

The PLAIN TRUTH

A magazine of understanding

VOL. XX, NUMBER 8

OCTOBER, 1955

HYDROGEN BOMB in Prophecy!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

THE TIME has come to disclose the real *hidden* facts about the hydrogen bomb—the facts no government authority can reveal to you—*because they do not KNOW!* The UNKNOWN quantity about the terrifying hydrogen bomb is WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN!

After all, THAT'S what we all want to know! Will it be used? Where? By whom? And WHEN?

Who Knows the Answer?

There is only ONE who knows the answers! The Creator—He who MADE the earth, the heavens—all that is—and who now, actively, GUIDES and CONTROLS the destiny of nations and of the whole world—the God this world has ignored and forgotten—He ALONE knows these vital answers to the future—And God Almighty has REVEALED the answers in the prophecies of HIS WORD, the Holy Bible.

In the face of the recent fantastic disclosures of the unbelievable destructive POWER of the hydrogen bomb, heads of government are making every effort to calm public fears and quiet jitter—to prevent any mass hysteria. So first, let me tell you on AUTHORITY of the SUPREME Ruler, God Almighty, that OUT of all this world-chaos, this babylon of confusion, fright and fear that grips the world—this upset topsy-turvy CONDITION of the world today, shall emerge

a NEW—a PEACEFUL, a HAPPY, and a prosperous NEW World TOMORROW!

God Almighty is about to step in and INTERVENE in the misguided affairs of mankind, and bring us a NEW world of PEACE! And in the meantime, GOD ALMIGHTY offers *you*—yes, I mean YOU, reading this article this instant—complete PROTECTION AND SECURITY—*divine* protection—from whatever terrifying destructions may be brought by misguided and God-defying HUMAN leaders! I say to you—and in GOD MOST HIGH lies your ONLY sure and safe PROTECTION in this perilous time. The time has come for you to put aside every other consideration, and SEEK THE ETERNAL YOUR GOD, in the way HE TELLS YOU to seek Him—to put Him *first* in your life, and not second, or last, as most of you have been doing.

Let's not deceive ourselves. Let's not beat around the bush! This world now faces such fantastic forces of destruction that, UNLESS God Almighty was very soon going to intervene and save us from ourselves, this world would DESTROY ITSELF UTTERLY!

Men try to calm their fears and bolster up courage by reasoning that the hydrogen bomb is so frightening that it will act as a deterrent—unless, they add, some human leader in the seat of power in a fit of madness, or thru miscalculation, sets out to conquer the world with this terrible weapon. But, as Presi-

dent Eisenhower warned, INSANITY STILL EXISTS! I warn you, also, that SAFETY lies in ALMIGHTY GOD, and not in wishful psychology!

The question, NOW, is: WILL the super-hydrogen bomb be used?—and if so, WHEN, by whom, against whom?

Did you know the ANSWERS are in the Bible?

GOD Controls World Affairs

It's about time we pause to realize that God Almighty is working out a PURPOSE here below! God Almighty CONTROLS and RULES NOT ONLY THIS EARTH BUT THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE. It served God's PURPOSE to make us free moral agents—to endow us, as He did for NO OTHER species of life we can see or know, with SOME of the very POWERS OF GOD! He endowed us with MINDS. He made us with power to KNOW and to LEARN, to THINK and to PLAN, and to EXECUTE and BUILD that which we have thought out and designed. In other words, we have been endowed with some of the creative power.

But ONLY SOME OF IT! God *limited* the human mind. He set a LIMIT on human powers—yes, THANK GOD He did THAT. And the MOST HIGH, in His governing power as SUPREME RULER, Himself decreed that mankind should be allowed certain free latitude, to use these God-endowed powers according to man's own ideas, desires, and initiative.

In other words, for a 6,000-year period God Almighty has chosen to **KEEP HANDS OFF** human activities—**MOSTLY**. But *not altogether!*

Even tho man has not been **CONSCIOUS** of God's over-all **SUPREME** authority and rule—even tho mankind has not **SEEN** it, or realized it, yet **GOD ALMIGHTY** has always determined the destiny of nations—the rise and fall of Empires—the **OUTCOME**, even, of **WARS!**

Now, **IS THE SUPER-HYDROGEN BOMB GOING TO BE USED?** It's about time we wake up to the fact that **GOD ALMIGHTY** is directing this universe—that He intervenes when it serves **HIS PURPOSE** that He is working out thru human experience—that The **ETERNAL** sees what's going on, and knows a lot more about this hydrogen bomb than any human scientist or official—and **HE** shall determine whether to *permit* some mad man in a seat of human authority to use it, or whether **HE** shall restrain and prevent such use. **HE—God Almighty—is going to determine the outcome!** Before I reveal to you **WHETHER** this imagination-defying destruction is to be unleashed against any city—or **WHAT** cities—and **WHO** or **WHAT POWER** will perpetrate this colossal crime of the ages, it's necessary, first, that you realize **GOD'S power—GOD'S concern and interest in this world chaos of the moment.**

The Warning of Prophecy

Now get your Bible. I want you to **SEE** these staggering facts that concern this hydrogen bomb with your own eyes. Turn first to the 40th chapter of Isaiah in the Moffatt translation. "Why, the nations are a mere drop in the bucket, no more to him than dust upon a balance! He lifts lands like a straw! . . . Before him all the nations are as nothing; to him they are but empty and inane. Then whom can you compare with God? What can you put beside him? . . . Can you not understand, cannot you see? Were you not told this from the first, have you not grasped this, since the world began?—that He sits over the round earth, so high that its inhabitants look like grasshoppers; he spreads the skies out like a curtain and stretches them like a tent; he brings nobles down to nothing, he ruins rulers of the world—scarcely planted, scarcely sown, scarcely rooted in the earth, when at a puff from him they wither, the storm sweeps them off like straws. 'To whom will you compare me, then, and equal me?' asks the Majestic One." (Isa. 40:15, 17-18, 21-25.)

Yes, **GOD'S power is UNLIMITED.** Even the terrible power of the hydrogen bomb is infinitesimal beside the power of God.

And now **ONE THING** I want first of all to **MAKE PLAIN!** God *is* going to *permit* the misguided hand of man to **bring MORE EVIL** upon this topsy-turvy

upside-down world! But that evil will fall **ONLY UPON THOSE WHO DEFY GOD**—or **THOSE WHO IGNORE God's protection!** Yes, **EVIL** men shall be punished! But, *if you trust God*, surrender your life to Him, the Almighty promises you *protection*: "Happy the man who stays by the Most High in shelter, who lives under the shadow of Almighty God . . . You need not fear the terrors of the night, nor arrows flying in the day; you need not fear plague stalking in the dark, nor sudden death at noon; hundreds may fall beside you, thousands at your right hand, but the plague will never reach you, safe shielded by his faithfulness. You have only to look on and see how evil men are punished; but you have sheltered beside the Eternal, and made the Most High God your home." (Psalm 91:1, 5-6, Moffatt trans.)

And now I am going to bring you the sure and certain **ANSWER** as to whether, by whom, and against whom, the hydrogen bomb will be used. God Almighty is able to give us the **FACTS**, before the events happen, for the simple reason that **HE CONTROLS** what is to happen—**God is working out His PURPOSE** here below!

I want you to realize **JUST HOW FAR** God controls world conditions. The **NATIONS** of the world may get together and make **PLANS** for controlling world conditions—but **THERE IS A HIGHER POWER WHO RULES SUPREME, WHOM THE NATIONS HAVE FORGOTTEN!**

Here's what **GOD HIMSELF SAYS**: "The Eternal wrecks the purposes of pagans, he brings to nothing what the nations plan; but the Eternal's purpose stands for ever, and what he plans will last from age to age . . . from where he sits, he scans all who inhabit the world; he who alone made their minds, he notes all they do. Armies do not bring victory to a king, the warrior is not rescued by sheer strength; cavalry are in vain for victory, there is no winning by the strength of that!" (Psalm 33:10-11, 14-17, Moffatt translation.)

In ways that few seemed to recognize, **GOD ALMIGHTY** determined the outcome of World War II, by a series of *three* miraculous—or absolutely providential—events, which turned the tide of battle entirely!

Now What's GOING to Happen?

In this 6,000 year period the **MOST HIGH** has allotted for mankind to write the supreme lesson of eternity in **HUMAN EXPERIENCE**, we are now already actually **INTO** the **CRISIS** at the **CLOSE** of this allotted span—of **THIS PRESENT WORLD!**

For 6,000 years God Almighty has kept hands off from **DIRECT RULING** over mankind—permitting human-kind to voluntarily accept the beneficent

RULE and **GOVERNMENT** of God, or to reject it and set up his **OWN** rule according to **HUMAN** reasoning, vanity, greed, and corruption. For 6,000 years mankind has **REJECTED** the government of **GOD**, **REBELLED** against the ways and laws of God, and corrupted itself.

And now, in a world **DESTROYING** itself in world revolution, God Almighty looks down and says this: "A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth; for the **LORD** hath a controversy with the nations, he will plead with all flesh; he will give them that are wicked to the sword, saith the Lord. Thus saith the Lord of hosts, Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth. And the slain of the Lord shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground" (Jer. 25:31-33).

That could never happen until this atomic age when God will intervene in world affairs!

In this present evil day—this **LAST**, or **REMNANT**, generation of this present evil world—God says of the descendants of His birthright nations—**THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL**: "And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep: who, if he go through, both treadeth down, and teareth in pieces, and none can deliver. Thine hand shall be lifted up upon thine adversaries, and all thine enemies shall be cut off. And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord, that I will cut off thy horses out of the midst of thee, and I will destroy thy chariots: *And I will cut off the cities of thy land*, and throw down all thy strongholds" (Micah 5:8-11).

I wonder if you realize that the 12 tribes of ancient Israel were divided into **TWO** nations, after the death of King Solomon! One of those nations, with the **TEN** tribes, retained the national name Kingdom of **ISRAEL**. That nation had the **BIRTHRIGHT** promise that they were ultimately to become the most **POWERFUL** single nation on earth, and also another great **COMMONWEALTH** of nations. That nation was not Jewish—was **NEVER** given the name, "Jew."

But the **TWO** tribes of Judah and Benjamin, with considerable of Levi, split off into a **SEPARATE** nation, and they were named the **KINGDOM OF JUDAH**. The name "Jews" is merely a nickname for the national name of **THAT** nation, **JUDAH**. Now the Jews became scattered. Today the Jewish people are scattered all over the world in most **ALL** nations. This prophecy of Micah does *not* refer to the Jewish people, but to

(Please continue on page 8)

Worst WEATHER Ever!

For years we have been warning this nation—and the world—of the devastating weather changes which are occurring before YOUR VERY EYES! Science has no real solution—no guaranteed way—to protect your home from flood, drought or famine. Read, in this article, what is destined to result from these weather changes!

by Herman L. Hoeh

FOR THE first time, weather reporters and scientists are beginning to admit that today's changes in the weather are possibly "the worst ever!"

