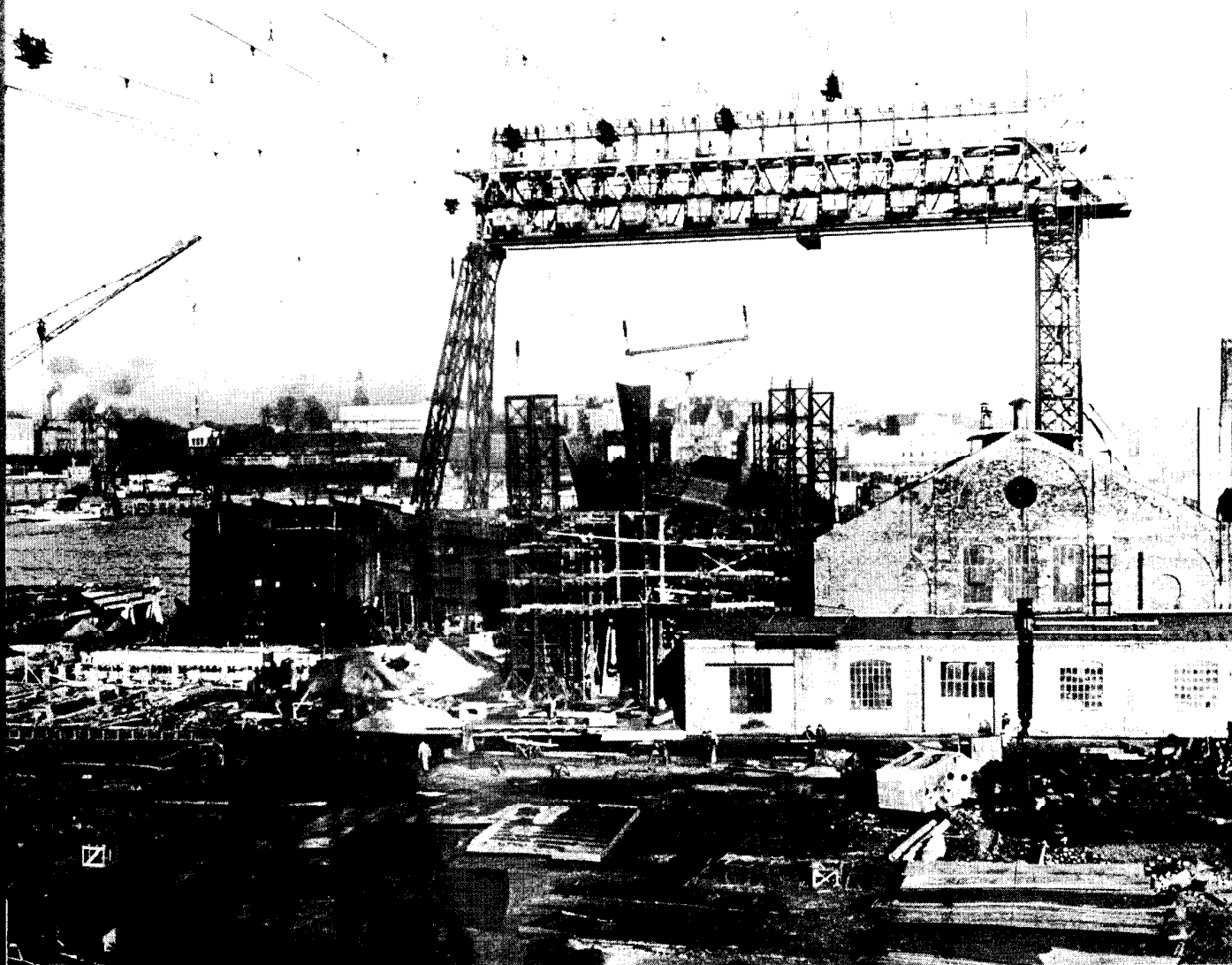


*the*  
**PLAIN TRUTH**  
*a magazine of understanding*

VOLUME XXIV, NUMBER 8

AUGUST, 1959



Wide World Photo

**GERMAN INDUSTRY BOOMS.** Here you see a general view of Hamburg, Germany with part of the Stülcken and Son shipyards in foreground. They specialize in 8- and 10-thousand-ton ships. Germany is today the world's second largest producer of ships—and soon may be the first. Everywhere in Germany one sees the same stupendous industrial expansion.

# The PLAIN TRUTH

*a magazine of understanding.*

VOL. XXIV

NO. 8

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*Sent FREE to all who request it, as the Lord provides. Address all communications to the editor, Box 111, Pasadena, California. Our readers in Britain should address the editor, B.C.M. Ambassador, London W.C. 1.*

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By the Radio Church of God

NOTICE: Be sure to notify us immediately of any change in your address. Please inclose both old and new addresses. IMPORTANT!

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"I am so mixed up!"

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"My daughter just sent me a copy of 'Which Day is the Sabbath of the New Testament', and I found it very convincing. My daughter accepted your doctrine, shocking us very much, as we felt it was false. But I feel that before condemning, one should search the scriptures and also learn just what the doctrine teaches. After reading about the Sabbath, I am wondering if perhaps most of Christendom is wrong. But surely such men as Luther, Wesley and other Christians weren't wrong, were they? Oh, I am so mixed up! I have belonged to many different churches. I would appreciate it if you would send any literature that might help me."

Woman from Nampa, Idaho

*Editor's Comment:* No wonder this woman is so mixed up. She has belonged to many competitive churches, each teaching something different, in-

stead of learning the truth directly from the Bible.

Listener has *changed* life

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"For about the last year I have been listening regularly to The World Tomorrow and reading all of your material I was able to obtain . . . Every time I have learned something new I have changed my ways. Although I had previously considered myself to be a Christian, this has made a tremendous difference in my life. I am now keeping the Sabbath at the proper time and in the proper way (as far as I know). You have prayed for my healing and I have been healed of one ailment completely and others are greatly improved. I am very grateful to God and also to you."

Woman from Chicago, Illinois

A happy home

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"Our home is very happy now since we have received so much knowledge and understanding of God's great message. We were in debt so much that we couldn't meet all our bills. Now we are saving money, since we are paying our tithes. We were so miserable that we would argue, fight, get drunk every night. We never argue any more, don't get drunk or smoke. Thank God for taking all of that away from us and in return giving us happiness."

Man and Woman from  
Williamsville, Missouri

A *minister* has no proof of God

"Last evening I went with my son, who graduates from high school this week, to Baccalaureate services. The sermon was on faith, taken from Hebrews 11:1. In the course of the sermon the minister, a young man, told this class that he could show them no proof that there is a God. We know that there is and must have faith that there is.

"He also said that the Bible was no proof of God. This statement started me on some serious thinking. [Thank] God [He] has given me and my family the privilege of studying and searching for the truth with the help of the Ambassador College Bible Course."

Man from Covello, California

Pastor in Africa writes

"I am a trained pastor . . . and a regular reader of your interesting magazine, The PLAIN TRUTH. I would suggest that all God's ministers who need both human and divine guidance in matters of true religion read this unique magazine every month. When I was reading the 'Exciting News about Ambassador College,' I became deeply moved by a desire to train in this unique college—God's own college."

Gatooma, Southern Rhodesia

*Editor's comment:* Here is a minister who is willing to learn and to follow TRUTH whenever he finds it.

"While listening to your program this evening, as I have done for quite a while, my interest was aroused by your mention of the booklet, 'Lazarus and the Rich Man.' All of my life I have heard different ministers and people state their beliefs on Heaven and Hell, and where both were located. I had never thought of a logical answer to the question of people burning forever; because I had grown to believe that God and the Bible were mysterious subjects which you thought of when you were alone and scared, or when you felt the need for going to a church somewhere, I feel so hungry for the real truth and for something to make my life full and satisfying, that I don't like to miss even one of your programs. You also bring so many truths to light that I would have otherwise been in doubt about."

Young lady from Pineville, Ky.

## WHY THE PLAIN TRUTH HAS NO SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

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

The answer is simple. The GOSPEL must go to the whole world, and it must go FREE. It must not be sold like merchandise. "Freely ye have received." Jesus said to His disciples whom He was sending to proclaim the Gospel, "freely GIVE." Without money and without price, is God's way. We claim 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!

# BIGGEST World News Happening in Germany

Mr. Armstrong reports from Germany the world's greatest miracle of our time. It was prophesied. It spells DOOM for U.S.A. in ten to fifteen years—unless we HEED!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

A TREMENDOUS thing is happening here in Germany that is going to stun the whole world!

Newspapers and newscasts are not reporting to you the *BIGGEST* world news today! It's happening right *here*, but they don't *see* it. They *do* see it, but they don't *comprehend* it—*yet!*

Before Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, were blown to bits in 1945, the *BIGGEST* news for *them* was something being done secretly in the United States—the production of atomic bombs! But, no one reported that news to them—until it was *too late!*

## An On-the-Spot Report

My son, Garner Ted Armstrong, and I have come again to Germany to observe and to report to you *on the spot* this *BIGGEST* news before it's too late—because *it is going to mean something to you!* What is being done here will soon *completely* change the lives of *every man, woman and child* in the United States—and that includes your life. It is the greatest miracle that the *world* has produced in our time.

I told you before the end of World War II that the Nazis had a complete plan, in case they *lost* that war, to go *underground*. These plans contained the complete formula for *coming back* and *yet* conquering America and Britain in a World War III! They *lost* that round of World War! They *went* underground. And, today they are almost ready to emerge *above* ground and cause the world to gape in awe and in *WONDER!*

For more than 25 years I have been telling the radio audience that there

will rise in Europe a resurrection of the ancient ROMAN EMPIRE! It may be *called* the "United States of Europe." It may be called by some *other name*. But, it will be a union of *ten* nations in Europe under one dictator, superking, Führer or whatever he may be called! It will be a *political, economic* and *religious* union.

