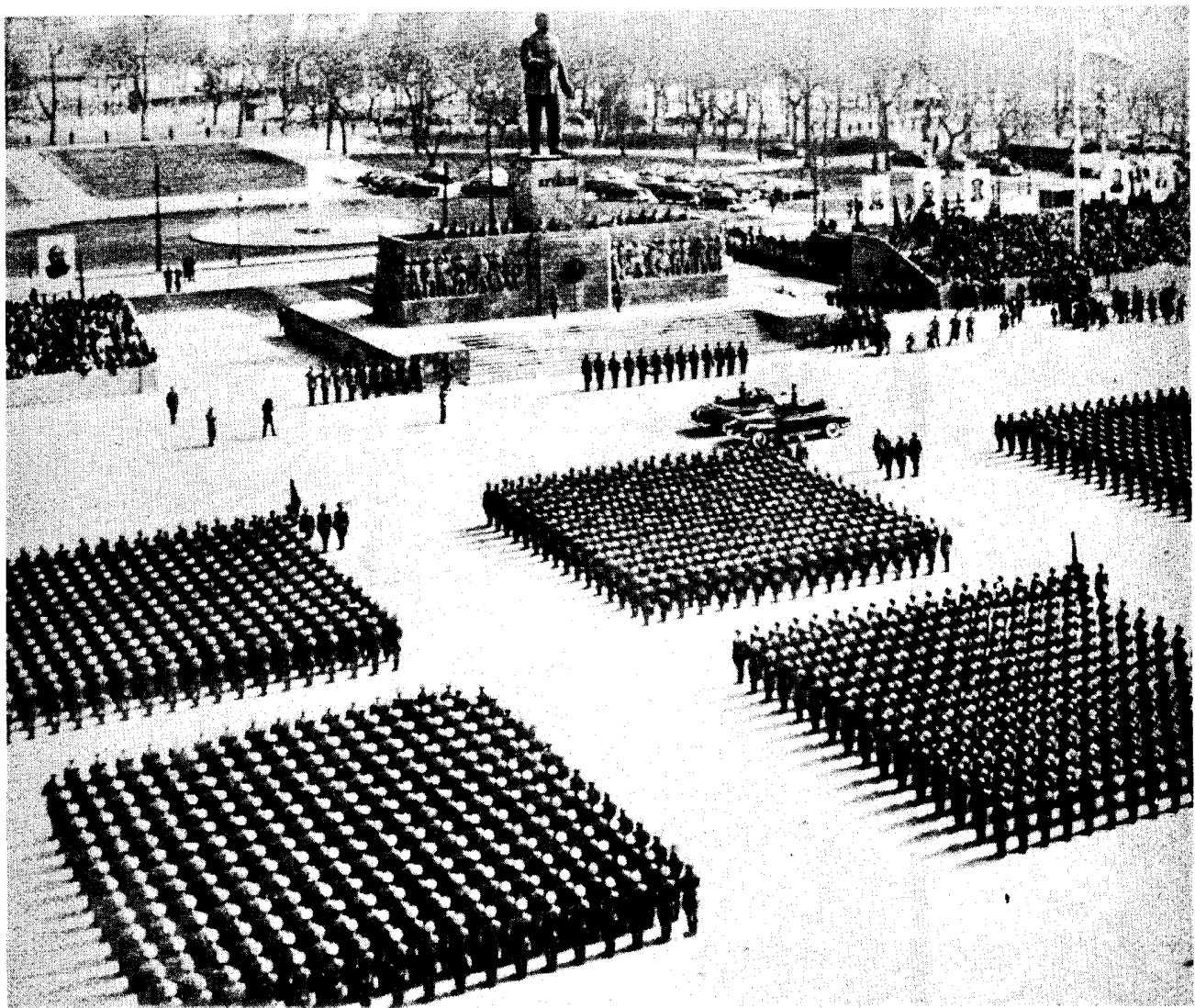


the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding

VOLUME XXII, NUMBER 6

JUNE, 1957



Wide World Photo

Is Russia prepared to launch an attack on the United States and England? Here you see part of the military might of Soviet Communism in Hungary. Yet in Hungary, after the picture was taken, Russian tyranny was nearly overthrown! How strong is Russia? Is Russia prepared for an all-out war now? Read the answer in the surprising article beginning on page 3.

Letters to the Editor

We thought you might like to read with us some of the hundreds of heart-warming and inspiring letters we receive every day.

Here is the first one:

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"I was very happy to hear you for the first time on the radio last night. It thrilled my soul for, if you are teaching what I think you are, it couldn't have happened at a more perfect time.

"I would like very much to receive your magazine entitled 'Plain Truth,' and any other literature that you have concerning God.

"I have been in an utter state of confusion concerning this very subject. I feel at times that I know very well what I believe, but there are so many things that I just can't explain.

"I find myself that there are so many questions that I don't know the answers to. Like: Who is going up in the rapture? Who's going through the tribulation? Who's going to heaven? I am just full of questions."

Miss . . .

St. Ann, Missouri

Old readers of THE PLAIN TRUTH will be familiar with the answers to these vital questions. Hundreds of letters like this come to us each day from new listeners. We hope this new listener will know the answers to her questions soon.

Effect of Broadcast

From a woman in New York City:

"One day when I listened to your program, my neighbor called the police. When the two policemen came to my apartment, both men sat down and the three of us listened to the end of your program. They were very happy and I gave them the booklet 'The United States in Prophecy.' They told me they would take it to the other members of the police force at Headquarters."

That was certainly an unusual circumstance. God works everything out even if our neighbors are against us.

The Correspondence Course

Here is a striking letter from a woman in Jamaica, New York:

"Since I started the Bible Correspond-

ence Course, the sermon each night brings more enlightenment to me. The more I read the lessons, the more I want to read. I have read my first two lessons over and over. I am very glad that I enrolled in the study. It's a God-send to me."

Yes, and many thousands are enjoying it with her!

Work of God

"I feel as though I owe you and the other writers of the PLAIN TRUTH an apology. Because my wife felt as though your work was the work of God, I was prejudiced against you. But now I feel as though God has brought me to the fact that this is the work of God, and I have begged God's forgiveness. I was supposed to have been a Christian, but I don't feel as though I was very much of one. Now God has revealed His truth to me, and with all my strength I shall serve God, and I greatly desire your prayers."

Mr. . . .

St. Louis, Missouri

Many others have shared these same feelings. But how thankful we are to know that God can change the hearts of individuals and bring them to real repentance and a new life.

Vital Key

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"Thank you for the booklet 'The United States and the British Commonwealth in Prophecy.' I have been reading it with great interest with the Bible. It is truly a vital key to unlock prophetic doors of understanding of the true identity of the American and British peoples."

Mrs. . . .

Seattle, Washington

And over a million others have read this booklet with intense interest.

Army Problems

"I am in the Army stationed outside of Pittsburgh. I have heard your broadcast a number of times, and the blessings

I have received each time were wonderful.

"It is so hard for me to lead a Christian life. I have found myself going further away from God's word all the time. I would appreciate your sending to me the pamphlet on Bible study, so I might use it as a guide for better reading and understanding of God's word.

"I hope through better Bible study I can regain that closeness I once had."

Serviceman,

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Yes, members of the armed services also hear the program and receive the magazines.

Many Broadcasts

"We go with you every night on the air. We begin with XEG, then go to WWVA, next on WABC, next on WLS. We believe that you carry the best program on the air."

Colored family,

Clinton, North Carolina

Many of our listeners hear The WORLD TOMORROW program over several stations. That is the way to understand the gospel message whenever static interferes with good reception.

Race Question

"I have just spent three hours on the 'Race Question' and this article helped me more on this subject than all my other studying on the subject."

Ravenswood, W. Va.

We have had a tremendous response from our readers as a result of this article.

Segregation

"I have just read the April issue on segregation and I think it is explained as God meant it. It's the best I have ever heard. Please send four more. One for my minister, one for Sunday School teacher and two for school teachers."

High School Student

Sorry, but we do not send multiple copies of THE PLAIN TRUTH for individuals to distribute. We will send a limited number of sample copies to your friends if you give us their addresses. BUT they will have to request it for themselves if they want to receive it each

(Please continue on page 14)

Will MIDDLE EAST Crisis Lead to World War Now?

The Communist PLOT to seize control of the Suez and dominate Arab countries is spreading in Syria, Egypt and Jordan. Will the "Eisenhower Doctrine" force Russia to retreat, or will it precipitate World War III in the Middle East?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

COMMUNISM is rapidly spreading its ugly tentacles in the Middle East. Britain's life-line has almost been severed.

Now the United States has stepped into the Near East crisis with the "Eisenhower Doctrine." The United States is guaranteeing every country that will accept our aid economic and military protection against communism. Jordan has accepted it. Other Arab countries are divided. Some are afraid of American Imperialism!

Does this struggle between America and the USSR in the eastern Mediterranean mean that Russia is about to launch a surprise atomic and hydrogen bomb attack to wipe out Western Civilization?

How to Know What Will Happen

There is only one way to know the answer. The God who made the world—Who makes and unmakes nations—He reveals *the future* before it happens so we can know and take warning!

Many who claim to be authorities on prophecy have been busy assuring people a war involving Russia and America and England is prophesied in Ezekiel 38.

The United States, Great Britain, and the democracies of northwestern Europe are actually modern ISRAEL—descended from the so-called lost Ten Tribes. Therefore, they conclude, the prophecy of Ezekiel 38 foretells a military invasion of the North American continent from Russia.

But this is *not* what the prophecy says.

What Ezekiel 38 *does* foretell is truly astounding. Let's understand it.

The Time-Sequence of the Prophecy

Ezekiel's message is for *our day*—a prophetic warning for America and Britain, *now*!

To understand the time, the place, and all the facts of the prophecy of Ezekiel 38, we need to begin at the 1st chapter of Ezekiel's prophecy and read the book clear through.

When we do this, we find a TIME-SEQUENCE flowing thru the Book.

Let us skim thru it very briefly.

Notice, in the very first verse, Ezekiel was among the Jewish captives who had been taken in the captivity of Judah to the River Chebar. It was in the fifth year of King Jehoiachin's captivity that this prophecy began coming to Ezekiel thru visions.

It is a PROPHECY. Ezekiel was being shown things far into the FUTURE.

Notice, the prophecy was inspired and written *after* JUDAH'S captivity—more than 130 years after the House of ISRAEL had been taken captive to Assyria. The advance-guard of the House of Israel already had begun to arrive in the British Isles before Ezekiel's vision and writing.

Yet, Ezekiel is a prophet to the HOUSE OF ISRAEL. His prophecy applies to the far future—*not* to the captivity of Israel which had occurred more than 130 years before he wrote. Remember that!

Notice, Ezek. 2:3, and 3:1, 4-7. Ezekiel's message, a PROPHECY for the FUTURE, is for the HOUSE OF ISRAEL, not the House of Judah.

In chapter 3, beginning verse 17, Ezekiel is set a watchman to WARN the House of Israel.

Message to Israel, Not Judah

Notice! Beginning chapter 3: After the prophet "eats the roll"—that is, receives the prophetic warning message—he is to "go speak unto the HOUSE OF ISRAEL"—not to the Jews among whom he dwelt.

Remember he is already *among* the captives of JUDAH. But the Eternal says

to him: "Go, get thee unto the House of ISRAEL" (verse 4).

Surely we do not need to pause here to explain to readers of The PLAIN TRUTH that the twelve tribes of Israel had long before this divided into *two nations*—the ten tribes being the House of ISRAEL, while Judah and Benjamin composed the House of JUDAH, who, *only*, were nicknamed "Jews." For the benefit of those readers who do not understand this vital distinction—a veritable "key" without which the prophecies cannot be opened to understanding—another edition of the special booklet "The United States and the British Commonwealth in Prophecy" has been published, and upon special request a copy will be sent free.

The Jewish people of today are descended from the House of JUDAH. But the white, English-speaking people of the United States and Great Britain are the leading "birthright" tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh, heads of the ten-tribed HOUSE OF ISRAEL.

Ezekiel's Message is for *our day*—and it is, therefore, *a message for America and Britain, NOW*!

Notice chapter 4. The prophet is to place before him a tile, and trace upon it the city of Jerusalem, and lay siege against it. The sins pictured are those of Jerusalem, capital of JUDAH. But "this" (verse 3) "*shall be a sign to the HOUSE of ISRAEL.*" Then follows the well-known key to the "day for a year" method of reckoning prophecy.

Continue chapter 5. "For," comes the warning Message from the Eternal, "thereof SHALL a fire come forth into all the HOUSE OF ISRAEL" (verse 4). Notice, this is to portray vividly a warning of some FUTURE destruction upon the House of ISRAEL! Not upon Judah, already conquered by Nebuchadnezzar

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NO. 6

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

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and now in the midst of his sieges against Jerusalem. But upon ISRAEL—the ten-tribed nation who had gone into its first and original captivity one hundred thirty long years before! The warning is not of the captivity already so far back in history. It says “thereof **SHALL** a fire **COME**” upon Israel! It is a prophecy relating to a **FUTURE** destruction and captivity.

No such destruction and captivity has ever *yet* come to the House of Israel since this was written! *Therefore it is still in the future*—IN OUR TIME! It is a warning to Britain and America—NOW!

A Captivity of Israel Yet Future!

