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**More About Our Cover:**

Mapmakers of Europe from Strabo, before Christ, to today’s cartographers have struggled to keep current with the changes in the political lines drawn over the geography as God created it. In today’s dynamic world great changes are planned for this decisive decade. What will the lines at the end of the decade look like? What insight is revealed in God’s “Sure Word of Prophecy” that can help us see the lines before they are drawn? Read tomorrow’s changes today beginning on page 14!
HOW did you come to be here on earth? Did you just happen, an accident of blind, unintelligent, unknowing, lifeless EVOLUTION? Or were you put here and given life by an all-knowing, all-intelligent, purposeful, living Supreme God, who designed and created the human mind and body?

Let me tell you — and I can prove it, and so can you if you are willing — that the Great Creator brought YOU into existence on this earth FOR A GREAT AND MIGHTY PURPOSE!

You were born into a world which has developed a certain type civilization. The instant you were born you knew — NOTHING! But your eyes opened, you looked about, and knowledge of what you saw began registering in your memory — began putting knowledge into your mind. Your ears heard sounds, and thus additional knowledge entered through the sense of hearing. Very elementary at first, but gradually, each bit of new knowledge, entering your mind through your sense of taste, smell, feel, sight and hearing, was added to what had previously been stored there.

Gradually you came to know, and take up with, the customs, ways, generally accepted ideas and beliefs of this world. You accepted them, took them for granted without question.

Some of them were good — but many of them were BAD. But you took them for granted without realizing they were bad.

You were born with a nature. We call it human nature. Few people realize what it is. Human nature has a spiritual side, and a physical side. On its spiritual side, it is pure VANITY. Vanity loves and tends to exalt the SELF. It is SELF-centered. It is selfish and greedy. It is this way naturally. On its physical side, there are the five senses, and the PULL of these senses to crave to be satisfied. Exercise of these senses can produce sensations of pleasure. Some of these sensual pleasures are healthy, uplifting and GOOD. But many are injurious, harmful and BAD. Yet the bad ones cry out for gratification — probably far more than the good. Thus human nature exerts an automatic, impulsive PULL toward selfishness, greed, vanity, jealousy, envy, hatred, and toward the lusts (wrong desires) of the flesh.

Human nature makes it come naturally to resent and resist authority over one. A child tends to resist the authority of his parents. We grow up with a natural attitude of hostility toward any authority, whether from man or God.

Human nature wants to BE good — that is, to believe it is good — to be considered good. It just doesn't want to DO good.

Because GOOD is the WAY of God's invisible, inexorable, spiritual LAW. That LAW is, simply LOVE. It is love toward God in the form of trusting and willing OBEDIENCE to God's every command and direction, knowing it is for our highest good. It is love toward God in the form of being God-centered — having the mind continually (consciously or sub-consciously) in contact with God, relying on God, seeking guidance from God, worshipful in the sense of gratitude, obedience, faith and complete trust. It is love toward fellow MAN — in the sense of outgoing concern, equal to love and concern for self.

Now NO MAN exercises that kind of love naturally. You simply were not born with that kind of love.

YOU don't HAVE it!
That is, not unless you have received it from God through His gift of His Holy Spirit.

That love — God's love — that of His Holy Spirit — travels a certain road. It is the road that leads to peace, to happiness, to confident assurance, security, well-being, enjoyment without kickbacks, prosperity — every good thing the heart desires.

Everyone wants that result.
That is to say, everyone wants to have the result of doing good.
But no one, it seems, naturally wants to go that way — to do good.
That way — doing good — is the way of God's Law.

This world is not FULL of happiness, peace,
joy, and universal prosperity. It is pretty well filled with strife—in the home, in business, in politics, in war between nations. It is pretty well filled with unhappiness, frustrations, insecurity. It is pretty well filled with crime and violence, with broken homes and unhappy quarreling homes, with sickness and disease, with frustrations, failures, tragedies.

Now God is not the author of all these troubles in the world.

God has, for a great purpose, made humans free moral agents, and allotted six thousand years for mankind to make a choice—whether to accept God’s government over him, to be ruled by God’s Law of love—or whether to set up his own ideas of man-made government, following what comes naturally—human nature.

That six thousand years is about up. When it is—a very few more years, perhaps less than 10—God Almighty is going to step in, intervene supernaturally and in divine power abolish governments and ways of society—rule all nations with God’s laws—and bring peace and happiness to humanity!

How can that be done?

It’s simple!

There is a way of personal, group, and organized living that will automatically produce that utopia. And there is a way that has, for 6,000 years, produced curses, war, strife and violence, frustration, failure—everything this world has.

God is simply going to enforce, with divine Power, His Way. He is going to take over all governments, in a super world government, ruled by the very Creator. It will rule by God’s Laws—the way of love!

Why do some people—even college professors and some who are intellectually inclined—become Communists? Because they see many things wrong in this world—they want to be right—they grasp Communism as a last straw and only hope, under the delusion that they can have a part in making this a better world! They want to be right—but they don’t want to do right. So they grasp the straw that makes the lying and false promises of producing the solution. But Communism is only another idea of man based on human nature. It is a theoretical way that would destroy what little good there might be in this world’s society. It is the most false of false hopes.

But you can have a part in actually bringing peace, happiness, joy and abundance to humanity. God Almighty is going to do it—whether or not you have a part in it! But He is not going to do it alone. He is going to take certain human beings, born in the very likeness of God, who repent of their carnal human nature—who cry out to God to change that nature, and give them the matchless supreme gift of His divine love that will travel the way toward peace, happiness and joy.

These are they who, through real repentance of what they are as well as what they have done, through faith in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ as well as in His resurrected life and power, are forgiven their guilty past, given contact with God, changed, converted, receiving His Holy Spirit, being begotten as His children, receiving the divine nature.

In other words, they repent of human nature—they repent of hostility to authority—of resentment against God’s Law. They surrender unconditionally to God, and wholeheartedly want Him to rule in their lives. They change (through God’s power given by His grace) from rebellion to submission—from self-centeredness to God-centeredness. They let Jesus Christ (in Spirit) come into their lives and actually live their lives for them (Galatians 2:20).

They change from the way that has brought all the curses upon this unhappy world, to the way that will bring a brilliant, joyful utopia to earth in a very few years when God sends the living Jesus Christ in all power and glory to rule all nations and bring the happy, peaceful world tomorrow!

This change is conversion. This is what it means to become a Christian. A Christian is not merely one who professes Christ. God’s own instruction to us—the Bible—says that if one has not received God’s Holy Spirit, he is none of His—he is not a Christian (Romans 8:9). God gives His Holy Spirit only to them that obey Him (Acts 5:32). This implants within the mind the divine nature—it means a changed mind!

But it does not remove the human nature. The mind governs whether the converted Christian now follows the pulls, the impulses, the desires of human nature, or whether he resists them and is led by the newly received divine nature. “As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God” (Romans 8:14). But one’s human nature cries out to be satisfied—does not like to be repressed.

Just receiving God’s Spirit is not enough. One

(Continued on page 34)
What DO Churchgoers Believe?—and WHY?

A very large segment of American and British life attends church on Sunday mornings. WHY do they go? WHAT do these churchgoers BELIEVE, and WHY? The plain truth is a little shocking — and illuminating!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

NOTHING is so astonishing as the truth! It is often stranger than fiction. Most people who attend church regularly, or even occasionally, would be really surprised if they should probe into their own minds far enough to ask WHY they go, and just WHAT is their religious belief — and WHY?

Do You KNOW?

As a baby, I was taken to church. As a child, I was taken to Sunday school and church. It was a Quaker church. I attended church until I was eighteen. When we were married, my wife and I felt we ought to attend church. We looked over the churches in the general area of our home, selected one that was convenient, respectable, with members we liked socially.

But WHY did we join? WHY did we attend church?

Well, we just felt we ought to — that’s about all. Did we stop to analyze WHY we ought to attend church? Well, no. We supposed all people should attend church, should they not? We probably didn’t think much about WHY! But hasn’t everybody always heard that one should go to church? It seems we had.

Most people simply assume, take for granted, and accept without question what they’ve always heard. Usually they don’t know WHY.

What Did We Believe?

Did we have a definite religion? Reflecting back, my answer would have to be “No.” How about you?

What did we believe? Well, we had no deep-rooted convictions. We believed, of course, those things we had most often heard in church. We supposed there is a heaven and hell — an ever-burning hell. We believed — or supposed we did — in the immortality of the soul. We believed in Sunday, and Christmas and New Year’s and Easter, and from boyhood I had heard the pastor talk about a few weird things, or names, or something that had absolutely no meaning to me — “Pentecost,” “grace,” “Antioch,” “sanctification,” “justification,” “dead in trespasses and sins.” Of course I knew all those things came out of the Bible — but then, I always said: “I just can’t understand the Bible.”

And, speaking of the Bible, what does the average churchgoer think about the Bible? I think that in those years I was typical of many. It was “the Good Book.” I did, in a way, regard it with a certain superstitious awe. It was beyond my comprehension. Of course I assumed our church got its beliefs out of the Bible. The preacher could understand it. But then, too, I grew up looking on the minister as a person different from the rest of us. He was a sort of holy man, not tempted to sin or to enjoy the worldly pleasures like the rest of us. He was like a man from another world. But the Bible was the Book men laid their hands on when taking the oath of office. And it was the one Book I should have been too embarrassed to carry down the street.

Did I look on it as “the Word of God”? Well, yes, I suppose so. But then I never thought of it in specific terms as the message, the instruction of God, to give man the explanation of what he is, and why he is here, and where he is going, and how he ought to live, and how he can be happy, and prosperous, and enjoy life more.

Somehow “religion” was for Sunday morning — except that I had been taught that its prohibitions lasted all day Sunday. It was sin to go to the theatre on Sunday, and it was a sin to dance, or smoke, or swear, or “drink” at any time — and even theatregoing was “worldly” and probably a sin at any time. Playing cards was sin, too. Aside from a few such things, I had no idea what my church believed.

Except for a few such church teachings, “religion” was for Sunday morning and had no connection whatever with my life otherwise. Of course church membership often supplies a portion of one’s social life, and many men attend to make valuable business contacts.

Religion? Well, vaguely I had heard that Adam was the first man, and that he sinned, and “fell” — whatever that meant. As a result I vaguely conceived that life was like a one-way trip on a train. Because of Adam, the switch in the track at the end of the line is thrown to shoot us all down to hell. So I supposed we needed to “get saved,” although I had been taught that I had a “birthright membership” in the church, so I guessed I probably was already “saved” — at least I don’t remember that I ever worried about it. When one is “saved,” the switch in the track at the end of life’s journey is then thrown so that, when he gets to the end of the line he will be shot instantly up to heaven, “to be with the Lord” in mansions above, “over the river,” or “on the
other shore,” wherever all that was. Anyway, it was “up yonder” and when they called the roll, I took it for granted I was going to be there.

And what was my idea of God — and of Christ — and of the devil? Well, God was One to fear and be appealed, in a way — and yet, if we pleased Him, He could make things break our way for us. If we faced a frightful tragedy and possible death, crying out to Him might save us. But generally, I think I rather took it for granted that God didn’t want us to be happy or enjoy life — He certainly frowned on all worldly pleasures. Christ, however, was more kind and loving — He was our Saviour. Above all, neither God nor Christ were real to me — they were in reality “far off.”

Now these were not definite, concrete beliefs or deep-rooted convictions. They were just ethereal, vague assumptions. I never gave them deep or specific thought. I just took them for granted, supposing everybody believed these things. My mind was focused on the material interests of the moment — things closer to hand. As I said, religion was for Sunday. It had no relation to or connection with the rest of life as a whole — my school, fun, play, hobbies, and, as I grew older, business, philosophies and beliefs.

What a “Bible Christian” Is Like

But when I was 34 years of age, my religious nonchalance was rudely jolted. My wife and I were visiting my parents in Salem, Oregon. Mrs. Armstrong returned from a visit with one of my mother’s friends — a neighbor. This woman seemed to be a sort of “Bible Christian.” She had handed her Bible to my wife and asked her to read a certain passage aloud. Then, without any comment whatever, she asked my wife to turn to another passage and read it aloud — then another and another. All these passages seemed to connect in an orderly sequence.

“Why!” exclaimed my wife in astonishment, “this is not what I’ve always been taught! Have I always been led to believe just the opposite of what the Bible teaches?”

“Well, don’t ask me,” smiled my mother’s neighbor. “I didn’t teach you a word. You just read it yourself out of the Bible.”

Mrs. Armstrong came running to tell me what she had discovered. Suddenly her religious belief had been changed. To me, she had become a religious fanatic. What she had read out of the Bible was diametrically contrary to the general teachings of the churches. I was angered, furious. Argument did no good. She had all the answers — and right out of the Bible. This was the incident that challenged and angered me into the first real study of the Bible of all my life.

I said, “You can’t tell me that all these churches are wrong. I know they get what they believe out of the Bible!”

So I devoted six months to intensive, almost night and day, research and study to try to find, in the Bible, what I had been taught in church. I, too, was astounded to find just the opposite. I obtained the literature of churches supporting their beliefs. I searched the commentaries, the lexicons, the Bible encyclopedias. I searched out the arguments of higher criticism on these points. I tried my best to overthrow my previously pictured or taking for granted without question what I had heard or what others accepted. I was proving what was true. And it was not what I wanted to accept. Rather, it wounded my pride. It was humiliating. It was traumatic. It brought me to the most difficult decision of my life — to admit not only that I had been wrong — but to see my own self, for the first time, as I really was — an abhorrent, rebellious, vain human who was evil by nature and unworthy of God’s grace and mercy and love.