In America we are prone to see only one enemy at a time. For the past 13 or 14 years, the *only* enemy that we have been able to see is *RUSSIA*. During World War II, the only enemy we could see was Germany, and, of course, the ally of Germany at that time, Japan. Russia was then, we thought, our ally.

But now that Russia is our enemy and we see that enemy, we seem to think that Germany, Japan and the nations that we fought in World War II are now our allies.

There has been a very great DECEPTION about Russia. I have been telling you all along that Russia is not going to plunge us into World War III now. Russia is not going to attack the United States. I have been telling you, even though we look on Germany as an ally, that Germany *is the nation* for us to WATCH.

Not very many know, but *your* Bible is *full* of prophesies about what Germany is going to do, about what Russia is going to do, about what is going to happen to the United States. But, not very many know what the prophesies of the Bible say. In fact, *not very many know what the Bible says!* The chances are that you don't know very much about it yourself. And yet one third of the entire Bible is prophecy. Let me tell you something: every one of those

prophesies that were due to come to pass prior to this time has happened exactly, precisely as the prophecy said it would! And yet, about 90% of all of the prophesies in the Bible pertain to events that are *yet to happen* in the next 10 to 20 years from now, believe it or not!

## Two Outstanding Characteristics

This new united Europe is to be earmarked by two outstanding characteristics.

*First*, it is going to come with a *tremendous* burst of economic prosperity. And that is what is already accomplished!

*Second*, it is going to become a political union—a *colossal, super-modern, military power* with power to blast whole major cities at once off the map. In other words, hydrogen bomb power—power to lay waste the entire North American Continent, power to destroy one third of the United States' population (which means 60,000,000 people). One prophecy in the Bible says that if we don't wake up, *that is exactly what is going to happen!*

First before I tell you what we are seeing right here in Germany—from Cologne to Bonn, the capital of West Germany, and to Essen, I want you to turn to Daniel 8:23-25.

Here is a prophecy which pertains to the coming leader or Führer that will head this resurrected empire, the ancient Roman Empire, the coming United States of Europe.

## An Amazing Prophecy

It begins with verse 23: "And in the latter time of their kingdom . . ." this

prophecy had been describing Alexander the Great of Greece and how, when he "was broken"—or died at about 32, his four generals plotted to take over the kingdom—to "stand up" out of the nation, but not in his (Alexander's) power (verse 22).

Continuing with verse 23: "And in the *latter time* of their kingdom . . ." As the Roman Empire finally gobbled up every one of those four divisions of Alexander's Empire, so the "latter time" comes down to *our day*, today; and as it was *the Roman Empire* that succeeded Alexander's Empire, this prophecy means something that is going to happen in Europe, the Middle-East, the Mediterranean region yet in the future—somewhere around 10 or 15 years from now! "In the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full . . ."—when crime and sin and everything wrong has turned this whole world upside down into world-wide violence, just as we see it today, "a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up."

If you are a Bible student, you may know that some of these prophecies pertained typically to Antiochus Epiphanes, 168 B.C.—but there is duality in all of these prophecies, and the main interest of this prophecy is in our time *now!* Antiochus was merely a forerunner, merely a type. This prophecy is referring to the man who is going to head-up this coming United States of Europe. I don't know who he is, he has not shown himself as yet. The Bible does not give his name, but he is somewhere alive, planning and plotting now. He may be in the public eye or he may be still underground and unknown to the world.

Verse 24 says that "his power shall be mighty, *but not by his own power*"—notice that especially; I am going to explain that shortly—"and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper"—notice, he is going TO PROSPER—"and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people." That is referring, not only to Jewish people, who have been persecuted in Germany and they are starting it again, but it also means the United States, the British, the Scandinavian countries, Aus-

tralia, South Africa and Canada. "And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand." That's as far as we need to read for the moment. We shall come back to this prophecy again a little later.

#### How It Has Been Developing

This coming union of ten nations is first to start as an economic system with very great prosperity. Later it is to become a political union.

When I came to Germany in 1954, and again in 1956—and now I am here for a third time—I saw how Germany has recovered from one of the worst beatings in 1944 and 1945 that was ever administered to *any* nation. For example, this very city where I am now, Cologne, Germany, was *90% destroyed!* Ninety percent of its buildings, its homes and stores, practically all of its factories, all of its bridges. In fact, all of the bridges in all of Germany that crossed the *Rhine* were destroyed!

Today we have to look hard, walk to out-of-the-way places, to see any visible remnants of defeat. *Today* happens to be a gala *holiday* here in the city of Cologne. Workers, clerks everybody is taking a day *off* from their hard and furious labor for some well-earned *rest*, recreation, pleasure and relaxation.

Just a while ago I took a long walk up and down the main retail streets of Cologne. All the stores are closed, all

except perhaps just a few of the restaurants, and yet throngs were strolling all up and down these main streets window-shopping. They are eager to see the merchandise on display because now they are coming to the place where they are beginning to have the money to buy it. There's an air of prosperity. In the windows you see luxury goods, women's mink coats for instance, many other items of luxury, and decorative things. At last the people are getting around to the place where they feel they can afford these things.

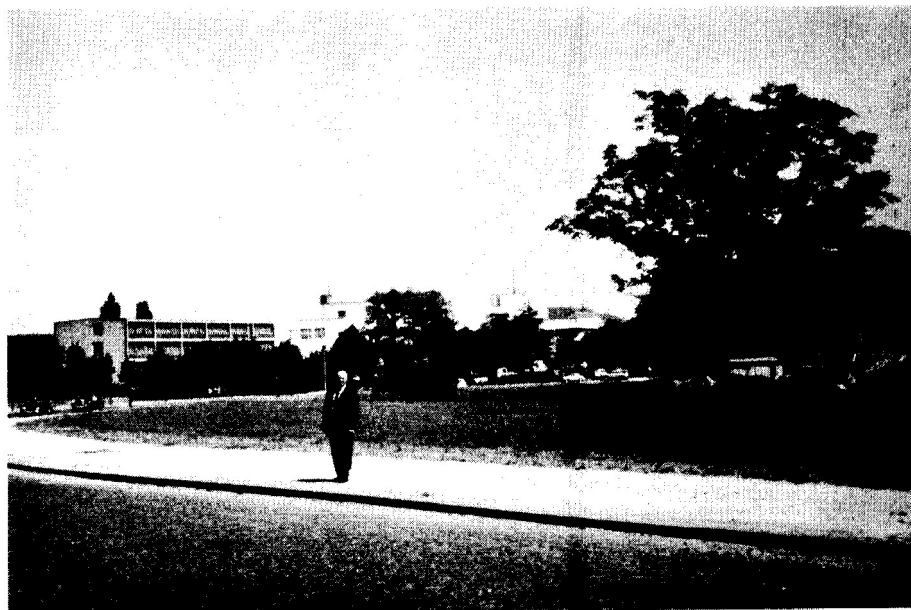
Do you *remember* back in 1945, only a few short years ago, after Germany had struck at us *twice*, had been involved in bringing on *two* world wars, that we had finally come out, by the grace of God, victorious once again. It *was* by the grace of God, because we did *not* win that war with our own power! *This* time we said we were going to *stop* Germany for *good*.

In World War I battles were fought on the *French* soil. Germany suffered very *little* destruction in World War I. We only had little one and two-passenger biplanes and a few single-wing planes, but they were not delivering enough bombs to destroy whole cities at that time.

#### At the End of World War II

But, by the time of World War II, *ALL* cities of over 50,000 population

At Bonn, with West German Government buildings in background, is Mr. Armstrong during his recent trip to Germany.





in Germany were left in a heap of ruins, and also a great many smaller towns. Every fourth *house* in all of Germany was smashed. *Most* of the cities were 80% destroyed. Cologne and Essen were 90% destroyed! Of 29 bridges spanning the Rhine, *all* were destroyed. The view of wreckage over all this major nation was absolutely indescribable!

*Here* had been the most highly industrialized and technically organized country in Europe, and now it was in RUINS! Major cities virtually OBLITERATED! *This* city, where we are now—Cologne—so pulverized that it seemed IMPOSSIBLE that human beings would ever live here again! Here and there over Germany occasional isolated smoke stacks of demolished factories stood as stark, gaunt monuments to the folly of MAN! What had been giant factories and munitions works now were twisted, rusted girders. Every railway siding in Germany was a grave-yard of blasted and bullet-riddled locomotives!

People by hundreds of thousands, rendered HOMELESS, were dragging their weary feet along clogged and crowded highways, impeding traffic; other thousands stumping across fields, and sleeping in ditches!

The Germans were DEFEATED! War *THIS* time struck their own fatherland! And then leaders in Washington and London assured America and Britain that this crushed Germany would never be able to rise up and strike us again. Germany was to be split up into harmless minor states. Germany was to be OCCUPIED by American and British soldiers. German people were going to be taught DEMOCRACY! Germany was going to be demilitarized and deNAZIFIED. Her industry, so American and British leaders assured our war-weary people, was going to be ruthlessly limited, and her territory occupied 50 years. We were going to keep Germany prostrate so that she couldn't ever attack us again.

But while Washington and London were promising the people all this, the WORLD TOMORROW listeners were being told that Germany WOULD rise again—that the BIBLE said that the ancient ROMAN EMPIRE would be resurrected by a UNION of TEN nations in



From the ruins of Köln rises this new Department Store. At left in rear, marked with the letter "P", for parking, is a modern circular ramp leading to a 5-storied indoor parking building.

the territory of that ancient military power—that German INDUSTRY and the German *will to* WORK and PRODUCE and ORGANIZE was the very HEART and life-blood of all Europe—that the prostrate body of Europe could not come back without the LEADERSHIP of a revived and a vigorous GERMANY!