Notice more of this grim warning! “A third part of thee [America-Britain] shall die with the pestilence, and with famine shall they be consumed in the midst of thee: and a third part shall fall by the sword round about thee; and I will scatter a third part into all the winds” (in captivity, being removed from our own land and scattered over the world) (verse 12).

Coming to chapter 6, the local scene of the vision shifts to the mountainous

land of Palestine—but the MESSAGE is for AMERICA AND BRITAIN, today!

Will we heed it? God help us to wake up!

Listen! “Behold I, even I,” says the Eternal God (verse 3), “will bring a sword [invasion] upon you, and I will destroy your high places . . . and I will lay the dead carcasses of the children of ISRAEL before their idols; and I will scatter your bones round about your altars. In all your dwelling places the cities *shall be laid waste* [atomic-bombing] . . . and ye shall know that I am the Eternal” (verses 5-7).

Just a small remnant shall escape and be spared (verse 8). These are described in Luke 21:36.

Continue: “Thus saith the Eternal God; . . . Alas for all the evil abominations of [not Judah, but] the HOUSE OF ISRAEL! For they **SHALL**” (not *did*, in the captivity 130 years before Ezekiel wrote, but **SHALL**) “fall by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence” (verse 11).

The TIME Is FUTURE!

This is not a popular message. You probably have never heard it before. The preachers and teachers of prophecy almost unanimously will rise up to deny this warning Message—to apply it to a different time or people. But the warning is from the Eternal God, *and it is sure!* The reader will do well to heed!

Notice the TIME! It's important.

“All hands shall be feeble, and all knees shall be as weak as water” (Chapter 7 verse 17). “Howl ye; for the DAY OF THE LORD is at hand; . . . therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt; and they shall be afraid” (Isa. 13:6-7). Plainly, the TIME of the “Day of the Lord” is at hand—yet *in the immediate future!*

Continue: “They shall cast their silver in the streets, and their gold shall be removed: their silver and their gold shall not be able to deliver them in the day of the WRATH OF THE LORD” (Ezek. 7:19). Now compare that with Zeph. 1:14-18: “The great day of the Lord is near . . . That day is a DAY OF WRATH . . . And I [the Eternal] will bring distress upon men . . . *Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the Lord's Wrath.*”

Both are speaking of the same time . . . a time shortly ahead of us now, in this present generation!

“Wherefore,” continues verse 24 (Ezek. 7), “I will bring the worst of the heathen, and they shall possess their houses: and I will also make the pomp of the strong to cease . . . **DESTRUCTION** cometh; and they shall seek peace, *and there shall be none* . . . then shall they seek a vision of the prophet; but the law shall perish from the priest” (verses 25-26).

Yes, when this comes, our people finally will cry out for a true prophet or minister of the Eternal God—but it will be too late! For *then* shall have come the time spoken by the prophet Amos, when there shall be a **FAMINE OF HEARING THE WORDS OF THE ETERNAL**—(Amos 8:11)—an **END** of true Gospel preaching! Already the people and their paid ministers have turned their eyes and ears from God's law!

Notice chapter 11 of Ezekiel's prophecy. It is a Message addressed to the House of ISRAEL—verse 5. “I will bring the sword upon you, saith the Eternal God. And I will bring you out of the midst thereof and *deliver you into the hands of strangers*, and will execute judgments among you. Ye shall fall by the sword” (verses 8-10). When? It is

Soviet Navy jet fighters passing over a destroyer. The planes are fitted with exterior flush-mounted wing tanks. Soviet sea power is constantly growing, while Western naval might is diminishing. Naval power is still vital in fighting “brush-fire wars”! Wide World Photo



future from the time Ezekiel wrote, and it has not *yet* happened since then! GOD SAYS IT WILL HAPPEN! He means it.

Chapter 12, verse 11: "They SHALL remove, and go into captivity." It is yet future—and it is the House of ISRAEL! Not Judah.

When? "And they shall know I am the Eternal, *when I shall* scatter them among the nations, and disperse them in the countries" (verse 15). The expression "They shall know that I am the Eternal" is used repeatedly thru the Book of Ezekiel—always referring to the time of the SECOND COMING OF CHRIST, and Israel's final restoration back to the land of Palestine. Many prophecies show Israel is to be scattered in this latter-day captivity *when* Christ comes to RESTORE them back to Palestine.

People Won't Believe It!

Always the true prophets and ministers of God have stood almost alone, and opposed by the overwhelming majority in Israel. That is Israel's history of old. It is true today.

The 13th chapter shows the declarations of the popular ministry of this day in Israel—in America and Britain.

"Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel . . . Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit and have seen nothing! O Israel, thy prophets are like the foxes in the deserts. Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the HOUSE OF ISRAEL to stand in the battle *in the DAY OF THE LORD*" (verses 2-5). It is speaking of the *soon-coming* "Day of the Lord"—not some ancient event! "They have seduced my people, saying Peace; and there was no peace" (verse 10).

Certainly the popular ministry of today is saying to the people that we shall *never* be defeated in war, *because*, say those who understand our national identity, we are the chosen people of Israel! But we were not chosen for special favors. We were chosen for a service and righteous life we have failed to perform! Every time Israel of old disobeyed God, departed from His laws and ways, and went into the pagan customs (as we have done today, actually deceiving ourselves by *calling* those customs "Christian!") they were invaded and con-



Wide World Photo

A typical cheering mob in Jordan. Communist-inspired rioters in the Middle East nearly toppled pro-Western Jordanian King Hussein. Both communists and fascists are making dangerous inroads in the Near East. These riots are sparks which could suddenly set off another war!

quered. *Has God changed?*

Ezekiel catalogs our sins—our customs and ways which seem right in *our* eyes but which are contrary to God's laws and an *abomination* in HIS sight. Some of them he mentions in the 8th chapter.

In chapter 22: "Thou hast despised mine holy things, and profaned my sabbaths," says the Eternal (verse 8). "Thou hast taken usury and increase, and thou hast greedily gained of thy neighbors by extortion, and hath forgotten me, saith the Eternal . . . And I will [not did, but *will*] scatter thee among the heathen, and disperse thee in the countries, and will consume thy filthiness out of thee" (verses 12, 15).

"Her priests [prophetically speaking of modern Israel] have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shown difference between the unclean and the clean [Lev. 11], and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them" (verse 26). Our people today can't see where *these* things make any difference! But Ezekiel says the preachers have deceived the people, and led them astray. They have condoned all these things, until the people have lost God's pure TRUTH!

At this point Ezekiel disgresses thru eight chapters, 25 thru 32, to prophesy against a number of foreign Gentile nations who have come in direct contact with Israel. In chapter 33, the prophet returns to pleading with the House of Israel. "Turn ye, turn ye," God pleads, "from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O House of Israel?" Here, too, Ezekiel is again set a watchman to WARN Israel—AMERICA AND BRITAIN TODAY!—at the time when this prophesied foreign sword is coming! Ezekiel wrote the Message—but it remains for us to whom God has revealed it today actually to shout and proclaim it to the people. God help us to be faithful in this solemn and grave commission!

In the 34th chapter, God tells him to prophesy against the ministers of our land. They have fed themselves, and not the flocks. They have preached what people wanted to hear (II Tim. 4:3-4) in order to get their salaries.

The Coming of Christ!

And now the Eternal inspires the prophet to come to the solution!

"Thus saith the Eternal God: Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock . . . Behold I, even I, will both search

my sheep and seek them out . . . and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day [the DAY OF THE LORD—yet future]. And I will . . . gather them from the countries, and bring them to their own land [Palestine], and feed them [spiritual food] upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country" (verses 10-14).

Christ Himself—for He is the Eternal—shall come and rescue our people, not only from the coming captivity and dispersion, but from the false Babylonish teachings which have been palmed off to our people cloaked as "Christianity." He will then set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of His people Israel (Isa. 11:11). The spiritual blindness shall then be removed, and all Israel shall be saved! (See Romans 11:25-26.) The KINGDOM OF GOD shall be established. Men shall be tired of their *own* ways, and seek God's ways—and *His law* shall go forth of Zion (Micah 4:2-3). And the nations shall find PEACE!

The 35th chapter reveals the end of the Turkish nation, to occur at this time, because of their treachery against Great Britain—all yet to be fulfilled. This ties up with the prophecy of Obadiah.

In the 36th chapter, the Eternal addresses Palestine: "Prophesy unto the mountains of Israel . . . Thus saith the Eternal God to the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, to the desolate wastes, and to the cities that are forsaken . . . But ye, O mountains of Israel, ye shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to my people of Israel; for they are at hand to come . . . And I will multiply men upon you, *all the* HOUSE OF ISRAEL even ALL of it: and the cities shall be inhabited, and the wastes shall be builded: and I will multiply upon you man and beast" (verses 1, 4, 8, 10-11).

Yes, the House of Israel is pictured returning to Palestine, *not* from a condition of wealth and prosperity from Britain and America—*not* in the position of a people victorious in a great world war—but as a slave and captive people, scattered thru the nations of the world! ALL prophecies picturing this rescue and

re-gathering of Israel at Christ's coming give us the same prophetic picture! Why be blinded to the truth?

In chapter 37, the first part pictures

RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

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

TO THE U.S. & CANADA

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WLS—Chicago—890 on dial—11:30 P.M., Mon. thru Fri.; 8:30 Sunday night.

WWVA—Wheeling, W. Va.—1170 on dial—Sundays, 11:05 P.M. Eastern Daylight time. 10:15 P.M., Mon. and Wed. thru Fri. 10:30 P.M., Tues.

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

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KUGN—Eugene—590 k.c.—7:00 P.M. Sun. thru Fri.

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

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31.22 k.c.—8:30 P.M., Thursday.

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Wednesday: 5:50-6:20 P.M.

RADIO LOURENCO MARQUES

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the "valley of dry bones." This represents (verse 11) the whole House of Israel including Judah. It has a dual significance. It pictures the re-birth and resurrection of Israel *as a nation*, from captivity, dispersion and slavery. It pictures, too, the literal bodily resurrection of the individual who has long since died, after which the knowledge of the Truth—spiritual knowledge—shall be revealed, and he shall be converted, and God's Spirit shall enter within, and he shall be saved.

Both Houses United in Palestine

Beginning the 15th verse, the illustration of the two sticks shows the two Houses, or nations, Israel and Judah, being once more united, under Christ at His second coming, in the land of Palestine.

"Thus saith the Eternal God; Behold I will take the children of Israel from" (is it from the British Isles and America—from a position of affluence as recent victors in the world war? No, but) "from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land: and I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be King over them all: *they shall be no more two nations*, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all: neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with *any* of their transgressions . . . And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt . . . they, and their children, and their children's children forever. . . . Moreover, I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an EVER-LASTING COVENANT"—The NEW Covenant—(verses 21-26).

And Now Comes Gog!

Notice, now, the story-flow—the time-sequence! The prophet has carried us thru the sins of Israel, the coming invasion and captivity and dispersion, the Coming of Christ as DELIVERER to RESTORE the fortunes of Israel. We have come to the time when both Israel and

(Please continue on page 10)

Who is the "BEAST"?

If you have his MARK, you must suffer the Seven Last PLAGUES!!
Is he a mysterious superman world dictator, yet to appear? . . .
Is he the Antichrist . . . or a government . . . or a Church?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

A MOST important question of the hour is: "What, or who, is the BEAST, the IMAGE of the Beast, and the MARK of the Beast?"

Whatever this weird "Beast"—whatever the baffling "IMAGE"—whatever the mysterious "MARK"—it behooves you and me to find out!

For it is those of this very present generation who shall be worshipping this "Beast" or his "Image," or shall have received his "mark," that will suffer the unspeakable tortures of the SEVEN LAST PLAGUES!

Ignorance will not excuse! "My people are destroyed for lack of wisdom," says the Eternal, in Hosea 4:6. And the illustration of Ezekiel's watchman shows that those who are ignorant, because they are not warned, will suffer just the same (Ezekiel 33:6; and 3:18). God expects HIS PEOPLE to be His "watchmen" and to warn the people, and unless we do, He will require their blood at our hand!

The time is at hand! The plagues of God's WRATH will soon be poured out, unmixed and undiluted—FULL STRENGTH—upon a heedless, God-defying world, and a careless, luke-warm, indifferent Christianity!

Who Shall Suffer the PLAGUES?

Listen! John in Revelation describes the last, final, warning message.

"If any man worship the BEAST and his IMAGE, and receive his MARK in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the WRATH OF GOD, which is poured out without mixture" (Rev. 14:9, 10).

Listen again!

John carried forward in vision into the terrible "Day of the Lord," sees these plagues beginning to fall! "And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven last plagues . . . and the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell A NOISOME AND GRIEVOUS SORE upon the

men which had the MARK of the Beast, and upon them which worshiped his IMAGE!" (Rev. 15:6 and 16:2).

Every sign tells us these things will happen, plunging the world into the most frantic, frenzied state of anguish ever known, WITHIN A MATTER OF A FEW YEARS!

Those who suffer the indescribable WRATH of Almighty God are described as those who worship the BEAST, or his IMAGE, or have his MARK.

It is futile to try to *imagine*, as so many are doing, what the "Mark of the Beast" may be. Too many are trying to fix this all up in their imaginations. But God says "My thoughts are not your thoughts."

We cannot work this out in our minds. We are face to face with a stern reality, not an imaginary fairy tale! There is ONLY ONE WAY to learn the *Truth*. That is to study carefully, cautiously, prayerfully, with an open mind yielded to and guided by the Holy Spirit, ALL the testimony of ALL the scriptures that bear on this question.