It was a bitter decision — I now felt my life was worthless, but I told God that if He could use such a worthless life, I would give it to Him in unconditional surrender.

At last, once I swallowed my pride, admitted defeat, was humbled, had repented, and accepted the Christ of the Bible — a different Christ than I had previously pictured — I had found the true source for belief.

What a difference there is between professing “Christians” who are churchgoers, and a true Bible Christian! I know that difference because I have been both!

Regardless of whether one has been angered into an honest study of the Bible, as I was, or whether he had never been to church or heard anything else in the first place, or why he looks into the Bible for himself, he will find the same thing there that I found — if he is honest and willing.

A person who is born and reared on a faraway uninhabited island in mid-ocean, having never heard any religious belief, if he had a Bible and was able to read, would be a total stranger to many of these things I was taught in church — he would see, in the Bible, just what everybody else does who looks into it honestly.

What’s wrong, then? When today’s “enlightened” clergy, and its theological seminaries where young ministers are educated, spend more time trying to determine how much of the Bible they wish to classify as myth, and how little as truth — when only 1% of theological students, by actual survey, believe in any “second coming” of Christ which is stated and affirmed repeatedly in the Bible — when theologians and the professional clergy “interpret” the Bible to mean the very opposite of what it plainly says, in order to pretend that it supports their pagan teachings — then you may know what is wrong.

If you will read Jeremiah 23, Ezekiel 13, and 34, which are prophecies of conditions now, in our day, and of Christ’s statement of Matthew 24:4-5, 11, 24, of the false preachers that would deceive the many; and of the many statements in the Bible that the whole world would be deceived, you will begin to understand. It is, indeed, hard for one born, reared, and steeped in this

(Continued on page 35)
"In the year 2525, if man is still alive, if woman can survive," goes a recently popular song. Today, the future looks bleak to teen-agers and young people. Will man be alive—can woman survive? What's ahead? You need to know.

by Ronald Kelly and John Robinson


The world has never looked bleaker to our youth. Today we live in the shadow of a dozen monumental problems which—if unchecked—will result in cosmocide, world suicide.

As the 1970's begin, the people of America are looking forward to the celebration of 200 years as a nation. The year 1976 marks our 200th birthday. Young people are beginning to ask the older generation,
"Do you really think we'll make it??"

If we don't make 1976, obviously we won't make 2525!

It's really not so shocking, then, that teen-agers seek escape mechanisms. Pot, LSD, STP, are turned to in order to avoid the stark realities of our time. Youth — everyone — strives for the euphoric peace of mind and mental tranquility.

Fear of the unknown, the uncertainty of the future, is one of the biggest threats to the mind. However, knowledge of the events of the next few years, decades and centuries is available, if you know where to look!

"What's the Use?"

It doesn't take a genius to determine that today's young people have grounds for their worries and frustrations about the future. It's like one young person told us, "Sure, there is a bomb. Not that we worry about it. It is the subconscious effect it has — like knowing the world is flat and if you go too close to the edge you'll just drop off into nothingness. It puts a damper on enthusiasm for the future — squelches drive and ambition. Causes frustration."

He went on to say, "It is a world hopelessly botched beyond human repair with innumerable problems too hairy to even face — so no one does.

"The result is frustration. The cause may not be recognized, but the effect is evident — myriad forms of escapism.

"Why try? Why work hard? Why exert yourself? Why have principles? No one else does! What's the use?"

Is it any wonder young people today tell the Establishment, "You made the
world this way; you get us out of it. Don't tell us the future of the world lies in its youth. We didn't create these problems, and we are not going to solve them."

But who is going to solve the problems of the world?

It doesn't take a "brain" to figure out that unless someone comes up with some answers pretty quick, the world is doomed to destruction! Don't just believe us; pick up any newspaper, magazine, or writing of an individual who knows what is going on in the world today — see what they say.

So what do we do? Where do we go from here? Should we all go take a hot bath and slash our wrists? Take up placards? March? Demonstrate and try to make the world a better place? Perhaps we should all rush out and live in caves or establish hippie communes?

But, then, that wouldn't solve any problems, would it?

How About the Truth?

It is high time someone told you teen-agers the plain, unadulterated truth.

To begin, the world is NOT COMING TO AN END! In fact, it's just beginning to get started!

But before utopia can be established, some pretty cataclysmic events must first take place. God has been allowing man to prove for nearly six thousand years that every form of government would eventually lead into a box canyon. Now, in the early months of 1970, almost to the end of that six-thousand-year period, the high walls of the box canyon are about to collapse!

Looming on the horizon is a time when the modern nations of the so-called "lost ten tribes of Israel" will go into national captivity. Millions will be killed and other millions taken to slave labor camps. National extinction will result unless God intervenes.

It is not the purpose of this article to discuss these prophecies in detail. Articles on prophecy appear in nearly every issue of TOMORROW'S WORLD. For the overall picture, though, we do encourage you to request our free book The United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy and the article, "There Is a Way of Escape." Suffice it to say for the present, you live in a world where wars and rumors of wars, famines, earthquakes and disease are a stark reality.

You are living in "the time of the end." Not the end of the world — the earth — but the end of man's society, the end of man's government, man's way. But immediately after these prophesied traumas, will come the World Tomorrow — and that will take place

(Continued on page 26)
Why PROPHECY?

One third of the Bible is PROPHECY! Why was it written? Why is it so mysterious? Why does almost no one understand it? Here are the Bible answers!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

Bible prophecy has perplexed millions! Many hundreds of volumes have been written — articles, leaflets, tracts printed — thousands of sermons have been preached — all about Biblical prophecy!

And yet — look at all the confusion! Many believe all the prophecies have been fulfilled. Others believe the prophecies were merely the pronouncements of wild-eyed fanatics carried away with visions of doom. Still others believe the prophecies are confined to the Old Testament, and are all done away.

Still others preach that most Biblical prophecy is for our day — now!

What is the truth?

What Is Prophecy?

The Hebrew word for prophet, nabi, means “one who announces or brings a message from God.” The word “prophet” in the English language means essentially the same thing — “one who speaks by divine inspiration as the interpreter or spokesman of God,” whether it be a message of duty and warning, or a prediction of future events.

A prophet is one who speaks for God; hence, the prefix pro (from the Greek language — from which our word prophet is derived) which means “for” and “before.” So that a prophet is one who speaks for God, or one who tells before — one who predicts, foretells, prophesies.

Common Misconceptions

Many people falsely assume all prophecies are merely dire foretellings of catastrophic events, of the wrathful vengeance of a harsh God who is about to descend with terrible fury upon His hapless subjects here below!

This is far from the truth! Many of the prophecies foretell a time of peace, of happiness, of restoration, of joy, of great prosperity and physical wealth for those who are serving God.

Many prophecies merely foretell, in advance, certain events which are to happen, the rise and fall of nations, the course of world affairs!

Prophecy is a chronicle of the great plan God is working out here below! It describes this plan in detail, showing how God knew it would work out, according to human nature, together with other special interventions of God.

Prophecy is history written in advance!

Who Were the Prophets?

The prophets were not a special hierarchy, a guild, or a certain “class” of men! Many of them were chosen from various of the twelve tribes of Israel, and, unlike those of the tribe of Levi, were not born into their office.

...The prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit” (II Peter 1:21).

Daniel was a Jew, of the tribe of Judah, one of the princes of the nation, with whom God began to deal — revealing the meaning of Nebuchadnezzar’s dreams, and causing Daniel to write many prophecies which he, himself, did not understand! (Dan. 12:8-9.)

Jeremiah was one of the priests” (Jer. 1:1), who argued he was too young to become a prophet of God! Hosea was apparently of Zebulun, Jonah ran from the call of God, Isaiah claimed he was a man of unclean lips, and didn’t want to prophesy, and
Zephaniah was one of the princes of Judah, possibly of the descendants of Hezekiah.

As the Holy Spirit inspired Peter to write, God called His prophets — sent them with a message as divinely commissioned messengers. On many occasions, they had to be made willing to carry the message of God. These men were not seeking for some kind of a “spiritual experience,” they were not earnestly desiring the office of a “prophet,” they were chosen of God!

Notice the way God called Amos!

“The words of Amos, who was among the herdmen of Tekoa, which he saw” (Amos 1:1). Amos was going about his daily life, among the herdmen, minding his own business, and God expressly revealed a certain message to him. Later, when Amos was approached by Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, who told Amos not to prophesy, but to go into another country, Amos answered, “...I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet’s son; but I was an herdsman, and a gathering of sycamore fruit [margin — wild figs]: and the Eternal took me as I followed the flock, and the Eternal said unto me, Go, prophesy unto my people Israel” (Amos 7:14-15).

Amos was herding sheep — not “looking” for some kind of religious “experience” — and God called him!

Who were the prophets? They were princes, shepherders, farmers, fishermen, or priests. They came from many different tribes, and God called them at many different times.

Your Bible says that they were “holy men of old”: And on these men, together with the New Testament apostles, is based the very Church of God! “Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone” (Eph. 2:19-20).

Why Was Prophecy Written?

God selected Jonah as a prophet and, after making him willing to carry the message of God, commissioned him to go to the great city of Nineveh. Jonah finally went. Jonah prophesied, lifting up his voice in loud warning as he traversed the great, sprawling city of Nineveh!

Finally, the word came to the king. The king realized the seriousness of the prophecy, and “...arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles saying. Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything: let them not feed, nor drink water; But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God... And God saw their works that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that He had said that He would do unto them; and He did it not” (Jonah 3:6-10).

Notice it! Jonah fulfilled his commission! Jonah’s job of orally shouting the warning was over! Jonah had been made willing, had carried the message to Nineveh, and Nineveh had actually repented!

Then — if the prophecy had served its purpose, if the warning had been heeded, if Jonah’s commission was over, why the need of writing the prophecy? Jonah wrote the whole thing, and it forms a part of your Bible today!

Again, notice the 36th chapter of Jeremiah.

“And it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that this word came unto Jeremiah from the Eternal, saying. Take thee a roll of a book [a scroll], and write therein all the words that I have spoken unto thee against Israel, and against Judah, and against all the nations... It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the evil which I purpose to do unto them; that they may return every man from his evil way... Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah: and Baruch wrote from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the Eternal, which He had spoken unto him, upon a roll of a book” (Jer. 36:1-4).

After the writing of this dire warning toward Israel and Judah, notice what happened! “Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying, I am shut up; I cannot go into the house of the Lord: therefore go thou, and read in the roll, which thou hast written from my mouth, the words of the Eternal in the ears of the people in the Eternal’s house upon the fasting day. ... It may be they will present their supplication before the Eternal, and will return every one from his evil way... And Baruch the son of Neriah did according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, reading in the book the words of the Eternal in the Eternal’s house” (Jer. 36:5-8).

The people heard it, and also one of the princes who was present. He carried the message to other princes, whereupon they sent Jehudi (verse 14) to tell Baruch to come to them. He arose, took the scroll in his hand and began to read it to them. They then told the king (verse 20).

Now notice what happened! “So the king sent Jehudi to fetch the roll: and he took it out of Elishama the scribe’s chamber. And Jehudi read it in the ears of the king, and in the ears of all the princes which stood beside the king. Now the king sat in the winterhouse in the ninth month: and there was a fire on the hearth burning before him. And it came to pass, that when Jehudi had read three or four leaves [columns] he [the king] cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth” (verses 21-23). The king then commanded (verse 26) that Baruch and Jeremiah be seized. However, they escaped, being hidden of God.

Stop and think for a moment. God had revealed a message to Jeremiah. Jeremiah had caused the message to be written. The message had then reached all the people. Then all the princes heard it. Finally, it reached the king! On this occasion, unlike Nineveh, neither the king, the princes, nor the people repented!

However, the purpose of the prophecy was fulfilled wasn’t it? Everyone had heard, orally, the exact words of this amazing prophecy read in their own ears!

But — if the whole purpose of this prophecy had already been fulfilled, and if there were not a dual application —
if there were not yet a future fulfillment of this prophecy — THEN
WHY DID GOD CAUSE EVERY WORD TO BE WRITTEN THE SECOND TIME?

"Then the word of the Eternal came to Jeremiah, after that the king had burned the roll, and the words which Baruch wrote at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying, Take thee again another roll, and write in it all the former words that were in the first roll, which Jehoiakim the king of Judah hath burned" (Jer. 36:27-28).

Do you see? God caused every single word and other words besides to be written the second time! He caused the prophecies to be written for our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things which must shortly come to pass, and thou shalt say unto them, THIS SAITH THE LORD ETERNAL" (Ezek. 2:1, 3, 4, 5).

Ezekiel saw visions of impending destruction upon Israel "in the fifth day of the month, which was the fifth year of King Jehoiachin's captivity" (Ezek. 1:23). Jehoiachin went into captivity in 596 B.C. The fifth year brings us to about 592 B.C., or over 125 years after Israel had already gone into captivity. But Ezekiel was in captivity. The word of the Eternal came to him, giving him these messages — commissioning him to warn these specific nations!

But Ezekiel was never released to go to these nations!

A Captive Jew

Imagine it! Picture, if you can, a young Jewish lad in a concentration camp in Germany, during World War II. Let's suppose Almighty God reveals to him startling visions, symbolizing what is to happen to Egypt, Japan, Great Britain and the United States.

