The PLAIN TRUTH

A magazine of understanding

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HOW TO BE Saved!

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

by Herbert W. Armstrong

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

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

Can One Worship Christ-IN VAIN?

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

Listen to His words: "Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For, laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men. . . Full well do ye reject the Commandments of God, that ye may keep your own tradition" (Mark 4:6-9).

Back to the Faith Once Delivered

But what does GOD tell you in His Word?

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

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

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

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

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

Yes, they DENY Him! God says: "They profess that they know God;

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

What the Saviour Himself Taught

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

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

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

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

Gentiles. He preached only the NEW Testament Gospel. He revealed THE WAY OF SALVATION.

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

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

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

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

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

The inspired answer was:

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

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

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

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

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

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

James Inspired Answer

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

The law is LOVE—and LOVE is the fulfilling of the law. Jesus fulfilled it, setting us an example that we, too, should fulfill the law. We fulfill it with LOVE-not any natural, carnal love in human nature, but "the love of GOD is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit" (Rom. 5:5). The Holy Spirit in us is merely GOD'S LAW IN ACTION IN OUR LIVES! And so, if we fulfill this Royal Law, we do well-but if not, we commit sin (James 2:9). Now read verse 10. If we keep the WHOLE LAWthe general principle of LOVE to neighbor-yet offend in one point, we are guilty-we have broken the law-and the penalty is DEATH, not eternal life.

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

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

To REPENT of sin means to turn from sin. It means to QUIT SINNING! And that means to stop transgressing

God's holy law. And the way to stop breaking it is to begin KEEPING God's Commandments—ALL OF THEM, for if you break only one, you bring on yourself the penalty—ETERNAL DEATH, and you lose salvation.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Conscience Not Your Guide

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

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

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

God says: "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of DEATH"! (Pro. 14:12 and 16:25.) Again, "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes" (Prov. 12:15). And: "All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes" (Prov. 16:2). The world has been going the WAY that seems right to man for some 6000 years. But this WAY has brought only unhappiness, emptiness, discontent, poverty,

(Please continue on page 13)

PROPHESIED TO HAPPEN to the United States and Britain!

Here is the fourth installment of Mr. Armstrong's forthcoming book—the most startling book of this generation. Few people are aware of the drastic turn of events soon to befall our people!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS INSTALLMENTS

THE MOST colossal disaster of all history is soon to fall upon our nations. Yet almost no one is warning our people of this very next prophesied event!

Why?

Because few know where our peoples are mentioned in Bible prophecy!

Our wealth is coveted by many aggressor nations. But the astounding fact that we were prophesied to be the wealthiest of nations in this generation is almost entirely overlooked.

God promised this might to the patriarch Abraham and to his descendants. He said to Abraham: "Thou shalt be a father of MANY NATIONS" (see Genesis 17:1-5). To Abraham's daughterin-law it was proclaimed: "Let thy seed possess the gate of those that hate them" (Genesis 24:60). The gates of nations would be vital passageways such as Gibraltar, the Suez and Panama canals, and Singapore. The Jews never possessed these gates.

DUAL Promises Made to Abraham

Few today seem to realize that God made DUAL promises to Abraham. The spiritual promise—called the Sceptre—was of the Christ and salvation. The material promise of national greatness is called the Birthright. These two distinct promises were handed down through Isaac and Jacob.

The UNCONDITIONAL promise of colossal material inheritance became SEPARATED from the spiritual promise in Jacob's sons. "But the BIRTHRIGHT WAS JOSEPH'S" (I Chronicles 5:2). The Sceptre was NEVER to depart from Judah (Gen. 49:10).

The Sceptre promise involved GRACE, not RACE. It was the promise of the kingly line and of Christ. But in carrying out this promise, God made another covenant—an unconditional and everlasting covenant—with King David. This Davidic covenant involving the Sceptre is as little known as the Birthright.

God promised David concerning his son: "I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever" (II Samuel 7:13). Again He promised David: "I have made a covenant with my chosen . . . Thy seed (his dynasty) will I establish forever, and build up thy throne TO ALL GENERATIONS" (Psalm 89:3-4). And: "David shall NEVER lack a man to sit upon the throne of the HOUSE OF ISRAEL" (Jer. 33:17).

David's dynasty WOULD NEVER CEASE! God promised David that though his sons would sin and would be chastened, yet He would be merciful and NOT take the throne away "As I took it from Saul" (II Sam 7:14-15). Yet as far as the world historically knows, the last king of David's dynasty to sit upon that throne was King Zedekiah. Did David lack a man to sit on the throne and continue his dynasty?