We cannot determine what the "MARK" of the Beast may be, until we have learned what, or who, the BEAST is!

For, of course, the "Mark" is the "Beast's" mark. WHO, WHAT, is the "Beast"?

The Bible DESCRIPTION of the "BEAST"

The "Beast," the "Image of the Beast" and the "Mark of the Beast" are all described primarily in the 13th chapter of Revelation.

Notice carefully this BIBLE *description*:

"And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up *out of the sea*, having SEVEN HEADS and TEN HORNS, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

"And the beast which I saw was *like unto a LEOPARD*, and his feet were as

the feet of a BEAR, and his mouth as the mouth of a LION: and the DRAGON gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority" (Rev. 13:1, 2).

Now most of those who are teaching and preaching to others on these subjects overlook entirely this DESCRIPTION. For this description will IDENTIFY the "Beast."

If the "Beast" is some mysterious superman, or Antichrist, soon to appear as world dictator, he will be a peculiar-looking individual indeed, for he will have SEVEN HEADS, AND TEN HORNS! Have you ever seen a man with seven heads, and ten horns growing out of one of his heads? And did you ever see a man who was like a LEOPARD and can you imagine a superman coming who will have the feet of a BEAR, and the mouth of a LION? And will he appear by coming up out of some OCEAN?

Now these, of course, are all SYMBOLS. The very word "Beast" is a symbol. And our problem is to INTERPRET the symbols, for they stand for real, literal things. And when we know what the heads and the horns are, what the feet of the bear, the mouth of the lion, and likeness to a leopard all MEAN, then we can know what, or who, the "BEAST" really is!

The Bible Interprets Its Own Symbols

The point we want to stress is that the Bible INTERPRETS ITS OWN SYMBOLS! If we want the TRUTH, we must be guided solely by the BIBLE interpretation, not man's interpretations and imaginations.

And the BIBLE ITSELF tells us *what they represent!*

In the 7th chapter of Daniel, we find exactly these same symbols described. Here again are the beasts, with the "seven heads," the "ten horns," and here also is the "lion," the "bear," and the "leopard." And here the Bible tells us what these symbols represent.

God had given Daniel understanding

in dreams and visions (Dan. 1:17). And Daniel had a dream and a vision (Dan. 7:1) in which he saw four great BEASTS (verse 3). And notice, as in Revelation, the "beasts" came up *out of the sea*.

The first was like a "LION" (verse 4), the second was like a "BEAR" (v. 5), the third like a "LEOPARD" (v. 6), and the fourth was so dreadful and terrible it could not be compared to any wild beast known to inhabit the earth!

Now there was only the one head described on the lion, one for the bear, one for the fourth beast—but the third beast, the leopard, had FOUR HEADS—thus making SEVEN HEADS in all! And out of this great and dreadful fourth beast grew TEN HORNS!

Now notice verse 16, latter part. Here comes the INTERPRETATION OF THE THINGS! The question is, will we accept this BIBLE interpretation of the seven heads, the ten horns, the lion, the bear, and the leopard?

"These great beasts, which are four, *are* FOUR KINGS which shall arise out of the earth," is the interpretation of verse 17.

And the word "KING" is synonymous with KINGDOM, and used only in the sense that the king represents the kingdom over which he rules, for in verse 23 we read: "the fourth beast shall be the fourth KINGDOM upon the earth." Notice also the word "kingdom" is used to explain the beasts in verses 18, 22, 24, and 27.

Now what do the "HORNS" represent? Notice verse 24: "And the ten horns *out of this KINGDOM are ten kings that shall arise*." Notice the ten horns, or ten succeeding kingdoms or governments, come OUT OF A KINGDOM, not out of a man, or a superman. This alone makes plain that the "BEAST" is not some mysterious personal superman yet to come. Also that the Beast is not a Church, for no ten kingdoms ever did, or will, come OUT OF any Church. And since KING in these prophecies only stands for the KINGDOM he represents, and since the words are used interchangeably, it follows that these ten horns are ten succeeding KINGDOMS growing OUT OF the FOURTH kingdom, which was to rule the earth from the time of Daniel!

Identification of the Kingdoms

These same four world-ruling Gentile kingdoms are described in the second chapter of Daniel. King Nebuchadnezzar of the Chaldean Empire, who had taken the Jews captive, had a dream, the meaning of which God revealed to Daniel.

The dream is described in verses 31-35. The king saw a great image. Its head was of gold, its breast and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of brass, its legs of iron and its feet and toes were part iron and part clay. Finally, a stone, not in men's hands, but supernaturally, smote the image upon his feet and toes. It was broken in pieces and was blown away like chaff. Then the stone that smashed it became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

"This," Daniel says, beginning verse 36, "is the dream; and we will tell the INTERPRETATION thereof to the king.

"... Thou art this head of gold. And after thee shall arise another KINGDOM inferior to thee, and another third KINGDOM of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. And the fourth KINGDOM shall be strong *as iron*: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things; and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise" (verses 36-40).

The interpretation of the STONE smashing the image at its toes is found in the 44th verse:

"And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever." The Stone is Christ and His KINGDOM. The interpretation of the STONE is given many places in the Bible. "Jesus of Nazareth . . . is *the stone* which was set at nought of you builders, which is become HEAD of the corner" (Acts 4:10-11).

And so we see that here are four universal world-ruling Gentile kingdoms. They begin with the Chaldean Empire, when the Jews were taken captive to Babylon, 604-585 B.C. They continue thru four great universal kingdoms and out of the fourth grow ten succeeding governments. These carry to the time

of the Second Coming of Christ, and the setting up of the KINGDOM OF GOD to fill the whole earth and last forever.

The Fourth Beast

Plainly, here are described the SAME FOUR universal world-ruling Gentile powers that are described by Daniel's four beasts. And this dream-image identifies WHO they are. The first was Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom, the Chaldean Empire, called "Babylon" after the name of its capital city, traditionally dated 625-538 B.C.

The second kingdom which followed we know from history. It was the Persian Empire, 558-330 B.C., often called Medo-Persia, composed of Medes and Persians.

All ancient history students know the third world kingdom was Greece, or Macedonia under Alexander the Great, who conquered the great Persian Empire 333-330 B.C. But Alexander lived only a few short years after his swift conquest, and his four Generals divided his vast Empire into four regions: Macedonia and Greece, Thrace and Western Asia, Syria and territory east to the Indus River, and Egypt. So these were the "four heads" of the third beast of Daniel 7.

And the FOURTH KINGDOM, which, developing from Rome, spread out and gradually absorbed one after another of these four divisions—"Dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly," was the ROMAN EMPIRE (31 B.C. to A.D. 476).

It had absorbed all the others, occupied all their territory, was greater and stronger than all. It included all the royal splendor of ancient Babylon, thus having the head—the strongest part—of the "lion." It had all the massiveness and numerically powerful army of the Persian Empire—symbolized by the LEGS, the most powerful part of the BEAR. It was the greatest war-making machine the world had ever seen, and it also possessed the swiftness, the cunning, the cruelty of Alexander's army, symbolized by the LEOPARD.

And thus, this fourth beast was unlike any wild beast of the earth. It was stronger, greater, more terrible, than any.

And so John, in Rev. 13, sees, not four beasts, but ONE beast. Not a leopard, but LIKE a leopard—possessing

all its cunning, cruelty, and speed. But it also possessed the dominant characteristics of the two other most powerful beasts—the FEET of a bear, and the MOUTH of a lion. Daniel's fourth Beast, the Roman Empire, had absorbed and therefore it included, the three beasts before it. Thus it included all seven HEADS. And John's beast also has SEVEN HEADS. It was Daniel's *fourth* beast, ONLY, which had TEN HORNS, and John's beast has TEN HORNS.

And so, if we are willing to be guided solely by the BIBLE description of this "beast" and to let the BIBLE interpret the symbols used to describe it, we come to the inevitable conclusion that *the Beast of Rev. 13 is the ROMAN EMPIRE, of 31 B.C. to A.D. 476!* Of course, many man-imagined THEORIES, widely taught and published, interpret this BEAST otherwise—some as a Church, some as a mysterious individual superman yet to come. But these theories will not stand the test of applying the BIBLE interpretation to all the symbols that describe this beast.

Nebuchadnezzar's image, by the TWO legs, describes the TWO DIVISIONS of the Roman Empire, after A.D. 330—West, with capital at Rome, and East, with capital at Constantinople.

John also pictures this BEAST, not as a Church, or as an individual man, but as a powerful GOVERNMENT having a great ARMY. For they worshipped the Beast by saying: "WHO IS ABLE TO MAKE WAR WITH HIM?" (Rev. 13:4).

The Symbolism of the Horns

Let us now notice the symbolism of the horns of the fourth Beast of Daniel 7 and of the Beast of Revelation 13.

The ten horns symbolize the same thing—the ten stages of government continuing out of the Roman Empire after its fall, 476 A.D. "The ten horns out of this kingdom" [the fourth—the Roman Empire, 31 B.C. to 476 A.D.] "ARE TEN KINGS that shall arise . . . and the KINGDOM and the dominion, and the greatness of the KINGDOM under the whole heaven" (not IN heaven) "shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High" (Dan. 7:24, 27).

The ten horns, then, are ten KINGDOMS to arise out of the Fourth King-

dom, the Roman Empire. These kings, also called KINGDOMS, continue from 476 A.D. until the time when the Stone, Christ and His Kingdom, smashes the image on its toes, and the KINGDOM is given to the SAINTS. Therefore, since in actual history there have never been ten contemporaneous kingdoms that have continued out of the Roman Empire, side by side, down to the present—and since there HAVE BEEN NINE successive kingdoms ruling that territory, which we shall explain, from 476 to the present, therefore we know that the kingdoms represented by the horns are SUCCESSIVE, not contemporaneous.

The Deadly Wound

Now let us return to our description of the "Beast" in Revelation 13.

"And I saw one of his heads as it were WOUNDED TO DEATH; and his deadly wound was HEALED; and all the world wondered after the beast.

"And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast saying, Who is like unto the Beast? Who is able to make WAR with him?

"And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to CONTINUE FORTY AND TWO MONTHS" (Rev. 13:3-5).

The "Beast" here symbolized is the one which *included* the royal splendor and kingly power symbolized by the MOUTH of the lion (Babylon); the ponderous strength symbolized by the FEET of the bear (Medo-Persia), and the speed, cunning, and cruelty of the leopard (Greece). Since the INTERPRETATION of these symbols is found in Daniel 7, and since the fourth beast had ten HORNS, the Bible interpretation of the BEAST of Revelation 13 is the FOURTH BEAST of Daniel 7—the Roman Empire, of 31 B.C. to 476 A.D. The beast described by John in Revelation 13 included 7 heads, but the only head existing at the time John saw this nondescript beast, which included the most powerful characteristics of all the beasts symbolizing its predecessors, was the fourth beast of Daniel, containing the SEVENTH HEAD, and also the TEN HORNS. So the specific "one of its heads" that was wounded to death was the seventh head

or the Roman Empire—the head out of which TEN HORNS grew. The ten horns, then, as Daniel interprets, represent ten successive governments OUT OF the Roman Empire, which were to continue until the setting up of the KINGDOM OF GOD at the second coming of Christ.

The DEADLY WOUND, then, was the one administered to the Roman Empire, when, in its last decaying stages, the barbarians overran it, ending its government in 476 A.D.

Notice the DRAGON gave his power to the Beast. Who is the DRAGON? Some say "pagan Rome." But will we be guided solely by the BIBLE INTERPRETATION of its own symbols? Then, if we will, the Dragon is a symbol which means Satan, THE DEVIL. Notice Rev. 12. "The great DRAGON . . . that old serpent, called the DEVIL and SATAN" (verse 9)—"He was cast out into the earth . . . the DEVIL IS come down unto you, having great wrath . . . when the DRAGON saw that he was cast unto the earth" (verses 9, 13). "And he laid hold on the DRAGON, that old serpent WHICH IS THE DEVIL and Satan (Rev. 20:2).

They worshipped the Beast (Rev. 13:4). Therefore some hastily conclude, from this one statement alone, that the "Beast" must be the Papacy, not knowing that the people worshipped the Roman Empire and its Emperors! Notice *how* they worshipped the Beast—saying WHO IS ABLE TO MAKE WAR WITH HIM? The Roman Empire was the greatest WAR MAKING POWER the world had ever known, but no Church ever had a real army. This beast killed by the SWORD (v. 10) but no Church ever did. The Church used the State to kill heretics. History is full of accounts of the worship of the Roman Emperors, for paganism was a STATE RELIGION. The following is from Robinson's "Medieval and Modern Times," a college text book, page 7, chapter 1:

"The worship of the emperor: In a word the Roman government was not only wonderfully organized . . . everyone was required to join in the worship of the emperor because he stood for the majesty and glory of the dominion . . . all were obliged, as good citizens, to join
(Please continue on page 12)



Wide World Photo

Leather-jacketed Soviet crews stand at attention in front of their propeller-driven Stormovik fighter-bombers at Brandenburg, East Germany. Soviet military might keeps enslaved peoples submissive.

RUSSIA in Middle East Crisis

(Continued from page 6)

Judah shall be re-united into one nation, rescued from captivity and dispersion, and re-gathered again in PALESTINE, once again made prosperous, having learned our lesson, now living God's way, under His laws, enjoying His richest blessings, both material and spiritual!