Are his German captors going to believe he has received such a message? Even if they did — is it feasible they would let him go, in order to travel all about the world during a time of warfare, reaching the leaders of these nations? Even if he could feasibly travel from place to place, is it possible anyone with such a message, claiming to be a prophet sent from God, would be ushered right into the White House of the President of the United States, into the Imperial Palace in Tokyo, or to No. 10 Downing Street in London?

Of course not!

Ezekiel never reached these nations!

Instead, he WROTE the prophecies!

Do you realize that Ezekiel, a young captive Jew, in a veritable "concentration camp" in Babylon, was given prophecies toward Israel over 120 years after Israel had already gone into captivity? And that He never reached the Israelites with the message?

Ezekiel saw visions of impending destruction upon Israel "in the fifth day of the month, which was the fifth year of King Jehoiachin's captivity" (Ezek. 1:23). Jehoiachin went into captivity in 596 B.C. The fifth year brings us to about 592 B.C., or over 125 years after the removal of the last of the remaining northern tribes, 721-718 B.C.

If you have not yet seen the startling identity of the lost ten tribes of Israel PROVED, write immediately for Mr. Armstrong's book The United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy!

Ezekiel's prophecy never, in all his-
tory until now, reached the ears of the nations, peoples, or kings for whom the messages were intended!

Rather, Ezekiel wrote these amazing prophecies! He wrote them because God was intending to preserve them for our day!

Prophecy is dual! Notice the theme of duality running throughout the Bible. There was the first man Adam, and the second Adam, who was Christ (1 Cor. 15:45-47). There is the Old Testament, and the New Testament. There was the old Jerusalem and a new heavenly Jerusalem. Study Matthew 24! Here, Jesus answered the questions of the disciples about the end of the age, and His imminent return! Many believe Matthew 24 was totally fulfilled in 70 A.D. at the destruction of Jerusalem. This is entirely baseless! They must believe, by this assumption, that Jesus was a liar! But Christ did not lie — what happened in part in 70 A.D. was merely a forerunner, a former type of the real fulfillment of all the prophecies of Matthew 24!

Ezekiel’s prophecies are also dual! And the real, literal fulfillment of the prophecies of Ezekiel are right ahead of us — now!

HOW to Understand Prophecy!

There are definite keys to the understanding of Biblical prophecy. Most have never understood what those keys are! The keys to prophecy have become lost!

Of great importance is the modern identity of the nations mentioned in Bible prophecy.

Also, in ancient times, when a prophet of God came to a king (such as the king of Nineveh) the message was sometimes believed, and a great reform effected. From time to time, as God sent judges and prophets, there were certain reforms carried out in Israel. At least some kings of Israel recognized these prophets spoke, not according to their own cleverly devised human reasoning, but according to the divinely inspired words of God! Notice how totally different we are today!

You know national leaders today would look upon preaching the prophecies of what God says is going to happen as mere fanaticism. They would spurn, scorn, ridicule and scoff at any mention of “Biblical prophecy.”

Today, prophecy seems to be a weird, fanatical sort of “religious ax-grinding,” having no bearing on actual fact or present-day world conditions.

What a shock lies ahead for world leaders!

You can understand Biblical prophecy. Here’s how: God told Daniel the words which he had received were closed and sealed — but only until a certain time. Read it! “And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand” (Dan. 12: 9-10).

Who are the “wise”? God says, “the fear of the Eternal is the beginning of wisdom” (Prov. 9:10). Wisdom comes from God! “For the Eternal giveth wisdom, out of His mouth cometh knowledge and understanding” (Prov. 2:6).

The way to get wisdom — to come to understand the Bible prophesies — is to fear (be in awe of) Almighty God! “Thus saith the Eternal, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest? For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the Eternal: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word!” (Isa. 66:1, 2).

The mere beginning of wisdom is to fear God. Next, one must learn to respect, to fear, to tremble before the divinely inspired word of God!

Today people say, “Well, I know the Bible says that — but here’s the way I look at it!” People do not seem to really fear to misapply, to misinterpret, wrest, distort and twist the sacred word of God! People do not really respect the divinely inspired words of Almighty God!

That’s why people don’t understand the Bible! You can come to understand the Bible, and Biblical prophecy, only when you begin to really fear and respect the Bible says!

The Apostle Paul said, “The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned” (1 Cor. 2:14). The disciples of Jesus Christ couldn’t even understand the simplest parables which Jesus taught them privately! However, after they had been converted, after they had received the Holy Spirit of God, then they understood!

It is only when one has truly come to fear God, to obey God, has repented, and received God’s Holy Spirit, that true understanding of the prophecies of God can come.

What Prophecy Means to You!

Jesus Christ commissioned His Church to preach the gospel of the Kingdom of God to all the world as a witness (Matt. 28:18-20, Matt. 21:14). The Gospel is prophetic! It has to do with present-day world news, and the future of this whole earth!

The whole meaning of the Gospel is prophetic. Jesus Christ said, “Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, [that are prophesied — that are to happen in the future] and to stand before the Son of Man!” (Luke 21:36).

You need to come to understand prophecy! Only by understanding the prophecies of the Bible can you intelligently watch — and Jesus meant watch world news. When you know, in advance, what is going to happen — then you can be a real watchman of Almighty God! That’s why God caused the prophecies to be recorded — to warn the world now!

Keep reading The Plain Truth and Tomorrow’s World! Don’t miss a single World Tomorrow program! Write for the booklets, The Book of Revelation Unveiled At Last and The Key to the Book of Revelation. Study your Bible — pray for God to give you an obedient, humble, submissive mind — giving you more and more a deep, respectful awe of the word of God! You can’t afford not to — your very life — your future is at stake!
Bible Prophecy Foretells

A STRONG UNITED

Millennums ago Bible prophecy foretold a powerful United Europe for our day! The world little realizes the awesome outcome of the present drive to unite Europe into one economic, political and religious bloc! Yet, you can know the long-prophesied outcome, and recognize ahead of time the effect it will have on you.

by Raymond F. McNair

The Hague, Holland

Today, I saw prophecy being fulfilled here at The Hague.

Multitudes of demonstrators marched through the streets chanting unity slogans. I was an eyewitness to what God had prophesied thousands of years ago.

About forty different “Unite Europe!” groups or associations filled the air with their demands. Europeans are becoming impatient! They aren’t willing to turn gray-haired before they see their vision of “One Europe” come true.

These sentiments were best echoed by one group which chanted, “United Europe — now!”

Importance of Bible Prophecy

Will the long-dreamed-of “United States of Europe” become a reality in our time? Will a strong, United Europe be a good thing? Will it help bring greater peace, prosperity and stability to Europe and to the world — as its architects envision?

You need to know the prophetic answers to these crucial questions.

The Bible reveals the startling answers to these vital questions. You need to really understand the full significance of where today’s drive to unite Europe, and turn this long-divided continent into a strong Superpower, is leading.

Does it seem a thing incredible to you that the very God who created and sustains the seemingly boundless universe is able to foretell the destiny of today’s nations? We can understand the real meaning behind today’s news, because we understand God’s Word. And in His Word He has a lot to say about the destiny of today’s major nations. Yet, so many cut themselves out from this vital revelatory source of knowledge — through prejudice and ignorance!

Even though the Bible is still the world’s best-seller — and is owned by more people than any other book — very few of those who profess to believe in it really believe what it says. As an example, how few Christians even know that the Bible gives many specific, detailed prophecies regarding today’s modern nations — prophecies which at this very moment are being fulfilled.

God Reveals the Future

Do you realize that approximately one third of your Bible is prophecy? And perhaps as much as ninety percent of that prophecy will have its fulfillment in the very age in which you and I are living!

Let’s put it another way: Can you believe that the Great One who created the vast universe with all its order and complexity would NOT reveal to man the major cataclysmic events which are soon to befall mankind? Ridiculous. God has always sent His servants to every generation to reveal beforehand the world-shattering events which He was about to bring to pass — and our generation is no exception.

God sent Noah to warn the antediluvians that a worldwide flood would soon occur.

Later, in the time of Abraham, He sent Lot to warn the perverts of Sodom and Gomorrah — before He rained down fiery destruction from heaven.

Repeatedly throughout the Old Testament you will find that God sent His servants the prophets to warn cities, nations and empires of calamities which were about to crush them. True, very few ever heeded.

But they were warned nonetheless!

Then God sent Jesus Christ to warn the nation of Judah and the city of Jerusalem that the cruel Roman legions would soon level their fair city to the ground, slaughter many of their people, and scatter the remnant to the ends of the earth (see Luke 19:41-44). But, did they heed?

History shows they didn’t. Their awful fate has been indelibly stamped
on mankind's record book by Josephus and others. It is in the secular record — if you wish to read it.

God's servant Daniel understood that it is God who reveals the secrets regarding the future: "But there is a God in heaven that reveals secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days" (Dan. 2:28).

Daniel then proceeded to reveal to King Nebuchadnezzar what God had shown him — that there would be four great world-ruling kingdoms on the earth from that time until the coming of the Messiah — Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome.

Notice how the Apostle Peter explained the importance of prophecy — and of the necessity for allowing God to interpret it: "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts" (II Peter 1:19).

This "sure word of prophecy" — this "fresh confirmation of the Prophetic Word" as Moffatt translates the same Greek phrase — gives us the all-important "light" which reveals the future. "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" (II Peter 1:20, 21).

We can never rightly understand the prophecies of the Bible unless and until we learn to let God and God alone interpret His own prophecies.

Why Neglect Prophecy?

Why is it that the average Christian — or even the average clergyman — makes little or no effort to study and understand God's prophecies?

Did God put these prophecies (one third of the whole Bible) in His Word merely to take up space? Or, did He want us to understand them? It is of course true that God did not necessarily intend all of the prophecies to be understood at the time they were written. Daniel explained this very clearly: "And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up [to human understanding] and sealed till the time of the end. . . . None of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand" (Dan. 12:8-10).

God intended that we understand these things in the "time of the end" — in the end time of man's allotted 6000-year period of misrule. And that's today's world! We can understand Bible prophecies today — if we are willing!

Who Are We to Tell You?

How is it that we can give you the answers — and reveal the outcome of today's fast-moving events — when most news reporters and commentators are unable to do so?

The answer is basic.

We know that there is a Creator God in Heaven, and we strive daily to live by His Commandments. As a direct result, we are given a good understanding (Psalm 111:10).

We realise that only through His Word — the Bible, His Divine Revelation to man — is the outcome of present-day world conditions revealed.

God's Word guides us into all truth and shows us the "things to come" (John 16:13).

God is using His Work — this Work — to inform the world of the cataclysmic events of the next few years before they occur, so that all humanity will be forced to recognise that the Eternal God of the Bible is indeed the only God (Ezek. 6:10).

We — this Work — are preaching
and publishing the Gospel of the Kingdom of God — the Good News of Tomorrow's World — for a witness to all nations (Matt. 24:14; Mark 13:10).

We have been "drafted" as it were, commissioned, to speak out (Isa. 58:1) about today's world conditions — to warn you ahead of time how they are going to affect you and yours (Ezek. 3:17-27 and 33:1-16).

"Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but He revealeth His secret unto His servants the prophets" (Amos 3:7).

Is God Silent?

Is God silent about the major nations and power blocs now extant on earth? Is it reasonable that He would give detailed prophecies regarding many smaller nations like Egypt, Syria, Greece, Libya, Ethiopia, and not even so much as mention important nations like the U.S., Britain, Russia, Germany?

The simple fact is that God has not failed to mention these nations. All of them are indeed mentioned in God's prophecies for our generation.

But there's one key: these nations are mentioned under their ancient, ancestral, Biblical names.

Most professing Christians, and even clergymen, haven't spent much time studying into the Biblical identities (the ancestries) of the various peoples on earth. Yet they have spent a great deal of time studying subjects of much less importance! They do not think it important to study the prophecies of God's Word! But it is mighty important in God's eyes — otherwise He would not have included so many prophecies in His Word regarding the various nations.

Where — Lost Tribes of Israel?

Christ commanded His apostles to "go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matt. 10:6, 7). The same applies to God's true ministers today. They, also, are to go preach the gospel to the "lost sheep of the house of Israel."

But how many Christian-professing ministers even profess to know where the lost ten tribes of Israel are? The Jews freely acknowledge in their writings that the "lost ten tribes of Israel" are still lost. Many Christian clergymen also believe the "lost ten tribes" are still lost. But why are so few willing to seek out the lost tribes of Israel?

You can know the true identities of such nations as the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic-descended peoples — if you are interested! If you want the facts on this thrilling and most important subject — proving that the United States, the British Commonwealth and some of the countries of Northwest Europe are indeed descendants of the lost tribes of Israel — then be sure and write immediately for our free, fully illustrated book entitled The United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy. It will enlighten you on this most important subject. It will show you where the "lost sheep of the house of Israel" are today! This can now be proven both from the Bible and secular history.

It is vitally important to know the Biblical identity of nations like the U.S. and Britain. Prophecy reveals that our peoples will — unless we repent — have a head-on economic and military confrontation with a powerful, nuclear-armed United Europe. And it doesn't look as though we are about to repent.

Now let me explain more fully why the recent Summit Meeting of the Six members of the Common Market who met at The Hague was so important! You should now begin to grasp why we reporters for Tomorrow's World can and do understand the real significance behind the recent EEC Meetings at The Hague.