Christ did not take the throne. He was crucified and ascended to heaven. Then has the Sceptre—the promise of a kingly line—departed from Judah? The infallibility of the Bible is at stake!

Where is that throne today?

Let us continue the story of these intriguing promises and notice what happened to the Sceptre and the Birthright.

CHAPTER IV CHILDREN OF ISRAEL BECOME TWO NATIONS

THE HOUSE of ISRAEL is not Jewish! Those who constitute it are not JEWS, and never were! This fact we shall now prove conclusively, beyond refute.

After David's death, his son, Solomon, succeeded him to the throne over Israel. Solomon taxed the people excessively, and reigned in a gorgeous splendor probably never equalled before or since. He also married Gentile wives from outside nations.

Because of them, he burned incense and sacrificed unto Moloch and other idols. As a result of this, "The Eternal said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and give it to thy servant. Notwithstanding, in thy days I will not do it, for David thy father's sake; but I will rend it out of the hand of thy son. Howbeit I will not rend away ALL the kingdom; but I will give one tribe to thy son for David my servant's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake which I have chosen" (I Kings 11:11-13).

ISRAEL Separated from David's Throne

Note it! It is THE KINGDOM, not part of it, which is to be rended away. It is the PART, one tribe, which is to remain. And note—for right here is expressed the great WHY of this whole question—that, tho Solomon himself deserved to have it UTTERLY rended away, God will leave one tribe, not because of leniency toward Solomon, but "FOR DAVID'S SAKE"!

God has made a perpetual covenant with David, unconditionally, which He cannot, and will not break. David's dynasty cannot be broken! THAT is the reason the Sceptre promise is not destroyed; but the ruler is to be permitted to rule on, without a single generation's gap, over at least a part of the children of Israel.

In I Kings 11:26 you read of Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, an Ephrathite, or Ephraimite, Solomon's servant. He was made ruler over the "house of Joseph"—or Ephraim and Manasseh.

Speaking to Jeroboam thru Ahijah the prophet, the Eternal says: "Behold I will rend the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon, and will give ten tribes to thee . . . Howbeit I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand: . . . for David my servant's sake, whom I chose, because HE kept my commandments and my statutes. But I will take THE KINGDOM out of his son's hand, and will give it to thee, even ten tribes. And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant (remember WHY) may have a light always before me in

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Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen to put my name there. And I will take thee, and thou shalt reign according to all that thy soul desireth, and thou shalt be king over Israel" (I Kings 11:31-37).

These words make plain two facts: The NATION, ISRAEL, is to be taken away from Solomon's son, and given to Jeroboam. It is not just a tribe, or a few tribes, but the nation called by the title Israel which this Jeroboam, of the tribe of Ephraim, is to rule. The tentribed kingdom was the one to which the national title "Israel" was given. For truly, the name "Israel" was named on the sons of Joseph! (Genesis 48:16).

On the other hand, BECAUSE of His promise to David, the Eternal left one tribe, Judah, in Jerusalem under the sons of Solomon, so that a son of David might continue to sit on the throne of David over children of Israel. God had promised David, unconditionally, that the time should never come when he should not have a son or descendant sitting on the throne ruling over children of Israel. The children of Judah, tho they are not ALL the children of Israel, -tho not called by that national title, nevertheless ARE children of Israel, and thus God can keep His promise to David—can avoid abolishing the Sceptre promises made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. And at the same time God can visit punishment upon Solomon, by taking away the NATION, Israel, and leaving a son of the Sceptre promise sitting on the throne over only one tribe. Note the very important point that, tho a punishment must be inflicted, God does not break any of his PROMISES.

David's Dynasty Rules over Judah God had promised that "the Sceptre SHALL NOT DEPART FROM JUDAH." He did not break that promise. Now note carefully that the ten tribes, rended away, are called by the title "ISRAEL," and that the one tribe remaining under Rehoboam, Solomon's son, is called, merely, "Judah," or the "House of Judah." They go by their tribal name, while the ten-tribed kingdom continues to carry the name "Israel."

When Solomon's son, Rehoboam, succeeded to the throne, the people at once demanded that the heavy taxes imposed by Solomon be reduced. They sent their leader, Jeroboam, as spokesman, to Rehoboam.