In the northeastern part of the United States people roasted from the heat—then suddenly drowned from torrential rains that poured from a storm that *appeared to be over!* Almost everywhere records were set, "causing the WORST FLOODS in the nation's history."

In the Pacific Northwest the summer has been COLD—causing extensive damage to summer crops which need WARM weather.

In Southern California the worst heat wave ever recorded struck without mercy, directly killing over 100 people and causing over \$30,000,000 damage. Poultrymen reported 25% losses among chicken flocks. Rabbit raisers sustained losses amounting to 50% of their stock. Vegetable farmers sustained heavy losses. Most crops recently planted were totally destroyed.

Worse than that is the damage that will show its effects NEXT YEAR in the orange, avocado, lemon and strawberry crops. New growth, needed for next year's production, was severely burned.

Only in the drought-stricken areas of Texas and a few other states is the picture a little brighter. *Maybe, for the first time, many began to implore the God who makes and controls the weather, to have pity on them!*

Don't Be Fooled

Despite the admissions of weather reporters and scientists, most news articles on weather are soft-peddling the TRUTH. There is a definite campaign on which aims at discrediting the real significance behind the weather changes.

Many are frankly frightened, but too scared to admit it. They don't want to face realities! They are afraid to tell you that THE WORST IS YET TO COME!

All of these freaks in the weather are merely forerunners—advance warnings of a horrifying period of drought such

as has NEVER OCCURRED SINCE RECORDED HISTORY. This is a bold statement—but it is true—and it is time we faced realities and quit fooling ourselves.

It's time we wake up! It's time we learn WHY weather changes are occurring—and what we can do about it!

Fulfillment of Prophecy

These weather changes are only the *fulfillment of prophecy*, believe it or not! In his Mt. Olivet prophecy, Jesus warned of this revolution in nature. Study Luke 21:11 and 25 with Revelation 6:5-8.

Here it is plainly revealed that *after the false teachers* in post-apostolic days, *came the wars* that destroyed the Roman Empire. This was followed by *centuries of drought and famine and flood*, climaxing 600 years ago in Europe. From 1300 to 1400 A.D. Europe suffered such climatic storms as have never been equalled until the present.

Notice, again, the prophetic warning in Luke 21. As a result of *present-day drought*, HORRIFYING FAMINES will rage. Gigantic tropical storms at sea will sweep onto the land with devastating force, obliterating entire communities, causing untold hundreds, and even thousands, to perish from *heart failure*—from *stark fear* of what's coming! These events are beginning to happen NOW!

Observe that the *climax* of this *prophesied* revolution in the weather ends *not* in the Middle Ages, but with this PRESENT AGE WHEN GOD IS ABOUT TO INTERVENE IN WORLD AFFAIRS BY SENDING JESUS CHRIST "WITH POWER" TO RULE THE NATIONS AND TO BRING PEACE AT LAST. "Then shall they see the Son of Man coming in a cloud, with POWER and great glory" (Luke 21:27).

History always repeats itself. THOSE PAST EVENTS WERE ONLY THE FORE-RUNNERS OF MORE DEVASTATING WEATHER CHANGES *now beginning to take place*. Duality is found in almost every prophecy. The former fulfillment is only a TYPE of the cataclysmic age-end destructive forces set in motion by

man and nature. Specialists who study weather understand this principle. Said Dr. James E. McDonald, of Iowa State College: "It has at some time in the past been as bad, or worse—and will be as bad, or worse, again."

Today's REVOLUTION in WEATHER

Forests are a major factor in altering the weather. They provide natural watersheds, prevent floods, modify the extremes of climate and temperature, increase humidity, decrease evaporation, and hold and conserve soil moisture. In America over ⅔ of the original forest area is gone!—destroyed by man! *In a lust for quick wealth*, much of this area has been unwisely turned into farm land.

Forests reflect the heat. Farmed lands absorb heat. This absorption of heat raises the temperature of the countryside. Little wonder that hot winds are destroying our forests at a record rate. And the trees that are not droughted out are *burned* in constantly increasing forest fires—many set deliberately by man!

Without forests, rain waters become floods. They are no longer absorbed into the soil. The water level naturally drops. Many farming communities find that deep wells must be bored deeper! The nation today is not only preventing waters from being stored in the soil, *but we are borrowing the water of future generations by removing what little remains in the soil!*

Why don't we wake up to the calamity we are bringing on ourselves!

Deserts are fast expanding—in the U.S.A., Africa and Asia. Severe droughts are occurring in highlands near the equator—all because the climate is becoming hotter. In Africa, wild animals are deserting the forests to attack villages in a desperate search for water and food. The great Sahara is moving south, lakes are drying up—and this occurs at the same time we are having our worst floods in 600 years!

Even wildlife is on the march!

The REVOLUTION in weather is witnessing the mass migration of trees, grains, vegetables, bugs, fish, birds and animals to the temperate zones. England's supply of fish is greatly diminished by migration to warming northern waters. The hardwood trees of the northern U.S.A. and southern Canada are becoming *sick* because they can't stand the rise in temperature. Insects and diseases are increasing in areas where the established plant life can't accommodate itself to a warmer climate.

What's Ahead in the Next Few Years?

The Assistant Chief of the United States Weather Bureau forecast that the dry cycle will continue, with intermittent wet years. In his article in the leading farm magazine, he indicated that 1956 might become wetter, but that the following two years would be even more severe than at present.

But it is *the coming dry cycle in the early 1970's that FRIGHTENS him*—and it ought to frighten us all! By that time rural, city and industrial demands will have depleted our remaining underground water resources. With that final drought coming unexpectedly—as most droughts do—we *will have no reserve!* So terrible will it become that *one third of the entire population WILL DIE OF FAMINE AND DISEASE.* So said the prophets (Joel 1:10; Ezekiel 5:12).

You say it can't happen here? **BUT IT WILL!**

History and prophecy *prove it!*

Human civilization has always brought disaster to the land and death to its inhabitants. There is no exception! Do we think that we will escape any more than other people?

Have we forgotten that the forefathers of our English-speaking peoples—the "lost" ten-tribed House of Israel—brought ruin upon the land of Palestine?

In Abraham's day Palestine was well watered, like the garden of Eden. But by the time that God cast our forefathers out of the land, Palestine had become desolate.

Notice what happened to Babylon. Ancient Babylonia was watered by the Tigris River. The inhabitants denuded the mountains of forests; the river beds were filled with silt; fields were flooded, sweeping away irrigation works. The remainder were destroyed by invading armies. A decaying, pleasure loving nation looked to the government for help—just as we are doing today! *But what the people could not do for themselves, the government could NOT do!*

Have we forgotten that vast portions of the Sahara were once forested and inhabited? Look at it today! Persia, Syria, Israel were all civilizations based upon *irrigation*. And it was the exploita-

tion of this system that made the land a desert.

America Going the Way of Rome

In 1952, while traveling through Yugoslavia, I stood in amazement at the desolate, rocky country-side. I have since found out *why* the soil is untillable, the region arid.

At one time the hills surrounding the Mediterranean were heavily forested—today not a trace remains! The Romans began the destruction of the forests. The Slav inhabitants continued to denude the hill slopes. The Venetians consumed the remaining trees for timber for their fleets. The hillsides can't be reforested today. They are too badly eroded.

The same process is occurring in the U.S.A. today. **WE SEEM TO BE UNAWARE THAT SOIL EXHAUSTION AND EROSION HAVE PROGRESSED MORE RAPIDLY IN THE UNITED STATES THAN IN ANY OTHER COUNTRY IN THE WORLD,** except perhaps South Africa.

Apparently we have also forgotten that the Romans knew the value of contouring, the value of grasses and legumes, the rotation of crops and organic manuring! Simkhovitch, a historian who wrote about the fall of Rome, said that Roman knowledge of agriculture was "fairly startling."

Yet Rome fell!

Why?

Here is the answer:

Taxation to support an ever-increasing bureaucracy and a huge army wiped out the farmers who couldn't make sufficient profit. Most Roman farmers then borrowed money. Taxes increased. The farmer, in turn, had to exploit the soil to pay his debts. Within a few generations of the height of the Roman Empire the soil of the entire Mediterranean (except Egypt) became sterile by overwork and ruthless exploitation.

TODAY taxes—for a huge bureaucracy and great military machine—are increasing; poor farmers are being forced off their lands; the more prosperous are borrowing. Drought is striking an ever-increasing area. The land is constantly becoming more exhausted. History is repeating itself! We are going the way of Rome.

Most farmers know many of the better agricultural methods—but for economic reasons they do not practice them. Better farming methods are *immediately* unprofitable. The initial cost is often high. Many farmers are victims of circumstance—sometimes victims of their own poor judgment or faulty management.

As we have said before—periodic droughts and floods are *here to stay*. They are going to become worse and worse until this nation is brought to its knees and DESTROYED!

There is only *one hope* that could change the outcome.

Only One Way of Escape

Learning better farming methods—applying sound principles of forest conservation—the building of many small dams—these and other practices need to be done, but *they will NOT solve the problem*. At most they can only forestall doom! Let's understand *why*.

First, the world situation is such that the average man must exploit his land in order to make a living. Taxes—both direct and hidden—are consuming one third of the entire earnings of the average American. No country can stand such a burden for long.

Second, even if we should practice better methods of conservation, *our neighbors will NOT do so*. We often have to suffer with them for their mistakes. That is why drought *will* strike even the best farm lands. This generation will literally REAP THE WHIRLWIND. There is *no* stopping it. Humanity will *not* change its course.

That leaves us only one solution. *What we need is protection—DIVINE PROTECTION—in the times ahead.*

God has *not* deserted the world. He *can* intervene in nature. God is not only the Creator, He is also the Controller and Preserver of the universe. **HE CONTROLS THE WEATHER.** And He can intervene *for you* if . . .

. . . if you *do* what He tells you. This is your only chance of deliverance.

God nowhere promises you won't have afflictions, *but He has promised to deliver you out of them*. "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Eternal delivereth him out of them all" (Psalm 34:19).

Droughts and floods are not new. They have always plagued mankind. They are scheduled to become *progressively worse* until **ONE THIRD OF OUR PEOPLE DIE OF FAMINE AND OF RESULTING DISEASES!**—unless the nation repents. In the days of the early church, when the world brought punishments upon itself for its sins, a drought struck the Mediterranean area and Palestine. God's people needed deliverance from the famine. They cried out to Him and He sent them relief (Acts 11:28-29).

You may suffer from the sins of the world, but God will always deliver you if you remain faithful to Him. Submit to Him, trust Him, obey Him.

Why Droughts and Floods

Do you know *why* God is permitting these terrible afflictions to come upon our people? Turn to Amos 4:7-9: "And also I have witholden the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest: and I caused it to rain

(Please continue on page 16)

HOW TO BE Saved!