We know who the peoples of America and Britain are — and where they are mentioned in Bible prophecy. We also know the identities of such nations as Germany, France, Italy, Russia. And we also understand the facts of past history — we can see the ultimate outcome of what has already happened on the Continent of Europe.

For nearly thirty years, we have been saying that a United States of Europe would rise up. The creation of this U.S. of Europe now appears imminent! This pivotal event will occur just before the close of this present age — immediately prior to the glorious second coming of Jesus Christ to this war-torn earth, when at last a "strong hand from somewhere" will put an end to war, poverty, pollution, famine and disease.

But before the formation of the political machinery of this soon-coming United States of Europe, there would be
an economic union of the nations of Europe. This economic union would make possible the laying of the political foundation for a powerful U. S. of Europe.

Britain on the Outside?

Will Britain ever be admitted into the Common Market? And, if she does enter the European Economic Community (EEC), will she remain in this union?

The answer to this first question is not clearly revealed in Bible prophecy. The prophetic indications are that it is more likely that Britain will never be allowed to join the EEC at all.

But one thing is certain. Bible prophecy clearly shows that Britain will not be one of the TEN NATIONS comprising the final United States of Europe.

Why is this so? How do we know?

Before answering these questions, we need to examine the purpose for which the Common Market was originally created by its European architects.

True, the architects of the Rome Treaty had economic unity in mind, but political unity was to be the second and final stage in the development of the Common Market community of nations.

Common Market’s Final Aim — Political Union

Notice this significant statement: "From the beginning, the final aim of Europeans [referring to the members of the Common Market] has been the creation of a European FEDERATION. From 1950 onwards, the Six members of the existing economic Communities entered into the process of economic integration, the end of which was to be a POLITICAL COMMUNITY . . ." (Uniting Europe, a Europe House Publication, published by The Campaign for Europe [emphasis ours]).

This same book continues: “The ‘Re-launching’ of European unity has today become a real possibility . . . Most important of all, the age-old suspicions between the people themselves — and especially among the younger generations — are being gradually replaced by a new sense of European identity . . . But there is a long way to go towards that ‘ever closer union of the peoples of Europe’ sought in the preamble to the Rome Treaty . . . to point the way forward in the political field is less easy than in the economic field . . . For this very reason, it is all the more essential to spell out the aims at the beginning, setting a 10-12 year timetable wherein the basic framework of a politically integrated Europe can be achieved.”

Not long ago Franz Josef Strauss (former Finance Minister in the Kiesinger government) told me the same thing. When I asked him just how long he thought it would take the Europeans to erect this United States of Europe — this FEDERAL Europe which he continually campaigned for — he said he thought it would take TEN YEARS to bring about political unification in Europe.

Bible prophecy does not usually give exact dates, but it does indicate that it will not take that long. Once the move to unite Europe really gets rolling, it will not take long for it to crystallise.

Founding Fathers of Common Market

Who were the founding fathers of the Common Market? What were their aims — their main goals? “The founding fathers, such as Monnet, Schuman, Adenauer and De Gasperi, assumed that economic unity would lead one day to a loose political integration” (Europe’s Great Leap Forward, by John Cockcroft).

“The central ultimate aim of the Brussels institutions is not to complete a prosperous, dynamic Common Market,
important though that is. It is to use the Market system as the foundation for a European political community to prevent war between European countries or between them and Russia" (Britain and the Common Market, published by The Daily Telegraph, art. "A Single European Foreign Policy," by Walter Farr).

"For many of us a political strategic community is the dominant goal; the economic community of rather less vital interest except as the necessary road to a unity of a more general kind" (The Heartfelt Road to Europe, by Maurice Green). He then states: "The truth is that economic, political and strategic unity are deeply interlinked and cannot be considered separately."

The well-known British writer, Anthony Sampson, makes the following significant statement: "In the alarmed state of Europe at the time (shortly after the end of World War II), still more alarmed by the Korean War, the plan took shape quickly, embracing 'the Six' — France, Germany, Italy, Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg. The prime movers in the first three countries — Schuman, Adenauer, De Gasperi — were all men who had seen the two world wars, all passionate believers in reconciliation, all German speaking, all Catholics' (The New Europeans).

He then tells why Britain refused to join "the Six." "The British were asked to join, but were too worried by the supranationalism and by Germany."

**Catholic Common Market — To Combat Communism**

What was the aim of these "prime movers" of the U.S.-of-Europe movement?

"Primarily their aim was to create a powerful superstate out of the Catholic countries bordering the Rhine and the Alps: a bastion of Christian civilization against the communist and socialist threat at home and abroad. ... They were inclined to lump communism and socialism together as the common atheist enemy. ... But their main aim was to create a federal state in which Frenchmen, Italians, and Germans would find a new patriotism" (The General Says No, by Nora Beloff.)

This same author goes on to mention that: "The new Europe which did emerge was overwhelmingly Catholic and deeply marked by three leaders: Robert Schuman of France, Adenauer of the Federal Republic, and De Gasperi, the Prime Minister of Italy. ... All were practising Catholics with a deep sense of common purpose; all regarded the coal and steel pool as a first step towards full federal union. But none of them shared Monnet's desire to bring Britain in."

Some have even questioned whether there is really much desire by some Continentals to bring liberal-thinking, Protestant England into this prosperous Catholic Common Market Community.

Harry B. Ellis, in his book, The Common Market, speaks of some of the ideas (or trends) regarding European unity which were being bandied about Europe before the creation of the Common Market. He states: "The second trend was conservative and Roman Catholic, aspiring to a cluster of Catholic states — France, West Germany, Italy, possibly Spain and Portugal — which would form a Christian bastion against communism and, in the thoughts of some, against socialism as well. General de Gaulle ... at first had conceived of European unity in terms of a combination of France, Italy, Portugal and Spain. Others who shared this general Catholic orientation were Alcide de Gasperi of Italy and the West German leader, Konrad Adenauer" (The Common Market, by Harry B. Ellis.)

Then Mr. Ellis mentions that all of the Six Common Market countries are Catholic — except one. "In the Common Market today only Holland of the six member states is predominantly Protestant." Actually, both Holland and West Germany are half Protestant and half Catholic.

Some have wondered if one reason for the Six's reluctance to accept Great Britain might be that she is too liberal — too Protestant — and, if admitted into the EEC, might tend to go contrary to the wishes of the predominantly Catholic Common Market.

Believe it or not, long ago, God Almighty revealed through the prophecies of the Bible that the coming United States of Europe would have strong religious connections.

Here is a rather interesting quote, from a British news magazine, Topic (March 24, 1962). This article appeared during the time when Britain was still knocking on the Common Market door — before her first rejection by the Six.

"The Vatican, usually cautious over political changes not of its own inspiration, now considers the Common Market the work of Divine Providence. Not since the times of Spain's Charles V has a Roman Catholic political force been so strongly welded. Not since the end of the Holy Roman Empire has the Holy See been offered a Catholic rallying point like the Common Market. If the 'Pact of Rome,' which created the Common Market, had been signed within the Vatican walls, it could not have favoured the Church more. There are 134,000,000 Catholics out of a total population of 175,000,000 in the original Six nations. The only Protestant bloc is in Western Germany, which remains a shaky 51 percent Protestant. But the 26,000,000 West German Catholics are not a silent minority, and can be compared to the Irish in America for aggressiveness, superb organization in politics, and calm optimism for the day when they become the majority. Meanwhile, they draw comfort knowing that 77 percent of the Six are Catholics."

**Why Catholicism and Communism Don't Mix**

Not long ago, Herr Strauss mentioned that he thought Spain and Portugal would later stand a good chance being admitted into the Common Market. He said the political climate was not yet quite right for them to join the EEC.

There is certainly good reason to believe that both Spain and Portugal will eventually become members of the Common Market. With their Catholic populations, they would increase considerably the percentage of Catholics in the Common Market.

Some believe that staunch Catholics are less apt to turn toward Communism than more liberal-minded Protestants. How can one be a devout Catholic — (Continued on page 33)
"Happy Valentine's Day"

Christian Custom? — or Pagan Pageantry?

Will you be my Valentine? That question is asked by millions about this time of year. Heart-shaped candies by the ton and cards by the carload are scattered to the four corners of the earth. But what’s it all about? Why is this day named after SAINT Valentine? Is there any religious significance to February 14? Read the surprising answers in this historically documented article.

by Herman L. Hoeh

WHERE DID ST. VALENTINE'S DAY COME FROM?

You might suppose school teachers and educators would know. But do they? How many of you were ever taught the real origin of Valentine’s Day — were ever told in school why you should observe the custom of exchanging valentines?

The Silence of Educators

Teachers are all too often silent about the origin of the customs they are forced to teach in today’s schools! If they were to speak out, many would lose their jobs!

Isn’t it time we examined why we encourage our children to celebrate St. Valentine’s Day — when it is never so much as mentioned in the Bible as a practice of the New Testament Church?

Today, candymakers unload tons of heart-shaped red boxes for February 14, while millions of the younger set are annually exchanging valentines. Florists consider February 14 — St. Valentine’s Day — as one of their best business days. And young lovers pair off — at least for a dance or two — at St. Valentine’s balls.

Why? Where did these customs originate? Where do we find any such practices in the Bible? How did we come to inherit these customs?

A Christian Custom?

Did you know that centuries before Christ, the pagan Romans celebrated February 15 and the evening of February 14 as an idolatrous and sensuous festival in honor of Lupercus, the “hunter of wolves”?

The Romans called the festival the “Lupercalia.” The custom of exchanging valentines and all the other traditions in honor of Lupercus — the deified hero-hunter of Rome — was also linked anciently with the pagan practice of teen-agers “going steady.” It usually led to fornication. Today, the custom of “going steady” is thought very modern. It isn’t. It is merely a rebirth of an old custom “handed down from the Roman festival of the Lupercalia, celebrated in the month of February, when names of young women were put into a box and drawn out by men as chance directed.”

That’s the admission of the Encyclopaedia Americana, article, “St. Valentine’s Day.”

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That’s the admission of the Encyclopaedia Americana, article, “St. Valentine’s Day.”

But how did this pagan festival acquire the name of “St. Valentine’s Day”? And why is the little naked Cupid of the pagan Romans so often associated today with February 14? And why do little children and young people still cut out hearts and send them on a day in honor of Lupercus the hunter of wolves? Why have we supposed these pagan customs in honor of a false god are Christian?

Who Was the Original “St. Valentine”?

Valentine was a common Roman name. Roman parents often gave the name to their children in honor of the famous man who was first called Valentine in antiquity. That famous man was Lupercus, the hunter. But who was Lupercus? — and why should he have also hear of it! So it was agreed that the holiday would continue as it was, except for the more grossly sensual observances.

It was not until the reign of Pope Gelasius that the holiday became a “Christian” custom. “As far back as 496, Pope Gelasius changed Lupercalia on February 15 to St. Valentine’s Day on February 14” (p. 172 of Customs and Holidays Around the World by Lavinia Dobler).

But how did this pagan festival acquire the name of “St. Valentine’s Day”? And why is the little naked Cupid of the pagan Romans so often associated today with February 14? And why do little children and young people still cut out hearts and send them on a day in honor of Lupercus the hunter of wolves? Why have we supposed these pagan customs in honor of a false god are Christian?

Who Was the Original “St. Valentine”?

Valentine was a common Roman name. Roman parents often gave the name to their children in honor of the famous man who was first called Valentine in antiquity. That famous man was Lupercus, the hunter. But who was Lupercus? — and why should he have also
borne the name Valentine among the heathen Romans?

The Greeks called Lupercus by the name of “Pan.” The Semites called Pan “Baal,” according to the Classical Dictionaries. Baal — mentioned so often in the Bible — was merely another name for Nimrod, “the mighty hunter” (Genesis 10:9). The hunter Nimrod was the Lupercus — or wolf hunter — of the Romans. And St. Valentine’s Day was originally a day set aside by the pagan Romans in honor of a Christian martyr.

But why should Nimrod have been called “Valentine” by the Romans? And why should the celebration of this day have been anciently limited to the city of Rome before Pope Gelasius’ time? What part did the site of ancient Rome play in the life of Nimrod?

Valentine comes from the Latin word Valentia, a proper name derived from the word valeo, meaning “to be strong,” declares Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary. It means literally “strong, powerful, mighty.” Any connection with Nimrod? We read in the Bible that Nimrod was the “MIGHTY hunter” (Gen. 10:9). It was a common proverb of ancient time that Nimrod was “the MIGHTY hunter before the Lord.” Nimrod was their hero — their strong man — their VALENTINE!

How plain that the original Valentine was Nimrod, the mighty hunter of wolves. Yet another of Nimrod’s names was “Sanctus” or “Santa,” meaning “Saint.” It was a common title of any hero-god. No wonder that the Roman Lupercalia is called “Saint Valentine’s Day”!

But why do we associate HEARTS on a day in honor of Nimrod — the Baal of the Phoenicians and Semites?

The surprising answer is that the pagan Romans acquired the symbol of the heart from the Babylonians. In the Babylonian tongue the word for heart was “bal” (see Young’s or Strong’s Concordance). The heart — bal — was merely a symbol of Nimrod — the Baal or Lord of the Babylonians!

Executive at Rome

Nimrod — the original St. Valentine — was also known as Saturn, the Roman-Babylonian god who hid from his pursuers in a secret place. The Latin word Saturn is derived from the Semitic-speaking Babylonians. It means “be hid,” “hide self,” “secret,” “conceal.” The original Semitic (Hebrew) word, from which the Latin Saturn is derived, is used 83 times in the Old Testament (see Young’s Concordance under “Sathar,” also “setter”).