And now we come to chapter 38! And this chapter finds Israel restored in Palestine—"the land that is brought back from the sword," (verse 8). We find Israel now at rest, dwelling SAFELY, yet totally UNPREPARED for war—having "neither bars nor gates" (verse 11); in the desolate places of Palestine, now inhabited, (verse 12)—yes, inhabited (same verse) by the people that are once again restored to great material prosperity—"which have gotten cattle, and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land."

Notice it!

This prophecy does not picture the British Isles and America! It pictures the land of PALESTINE. It pictures *our people* having been taken there from a dispersion and captivity and slavery, gathered out of the nations where we had been scattered, now once again rich and increased with goods!

Notice it! The TIME of this prophecy is AFTER—not before, but AFTER the Second Coming of Christ—AFTER the Great Deliverer has come and rescued our people and restored us to Palestine—

AFTER Israel and Judah are re-united! Certainly the "latter years" (verse 8).

The PLACE of this battle is not Britain or America—it is PALESTINE!

"Thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the MOUNTAINS OF ISRAEL, which have been always waste [once a perpetual waste—Moffatt translation]" (verse 8). The "mountains of Israel" is an expression used all thru the Book of Ezekiel, and always refers to the literal mountainous land of Palestine.

Our people shall have regained so much wealth that Meshech, Tubal, Gog and their allies—Russia and China with numerous Gentile allies—shall come to "take a spoil" (verse 13), "to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a GREAT spoil."

Christ's Reign Contested!

But this very fact—that this invasion will not come until *after* the Second Coming of Christ—will seem preposterous to many, at first thought.

That is because we have been accustomed merely to ASSUME things that are not true. We have blindly ASSUMED that when Christ comes, there will be no opposition. Every person and power on earth, we have thought, will simply submit meekly and instantly to Him and His power. But that is not true!

But the Gentile nations who have schemed to conquer and rule the world—they shall not submit until forced to. The European fascists shall be subdued and conquered at "Armageddon." But Russia, and the populous Oriental nations who know not God or Christ, shall still have to be brought to submission!

"Gog" Leads Russia

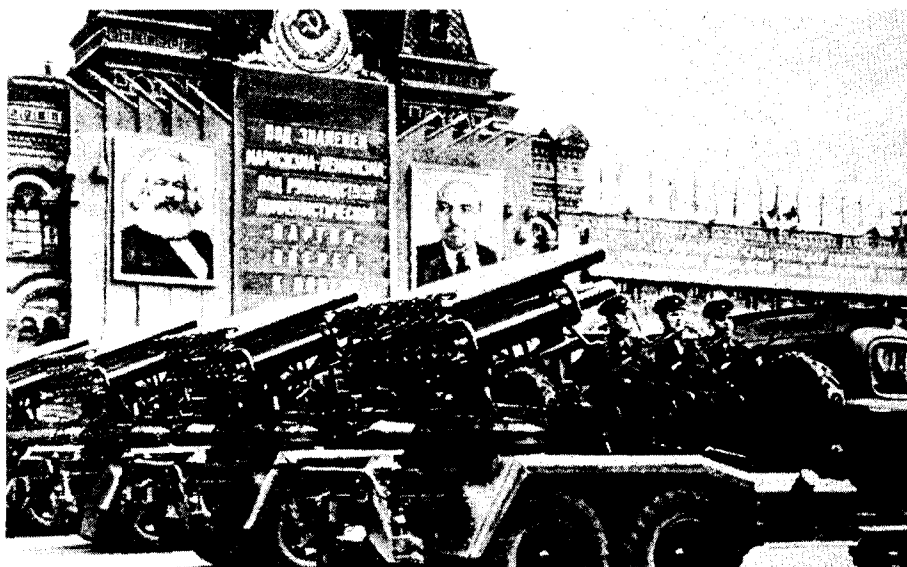
It is conclusively proved as *all* students of prophecy know, that "Gog" in the land of "Magog" is RUSSIA, MONGOLIA and CHINA. "Meshech" is Moscow, "Tubal" is Tobolsk—the Great Russians today. The margin says "Prince of ROSH" which is [White] Russia.

Notice the allies who come with Russia in this future battle. You will find "Gomer," "Togarmah," "Magog,"—that is, the vast lands of Southeast Asia, Siberia, Mongolia and China. These are identified in Genesis 10 as the sons of JAPHETH, father of the yellow races. Ethiopia and Libya (better translated as Cush and Phut—including the peoples of South India and the blacks of Southeast Asia) are descended from Ham. Any Bible map will show that the descendants of Japheth migrated north and northeast into the territories occupied today by Russia and China and the other Oriental races.

Therefore, this prophecy of Ezekiel 38 shows that it is RUSSIA and CHINA,

May Day Parade. Here you see lead units of the Moscow garrison displaying rocket launchers during the celebration. Portraits of Marx, left, and Lenin flank plaque which reads: "Under the banner of Marxian-Leninism under the leadership of the Communist Party—forward to victory of communism." Russia has not given up Stalin's dream of world conquest!

Wide World Photo



who shall finally succeed in marshalling all the yellow races into a gigantic invasion upon OUR people.

Russia is a Communist nation. Communism is atheism—it fights God! When God rules the world, thru Christ—with His chosen people restored to great wealth in Palestine, the very CENTER of the land surface of the earth (verse 13, Moffatt translation), Russia shall finally rise up with the most overwhelming armies ever assembled by man!

The mighty air-force of Russia in that day will make those of the last war look puny. "Thou shalt *ascend*," the Eternal says of Russia, "and come like a storm [in the air], thou shalt be *like a cloud TO COVER THE LAND*" (verse 9). There shall be so many planes then that they will hide the sun off the ground below, like a huge dark shadow!

The END of World Conquest

This will be the final effort of rebellious, God-resisting man to conquer the world in the lust for power and material wealth.

Our people Israel shall not be armed or prepared. "When my people Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it?" asks the Eternal. "And thou shalt come from thy place *out of the north* parts [Russia is due north of Palestine], thou, and many people [Chinese and their allies] with thee . . . a mighty army: and thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be *in the latter days*, and I will bring thee against *my land*, that the heathen may know me [note the purpose], when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes" (verses 14-16).

But our people shall not *have* to fight in that battle. We shall have learned by then that God fights our battles for us!

"And it shall come to pass at that time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel [Palestine], saith the Eternal God, that MY FURY shall come up in my face" (verse 18). "So that . . . all the men that are upon the face of the earth shall shake at MY PRESENCE" (verse 20). It is AFTER Christ's coming! Note it!

"I will summon an utter panic against him [Gog], says the Lord the Eternal,



Wide World Photo

Russians walking the streets of Leningrad after work hours. Note the relative poverty and lack of enthusiasm of the people. No nation is stronger than its people. Russia is far from being prepared for another World War!

till every man in his host shall draw the sword against his fellow: I will punish him with pestilence and bloodshed, I will rain on him and his hordes and all the nations in his train an overpowering flood, with hailstones, fire, and brimstone. I will let ALL THE NATIONS see MY MIGHT AND DREAD DIVINITY—to teach them that I am the Eternal!" (verses 21-23, Moffatt).

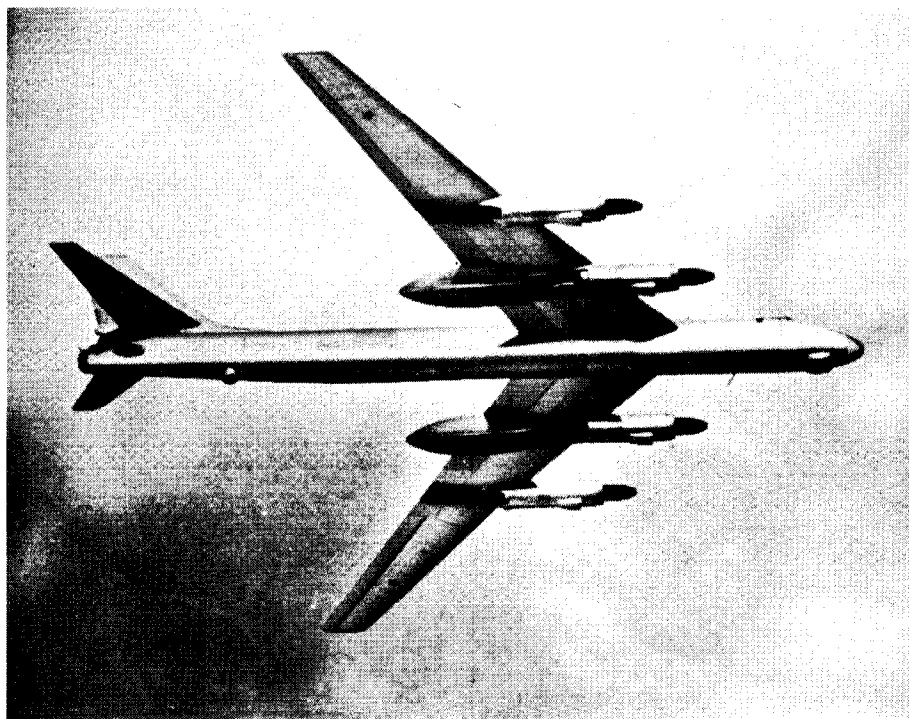
Notice, these heathen nations do not see and recognize the dread DIVINITY, the MIGHT, and POWER of the Eternal Christ, even after He has returned. He has to TEACH them that HE is the ETERNAL!

The 39th chapter shows in more detail the RESULT of this great battle, in which Christ, with supernatural power, causes five-sixths of these heathen armies to be slain in this battle.

Notice, again, the time: "Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the *whole* House of Israel [Israel and Judah], and will be jealous for my holy name; . . . *when* I have brought them again from the people, and *gathered them out of their ENEMIES' LANDS*, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations; then shall they KNOW that I AM THE ETERNAL!" (Ezek. 39:25-28).

Notice again! At Christ's Second Coming, He shall gather Israel—our British and American people—*out of our enemies' lands*, not out of our own land of wealth and power, North America and the British Isles!

By then we shall be thoroughly chastened. We shall have learned our lesson. We shall live by GOD's rules, and obey His law. "For I have poured out



Wide World Photo

This photo is of a Russian Bear bomber, a four-engine swept-wing, long range turboprop aircraft. The plane's outline is similar to the U.S. B52. Soviet air might is still far behind Western strength.

(Continued from page 11)

MY SPIRIT upon the House of Israel, saith the Eternal God" (verse 29).

And then, beginning chapter 40, the remainder of the Book of Ezekiel reveals the ideal THEOCRACY—God's NEW ORDER of divine government upon earth—the permanent forms and institutions which shall express the ideal relation between God and man!

In the meantime, our job is to WARN America and Britain of what lies ahead! To shout the warning to come out of BABYLON (Rev. 18:4)—that those who heed may find God *now*—may come under His divine protection (Pslam 91), and by a true Spirit-filled life obedient to GOD'S WAYS and laws, be prepared to become a ruler or a teacher in Christ's soon-coming glorious Kingdom!

Who Is the "Beast"?

(Continued from page 9)

in the official sacrifices to the head of the state, as a god."

But when the seventh HEAD of this great beast received its DEADLY WOUND in 476 A.D. was that the end? No, the prophecy says "HIS DEADLY WOUND WAS HEALED . . . AND POWER WAS GIVEN UNTO HIM TO CONTINUE FORTY AND TWO MONTHS." The TEN HORNS represent ten successive kingdoms OUT OF this kingdom to follow. So, thru the ten horns growing OUT OF this head (the Roman Empire of 31 B.C.-476 A.D.), the BEAST (for the ten horns are PART OF the Beast) continues

on until the second coming of Christ.

The text does not say the whole BEAST died—but one of his HEADS was wounded to death. The BEAST INCLUDED THE SEVEN HEADS *and* the TEN HORNS. John sees the Beast living in the days of its seventh head, the Roman Empire. And when that HEAD of the Beast had its deadly wound, HIS—the Beast's—deadly wound was healed. The HEAD was dead. But the BEAST continued. The horns now reign, one by one.

By 476 the Empire was overrun by the Vandals of Northern Africa, who had

previously sacked Rome in 455. Then Odoacer set up his government, at Rome, called the HERULI. But it did not heal the deadly wound, for this was a government IN Rome, but not a ROMAN government, but one of foreign barbarians.

Then was the kingdom of the Ostrogoths, 493-554, another outside foreign people who ruled in the territory. But they were driven out of Italy and disappeared.

These three kingdoms, sweeping into the Roman territory, filled the period known in history as the "transition age." (See Myers Ancient History, Page 571.) That is, a TRANSITION between the wound and the healing.

Now Daniel saw a "little horn" coming up AMONG these ten, before whom these first three were "plucked up by the roots." That leaves 7 horns to come. And of the little horn, Daniel 7 says "his look was more stout than his fellows." The Papacy, according to the record of history, dominated completely all the "horns" to follow.

The Deadly Wound HEALED

It was the fourth kingdom (horn, or toe) succeeding the fall of the Empire in 476, which really HEALED the deadly wound, and restored the EMPIRE. In 554 A.D., Justinian, Emperor of the East, from Constantinople, moved to Rome and brought about what is known in history as the "Imperial Restoration" of the Empire.

Now, notice verse 5, of Rev. 13. Power was given to this "Beast," once healed, to "CONTINUE FORTY AND TWO MONTHS." In the prophecies pertaining to the Times of Israel's punishment, each day represents a year in the actual fulfillment (Ezek. 4:4-6, Num. 14:34). Thus, the "healed" Beast is to continue 1260 YEARS. Notice the chart on the next page.