Millions have been led to think they are saved, who are only deceived, and don't know it!—Here is a frank, daring article, making the truth PLAIN!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

IT'S DIFFICULT to believe, but it's true—in *today's* religious confusion *millions* have supposed they had salvation spiritually—they have believed on Jesus Christ—and *are not saved!*

Would you suppose one could actually worship Christ—and all in vain?

Can One Worship Christ—IN VAIN?

Do you know *what* Jesus Himself said of these people who want to worship Him without *obedience* to God's Commandments?

Listen to His words: "Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For, laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men . . . Full well do ye reject the Commandments of God, that ye may keep your own tradition" (Mark 7:6-9).

Back to the Faith Once Delivered

But what does GOD tell you in His Word?

Thru Jude, God says: "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the *common salvation*, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the *faith which was once delivered* unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares . . . ungodly men, turning the GRACE of God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ" (Jude 3-4).

Yes, even before the New Testament was completely written, ungodly men had crept inside the Church to corrupt it—turning GRACE into LASCIVIOUSNESS.

And what is "lasciviousness"? It means "license"—unrestrained liberty,—abuse of privilege. In other words, license to do that which seems *right* in human eyes—according to human *conscience*—tho it *disobeys* God's LAW! And that is exactly what those ungodly men, even in the first century, did—turned GRACE into unrestrained privilege to disobey God's law! turned to *human conscience* as a guide! And once introduced, the practice has persisted and spread over the whole world until today!

This is one of the FABLES the Apostle

Paul warned us men would turn to, Paul said: "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, *deceiving*, and *being deceived!* . . . For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts (lasciviousness—*human reasoning*—) shall they . . . turn away their ears from the *truth*, and shall be turned unto FABLES" (II Tim. 3:13-4:4).

But, one will argue, Jude said these men would *deny* the Lord Jesus Christ. Do not the men who teach a "no works" doctrine *believe in Christ*? Do they deny Him?

Yes, *they* DENY Him! God says: "They *profess* that they *know* God; but IN WORKS they *deny* Him, being abominable, and *disobedient*, and unto every GOOD work *reprobate!*" (Titus 1:16). The way of human reason—that *seems* RIGHT—is often DISOBEDIENCE to God!

What the Saviour Himself Taught

These deceived teachers have just one favorite text. They quote Acts 16:31: "BELIEVE on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."

Now that text from the inspired pen of Paul means what it says. But there are *two kinds* of BELIEVING—the *living* faith that brings salvation, and a *dead* "no works" faith that produces only DEATH!

But WHY do they, in their tracts and their sermons, never quote *what the Saviour Himself said* in answer to the question? WHY?

Jesus was asked: "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" (Luke 18:18). Some might try to tell you that the SAVIOUR Himself did not know, or teach, the way of SALVATION—He was teaching Old Testament religion. Well, He was asked HOW to gain ETERNAL LIFE. Is that salvation? It certainly is! Old Testament religion teaching lasted until John—not until the cross—not until "Pentecost." Just UNTIL JOHN (Luke 16:16). Jesus preached the SAME Gospel He commanded His disciples to teach ALL nations—Gentiles included—the same Gospel Paul preached to Gentiles. He preached *only* the NEW Testament Gospel. He revealed THE WAY OF SALVATION.

Here is His answer—that of the SAVIOUR HIMSELF on HOW TO BE SAVED:

"If thou wilt enter into LIFE, *keep the Commandments.*" And He enumerated enough of the Ten Commandments to show it was this particular law that must be obeyed AS A CONDITION to receiving eternal life as God's GIFT. Jesus said "IF"—(there was a CONDITION)—"IF" we are to be saved, by God's grace, WE MUST KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS! God lays down His own terms and conditions. His FREE GIFT is conditional—you get it ONLY if you "keep the Commandments."

You can't EARN it. God GIVES it—but only to those who "KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS." God will not GIVE you eternal life *in sin*. And what *is* sin? "SIN IS THE TRANSGRESSION OF THE LAW" (John 3:4).

Some who pervert God's truth insist Jesus did not name ALL of the Ten Commandments in the above Scripture. Sin is the transgression of THE LAW. It is a COMPLETE LAW. He named enough of its points to designate WHICH LAW He was talking about. And James says that law has "POINTS"—and, if we break any ONE of the ten points of the Ten Commandments, we BREAK THE LAW, and are sinners! (James 2:8-11)

The very same day the Holy Spirit came—the very day the NEW Testament Church commenced—thousands, hearing the inspired Peter's sermon which struck straight to their heart, asked: "What shall we do?"—yes, WHAT SHALL WE DO TO BE SAVED?

The *inspired* answer was:

"REPENT, and BE BAPTIZED every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38).

Jesus said, "REPENT YE, and BELIEVE THE GOSPEL." We must BELIEVE not only in Jesus as Saviour, but we must believe also THE GOSPEL He brought and preached—the gospel of the Kingdom of God—the AUTHORITY of God and the WORD of God *over our lives!*—*a message not preached today by most organized churches.*

After His resurrection, in His parting instructions to His disciples for preach-

The PLAIN TRUTH

A magazine of understanding.

VOL. XX

NO. 8

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
Publisher and Editor

Herman L. Hoeh
Executive Editor

Roderick C. Meredith
Associate Editor

Sent FREE to all who request it,
as the Lord provides. Address
all communications to the editor.

Copyright, October, 1955
By the Radio Church of God

NOTICE: Be sure to notify us immediately
of any change in your address. IMPORTANT!

ing the way of salvation, Jesus said "Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: and that REPENTANCE and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things" (Luke 24:46-47). This is the Gospel for ALL NATIONS!

But *what* must we repent of? WHAT IS SIN? Do you realize that VERY FEW people know? Very few know the BIBLE definition of SIN.

God's inspired definition of sin is this: "Sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4). Paul would not have known what was sin, except by the law. But *what* law? The very law which says: "Thou shalt not covet" (Rom. 4:4). That law is the Ten Commandments.

This law is summed up in the one word—LOVE! It is further defined in the two Great Commandments, LOVE to God, and LOVE to neighbor. But the same law is further defined, and divided into ten points, by The Ten Commandments—the first four of which tell us how to love God, the last six of which tell us how to love neighbor.

James Inspired Answer

And thus it is explained in James: "If ye fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, ye do well" (James 2:8). Here is the Royal Law—the whole Law—as a general principle.

The law is LOVE—and LOVE is the fulfilling of the law. Jesus fulfilled it, setting us an example that we, too, should fulfill the law. We fulfill it *with* LOVE—not any natural, carnal love in human nature, but "the love of GOD is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit" (Rom. 5:5). The Holy Spirit in

us is merely GOD'S LAW IN ACTION IN OUR LIVES! And so, if we fulfill this Royal Law, we do well—but if not, we commit sin (James 2:9). Now read verse 10. If we keep the WHOLE LAW—the general principle of LOVE to neighbor—yet offend in *one point*, we are guilty—we have broken the law—and the penalty is DEATH, not eternal life.

Notice, please, the law is divided into points! And it is divided into TEN POINTS—the Ten Commandments. These are merely the ten points, or subdivisions, of the general Royal Law, LOVE to God and to neighbor. "For He that said (or, that law which said), Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery"—if you do not break that specific point—"yet if thou kill"—you just break that one point—"thou art become a transgressor of the law" (Jas. 2:11). So you see the TEN COMMANDMENTS is the very law it is sin to transgress.

It is a SPIRITUAL law (Rom. 7:14). It is fulfilled by the SPIRITUAL LOVE which is God's precious gift to us—His love placed within us. "Wherefore the law is HOLY, and the commandment HOLY, AND JUST, AND GOOD" (Rom. 7:12).

To REPENT of sin means to turn from sin. It means to QUIT SINNING! And that means to stop transgressing God's holy law. And the way to stop breaking it is to begin KEEPING God's

Commandments—ALL OF THEM, for if you break only one, you bring on yourself the penalty—ETERNAL DEATH, and you *lose salvation*.

Now Jesus "magnified the law, and made it honorable" (Isa. 42:21). When we put a spiritual "magnifying glass," so to speak, on the Ten Commandments, it is enlarged in spirit and principle into many more points. And in a larger aspect the ENTIRE BIBLE is a magnification of God's Law. The Law is the basis of all Scripture. It defines THE WAY of life—THE WAY to success—THE

RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

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

TO THE U.S. & CANADA

WLS — Chicago — 890 on dial — 10:00 P.M., Mon. thru Fri., 8:30 Sunday night.

WWVA—Wheeling, W. Va.—1170 on dial—Sundays, 11:05 P.M. Eastern time, 10:15 P.M., Mon. thru Fri.

WRVA—Richmond, Va.—1140 on dial—Sundays, 11:05 P.M. Eastern time.

XELO—800 on dial, every night, 9:00 P.M. Central Standard time. (8:00 P.M. Mountain Standard time.)

XEG—1050 on dial, every night, 8:30 P.M. Central Standard time.

WXYZ — Detroit, Mich.—1270 on dial—Sundays, 12:30 P.M.

WCAE — Pittsburgh, Pa.—1250 on dial—4:00 P.M. Sundays.

KXOK—St. Louis—630 on dial—6:25 P.M. Sundays.

HEARD ON PACIFIC COAST

KGER—Los Angeles—1390 k.c.—12:30 P.M., Mon. thru Fri., 12 noon Saturday, 2 P.M. Sun.

KBLA—Burbank—1490 k.c.—7:30 A.M. daily, 9:30 A.M. Sunday.

KPDQ—Portland—800 on dial—8:30 A.M. daily.

KVI—Seattle-Tacoma—570, first on dial—10:30 P.M. every night.

TO ALL OF EUROPE

RADIO LUXEMBOURG—23:30 Mondays, Greenwich time

TO ASIA & AFRICA

RADIO CEYLON

Tuesday: 10:15-10:45 P.M. India-Pakistan Beam and Ceylon Beam.
Wednesday: 11:30-12:00 noon African Beam. 5:15-5:45 P.M. S.E. Asia Beam.

RADIO LOURENCO MARQUES
Saturday 10:00-10:30 P.M.

TV LOG

Herbert W. Armstrong reveals the startling significance behind today's world troubles with the prophecies of The WORLD TOMORROW!

EVERY SUNDAY

NEW YORK, NEW YORK
WPIX, Channel 11—12:00 A.M.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
WBKB, Channel 7—9:00 A.M.

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.
KTLA, Channel 5—10:30 P.M.

PORTLAND, OREGON
KLOR, Channel 12—9:30 P.M.

DENVER, COLORADO
KLZ, Channel 7—10:30 P.M.

TYLER, TEXAS
KLTU, Channel 7—10:45 P.M.

SAN FRANCISCO-STOCKTON,
CALIF.
KOVH, Channel 13—10:30 P.M.

TEXARKANA, TEXAS
KCMC, Channel 6—10:30 P.M.

SEATTLE-TACOMA, WASH.
KTNT, Channel 11—10:30 P.M.