According to ancient tradition, Saturn (Nimrod) fled from his pursuers to Italy. The Apennine mountains of Italy were anciently named the mountains of Nembrod or Nimrod. Nimrod briefly hid out at the site where Rome was later built. The ancient name of Rome, before it was rebuilt in 753 B.C., was Saturnia — the site of Saturn’s (Nimrod’s) hiding. There he was found and slain for his crimes. Later, professing Christians in Constantine’s day made Nimrod — the St. Valentine of the heathen — a Saint of the Church and continued to honor him under the name of a Christian martyr.

Why February 14?

But why should the Romans have chosen February 15 and the evening of February 14 to honor Lupercus — the Nimrod of the Bible? (Remember that days in ancient times began at sunset the evening before.)

Nimrod — the Baal or sun god of the ancient pagans — was said to have been born at the winter solstice. In ancient times the solstice occurred on January 6 and his birthday therefore was celebrated on January 6. Later, as the solstice changed, it was celebrated on December 25 and is now called Christmas. It was the custom of antiquity for the mother of a male child to present herself for purification on the fortieth day after the day of birth. The fortieth day after January 6 — Nimrod’s original birthdate — takes us to February 15, the celebration of which began on the evening of February 14 — the Lupercalia or St. Valentine’s Day.

On this day in February, Semiramis, the mother of Nimrod, was said to have been purified and to have appeared for the first time in public with her son as the original “mother and child.”

The Roman month February, in fact, derives its name from the februa which the Roman priests used in the rites cele-

brated on St. Valentine’s Day. The februa were thongs from the skins of sacrificial animals used in rites of purification on the evening of February 14.

Cupid Makes His Appearance

Another name for the child Nimrod was “Cupid” — meaning “desire” (Encyclopedia Britannica, art., “Cupid”). It is said that when Nimrod’s mother saw him, she lusted after him — she desired him. Nimrod became her cupid — her desired one — and later her Valentine! So evil was Nimrod’s mother that it is said she married her own son! Inscribed on the monuments of ancient Egypt are inscriptions that Nimrod (the Egyptians called him Osiris) was “the husband of his mother.”

As Nimrod grew up, he became the child-hero of many women who desired him. He was their Cupid! In the Book of Daniel he is called the “desire of women” (Dan. 11:37). Moffatt translates the word as Tammuz — a Babylonian name of Nimrod. He provoked so many women to jealousy that an idol of him was often called the “image of jealousy” (Ezekiel 8:5). Nimrod, the hunter, was also their Valentine — their strong or mighty hero! No wonder the pagans commemorated their hero-hunter Nimrod, or Baal, by sending heart-shaped love tokens to one another on the evening of February 14 as a symbol of him.

Nimrod, the mulatto son of Cush the Ethiopian, was later a source of embarrassment to the pagans of Europe. They didn’t want an African to worship. Consequently, they substituted a supposed son of Nimrod, a white child named Horus, born after the death of Nimrod. This white child then became the “fair cupid” of European tradition.

It is about time we examined these foolish customs of the pagans now falsely labeled Christian. It is time we quit this Roman and Babylonian foolishness — this idolatry — and get back to the faith of Christ delivered once for all time.

Let’s stop teaching our children these pagan customs in memory of Baal the sun god — the original St. Valentine — and teach them instead what the Bible really says!
The STORY of MAN
for children five to one hundred five

Everyone should know the true story of mankind. In the guise of scholarship, fables have been substituted for fact. A few have researched the truth. The evolutionary approach has been disproved, and the Biblical record proved true. Basil Wolverton has made a significant contribution to the literature of our time by faithfully sifting out the story of mankind in continuity, putting the thrilling story in simple and beautiful style for people of all ages.

by Basil Wolverton

CHAPTER ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE

JONAH AND THE “WHALE”

KING AMAZIAH of Judah and King Joash of the ten-tribed nation of Israel, accompanied by their respective armies, had a surprise meeting about ten miles from Jerusalem. (II Kings 14:1-11; II Chronicles 25:17-21.)

“Why have you brought your men to the soil of Judah?” asked Amaziah haughtily.

The Jews Fight Israel

“To keep your army off the soil of my kingdom,” Joash sternly replied.

The inevitable battle was only minutes old when it was evident which side would win. The soldiers of Judah lacked the desire to fight. What started as a large fray ended in a massive rout of Amaziah’s men, many of whom escaped to the south. Amaziah and his top officers had no choice but to hastily follow.

But escape, if any, wasn’t going to be that simple. Amaziah’s speeding chariot was surrounded by Joash’s cavalry and forced to a halt. (II Kings 14:12, II Chronicles 25:22.) As he was taken prisoner, the king of Judah bitterly recalled the warnings of the prophet. (II Chronicles 25:14-16.)

Joash and his army moved on to Jerusalem, which he planned to invade. He found the barred gates very strong and the walls unusually high, but he didn’t allow those conditions to deter him. He displayed the captive king of Judah before the guards on the walls.

“Order your guards to open the gates,” Joash told Amaziah.

Shackled in his chariot, Amaziah refused to say anything.

“Don’t you recognize your king in shackles?” one of Joash’s officers shouted up to the guards. “Open the gates, and we won’t kill him!”

The guards moved nervously about, but the gates remained closed.

“There has been enough delay!” Joash barked.
"A gate isn't the only way into this city! Break down the wall!"

The high, thick wall was an irksome challenge to Joash. He wanted to prove that it could be penetrated. By the use of heavy battering rams propelled by lines of soldiers, a section of the wall about seven hundred feet long was gradually and painfully cracked into sections that thundered down into a state of rubble. (II Kings 14:13, II Chronicles 25:23.)

Many men lost their lives in this rash operation. Those atop the wall hurled all kinds of missiles down on the invaders. It would have been simpler, faster and safer to ram through the gates, but Joash was stubbornly determined to go through the wall.

A path was cleared through the debris. The attackers poured inside the city, battling Amaziah's guards into submission. Then Joash, King of Israel triumphantly rode over the rubble in his chariot, followed by his officers and the shackled Amaziah, King of Judah.

For hours Joash's men ransacked Jerusalem. The temple and the royal palace provided most of the spoils. Just before the invaders left, they released Amaziah, who expected death any moment as he watched his palace being looted.

"How do you know that I won't muster another army and come up to besiege Samaria?" Amaziah asked Joash.

"I don't," Joash answered. "But if you do, members of your family will be the first to die. I'm taking most of them with me." (II Kings 14:14, II Chronicles 25:24.)

God Strengthens Israel

Although he had been defeated in war, had lost most of his personal wealth, had been humiliated and disgraced and had become unpopular with a great part of his people, Amaziah managed, with difficulty, to stay in power in Judah. Joash, ruler of the ten tribes, died not long after invading Jerusalem, but Amaziah no longer had any interest in war nor in taking advantage of the loss of Joash's firm leadership. For fifteen more years he remained the ruler of Judah, but with increasing opposition.

One day he was informed that there was a plot to assassinate him by certain men who wanted to come into power in Judah. Amaziah was so troubled...
by this report that he fled from Jerusalem to the
town of Lachish, about forty miles southwest of the
capital of Judah. It was very close to Philistia, and
only about seven miles from the east shore of the
Great Sea.

By means of watchful agents and high rewards,
Amaziah's residence was found and reported to his
opponents, who sent assassins to Lachish to carry
out their murderous orders. Amaziah's body was
carried back to Jerusalem, where he was buried with
the former kings of Judah. (II Kings 14:17-20;
II Chronicles 25:25-28.)

Years before Amaziah's death, the king of Is-
rael, Joash, had been succeeded by a son, Jeroboam,
who followed in the ways of the other King Jero-
boam who had begun his reign a hundred and
twenty-eight years previously. (II Kings 14: 15-16,
23-24.)

After the death of Joash, who had triumphed
over the Syrians, those ancient enemies again re-
turned from the east to reduce the northern nation
Israel to a weakened state. God inspired Jeroboam,
in spite of his wrong pursuits, with the desire to
shake off the control of the Syrians and restore the
boundaries of Israel to where Joshua had pro-
claimed, according to God's instruction, they should
be.

This inspiration started out as a desire for
power and revenge. Jeroboam's ambition was greatly
strengthened when a prophet named Jonah disclosed
to him that he, the king, was destined by God to
bring Israel out of its wretched state and expand it
once more almost to the size it was when Solomon
reigned.

Believing that the God of Israel would protect
him in whatever he did to develop Israel, Jeroboam's
confidence was increased. Like so many people of
that time — and this — he respected and even be-
lieved God, but at the same time he chose to worship
only the gods he could see.

Over the years, through many surprise attacks
and battles, Jeroboam took back all the cities, towns
and land that had been captured by Syria. He freed
the Israelite prisoners, took the Syrian capital, Da-
mascus, and recaptured the city of Hamath, far to the
north. From there southward to the east coast of the
Dead Sea he reclaimed all territory that God had
given to the whole of Israel in Joshua's time. (II
Kings 14:25-27.)

Prosperity and Idolatry

Jeroboam became the most powerful ruler of
the ten tribes since Israel had become divided. The
larger and more prosperous the northern kingdom
became, unfortunately, the more careless the people
became in their attitude toward God. Many reasoned
that the growing prosperity was due to an increase in
religious activity.

However, this often consisted of a strange, con-
trived worship of images that were supposed to rep-
resent a composite of God and pagan deities. This
would mean breaking the first three Command-
ments. God did not — and does not — reward such
worship with prosperity.

This was the last time the northern kingdom,
the House of Israel, was to experience such national
welfare and strength. The years of that kingdom
were numbered. Jonah, the prophet who had pre-
dicted that Jeroboam would beat Israel's enemies
back, probably knew what Israel's future would be,
and that God was allowing the nation to be strong
for a time before it would cease to be a nation unless
the people turned from idolatry.

Jonah must also have known that one way God
was making the Syrians conquerable was by allowing
Assyria, a nation to the east, to war with the Syrians.
This growing country was gradually swallowing up
surrounding regions and becoming powerful at the
same time Israel was gaining strength.

Like the people of Israel, the people of Assyria
became more corrupt as the nation became more
prosperous. The inhabitants of Nineveh, the sprawl-
ing capital of Assyria on the Tigris river, were espe-
cially lawless and reprobate. God was so displeased
with them that He decided to destroy the city, but
not without first warning the inhabitants so that any
innocent people would have a chance to escape.

Jonah was surprised when God told him that he
should make the long trip to Nineveh to warn the
Assyrian people what would soon happen, but the
more Jonah thought about it, the less enthusiasm he
had for the task. He reasoned that if the people
repented after his warning them, God might spare
them and he, Jonah, would be branded a false
prophet and lose his life. Besides, he hoped that
Nineveh would be wiped out. Otherwise, the
Assyrians would probably triumph over the Syrians
and come westward to attack Israel.

This prospect was part of God's plan. Through
According to Josephus

Jonah, God had warned the Israelites about their idolatry. They had refused to heed. Now God intended to warn a Gentile people. If they were to heed and be spared, it would be a sobering warning for Israel.

The prophet knew that he couldn't escape from God, but he reasoned that if he could quickly get out of Israel, God might choose another prophet there to go to Nineveh. He made a hurried trip to the seaport of Joppa on the coast of Dan. There he found a sailing vessel about to set out for another port close to what is now known as the Rock of Gibraltar in Spain. That point was about as far as he could get from Israel as fast as possible. Jonah hoped God would forget about him. Furthermore, it was in the opposite direction from Nineveh. (Jonah 1:1-3.)

Jonah struggled to his feet, crawled up the hatchway and stared out at the billowing, spray-shrouded water crashing every few seconds over the deck of the vessel.

"Someone on this ship is causing a curse on us!" the superstitious sailors complained to the captain. "We must draw lots to find out who it is!"

The captain agreed, not knowing how right the sailors were. Jonah drew the lot, through God's influence, to point out that he was the cause of the trouble. The crew swarmed accusingly around him. (Jonah 1:4-7.)

"Who are you?" the sailors asked. "Where did you come from? Why do you want to go across the Great Sea?"

"I am from Israel and I am a prophet of the God of Israel," Jonah answered. "I was foolishly trying to escape from Him because of a difficult thing He required of me. Now I know that my God has caused this storm to prevent my running away."

"We've heard about how terrible your God can be!" one of the frightened sailors exclaimed. "What must be done to quell His anger?"

"Throw me off the ship!" Jonah shouted above the noise of the storm. "The wind will abate as soon as I am gone!"

The crew struggled stubbornly to move the ship shoreward, but the east wind blowing from the land was too much for them. These heathen sailors, who had gods of their own, surprisingly raised their voices to Jonah's God to spare them and forgive them for what they were reluctantly about to do. Only then did they take hold of the repentant, praying prophet, lift him off his knees and swing him over the leeward rail. The last they saw of him, he was valiantly trying to keep his head above water, though he knew he couldn't continue doing so much longer.

The sailors were amazed at how suddenly the wind abated. They were so shaken by this miracle that they built a small altar on the deck, offered a sacrifice and vowed loyalty to God before sailing on westward over a calm sea. (Jonah 1:8-16.)