Yes, and at the same time WORLD TOMORROW listeners were being told of the plans for the Nazi UNDERGROUND to rebuild on the old ruins and come back to finally WIN in a WORLD WAR III. I suppose most of you who listened then did not believe what we showed you in the BIBLE. I doubt if you actually OPENED your Bibles to SEE for yourselves what the Bible says. People seem to have gotten away from believing the Bible means what it says. They just don't seem to take it very seriously anymore, although every prophecy that was prophesied to occur prior to this time has happened precisely on schedule! You probably smiled. How COULD this be? Did not the big politicians in government assure you Germany could NEVER come back?

Well, how DID it happen? *IF* you were listening to this program in 1944 and 1945, and even earlier, you will remember that I was telling you that the SOVIET UNION was not REALLY our ally, but the eternal ENEMY of democracy, or our capitalistic system, and of Christianity. Yet in those days

I remember going into a motion picture theatre to SEE important war news on movie film—and when a picture of President Franklin D. Roosevelt was flashed on the screen there was mild applause *with some boos*—but when a picture of Joseph STALIN appeared on the screen, there was vociferous and LOUD applause coming from three times as many hands, with cheers and enthusiastic stamping of feet!

What has happened to change that picture?

#### Russia Openly Became Our Enemy

Simply this: Soon *after* the war ended, Washington and London finally discovered that the KREMLIN was *NOT* such a loyal and trusted ally, after all. They scanned over the world picture. This is what they saw: Germany was beaten, obliterated, occupied. Germany was, at the moment, helpless and disorganized. All Europe lay prostrate. But just beyond was a POWERFUL Russia, with the largest army in the world—and now revealed as our ENEMY—at least potentially. Almost immediately after the war the Russians started their COLD WAR methods. They antagonized the democratic nations at every turn of the road.

I think the government at Washington may have FIRST become aware of this during the San Francisco Conference in 1945, where the CHARTER for

the United Nations was drawn up. I attended that conference, and sat in the press balcony as an accredited Press Representative. Molotov represented Russia. The United States was represented by Secretary of State Stettinius. I myself saw Mr. Stettinius actually red-faced with anger at the totally unrea-

sonable and antagonistic tactics of Foreign Secretary Molotov.

So Washington now realized the Russians were not pulling our way. The whole Communist AIM is the DESTRUCTION of capitalism, and the ultimate RULE OF THE WORLD. As soon as Washington and London awoke to the fact

that the Kremlin was NOT a trusted ally, but a dangerous and powerfully armed ENEMY, this is the picture they saw: Russia had actually delayed the END of the war until she had planted her boot on all the eastern European countries—and where Russia plants her  
(Please continue on page 30)

# RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

## TO THE U.S. & CANADA

WABC—New York—770 on dial—9:30 a.m., Sun., E.S.T.; 11:30 p.m., Mon. thru Sat.  
 WNTA—Newark, N.J.—970 on dial—9:00 a.m. Sun.—7:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.—9:00 p.m. Sat.  
 WLS—Chicago—890 on dial—1:00 p.m. & 8:30 p.m. Sun.; 10:30 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.  
 WWVA—Wheeling, W. Va.—1170 on dial—10:30 a.m.; 11:15 p.m., Sun., E.S.T. 10:00 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.  
 WLAC—Nashville, Tenn.—1510 on dial—7:00 p.m., daily; 6:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat., E.S.T.—10:30 a.m. Sun.  
 CKLW—Windsor, Ontario—800 on dial—6:00 p.m. Sundays.  
 KLZ—Denver, Colo.—560 on dial—10:45 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sat.  
 XELO—800 on dial—every night, 8:00 p.m., M.S.T., 9:00 p.m. C.S.T.  
 XEG—1050 on dial—every night, 8:30 p.m. C.S.T.  
 WCAE—Pittsburgh, Pa.—1250 on dial—6:30 p.m. Sundays.  
 WPIT—Pittsburgh, Pa.—730 on dial—7:00 a.m., daily.  
 KOMA—Tulsa, Okla.—1300 on dial—9:00 p.m., Sunday; 6:30 a.m., Mon. thru Sat.  
 WFAA—Dallas, Tex.—570 on dial—6:00 a.m. Mon. thru Sat. 820 on dial—8:30 p.m. Sun. (Note frequency difference)  
 KGBX—Springfield, Mo.—1260 on dial—10:30 a.m. Sunday; 6:15 a.m. Mon. thru Sat.  
 KSTL—St. Louis, Mo.—690 on dial—11:00 a.m. Sun.; 7:00 a.m. Mon. thru Fri.  
 WEW—St. Louis, Mo.—770 on dial—1:00 p.m., Sun. and Sat.  
 WKYB—Paducah, Ky.—570 on dial—12:00 noon, Sun. thru Sat.  
 WKYR—Keyser, W. Va.—1270 on dial—5:30 a.m., daily.  
 KDYL—Salt Lake City, Utah—1320 on dial—8:30 p.m. daily.  
 KFYR—Bismarck, N. Dak.—550 on dial—7:30 p.m. every night.

## HEARD ON PACIFIC COAST

KGO—San Francisco—810 on dial—9:30 p.m. Mon. thru Sat.—10:00 p.m. Sun.  
 KABC—Los Angeles—790 on dial—9:30 p.m., Sun.; 7:25 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.; 8:00 p.m., Sat.  
 KRKD—Los Angeles—1150 on dial—1:30 p.m., Sundays; 7:00 a.m. Mon. thru Fri.  
 KBLA—Burbank—1490 on dial—7:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. daily.  
 XERB—1090 on dial—7:00 p.m. every night.  
 XEMO—San Diego, Cal.—860 on dial—7:30 a.m. daily.  
 KARM—Fresno—1430 on dial—6:30 p.m. daily.  
 KWJJ—Portland—1080 on dial—10:00 p.m., Sundays; 9:00 p.m., Mon. thru Sat.  
 KUGN—Eugene—590 on dial—7:00 p.m. Sun. thru Fri.

## TO EUROPE AND NORTH AFRICA

RADIO LUXEMBOURG—208 metres. Mondays and Tuesdays: 23:30 Greenwich time.  
 RADIO MONTE CARLO—1466 kc.; 6035 kc. and 7140 kc.; 6:05 a.m. M.E.T. Sat. (in Russian) and Fri. (in English).  
 RADIO TANGIER INTERNATIONAL—1232 kc. & S. W. Saturdays 16:30 Greenwich time. Sundays 10:45 Greenwich time (in Spanish).

## TO SOUTH AFRICA

RADIO LOURENCO MARQUES, MOZAMBIQUE 10:00 p.m., Saturdays; 10:30 p.m., Mondays and Tuesdays.  
 RADIO ELIZABETHVILLE (Belgian Congo)—OQ2AD—7150 kc., 9:30 p.m. Fridays.  
 SIERRE LEONE BROADCASTING SERVICE—Sun. and Tues. (time to be announced).

## TO ASIA

RADIO GOA—60 metre band, 9:30 p.m. Mondays; 9:00 p.m. Fridays.

RADIO BANGKOK—HSIJS—4878 kc. Monday thru Friday: 10:35-11:05 p.m.  
 RADIO TAIWAN (FORMOSA)—840 kc. 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays.  
 RADIO OKINAWA—KSBK—880 kc. Sundays: 12:00 noon. (Time in Japanese to be announced.)  
 ALTO BROADCASTING SYSTEM—PHILIPPINE ISLANDS 9:00 p.m. Sundays—DZAQ, Manila—630 kc.; DZRI, Dagupan City—1040 kc.; DZRB, Naga City—1060 kc.; DXMC, Davao City—900 kc.

## TO AUSTRALIA

2AY—Albury—Sun., 10:00 p.m.  
 2CH—Sydney—Sat., 10:15 p.m.  
 2GF—Grafton—Sun., 9:30 p.m.  
 2GN—Goulburn—Sun., 10:00 p.m.  
 3AW—Melbourne—Sun., 10:30 p.m.  
 3BO—Bendigo—Thurs., 4:15 p.m.  
 4CA—Cairns—Sun., 10:00 p.m.  
 4KQ—Brisbane—Sun., 10:30 p.m.  
 4TO—Townsville—Fri., 10:15 p.m.  
 4WK—Warwick—Tues., 9:30 p.m.  
 6BY—Bridgetown—Sun., 10:30 p.m.  
 6IX—Perth—Sun., 10:00 p.m.  
 6MD—Merredin—Sun., 10:30 p.m.  
 6WB—Katanning—Sun., 10:30 p.m.  
 7HT—Hobart—Wed., 10:25 p.m.

## TO SOUTH AMERICA

RADIO AMERICA—Lima, Peru—6:00 p.m. Saturdays—1010 kc. 7:00 p.m., Sundays  
 HOC21, Panama City—1115 kc.  
 HP5A, Panama City—11170 kc.  
 HOK, Colon, Panama—640 kc.  
 HP5K, Colon, Panama—6005 kc.

## The World Tomorrow in Spanish

RADIO LA CRONICA—Lima, Peru—7:00-7:15 P.M. Sundays  
 RADIO COMUNEROS—Asuncion, Paraguay—8:00-8:15 P.M., Sundays  
 RADIO SPORT—CXA19—Montevideo, Uruguay—4:00-4:15 P.M., Sundays

# The Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong

At last we come to the perplexing search for the one original TRUE Church founded by Christ Himself. In this 19th installment Mr. Armstrong covers, too, some of the most unusual spiritual experiences, and the account of his first sermon.