Following the healing, in 554, came the Frankish Kingdom (French), the "Holy Roman Empire" (German), the Hapsburg dynasty (Austrian), and Napoleon's kingdom (French). But, when Napoleon was crushed in 1814, the healed beast continued no longer. "SO CLOSED," says West's Modern History, page 377, "A GOVERNMENT THAT DATED (Please continue on page 14)

A CHART SHOWING PROPHECIES OF REIGN OF GENTILE KINGDOMS

Dan. 2 The IMAGE	Daniel 7 The FOUR BEASTS (State) (Church)		Dan. 8 The RAM and GOAT	Revelation 13 The BEAST and IMAGE (State) (Church)		Rev. 17 BABYLON and BEAST	EXPLANATION of Symbols	The EVENTS Fulfilled in HISTORY
Head of GOLD v. 32, 39	1st BEAST like LION v. 4						1st HEAD of prophetic BABYLON	The CHALDEAN EMPIRE (Babylon) 625-538 B.C.
Breast and arms of SILVER v. 32, 39	2nd BEAST (BEAR) v. 5		RAM with 2 horns v. 3, 4, 20				2nd head of prophetic BABYLON	The PERSIAN EMPIRE (Medo-Persia) 558-330 B.C.
Belly and Thighs of BRASS v. 32, 39	3rd BEAST (LEOPARD) 4 heads v. 6		HE-GOAT with great horn and 4 notable ones v. 5-8, 21, 22				3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th HEADS of prophetic BABYLON	GREECE, under Alexander the Great, and four divisions, 333-31 B.C.
Legs of IRON v. 33, 40-43	4th BEAST strong like IRON with 10 HORNS v. 7, 23, 24			The BEAST with 7 HEADS and 10 HORNS v. 1, 2			7th HEAD of prophetic BABYLON, with ten HORNS	The ROMAN EMPIRE, 31 B.C.-476 A.D., in 2 divisions, West and East
				The DEADLY WOUND v. 3				Fall of the ROMAN EMPIRE 476 A.D.
	1st HORN (plucked by roots)			1st HORN			These three horns, destroyed at behest of Pope, fill the "Transition Age" (Myers)	The VANDALS 429-533 A.D.
	2nd HORN (rooted up)			2nd HORN				The HERULI, Odoacer's government, 476-493 A.D.
	3rd HORN (rooted up)			3rd HORN				The OSTROGOTHS 493-554 A.D.
		LITTLE HORN among ten v. 8, 20-22, 24-27			2-horned "LAMB- DRAGON" and "IMAGE" v. 11-28	SCARLET WOMAN who rode the BEAST v. 1, 2	Ruled the Beast, so called BABYLON the GREAT	ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH and PAPACY, "image" of Roman Empire government
	4th HORN			1st of remaining 7 horns— DEADLY WOUND HEALED (to continue 1260 years) v. 5	↑54-1814 = 1260 Years Beast Continued↓	1st HEAD of BEAST (healed) ridden by Scarlet Woman	Since the "Great Whore" never rode any of the 7 heads of the 1st 4 Beasts, but did mount and ride the last 7 horns of Daniel's 4th Beast it follows that the last 7 horns of Dan. 7 and Rev. 13 are the 7 HEADS of Rev. 17 (5 are now fallen)	"IMPERIAL RESTORATION" of empire by Justinian, 554 A.D. He recognized supremacy of the Pope, submitted to him
	5th HORN			2nd of remaining 7 HORNS		2nd HEAD ridden by Woman		FRANKISH KINGDOM Began 774. Charlemagne crowned by Pope 800 A.D.
	6th HORN			3rd of remaining 7 HORNS		3rd HEAD ridden by Woman		HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE (German head), Otto the Great crowned by Pope, 962
	7th HORN			4th of remaining 7 HORNS		4th HEAD ridden by "BAB- YLON"		HAPSBURG dynasty (Austrian head), Charles the Great crowned by Pope, 1520
	8th HORN			5th of remaining 7 HORNS		5th HEAD ridden by Woman		NAPOLEON'S KINGDOM (French head). Crowned by Pope, 1805
In 1814, just 1260 years after "deadly wound" was healed, the "HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE" was dissolved. "So closed a government that dated from Augustus Caesar" (West, p. 377).								
	9th HORN			6th of remaining 7 HORNS		6th HEAD ridden by Woman	(One IS) Rev. 17:10	ITALY, united by Garibaldi, 1870 to 1945
The Ten TOES	10th HORN			7th and last HORN	Beast ascends out of pit	7th head and ten HORNS	(One yet to come)	Revived ROMAN EMPIRE, by 10 dictators

FROM AUGUSTUS CAESAR" (From 31 B.C.). It went into Abyss!

And from 554 to 1814, the duration of the "healed beast," was EXACTLY 1260 years!

At that time, eight of the "horns" having appeared and gone, the "Beast" itself went into the non-existent condition symbolized in Rev. 17:8 as the "bottomless pit." Shortly before the year 1870 Garibaldi united the many little divisions in the peninsula of Italy into one nation, and the kingdom thus established began the ninth horn, which culminated in the Nazi-Fascist rule of Mussolini-Hitler.

The "HEADS" the Woman Rode

We shall deal later more specifically with the 17th Chapter of Revelation in this connection. Then we shall prove beyond doubt that the "harlot woman," BABYLON THE GREAT, is a great false Church. But let us note that the "woman," this Church, never "rode" on any part of this Beast of Rev. 13 excepting its last seven "horns"! She is the "little horn" of Daniel 7, whose "look was more stout than his fellows," and who caused the first three to be plucked up by the roots. Justinian was the first ruler who ever acknowledged the supremacy of this Church, and bowed to its dictates!

And since, in the 17th Chapter, the "woman" rode on all seven of the heads of the "Beast" there pictured, and since

she rode none of the "heads" but only the last seven of the "horns" of the 13th chapter "Beast," it follows that the last seven "horns" of the "healed beast" of the 13th chapter FORM the seven HEADS of the Beast of the 17th Chapter!

Notice, at the time John sees the beast, five are fallen, one is, and one is yet to come (Rev. 17:10). The five that are fallen are the 5 during the 1260 years in which power WAS GIVEN, by the false Church, for the "healed beast" to CONTINUE. The one that is, is the kingdom from Garibaldi to the downfall of Hitler and Mussolini. It was not in any sense the old Roman Empire, so during the stage of this 9th horn (of Daniel's prophecy and of Rev. 13), or 6th head (Rev. 17), John speaks of it as *the Beast that was, and is not, and yet IS*, and shall arise once more OUT OF THE BOTTOMLESS PIT.

The last 7 of the 10 "horns" of Dan. 7 and Revelation 13 are symbolized by the 7 heads in the 17th chapter of Revelation. But notice that the last of these seven revivals is formed by ten horns! The final ten horns, yet to come, will be, as the 17th chapter explains, the revival of the BEAST, the Roman Empire, "out of the bottomless pit" by a "United States of Europe," or federation of 10 European nations within the bounds of the old Roman Empire (Rev. 17:12-18). This is actually beginning today! When Jesus comes, the Roman armies of the

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!

"beast" will be ready for ARMAGEDDON.

The entire beast of Rev. 17—the revivals of the Roman Empire—is "of the seven" heads of Rev. 13 and Dan. 7 because it comprises the last seven horns of those heads. Yet this revived Roman Empire is "the eighth" system differing from the seven before it (Rev. 17:11).

Thus the "beast" of Revelation 17 is an eighth system—a Church-State system—but it is a part "of the seven" heads of Daniel's prophecy. Notice also that in Revelation 17 the word "beast" refers sometimes to the man who leads the revival of the Roman Empire, but it also refers to the entire system!

Letters to the Editor

(Continued from page 2)

month. The Word of God is precious and must not be carelessly given to those who do not want it.

Plain Words

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"I think I should tell you that all my life I have been looking for a minister who would tell the Bible in plain words that I could understand. I have been so mixed up by preachers that I didn't actually know what was required by God for a Christian to be . . . Thank you for telling me."

Lady from W. Va.

Thank you for your encouragement.

It is time we got our eyes open to the truth and believe what the Bible says.

First Time

"The other evening I heard your program for the first time. It was such a wonderful talk that I want to get the booklet you told about. The one that will help me to understand the Bible much better. Thank you for the message you put across to me."

Mrs. . . .

Sherman, New York

Yes, we do try to make the Bible plain and understandable. God intended that we understand the Bible!

Have you enrolled in our free Bible Correspondence Course?

This is a totally new, *different* kind of Bible study course, designed to lead you, by the study of *your own Bible*, to UNDERSTAND the whole meaning of today's world-chaos, of the PURPOSE being worked out here below, of PROPHECY, of SALVATION.

The most VITAL, most IMPORTANT questions of YOUR LIFE are thoroughly gone into, and you are directed to the clear, plain, simple answers, *in your BIBLE!* You will learn HOW to study the Bible—WHY so few UNDERSTAND it. You will PROVE whether the Bible really *is* the INSPIRED WORD OF GOD!

Just address your letter requesting the Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course to Box 111, Pasadena, California.

YOU Need Salvation!

Are YOU under God's protection? Does HE consider you a "Christian"? You had better read this article to be sure!

by Roderick C. Meredith

THIS WORLD is teetering on the edge of OBLIVION. Thoughtful men everywhere are beginning to *fear*.

We are now living in the shadow of violent *death—hydrogen* death. It could come any day or night. Any moment, any time. It could be unleashed by the tiniest political spark in a far distant land.

Knowing all this has made people very restless. It has made them think seriously about many things—not the least of which is the *hereafter*.

Increased Religious Interest

This era of violence and potential *world suicide* has helped stimulate an increased interest in religion in the United States. Multitudes are thinking more and more about making peace with somebody, preferably God.

But *are* they really "making peace" with God, being truly *converted* — *changed*, and coming under His divine PROTECTION?

The true Creator GOD says that most religious people are being *deceived*! Your Bible describes these very end times as a period when Satan the Devil "*deceiveth the whole world*."

Jesus described our day when He said: "*Many* shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall DECEIVE *many*" (Mat. 24:5). Yes, the *many* preachers who claim to be Christ's ministers, who proclaim that He *is* Christ but preach *their own human devised message about His person*—they are DECEIVING the *many*!

Yet, in order to be regarded by GOD (men to the contrary notwithstanding) as a *true Christian*, in order to be under His protection in these perilous times, in order to be led by His Spirit, you MUST *believe* and *obey* the very message Jesus Christ brought to this earth from God the Father.

And in this age above every other, you *desperately* NEED God—His guidance, His blessing, His *protection*! There

is no use in "kidding" yourself about this fact. YOU only have *one life*—and this is YOUR LIFE!

What You Should Do

You had better face the FACT that *you* are very likely one of the multitude going the *broad way* that leads to DESTRUCTION! If you *are* following the crowd, if you have the same general attitude toward religion that most people do, then without doubt you are DECEIVED! For remember that Satan the Devil "*deceiveth the whole world*" (Rev. 12:9).

But many hundreds of you are coming to the realization that over "The World Tomorrow" broadcast and through the pages of this magazine you are receiving the *very* MESSAGE that Jesus Christ brought to save this world from itself. If you are to come under the blessing and protection of the God and Father of Jesus Christ you need to be *sure* of that message—*act* on it, OBEY it.

You need to PROVE to yourself once and for all that there is a *personal*, living, active, all-powerful, Creator God. You must *know* that the Bible is His inspired Word—His direct revelation to man of that essential knowledge of the real *purpose* of life and of the spiritual *laws* of life which, if obeyed, will bring happiness and success. You must *prove* and *know* that the Holy Scriptures carry *authority*—that they are backed up by the power of the Living God who gives you every breath of air you breathe.

You may already understand these things. But be sure that you have *proven* them to the extent that you would FEAR *to disobey* the commands of God in His Holy Word. It must be regarded as an *authority* over your very life. Christ said: "He that rejecteth me, and *receiveth not my words*, hath one that judgeth him: the *word* which I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day" (John 12:48).

Once you have fully proved these basic principles to yourself, then you need to study and understand and obey the true MESSAGE of Almighty God contained in His Word. You must respect and fear the Living God enough to OBEY His commands.

God's Message

The clearest revelation of God's plan and purpose was revealed by Jesus Christ. And after all, to be a "Christian" simply means to believe in and *obey* what Jesus Christ taught—to *accept* and *submit* to the MESSAGE He brought from God the Father.

Jesus stated: "For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak" (John 12:49). So Christ's *message* is direct from God the Father.

It is to be *obeyed*!

Jesus came to "reveal" the Father (Mat. 10:27). Above all else, He revealed God as the over-all Supreme RULER of the universe. He taught that man is not to follow his own ideas and traditions, but is to "*live by every word of God*" (Luke 4:4). "Search the scriptures," Jesus said.

Christ taught His disciples to pray: "Thy kingdom come. Thy *WILL* be done, as in heaven, so in earth" (Luke 11:2).

He continually taught *obedience* to the LAW and WILL of God. When a young man asked him the *way* to eternal life, Jesus answered: "If thou wilt enter into life, *keep the commandments*" (Mat. 19:17).

So if you are to be a true Christian, you must yield yourself to OBEY God's will, keep the Ten Commandments specifically, and surrender your will so completely to your Maker that you will "live by EVERY word of God."