After being swept away from the ship, Jonah kept afloat for a short time. Just when he became too weary to paddle and tread any longer, he had the dreadful sensation of being sucked under the water by some great force. From then on, for quite a time, he wasn't certain what was happening. Vaguely he
felt that he had been drawn into some sort of soft, dark, cramped area. After that he had the feeling of considerable movement about him, as though his container could be moving about with many twists and turns.

The Miracle Fish

Hours went by. Jonah was certain that he was under the surface of the sea, yet he was able to breathe. Eventually he arrived at the fantastic conclusion that he had been swallowed by a very large fish. Earnestly he prayed that he would be delivered from his captor before he was consumed by its digestive process.

After what seemed a very long time, the prophet was startled by violent motion, as though he were being shot like an arrow from a giant bow. After recovering from his confusion, he realized that he was on a beach. Only a few feet away, in shallow water, was a very large fish whose broad mouth, directed toward Jonah, was slowly opening and closing as it gasped for oxygen it could get only through water. From the fish’s teeth hung shreds of Jonah’s torn coat. The prophet knew then that he hadn’t just imagined things. The fish had swallowed him, carried him to some shore unfamiliar to him, and had disgorged him on the beach! As Jonah pondered these startling facts and how much he had to be thankful for, the fish twisted violently to and fro. Finally it managed to get back into deep water, where it disappeared. (Jonah 1:17; 2:1-10.)

Abruptly Jonah was aware that he wasn’t alone. He was surprised to see several men staring silently at him from only a short distance away.

“Who are you, and what are you doing here,” they demanded to know. Jonah called out in Assyrian, “I am a prophet of the God of Israel, and I am sent by Him with a warning message for your king and your people!”

From a brief conversation with these men he was amazed to learn that he had been three full days and nights inside the fish, and that he was now standing on the south shore of what later was called the Black Sea! God had brought him all the way up through the Aegean Sea and had deposited him just north of Assyria.

About eight and a half centuries later, Jesus pointed out that there would be only one sign that He was the Son of God. That sign was that He would be in the grave for three days and three
nights, before being resurrected, just as Jonah was held inside a fish for three days and three nights before being freed. (Matthew 12:38-41.)

The Great City Nineveh

It was painfully clear to Jonah that God had brought him close to Assyria in spite of his efforts to evade doing the thing God had told him to do. He realized, at last, that it was futile to go against God’s will. This was even plainer to him when the men insisted on taking him to Nineveh. God’s purpose was to use them in getting the prophet to Nineveh to warn that city of impending destruction.

From the town of Sinope, near where Jonah had landed, it was about five hundred miles south to Assyria’s sprawling capital. There, on the streets teeming with thousands of people, Jonah was pointed out as the man brought to Assyria by a huge fish. Excited, curious Assyrians gathered to stare. Jonah was irked and embarrassed at being put on display, but he realized that this situation was created for what he must do.

Taking advantage of all the attention, Jonah repeatedly shouted his message. “I have been sent by the God of Israel to warn you that Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days!” (Jonah 3:1-4.)

The surprised crowd was silent for a few seconds. Then the people began to mutter, many of them in anger.

(To be continued next issue)

IN THE YEAR 2525

(Continued from page 9) before most of you teen-agers become the Establishment.

How YOU Fit Into Prophecy

When Christ told His disciples of the days in which we live — the days of the bomb, wars, famine — He said, “For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened” (Matthew 24:21-22).

Notice it! For the elect’s sake — perilous times of world trouble will be shortened!

The world’s only hope is that the words of Jesus Christ are true and will shortly come to pass. A world which does not believe in a God — or thinks He is dead — will soon see Jesus Christ return to this earth to bring it peace and happiness. God will save the world from itself. Without a God, by the year 2525 this Good Earth would only be a charred death-globe, the mere remains of a once-proud, glittering blue jewel in space.

Your Part

You young people have a part in prophecy when you understand God’s plan. One of the last of the Old Testament prophets looked forward into our day and prophesied, “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: and he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse [Hebrew actually means utter destruction]” (Malachi 4:5-6).

Malachi prophesied this earth would be utterly obliterated were it not for a Work of God reestablishing the vital principles of family unity. You teen-agers have a part in fulfilling that prophecy.

And those of us who are members of the “older generation” need to understand the problems of our young people — of our own children. We need to establish the type of family unit which will cause the Almighty God to intervene and save us from annihilation.

“Would You Believe, Just Ten?”

Remember the Old Testament example of Lot? Three messengers of God had come to visit Lot’s uncle, Abraham. One told of God’s intent to destroy the degenerate cities, Sodom and Gomorrah. Cities bogged down in the cesspool of violent sex, decadence, murder and bestiality.

Abraham pleaded with God to intervene for the sake of the righteous people in the city. God said He would spare the city if there were fifty righteous people. Abraham then asked for forty-five, for forty, for thirty, then twenty. God said He would intervene for the sake of twenty righteous men.

Abraham then asked for ten. God said even for ten He would spare the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

But there WERE NOT ten!

Only Lot had remained faithful to God’s Word and had not sunk into the quagmire of debauchery around him. God told Lot to take his family and flee — Sodom and Gomorrah had to be destroyed.

Even though today’s whole world is a Sodom and Gomorrah society, God said the hearts of the fathers would be turned to the children in our day — there would be the tens and twenties of thousands living righteously in a world filling to the brim with “the new morality” and following the ways of Sodom and Gomorrah. And God promised He will intervene for the sake of “the elect.”

Protection Promised

In the Bible, God promises to take His Church to a place of safety. The Church (pictured as a “woman” in the Bible) will be protected for three and a half years from the tribulation which is ahead. Read Revelation 12 for yourself.

You’ve never been told this truth, so it is little wonder today’s young people feel so hopelessly frustrated. They have not been told there IS a prophesied time...
of trouble coming. Yet, they can see with their own eyes a looming, impending disaster developing. But most important of all, our young people have never been told there is a way of escape!

If you know what is coming — and if you know what to do about it — you can walk down the halls of your school knowing you have a purpose. You'll have a reason not to sink to the bottom of the pit by compromising with God's moral laws. You will have a reason not to chance a "bad trip" or sample a little pot or try some speed for thrills.

Jesus Christ promises, "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation [tribulation], which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth" (Revelation 3:10).

Is God's protection worth it?

Wouldn't you girls rather be called "granny" now because your skirts are a little longer than your mini-skirted friends? Wouldn't you fellows rather be taunted a little bit now because your hair is shorter than your contemporaries' or because you don't wear flowered, bell-bottomed trousers? Wouldn't you rather suffer some temporary, minor social setback now than suffer the wrath of God later? Or is it easier to drift along now and share the despair and discouragement of today's "dropped-out generation"?

We hope you young readers of Today's World are beginning to catch the vision. We hope you can begin to see a purpose in turning your hearts back to your parents and becoming a part of that protected group of people God will spare from the agony ahead. We hope you will want to close the
generation gap — a worthwhile challenge — rather than rebel with a generation of completely confused critics who offer no solution.

But What's After That?
The reason to obey your parents is not just to save your own skin from all-out nuclear war. Protection is only a part of the fringe benefits of obedience to God and your parents.

Believe it or not, the REAL CHALLENGE comes after those three and a half years of protection. The REAL OPPORTUNITIES are in the WONDERFUL WORLD TOMORROW — after the tribulation.

If you are now a teen-ager, you very likely will continue to live as a physical human being into that time when God's government will be established on the earth. As the time of tribulation draws to a close, God promises He is going to once again lead the children of Israel back to Palestine. This event, this Exodus, is prophesied to happen in your lifetime. It will be one of the greatest events in all human history. So much so, that the original Exodus of the children of Israel from Egypt to Palestine will be all but forgotten (Jeremiah 23:5-8).

Not just four or five million people will be involved as in the days of Moses. But forty or fifty or sixty million people will be miraculously led to the land of Palestine. You teen-agers, young people, can be among the first generation to settle Palestine. Jerusalem will be the capital city of the world. And, beginning with Palestine, God will rejuvenate the entire earth and make it bloom like a rose (Isaiah 35:1).

God will again perform great miracles, including drying up riverbeds, leveling mountain ranges and subduing entire hostile nations, so He can lead His people from foreign lands back to Palestine.

What It Will Be Like
Your Bible is literally filled with scriptures and prophecies about your generation. You teen-agers today are privileged to live in two worlds. It's ironic that discouragement should be so rampant. But, then, God did say, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hosea 4:6). Since "religion" has not given the answer, we have the resultant "dropped-out generation." Those of you who can really understand God's Word now — who can catch the vision — will not only live as the last generation in man's first six thousand years of existence — you will live as the first generation in the World Tomorrow. You will be the Establishment.

What, then, do young people really want?

Why, then, such hopelessness today?
The basic reason is no one can see a purpose for working and producing, only to have it obliterated. Young people today don't see a reason to establish a happy home and marriage, to produce children in such times of chaos in the world. No one wants his firstborn son to be cannon fodder before he's twenty.

But conditions in the World Tomorrow are going to be totally different!

God promises, "I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the Lord of hosts the holy mountain. Thus saith the Lord of hosts; There shall yet old men and old women dwell in the streets of Jerusalem, and every man with his staff in his hand for very age. And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in the streets thereof" (Zechariah 8:3-5).

That couldn't be a prophecy of our time, could it? People are not growing old and leaning on their staffs. Boys and girls aren't playing in the bustling streets of today's cities.

Instead, grade school children are going steady, junior high students are experimenting with sex and drugs, and their older high school friends are well along the road toward wrecked lives. Teen-age gangs beat up old men and rob old women. Hardly a pretty picture — and it won't be changed until Christ intervenes. When He does, you will be able to look forward to the establishment of your own home in the land of Palestine and your own children growing up without the fear of the bomb, war and human inequality.

Your children will live in this perfect society in the not-too-distant future. You will grow old in the World Tomorrow and look back upon a life of tremendous productivity forty or fifty or sixty years from now. [Ed. Note: Be sure to write for our free full-color booklet The Wonderful World Tomorrow — What It Will Be Like. It gives
a further preview into what could be — your breathtaking future.

Can You See Yourself?

What about it, young people? Which kind of future do you want? We mean you, you who are sixteen or seventeen or nineteen or twenty-one. Do you look forward to a “hot date” with the head cheerleader, rodding around with the gang this weekend — OBLIVIOUS OF THE FUTURE?

Do you ever consider the years ahead? How about marriage? How about children? Have world problems created a desire to “get yours now” and to squelch thoughts of the future?

If this has been your case, hopefully this article will cause some of you to look forward to the prosperous World Tomorrow and the challenge of the future through different eyes.

The Pioneering Spirit

Every one of you, at one time or another, has dreamed about “the good old days.” The days when Columbus sailed, when Drake pirated, when Lewis and Clark explored, when Crockett and Boone pushed west — when lands were to be settled, and when there was pure air to breathe and a bright future to look to.

In some of the days gone by, men had visions, dreams. It is hard to find anyone dreaming of the future today. Science has tried to capture your fancy by glamorous pronouncements for the future brought about through technological advancements. But it is a little hard to dedicate your life to an uncertain future where children are obtained from “the bottom of a long, black tube,” or where your arms and legs wither away from disuse.

The real challenge is right here on earth. Learning how to live, how to be happy and truly “making the world a better place.” When Jesus Christ is finished shaking this earth to its senses, not much is going to remain but a few million true pioneers. The opportunities are limitless.

Imagine the thrill of helping to rebuild all this world’s cities — eliminating all the mistakes made before, figuring how to prevent ghettos, eliminating rat problems, providing safe play areas for healthy, vibrant children. Imagine helping solve the world’s food shortage problem by making lands more productive. Imagine having your own area, complete with freshly painted home, lovely wife and friendly children, your own vine and fig tree, and horse and cow or goat (Micah 4:4). Imagine no muggings, no rapes, no child molestations.

And then imagine what it will be like for the second, third and fourth generations into the millennium. Your grandchildren, your great grandchildren and your great great grandchildren. God is going to guide the repopulation of the entire earth. Think what it will be like to come back to America, Western Europe, Central and South America or Australia or South Africa after several decades of rain in due season, balanced animal and insect populations with absolutely no pollutants. Talk about utopia — your grandchildren will experience pioneering that Columbus, Lewis and Clark, Boone and Crockett never saw.

And, do you know something, fellows and girls? These prophecies are just as sure as the rising of tomorrow’s sun. In fact, they are just as sure as our destruction without God’s intervention! You can count on God. And you can count on having a part in the fantastic new world in the new age, if you will only listen — and heed!

God is offering you an opportunity to be on the ground floor of the greatest events of all time. It may mean changing a few habits, cultivating new and different friends, giving up some of the “thrills” others are experiencing for the moment. It will mean learning to “walk with God” — being obedient to the law. Coming issues of this magazine will explain in more detail exactly how you learn to “walk with God” — what His laws are and how they apply to you!

Obeying God will be an entirely new concept to most of you. It will take courage. But in the end you will be the victor!

Time is rapidly becoming a factor. Christ is returning in your lifetime. We are not setting dates — but we are quite certain He will return before you become the Establishment. And before He comes to restore order, some pretty terrifying events will take place.

Where will you be? Will you be ready to emerge as a pioneer in the World Tomorrow? Will your descendants be living abundantly in a PERFECT WORLD in the year 2525?

Or will you have been just another number, another statistic who “got his while the getting was good”? Our society — your society — is crumbling and dying. You are learning the truth. You have a choice.

What will you do?
O
F COURSE people are afraid of
financial gimmicks. Or of reli-
gious “come-ons,” or of people
who would “help” them manage their
fortunes.