HUTCHINSON, KANSAS
KTVH, Channel 12—2:30 P.M.

KANSAS CITY
KMBC, Channel 9—10:30 P.M.

HOUSTON, TEXAS
KPRC, Channel 2—11:30 A.M.

HONOLULU, HAWAII
KGMB, Channel 9—10:30 P.M.

WAY to peace—THE WAY to happiness, joy, eternal life!

Notice how *like God* it is! The Law is GOOD (Rom. 7:12). God is good.

The Law is HOLY (Rom. 7:12). GOD is holy!

The Law is JUST (Rom. 7:12). GOD is just!

The Law is SPIRITUAL (Rom. 7:14). GOD is spiritual!

The Law is PERFECT (Psalm 19:7). GOD is perfect!

The Law—including all His Commandments—is immutable, ETERNAL, stands fast FOREVER AND EVER (Psalm 111:7-8). And GOD is eternal!

Of course—for the Law is the very character, the very nature, of God! It is the WILL of God.

Conscience Not Your Guide

But in the modern-day Babylon—confusion of conflicting teachings—you may have been taught, falsely, that YOUR CONSCIENCE tells you what is sin. But your conscience only troubles you when you do what YOU THINK is *wrong*! And what you think is wrong, *another* may think is *right*! Your CONSCIENCE IS NO GUIDE!

Sin is not the doing of what you think is wrong. Not the transgression of conscience—"sin is the transgression of God's LAW" (1 John 3:4). Sin is thinking and doing what GOD SAYS is wrong—and He says it in His Law! Some think it perfectly all right to divorce and remarry. Others think it is a sin. To do it would trouble the conscience of the latter, but not of the former.

One who does what he thinks is right may be committing a great deal of sin!

God says: "There is a way that seemeth *right* unto a *man*, but the end thereof are the ways of DEATH!" (Pro. 14:12 and 16:25.) Again, "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes" (Prov. 12:15). And: "All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes" (Prov. 16:2). The world has been going the WAY that seems right to man for some 6000 years. But this WAY has brought only unhappiness, emptiness, discontent, poverty, sickness and disease and finally, CHAOS and DESPAIR all over the world! It has produced NOTHING GOOD!

God says: "SEEK YE the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake HIS WAY and the unrighteous man HIS THOUGHTS; and let him return unto the Eternal, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. For MY THOUGHTS ARE NOT YOUR THOUGHTS, NEITHER ARE YOUR WAYS MY WAYS, saith the Eternal" (Isaiah 55:6-8).

And *there* is THE WAY of Salvation! There is THE WAY to find GOD! SEEK

HIM, by forsaking—WHAT? Forsaking YOUR WAY—your thoughts! The way you have THOUGHT to be right.

The WAY of SALVATION

The first step toward salvation is to REPENT—and that means forsake your way—the customs and traditions you have been following—the ways of man—the ways you have been living. FORSAKE YOUR OWN WAY. Turn to God's way—the way of HIS LAW! The way of HIS WILL! Yes, the WAY of peace, happiness, and joy—the WAY of success, achievement, doing good, of prosperity—the WAY of the full and ABUNDANT life—the WAY of ETERNAL LIFE!

Since the entire Bible contains the magnified explanation of GOD'S LAW, the Bible becomes OUR GUIDE FOR RIGHTEOUS AND SUCCESSFUL LIVING! That is why Jesus said man shall live by *every Word of GOD*!

True repentance means you give your SELF to God. And the only kind of repentance that is prerequisite to the gift of eternal life is COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER TO GOD—to His will, which means to HIS LAW. You become HIS, literally, and wholly, with no reservations! Repentance is a COMPLETE CHANGE in your life—in your *attitude TOWARD life*—your *purpose* in life—your THOUGHTS and your ACTIONS.

It means forsaking some of your old friends and companions—if they are living the worldly life that seems *right* to MAN. It means turning from and forsaking worldly social and religious customs, interests, pleasures that are contrary to GOD'S WAYS.

It means THE BIBLE becomes the SUPREME AUTHORITY over your life—your *guide to living*—yes, to happy, abundant, gracious living, and SUCCESSFUL and righteous living, henceforth and forever—to live your life from now on with GOD'S HELP, and BY HIS POWER, according to the spirit and principle, as well as the letter and precept of His Commandments. You henceforth STUDY THE BIBLE—not just carelessly read, but STUDY, to learn GOD'S WAYS, and to LIVE BY EVERY WORD OF GOD!

Now ask yourself, candidly: HOW MANY people who profess salvation—who have "accepted Christ"—do you believe have REALLY COME TO THIS KIND OF REAL REPENTANCE? "Except ye REPENT," warned Jesus, "ye shall all likewise PERISH." And again, "He that SAITH, 'I know Him,' and keepeth not His Commandments, is a LIAR, and the truth is not in him" (1 John 2:4). Yes, MILLIONS ARE DECEIVED!

But if millions are deceived about the prior CONDITION of repentance, just as many millions are deceived today as to

the KIND OF FAITH that really SAVES!

The FAITH That SAVES

Now *think* a moment! Use your REASON! We are taught, and rightly, that we cannot EARN our salvation—it is the GIFT of God. It is by GRACE—and "grace" means *undeserved pardon and free gift*. Yet, notice how inconsistent people are! They argue there must be NO WORKS—no OBEDIENCE of the Commandments, or doing GOOD—no recognizing of God's AUTHORITY over your daily living—because salvation comes by GRACE—God's free GIFT. And yet they seem to believe that somehow WE must supply the FAITH that brings salvation! If WE work up, or if WE supply this FAITH by which we are saved, *would not that*, in fact, amount to our producing *our own salvation* by the very WORKS of supplying this FAITH?

So notice, briefly! Notice more CLOSELY than you did before! "For BY GRACE are ye saved through FAITH; and that (that FAITH) not of yourselves; it (this saving FAITH) is *the gift of GOD*!" (Eph. 2:8.) The faith that really saves is GIVEN TO US by GOD—it is a GIFT from HIM! YOU don't supply it, or work it up.

Did you ever notice that before?

Well what, then? In Gal. 2:16 Paul explains a man is justified only "by THE FAITH of *Jesus Christ*." Notice, he does not say, by the man's faith IN Jesus Christ—he says by "the faith of Jesus Christ"—which means CHRIST'S FAITH—the faith HE has and uses—the same faith with which He performed all His miracles—the same faith by which He lived—HIS faith, placed by a miracle, as a gift direct from God, into the man!

So PLEASE UNDERSTAND! Salvation is GOD'S GIFT. You do not, cannot, earn it. God GIVES it. But—and here is where people become mixed up, and stumble—God will GIVE it only on condition! Yes, there are terms and conditions! God has set these terms, and you can't alter them, and He won't change them!

I want to make this perfectly PLAIN. It is not *your* faith in Christ—a faith YOU supply in BELIEVING in Him as Saviour—that saves you—it is CHRIST'S faith, which He supplies and places in you by His Holy Spirit, which actually IMPARTS ETERNAL LIFE. But WHAT, then? Is it not necessary for YOU to believe, with YOUR OWN faith, in Christ?

Now let me make this PLAIN! Salvation is GOD'S FREE GIFT—it is by GRACE ALONE. Yet the very purpose of God demands TWO prior CONDITIONS on YOUR part. First, you must REPENT! Second, you must BELIEVE in Christ as Saviour. But you cannot believe in Christ unless you also believe His message—

(Please continue on page 12)

HYDROGEN BOMB

(Continued from page 2)

the so-called LOST Ten Tribes of Israel—destined, according to God's unconditional, unbreakable PROMISE to become, part of them, a great *Commonwealth of Nations*, and part of them forming the one GREATEST, most POWERFUL SINGLE nation in OUR TIME TODAY—after the year 1800 A.D., and BEFORE the end of THIS world and the second coming of Christ!

The Day of the Lord

Now Jeremiah was inspired to foretell a great and terrible TIME OF TROUBLE to come on these nations descended from the ancient TEN TRIBES of Israel, IN OUR TIME: "For thus saith the Lord; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace . . . Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it; it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it. For it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord of hosts, that I will break his yoke from off thy neck, and will burst thy bonds, and strangers shall no more serve themselves of him" (Jer. 30:5, 7-8).

THAT HAS NOT YET HAPPENED! But, AT the second coming of Christ, CONTRARY TO ALL HUMAN TEACHING ON THIS SUBJECT, these nations descended from the TEN Tribes of Israel are to be found in CAPTIVITY, with a YOKE around their necks. I tell you, it's time to WAKE UP to the TRUTH of this crisis situation! God Almighty has sent me to SHOUT TO YOU THIS LAST WARNING! God help you to HEED!

And now, WHAT power will place that YOKE on the nations that constitute modern ISRAEL—the Ten Tribes whose identity the world has lost? "Come down, and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon, sit on the ground: there is no throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called tender and delicate . . . I was wroth with my people, I have polluted mine inheritance, and given them into thine hand: thou didst shew them no mercy; upon the ancient hast thou very heavily laid thy yoke. And thou saidst, I shall be a lady for ever: so that thou didst not lay these things to thy heart, neither didst remember the latter end of it." (Isa. 47:1, 6-7.)

That latter verse is quoted directly in Revelation 18:7, where this modern DAUGHTER of the ancient Babylon is identified in the 17th and 18th chapters of Revelation.

Who Will Use It?

Who is this modern Babylon?

In Revelation 17 is pictured the symbol of a weird BEAST, ridden by a WOMAN. All Bible students, so far as I know, regardless of denomination, recognize this symbolic BEAST as the ancient ROMAN EMPIRE. This whole SYSTEM—this DAUGHTER of the ancient "Babylon" is NAMED in Revelation 17:5: "And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."

Now notice: "The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition; and they that dwell on earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is." (Rev. 17:8.) This ancient Empire is to be RESURRECTED. It will DUMBFOUND the whole world! It will rise up yet once again by a UNION of TEN modern fascist DICTATORSHIPS in the territory of the ancient Empire: "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them; for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful." (Rev. 17:12-14.)

So now we have the TIME of the prophecy! Just before the second coming of CHRIST! This is a power, soon to startle and stagger the WORLD, that will oppose and fight against CHRIST at His appearing!

Hydrogen Bomb to Be Used!

Now what about the HYDROGEN BOMB? Micah's prophecy which I read to you says plainly that this invading power will cut off the CITIES of Israel. Only the atom and hydrogen bombs could do that.

The prophecies of EZEKIEL is to the HOUSE OF ISRAEL, not to JUDAH. Of this time, God reveals thru Ezekiel, in chapter 6, verse 6: "In all your dwelling places THE CITIES shall be laid waste." In Ezekiel 12:20: "And THE CITIES that are inhabited shall be LAID WASTE, and the land shall be desolate, and ye shall KNOW that I am the Eternal"—which in Ezekiel always refers to the

second coming of Christ. And, finally, in this time to come, what will happen to the coming union of fascist dictators in Europe? "And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath." (Rev. 16:19).