Pleaded Jeroboam: "Thy father made our yoke grievous; now, therefore, make thou the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon

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us, lighter, and we will serve thee" (I Kings 12:1-5).

The reply was: "My father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions" (Verses 6-14).

Israel rebelled. The command to the people was "To your tents, O Israel!" The challenge to the royal house was "Now, see to thine own house!" (Verse 16).

"So Israel rebelled against the house of David unto this day (the day this was written). And it came to pass, when all Israel heard that Jeroboam was come again, that they sent and called him unto the congregation and made him king over ALL ISRAEL: there was none what followed the house of David, but the tribe of JUDAH only" (I Kings 12:19-20).

Then "Rehoboam . . . assembled all the HOUSE OF JUDAH, with the tribe of Benjamin" (Verse 21). Rehoboam commenced to fight to subdue and bring back the House of Israel, but God said: "Ye shall not . . . fight against your brethren the children of Israel . . . for this thing is from me" (Verse 24).

Israel Divided into TWO NATIONS

Did you notice that it is now the tentribed kingdom—headed by the Ephraim-Manasseh tribes, with an Ephraimite as their king—the inheritor of the Birthright promises—which is called the HOUSE OF ISRAEL?

The tribe of Judah left to Rehoboam, with some of the Benjamites and, of course, a sprinkling of the priestly tribe of Levi, is called in Scripture, NOT Israel, but THE HOUSE OF JUDAH. They are all actually children of Israel, but are no longer called, nationally, by that national title. This is emphasized so much because the common conception is exactly the opposite. The average conception today seems to be that the tribe of Judah which remained carried the title "Israel." Most people seem to think of the ten tribes as merely certain tribes driven out from the nation Israel.

But it is ISRAEL which now sets up its kingdom under the Ephraimite Jeroboam, in the land of Samaria, north of Jerusalem. It is not Israel, but Judah,—a mere tribe broken off from Israel—which is left behind in Jerusalem. The ten tribes were not broken off from Israel. Israel did not remain in Jerusalem. Instead, JUDAH WAS BROKEN OFF FROM ISRAEL. Israel rebelled against its own throne and moved out, setting up a new king of its own!

Israel at War with the Jews!

Notice it carefully! The House of Judah, now including the tribe of Benjamin under King Rehoboam of David's dynasty, was about to fight against the

other ten tribes headed by Ephraim and Manasseh, NOW A DIFFERENT AND SEPARATE NATION.

Now let us have scriptural PROOF that the ten-tribed people called Israel, often prophetically spoken of as Ephraim, are NOT Jews, and never WERE Jews! Remember that the term "Jew" is merely a nickname for "Judah." Hence, it applies to the one nation, or House of Judah ONLY—never to the House of ISRAEL.

From any exhaustive concordance you can learn that the first time in all the Bible that the word "Jew" occurs is in II Kings 16:6. Nowhere in all the Bible before this, does the name "Jew" appear. Notice it!

Ahaz began to reign as king of JUDAH (Verse 1). He sat on David's throne (Verse 2). At this time a man named Pekah was king of ISRAEL. King Pekah of Israel formed an alliance with Rezin, king of Syria, AGAINST Judah, and together the armies of Israel and Syria, allied, came up against Jerusalem. They besieged King Ahaz of Judah, but could not overcome him (Verse 5). "At that time," says verse 6, "Rezin, king of Syria"—the ALLY of ISRAEL, fighting with ISRAEL against Judah—"recovered Elath to Syria, and drove the JEWS from Elath" (Verse 6).

NOTE IT! The first place in the Bible where the word "Jew" is used, we find ISRAEL at war against the JEWS!

WHO drove the *Jews* out of Elath? The ALLY of King Pekah of ISRAEL! The army fighting WITH Israel AGAINST Judah. And the children of Judah who resided in the town of Elath are called JEWS IN A MANNER WHICH DISTINGUISHED THEM FROM THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL, WITH WHOM THESE JEWS WERE AT WAR!

Observe the significance of that!

The first place in Scripture where the name Jew appears, the Jews were at WAR against ISRAEL! They are of a different nation altogether. They are, individually, children of Israel. But they do not have that national title—House of Israel.

It is wrong to call the Jews of today "Israel." They are not Israel,—they are JUDAH! And wherever ISRAEL is today, remember that ISRAEL does not mean JEW! Whoever the lost ten tribes of ISRAEL are today, they are not Jews! Wherever you see the name "Israel," or "House of Israel," or "Samaria," or "Ephraim," used in prophecy, remember this —IT NEVER REFERS TO THE JEWS, but to Israel, who was at WAR against the Jews!