Human nature is tricky.

But through the Work that sponsors
this magazine thousands are learning
more deeply and factually that God is
REAL. He is working out a purpose here
below. He does truly intervene in the
lives of those who serve Him and live
by His Word.

Notice this recent letter from one of
our readers:

“God has really blessed me. Before
I started tithing about six years ago I
never made more than three or four
thousand dollars a year. I’m expecting
to earn twelve thousand this year, and
next year with the new raise I got, I should
make about fourteen thousand, not
counting my shoe-selling part-time job.
I really know where the blessing comes
from, and I also know that the money
is being used for something that is
really lasting.”

ALMIGHTY GOD BACKS UP HIS
WORD AND HIS PROMISES

The reason more people do not re-
ceive God’s blessings is that they do not
actually believe in the reality of a per-
sonal, living God who sits at the con-
trols of this universe! They do not seek
His wisdom and guidance in their lives.
They do not study to find out what His
WORD, the Bible, really does say.

The law of tithing simply means that
the great God who made us — who
gave us our life, our talents, our minds,
the strength with which we work, and
the very land and materials which we
employ in our work — requires us to
pay Him the first tenth of our increase
or income.

As far as the direct matter of tithing
is concerned, God does not consider
that we are “giving” anything — but
are PAYING our Creator a very nominal
amount which He requires as our Maker,
our Sustainer, our Landlord, our Protec-
tor and our God!

Nevertheless, the Almighty promises:
“Honour the Lord with thy substance,
and with the firstfruits of all thine in-
crease: so shall thy barns be filled with
plenty, and thy presses shall burst out
with new wine” (Prov. 3:9-10).

Many of our readers have further
demonstrated and proved God’s exis-
tence to themselves by OBEYING this
very principle in faith. A listener from
Portland, Oregon, writes us:

“Here is my tithing for the Work. It
seems every time I pay my tithe I
always get paid back in ful.
It never has failed. It seems like while others
are breaking limbs and ending up in
the hospital I get further ahead. It’s
the best insurance policy I have ever
taken out.”

Yes, if you are faithful in obeying
God and paying Him the first tenth —
or “tithe” — of your income — He
will BLESS your life in many physical
and material ways. He has PROMISED —
and God never breaks His Word!

God’s Challenge

In Malachi 3, speaking to modern-
day Jacob or Israel (verse 6), God de-
clares: “Will a man rob God? Yet ye
have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein
have we robbed thee? In TITHES and
OFFERINGS.” God here indicts our mod-
tern English-speaking people for ROR-
ing our Creator a very nominal
amount which He requires as our Maker,
our Sustainer, our Landlord, our Protec-
tor and our God!

God continues: “Ye are cursed with a
curse: for ye have robbed me, even this
whole nation.”

Then God PROMISES in His Word:
“Bring ye all the tithes into the store-
house, that there may be meat in mine
house, and prove me now herewith,
saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not
open you the windows of heaven, and
pour you out a BLESSING, that there
shall not be room enough to receive it”
(Mal. 3:8-10).

Here is a blistering CHALLENGE from
Almighty God!

God says HE WILL BLESS YOU if you
begin tithing — as He commands —
through faith in Him and in His Word.
Literally hundreds of case histories may
be cited to show that God certainly does
BLESS the tither even in material ways.
He may not always do so immediately.
You may have to obey Him and exercise
faith for a while. But as you serve Him,
obey Him, trust Him, God will keep
His part of the bargain.

Your blessing is CERTAIN to come!

Notice this joyful letter from one of
our listeners who took God’s promise
literally:

“A few weeks ago I was absolutely
broken financially. I received ten cents.
I was tempted not to tithe the one
cent. I did. Then a few days later I
received one dollar. Again, I was
tempted to keep the tithe because of
many needs. I just received forty dol-
ars and am getting the tithe off to
you as soon as possible. I have been
faithful and SO HAS GOD. If some-
one tells me God isn’t faithful, I AM
GOING TO LAUGH IN HIS FACE.”

Now here is another letter showing the
BLESSINGS of obeying God’s tithing
law:

“God does bless the tither. Here is
one of my proofs. About two months
ago my husband was in need of some
work clothes, along with some other
items. His paycheck just wasn’t enough to meet these needs, so he and I discussed these matters. After my husband had gone to work, I went down on my knees to God in honest and believing prayer, reminding Him of His promises to us. In about two weeks, my husband received a check for $216. He was so surprised because it’s the first time anything like this has ever happened to us. For a while he was almost afraid to cash it, so I told him about my prayers. He and I then fell on our knees together before God, thanking Him for His wonderful and timely blessing. We sent in an offering from the $216, then about one week later we received a $50 check. Next morning my husband cashed it to send tithes. The next day he received $40 from our house rent. Then, Monday, our two sons got a job and made about $20, each one decided to pay tithes from it. The following week our older son, who is now 15-years-of-age, got a job making more than $100 per month. Later, the golf course, and my husband has more extra work than he can possibly do. So we can truthfully say, “God does mean what He says in Malachi 3:10.”

What the Bible Actually SAYS

In spite of the obvious blessings that come to those who obey God’s tithing law, some still have arguments or questions. Wasn’t the idea of tithing an invention of Moses? Wasn’t it “done away” by Jesus? Wasn’t it just for the taxation for both church and state? “And he gave Him tithes of all.” God will give me I will surely give the High Priest Melchizedek after God had substituted the Levitical Priesthood, He did not destroy the fruit of the tree, is the Lord’s: it is holy unto the Lord. And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the Lord” (Lev. 27:30, 32).

Now notice Numbers 18:21: “And, behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tenth in Israel for an inheritance, for their service which they serve, even the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.”

Since God’s ministry during this time was a physical ministry — of offering sacrifices and oblations — and since the Levites were fulfilling this ministry as their work, God’s tithe went to them as His representatives and servants.

New Testament Instructions on Tithing

In the New Testament, God inspired the Apostle Paul to show that the law of tithing is now altered or changed so that the tithes are once again to be paid to God’s spiritual priesthood — as that of Melchizedek to whom Abraham paid tithes. This account is found in the seventh chapter of Hebrews.

Paul describes how Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek (verse 2). Next, he describes how great Melchizedek’s priesthood must have been (verses 3-4). Then Paul shows that the Levites themselves — through their ancestor Abraham — paid tithes to Melchizedek, obviously a Greater Priest in view of this fact.

In verses 11-12, Paul shows that the Levitical Priesthood was only temporary and never brought perfection. Therefore, once again the spiritual priesthood of Melchizedek has been reinitiated through Christ and the tithing law is again changed so that God’s tithes revert as before to the spiritual priests — the true ministers of Jesus Christ.

While the Apostle Paul was writing to Jewish Christians who understood at least the letter of God’s Law and had no “argument” about the fact of the tithing law, and while his main emphasis is the greatness of Christ’s spiritual ministry, nevertheless it is important to realize that throughout this New Testament passage Paul definitely speaks of tithing as a law! And he shows that it is a law which has existed since dim antiquity, during the days of Melchizedek — and still exists — although now changed so that the tithes revert once again to God’s spiritual ministers who are doing His Work today! For a more detailed explanation of this and other important points on the subject of Tithing, write for our free booklet, Ending Your Financial Worries.

So anyone who fails to tithe is breaking an important law of the Creator God! This is one reason for so many personal and financial curses on our land today!

Jesus Christ Personally Taught Tithing

Not fully understanding that Jesus Christ is the “Word” of God — the One who inspired the Old Testament — not realizing that the laws of God are fully listed only in the Old Testament and merely spiritually magnified and explained in the New Testament, some will still insist: “We want some direct statements by Christ which show that He approved of the tithing law!”

All right — you shall have them! Will you then believe? Will you obey?

In speaking to the scribes and Pharisees, who often made a self-righteous display of strictly keeping some of the smaller points of God’s Law, Jesus said: “Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done [these weightier matters], and not to leave the other [carefully tithing!] undone” (Matt. 23:23).

Isn’t that clear enough? Jesus said that spiritual qualities such as mercy and faith ought to be put ahead of carefully and strictly paying tithes on every little plant that might grow in your garden — especially when that strictness led to self-righteousness. But Christ said “NOT to leave the other undone” — NOT to fail to pay your full tithes as God has commanded!

In Luke 11:42, this same command is repeated in a similar manner — inspired to be placed here also by God’s Holy Spirit!

Man would like to regard God’s tithing law as of least importance. But speaking of even the smaller points of God’s Law, Jesus stated: “Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do
and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 5:19).

How plain! If we are looking for an argument, we will always find one. But if we are willing to "hunger and thirst" for righteousness, to obey even the smaller points of God's Law, we will be blessed for so doing.

Do YOUR PART Fully

Yes, Jesus Christ taught tithing! And, as we have seen, He commanded His apostles to teach the nations "all things whatsoever I have commanded you." He then promised: "I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matt. 28:20).

So, if we would have God's blessing and live the abundant life which Jesus Christ promised, we should pay God's tithe faithfully and also do all the other things which Jesus taught.

Among these other teachings, relating to our job and success, Jesus said: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 5:16). The true Christian, then, is to be an example to others in all that he says or does.

The living Christ inspired the Apostle Paul to write: "Servants [or workers], obey in all things your masters [bosses or supervisors] according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God: And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men" (Col. 3:22-23).

Christ's Word here instructs you to put your whole heart into your work at all times — whether the boss is around or not! You are told to do this sincerely and earnestly as if you were working for God Himself. For, in fact, you are! The true Christian life is a life "calling" — or vocation in the fullest sense of the term.

Be ZEALOUS in Your Work

In His Word, God states: "He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich" (Prov. 10:4). Are you really diligent in your work?

Again, God states: "Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase" (Prov. 13:11). Many people today earn their living in what might be termed "marginal" occupations — such as gambling, selling people things that they don't need, taking unnecessary profits as a middleman of some sort, etc. But God says that the basis of permanent wealth and His blessing will be given to a man who labors — really produces and accomplishes something worthwhile!

Now notice Proverbs 13:18: "Poor and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured." In this proverb, you are advised by God to heed the instructions of those over you in your work or in any situation in life. Learn to do the job as your boss wants it done! Learn to listen carefully — to think — to keep growing in knowledge and ability on the job!

A very important principle for daily living is brought out in Proverbs 15:22: "Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established." When a big decision comes up involving your business or farm — or selling your house or changing jobs — learn to get advice from many quarters! Learn to weigh this advice carefully and objectively — asking God's guidance and wisdom. [Ed. Note: Request our free article, "How to Make Wise Decisions."

Finally, God commands: "Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread" (Prov. 20:13). Learn to get up early, to work diligently and to produce in your job or business!

Then be honest — obey the Ten Commandments and strive to show love, friendliness and fairness toward all with whom you come in contact. This is your part in making a success in this physical life.

Then, obey God's financial law of tithing — recognizing that all the strength and ability with which you produce in your line of work, all the materials you use, all the food you eat and air you breathe in order to gain strength — all this comes from God who only asks that you pay Him one tenth of what you produce in return!

Where Should You Send GOD'S Tithes?

A man from Texas writes:

"After much fighting with my conscience I now believe in my heart I have been cheating God, but there is one thing that I need help on. I do not belong to a church. So where can I send God's money? Could you please tell me where to send God's money?"

At least this man already apparently understands one basic principle which many avoid proving! That principle is that the tithe of your income is God's money! It does not belong to you. It does not belong to any human organization of men cut off from God and denying His Word and His Commandments!

It is vitally important that you send God's tithe to His true representatives!

Somewhere on earth today are the true ministers of God. As the end of this age approaches, they will be carrying out Christ's commission with increasing power. They will make plain the Good News of the soon-coming Kingdom or Government of God.

Without fear or favor they will explain the laws of that Kingdom. They will make plain and clear the hundreds of prophecies referring to this endtime. Through God's Spirit they alone can be definite and specific about the tremendous events soon to occur on this earth!

Jesus spoke prophetically of the great worldwide work His true ministers would carry out in this last age: "And this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come" (Matt. 24:14).

You had better check up and prove to yourself that The World Tomorrow broadcast is the Work on earth which is fulfilling Christ's commission! If this is not yet clear to you, then just keep an open mind and let the fruits prove to you where Almighty God is really working! Check up and see where the truth of the Bible is being made plain and clear. Determine positively for yourself (Acts
with a monthly salary of $475. New knowledge and truths were beginning to be opened to us, especially the one that says, "Prove me now herewith" (Malachi 3:10). By each following February my income had increased 30% over the previous February with this current year resulting in a monthly income of $1,375. Just two days ago we sent in our regular tithe, plus $30 as a special offering in response to the needs of the Work. You can guess what happened! Today I received a $300 bonus check from my employer whom I have been with for just four months. That was a 1,000% return on the $30 offering! Does it really pay to tithe?" [Man from Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania.]

Now notice a recent letter from Mesquite, Texas:

"I can't begin to tell you all the good blessings we have received since we started tithing. Just one year ago, my husband and I were on the verge of a breakup after seven years of marriage and two little boys. We were dependent on his family for many things. My husband made a good salary but it just went out the window. Today, after just one year, we have a nice car, very nice home and more than we could ask for. Our relationship has become a prized possession and somehow we manage without his family — but we know God is making it possible. What a difference tithing makes!"

God often works through human instruments. He will work through you if you will yield to Him and put His Kingdom first in your life. As we have seen, the law of tithing was a part of Christ's Gospel. As such, it must be proclaimed to the world — and to you — as a witness.

