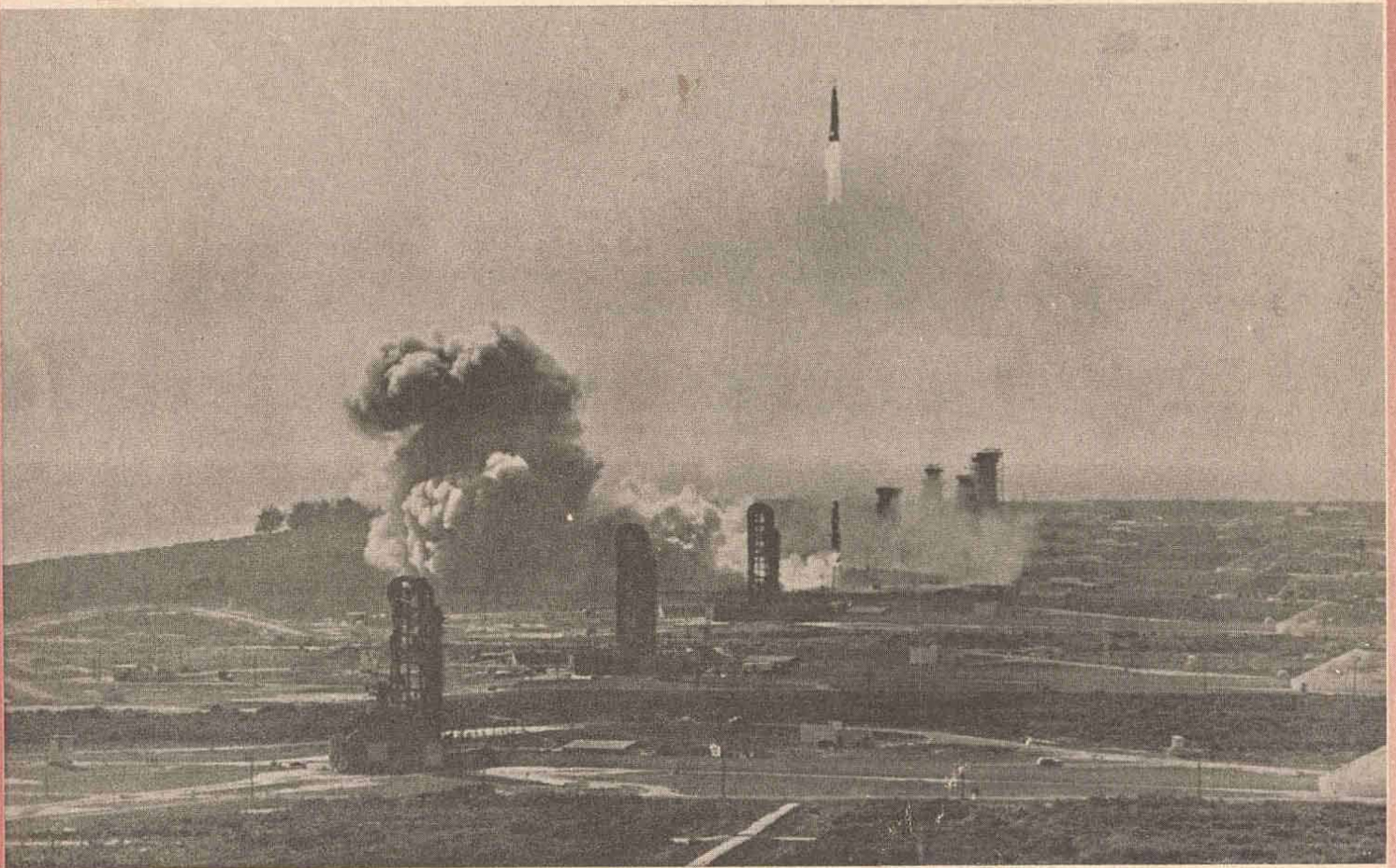


the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding

VOLUME XXVII, NUMBER 4

APRIL, 1962



Wide World Photo

INTO ORBIT AROUND THE WORLD—Heading around the world is Atlas rocket carrying astronaut John Glenn in his Mercury capsule into a three-orbit flight around the earth. Here you see it ascending from the missile test center, leaving behind smoke and steam at its launch pad at Cape Canaveral. This wide view of the test center shows the Mercury-Atlas launch pad in line with other launch pads for space projects of the United States. Beyond the test center background is the Atlantic Ocean.

What our READERS SAY

Truth About Queer Men!

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"I have read 'The Shocking Truth About Queer Men' several times. The facts on the existence of effeminate are obvious and self-evident, but your analysis of the reasons and your solutions and quotations from the Bible are quite amazing. This may be the reason why I have been attracted to you. Most so-called Christian churches are effeminate in their very nature. They don't teach religion in a manly way. They paint Christ as a weak-kneed cream-puff.