The entire New Testament reveals that God purposes to form within those whom He calls *holy, righteous, perfect* spiritual *character* as a prerequisite to

the precious *gift* of eternal life in His kingdom. The basis of this character is the absolute *yieldedness* of one to obey God's perfect spiritual law revealed by the Ten Commandments and spiritually magnified in the New Testament.

It involves a *complete surrender* of your personal will to God. It is a complete **CHANGE** in attitude, belief, and way of life. The apostle Paul was inspired to write: "Be not conformed to this world: but *be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind*, that you may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God" (Rom. 12:2).

But *human* will and strength cannot affect this change. The spiritual love and power must come as a *gift* from God!

God's Help is Required

You have perhaps known of many people who made "resolutions" to live a better life; of drunks who decided to "give up the bottle;" of criminals who "reformed" by some means or other. If so, you will recall that most of these changes were neither permanent nor satisfactory. And even in those cases where a change in some area of life became permanent, the *entire* life, attitude, and actions were *not* totally yielded to the complete and perfect will of the Creator by any means.

Human beings cut off from the true God can "reform" themselves to a limited extent. But they can NEVER affect that process we call "conversion." For *true* conversion is a **TOTAL CHANGE** which is affected by God in one's very *mind* and *nature*.

After real conversion, you begin to *study* the Bible, *meditate* on God's law, and *pray* and talk to God continually. By this process, and through His Spirit, you come to have the very *thoughts* and *nature* of God within you.

Your *whole* LIFE is completely *changed*—*converted*, and you grow in grace and knowledge day by day. In spiritual attitude and character, you become more like Christ in *EVERY* phase of life. Such a *total change* takes place within you as would be impossible to bring about or account for except as a supernatural act of the Almighty God.

But this supernatural help from God is available *only on certain very important conditions*.

You Must Believe the True Gospel

Jesus Christ and His apostles always preached the gospel of the *kingdom* or world-ruling *government* of God. In Mark 1:14-15, we read: "Now after that John was put into prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the *kingdom of God*, and saying, *repent ye*, and *believe* the gospel."

Notice that the two things Jesus commanded were *repentance* and *belief* in His message.

Jesus also taught that *belief* in the true gospel which He preached and *obedience* to the laws of God were inseparable. In Luke 16:16-18, He stated: "The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it. And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than for one tittle of the law to fail."

Here we see that the law and the prophets—the Old Testament scriptures—were the only revelation from God to man until John the Baptist's ministry. But now the spiritual message of salvation and the magnification of God's laws in their spiritual intent and purpose is revealed.

But note that Jesus connected obedience to God's laws with the New Testament gospel of the kingdom. And, as if to squelch any doubt that He was referring to God's spiritual law revealed in the Ten Commandments, He continued by specifying the transgression of one of those very laws as that to which He was referring: "Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, commiteth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband commiteth adultery" (verse 18).

Throughout the Acts of the Apostles, we find that the inspired servants of Christ continued to preach the *gospel of the kingdom*—including, of course, *obedience* to the laws of God. We see that Philip preached this gospel in Acts 8:12. Paul said he preached it to the gentiles at Ephesus in Acts 20:25. And Acts 28:30-31, we find that he continued to preach this same message to the end of his ministry—even to the gentiles at Rome.

This is the *true gospel*. It is a message of the government of Almighty God over

our lives now as preparation for entrance into His soon coming world-ruling kingdom when Jesus Christ returns with Divine power and glory as King of kings and Lord of lords. And since God's kingdom has *laws*, it is a message of *surrender* and *obedience* to the laws and rule of God.

You must first *repent* of *your ways*, you must turn from *SIN* which is the *transgression of God's spiritual law contained in the Ten Commandments* (I John 3:4), and *believe* the true gospel. Then there is another most important step you must take. That is *water baptism*.

Water Baptism is Absolutely Necessary

After total *repentance* and *belief* in the true gospel, *water baptism* is the next essential step you must take to be truly converted and to receive of God's Holy Spirit. In fact, *it is a TEST of your real repentance and willingness to obey God*.

Jesus Christ commanded the apostles: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth *and is* BAPTIZED shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:15-16).

Jesus meant **EXACTLY** what He said!

In His parting commission as recorded by Matthew, Jesus said: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, BAPTIZING them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Mat. 28:19).

In Peter's inspired sermon on the day of Pentecost, he shouted: "*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).

Notice that you are *only* promised the **GIFT** of the Holy Spirit on condition that you *repent* and are *baptized*. Later, Peter speaks of the *Holy Spirit*, "whom God hath given to them that **OBEY** Him" (Acts 5:32).

You must **DO** what God says. You must *repent* and *be baptized* or you will NEVER receive of God's Holy Spirit.

There is no other way!

The apostle Paul stated: "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he (Please continue on page 18)

Do You Want the BAPTISM by FIRE?

By popular demand we are reprinting this article
from the October 1953 issue.

by Herbert W. Armstrong

OFTEN we receive letters asking, "I want that baptism with the Holy Spirit and FIRE."

Or: "I have the baptism with the SPIRIT—now I want that FIRE!"

Do such persons know what they are asking?

A Common Misinterpretation

The common belief that we should desire that baptism with FIRE springs from texts showing God will purify and cleanse those who are His, by purging away the dross. And the Scriptures speaking of this purifying process usually speak of it as "purge away," or "take away the dross," rather than burning it away with fire.

But in Ezekiel 22, God does speak of burning away this dross with fire. Before we examine the words of John the Baptist about being baptised with the Holy Spirit and with FIRE, let's see if we want even to have this dross purified by FIRE. Here it is! LISTEN!

"Son of man, the House of Israel is to me become dross: all they are brass, and tin, and iron, and lead, in the midst of the furnace; they are even the dross of silver. Therefore thus saith the Eternal God; because ye are all become dross, behold, therefore I will gather you into the midst of the furnace, to blow the fire upon it, to melt it; so will I gather you *in mine* ANGER and in my FURY, and I will leave you there, and melt you. Yea, I will gather you and blow upon you the FIRE of my WRATH" (Ezek. 22:18-21).

Now do YOU want to become DROSS? Do *you* want this kind of FIRE? Do you want to become so wicked—so rebellious, stiff-necked, hard-hearted, as God says Israel was, that you PROVOKE GOD'S ANGER to the extent that He has to chastise you in the FIRE of His WRATH? Those here purified in this fire were those so wicked, so rebellious, in such a wrong spirit that God is punish-

ing them in ANGER, and in FURY. He is not here speaking of CHRISTIANS at all, but with unregenerate, stiff-necked, rebellious, sinning ISRAEL.

To Whom Was John Speaking?

Now examine the text which speaks of this baptism with FIRE. The words were spoken by John the Baptist: "I indeed baptize you with water into repentance: but He that cometh after me . . . shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and with FIRE" (Matt. 3:11).

To whom was John speaking? Notice verse 5 . . . "Then went out to him Jerusalem and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan." Now are we to suppose that ALL Jerusalem and ALL Judaea, and all this region was RIGHT-EOUS, or at least REPENTANT, and seeking salvation? Not at all! The whole population came in great crowds—largely out of curiosity. Did John baptize them all? Not at all! Many were, confessing their sins. But others were not. Notice:

"But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, '*O generation of VIPERS, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?* Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance'" (verses 7-8). John is speaking to these hypocrites whom he calls VIPERS, whom he refused to baptize, who are awaiting the WRATH TO COME, as well as to those who repented and whom he baptized. So notice, SOME of those in his audience to whom John spoke were to be baptized with the Holy Spirit, later. Others are awaiting the WRATH TO COME, which shall burn them with unquenchable FIRE! There are two classes of people here, awaiting two opposite fates—one to receive the Holy SPIRIT, the others HELL FIRE!

Notice the 10th verse: "And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bring-

eth *not* forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the FIRE." He is speaking of the fate of the wicked, which shall be cast into the lake of FIRE, which is the second death (Rev. 20:14), and standing before him were those to receive that fate!

Next, John said to them, "He"—Jesus Christ—"shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with FIRE, whose fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor, and gather His wheat into the garner, and He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable FIRE" (verses 11-12).

Now notice many things here. He will gather HIS wheat. The wheat is cast, or rather gathered, into the garner. But the FIRE is the fate of the chaff—unquenchable FIRE! Compare that with Matt. 13:30. "Let both [wheat and tares—wheat representing saints, the tares lost sinners] grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to *burn them*: but gather the wheat into my barn." What do the symbols represent? Jesus explained: "The field is the world; the good seed [wheat] are the children of the kingdom; but the tares [chaff] are the children of the wicked one; the enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of the world. The Son of Man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of His kingdom [purge his floor] all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of FIRE" (Matt. 13:38-42).

What Is His Floor?

Now the KEY to the whole question lies in the definition of "His Floor."
(Please continue on page 24)

YOU Need Salvation!

(Continued from page 16)

is none of his" (Rom. 8:9). In other words, unless you have fully *repented* of your sins, come to God through Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, and been *baptized* as He has commanded, you are NOT Christ's—you do *not* belong to Him. Therefore, you are NOT a Christian in God's eyes—never have been—and never will be UNLESS you are finally willing to *surrender* your life to God the Father, and accept Jesus Christ not only as your Saviour, but as your High Priest, your coming King, your RULER—the One whom you will OBEY throughout *all eternity!*

God's Spirit is the very *nature* and *life* of God through which we become His begotten sons. His Spirit will help us grow to maturity in Christian character.

Its fruits are listed in Galatians 5:22-23. Notice them: "But the fruit of the Spirit is *love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance*"—or, as better translated, "*self-control*."

The Holy Spirit gives us power for *self-mastery, self-discipline, self-control*. And through it, God's LOVE is shed abroad in our hearts (Rom. 5:5). The Holy Spirit makes us like God.

You NEED God's Spirit. You NEED His *guidance* and *protection*.

But the tremendous decision to yield yourself wholly to God—to *live by* His every Word—to OBEY Him throughout all eternity—such a decision must not be taken lightly.

Baptism Involves a Vital Decision

Baptism symbolizes the *death* and *burial* of the old, sinful self, and the *rising* from the watery grave to a *new, a changed, a converted* life. It also pictures the death and burial of Jesus Christ to pay for our sins, and His resurrection as the firstborn from the dead.

The apostle Paul writes: "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His

death? Therefore *we are BURIED with him by baptism* into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so *we also should walk in newness of life*" (Rom. 6:3-4).

The decision to be baptized hinges on your willingness to *completely SURRENDER* your will and your life to God through Christ as your Saviour. He paid the penalty for your past sins, but when you know the truth you can *no longer* willfully do what you know is sin and expect God's forgiveness.

God *rules* by His LAW! "*Keep the commandments*," said Jesus.

"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, HIS SERVANTS YE ARE TO WHOM YE OBEY; whether of *sin* unto *death*, or of *obedience* unto *righteousness*?" (Rom. 6:16).

When a *choice* has to be made between following the ways of your friends and family, or *obeying* what you have found to be the *will of God*—which course do YOU follow? Do you take the easy way out and follow *men*? Do you *serve* and thereby WORSHIP the ways of men more than the ways of God?

Don't "kid" yourself! You CAN'T *fool God!*

When you learn some new point of *truth* in the pages of this magazine, or on The WORLD TOMORROW broadcast, or in your own personal Bible study, do you put it into PRACTICE in your life—

do you OBEY it—or do you *reject* it because it conflicts with what your *church* or your particular *society* believes and observes?

Are you like the Pharisees who rejected Christ because "they loved the praise of *men* more than the praise of God?" (John 12:43). God seems *far away* to some people, and their friends seem *so close* and *so important*. Which do YOU *worship*? Which do you OBEY?

If you had to give up your job—*your only source of income*—in order to obey some point of *truth* you found in God's Word, *would you do it*? Would you exercise FAITH, as Jesus did, and rely on God's many promises to "supply all your need"? (Philip. 4:19). Would you worship *God*—or MAMMON?

These questions apply to YOU!

Be Sure of Your Decision

If you still have some questions about baptism, or if you are not certain as to the proper mode of water baptism, then write *immediately* for Mr. Armstrong's *free* booklet on "Baptism." This will explain any questions you may have on this subject.

But the decision to be baptised is *yours*. If you feel that you are ready to make an *unconditional surrender* to God through His Son Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, then write an *airmail letter* to Mr. Armstrong telling us that you want to be baptised this summer.

Each summer, we send out teams of ministers and advanced ministerial students to counsel with and baptise those who are ready to fulfill this command of God. These men will be leaving *very soon* after you receive this article. *So don't delay!*

Get your letter in the mail *immediately* telling us you want to be on the baptising list for this summer. Our men will then contact you and arrange to meet you at your own home or in a nearby town or city. And those of you in Britain and Europe who wish baptism should write to our London address.

You need salvation! But you need to be absolutely *sure* that you are willing to do your part and *give yourself* to God, so that you can then be certain that He will grant His *blessings*, His *protection*, His *salvation* to you.

The WORLD TOMORROW heard in Australia!

2CH—Sydney—Sat., 10:15 P.M.

2AY—Albury—Sun., 10:00 P.M.

2GN—Goulburn—Sun., 10:00 P.M.

2GF—Grafton—Sun., 9:30 P.M.

3BO—Bendigo—Thurs., 4:15 P.M.

4TO—Townsville—Fri., 10:15 P.M.

4CA—Cairns—Sun., 10:00 P.M.

4WK—Warwick—Tues., 9:30 P.M.

Your MARRIAGE Can Be Happy!