House of Israel NOT Jews

No place in all the Bible does the term "ISRAEL" refer to the JEWS exclusively. When the sense is not national but individual, the term "Israel" alone, or "children of Israel," may, and sometimes does, *include* the Jews, where all twelve tribes are included. Such an expression, for instance, as "Ye men of Israel," as frequently occurs in the New Testament, refers to Israelites as individuals in a collective sense, *not* a national sense. It usually refers to Jews as individual descendants of the patriarch Israel (Jacob).

Moses may not, scripturally, be called a Jew. He was a Levite. Abraham was NOT a Jew. Neither was Isaac nor Jacob—nor Adam or Noah for that matter. The descendants of the patriarch Judah are racially Jews and also all who joined themselves nationally to the tribe of Judah.

Jews are Israelites, just as Californians are Americans. But MOST Israelites are not Jews, just as most Americans are not Californians. The Jews are the House of Judah only, A PART of the Israelites. But when these people are spoken of as NATIONS, rather than as collective individuals, the term "Israel" never refers to the Jews. "House of Israel" NEV-ER means "Jews." The two tribes at Jerusalem under the Davidic king are called, merely, the house of JUDAH. But of Ephraim and Manasseh, sons of Joseph, the dying Israel had said, "Let my name be named on them." And truly they now BEAR the name of ISRAEL. It is the TEN tribes that are called "IS-RAEL."

From here on, the tribe of Judah, with Benjamin and a portion of the priests of the tribe of Levi, are called "JUDAH," —not Israel. The TEN tribes, headed by Ephraim and Manasseh from this time on are called "ISRAEL." They are not Jews, and never were called Jews!

From this time on, the children of Israel, twelve tribes in all, are divided into TWO NATIONS!

And now, for the first time, the BIRTHRIGHT goes into one nation, ISRAEL, headed by Ephraim-Manasseh; while the SCEPTRE remains in another nation, called the "House of JUDAH." The two phases of the promises to Abraham now are separated into TWO ENTIRELY SEPARATE NATIONS!

For many generations Israel and Judah remained as separate nations, in adjoining territories, having their own separate kings. Why should ministers and professed Bible students be in ignorance of this, when four whole books of the Bible, I and II Kings, I and II Chronicles, are devoted to explaining it and recording the history of these separate, rival kingdoms? Look at the maps in the back of your Bible. There you will see the territory of each nation plainly shown.

Judah retained the City of Jerusalem, its capital, and the territory known as Judea. Israel occupied the territory north of Judea. Samaria became its capital city, and the House of Israel often is called "Samaria" in prophecy. This, too, is a vital "key" to understanding of prophecy. "Samaria" never refers to the Jews in prophecy—but always the TEN tribes, the House of ISRAEL.

We want to impress, here, that Israel and Judah are not two names for the same nation. They were, and still are, and shall be till the second coming of Christ, TWO SEPARATE NATIONS. The "House of Judah" ALWAYS means "Jew."

This distinction is vital, if we are to understand prophecy. Because most so-called Bible students are in ignorance of this basic distinction, they are unable rightly to understand prophecy!

The next place where the term "Jew" is mentioned in the Bible, the House of Israel had been driven out in captivity, lost from view, and the term applies ONLY to those of the House of JUDAH. There are NO exceptions in the Bible!

Israel Rejects God's Rule

Immediately on becoming king over the House of Israel, Jeroboam (tribe of Ephraim) set up two golden calves, introducing idol worship in the kingdom. The account is found in I Kings 12:28-33.

Jeroboam was afraid lest his subjects, in going once a year to Jerusalem according to God's injunction through Moses, should return to Rehoboam and he should lose his new throne. The introduction of idolatry was to prevent this and to keep the people home.

This idolatry, with Sabbath-breaking (Ezek. 20:10-24), was the great national sin, which became such a curse to Israel. Generation after generation, God pleaded with the House of Israel to turn from tradition — from their fathers' ways, and to return to keeping God's commandments. But, through nine different dynasties under 19 kings, Israel continued these national sins—sins so GREAT in GOD's sight, that finally God caused them to become a conquered, captive nation.