"I am also amazed at the youth in your organization and I am sure that many of your listeners and followers are young people. I am 33 myself. Your religion is the most down to earth religion I have ever heard."

Man from San Francisco, Calif.

● It is not our religion, it's God's truth—and He is masculine! There is nothing weak about God—He is the Almighty. This world's religions often make women masculine and men effeminate!

Youth Finds Answers

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"I have been receiving your literature and The PLAIN TRUTH for the past year and never really gave its contents much thought. After reading some of the articles and studying my Bible more I realized that what I had been taught all my life was really contrary to the actual teachings of Christ. . . .

"I am a sixteen-year-old boy and . . . want to know the truth so I can start dedicating my life to Christ. Please send The Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course, and College Bulletin, as I am planning to attend Ambassador College. Any other literature that might possibly be of help to me, would be greatly appreciated."

Young Man from Ferguson, Mo.

● This zealous young man's future includes Ambassador College. He ought to learn a great deal about what Amba-

sador life is like when he reads this issue's article on the Ambassador Colleges.

Blessing to Hell-Bent World

"You are either the biggest fraud in this century or the nearest thing to the divine truth since Paul. If you are the former, God will deal with you in due time in His own way. If you are the latter, you are and could even more so be the greatest blessing to this hell-bent world that has happened in this century. I am persuaded you are the latter."

Man from Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Policeman Finds We're Not Religious Racket!

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"Several months ago I tuned in KWTO and listened to Mr. Ted Armstrong. He was very interesting and for some reason I decided I wanted to learn more about this man and his work. So each evening I find myself listening to his broadcast. I noticed the lack of advertisement during his thirty minutes on the air. Each evening he mentions some booklet and The PLAIN TRUTH that can be had for just the asking, absolutely free. This aroused my suspicion, so to prove to myself that this was not another of the many religious rackets, I sent for several of the booklets. I not only received them but also each month a copy of The PLAIN TRUTH absolutely free and no follow-up of any kind. After 31 years of police work in a large city, I retired, so it is only natural that I am a suspicious person and have no use for rackets."

Man from Crane, Missouri

Scientist Reads Bible

"I am a scientist and chemist by profession. Somewhat surprisingly to some of my acquaintances, I find an absolute proof of the existence of God in the perfect regularity of physical laws. A

(Please continue on page 28)

the PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding

VOL. XXVII

NO. 4

Circulation: 385,000

Published monthly at Pasadena, California; London, England; and Melbourne, Australia, by Ambassador College. German edition published monthly at Pasadena, California. © 1962, by Radio Church of God.

EDITOR

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Garner Ted Armstrong

MANAGING EDITOR

Herman L. Hoeh

SENIOR EDITOR

Roderick C. Meredith

Associate Editors

Albert J. Portune

David Jon Hill

Contributing Editors

C. Paul Meredith

Basil Wolverton

Jack R. Elliott

Clint C. Zimmerman

Ernest L. Martin

Charles V. Dorothy

Lynn E. Torrance

Robert C. Boraker

L. Leroy Neff

Gerhard O. Marx

News Bureau Director

Gene H. Hogberg

Research Staff

Donald D. Schroeder

Jack M. Pyle

Ronald D. McNeil

Joyce F. Sefcak

Editorial and Production Assistants

James W. Robinson

Donald G. McDonald

Regional Editors Abroad

United Kingdom: Raymond F. McNair

Australia: C. Wayne Cole

South America: Benjamin L. Rea

BUSINESS MANAGER

Vern R. Mattson

Circulation Managers

United States: Hugh Mauck

United Kingdom: Charles F. Hunting

Australia: Gene R. Hughes

South America: Leon Walker

Canada: Dennis Prather

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION has been paid by others. Bulk copies for distribution not given or sold.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS to the Editor, Box 111, Pasadena, California.

Canadian readers should address Post Office Box 44, Station A, Vancouver 1, B.C., Canada.

Our readers in United Kingdom, Europe, and Africa should address the Editor, Ambassador College, Bricket Wood, St. Albans, Herts., England.

Readers in Australia, the Philippines, China and southeastern Asia should address the Editor, Box 345, North Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

Readers of the German edition should address Post Office Box 1030, Pasadena, California, or Die Reine Wahrheit, Ambassador College, Bricket Wood, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England.

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE paid at Pasadena, California.

BE SURE TO NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY of any change in your address. Please inclose both old and new address. IMPORTANT!

Personal from the Editor

THE other day this question came to my mind: "What is the greatest possible sin anyone could commit?"

Once I attended a church service in which the results of a contest were announced. A new Bible was given as first prize for the best answer to the question: "What is the most *common* sin, committed by the largest number of people?" First prize was awarded for the answer: "Ingratitude."