WHY are most marriages unhappy? Here, continued from the last issue, are the BASIC CAUSES for emotional instability in the home!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

IN THE last issue, many of the modern-day emotional problems were illustrated. Most people today are unhappy! The high-pitched standard of American living has swept society through a flood-gate of emotional turbulence that has dashed countless marriages against the rocks of despair and misery!

The constant, dizzying hum of sensuous living is provided the average thrill-seeker through the movies, the TV sets, the novels and magazine articles that flood our newsstands.

For *many years*, the pages of *The Plain Truth* magazine have been bringing you God's thunderous warnings of impending *national disaster* for the United States and the democracies of northwestern Europe. One of the *basic reasons* for God's righteous ire against our nations is our upside-down home life!

The entire WAY OF LIVING of any nation revolves around its family life—its homes. Our whole *way of life* has been perverted!

Men and Women Changing Places

"What's *wrong* with our way of life?" ask most moderns. Because of our perverted national sense of humor, we have openly *laughed* at a situation that has brought untold *suffering* on us, and is destined to bring suffering multiplied yet a thousand times over! What's wrong?

Americans, and to a large extent Britons and the peoples of other nations, have broken *God's laws* regarding family life! The typical scene of modern home life is poked at the gullible public through the glaring eye of television, or from the glamorous movie screens, or from the colorful comic strips. Literally *dozens* of husband-wife combina-

tions are presented through these media, in which the huge dolt playing the part of the husband always appears in his shuffling, bumbling, ignorant role as the brunt of every joke. Always incapable, inefficient, and frightfully stupid, the poor brute is scolded by his wife, is the source of tongue-in-cheek amusement from his children as they impugn his figure-head position as head of the household, and is dismissed as being unworthy of notice by all in-laws, neighbors and other associates.

Many of the more familiar entertainment figures are dodging vases, baseball bats and expensive china, or nursing the aftermath of a vengeful attack by the dowager wife.

On the other hand, the woman of the family is always pictured as the crisp, efficient, business-like manager of household affairs, who studiously maintains a martyred expression of pain at the antics of her incapable spouse. She manages to knowingly smile at the children as she settles every problem, quieting the protesting voice of hubby with a sharp look.

These common-place situations are enacted before the amazingly naïve American eyes through many different media of entertainment—and actually copied to a great extent in multiplied thousands of homes today!

Yes—Americans chuckle over breakfast toast and coffee—and imitate in their own homes a situation that their Creator calls an ABOMINATION!

Most of us have become so *steeped* in our own *traditions*, our own customs, that we have allowed our minds to become DRUGGED to the REAL LAWS that regulate and guide a happy marriage. GOD is the One who *instituted* marriage in the *first* place. HE is the One who gave laws to REGULATE that union,

so man and woman could live together in real, deep down *happiness* and *joy*! Because this world has forgotten God, and gone totally in the OPPOSITE direction from His laws, society finds itself in a miserable turmoil of crime, juvenile delinquency, broken homes, suicides and utter frustration!

Man's Natural Mistakes

Human beings have been trying to govern themselves for nearly 6,000 years *without* interference from their Creator—following that which seems to be RIGHT to them! Their present-day turmoil comes from the *natural* mistakes of mankind trying to live in the way which HE devises! (Prov. 14:12.)

What we see around us is the net *result* of man's natural minded ways of living! Look at it! A world filled with hatred, the threat of TOTAL war with the ULTIMATE weapons which could literally bring an end to all mankind, disease, crime, suffering and death! Man's way, which *seems* so GOOD to him, ends in death! (Prov. 16:25.)

For the past 37 years, it has *seemed* good to Americans to allow woman to usurp his God-appointed office and responsibility, and begin to assume the same office as the man. Let's take a statistical view of the results.

The actual percentage of women who are working has *doubled* in 65 years, and now stands at 22 million. Women now comprise almost 1/3 of the total employes in the United States! Further, one-half of all employed women are married!

There are 4 million U.S. women employed in factories, 835,000 women teachers in U.S. school systems, and 3/4 of all clerical workers are women.

65% of U.S. women belong to at least one of the countless women's

organizations dedicated to community service. The above statistics are quoted in the December, 1956 issue of LIFE magazine. Life's December, 1956 issue went on to describe the *changing roles* in modern marriages. Spottily and sporadically, but *increasingly*, the sexes in this country are losing their identities. Mothers are becoming more masculine, and fathers are becoming more feminine! These masculinized mothers and feminized fathers are producing children which are *also* showing the opposite characteristics from that which is normal! *Life* magazine also went on to state that women are becoming more aggressive, and men more defensive.

These facts are *not* some kind of "religious axe-grinding," but stand proved from authoritative sources—and are well known social factors in the United States!

It is not strange, unfamiliar news to anyone that something is drastically *wrong* with American family life! The rising number of women in industry is a very close parallel to the rising problem of divorce in this country!

Children Must Suffer

With the parents both employed, they cannot successfully rear their children as God intends. Because of this fiendish trend toward complete neglect of children we see a nation filled with more juvenile delinquency than any other nation in the history of this earth! A series of three articles appeared in this magazine in May, June and July 1956, showing the real *causes* behind juvenile delinquency, and who God holds responsible! Our upside-down homes have produced a nation of upside-down children who openly sneer at all constituted authority. This learned habit of disobedience—of scorn for authority—*began in the home*, and God holds the parents directly responsible. In the December, 1956 issue of *Reader's Digest*, an article entitled "There's No Substitute for Parents" showed the practice of irresponsible parents trying to shove their children into the hands of school, church, "summer camps," child psychologists or other civic organizations instead of accepting their own responsibility.

As is usually the case, the innocent

must suffer. We have been guilty of a mountainous crime toward our own children because of rejecting God's laws, and his WAY of governing the marital life, and the home!

Basis For Emotional Stability in the Home

Do you know WHY so many homes are filled with "family squabbles," "tiffs" and out-and-out *brawls*? It is because the only *basis* for a happy home is MISSING in most marriages today!

The Creator-God is the One who MADE man and woman! He is the One who DECIDED it was *best* for them to be married (Gen. 2:24). God Almighty is *also* responsible for a set of LAWS and REGULATIONS GOVERNING the happy, abundant loving relationships in the home! *How many people know what those laws are?*

The laws of the Eternal Creator governing marriage and the right, sound emotional stability in the home constitute the *vital key* to real happiness!

It is because mankind has ignorantly thrown away this extremely important KEY to happiness that he has fumbled around in the dark, seeking to solve his OWN problems, and has come to the ignominious end of a tremendous divorce rate and emotional debauchery. What, then, *are* those laws which will lead to emotional stability and happiness in the home? Remember, since it is God who "invented" marriage, it is also He who holds the key to its *success*!

The First Marriage

In the first marriage God ever instituted, an over-all pattern began to form which has led mankind on an ever increasing landslide toward misery. Notice, when God put Adam and Eve on this earth, He *revealed* to them the *basic laws* of marriage: "... and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee," God said to Eve (Gen. 3:16). The Creator had seen, in His perfect wisdom, that it was "... not good that man should be alone ..." and so declared He would "... make an help meet (*fitting*) for him" (Gen. 2:18). God states it was HE who MADE them male *and* female! (Gen. 1:27.)

God then set a *way* before Adam and Eve. They, like you, were free moral

agents. God showed them the way to *life*, the way of happiness and of abundance, but they chose the *wrong way*, the way that SEEMED so good to them.

What WAS their big mistake?

WHY did God drive them from the garden into a wilderness of exile? Notice!

"And unto Adam He said, *Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife*, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it, *cursed* is the ground for thy sake" (Gen. 3:17).

Did you notice it?

ADAM LET EVE BEGIN TO WEAR THE PANTS! God expressly let Adam realize he was being punished because he had allowed his wife to USURP his divinely appointed office, and to begin to lead him around! The very first marriage began a trend that has continued until the present day. The statistics already quoted are ample proof of the totally backward families which are trying to find happiness *contrary* to God's way, and ending in divorce!

God's Government in the Home

Just as God has set *offices* in His Church for rulership and *government* (Eph. 4:11), so He has set offices in the home! Most people are totally *ignorant* of the God-appointed chain of authority that exists in the family, and hence are unconsciously reaping the *results* of breaking those appointed laws!

God says, "For the husband is the *head* of the wife, even as Christ is the HEAD of the Church, and He is the Saviour of the body" (Eph. 5:23). And yet—most American women want the word "obey" taken *out* of the wedding ceremony! Just as most modern "religionists" want the word "obey" *taken out of the entire Bible*! God says the wife is to be subject to the husband just AS the Church is subject to Christ. Because as most professed Christians do not really consider themselves directly SUBJECT to Christ, who is their present, living RULER, their BOSS, they cannot bring themselves to see God's authority in the HOME!

God says further, "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, AS UNTO THE LORD." How many wives are really WILLING to submit in God's way

to their husbands? Whether "modern" 20th Century women like to admit it or not, God Almighty MADE them to be subject to a man—and has decreed they CANNOT FIND HAPPINESS WITHOUT THAT SUBMISSION!

Paul, inspired of God's Holy Spirit, wrote: "But I would have you know, that the Head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman *is the man*, and the Head of Christ is God" (I Cor. 11:3). Paul further explained that "The man is not OF the woman, but the woman OF the man, neither was the man created for the woman, but the woman FOR THE MAN!" (I Cor. 11:8-9.)

God's examples of *holy women*, who really *knew* the *key* to happiness show this same truth. Peter writes, "Likewise ye wives, be in *subjection* to your own husbands, that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation [conduct] of the wives" (I Pet. 3:1). God describes the WAY these women lived, by showing the example of Sarah, who was Abraham's wife. "For after this manner [according to His divinely revealed ways] in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, *being in subjection* unto their own husbands, even as Sara *obeyed* Abraham, calling him 'Lord,' whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well . . ." (I Pet. 3:5-6).

Any such glowing example of Godly humility has become outdated and "old-fashioned" today. In other words—*happiness for women has become outdated and "old-fashioned!"*

A Battle of the Sexes?

What about the constant din from humorists and novelists who repeatedly chortle and chuckle over the so-called "battle" of the sexes? Is there *really* some sort of unseen or unrealized struggle for supremacy going on between the two sexes?

YES, THERE IS!

Americans particularly, and other nations to a lesser degree, LAUGH at this atrocious abomination that blights God's chosen people! The "battle" of the sexes is just another humorous name for the same struggle Eve started 'way back in the Garden of Eden, of trying to *rule*

over the man. It has wrought only unhappiness, misery, wretched, twisted and broken homes, and a race of spineless males, who are ruled over by their wives, and ridiculed by their own children!

"As for my people, *children* are their oppressors, and *women rule over them*" (Isa. 3:12).

Yes, there *is* an actual battle of the sexes—a struggle for supremacy in the home! And that "battle" is the outgrowth of the male's 6,000-year search for sensual thrills and a way of life *contrary* to God's inspired way, letting his wife "wear the pants" in the family!

Is it All One-Sided?

Does God, then, intend that women bow their necks under a domineering yoke of bondage and submit to just *any* kind of husband, *regardless* of his actions? *Not at all!*

GOD ACTUALLY HOLDS THE MAN—WHOM HE ORIGINALLY PLACED IN AUTHORITY—RESPONSIBLE!

Just as Jesus Christ is the most *responsible* person (together with God) alive today, He intends that the husband be the *responsible* head of his family! "Husbands love your wives, even as Christ also loved the Church, and gave Himself for it, that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of the water by the word" (Eph. 5:25-26). Christ *gave Himself* for the Church. Husbands are to *love* their wives in the same manner! "So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loves his wife loves himself" (Eph. 5:28).

God is the protector, provider and ruler of His Church. So is the man to fulfill that office toward his wife. "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel" (I Tim. 5:8). God demands of the husband that he be able to *support* and provide for his wife, and that he fulfill the great office and responsibility God has placed upon him.

Some Not Capable

Some men are not capable of assuming their God-given responsibility as head of the house! Because of lack of training from their own parents, and because society has gotten *away* from

the way of God, most men do not, or *cannot* shoulder their responsibility. Any woman who is married to a drunkard, or a man who will not support her, or who refuses to accept the position God has demanded he accept has actually *disqualified* himself. Yet—that is between the man and God! It is NOT the place of the woman to bitterly indict the man for his sins, and then to assume HIS responsibility of being the breadwinner, the provider and protector of the home! Many women have decided it is their OBLIGATION to step into the "pants" of the family, and become its HEAD, because their husbands either are not capable, or else refuse to accept that responsibility! Such is not the case! She should do whatever is necessary for the temporary welfare of the home, but always with the goal of encouraging her husband to take over HIS responsibility, realizing *it is not her place!*

The purpose of this article is *not* to give a blinded, bigoted harangue *against* women! God almighty does not hold the woman as RESPONSIBLE for the abominable situation existing today as does He the man! Since man is to be the HEAD of the family—God holds the responsible one to blame for the *breaking* of that principle!

Self-Created Unhappiness

Through the hundreds of years of "doing what comes *naturally*" to the carnal mind, which is *naturally* HOSTILE toward God (Rom. 8:7), we have made our own beds of misery—and are now lying in them. *Our homes have been literally turned upside-down!* The man has refused to shoulder his burden and responsibility as head of the home, and the woman has tried to *usurp* his position and place *herself* at the head of the house! The result is self-evident!