But Christ, at His second coming, will RESCUE Israel, REMOVE the Yoke of the daughter of the ancient BABYLON, and RESTORE Israel to prosperity and power, after they have learned their lesson and turned to THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD. Notice Isaiah 14:1-4 in the Moffatt translation: "For the Lord will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land: and the strangers shall be joined with them, and they shall cleave to the house of Jacob. And the people shall take them, and they shall cleave to the house of Jacob. And the people shall take them, and bring them to their place: and the house of Israel shall possess them in the land of the Lord for servants and handmaids: and they shall take them captives, whose captives they were; and they shall rule over their oppressors."

"And it shall come to pass in the day that the Lord shall give thee rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear, and from the hard bondage wherein thou wast made to serve, that thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon and say, How hath the oppressor ceased! the golden city ceased!" . . . against this modern BABYLON that had invaded ISRAEL!

I have had space only to SKIM THE SURFACE of these momentous prophesied events in this article. But you'll find the WHOLE TRUTH of all the scores and scores of prophecies pertaining to WHAT'S PROPHESED TO HAPPEN in coming issues of The PLAIN TRUTH magazine. These prophecies are STAGGERING! This is the MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION OF OUR TIME!

WHY THE PLAIN TRUTH HAS NO SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

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

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

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

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

Will a Rearmed GERMANY Stop Russia?

What is the real significance behind Dr. Adenauer's visit to Moscow? Here is a first-hand report of the little-known Russian strategy to wreck Western defense.

by Herman L. Hoeh

I HAVE JUST returned from Germany. New horizons of prestige and power are bursting forth upon the New Germany. Moscow was forced to INVITE Dr. Adenauer to visit the Kremlin!—just 10 short years after Germany was laid in ruins.

All Germany awaited the results of the conference—hoping for the best, but expecting little. No matter what comes of the conference, Germans everywhere are lifting themselves up to new heights of power and prosperity. The fear of Russian invasion is *gone*! But the concern over being America's cannon fodder in an anti-communist war haunts many a German!

Yes, many a Germany *doubts* if he can trust America—just as many an American *doubts* if he can trust Germany! Amid these doubts is the secret hand of COMMUNIST RUSSIA and a *fascist underground*!

The Communist Cancer Spreads

There is no real slackening of the Cold War. Broad smiles, coupled with behind-the-scenes military aid to trouble-makers, spell nothing but trouble for the West.

France is in a terrible shape—and Germany knows it! Communists openly lend their hand to Arab nationalists who are sick and tired of French colonial rule. Everywhere—in Africa, the Middle East and Asia—communism is *spreading* like a cancer!

Billions of American tax dollars—*your* tax dollars—are being spent toward military and economic aid in Europe, Africa and Asia. But still communism marches on!

Now we are applying economic pressure on Germany to FORCE that country to rearm.

How YOU and *your family* will spend the remaining years of your lives depends on the *management* of the present world struggle. Yet the stark truth is that Western leaders, *in whose hands your future rests*, do NOT understand the significance of the *desperate action* they are employing to defeat Communism—the *rearmament of Germany*.

The Two Great Questions

Here are the *two questions of the hour* that all of us still face:

(1) Can the USA create the *kind of power*, before it is too late, that will crush Russia's bid for world rule?

(2) Can the English-speaking world *guide and direct* the German military machine being built in Europe against the Soviet Union?

Unless America can come forth with the *kind of power* to surround and stamp out Communism—unless America can *prevent* the revival of Fascist militarism in Europe, WE ARE DOOMED! Remember, Dr. Adenauer is already 79 years old and no *dominant* democratic German looms as his successor.

Do you know *why* the United States has failed to stop Communism in the Far East? *Why* France is failing to stem the Communistic revolt in her colonies? Or *why* Indonesia is afraid to commit herself openly against Russia, despite our part in aiding her to gain independence?

These are the *WHY's* that confront our diplomats—the diplomats who think that the *kind of power* to stop Communism is military and economic *only*, the diplomats who fondly believe that Russia's foes must be *our friends*!

The Fate of Asia

Let's glance at Asia. Western diplomats are beginning to realize that the prestige of the United States is fast sinking in the Orient. Our military and economic aid—*material* assistance—has failed to stamp out communism in China or Korea.

Think of it! Enfeebled China, the nation that was overrun for nearly a decade by the armies of Japan, has frustrated the attempts of the United States to defeat Communism in Korea. Imagine what Russian propaganda is foisting on the Oriental mind which has learned to despise the "white man's burden." While America sends bullets and token economic aid, the Russians spread deceitful propaganda.

Communism is a FAITH—a devilish

faith—which is appealing to the minds of the Asiatic peoples. They have FAITH that they can conquer their own problems and overthrow Western "domination" by their *human strength*!

Yes, Communism appeals to *faith*, faith in the power of MAN—the ORIENTAL MAN—to *change this world*! But what does the United States send the Orient? *Not* a more powerful or righteous faith, but guns and money!

The Soviet Union knows that the United States can not supply Asia's desperate millions with enough food. She knows that the United States is UNWILLING to send enough military equipment to the Far East to offset progressive Soviet dominion. But the *only power* that the United States could provide the Asiatics to defeat Communism—the strength of a *more powerful FAITH than Communism*—that *faith* America does NOT have!

Poverty stricken Asiatics aren't interested in American sales talks on the American way of life. They are no longer impressed with the vaunted power of the United States.

The democracies have a dying faith, motivated by *dead works*. We don't have the kind of faith, nor the works, the knowledge, to *change Asia*.

Faith in World Politics

Our political leaders do not understand the power of faith in world affairs. Faith in an idea, the Communistic idea of MAN, is winning against the bullets and feeble leadership of the West.

Russia is not trying to fight a war of bullets, but a war of IDEAS.

America's political, educational and religious leaders are responsible for this insipid, spiritually dead concept of freedom that grips us. We are being taught faith *without* works. We are taught that religion has no part in political affairs.

The evil faith of Communism in the power of man to regulate his destinies, the faith that Oriental religions have not provided in the past, *that new poison faith is reaching the human hearts of almost a billion people*.

Though Communism is thriving on *human* faith and *human* works, it nevertheless lives, as a cancer lives, and spreads.

Under the lead of Russia, all Asia is becoming *alive*, even as a cancerous growth in the world system. Her peoples have found an *active* faith in the doctrines of Communism. Amid their poverty, they have something to live for. They can *change* their environment.

Those who oppose Communism are liquidated, or starved in slave labor camps. But that is the price Orientals are willing to pay. It is easy for them to destroy the enemies of their new faith since they have continually been surrounded by famine and death. Death is no great tragedy, in their eyes.

How Russia Is Conquering Half the World

China is militarily stronger than she has ever been. Her people, deceived by lying Soviet propaganda, have yielded themselves to leaders who dared to thwart the United States. China is united and her troublesome warlords no longer plague her.

Communist China has conquered Tibet. Communism is today perched on the highest mountains in the world, overlooking the teeming millions of India. It is presently engulfing *all* Indo-China despite our attempts.

It is no wonder that Russian propaganda is succeeding in Asia. Imagine France, one of the leading powers of the world, suffering military defeats at the hands of Indo-Chinese!

With rebellion still occurring in Malaya, with Communism threatening in a very few years to engulf Nepal and Burma, is there any wonder that Indonesia is afraid to take sides with the United States?

Over in India, the shipments of grain we sent to the Hindus—supposed to fill *stomachs* so that Communism cannot fill minds—what reasoning!—our grain shipments failed to win India for the democratic West. India, today, is a "neutral." Benevolent Uncle Sam does not seem to realize that the annual increase in India's population more than absorbs the food shipments we deliver her.

Neither do the men in Washington realize that almost every religious faith in India is a *dead* faith. There is no action, no *will* to succeed. Intolerance and bigotry fill the religious minds of her peoples. All the grain in the world will not offset this deep-rooted intolerance against another's religion.

What Communism Offers

But Communism has something to offer. It proposes to unshackle the Indian from his religious bigotry, which is the

cause of his political and economic backwardness. Communism will solve this problem *by force*. With lying propaganda, Communists are already influencing a small minority to cast their lives with the Communist cause.

Communist success in India will come from within, when Nehru's Congress Party proves itself unequal to the task of stabilizing India's economy.

The Hindus themselves have laid the foundation of Communist conquest by cracking the caste system that has bound the people to ignorance and poverty.

Although there is still TIME to thwart Russia's designs on India, Western diplomats are failing to comprehend the solution to India's dilemma. India will ultimately be lost UNLESS AMERICA SUPPLIES INDIA'S PEOPLE WITH A *new, dynamic, and LIVING FAITH*.

Sad to say, the prophecies of the Bible reveal that American leaders *do not have what it takes* to save India from Communism. How can this nation create in the Indian heart a living faith, when America does not even have faith in its God?

We Were Tried, and Found Wanting

For two centuries the Western World has dominated the Orient, but we have failed to deliver its people from misery. Hence, the deception of Communism looks alluring to ignorant and even educated minds who have no hope in God.

The *dead faith* of missionaries from America and England has not dented Oriental thought, but the *active belief* of Communists is moving Asia's millions. Belief in Communism, which means FAITH IN MAN, transcends the borders of nations. It knows no national boundaries.

All the expenditures in the world can not cope with Russia's influence in the Far East, unless we spread a *more powerful faith* to combat Soviet propaganda. The United States might as well face the facts. THERE IS NO HUMAN WAY FOR THE WESTERN WORLD TO RESCUE ASIA FROM THE CLUTCHES OF COMMUNISM.

Realizing that our Asiatic wall around Russia is slowly crumbling, our leaders are desperately trying to strengthen the fortress of Europe instead.

What About Europe?

Although American help continues to pour into Asia to no lasting avail, *because Russia is not fighting our kind of war*, Europe is an entirely different story.

Russia is not sending her European satellites against the United States. There is no active war in Europe *because Russia is not intending to conquer Europe immediately*. Russia knows that

such an act would provoke world war.

European defenses are being strengthened, financially, economically and politically. Europe, the Near East and North Africa are regarded as the most defensible parts of the military perimeter surrounding Russia. American strength is building a gigantic war machine in Europe ostensibly to protect civilization.

The question that President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles and *you* face is causing careful observers to tremble!

Does America dare reararm Germany?

Can we unite Europe and *guide* the colossal military machine we envision there by 1960? Will Germany, once re-armed, side with Russia in order to unite herself? Or will she faithfully support the West? *Or is it possible that a united Europe, strengthened with an armed Germany, could get out of British and American control and turn again to Fascism?*

The Hour of Decision

The time has come when we must face realities. American leaders are guiding the free world into a policy of armed security by uniting Europe against the Soviets. Into this alliance *former enemy nations* are being invited. Germans, who have *not* really been converted to Democracy, are now seated in the councils of Europe. Many Germans have told me personally that America is foolish to think that Germany can become fully democratic. And right they are! Democracy is a foreign ideology to Germans—an idea that is opposed to basic German authoritarian culture.