THIS installment of the Autobiography is being written in Rome. It dawns in my mind that there is intriguing significance in the fact that I should be here at the very time when this chapter must be written.

The Apostle Paul wrote some of the Books of the Bible here in Rome. It was then the seat of the ancient pagan Roman Empire. It was world headquarters of the pagan religion.

Today it is world headquarters for the largest and most powerful professing Christian church, which claims to be the same original church that was founded by Jesus Christ. Millions accept this claim.

## Disillusioned—Perplexed

We come now to the time, in recounting my life experiences, where I had been sadly disillusioned about professing "Christianity." As earlier chapters have explained, my wife, in early fall of 1926, had begun to observe the seventh day Sabbath. To me that was the most disgraceful fanaticism she could have embraced. But six months' intensive and determined night and day study of the Bible had failed to find the authority for Sunday observance I had felt confident it contained.

"All these churches can't be wrong," I had contended. I felt certain that all their teachings had come directly from the Bible. The various denominations, I supposed—just as millions still suppose—were just so many different parts of the one true Christian church.

I have already told you repeatedly how rudely I was disillusioned. I had seen, with my own eyes, that the plain teachings of Christ—of Paul—of the Bible—were *not* the teachings of the professed "Christianity" of our time. Incredible as it seemed, the beliefs and practises of the churches today, I found,

were *far* astray from the teachings and customs of the TRUE Church as Christ organized it. In fact, in most essentials, the very antithesis!

It had left my head swimming. I was stunned, perplexed!

I began to ask, "WHERE, then, is the real, true Church which CHRIST founded?"

## The True GOSPEL

Most Protestants assume that the Roman Catholic claim to being the oldest, and the original Church of Christ and His apostles is true—but that Christ's Church *fell*—apostatized—went astray. They assume that the Protestant reformers purged out all the false doctrines and evil practises, and restored the pure faith once delivered.

But if that were true, then the Roman church is, today, the original true Church—for the Protestant churches *did not begin* with Christ and the apostles. They began with Luther, Calvin, Wesley, and other Protestant leaders many centuries after the founding of the original TRUE Church.

But my shocking, disappointing, eye-opening discovery, upon looking into the Bible for myself, had revealed in stark plainness that both Catholic and Protestant teachings were, in most basic points, the *very opposite* of the teachings of Christ, of Paul, and of the original true Church! It became clear that the Protestant denominations had emerged out of Catholicism. They were *not* born of Christ or the Bible.

Could the original and only *true* Church have disintegrated and disappeared? Could it have ceased to exist? No, for I read where Jesus said the gates of the grave would never prevail against it. Also He had said to His disciples who formed His Church, "Lo, I am with you always."

Then I saw that the very PURPOSE of the Church was *to preach Christ's GOSPEL!* It is HIS BODY—His *instrument* by which HE carries on HIS WORK!

I looked carefully at that Gospel as Christ Himself preached it, and taught it to His first ministers. It is recorded in the four Books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. At almost every point of teaching that Jesus enunciated, the teachings of both Catholic and Protestant bodies today are just the opposite.

THEY WERE NOT PREACHING THE SAME GOSPEL AT ALL, BUT A TOTALLY OPPOSITE MESSAGE! This was shocking—incredible—unbelievable! Yet it was true!

Jesus *began* the work of preaching the very Gospel which GOD the Father had sent to mankind through Him. He commissioned His disciples—His Church—to carry this same Gospel to all the world. And He had said He would never drop the work He had begun! But WHERE was it going on *today?*

## Seeking An Obedient Church

I knew now that when I found the one and *only* true Church, I would find a Church *obedient to God*—keeping His commandments—having the testimony of Jesus Christ, which is the TRUTH of the Scriptures.

I had been much impressed by a description of the true Church, as it is to be found in our time—just before the second coming of Christ. It is found in Revelation 12. It is the time when Satan is filled with wrath against God's Church, "because he knoweth that he hath but a short time." (Rev. 12:12). Satan is making war with "the *remnant* of her seed." The "*remnant*" means the very last generation in this age. The Church is definitely described. It is those "*which keep the commandments*

of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." (Rev. 12:17).

My intensive study had revealed one thing plainly: "the commandments of God" mean "Sabbath keeping" to most Protestant denominations. They say angrily, "The commandments are done away!" They reject "the commandments of God."

That automatically ruled out all churches observing Sunday. So far as I could learn, it reduced the search to three small groups—the Seventh Day Adventists, the Seventh-Day Baptists, and a little, almost unheard-of church called the Church of God, which maintained a small publishing-house headquarters at Stanberry, Missouri.

So I examined Seventh-Day Adventist teachings. I obtained their magazines, their booklets and pamphlets, their large "catechism"—or book of Bible readings, or Bible "home instructor." I learned that to them, "the testimony of Jesus Christ" meant the writings of their "prophetess" Mrs. Ellen G. White. But I read in Rev. 1:2 that the apostle John, inspired to record the words in the Book of Revelation, recorded "the testimony of Jesus Christ." The martyrs of the middle ages were put to death for this "testimony" (Rev. 12:17)—centuries before Mrs. White wrote. The angel in the 90s A.D., while the apostle John lived, had "the testimony of Jesus" (Rev. 19:10). Jesus Christ is quoted in the last chapter of Revelation: "I, Jesus, have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things." (Verse 16). The "testimony of Jesus Christ," then, is, simply THE BIBLE.

The true Church is the one which lives by EVERY WORD OF GOD—the words of the BIBLE!

This identification of "the testimony of Jesus" ruled out the denomination that had "the testimony of Mrs. White."

### Never An Adventist

It seems necessary to add here that I have *never* been a member of the Seventh-Day Adventist denomination. False statements have appeared in various church or religious magazines, pamphlets or tracts that I am a former Seventh-Day Adventist. I did obtain much of their literature, *to compare with the Bible*. I did examine and study it with

an open mind, and without prejudice. I was happy to find that, like most denominations, they do have certain points of truth. None is 100% in error. Human nature is a *mixture* of good and evil. The "forbidden fruit" was the tree of knowledge of "good *and* evil." Satan appears as an angel of LIGHT. He palms off enough TRUTH, along with his errors, that he is able to *deceive* the world. It is the TRUTH which is put forward that deceives people into gullibly accepting the error along with it.

But my familiarity with Adventist doctrines has come entirely through their published literature, and a few personal contacts. *I have never attended a regular Sabbath church service of that denomination!*

Next, I looked into the teaching of the Seventh-Day Baptists. I found it to be virtually identical, except for observing a different day of the week, with other Protestant denominations—especially the Baptists.

A few years later, I accompanied some friends, as a visitor, to attend a Seventh-Day Baptist Sabbath service in Roseburg, Oregon. I believe that at that time I spoke before them. I was told the story of an occurrence at this little church which was quite amusing—if it really happened.

I cannot vouch for its authenticity, but my readers may get a chuckle out of it. The story was told on a fellow minister with whom I once conducted an evangelistic campaign. He was not a Seventh-Day Baptist, but, as it was told to me, he also was a guest speaker at this little Roseburg church at one time.

It seems that one elderly brother in that congregation sat in the "amen" corner. He was represented to me as being quite loud and enthusiastic with his "Amen!s" and his "Praise the Lord!s." The guest preacher is said to have preached too long, and this shouting brother fell asleep. Finally, looking at his watch, the preacher said, "I see I've preached too long, so I will bring my remarks to a close."

At that precise juncture the shouter suddenly awoke, automatically shouting "AMEN! Brother, AMEN!" to the spontaneous laughter of the congregation and the red-faced embarrassment of the preacher.

But of these three churches to which the search had been narrowed, only *one* had the right NAME for the true Church. This was the small, little-heard-of Church of God whose headquarters were at Stanberry, Missouri.

### The True NAME

Twelve times in the New Testament, I found the NAME of the Church which Christ established plainly stated as "The CHURCH OF GOD."

I looked into this word "church." It is the English word translated from the Greek word "ekklesia." It merely means a congregation, an assembly, or group or crowd of people. I found that the word, by itself, had no divine or spiritual connotation whatever. For example, the name "Lutheran Church" or, as it might be otherwise stated, "Church of Luther," means simply, Luther's congregation, or assembly of people. A name like "Wesleyan Church," means, simply, Wesley's group or congregation, without any religious or spiritual or holy implication whatever. In Acts 19:23-41 is an account of an angry and hostile uprising against the Apostle Paul instigated by Gentile pagans who profited in business from the sale of silver shrines to the goddess Diana. Three times in this passage the original inspired Greek language called this angry crowd of citizens an "ekklesia." It is here translated into the English word "assembly." In verse 39 it actually refers to a "legal assembly" (Moffatt translation) in a court room. It certainly was not a Christian CHURCH assembled for worship—nor was it holy.

The only thing that adds sacredness to the word "church" is the true name "Church of GOD." That is *not* "Luther's Church," nor any man's church — but GOD's congregation—those *owned*, and *governed* by GOD whom they worship and follow.

In Eph. 3:15, speaking of the FATHER of our Lord Jesus Christ (verse 14), we read: ". . . of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named."

Jesus Christ is the *Head* of the Church, but it is *named* after God the Father. Although Jesus is Head of the Church, "the head of Christ is God." (I Cor. 11:3).

In his last prayer for His Church, before being seized to be crucified, Jesus

prayed: "I have manifested *THY NAME* unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and *they have kept thy word*. . . . Holy Father, *keep through thine own name* those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. . . . While I was with them in the world, I kept them in *THY NAME*." (John 17:6-12).