Certainly a lack of gratitude is one of the most prevalent, if not the most terrible, of sins. Few have learned to really appreciate what they have. Most are prone to accept the good things by taking them for granted, failing to give thanks. We gripe about our complaints more than we count our blessings.

But now the question came to me: "What is the *worst* of all sins? The most awful sin that can be committed is, perhaps, one of the very *last* that most people would name. Because the governments of men punish murder with capital punishment, many would suppose murder to be the capital sin. But there is a greater.

I knew a man who believed that adultery was the worst of all sins, and dancing the second most evil, because, he claimed, dancing always led to adultery. Asked if he knew this by experience, or if he had any evidence or proof, he was horrified.

"A thousand times NO!" he exclaimed emphatically. "I would never go near a dance floor—it's too evil!"

The question and answer came to me in a very pleasant and enjoyable manner. I was reading, in the Fenton translation, I Chronicles 29, beginning verse 10. The people of Israel, at King David's request, had contributed liberally for the building of God's Temple which was to be erected by Solomon. David, deeply moved by their generosity, was inspired to an emotional expression of

gratefulness, combined with a vision of the greatness, the majesty and glory of God. He was publicly expressing his heart-touched gratitude and praise. David was exultant. This is what he was saying, before all the people:

"Blessed be You, the EVER-LIVING—
The God of our Father Israel—
From Eternity to Eternity!
With You LORD, is Greatness, and
Power,
And beauty, and splendour, and glory!
For all the Heavens and the Earth are
Yours, LORD!
And Headship of all!"

As I read David's words of gratitude and praise, my mind seemed to catch the resplendent vision of the GREATNESS, the supreme universe-ruling POWER, the awesome BEAUTY, the SPLENDOR, the matchless GLORY of the Almighty GOD! Words are inadequate to describe! We would have to magnify superlatives, and then multiply them!

And we mortals are so insignificant, so feeble, so weak, so vile by comparison. King David continued:

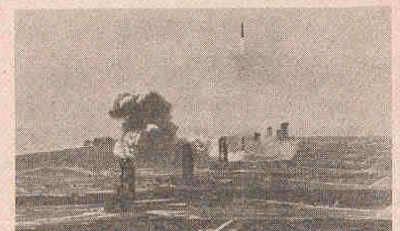
"Therefore, our GOD, we all thank
And praise Your Majestic Name,
For who am I, and who are my people,
That we are able freely to give like this?
For all comes from You—"

Every good thing comes from GOD! He is Creator, Sustainer, Ruler. His eyes are like flames of fire shooting forth. His face is like the sun shining in full strength—so bright it would blind mortal eyes. His Glory is beyond human imagination. His is the perfect holy and righteous character. He IS, and is the very source of, LOVE, WISDOM, GOODNESS, MIGHT and POWER. He sustains and controls and directs

(Please continue on page 4)

In This Issue:

- What our Readers Say 2
- Personal from the Editor 3
- Glenn in Orbit—what does it mean? 5
- Radio Log 6
- Did Christ Die of a Broken Heart?.. 9
- True Education at Ambassador College 11
- Just What do You Mean —Kingdom of God! 13
- Was Christ Born "B.C."? 17
- Your Children Can Be Self-Disciplined 29
- German Rationalism Exposed 31
- The Bible Story 33
- The Key to Good Health (special interview with Eric Eweson, noted Swedish biochemist)..... 41



OUR COVER

Few of our readers have seen such an outstanding view as this of Cape Canaveral from which the major portion of American space launchings have occurred. The tremendous American strides in space research ought to warn us all of the magnitude of the *space war* now developing between Communism and the West.

Personal from the Editor

(Continued from page 3)

every power and force and energy, ruling the vast UNIVERSE!

And yet, He, so great, so mighty, so glorious, is extremely mindful of each one of us! He loves us so very much He *gave* His only begotten Son to pay the penalty in our stead of our folly—our sins. He raised His begotten Son Jesus Christ from the dead, *born* very GOD by His resurrection, and gave to Him all the POWER and the GLORY of the entire universe, making Him, the risen ever-living CHRIST, the Administrator and Chief Executive over the Supreme Government of the limitless UNIVERSE!

More than that, through Jesus Christ, God has made it possible for us to be begotten of the glorious GOD Himself!

Through the living Christ we may receive the very Spirit—the LIFE—the divine NATURE of GOD! Thus we become co-heirs *with* Christ, that we, too, may be BORN by a resurrection as very SONS of GOD. Jesus Christ was made the first-born of many brethren! He, Christ, already has *inherited*—and we through Him may become joint *heirs* to later inherit all that is God's—the UNIVERSE ENTIRELY!