Now let us note a passage which has been consistently misinterpreted. In I Kings 14:15-16, we find, "The Eternal shall smite Israel (not Judah) as a reed is shaken in the water, and he shall root up Israel, out of his good land, which he gave to their fathers, and shall scatter them (not Judah) beyond the river, because they have made their groves, provoking the Eternal to anger. And He shall give Israel (not Judah) up, because of the sins of Jeroboam, who did sin, and who made Israel to sin."

This is dealing specifically with the

result of Jeroboam's idol worship in Israel—in the northern ten-tribed kingdom which possessed the Birthright promises. It is THESE people who were to be rooted up and scattered beyond the river. Not the Jews. Yet this passage is quoted by nearly all students of prophecy as pertaining to the scattered condition of the Jews today-the very people to whom it does NOT apply. This gives one example of the fact that what we are here covering is a veritable KEY to an understanding of many longhidden prophecies. Unless this is kept firmly in mind, prophecy can never be correctly understood.

The people which this passage says shall be rooted up and scattered beyond the river, never were called Jews. They were the people headed by Ephraim and Manasseh, possessors of the unconditional promises of becoming a great nation and a company of nations—becoming so numerous they number into the hundreds of millions, possessing the gates of enemy nations, becoming a colonizing people, spreading out till their colonies spread around the globe.

Yet, many who come to see this distinction between Israel and Judah—between Jew and the other tribes—after having seen it as a great new light, will, by force of years of habit, fall right back into the old rut and apply texts referring to ISRAEL to the Jews!

The terms "House of Israel," or "all Israel," when the meaning is national, or the terms "Jacob," or "Rachel," or "Ephraim," or "House of Joseph," or "Samaria," often used in the Bible in prophecy, RELATE TO THE TEN-TRIBED BIRTHRIGHT PEOPLE, NOT TO THE JEWS. This is a KEY, and a master-key, to Bible understanding!

Israel Driven Out and Lost!

And in the year 721 B.C., the House of Israel was conquered and its people were soon driven out of their own land—out of their homes and cities—and carried captives to Assyria, on the southern shores of the Caspian Sea! And then . . . LOST FROM VIEW!

"Therefore the Eternal was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of His sight: there was none left but the tribe of Judah only." (II Kings 17:18).

The Eternal removed who? Israel! It is ISRAEL which was removed, and driven from the Eternal's sight until they became lost from view. Who was left? Judah ONLY—Only the Jews! Israel is now gone! They became known as the LOST Ten Tribes and are so designated today.

In Leviticus 26 we find God's solemn warning to all the children of Israel. If they would worship Him *alone*, avoiding idolatry, and keep His Sabbath,

walk in His statutes and keep His commandments, they would inherit the national material promises to Abraham. They would become great, rich, and powerful—the dominant nation of all earth. But, if they refused and rebelled, they were to be punished SEVEN TIMES—a duration of 2520 years—in slavery, servitude, and want.

How Long Are "Seven Times"?

Now let us see how the Bible interprets the meaning of times. Turn to Revelation 12:6, 14 and you will see by examination that the two periods mentioned in these verses each amount to 3½ literal years. Therefore we know that in a prophetic sense the word times simply means years! ALSO, in verse 6 we see that the Bible itself shows that these years can be divided into 360 days each. Now multiplying these seven times or years of punishment by 360, we find that this gives us 2520 days.

But where do the 2520 years come in? Let us see God's prophetic definition of days when applied to the punishment of nations. In Numbers 14:34, God said Israel would bear their iniquities after the number of days they searched the land, forty days, each day for a year. This is the Bible definition of a day of punishment! God is consistent!

So we see that the *seven times* of years of Israel's punishment equal 2520 days (7 x 360), and that these *days*, according to scriptural interpretation, are actually 2520 years.

The House of Israel now entered—721 B.C.— (remember this date)—upon their 2520 long years of national banishment, to last until 1800 A.D.!

Israel Loses Sign of Identity

And BECAUSE the House of Israel lost their identifying SIGN—the Sabbath—the sign which identified them as ISRAEL—they utterly LOST THEIR IDENTITY! They lost knowledge even of their national name. They came to be considered GENTILES!

In Exodus 31:12-17 it is recorded that God made the Sabbath the covenant SIGN between Him and Israel. A sign identifies. At creation God rested on, blessed, made holy, and set apart for man the one day for man's rest and worship which could keep him always in the true worship of the true God—the day that pointed back to CREATION. Creation is the PROOF of God. It identifies Him as the true God. It was intended to keep man in the true knowledge of the true God. When Israel threw aside God's Sabbath, Israel soon threw aside God Himself, and went into idolatry. The Sabbath identified Israel as God's own people because all other nations long since had departed from its observance and gone into idolatry. Israel was the only nation which kept it. Because they rejected this SIGN, they were driven out, and lost their identity. (Read Ezek. 20: 10-24.)