Those in the true Church are begotten *children of God*. They become the affianced Bride of Christ. Christ is the Son of God. It is a *FAMILY*. The family, is, properly, named after its Father. The 12 passages, aside from these Scriptures here quoted, which plainly call the true Church "The Church of God," or, collectively as local congregations, "The Churches of God," establish the true *NAME*.

#### Could GOD's Church Be Fruitless?

The only Church I had so far found which "kept the commandments of God, and the testimony of Jesus Christ," and at the same time bore the *NAME* of the original true Church, was this almost unknown little Church of God with its small publishing house in Stanberry, Missouri.

But this left me quite confused. For this was such a *little* Church, especially compared to the Roman Catholic, the Methodist, the Baptist, the Presbyterian, the Lutheran, or other large churches numbering millions of members. Then I saw where Jesus called His Church the "little flock."

But still I was not completely satisfied. I was deeply concerned. I prayed a great deal over it. For here was a church, which, compared to the large scale activities of the Catholic and big Protestant bodies, was ineffective. I could see that it was imperfect. It wielded no great power. Jesus had said. "ALL POWER is given unto me, in heaven and in earth." (Mat. 28:18). I read how Jesus Christ was to be *IN* His Church! He guides it! He directs it! He *EMPOWERS* it!

No person is even a member of the true Church unless he has received, and is filled and led by, the Holy Spirit—and the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of *POWER*! This little church seemed to be powerless—comparatively impotent! It was not stirring up the world! It was not

making the whole world conscious of its existence and its power! I failed to see where it was bearing much if any fruit! Could a fruitless church be the *ONE AND ONLY* true Church of God on earth?

I was deeply perplexed. Here was a little church, with scattered members probably numbering less than 2,000, mostly in rural areas. Apparently, as nearly as I could learn, it had only a very limited number of local churches, none as large as 100 members. As I began to come in contact with some of its leaders, they seemed to be men of no high education—its ministry could hardly be described as an educated ministry. Their preaching had a certain fire, yet seemed totally to lack the *POWER* that attracts sizable audiences, that *moves* people, *stirs* hearts, and changes lives. I could see no visible results.

Could *this* be God's one and only true Church on earth? The very question seemed *reposterous*!

#### . . . But, Where Else?

And yet—

Yes, and yet, small, powerless, resultless, impotent though it appeared to be, here was a church with the right name, "keeping the commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ," and *closer*, in its doctrines and teachings, to what God had been opening my eyes to see plainly in His Word than any other church of which I knew! Small and impotent though it appeared, *it had more Bible TRUTH than any church I could find!*

At this time, God was opening my understanding to *some* Biblical *TRUTHS* which this church did not accept; and also to some errors which it *did* embrace. Plainly, it was *not perfect*. It merely appeared to be more nearly so, and less imperfect, in its beliefs and practice, than any other.

COULD such a church—imperfect, fruitless, feeble, lacking in any sizeable accomplishment, be the *TRUE* Church of God? Could *this* be Christ's *INSTRUMENT* through whom He worked, in carrying on *GOD'S WORK* on earth? Jesus said, "By their fruits ye shall know them." Its fruits were not evil—it simply did not seem to produce fruit!

I was bewildered. I was unable to

come to the answer then—or until many years later. The real answer to this perplexing question will come out in this Autobiography later, at the account of the time when I myself found the true answer.

Meanwhile, what was I to do? I was not at all convinced this was the one and only true Church. Yet, if it was not, *which one was?* This one came *closer* to the Bible qualifications than any I knew.

Therefore, I began to fellowship with their scattered and few members in Oregon, while at the same time refraining from acknowledging membership.

We were living in Portland, Oregon, at the time. I knew of no members of this church in Portland, but there was a sprinkling of them through the Willamette Valley between Salem and Eugene, in Oregon—mostly farmers or truck gardeners. They welcomed the fellowship of myself and Mrs. Armstrong.

We found them to be simple, plain and humble people, hard working and industrious, and loving the Bible *TRUTH* which they had—willing to suffer persecution for it.

And so it was, in this detached fellowship, that Mrs. Armstrong and I continued the first three and a half years of my ceaseless night and day *STUDY* of the Bible—of history, especially as connected with Biblical history and prophecy—and of pertinent allied subjects. These, too, were years of much and earnest prayer. Much of the Bible study done at home was done *on my knees*, combining study with prayer. Much time was spent during these years, as it had been that first six months, at the public library. I delved into intensive research in the commentaries, Bible encyclopedias, Bible dictionaries, comparing various translations of the Bible, examining Greek and Hebrew texts of doubtful or questionable passages, checking with lexicons and *Robertson's Grammar of the Greek New Testament*. I made an intensive study of ancient history in connection with Biblical history and prophecy.

But, as mentioned before, all this study and research had to be approached a single doctrine at a time. I was to be some years in getting to the very *TRUNK*



of the tree of the very PURPOSE for which mankind was placed on earth, and getting clearly straightened out with a right understanding of God's PLAN.

Nevertheless, having been a trained magazine article and advertising copy writer, the results of these studies were written up, purely for my own benefit, in article form. My wife began showing these articles to some women members of this Church of God who lived in Salem. Soon they began to urge me to preach before them. But becoming a preacher was the very *last* thing I had ever wanted to do. I felt an instinctive aversion to the idea.

Meanwhile, on their urging, a few of these articles had been mailed in to *The Bible Advocate* in Stanberry, Missouri. These articles began appearing on the front page.

#### The Dual Test

Early in this three and a half year period, between 1927 and 1930, I decided to try a dual test to help settle the question of whether this was, in actual fact, the true Church of God.

The Church is merely the sum-total of its members. By the one Spirit of God we are each baptized, or *put into*, the true Church (I Cor. 12:13). Jesus promised that when we receive the Holy Spirit, His Spirit shall guide us into ALL TRUTH—not merely part of it (John 16:13).

But no person can receive ALL truth instantaneously. The human mind receives knowledge gradually. The child of God must GROW in the knowledge of our Lord (II Peter 3:18). Also he must have the spirit of REPENTANCE, always ready and willing to acknowledge error and to turn from it. The Scriptures are profitable for REPROOF and CORRECTION, as well as INSTRUCTION in knowledge new to us. And God CORRECTS every son He loves (Heb. 12:6).

Now it was a simple truism that if each individual member of the Church must be GROWING in the knowledge of God, constantly OVERCOMING, being corrected, and eliminating error, then all the members *together*, which form the CHURCH, must also be constantly willing to confess error and eliminate it, and to accept that which is "new light" from God's Word to the Church.

I knew of no church or sect or denomination that had ever publicly confessed error or embraced new truth. Yet, plainly, this would be a *test* of the true Church.

So, as the first step in this test, I wrote up an exposition of some 16 type-written pages proving clearly, plainly, and beyond contradiction that a certain minor point of doctrine proclaimed by this church, based on an erroneous interpretation of a certain verse of Scripture, was in error. This was mailed to the Stanberry, Missouri, headquarters to see whether their leaders would confess error and change.

The answer came back from their head man, editor of their paper and president of their "General Conference." He was forced to admit, in plain words, that their teaching on this point was false and in error. But, he explained, he feared that if any attempt was made to correct this false doctrine and publicly confess the truth, many of their members, especially those of older standing and heavy tithe-payers, would be unable to accept it. He feared they would lose confidence in the Church if they found it had been in error on any point. He said he feared many would withdraw their financial support, and it might divide the Church. And therefore he felt the Church could do nothing but continue to teach and preach this doctrine which he *admitted in writing to be false*.

Naturally, this shook my confidence considerably. This church leader, if not the church itself, was looking to *people* as the SOURCE of belief, instead of to God! Yet, here was the *only* Church holding to the one greatest basic truth of the Commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, kept in the NAME of God, and in spite of this and a few other erroneous teachings, nevertheless being *closer* to the whole truth than any church I had found.

If *this* was not the true Church of God, *then where was it?*

#### The Second Test

A little later I tried the second test. After exhaustive study and research, I had found it PROVED that the so-called "lost Ten Tribes" of Israel had migrated to northwestern Europe, the British Isles,

and later the United States—that the British were the descendants of Ephraim, younger son of Joseph, and the United States modern-day Manasseh, elder son of Joseph—and that we possessed the national wealth and resources of the Birthright which God had promised to Abraham thru Isaac, Jacob and Joseph.

This truth was written in a lengthy manuscript of close to 300 typed pages, and mailed to this editor and leader of this church. I explained that altho this new truth seemed to be proved beyond doubt, yet I was still comparatively new in Christ and Scriptural knowledge, and wished the judgment of one more mature and experienced in things Biblical.

I think it was some six months before the reply came. It was written on a train late at night. This church leader stated in his letter (which I still have) that *I was most certainly right*—that this *was* a wonderful new truth revealed by God, and that God surely had a special reason for revealing this new truth to me. However, he stated he did not know what use, if any, he could make of it at that time, but was sure I would hear more of it later.

Did this Church accept and proclaim this vital new truth—the KEY that unlocks the doors to all PROPHECY? Here was the KEY to understanding of one-third of the whole Bible. But this Church refused then to accept it or preach it or publish it—and they have not accepted it to this day—though their leader frankly confessed it *was TRUTH* and a revelation from GOD!

Yet here was the Church which appeared to have *more truth, and less error* than any other. It did "keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." It *did* have the true NAME of the Church Christ built. Its members *did* love the truth they had and sacrificed for it! In spite of the fact this Church did not appear to be dynamically *alive* spiritually—in spite of its little or no accomplishment—still it came *closer* to the Biblical characteristics of Christ's true Church than any I knew!