Ask God for wisdom, faith and strength of purpose to obey Him in this financial law. It will cause you to put God first. It will force you to budget — to plan — to organize your affairs perhaps more than ever before. It will lead you to exercise faith in your Creator to back up His laws and His promises.

But God cannot lie. So you will find that it is very much "possible" for you to tithe! And — if you act in love and faith — the physical and spiritual blessings that come will be just as real as God Himself is real.

Make God your business partner — join yourself to Him by agreeing to His contract in Malachi 3:10. Make life more vital every day Today. Then look forward with faith to that time, so near, when you can share Life with the Possessor of Heaven and Earth in the World Tomorrow! □

believing strongly in God and yet become a Communist — an atheist?"

Certainly, whatever happens, Bible prophecy shows that the coming United States of Europe — referred to in King James' language as the "Beast" of Revelation 13 and 17 — will have strong religious (or "Christian") connections. Sitting astride a United Europe will be a great Church or Church system — prophesied two thousand years ago (see Rev. 17).

But, who is the "Beast" mentioned in the 13th and 17th chapters of Revelation?

Many Bible commentaries point out that the "Beast" of the 13th and 17th chapters of Revelation is "the Roman Empire." It is also interesting that a Roman Catholic Bible (New Testament, Confraternity edition — published by the Catholic Book Publishing Company) has an interesting footnote comment on Rev. 17:11 as follows: "The beast spoken of here seems to be the Roman Empire, as in chapter 13."

The Modern Roman Empire

Let's speak plainly: the prophecies of your Bible reveal that in this end-time there would be the seventh and final revival (or resurrection) of the Roman Empire. The previous six revivals ("heads" in prophetic symbolism) were those led by Justinian, Charlemagne, Otto the Great, Charles the Great, Napoleon, Mussolini-Hitler — and the final seventh head is now in the process of being formed right before your very eyes!

In the second chapter of Daniel, we find this same world kingdom depicted as the ten toes of the great image — representing the ten kings ultimately to unite at the very end of this age of man's 6,000-year period of mitreule.

This is also depicted as a "Beast" in Revelation 17:8-17. Here we see a "Beast" — picturing the Roman Empire
— which is to ascend out of a “bottomless pit.” But it will go into per-
dition or destruction. When the in-
habitants of the earth see this “Beast” — this Fascist form of government —
come out of a condition of virtual nonexistence, they’re going to be
dumbfounded. They “shall wonder”! (Verse 8.)

Yes, the whole world will be utterly amazed when they see this “Beast” res-
urrected or revived — for the last time, thank God!

Unless We Repent...

What was the real significance of the Summit Meeting of the Six Common Market nations held at The Hague in December, 1969?

The final communiqué issued by the Six revealed that the Common Market nations have pretty well completed the first step (economic integration) and are now about ready to enter the second and final stage for which the Common Market nations united in the first place — full political union!

“Never before have independent

TOMORROW’S WORLD

states pushed their cooperation further. . . . The expiry of the transitional period at the end of the year has acquired major political significance. Entry upon the final stage of the Common Market not only means confirming the irreversible nature of the work accomplished by the communities, but also means paying the way for a united Europe capable of assuming its responsibilities in the world of tomorrow and of making a contribution commensurate with its traditions and its mission” (The Times, London, Dec. 3, 1969).

Yes, as we have been saying for nearly thirty years, a strong United States of Europe is in the making! Europeans are becoming impatient! Economic integration has pretty well been completed. Now, full political union is just around the corner!

How will a U.S. of Europe affect America, Britain and the Common-wealth?

Bible prophecy reveals that — unless our peoples return to God in real, heart-rending repentance — God will permit a powerful United States of Europe to confront and destroy us, first economically, and then, as incredible as it sounds today, militarily.

The outcome? If we don’t turn from our waywardness — our adulteries, drug-taking, perversions, violence, murder and every evil imaginable — our nations will be humbled in the dust, wasted economically and incinerated militarily — all the work of the very Frankenstein monster which Marshall-Plan dollars created after World War II.

Unless we repent as nations — or individually — these things are certain to come to pass in our lifetime! May God help us to be awake to today’s fast-moving world conditions — awake to what is happening, almost unnoticed, in Europe.

If you don’t already have a copy, be sure you write now requesting our free, fully illustrated, gripping book entitled The United States and British Common-wealth in Prophecy — and keep pace with the real meaning of the news of today’s world in the pages of To-
morrow’s World!

Personal
from the Editor
(Continued from page 4)

must be led by God’s Spirit. His Spirit
opens the mind to understanding of
spiritual truth, and the knowledge of
God’s Law. It opens the mind to the
way one should follow. God’s Spirit
also is the love of God — God’s own
divine love — flooding into the human
heart, and flowing on out in love to
God and love to neighbor.

One must therefore grow in spiritual
knowledge and in God’s grace (II Peter
3:18). He must become a doer of
God’s law — actually living in the
way of peace and happiness and joy.
This means he must overcome his own
carnal nature, his old habits, the tem-

tations of the world — he must be
changed! He must develop toward
perfect spiritual and righteous charac-
ter. The real Christian is undergoing
a life of training to become a ruler
in God’s Kingdom — in the happy and
peaceful world tomorrow.

One cannot learn everything in a
minute, a day, or a year. One does not
become perfect at one jump. It is a
continuous process. No Christian be-
comes perfect at the very beginning.
He does not overcome or root out all
the sins, the wrong habits, all at once.
He must do it little by little. But, “he
that overcometh, and keepeth my
works unto the end,” says Jesus Christ,
“to him will I give power over the
nations: and he shall rule them” (Revelation 2:26-27).

Why do the nations of this earth
need ruling by Christ and those trained
under a Christian life? Because all the
unhappiness — everything wrong with
this world — has come from living the
way of hostility to God’s Law and
God’s Government. Because the
only way this world can have peace,
prosperity, happiness, is to be forced
to build a society based on the way
that produces these desired blessings.

If you have started on that right

way, don’t get discouraged because you
have slipped and fallen down along
the road a few times. Get up and keep
going. Even if you have sinned and
are truly sorry, you can repent and
Christ is your High Priest to forgive.
Read and study I John 1:7-10 and
2:1-2. This is written to converted
Christians.

At the time of Christ’s coming, the
dead in Christ will be resurrected and
rise to meet the descending Christ in
the air. At that instant those living
who have been thus changed, begotten
by God’s Spirit, will be changed in
composition, from mortal to immortal
— from matter to spirit — from human
to divine.

They are then to rule with and
under the all-powerful, living Christ,
until all nations beat their swords
into plowshares, and peace shines forth
on this war-weary earth!

Jesus Christ taught His followers to
pray: “Thy Kingdom come — Thy
will be done on earth!” How about
it. Shall we pray that prayer?
I DO!
What DO Churchgoers Believe?

(Continued from page 6)

world's education, religion, customs and ways, to realize that this is not God's world, but Satan's. It comes as a jarring shock! I know. I've experienced it.

The Bible ought never to be interpreted. It means what it says, and it says what it means. Taken as it is, it makes sense.

Don't be a spiritual coward. Look into it for yourself. It's full of surprises — it's full of truth — it's full of the way to a positive peace of mind, to happiness, to prosperity, abundant living here and now, and to salvation in joyous eternal life — FOREVER!

God's world is soon coming — the peaceful, happy WORLD TOMORROW! □

Letters to the Editor

Hope in a Hopeless World

I sometimes ask myself — how am I to overcome? You see — I have a problem I am almost unable to handle. Yet when I read articles such as those in the November '69 issue of your fine magazine — about how we — like David must learn to become subject to higher authority, and the pamphlet titled "How You Can Be Imbued With The Power of God" where on page two is stated — Self-Control is the key to real spiritual power — and because of our unwillingness to exercise self-control — we cannot be filled with this vital spiritual power — so desperately needed to help maintain it, I see there is hope.

Harry S.
St. Louis, Mo.

"How You Can Be Imbued With The Power of God" is available in reprint form for all who wish to request it — it helped Harry!

Why Does God Hide Himself?

That does it. I've just got through reading the article "Why Does God Hide Himself?" in Tomorrow's World. I was surely glad it came my way. I sure did welcome it. Now, I want one of your sincere ministers to visit me. I want eternal life too. I request a special private appointment.

O. P.
Lillington, N. C.

Your special private appointment is arranged with special pleasure — we really enjoy seeing our articles help in bringing someone to the decision you have made.

Why Must Men Suffer?

The article "Why Must Men Suffer?" in Tomorrow's World is the finest explanation I have ever read. I think that Job where he said "Now I see thee" for the first time realized what the first commandment really means.

Roy H.
Port Clinton, Ohio

Reprints of "Why Must Men Suffer?" are available for any of our new subscribers.

Beats Sunday School

Having completed reading the June and October issues of Tomorrow's World, I must confess that I have learned more than in 16 years of attending Sunday School and church. I have found some of the articles so fascinating that I have read them over and over again.

Tim A. M.
Dawson Creek, B.C.

And just think Tim, that's only two issues — welcome to a real feast of learning.

Another Student

I have enjoyed the September Tomorrow's World about the thunderbolt and the lightning starting from the ground. To me it doesn't seem possible, really. And the Temple made or lined with silver, gold, and cedar beams. I never knew it before until I read it in Tomorrow's World. I was surprised to learn that there were rivers in the ocean. I know the rivers flow into the ocean, but I didn't know there were huge canyons in the ocean. I have learned so many things through The Plain Truth and Tomorrow's World. Please keep them coming.

Pearl W.
Cortland, Ohio

Is God Fair to Teen-Agers?

Thank you so much for that stirring article in the November Tomorrow's World, "Is God Fair to Teen-agers?" I used to walk the streets crying and aching to have some kind of direction — something to live for. The tears, heartache, anguish and fears are the only things to find in the world without God's direction. It made me shudder to think any of the teenagers would pass up this one opportunity that brings real happiness and satisfaction.

Lee T.
Glendale, Calif.

Right! Keep reading TOMORROW'S WORLD — we feature here and now articles in the interest of today's generation in nearly every issue.

Famine

I must say famine is our biggest problem on this earth. Someone predicted around a 7 billion population by the year 2000. After reading your article "Famine in Prophecy" in Nov. 1969 Tomorrow's World I have serious doubts about that prediction. I imagine the article will cause comment of "alarmist" or "pessimist," but the daily news confirms the masses of starving people throughout the world.

P. S.
Pilot Rock, Ore.

Depressing Holiday Season

This season of the year is depressing to me as I watch people shop as if their lives depended on the purchase they are making.

A grocery cashier remarked to me how sick she felt the first two days of December as she observed people buying groceries. They pushed, shoved, grabbed and had to be first to be served. I used to be a part of this crowd, but now my gift money is sent to you in hopes that more people will learn the truth about the way the Devil is leading the world.

Mrs. Carl B.
W iota, Iowa

By now the world has suffered through the rest of December. Our January issue thoroughly explained this holiday syndrome. Thank you for helping us make that article and this magazine available to so many others. But you and thousands of others of God's Co-Workers have had the foresight and the courage to REALLY help yourself find "Peace on Earth."

Your Best Investment

Thank you very much for your revealing article, "Your Best Investment," in the Dec. 1969 issue. To say that it explained to me a lot I didn't know about the financial system of this world isn't saying too much, because I know very little about money matters and possess very little still. In light of what your article revealed about money — from its very origin tied in with how God created the things that money represents, and why we should put our trust in Him as we make our money, was made most plain. You must have put a lot of work hours into such an article and I have no doubts that God inspired the article.

James M.
Pasadena, California

Copies of the December 1969 issue are still available for any of you new subscribers who might have missed "Your Best Investment."

Tithing

I would also like to comment on the article "The Man Who Couldn't Afford to Tithe" in the September issue of Tomorrow's World. This true story prompted my giving God's tenth back ever since the following payday after I read the article. The first month's came to $20.00 and every month thereafter I have been saving, ready to give.

Randall R.
Tucson, Arizona
★ Why Christ Died — and ROSE AGAIN!

IT IS revealed that Jesus was “Emmanuel” — that is, “God with us” — GOD in the human flesh. He was both God and man, divine, as well as human. Can God die? Was Jesus really dead, or did only His body die? Was Jesus, the Divine One, alive during the three days and three nights a body was in the tomb? What, then, is the NEED of the resurrection? Here is a brief, pointed answer.

★ DON’T LET LIFE HAPPEN!

Too many people stumble PURPOSELESSLY through life. Without realizing it, you may have been the victim of circumstances! Read, in this article, how to LIVE life, not just let it “happen.”

★ Build JOY into Your Marriage!

Here are keys to make your marriage live and grow! Here is vital instruction on how to BUILD your marriage at a time when marriages are falling apart. Here are practical, useable guidelines to help your marriage become a precious relationship of JOY and beauty.

An Exciting Preview of

★ AGRICULTURE IN TOMORROW’S WORLD

Imagine a world with ideal weather and bumper crops every year. Imagine a world where everyone is able to enjoy fresh, clean, wholesome, tasty, nutritious food — grains, meat, fruit and vegetables in rich variety and abundance. Imagine a world where farming will be a highly respected profession and where the farmer will not be in a continuous struggle for economic survival. Such a wonderful world is just around the corner! Read the exciting details about the agricultural wealth and prosperity of TOMORROW’S WORLD as revealed in the pages of your Bible.