Our leading Generals in Europe adamantly warn that GERMANY IS A CALCULATED RISK. What will a Germany, armed with American help, think of her new power?

The hour of decision struck three years ago at Lisbon when it was decided to reararm Germany. *Your future is at stake!* How are you going to know what will happen in Europe?

Key to the Future

No one can know, not even our diplomats, unless the KEYS OF THE UNDERSTANDING OF FUTURE EVENTS ARE POSSESSED! Our diplomats and political leaders are proving *they do not have these keys*. They admit that to them the future is UNKNOWN.

But you can't afford to remain in the same ignorance.

The *keys* to understanding future events are *two*: a right knowledge of *past events*, and an understanding of Biblical prophecy, which is *the history of future events*.

The only One who understands the future with its stupendous occurrences that are already beginning to shake the

world, is Almighty God. He alone knows the end from the beginning. WHY?

Because He created all nations "from a common origin, to dwell all over the earth, FIXING THEIR ALLOTTED PERIODS AND THE BOUNDARIES OF THEIR ABODES." (Acts 17:26)

The politicians do not really understand what is going on in Europe or Asia because they do not really decide future events, the outcome of wars, the boundaries of nations, the struggles for world dominion. It is God who determines the end result in the affairs of nations. You can know what the future holds for you and your family, for this nation, or for the world, only when you understand what God reveals of the HISTORY OF FUTURE EVENTS by *Biblical prophecy*.

The Record of History

Let's see what the first key indicates for Europe's future. Can the German people prevent the rise of another fascist dictatorship? Will the Germans be willing to act as cannon fodder to protect America?

The record of history proves that *arming an enemy ends in war*. Have we so soon forgotten what sending arms to Japan did to the United States? What rebuilding *Germany* after the First World War did to the world because the German people weren't wise enough to KNOW that Hitler would lead them to war? Have we forgotten what our lease lend for Russia has done since the war?

Why will the diplomats think that *today* the hearts of the people in Germany are different from yesterday? Every one of these UNDEMOCRATIC nations when once armed has turned upon us. We are the hated "have" nations, the "capitalistic" nations, the "imperialistic" nations. And in many instances we have brought this hatred upon ourselves.

The heart of the German people, indoctrinated with Naziism, has not been converted to our way of life. If they really would have come to *love* us since their defeat, *would they now be trying to bargain for domination in Europe, and threatening to withhold support from the cause of Democracy against Russia?* Is that the way *love* is manifested? Can we purchase *love* with money?

Yet the Democratic powers think that the *love* of fascist-minded Europeans in Spain, Germany, Italy and other countries can be purchased with gifts! These *Gentile* nations have been steeped for centuries with the Babylonish system that has gripped civilization for thousands of years. They *love our GIFTS*; they continue to want more and more from us, but *they do not love US*.

Can America Unite Europe?

The very purpose of a rearmed Germany and Italy, of building airfields in Fascist Spain, is to unify Europe under "Democratic" leadership. Unless these nations *will submit* to American and British *domination* we will have made the greatest mistake in history. If Germany will not take a secondary place in American plans against Russia, then we risk having armed a nation that could turn against us.

Does Germany's recent action prove that she will submit to America, or is she seeking to guide European politics? Is she seeking to undercut the British market to make herself the dominant nation in Europe?—just as Britain once undercut Germany's markets and took Germany's African colonies? Can Germany and France compromise their differences? What are the facts?

France still fears Germany. There is a definite feeling of mistrust in the minds of other Europeans, too. Knowing this, the Germans have been very careful not to antagonize neighboring nations too greatly. Nevertheless, Germany is planning to outstrip every European nation in production. The German *mark* is stable, taxes are very low for almost everyone. German steel production is skyrocketing. German goods are underselling the products of most other European nations, since her selling methods are *better* and she has a new merchant fleet.

Observers realize that in order to make Europe secure from Russia, the Germans have to become part of the European defense scheme. No people know this better than do the Germans themselves. They know that they have more *efficiency and resourcefulness* than any other nation. They are proud of their capacity to dominate European affairs. KNOWING THESE FACTS, THE GERMANS ARE DETERMINED TO TURN THEIR RECENT DEFEAT INTO SUCCESS WITH AMERICAN HELP!

Just as Russia is calling the tunes in Asia, so Germany is beginning to call the tunes in Europe, *while as yet unarmed*. So we have agreed to allow Germany into the European defense community. Germany is to have her own army, under her generals.

Everything seems to be working quite smoothly, but the hoped for *European unity is not being accomplished as planned!*

Germany, even if socialist reaction would retard rearmament—socialists violently oppose rearmament in Germany—can not build her army until about 1958 or 1960 by present estimates. Instead of 1954 as the date for the reality of a European defense army, the date will have to be pushed further ahead.

Many German leaders feel now that *Germany does not need to rush rearmament*. Therefore, she is strengthening her economy now while her weaker neighbors deplete themselves with rearmament.

Meanwhile, Russian leaders sit in the Kremlin watching President Eisenhower call for more and more money to rearm Europe. Yes, the United States is taking every one of you further into debt to support European defense *when the Europeans themselves can't get together*.

What does all this mean? That the United States is pouring her economic strength into a project with which the Europeans are not fully willing to cooperate. *We are being weakened economically without our knowledge*. Our strength is not at home but scattered abroad. At the very time we are spending our resources, *Germany is strengthening herself in a position to dominate the armed might that we are establishing in Europe*.

Politicians in Washington and London do not understand that whatever unity *seems* to be occurring in Europe is due to our *coercion*. *We are forcing them to get together*. While they selfishly resist real unity, they demand our financial help. Europeans do not have their hearts behind defense unification. They do not have the *faith* it takes to strengthen themselves against Communism. Only the Germans seem to have that *faith*, that *will* to succeed, to dominate Europe and—if possible, *the world!* Germans believe that German CULTURE and SCIENCE is best for the world!

When American Help Fails

Russia knows *the time is coming* when America will become tired of European indecision—of the failure of Europe to settle its differences. When America slackens her hand, and *loses her grip on Germany*, the Russians know that undemocratic, Gentile European nations will despise us. Every one of you will see that the *apparent* love of Europe for us now is only as deep as *our resources*.

And the moment we lose the power of influence, the only nation that will be in Europe to take our place will be an *armed, a prosperous Germany!*

Having seen that troubles are ahead in Europe, let's see what prophecy says of the future!

What Will Happen?

Prophecy tells us what our diplomats do not even guess. America will never be able to unify Europe completely!

We will continue to arm Europe until DEPRESSION stops our commitments to Europe! This nation, Britain, and the Democracies of Northwest Europe—the descendants of the House of Israel—

are destined to suffer from devastating drought and famine. God says He will punish His people Israel for breaking His laws. The Democracies of the world, the descendants of the ancient House of Israel (write for Mr. Armstrong's booklet, "United States in Prophecy," which explains our national identity), are to be punished because of our sins—punished with the worst droughts and famines and diseases we have ever seen!

In the 26th chapter of Leviticus, God warns us that we are to suffer these pun-

ishments because we have broken His laws and *made foreign alliances*. Most of you are going to live into this terrible time because *it is for the near future*. These things will strike YOUR HOME unless you change your ways and begin to follow God's laws. The only reason for this punishment is to teach our people the right ways we ought to live.

While these afflictions ravage our lands, Russia will be stronger than ever. She will have almost united Asia. Then
(Please continue on page 15)

HOW TO BE Saved!

(Continued from page 7)

the gospel of the Kingdom of God (Mark 16:15-16). But NEITHER your repentance, your obedience, NOR YOUR faith earns any salvation! They are merely prior CONDITIONS. But when you supply these two ingredients, then God STANDS BOUND BY HIS PROMISE to impart to you by His Holy Spirit, HIS *righteousness, and CHRIST's faith*—and THESE, *supplied by GOD* are the ingredients that SAVE and impart ETERNAL LIFE!

Paul explains "even we have believed in Jesus Christ, *that we might be justified BY THE FAITH OF CHRIST*" (Gal. 2:16). You must repent and believe in Christ, as a condition, a prerequisite, IN ORDER THAT you may receive, and be saved by the faith OF Christ—by HIS faith placed within you!

Cut Off from GOD

You see, my friends, ALL have sinned. All have gone the way that seems right in human eyes. And our sins have cut us off from God "Your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear" (Isa. 59:2).

Now salvation—eternal life—comes from GOD. But your sins have cut you off from GOD. The connection is SEVERED. YOU severed it! God will not GIVE you His gift of eternal life until you are reconciled to Him!

But He SO LOVED you, that He GAVE His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to DIE FOR YOU so that you need not perish—but, thru Jesus Christ, be brought into contact with Him so He can GIVE you eternal life!

The PENALTY of transgressing His law is DEATH! Jesus paid that penalty in your stead. If, and when, you TRULY REPENT, as I have explained at length, and BELIEVE on Jesus Christ as your Lord and personal Saviour from sin and from sinning, then by and thru HIM you gain access to GOD THE FATHER.

The two conditions of turning FROM sin, and accepting Christ (including baptism), YOU must DO YOURSELF! That's what YOU must do! That is NOT *what saves you!* It merely *reconciles* you to GOD—brings you into CONTACT with God, so that God will then GIVE YOU His HOLY SPIRIT—and HIS SPIRIT is the gift of the FAITH that saves—and it is also the Spirit of UNDERSTANDING, of knowledge, of the LOVE that FULFILLS the Law, and imparts GOD'S *righteousness!*

So my friends, that is it! Millions have been deceived, and believed falsely that they have a salvation which they do NOT yet have at all! GOD HELP US, then, to UNDERSTAND.

What You Should Do

Now, finally, just HOW shall you go about it?

Must you go down the aisle in a church? Must you go to a public altar, and shed tears in front of others, and pray aloud before others?

Being converted is not an initiation into a lodge or secret society! It is not a rite or ceremony! It is a matter of turning FROM the old life that was false, yet may have seemed right to you—of turning to a new and TRUE way of life in Christ Jesus, living by every Word of God, in and by the power of God's Holy Spirit! When you UNDERSTAND the real MEANING and the PURPOSE, you'll see that it is something that takes place down deep in your HEART and not a matter of THE PLACE or THE SURROUNDINGS, or the presence of other people. What Jesus said about confessing, or denying Him before men did not refer to a rite, or ceremonial form of being converted. Being converted is the receiving of the Holy Spirit—the *very life*—of God.

You CAN, of course, make this full surrender and consecration to God in front of others, at an altar. You *can*, also,

make it just as sincerely and fully, in a private room at home, all ALONE with God! You can pray in church before others and do it sincerely from the heart. Yet Jesus said, "When thou prayest, enter into thy closet (any small room), and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly."