Our cities teem with a restless, surging, vicious group of young hoodlums who have been reared under *these very conditions*, and, following the example of our entertainment media, and the example of their own mothers and fathers, they have come to totally disrespect all constituted authority! Police officers, dealing with child criminals, have revealed it is an underlying, basic lack of respect for *any* authority which is a root *cause* of delinquency! AU-

THORITY BEGINS IN THE HOME!

Why are most women frustrated, miserable, unhappy? Because they have gotten out of their own element! "But I suffer NOT a woman to teach, nor to *usurp authority* over the man, but to be in silence!" (I Tim. 2:12.)

Why are most men becoming more feminine, failing in their duties as fathers and husbands? Because they, too, have gotten out of their own element—into an *unnatural* element—trying to be a wife and a mother instead of the head of the home and a father! God says the man is to *RULE* his own house—*well*! "One that *ruleth well* his own house, having *his children in subjection* with all gravity. For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the Church of God?" (I Tim. 3:4-5.)

Remember, God indicts the MAN when He says, "As for *my people CHILDREN* are their oppressors, and *women rule over them*!" (Isa. 3:12.)

Common Situations

It is not at all unusual for men to be doing such household chores as sweeping, dusting, washing dishes, cooking and preparing meals, and a myriad of other wifely chores which *rightfully belong to the woman*! Of COURSE it is not wrong for the man to *help out* his wife if she becomes ill, or in a temporary circumstance! However, in anything *other* than an emergency, those tasks are women's tasks, and should be done by women!

What about YOUR home? Is it like many "modern" homes today?

It is not uncommon for men to do the shopping, to care for the children, or get the meals, while the wife is staying out late in the afternoon with *her job*, or perhaps taking part in one of the many thousands of women's civic organizations designed to make *this world* a "better" place to live! A lot of men are quivering, quaking, spineless JELLY-FISH instead of men, and it's about time some of them WAKE UP AND REALIZE IT! Perhaps you have known of similar situations—perhaps you're LIVING in similar situations!

What about it?

Are you beginning to *realize why* there is so much unhappiness, emotional

turbulence and ultimate DIVORCE in the common American home? It is because of our national *way of life*—because we have turned our homes upside-down!

A Team

God intends that the husband and wife are a TEAM, working together toward the only worthwhile goal in life—the Kingdom of God! Most people do not have that as a goal—but they could still be *much happier* if they observed God's divinely ordained LAWS of marriage!

Marriage, it is said by most modern people, is a 50-50 proposition. That means each mate is to ideally "meet the other half-way" in their natural-minded selfishness. However, as is usually always the case, there develops an unclear idea as to *where* that "middle line" actually is, and neither mate seems to be able to convince the other he or she is not meeting his or her side of the responsibility!

Endless arguments develop over the other doing HIS SHARE more fully!

First of all, *marriage is not a 50-50 proposition*!

God meant it to be a 100-100 proposition, whereby it's ALL the way for *each* partner, ALL the time! The husband is willing to GIVE 100% to the wife, and the wife is willing to GIVE 100% to the husband!

As was explained in the preceding article, mankind has jerked love from its original place of perfect *giving*, and pointed it toward SELF, making it mean, in our modern language, a "getting" and a *receiving* instead of a *giving*! Love, as advertised in our movies, novels and comics, is all GET—pointed toward making the SELF happier!

BUT—if a husband and wife are REALLY *in love*, according to God's definition of love (Who CREATED love!) they will be willing to each GIVE to the other!

If that were true, countless marriages that are threatening to *break up*, and end in divorce at this very minute could be saved! But a total lack of consideration seems to be the rule—with the woman trying to be a man, and the man trying to play the docile role of a home-maker!

Whether modern women realize it

or not, it is a heinous CRIME against their husbands, against their children, and a crime against their All-powerful CREATOR for them to *leave the home* to WORK and support the family!

"That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, KEEPERS AT HOME . . ." or, as some translations render it, "HOMEMAKERS!" ". . . good, OBEDIENT TO THEIR OWN HUSBANDS, THAT THE WORD OF GOD BE NOT BLASPHEMED!" (Titus 2:5).

There!

Did you notice it? Read it again! It is *blasphemy* against the sacred, inspired Word of God, which Word is going to JUDGE you in the judgment, for a woman to forsake her God-appointed office of being the KEEPER OF THE HOME! *That is the thundering command of your Creator, who grants you every sweet breath of air you draw into your lungs!*

What to Do About It

But—only reading the truth of God, and nodding in silent agreement to it, is not going to make you any happier—nor will it solve your emotional problems! You must DO something about it! If every husband and wife were earnestly and sincerely TRYING to GIVE to the other partner, and to fulfill the real obligation of marriage—there would be no such monstrous problem that exists today! For those who will MAKE an honest effort to *get on God's side of the fence*, and forsake the worldly way of MISERY, here are some definite keys!

When you begin to *argue*, and a family "squabble" seems to be materializing—the husband should take charge and *go get his Bible*! He should sit down *with his wife*, and READ these scriptures I have quoted for you in this and the preceding article—the scriptures which are God's commands to man concerning the MARRIAGE STATE!

Be willing, you husbands, to *admit* you're wrong! But also remember, God has made you the HEAD of the home (not the domineering, harsh, overlord or master), which is an office to be exercised in great wisdom and judgment—and always in the utmost LOVE!

Go over the *scriptures*, and see if

BOTH of you are really meeting up to them! Of course, you're not! If you *were*, there would BE no "squabble" developing! Here's a particular example:

Common Emotional Problems

John Q. Public has had a hard day at the office. The boss loaded some extra work on him, he spilled coffee on his tie during coffee break, and has had to fight heavy, frustrating traffic all the way home. On arriving at his home, he is met by his wife, Mary Q. Public, who has also had *her* troubles. Junior turned his oatmeal bowl upside down on his head, broke the goldfish bowl and caused her cake to fall. Aside from this, she's had a headache all day, and the telephone has been constantly ringing.

John and Mary meet each other at the door. With deeply etched frowns of frustration and despair, they both begin mutually vehement descriptions of the awful turn of events that plunged them into this vengeful mood. A few minutes later, John loudly slams the door and races down the street in the heat of anger—Mary flings herself across the bed and screams epithets of general frustration and helplessness.

A far-fetched situation, you say?

Oh, no it isn't! In fact, it may well have happened to YOU only yesterday!

The question is, WHY?

Consider a few facts. Every incident that served to make the day of John and Mary miserable was a minor problem that need not have upset them greatly. Each incident, as it occurred, could have been handled with emotional control and stability!

At the time of John's arrival home—everything that had gone before was *just that*—it was GONE BEFORE! It was OVER, it had already HAPPENED—it was *in the past*! Had John surveyed his own feelings, and then taken into consideration the feelings of his wife, he would have controlled himself, *conquered* his feelings, and met his wife at the door with a smile, fully determined to *help her* by showing emotional control and soundmindedness. He could force himself to FORGET whatever is "under the bridge" and realize that thinking about it, worrying about it, *straining* at it, isn't going to CHANGE anything—it only makes an extremely unpleasant eve-

ning and a squabble with his wife!

Mary could have done the same thing! Realizing all her problems during the day were over with, and entirely *in the past*, she *could have* realized her responsibility toward her husband, and, swallowing her self-pity—tried to help him!

I know this *sounds good*, as you read it on this printed page—but how many couples do you know who actually PRACTICE IT? If they *would* practice it, most married couples could be made *much happier*!

How to Grow Up Emotionally

The reason most people *cannot* seem to control themselves in such situations is that they have never *grown up* emotionally! While their *bodies* are mature, and they may even be parents or grandparents, still, they cannot control their emotions!

As I have already shown—the only SOUND mind is the mind that is surrendered to God, and that has received His Spirit!

There is only ONE way to gain *true* emotional stability—and that way is through receiving God's Holy, SOUND-MINDED, Spirit! But *remember*, God gives His Spirit ONLY to those that are willing to OBEY HIM! (Acts 5:32).

God tells us He has established His ministers over the flock for the express purpose of aiding them in GROWTH and *development*! "And He gave some apostles, and some, prophets, and some, evangelists, and some, pastors and teachers, for the *perfecting* of the saints, for the *work* of the ministry . . . TILL we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a FULL GROWN [margin] man, *unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ*!" (Eph. 4:11-13).

A FULL GROWN man is one who has been able to CONQUER and hold in SUBJECTION the rampant, unbridled emotions of human nature through the power of God's Spirit (I Cor. 9:27). Paul went on to say, "That we henceforth be no more *children*, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive, but speaking the truth in love, may GROW UP *into Him* in all

things, which is the Head, even Christ" (Eph. 4:14-15).

Jesus Christ was the most FULL-GROWN man who ever lived! He alone had COMPLETE emotional stability and maturity! The Holy Inspired Word of God exhorts every person to "let *this mind* be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:5).

Every Christian MUST have the very *mind of Christ*, or else he is NOT a Christian (Rom. 8:9).

Perhaps, when you began reading this article, you thought you would be reading a "psychological" approach to invent a panacea for all emotional problems, and you are surprised that I have quoted from and referred to so many scriptures.

And yet—whether you realize it fully or not—there is only ONE real "panacea," only *one* all-inclusive solution for emotional instability, and that way is to REPENT, and be CONVERTED! That way is to receive God's Holy Spirit which ALONE can give *true* emotional maturity and make a happy and joyful homelife possible. NOTHING ELSE WILL EVER WORK! *God made it that way!*

Only One Way

As is evident in all of us, we *all want to be happy*. WE WANT happy homes, with obedient children and a settled, orderly home life which brings the full, abundant happiness God intends!

But, without realizing it, we have rejected the ONLY way in which that life can EVER come—the way of *obedience* to God's laws! God Almighty also set ABSOLUTE LAWS for the home! When those laws are broken—unhappiness and *divorce*, which is in itself disobedience to God's law—is the result! Broken laws demand a penalty. In this case the penalty is misery and emotional turmoil for countless homes which *could* be happy!

There is only ONE WAY in which a man and wife can ever know the FULL joy and happiness that is possible in this physical life—and that is the way revealed by God in His word!

If this article serves to straighten out just ONE FAMILY and bring them to that realization—it will have been well worth the effort!

May God grant that YOU will want happiness *badly enough* that you will yield yourself to Him—and receive it!

BAPTISM by FIRE?

(Continued from page 17)

The PLAIN TRUTH
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Those who believe Christians should seek this baptism with FIRE believe the "floor" means the individual Christian—that Christ will fan up the flames with the fan in His hand, burning out the dross from the life of the Christian, purging this life of sin, thus burning up the chaff, leaving only the GOOD part of the man—the wheat.

But that is merely an interpretation read into it. That is not at all the evident meaning as INTERPRETED BY SCRIPTURE.

Notice, Christ's fan is to be in His hand. He will purge His floor. Purge it of what? Of the chaff. Then the wheat will be gathered into His garner. What is "His floor"? Evidently the same as "His field" of Matt. 13:24. "The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in HIS FIELD." But while He slept, the enemy, the devil, came and sowed tares—sinners. Now He let BOTH—saints and sinners—the wheat and the tares [or the wheat and the chaff]—grow together in HIS FIELD — [HIS FLOOR] — until the harvest. Then He sends the angels to baptize [immerse] the tares, or the chaff—the lost sinners—with FIRE, which burns them up, but the wheat—the saved—are gathered into His garner—His kingdom.

Verse 38 says the field is the world.

The expressions used are almost identical to John's statement about baptizing with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Before John were gathered the children of the wicked one, and also some of those to be heirs of salvation. Christ will PURGE His floor—His field—the Earth. The wheat will be gathered into His kingdom and the chaff, or tares—the lost sinners—are to be PURGED from the world, burned with unquenchable fire.

Now examine that word "purge." What is it Christ will PURGE? Notice Ezek. 20:38. When He comes again, "I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me; . . . and they shall not enter into the land of Israel." What about that word "fan"? The marginal reference

takes us to Jer. 51:1-2: "Thus saith the Eternal, I will raise up against Babylon [sinners] . . . a DESTROYING WIND, and will send unto Babylon FANNERS that shall fan her, and shall empty her land." "And she [Babylon] shall be utterly BURNED WITH FIRE: for strong is the Lord God that judgeth her" (Rev. 18:8). The fan is an instrument for destroying sinners with FIRE—hell fire—not purifying saints.

Now what is the "CHAFF"? Speaking of SINNERS (not sins to be cleansed out of saints), God says, through Hosea 13:3: "Therefore they shall be as the . . . CHAFF that is driven with the whirlwind [fanned] out of the FLOOR." How closely this language matches that of Christ, with His fan, whipping up a wind that purges the chaff off His floor, to be burned! Now notice further, Dan. 2:35: "Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold [Babylon—sinners] broken to pieces together, and became like the CHAFF of the summer threshing FLOORS; and the wind [fanned by His fan] carried them away." Yes, to be burned. These scriptures show the chaff refers to lost sinners, not faults of saints. With his fan He purges His floor, carrying away the chaff, or the tares, to be burned with FIRE. Now what is UNQUENCHABLE fire? Is it used in connection with purifying saints, or punishing the lost?

Notice Isa. 66:24: "And they [saints] shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall THEIR FIRE BE QUENCHED." Notice Malachi 4:1: "For, behold, the day cometh that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble [chaff, tares]: and the day that cometh shall BURN THEM UP, saith the Lord of hosts."

Surely that settles it. John was speaking to both sinners and those to be saved. When he said Christ shall baptize YOU—the YOU included BOTH. The saved He would baptize with His SPIRIT—the others with the FIRE!