And strange to say, even those who know where Israel is today do not acknowledge this SIGN!

Judah, too, went into captivity largely because of Sabbath-rejecting. (See Jer. 17.) But those Jews who returned 70 years later under Ezra and Nehemiah had learned their lesson. They became legalistically strict Sabbatarians-adding so many of their own restrictions to it that Jesus had to sweep aside this maze of man-made rules, saying "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath." To this day orthodox Jews have retained the original Sabbath. And BECAUSE those Jewish people who descend from the Ezra-Nehemiah leadership have retained God's covenant-identifying SIGN, the world today looks upon them as ISRAEL! And yet they actually are only a part of JUDAH!

Gentiles Replace the House of Israel

Now notice II Kings 17:22-23. "For the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they departed not from them; until the Lord removed Israel out of His sight, as he had said by all his servants and prophets. So was Israel (not Judah—not the Jews) carried away out of their own land to ASSYRIA unto this day" (written about 620 B.C.).

Observe that the people who had the national title "Israel," and the Birthright promises, who were not Jews, were CARRIED AWAY OUT OF THEIR OWN LAND—Samaria. They left that land—never yet to return!

Now note the following verse of this same passage: "And the king of Assyria brought men from Babylon, and from Cuthah, and from Ava, and from Hamath, and from Sepharvaim, and placed THEM in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel: and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities thereof" (II Kings 17:24).

It is these foreigners who were living in the land of Samaria in the time of Christ, and who were called Samaritans in the Gospel records. It is well to keep that in mind. For the Samaritans of the New Testament were not in any sense a racial mixture with the Israelites. Only one individual—a priest—returned from among the captive Israelites to teach the newly planted Gentiles the corrupted religion of Israel. Only one individual returned (II Kings 17:27-28).

A more detailed account of the captivity of Israel is found in II Kings 18:-9-12, and 17:5-18.

(Please continue on page 13)

Prophesied to Happen

(Continued from page 6)

Now the House of Israel began to "abide many days without a king" (Hos. 3:4). Since THEY were the people who carried the title "Israel," it is THEY, not Judah, who must become LOST in identity!

Israel, Not Judah, Lost

The Scriptures plainly tell us that Israel was to lose its identity, its language, its religion, its land, and its name.

In Deut. 32:26 God had warned them thru Moscs: "I said, I would scatter them into corners, I would MAKE THE REMEMBRANCE OF THEM TO CEASE FROM AMONG MEN." That warning cannot be applied to the Jew!! The remembrance of the JEWS has not ceased. The remembrance of them could not cease unless their identity and name were lost. This applies to the LOST tribes, not to the Jews.

Now notice Isaiah 8:17: "And I will wait upon the Lord, THAT HIDETH HIS FACE FROM THE HOUSE OF JACOB." Jacob's name was changed to Israel. In other words, this applies to the House of Israel—the ten-tribed kingdom.

The Eternal would cease speaking to them in their own Hebrew tongue, but with "another tongue will he speak to this people" (Isa. 28:11). This cannot apply to the Jews, who still read their Bible in the Hebrew tongue.

Isaiah 62:2: "And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory (after Christ returns): and thou shalt be called by a NEW NAME, which the mouth of the Lord shall name." Israel is known by a DIFFERENT NAME TODAY. That cannot apply to the Jews. They were known then, as today, as Jews.

ISRAEL Never Returned

The House of Israel did NOT return to Palestine with the Jews in the days of Ezra and Nehemiah, as some erroneously believe. Those who returned to rebuild the temple and restore worship in Jerusalem at that time, 70 years after JUDAH'S captivity, were *only* those of the House of Judah whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried to Babylon.

Note well these facts.

- 1) In 721 B. C. ISRAEL began to be "carried away out of their own land to Assyria." (II Kings 17:23). They were soon ALL removed—completely. "There was none left but the tribe of Judah only" (II Kings 17:18). JUDAH, only, remained.
- 2) More than 130 years later, Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon carried the Jews

—JUDAH—who only remained in Palestine away to Babylon. So NONE of the House of Israel dwelt in Palestine at the time of this captivity of Judah.