Truly, this was bewildering!

#### My First "Sermon"

My earnest and prayerful study continued. After some time, I made a dis-

# The General Conference Of "The Church Of God"

(seventh day)

Dart P. Marra,  
Pres.  
J. T. Williamson,  
Vice Pres.  
Chas. E. Brink,  
Sec.-Treas.

"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.

A. N. Dugger, Field Manager,  
Stanberry, Mo.

COMMITTEEMEN  
L. L. Prosser,  
Rev. Davison,  
W. E. Carver,  
G. M. Walker.

On Train In Arkansas  
About 11 P.M. July 28, 1929.

Dear Brother Armstrong:

I am returning from the Arkansas conference, having been on the train since 2 P.M., and have just finished the manuscript on the Third Angel's Message and British Israel with the illustrations and maps. You have put much work on this and I am impressed to write you now while the matter is fresh on my mind of how it has interested me. I have seen no work near its equal in clearness and completeness. You surely are right, and while I cannot use it in the paper at the present you may be assured that your labor has surely not been in vain. There is a purpose in your having gone into this matter so deeply right at this time which it is not difficult for me to fully see through, and you will hear more from these truths and the light herein revealed later.

May the Lord bless you and keep you always humble before Him that He may use you further for His glory is my prayer.

Yours in the one faith, and message.

pletely *different* and distinctive COVENANT God made with His people on earth. This covenant established God's Sabbath as binding FOREVER! It was entirely separate and apart from the "Old Covenant" made with Israel at Mt. Sinai.

This was "new light" which I felt impelled to present before these church brethren we had come to know and love down in the Willamette Valley. Repeatedly they had urged me to preach for them. But preaching was the last thing I felt I wanted to do. I had continually refused.

Now, however, I was overcome with an urge to get this new knowledge before them. I was unable to refuse any longer to speak. It was arranged for me to speak, I believe, on the following Sabbath.

The meeting was held in a country school house, but we drove first, for lunch, to the farm home of one of the members south of Salem, near Jefferson. We were taken down by the Runcorns of Salem, who we now had begun to look upon as sort of "second parents." It was Mrs. Runcorn who had opened my wife's eyes to the truth of the Sabbath. I remember they drove a large Studebaker "President."

In the car, enroute from Salem to the place of meeting, consternation suddenly seized me. We were to arrive by noon, and all were to have lunch outdoors under a large tree. The preaching service was to be held in the afternoon. Suddenly the terrifying realization dawned in my mind that I might be called upon to give thanks over the food at the luncheon. I realized it would be customary to call on a visiting guest. I had never prayed aloud before others. The thought of doing so frightened me!

But by this time I had gone far enough in my Christian experience and study of the Bible to know what to do. I began praying silently, as we rode along, that, if called upon, God would put the words into my mouth and give me the help that I needed. The fear loosened its grip. I had been learning the lesson of faith. I knew that Christ would be with me and not forsake me, and all embarrassment over the anticipation left.

Sure enough, I was called on to ask

This is a photographic reproduction of Elder A. N. Dugger's letter of July 28, 1929, endorsing truth of United States and British identity as 20th century Manasseh and Ephraim, Birthright tribes of "Lost" Ten Tribes of Kingdom of Israel. Although he acknowledged this privately to Mr. Armstrong, he has to the present day refused to accept this truth publicly. Underscoring words "You surely are right" ours.

covery in the 31st chapter of Exodus. At least I had found nothing in the published literature of this Church of God

or of the Seventh-Day Adventists about it. It became very plain that in Exodus 31:12-18 was the account of a com-

the blessing over the food. God did give me the help I needed. I don't believe that any there, except Mrs. Armstrong, knew that this was my first audible prayer in the presence of others—until I told some of them afterward.

The meeting was held in a country one-room school house near by. This meeting, I believe, was in the summer of 1928.

If that talk I gave, explaining this Sabbath covenant, could be called a sermon, it was my first. Mrs. Armstrong assures me it was far from being a powerful sermon. Yet it was enthusiastically received. *I did have a message*, and a sincere, earnest urge to present it.

I remember that one towering member, six feet four inches tall, who had moved to this Oregon Valley from Texas, and was somewhat of a leader among the members, rose to his feet after I concluded and said, "Brethren, I just want to say that I have heard nearly all of the leading ministers in the Church of God, but I have heard this afternoon the best sermon I ever heard in my life." This didn't quite coincide with my wife's evaluation, who said that the delivery was extremely amateurish and inexperienced—but, I suppose, the fact that the message was *new* to them, and that I was enthusiastic and in earnest about this new "discovery" of truth, caused it to be so well received.

I was asked to speak before them again.

### Opposition Begins

It has been related in previous chapters how my wife had been miraculously and astonishingly healed in the summer of 1927. Following this, I had plunged into a thorough study of the subject of healing in the Bible.

Consequently when, about a month later, I spoke again at a meeting of these people down in the valley, my message was about God's power and promises to HEAL.

One of the older ministers of the church in Idaho had heard of my previous appearance there, and this time he was on hand. It seems that these Scriptural revelations about God's willingness and power to heal physical sicknesses, diseases, and infirmities, were not as familiar to him as they had be-

come to me. He seemed to feel that I was leading the brethren astray with dangerous doctrine.

I had spoken first. When he followed, he devoted a good portion of his sermon to an effort to correct what he seemed to feel was erroneous in my message. He warned the brethren that if they relied on God for healing, Christ would say to them, "Depart from me, ye workers of iniquity—I never knew you."

That was the beginning of years of continuous opposition from ministers. This also brings me to a stage in this history of events and experiences in my life which I have long dreaded to write.

It is simply the fact that from this point on—from the very second "sermon"—if those early talks could be called that—opposition from other ministers, both within this church and without, was met at every turn continually. It has posed for me a most regrettable problem. Knowing that this stage of the life-history would be reached in due time, I have prayed continually for wisdom from God as to whether to record the incidents of this opposition.

I have realized that hundreds of people will read these words who know these ministers, or at least know of them—but who have *not known* the true facts of this opposition. If I mention names and record the TRUTH as it occurred, these ministers or their friends will surely be angered and accuse me of misrepresentation and of defaming the character of men they have always believed to be righteous. If I pass over these incidents altogether without recording them, I might as well end this autobiography right here—because these incidents form actually the major part of what happened in my life experiences for the next 17 years.

I do not want to impute motives. I

#### ANNOUNCING—!

Just off the presses, the revealing 32-page illustrated booklet "A TRUE History of the TRUE CHURCH"!

It is time you knew where God's true Church has been these 1900 years. The startling answer is yours now, simply by writing immediately for this new, free booklet.

cannot know what was really in the hearts of these men. I cannot say that their motives were inspired by jealousy or selfish purpose or competitive spirit or desire for monetary gain.

Not having the supernatural divine powers of discerning their inner-most thoughts, motives, and intentions, as Christ possessed those powers, I cannot speak of them as Jesus spoke of and to the Scribes and Pharisees and Sadducees. I cannot call them liars, hypocrites, and whitened sepulchres. I must, therefore, assume that they were sincere in really believing that I was in error—or that I was a menace to the Church and ought to be discredited and ousted for the good of the flock—or that, for some reason, they were doing God service in their opposition. I must assume that they were sincere.

Jesus said, in John 16:1-2: "These things have I spoken unto you, *that ye should not be offended*. They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you *will think that he doeth God service*." They will be SINCERE! They will think they are serving GOD—doing His will!

### I Shall Not Hide the FACTS!

So I say candidly that I shall relate these events. I shall try to do it objectively, without imputing motives. God knows what they were, and HE will judge men's hearts. You or I must not. I shall try to record what happened truthfully, without feeling or rancor—and I certainly harbor no resentment or bitterness against these ministers, whatever their intentions. I believe that, as these incidents and happenings are related in the coming several chapters, they will truly open the eyes of many who never knew the full truth about my contacts with, and efforts to work with and cooperate with, the ministers of that church. Some few, I realize, will take offense and I shall probably receive a few indignant, resentful, and accusing letters. I shall have to chance that. There is no alternative.

For some little time, now, my articles had been appearing on the front page of *The Bible Advocate*, published by this Church of God in Stanberry, Missouri.

Up until this time, now 1928, there

*(Please continue on page 28)*

nesses] spoke, and spoke in the public assembly, the prisoner was scarcely an accused man. When they spoke, and the evidence of two agreed together, it formed a legal charge, libel, or indictment, as well as the evidence for its truth."

Next consider what Mendelsohn writes in his book, *The Criminal Jurisprudence of the Ancient Hebrews*, page 110: "The only prosecutors known to Talmudic criminal jurisprudence are the witnesses to the crime. Their duty is to bring the matter to the cognizance of the court, and to bear witness against the criminal"—after he is arrested. "In capital cases, they are the legal executioners also. Of an official accuser or prosecutor there is nowhere any trace in the laws of the ancient Hebrews."

In the case of Jesus there were no witnesses who presented their evidence to the court. The court took it upon itself to secretly arrest Jesus; then they had to find false witnesses.

#### Fourth Reason

The Sanhedrin court illegally proceeded to hold its trial of Jesus before sunrise.

Notice that the preliminary investigation before Annas brought forth no evidence whatsoever! Instead of dismissing the case they proceeded to hold an illegal court.

Why was it illegal? Mendelsohn states: "Criminal cases can be acted upon by the various courts during day time only, and by the Lesser Sanhedrins from the close of the morning service till

noon, and by the Great Sanhedrin till evening" (page 112).

The trial of Jesus was begun *at night* without any witnesses to defend Jesus!

