Ireland. And so the "serpent's trail" of Dan sets up waymarks that lead directly to the British Isles!

Ancient Annals of Ireland

Now briefly let us consider what is found in the ancient annals, legends, and history of Ireland, and we shall have the scene of Jeremiah's "planting," and the present location of "lost" Israel.

The real ancient history of Ireland is rather vague, now colored with some legend. But with the facts of Biblical history and prophecy in mind, one can easily sift out the legend from the true history in studying ancient Irish annals.

Throwing out that which is obviously legendary, we glean from various histories of Ireland the following:

About, and prior to 700 B.C., a strong colony called "Tuatha de Danaan" (tribe of Dan) arrived in ships, drove out other tribes, and settled there.

Later, about 580 B.C. (date of Jeremiah's transplanting), an elderly white-haired patriarch, sometimes referred to as a "saint," came to the most northern province of Ireland, Ulster. With him was the princess daughter of an eastern king and a companion called "Simon Brach," spelled in different histories as "Breck," "Berech," "Brach," or "Berach." The princess had a Hebrew name "Tephi"—a pet-name, her full name being "Tea-Tephi."

This royal party brought with them some remarkable things, including the harp, an ark, and a wonderful stone called "lia-fail," or "stone of destiny." A peculiar coincidence (?) is that Hebrew reads from right to left, while English reads from left to right. Read this name either way—and it still is "lia-fail."

Another strange coincidence—or is it just coincidence?—is that many kings in the history of Ireland, Scotland, and England has been coronated sitting over this stone—including the present queen. The stone rests, today, in Westminster Abbey in London, and the Coronation Chair is built over and around it. A sign beside it labels it "Jacob's pillar-stone." (Gen. 28:18.)

The Hebrew princess was married to a young prince named Herremon, after which he became King Herremon, of ancient Ireland. The son of this king and Hebrew princess continued on the throne of Ireland, and *this same dynasty continued, unbroken*; through all the kings of Ireland; was *overturned* and transplanted again in Scotland; again *overturned* and moved to London, England,

where *this same dynasty continues today* in the reign of Queen Elizabeth II.

The crown worn by King Herremon and the sovereigns of ancient Ireland had TWELVE POINTS!

Queen Elizabeth on David's Throne

In view of the linking together of Biblical history, prophecy, and Irish history, can anyone deny that this Hebrew princess was the daughter of King Zedekiah of Judah, and therefore heir to the throne of David?—That the aged patriarch was in fact Jeremiah, and his companion Jeremiah's scribe, or secretary, Baruch?—And that King Herremon was a descendant of Zara, here married to the daughter of Pharez, healing the ancient breach?—That when the throne of David was first overturned by Jeremiah, it was re-PLANTED in Ireland, later overturned a second time and replanted in Scotland, overturned a third time and planted in London?

When Christ returns to earth to sit on that throne, He shall take over a LIVE, existing throne, not a non-existent one (Luke 1:32).

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The PLAIN TRUTH

Printed in the U.S.A.

Box 111—Pasadena, California

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