3) Those who returned to Palestine to rebuild the temple and restore worship 70 years after Judah's captivity, were ALL of the House of Judah—all JEWS—ALL of those whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away. They returned again "unto Jerusalem and Judah, every one unto his city (Ezra 2:1).

ONLY those of the tribes of Judah, Benjamin and Levi, who constituted the house of JUDAH returned at that time (Ezra 1:5). Consequently those in Jerusalem in the time of Christ were of these three tribes, NOT of the House of ISRAEL. And most, if not all, of those converted were of the tribe of Benjamin, as Paul said he was.

The House of Israel became known as the LOST Ten Tribes! Now known by ANOTHER name, speaking a different language!

By WHAT name are they known to-day? Whoever they are, wherever they are, it is THEY, and not the Jews, who are the BIRTHRIGHT possessors. It is THEY, not the Jews, who, after the ending of their punishment in 1800 A. D., must inherit the Unbreakable promises to Abraham of national greatness, resources, wealth and power. It is MAN-ASSEH who, after 1800 A.D., was to become the world's greatest single nation—Ephraim a great COMMONWEALTH of nations! Who can they be, today?

How to Be Saved

(Continued from page 2) sickness and disease and finally, CHAOS and DESPAIR all over the world! It has produced NOTHING GOOD!

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

And there is THE WAY of Salvation! There is THE WAY to find GOD! SEEK HIM, by forsaking—WHAT? Forsaking YOUR WAY—your thoughts! The way you have THOUGHT to be right.

The WAY of SALVATION

The first step toward salvation is to REPENT—and that means forsake your way—the customs and traditions you have been following—the ways of man—the ways you have been living. FORSAKE YOUR OWN WAY. Turn to God's

way—the way of HIS LAW! The way of HIS WILL! Yes, the WAY of peace, happiness, and joy—the WAY of success, achievement, doing good, of prosperity—the WAY of the full and ABUNDANT life—the WAY of ETERNAL LIFE!

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

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

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

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

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

But if millions are deceived about the prior CONDITION of repentance, just as many millions are deceived as to the KIND OF FAITH that SAVES!

The FAITH That SAVES

Now think a moment! Use your REA-SON! We are taught, and rightly, that we cannot EARN our salvation—it is the GIFT of God. It is by GRACE—and "grace" means undeserved pardon and free gift. Yet, notice how inconsistent people are! They argue there must be NO WORKS—no OBEDIENCE of the Commandments, or doing GOOD—no

recognizing of God's AUTHORITY over your daily living—because salvation comes by GRACE—God's free GIFT. And yet they seem to believe that somehow WE must supply the FAITH that brings salvation! If WE work up, or if WE supply this FAITH by which we are saved, would not that, in fact, amount to our producing our own salvation by the very WORKS of supplying this FAITH?

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

Did you ever notice that before?

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

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

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

Now let me make this PLAIN! Salvation is GOD'S FREE GIFT-it is by GRACE ALONE. Yet the very purpose of God demands Two prior CONDITIONS on YOUR part. First, you must REPENT! Second, you must BELIEVE in Christ as Saviour. But you cannot believe in Christ unless you also believe His message the gospel of the Kingdom of God (Mark 16:15-16). But NEITHER your repentance, your obedience, NOR YOUR faith earns any salvation! They are merely prior CONDITIONS. But when you supply these two ingredients, then God STANDS BOUND BY HIS PROMISE to impart to you by His Holy Spirit, HIS righteousness, and CHRIST'S faith—and THESE, supplied by GOD are the ingredients that SAVE and impart ETERNAL LIFE!

Paul explains "even we have believed

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

Cut Off from GOD

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

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

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

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

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

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

What You Should Do

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

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

Being converted is not an initiation into a lodge or secret society! It is not a rite or ceremony! It is a matter of turning FROM the old life that was false, yet may have seemed right to you—of turning TO a new and TRUE way of life in Christ Jesus, living by every Word of God, in and by the power of God's Holy

Spirit! When you UNDERSTAND the real MEANING and the PURPOSE, you'll see that it is something that takes place down deep in your HEART and not a matter of THE PLACE or THE SURROUNDINGS, or the presence of other people. What Jesus said about confessing, or denying Him before men did not refer to a rite, or ceremonial form of being converted. Being converted is the receiving of the Holy Spirit—the very life—of God.