Well, WHEN you come to this *parting of the ways* from the old life—when you come to the place of making this COMPLETE CHANGE—this total unconditional surrender to God—this complete consecration, GIVING your SELF to Him, accepting Christ as your personal Saviour—turning FROM your sins, and TO God's way of life as you'll find it in the Bible, you'll want to PRAY! Yes, you'll want to throw yourself completely on God's mercy, and ask Him thru Jesus Christ to FORGIVE YOU all your past sins and transgressions against Him.

It is not perhaps of great consequence where you do it—whether in a church meeting, or ALONE WITH GOD AT HOME! But the IMPORTANT thing is to DO IT—and to DO IT NOW!—not to delay or put it off, and let the temptation to keep on putting it off finally rob you of your salvation altogether. The longer you put it off the harder it will become. WHY it should be difficult to just go and throw yourself on God's mercy, and ask His forgiveness, and give your SELF to Him, is hard to understand—yet something in the lower nature within you will keep tempting you to PUT IT OFF. That temptation is not of God, you may be sure.

If you are sick and tired of the empty, fruitless, materialistic life you have been living—IF in your heart you DO want to turn from it to the FULL and JOYFUL life filled with God's SPIRIT, then WHY DELAY? Why delay another minute, even? Wherever you are now go where you can do it—into the privacy of your own room if you are at home, YES, RIGHT NOW!—get down on your knees, make your full surrender to God, give yourself without any reservations to Him—ask Him to forgive—no matter how terrible, or how many have been your sins—He will forgive them all—and acknowledge Jesus Christ as your living Saviour! God will accept you as HIS! Just UNLOAD that burden of your sins on HIM—go and do it NOW! This is *just the start* of the real Christian life. Don't look for a certain feeling, but repent and believe. God laid down the terms. Conform to them, NOW!

Then write and tell me, if you care to, what you have done, and ask me about being baptized as ours are being planned this summer. A free booklet on baptism will be mailed on your request.

Is Truth Stranger Than Fiction?

Read this and then decide for yourself! The following is a vital summary of some of the great lessons in Old Testament history. These are lessons you should have learned, but probably have not. So—read on!

by Roderick C. Meredith

HOW INTERESTING is the Old Testament to you? Have you found it rather dry and dull? God intended for you to get a great deal of understanding from reading it. Perhaps YOU haven't been approaching the study of it as you should.

The Bible is LITERALLY PACKED with ideas and principles that *you* need to apply *every day of your life!* Many people read parts of the Bible and neglect others.

Certainly the most neglected portion of the Bible includes the historical books of the Old Testament. These are the books from Joshua to Esther inclusive. Yet these books are LOADED WITH DYNAMITE! They teach you lessons in everyday living in a *rough*, straightforward, and *forceful* way.

The whole trouble in reading these books probably lies in the fact that you haven't been taking these lessons in a *personal* way. When you study these narratives—apply them to *yourself!*

How would *you* and your worldly neighbors react to situations like the following? Would you measure up any better than those *fleshly*, unconverted Israelites?

God is showing HUMAN NATURE at work in these books, and YOUR carnal nature is just about the same! Your Creator is trying to show you the *terrible results* of relying on your own reason and impulse.

Are you learning these lessons as you should? Probably not. Then literally *put yourself* into these true stories and then vigorously apply them in your own life. You are going to see "life in the raw," but you will see it through the eyes of the Creator.

In Romans 15:4, the Apostle Paul tells us, "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for *our learning*, that *we* through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." So we find that the Old Testament writings were written for the instruction of Christians today. It is with this idea in mind that I will point out to you some of the outstanding lessons in the historical books of the Old Testament. And I want to encourage you to *read these books for yourself.*

As we shall find, *human nature at*

work is sometimes even stranger than the imaginations of the fiction writers!

God's Charge to Joshua

When Joshua first became the leader of Israel, succeeding Moses, God gave him certain basic instructions which, if obeyed, would have insured a successful and prosperous rule. Oh that these instructions might sink into the hearts and minds of rulers everywhere!

In Joshua 1:8, God said, "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest *observe to do* according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and *then* thou shalt have good success." Here is the way to the happiness that everyone wants, then as now.

The way is to *keep God's law!*

Let us put ourselves in the place of these Israelites, and see if we would have obeyed God any better than they.

Soon after giving Joshua these instructions, God miraculously led Israel through the Jordan River, feeding them "manna" all through their journey. Israel kept the Passover as God commanded. Then He supernaturally delivered Jericho into their hands—again witnessing to them of His mighty power and His love.

But, like so many people today, Achan took God's commandment lightly (Joshua 7). He coveted some of the gold and silver in Jericho and took some in direct violation of God's command. He probably reasoned out in his own mind that he would just take a little bit, and that God probably didn't mean this to apply to him anyway.

How natural such reasoning is to the unconverted human mind!

The result? God punished all Israel before their enemies. God would like all men to know that *He means business!*

If we can't learn anything else from these historical books of the Bible, we had better learn that when God gives a command, He means *exactly what He says!*

As long as Israel obeyed God, "the land had rest from war" (Joshua 14:15). There is a way to peace and prosperity, but today men will have *none of it!* They

would rather try in vain to bring it about by their own *human devising.*

Before Joshua's death, he called Israel together and reminded them that God had given them a land for which they did not labor. Then he continued (Joshua 24:15): "*choose you this day whom you will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.*"

Here was a final warning to the people to serve their Creator and obey His laws. God had already shown them that His way was best. Now it was up to them!

The Results of Human Reason

Before Israel entered the promised land, God had commanded them to completely destroy the heathen nations residing there (Deut. 7:2). These heathen nations were practicing a most abominable form of idolatry which was making their lives a blot and shame to mankind.

Archeologists have found the remains of many children in these ancient cities who had been sacrificed to Baal and other heathen gods. These pagans were wrecking their own lives with these vile practices, and would have drawn Israel into similar idolatry if they had not been exterminated. In view of the resurrection, God knew they were *better off dead* for the time being!

So God's command to kill these people was really not so harsh as we might suppose. It was really for *their own good*, and the good of others.

But *fleshly* Israelites thought, *like many today*, that they were more wise and righteous than God! They spared the lives of many of these idolaters because, to their *human reason*, this seemed best (Judges 1).

God was greatly angered by their disobedience. He sent an angel to tell them that the heathen nations "*shall be as thorns in your sides*, and their gods shall be a snare unto you" (Judges 2:3).

Soon, "there arose another generation after them, which knew not the Lord, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel. And the children of Israel *did*

evil in the sight of the Lord, and served Baalim" (Judges 2:10-11). How many times does the "younger generation" depart from the right ways of their fathers? We poor humans seem to be so perverse that we *can't* learn anything without suffering by traveling the wrong way first! Yet God has given us this history so that we have ample opportunity to see where our own way leads.

After Israel forsook God, He delivered them into the hands of their enemies to punish them. When they repented, God would raise up judges, which delivered them from their enemies. Then the obstinate Israelites would once again go a whoring after their gods and their Creator would be forced to punish them again (Judges 2:13-19).

What a lesson written in human suffering! When Israel served God, they prospered. But when they turned to idolatry and other sins, they suffered terribly. Read this vivid account for yourself! Is our nation obeying God any better today?

The very last verse of Judges gives the reason for all this suffering: "In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was *right in his own eyes*." God is forcefully showing that *conscience and human reason just cannot be relied upon!* We need to seek the Eternal and walk in His ways.

Human Government

All thru the books of Joshua and Judges, we found that Israel refused to obey God or the voice of the judges that He set over them. They all wanted to do what was right in their own eyes. They *refused* to submit to the government of God.

The books of Samuel begin with a God-fearing woman, Hannah, praying to God for a boy. If her prayer is granted, she promises to give her boy to the service of God (I Sam. 1:11).

In I Samuel 3, we find that God had called Samuel to serve Him, and that "all Israel from Dan even unto Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord." So the people really understood that Samuel was a called servant of God. But did they obey him? We shall see!

When Israel was in trouble, Samuel commanded them to repent and turn to God. His prayer was heard, and God delivered them from the Philistines.

But when Samuel became old, his rebellious sons began to pervert judgment. The people began to clamor for a king "like all the nations" (I Sam. 8:5). They wanted *human government* instead of God's rule!

Samuel was displeased and prayed about the matter. "And the Lord said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee:

for they have not rejected thee, BUT THEY HAVE REJECTED ME, that I should not reign over them" (I Sam. 8:7).

They had rejected the rule and government of their very Creator! These carnal-minded Israelites had decided that they were smarter than God, and they wanted to have *human government* so they could run things to suit themselves.

Churches Make Same Mistake Today

Do you realize that most professing Christians feel the same way today? They *do not want* to submit to God's government or His laws! Yet Jesus Christ came proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, or government, of God (Mark 1:14). This is the very essence of the true gospel!

Rev. 19:15 shows that Christ is coming to rule all nations with a rod of iron. I Cor. 10:4 tells us that *Christ was the one who dealt with the children of Israel*. So they were then rejecting Christ's rule just as most people are today!

Perhaps they thought that they could just "accept Christ" like many so-called Christians today. It is time to WAKE UP and realize that Christ is to be your King as well as your Saviour! An empty faith or belief will avail you nothing. As Christ said in Luke 4:4, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by *every word of God*."

Study these historical books, then, and see what a MESS man makes when he tries to govern himself without obeying God's directions!

The prophet Samuel warned Israel that they would have to obey God if their kingdom was to last (I Sam. 12). Saul, who had been made king, immediately overstepped his bounds and offered sacrifice. This was an exclusive function of the priests, and Samuel reproved him for this wrong act (I Sam. 13:8-14). After making some more blunders, Saul disobeyed God's command to destroy all the animals and goods of the Amalekites. He claimed that they were spared in order to sacrifice to God. But regardless of that, he had once again used his own *human reason* and directly disobeyed God's command!

The prophet Samuel then informed Saul (I Sam. 15:22-23): "Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, TO OBEY IS BETTER THAN SACRIFICE, and to hearken than the fat of rams . . . Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king."

What a powerful message for people of all ages! God requires implicit OBEDIENCE of His Word above everything else! When will people realize this fact?

David and Solomon

After rejecting Saul, God had Samuel secretly anoint David to be king. Note that Samuel and Jesse (I Sam. 16:6-7) both would have chosen one of David's older brothers to be king. Human beings often *disagree with God's selection* of a leader or ruler. But God knows best, because He looks on the heart. Keep that in mind when you think about criticizing a true minister, a servant of God.

From the time of his anointing, David went through many trials and tests. But, as he wrote in Psalm 34:19, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth him out of them all."

One of the principal things to remember about David is his constant prayer life. He wrote most of the Psalms, and they abound with his prayers, thanksgivings, and praises toward God.

In Psalm 119:97, David wrote, "O how love I thy law! It is my meditation all the day."

How many Christians today love and meditate upon God's law, and keep as close to God in prayer as David? No wonder he was a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22).