Here is what Maimonides writes in *Sanhedrin III*: "The reason why the trial of a capital offense could not be held at night is because . . . the examination of such a charge is like the diagnosing of a wound—in either case a more thorough and searching examination can be made by daylight." An interesting way of putting it, but nevertheless true!

The *Mishna* says, *Sanhedrin IV, 1*: "Let a capital offense be tried during the day, but suspend it at night." Once more the Jews violated their own law in order to get rid of Jesus and His teachings.

(To be continued)

## AUTOBIOGRAPHY

(Continued from page 18)

had been no minister of this church in Oregon, except for occasional visits by the minister from Idaho, and the one from Texas of whom I had inquired about water baptism during his visit to Oregon in 1927. But there were at that time perhaps 35 to 50 members of the church in Oregon, from Salem to Eugene.

And, with the beginning of my speaking before these people in Oregon—and with my articles being featured in their church paper—no time was lost in sending a minister to Oregon to take charge. He was a young man—I believe about 28 or younger—who, I believe, had come from Arkansas or Missouri. He came to see me in Portland. His attitude appeared cordial and friendly. But very soon after his arrival publication of my articles in the *Bible Advocate* was stopped.

Soon I learned the reason. Probably the most influential member in the state at the time was elderly G. A. Hobbs, of Oregon City. He was past 80 years of age, but very alert, aggressive and active. He had received a letter from the editor in Stanberry, Missouri, explaining that my articles were being discontinued at

the request of the young minister newly arrived in Oregon. The grounds were that I was not a member of the Church and it was dangerous to give me this much standing and prestige before the brethren there. I might gain influence and become their leader and lead them astray.

This had aroused the fiery indignation of Brother Hobbs. Immediately he sent a scorching letter back to Stanberry, a copy of which he let me read. It resulted in reinstating my articles for publication.

#### First Regular Preaching

As soon as I had heard of this Brother Hobbs, and the little group at Oregon City, I had visited him a few days after my first "sermon." I found a very small group of brethren who met together in a little church building at the top of the hill, on the Molalla road, in Oregon City.

There were only around 8 to 12 of them, but they habitually met on Sabbath afternoons to study the "Sabbath-school lesson," using the "quarterlies" from the Stanberry publishing house.

On discovering this little group, I began going to Oregon City to meet with them regularly. Almost immediately they asked me to be their leader in the study of the lesson. And soon I was delivering them a "sermon" every Sabbath.

These were days of extreme financial hardship in our home. We often went hungry. Several times there was not enough car-fare for my wife and family to accompany me to Oregon City—in fact it was seldom that they were able to go. At least three times, during the next couple of years or so, I had barely enough for car-fare to Oregon City on the electric line—with no car-fare to return home. I even lacked bus fare from down-town Oregon City out to the little church house at the top of the hill on the outskirts of town. It was probably two or three miles, up a steep hill all the way, but I walked it, carrying my brief-case with Bibles, concordance, etc.

But in every instance when I had come without car-fare to return home, someone would "happen" to hand me a dollar or two of tithe money. And, strangely, no one ever handed me any money on those Sabbaths when I had enough to get back to Portland. And, of course, I never made the need known. But God always had a way of supplying every NEED!

#### My First Son!

I believe I have recounted in earlier chapters that, following the birth of our second daughter, three doctors—one an eminent obstetrician of international reputation—had warned Mrs. Armstrong



and me that she could never bear another child. They had said a pregnancy would mean the certain death of both mother and unborn child.

It is natural for every man to desire a son. Before the birth of our first child, neither Mrs. Armstrong nor I had cared whether it was a boy or a girl. When our second child was another daughter I was somewhat disappointed. When I was told we could never have another, I was *terribly* disappointed!

And now seven years had gone by—by 1927—without expectations of ever having a son.

But when, in the summer of 1927, Mrs. Armstrong had been miraculously healed of several things at once—and when we remembered that the man who

had anointed and prayed for her had asked God to heal her *completely* of *everything* from the top of her head to the bottom of her feet, we had faith that whatever had made another child-birth impossible had *also* been healed. We planned, consequently, to have a son. And I had faith that God would at last give me a son.

And GOD DID!!

Our first son, named Richard David, was born October 13th, 1928. That day, I said then and for years afterward, was the happiest day of my life. I was simply filled to overflowing with gratitude to a merciful, loving God who so richly LAVISHES on us His grace and blessings completely beyond all we can anticipate or hope for—IF we yield our lives to

Him and do those things that are pleasing in His sight—IF we seek *first* God's Kingdom and His righteousness!

We dedicated that son to God for His service.

During his college career, here at Ambassador College in Pasadena, California, which God was later to use me in founding in 1947, our son Dick, as we called him, was converted—his life *changed*—and he, himself, gave his life to God.

From that time it was used in God's service, with continually growing usefulness and accomplishment. Dick worked hard on his own self, overcoming faults and weaknesses and habits which he freely confessed, repented of, and strove to overcome. He had reached the highest point of his spiritual growth and development, of overcoming and usefulness — having established the branch office of God's work in London and become Director of all Overseas operations, when God called on me, as He had centuries before on Abraham, to be willing to give up my son. On July 23, 1958, he was riding with another minister, who was driving the car, on the way to baptize a number of people, when they crashed head-on into another car. He lived only a week.

"The Eternal gave, and the Eternal hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Eternal!"

Some things we do not understand, now—but we shall understand in the WORLD TOMORROW! But this we know—all things work together for GOOD to them that love the Lord!

But God later gave us still another son, Garner Ted, only a year and three months younger than his brother Dick. It has fallen to Ted's lot to take over a large share of his brother's responsibilities in God's work, in addition to those that were his own. God's Work must continue to leap on ahead in dynamic POWER—and it does now, and *will*—because it is GOD'S work, guided and empowered by HIM. We are merely instruments.

Next month I shall have a rich abundance of instances of breath-taking answers to prayer—remarkable miracles—and, I believe, exciting incidents to relate as we continue this life story.

Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong's first son, Richard David, at age 6 months.





## Birth of a "BEAST"!

(Continued from page 12)

to come from a rehabilitated West Germany after the war. It has been translated into English, and sales were also high in the United States and Britain.

Mr. Connell, revealing the ridiculous situation which actually prevailed, said, "The vexing problem of denazification, which had been handled up to that time (THE SPRING OF 1947!) by the Allied authorities, was handed over to the Germans" (p. 41 of *A Watcher On the Rhine*). Think of it!

We have been kidding ourselves that THE GERMANS HAVE BEEN DENAZIFYING THEMSELVES SINCE LESS THAN TWO YEARS AFTER WORLD WAR II!

Think even more—that a nation with its leaders tried as criminals, hanged, shot or imprisoned, its cities destroyed, its populace wandering through its once proud parks in search of wood for fuel, its industry, its military, its very energy destroyed—was expected to *reach itself*, in a few short years, to love, respect and embrace the political ideology that destroyed it! Listen to this!

To take the example of only ONE state in Germany, Mr. Connell reports that ". . . denazification in Bavaria was a farce. The Bavarian administration is largely in the hands of those who controlled it under Hitler. . . . Almost all of the 1,000 teachers who were removed for political reasons have been reappointed, representing roughly 60 per cent of the teaching staff employed by the Ministry of Education. Sixty per cent of the 15,000 employees in the finance ministry are former Nazis, and 81 per cent of the 924 judges, magistrates and prosecutors in the Ministry of Justice."

But there is far more proof yet!

In the field of education in Germany, a full attempt was made to liberalize the biased and narrow methods of pedagogy that had been used in Germany. Mr. Connell states, "New teachers were appointed, and a degree of independence assured to individual institutions, which should have made education for democracy a feasible proposition. But many of the former Nazi teachers have found their way back."

Later, Mr. Connell states, "In western Germany, the newly prosperous

Ruhr industrialists, the still impenitent core of former Nazis and the incompletely absorbed millions of refugees from the east all represent a challenge to the democratic order."

NAZISM IS NOT DEAD IN GERMANY!

Rather, it is a smouldering glow, awaiting only the political fan to make it spring into a blaze with a full-throated roar that will sweep Germany before it—and with it, all Europe!

This WILL happen. Your Bible says so! But WHO are the men behind it? How will it come about? What possible conditions could give birth to so full-fledged a Dictator in Germany? For the answers—read the surprising article in the next issue!

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## BIGGEST News

(Continued from page 6)

boot, she does not remove it unless a stronger power drives her away! These eastern European countries, including eastern Germany, became RUSSIAN SATELLITES!

And just across this new IRON CURTAIN, on its very borders, lay a helpless and prostrate middle and western Europe! Ravaged by war, reduced to economic *destitution*, demilitarized, HELPLESS, this post-war Europe almost INVITED the Russians to roll over it with its massive armies, and annex all Europe as a part of Russia! Probably it was ONLY the fact that America *then* had the atomic BOMB and Russia did not, that deterred the Kremlin from ordering this very move.

And so the government at Washington saw the DANGER of a weakened, prostrate helpless EUROPE lying next door to Russia's Iron Curtain! Washington began to realize that SURVIVAL demanded TWO THINGS: producing and stockpiling atomic bombs, and helping Europe to BECOME STRONG AGAIN—strong enough to act at least as a buffer BETWEEN Russia on the east, and Britain and America on the west—and, as soon as possible, strong enough to STOP any Russian aggression.

But if EUROPE was to become strong enough again to deter RUSSIA, then GERMANY must be re-built! Washington, London and Paris awoke to the realiza-

tion that the western world faced a *horrible dilemma!* They had a CHOICE between the RISK of RUSSIAN invasion of Europe, and then probable ability to conquer Britain and America—or, RISK of a NAZI resurrection, which they well KNEW meant RISK OF a re-built and powerful GERMANY trying for a third time to conquer Britain and America!