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

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

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

IF you are sick and tired of the empty, fruitless, materialistic life you have been living—IF in your heart you DO want to turn from it to the FULL and JOYFUL life filled with God's SPIRIT, then WHY DELAY? Why delay another minute, even? Wherever you are now go where you can do it—into the privacy of your own room if you are at home, YES, RIGHT NOW!—get down on your knees, make your full surrender to God, give yourself without any reservations to Him—ask Him to forgive—no matter how

(Please continue on page 16)

reach you this summer. Tours need to be planned in advance, so be sure not to put off writing until the last minute. (Those of you in Europe who want to be baptized should write to our London address.)

Today's Doctrines

(Continued from page 12)

TION THAT THEY DO NOT KNOW WHAT SALVATION REALLY IS! Satan has substituted a false baptism—a mechanical act which does not signify the burying of the old self. He has perverted the teaching of God that man must repent. HE HAS THUS BLOCKED THE VAST MAJORITY WHO FOLLOW HIS TEACHINGS FROM BECOMING SONS OF GOD NOW UNLESS THEY CHANGE THEIR WAYS!

Read in the next issue about more of these seemingly innocent practices which confuse the world today and have so great an effect on your life!

Reach the Moon?

(Continued from page 8) they could bring peace and security by organizing themselves without God. Notice the amazing prophecy for our day! As God looked down on the city of Babel—man's original vain hope for security—He said: "Behold the people is one, and they have all one language; AND THIS THEY BEGIN TO DO"! "If this is what they do, to start with, nothing that they ever undertake will prove too hard for them" (Genesis 11:1-9). Notice that God INTERVENED to delay man's inventive genius which would have destroyed mankind hundreds of years ago.

But now we see the world trying to become ONE again-and man's inventive genius is making it possible to obliterate human life from the earth. "This they begin to do, and now nothing will be restrained."

Nations have constantly turned their inventions into weapons of war. The plan to reach the moon is no different. Military and scientific minds have conceived it, military expenditures could make it possible. With such powers and might at the disposal of conquering dictators, human life would be destroyed . UNLESS GOD INTERVENES!

God Will Intervene

Once before, in the days of Noah, God intervened in human affairs to preserve mankind. And Jesus said: "As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the days of the coming of the Son of man." Yes, God will have to intervene to establish His Kingdom and rule on earth. Man will not be allowed or permitted to utilize the moon in suicidal warfare!

Neither will God allow the moon to become the possession of any nation now struggling for world dominion.

"The Eternal WRECKS the purposes of pagans, He brings to NOTHING what the nations plan; BUT the Eternal's purpose stands forever!" (Ps. 33:10-11).

And soon, now, we shall actually bave WORLD GOVERNMENT—but the exact antithesis of the kind the scientists of this world would create.

Soon now, it shall be proclaimed, "The kingdoms of this world ARE BE-COME THE KINGDOMS OF OUR LORD, AND OF HIS CHRIST: AND HE SHALL REIGN FOR EVER AND EVER" (Rev. 11:

It is only when God Almighty takes rule away from men, and rules the world

thru Christ-it is ONLY when men turn to God and say: "TEACH US!"-it is only when GOD'S LAW goes forth, and the earth is full of God's knowledge, and when men start to WALK IN HIS PATHS, that the world shall at last have

How to Be Saved

(Continued from page 14)

terrible, or how many have been your sins—He will forgive them all—and acknowledge Jesus Christ as your living Saviour! God will accept you as HIS! Just UNLOAD that burden of your sins on HIM-go and do it NOW! This is just the start of the real Christian life. Don't look for a certain feeling, but repent and believe. God laid down the terms. Conform to them, Now!

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

THE PLAIN TRUTH HAS WHY NO SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

So many ask: "How can you publish a magazine,

So many ask: "How can you publish a magazine, without subscription price, and without advertising?"

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

We have been called of God to conduct this work. It is not our work, but God's. We have set out to conduct God's work God's way. We rely, in FAITH, upon God's promises to supply every need. God's way is the way of LOVE—and that is the way of giving, not getting. God expects every true child of His to GIVE of tithes and offerings that His work may go FREE—that His true ministers may GIVE the precious Gospel to others. We simply TRUST GOD to lay it on the minds and hearts of His people to give of their tithes and offerings that we may be enabled to GIVE the good things of God's Word to the hundreds of thousands who hear the Message over the air, and the scores of thousands who read The PLAIN TRUTH.

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

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