Many atheists and scoffers ridicule the Bible account of David's sin with Bathsheba (II Sam. 11). They seem to *forget* that David bitterly repented of it when he was made to realize what he had done (II Sam. 12). God did not condone his action, but took the life of his son and caused him to be involved in wars the rest of his life as a lesson to teach us all how terrible sin is.

None of us are worthy to condemn David for *his one* great sin, but we can learn from this account that if we sincerely and bitterly repent of *our sins*, God will forgive us. The very fact that David himself had to write the story of this wicked act in a book for all generations to read should *prove* to anyone that the Bible is no *man-made* book!

In his old age, David appointed Solomon as his successor. He instructed him to keep God's laws "that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest."

Solomon's first request to God after being made king was for an "understanding heart" to judge the people. God was pleased at this request, and granted his wish (I Kings 3:7-12).

Israel then began to prosper under Solomon's wise and peaceful rule. The Queen of Sheba heard of Solomon's wisdom and fame and came to prove him with hard questions (I Kings 10). After meeting Solomon, she confessed, "thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard" (I Kings 10:7). This shows the results of one who will follow God and ask Him for wisdom and guidance (James 1:5).

But shortly after this, "king Solomon

loved many strange women" (I Kings 11:1). He broke God's commandment against marrying the heathen and "his wives turned away his heart" (Verse 3). From then on, his heart was not perfect with God (Verse 4) and he and Israel were on the way down. Compare this with the admonition in James 4:8.

Kings and Prophets

After Solomon's death, one king after another took over the reins of government in Israel and Judah. The nation, remember, split into separate kingdoms which warred with one another.

In Israel, the people and every one of the 19 kings followed the worship of the Golden Calf! Many of them served Baal. And how dearly the people paid for rejecting God and wanting *human government!*

The kings of Judah also tended to serve idols, but at times there were great reformations. God witnessed mightily before the people and sent Elijah, Elisha, and other prophets to warn them to return to God. But for the most part, Israel and Judah remained rebellious and refused to turn whole-heartedly to God.

About 721 B.C., Israel was taken into captivity by the Assyrians (2 Kings 17:6). God's warnings had been to no avail and He was forced to punish them.

The temporary reformations in Judah did not last. Judah followed Israel into captivity, beginning 604 B.C. Sometimes it takes a lot of suffering to make us humans realize that our own ways are wrong!

The book of Ezra tells of the Jews' return from captivity under Ezra. They rebuilt the temple in Jerusalem under the protection and guidance of God. They began to keep God's annual feasts (Ezra 3:4 and 6:19-22) and to keep God's commandments.

Some of the men violated God's command against marrying foreign wives and were commanded by Ezra to forsake them (Ezra 10). Compare with II Cor. 6:14. By that time those Jews recognized the POWER of God, and "all the people sat in the street of the house of God, trembling because of this matter . . ."

People today don't FEAR and TREMBLE before the word of God! Prophecy tells us that we, too, are going to be punished until we learn to fear and respect the *authority* of God. Why not study God's word and learn these lessons without having to SUFFER in order to learn this precious knowledge?

Human nature is still at work! The people have not yet learned that the way to genuine and lasting happiness is to *fear, obey, and love* God. Yes, truth is sometimes stranger than fiction! In spite of all its suffering, the world hasn't learned this simplest of all lessons.

Have you?

A Rearmed GERMANY

(Continued from page 12)

she will be *nearly* ready to engulf Europe. TERROR WILL CONFRONT EUROPE UNLESS UNITY IS ACHIEVED. Suddenly in Europe will emerge the only power that can overcome the evil faith of Communism—a *stronger counterfeit faith!* A RELIGIOUS FAITH IN A UNITED EUROPE GUIDED BY A RELIGIOUS LEADER UNDER "GOD." Germany will be the *dominant* power, a Germany that will despise the weakness of America and Britain, just as Gentile nations have always abhorred Israel.

Union of Ten Nations

The seventeenth chapter of Revelation describes the *last* union of ten nations that will emerge in this European alliance. There will be a great political leader, *who is alive today*, planning for the very time he can unite Europe against Russia and the Democratic nations. He will be able to *persuade* with flattery the peoples of Europe to unite and give him their *combined* military strength.

He will undoubtedly have Fascist Spain and Portugal on his side. He will be a Fascist, for he will either be German or he will have to flatter the Germans to obtain their support. The present quarreling between France and Germany will be ironed out. *All Europe will have a common cause*—the desire to unite against Communism and force *their diabolical faith* on this world. The world will be astounded at the speed and power of this union (Rev. 17:8).

Coupled with the military might that *we are building in Europe for these very nations to use against us* will be the scientific ingenuity of German underground scientists, in Spain and Argentina, who are now perfecting weapons secretly in these Fascist countries—weapons that will destroy our cities and KILL NEARLY ONE THIRD OF OUR PEOPLE!—before we will be able to use our stockpile of atomic and hydrogen bombs! (Ezek. 5:12; 6:11, 12).

But more than military might will be the satanical religious *faith* that will weld Europe together. The union will be a "holy" union. A religious leader will astound the world by claiming to perform miracles to deceive the people into following his leadership and the leadership of the coming political "beast" in Europe. It will be a church-state union, dominated by *religious faith* and the desire for world rule!

European-Russian Alliance?

When this union forms, Russia will

fear the possibility of war with a Europe that has *more military might than she has yet been able to assemble*. With Gentile Europe despising America and England—the ravaged "capitalist" nations weakened by famine and depression and ripe for conquest—this European union will probably come to reasonable agreement *with Russia* just as Hitler and Napoleon did. Russia will need an agreement to give her time to build up her war potential.

Russia will have come to terms on East Germany and will be forced to relinquish her control over Hungary and Czechoslovakia, just as she has recently relinquished parts of Austria, to complete the ten nation union. Europe will have A FREE HAND TO DESTROY AMERICA AND BRITAIN AS PROPHECIED.

Yes, God will cause these Gentile European nations to "have one mind, and (they) shall give their power and strength unto the beast." (Rev. 17:13) The "beast" of Revelation and the Babylonian religious system that will dominate Europe will be the powers that conquer the Democratic powers, the descendants of the ancient House of Israel. God says: "I was wroth with my people, I have polluted mine inheritance, and given them (His people Israel) into thine hand (the Babylonian system that has gripped Europe since the days of the Caesars)." (Isaiah 47:6)

The entire Bible shows that Israel, America and the Democratic nations, WILL BE IN SLAVERY IN GENTILE NATIONS AT THE RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST TO SET UP HIS EVERLASTING GOVERNMENT. That means that, *unless you and your family repent, watch these world events and pray earnestly* (Luke 21:36), you can NOT escape these things that are to come on this people for their sins. Only those who keep the commandments and believe the Gospel (the testimony of Jesus Christ) will escape the ravages of European armies, the bombings of our cities and SLAVERY. (Rev. 12:17).

The struggle for world rule is a *struggle of faiths*. The Communists have faith in the *power of man* to change this world by lying propaganda and violence. The Fascists have faith that they can unite Europe and impose their faith on the world. Future articles in this magazine will explain the eventual destruction of both these *faiths* by a different faith, an eternal faith—the POWER OF GOD TO CHANGE THE HEART OF MAN AND CRUSH HUMAN RULE ALTOGETHER UNDER THE MIGHT OF HIS KINGDOM!

Worst WEATHER Ever!

(Continued from page 4)

upon one city"—floods—"and caused it not to rain upon another city"—droughts—"one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it rained not withered. So two or three cities wandered unto one city, to drink water; but they were not satisfied: YET HAVE YE NOT RETURNED UNTO ME, saith the Lord."

Drought, floods, famines *are the result of man's having turned from the ways of God*. Man is bringing these sufferings upon himself. We are about to reap one final catastrophe as a result of our DISOBEDIENCE.

The only way of deliverance is through REPENTANCE—sorrow for having done wrong, and a *determination* to do what is right from now on.

The Right Way

God created the world. He owns it. God, then, is the Landlord; we are the renters. Maybe we have not thought of it in that way before, but it is true. And what have we done with His property?

First, we have ruined it by overwork and exploitation. Wherever man has been he has finally turned a beautiful earth into a desolate wilderness or an arid desert. We have not learned to care for *God's property*. We have *taken from the soil and given little to the soil in return*. We have never allowed good farm land to rest—until it becomes too late to restore its fertility.

What fools we mortals be!

Second, we have not paid our *rent* to our Supreme Landlord. Yes, *you owe God rent*, whether you are a farmer, laborer, business man or housewife. You

are using His *soil*, dwelling on His *land*, spending His *time* for your own livelihood. For permitting you the use of everything He created on this earth, He demands only a fraction of the amount which human landlords demand. God gives you 90% of what you acquire, and He asks only 10% in return. That 10% He calls a *tithe*. The word *tithe* means a *tenth*.

Our people have been *robbing* God of His rightful rent. Says the Creator: "Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have *robbed* me, even this whole nation. Bring ye *all* the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and *prove* me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (Malachi 3:9-10). This is God's promise.

God promises to bless any nation that trusts Him and faithfully obeys Him. Our nations have NOT done that, and for that reason we face a national catastrophe before 1975!

God promises to bless the individual who pays the tithe. Don't think that God does not notice when you pay Him what is His. He is very conscious of it—especially because *so few are honest enough to pay it*.

A Two-fold Reward

Tithing brings a two-fold reward. God will not only return you added blessings during times of prosperity—which you would not otherwise have received—but *He also promises you DELIVERANCE during times of economic*

adversity, as we have read in Psalm 34:19.

You may encounter trouble, but God has *promised*—and He cannot lie—to deliver you out of *every* drought, flood, tornado or famine. There is no other way of *protection*. If you value your life, if you value the lives of your family, if you value your property, you had better turn to God, repent of your sins and begin to pay God from now on, the tithes you owe Him.

Your past mistakes God overlooks if you *repent*. He will not send you any bill for your past failure to pay His tithe. But He will expect you to be faithful from now on.

Only remember that if you do *not* square yourself with the Almighty Ruler of the universe, that He *will* collect from you all your past obligations *by casting you out of your very own home*. These are strong words, but they are true.

God Almighty has spoken through His servants the prophets that He will punish our people for their sins. He will let our own lust cause such droughts, floods, pestilences and famines that we will be totally consumed and carried away captive to other nations as slaves within 20 years.

These prophecies cannot be understood unless you write for Mr. Armstrong's FREE booklet "The United States and Great Britain." None of the dozens of prophecies relating to these catastrophic occurrences, already commencing, have been understood because the ministers have been unwilling to admit our national identity—that the English-speaking people ARE THE "LOST" TEN TRIBES OF ISRAEL. These amazing prophecies all refer to Israel!

Tithing is God's challenge! Are YOU going to practice what He commands you? It is your *only* protection from the coming disaster that faces our nation.

The PLAIN TRUTH

Printed in the U.S.A.

Box 111—Pasadena, California

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

Nonprofit Organization

U. S. POSTAGE

PAID

Permit No. 703

Pasadena, California