They reasoned it was better to risk rebuilding Europe—which MEANT rebuilding Germany, because Germany, as I said, is the very heart and life-blood of the European economy. The rest of Europe COULD NOT be rebuilt WITHOUT rebuilding Germany! They called it a CALCULATED RISK!

And so THERE went all the allied plans to divide up and dismantle Germany and keep Germany so WEAK it could never again plunge us into war! But then, the allies figured they could *de-NAZIFY* Germany and turn Germany into a peace-loving DEMOCRACY.

The idea of rebuilding EUROPE to protect America and Britain from RUSSIA just automatically led to the idea of a UNITED Europe. A Europe divided against itself could not stand against the vast power of Russia! So we then began to hear, from London and from Washington, of plans for a UNITED STATES OF EUROPE—and for the first time you heard responsible statesmen of the democratic powers talking publicly about the very thing I had been showing you the BIBLE forecasted—the RESURRECTION of the old ROMAN EMPIRE. The idea was even voiced from ROME, and the Vatican announced it would lend moral support to the idea of a UNITED STATES OF EUROPE!

### Germany Rebuilt

Immediately this led to the Marshall Plan. The United States began to give away BILLIONS of dollars to European nations, to revive European industry and commerce, and make Europe strong once again.

Germany got its share of these U.S. dollars. True to Germany genius for organization, the Germans placed all this economic reconstruction under the capable guidance of Ludwig Erhard. He knew how to take the American

taxpayer's dollars, and make them do the most EFFICIENT job of REBUILDING GERMANY.

And so, first, the German people lived in tents, hovels or huts, while they expended FIRST efforts toward REBUILDING FACTORIES to produce goods—to organize FOREIGN MARKETS—to rebuild the German ECONOMY first of all—to produce RESOURCES as the BASIS of POWER! When my son Richard D. Armstrong, and Herman L. Hoeh, Managing Editor of The PLAIN TRUTH, came to Germany in 1952, they saw and reported to you how German FACTORIES were already rebuilt and steaming full speed ahead—while German HOMES were still tents, temporary cheap housing and the like. They were then just beginning to rebuild their office buildings and stores in their city centers. When I visited Germany in 1954, they were well along with rebuilding their city-center shopping districts, with ultra modern architecture, and then were just getting well STARTED in building modern, permanent apartment buildings and houses.

We drove thru Cologne on that trip. It was not as far along as Frankfurt and cities farther south—because it had been almost COMPLETELY destroyed. The same was true of Essen, which we visited at that time. Factories producing merchandise were rebuilt and steaming full speed ahead, but we saw the KRUPP munitions works still lying in mangled, twisted, rusted ruins.

Then in 1956 I visited Germany again, and the re-building job was almost completed. Germany was ROARING ahead. We went as far east as Baghdad that year, and everywhere we saw Germans and German-made goods being sold. Germany was capturing the foreign markets of the world. Even in 1954, German industrial output was 77% greater than pre-war peak; exports six times pre-war under Hitler! They were building SHIPS faster than any other nation—and already Germany was fourth among the world's nations in manufacture of automobiles! If you want to see evidence of German automobile production today, you don't need to come over here and look at the factories. Just look on the streets of any American city, and see if you can even count the

Mercedes, the Volkswagens and Volkswagen TRUCKS and OTHER German cars. Go to any camera shop, and see how German cameras are selling in America. Go to the office-supply shops and see how German typewriters and German dictaphones are beginning to outsell American makes.

There is one great difference between Germans and Americans. While American labor unions fight for MORE PAY, shorter hours, and less work, the Germans have an almost maniacal PASSION for productive WORK. The over-all average for German workers is a 50½-hour week, and many work 60 hours and more!

We have just driven over to Bonn, the CAPITAL of West Germany, and back. All along the new autobahn we saw hundreds of giant smoke-stacks towering into the sky on the horizon in every direction, belching forth smoke. Next thing we know, ALL GERMANY will be plagued with SMOG!

#### Europe Begins to Unite

European nations are getting together on CURRENCY reform. We now have Euro-Mart—or the European Common Market, entered into by SIX European nations! Here are the LATEST figures, which I have just obtained today:

For the year 1958, in general TRADE, this EUROPE combine, 45.6 BILLIONS of dollars, in first place in the world; the U.S. in second place, 30.6 billions; United Kingdom third with only 19 billion, and RUSSIA fourth with a mere 8.5 billion. THIS IS ONE REASON I HAVE REPEATEDLY WARNED YOU TO WATCH GERMANY!

*Russia is the most OVER-rated power that ever existed.* They are far advanced in some fields of science—in guided-missile development, and in number of submarines. BUT RUSSIA DOES NOT HAVE THE ECONOMY AND THE ECONOMIC RESOURCES TO WIN A WAR AGAINST THE UNITED STATES. If they did have, they would have started that war long ago! But these SIX nations in Europe already are OUTSTRIPPING AMERICA in WORLD TRADE!

#### What's Going to Happen

Back, now, to the prophecy in Dan. 8:23-26.

Let's pick up this amazing prophecy in verse 24: "And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power." This coming Führer shall have TREMENDOUS economic and military power at his command—the combined resources of 10 nations in Europe united to form the FINAL REBIRTH OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE.

Notice verse 25—the time-setting of this prophecy: ". . . And he shall stand up against the Prince of princes"—Christ. This colossal union headed by Germany will exist at the second coming of Jesus Christ!

The very last part of this verse reads: "but he (the coming Führer) shall be BROKEN without hand"—that is, not by MAN'S hand, but by DIVINE power—at the second coming of Jesus Christ when He returns to stamp out this horrible war-making, persecuting, prospering Fascist system and to rule all nations and bring peace at last.

It is to occur in the LATTER DAYS (verse 26)—a prophecy for the END of this world!

Notice, now, these same things in another prophecy—in the mysterious Book of Revelation.

"The beast that thou sawest"—the coming final revival of the "HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE of the German Nation" under a Dictator or Führer—"shall ascend out of the bottomless pit" (or abyss)—a state of political nonexistence—"and go into perdition" or destruction, at the second coming of Jesus Christ! (Rev. 17:8.)

Continuing with verse 10: "And there are seven kings: five are fallen"—from the days of Emperor Justinian to Napoleon—"and one is"—from the days of the Kaiser to Mussolini and Hitler—"and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh (in the next ten to twelve years) he must continue a short space."

It is to last only a little time!

Verse 12: "And the ten horns which thou sawest are TEN KINGS"—ten rulers of ten nations in Europe. "These have one mind," continues the prophecy in verse 13, "AND SHALL GIVE THEIR POWER AND STRENGTH UNTO THE BEAST"—the Führer who leads the final union. "These shall make war with the Lamb (Christ), and the Lamb shall

overcome them" (verse 14). This is just as Daniel prophesied! The time-setting is the same in both these astounding prophecies. They are *for our day—this twentieth century!*

Now continue with the 19th chapter of Revelation, verse 11: "And I saw heaven opened," this is at the second coming of Christ—and what does John, in vision, see? "A white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True; and in righteousness He doth judge and make war." Against what does He war?

"And out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it he should *smite the nations*: and He shall rule them with a rod of iron . . . (This is Jesus Christ at His return.) And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS" (verses 15 and 16).

"And I saw the beast," verses 19 and 20 continue, "and the kings of the earth"—the TEN kings who give their power to the coming Führer—"and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him that sat on the horse"—Christ. "And the beast was taken, and with him *the false prophet* that wrought miracles before him"—here is a *great false religious leader* who will use his influence to swing the millions of Europe behind the coming German Dictator. "These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone"—Daniel foresaw this same event when he prophesied that the "man of fierce countenance"—the "beast"—would be "BROKEN WITHOUT HAND," without human hands, but by DIVINE INTERVENTION!

Now turn to Revelation 18 to see how all this fits in with what is *now* happening in Germany and Europe.

### Today's Events Prophesied

Notice that this final union of ten nations in Europe is called by the prophetic name "Babylon" (verse 2). It is merely the continuation of the ancient Babylonish system—a union of politics and religion and great economic cartels whose purpose is to rule the world!

Particularly observe verse 3: ". . . and the merchants of the earth are waxed RICH, through the abundance of *her*

delicacies"—the stimulus of trade is provided by a great false religion, a false church—"her" delicacies. The religious aspect of this system is clearly revealed in Revelation 17 under the name "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH" (Rev. 17:5).

When this coming religio-political combine is suddenly destroyed by divine intervention in human affairs "the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more" (Rev. 18:11).

Do you see it is a gigantic *world-trading system?*

"The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing." Here again merchants and traders are pictured. This final revival of NAZISM and a great religious organization is stimulated by *world trade* and in turn stimulates world trade!

It is a great system which not only trades in "gold and silver . . . and wood and brass and iron and marble," but also in grains and meat and in "slaves, and souls of men" (verse 13, last part). It is a conquering, war-making, economic power which enslaves its captive nations, as German industrialists did during World War II. But it is more than an economic union; it is also a *religious* power, persecuting all who do not agree with her—"the souls of men"!

This final revival of the Roman Empire, *which will take our English-speaking people into captivity*, is to continue only a short time—up to the coming of Jesus. All the wealth gained by its world trade shall be "no more at all" (verse 14). It will come to a *sudden end!* Jesus Christ will intervene to rule the world. There will be peace and truth at last!

But in the meantime there is a *way of escape* promised so that NONE of these terrible events need befall *you personally!* You need to surrender your life wholly to God and come under His DIVINE protection! You need to watch and PRAY! There is no other way of escaping what is now arising with a tremendous resurgence of power in Europe!!

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