Can your mind grasp it? *All that is God's, we may share!*

A portion of this we may imbibe, drink in, be filled with and enjoy *here and now*, even in this temporary life! Every good thing *comes from GOD!*

Even now, in this frail human life, we may receive from Him guidance and wisdom, protection from physical harm, healing when ill, peace of mind, deliverance from trouble, and all the attributes of His character—His divine LOVE, FAITH, PATIENCE, ASSURANCE, GOODNESS, POWER to overcome.

From Him, and from Him alone, we may drink in real happiness and joy! From Him we may receive the knowledge of the TRUE VALUES—we may know the PURPOSE of life—the WAY to every good thing. We may receive every good and perfect gift that comes down

from above!

All this we may freely have—according as we *yield* our wills to Him and to His will as He reveals it in His Word—according as we yield to harmonious contact and relationship with Him!

It is a personal, intimate relationship. It is a perfect father-and-son relationship, such as we seldom experience in our carnality with our human fathers. The carnal-minded son may within his nature harbor an innate spirit of antagonism toward his human father. But the very conversion which establishes the father-and-son relationship with the heavenly Father surrenders totally and crushes out that hostile attitude toward God. We come to love and reverence and adore Him.

But now consider what this contact with the living God means. He is the Great GOD—Creator—above all! He governs the universe. His power is supreme over all force and energy. His knowledge is infinite, his wisdom perfect. Not only does He reveal to His begotten sons His great PURPOSE and Plan, and His laws and ways that lead to peace, happiness, prosperity, and joy through His written Word (which only the begotten Spirit-led can understand)—through our worship and prayer-contact He actually intervenes *individually*, on behalf of each one *personally*.

Thus He guides His begotten sons in specific incidents, problems, and experiences. He actually works out circumstances in our behalf. He gives us, when we ask Him, grace and favor in the eyes of those with whom we must deal in the world—causing even our enemies to be at peace with us. He delivers us from trials, temptations and troubles. He heals us when sick. He sets an angel to guard and protect us from physical harm. He prospers those who rely on Him and obey Him.

Every good thing comes from Him. He richly lavishes upon us His grace, blesses us with every spiritual blessing within the heavenly sphere! And the living Christ has promised He will never leave nor forsake us!

Think of all the blessings for here and now! Think of the ABUNDANT LIVING He bestows on His obedient and trusting sons! Think of the indescribable GLORY and POWER, together with eternal

joyful life, we may inherit in the World Tomorrow—for all eternity!

Now what would be the worst, the most terrible sin one could possibly commit? I think it is self-evident. It is to have another god before the true living GOD!

Whatever occupies your interest more than God and His Word is the idol you are putting before Him. None can be truly converted—actually *begotten* of God—until whatever is his IDOL has been smashed, and torn root and branch from his affection and mind and heart.

I had an idol. I didn't recognize it as such then, of course. My idol was pure vanity—the desire to be regarded by businessmen as important—as highly successful—and with it, of course, to acquire the things money can buy. Now that seemed a normal and right ambition to a carnal young man in the business world. But it was an idol. And I worshipped so energetically, so passionately, and with such zeal and determination and *strong will* at the shrine of that idol, that it required some 28 years of enforced economic poverty, 21 years of which I was truly seeking *first* the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, before that idol had been torn *completely*, root and branch, out of my heart. After that God did, indeed, add the material comforts and needs—as Christ promised!

Yes, I had my idol—*what's yours?* What do *you* seek first—pleasures, the television screen, your wife, husband, children? I know of one who put the love of lipstick and make-up first. What is it that *you* just *can't give up?* You'll *have* to give it up, you know—or *you are committing the most awful sin it is possible to commit!* It is the sin that shuts you off from that personal contact with GOD!

God tells us that His ear is not deaf that He cannot hear our petitions; His arm is not short that it cannot respond—but OUR SINS have separated between Him and us, that He *will not* hear!

You have to be willing to *forsake all*, as Peter did, and follow Christ, or remain *cut off* from God!

Our physical surroundings in this world are sordid, gloomy, dark, and it's
(Please continue on page 18)

Just What Do You Mean —KINGDOM OF GOD?

Was it set up by Jesus Christ in the first century A.D.? Why are there so many different teachings about WHAT it is? Part I of this article was shocking. This concluding part is even more so!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

PART II

PART I of this article began at the beginning—the very beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Mark 1:1, 14-15).

Jesus, from the beginning, preached one Gospel only—the Gospel (Good News) of the KINGDOM OF GOD. He said plainly it was necessary to repent, and to *believe this very Gospel* to be saved!

His parables concerned *the Kingdom of God*. He commissioned the 70 He sent out to preach *the Kingdom of God*. He commanded the apostles, on whom, with Himself and the prophets, the CHURCH was founded, to preach *the Kingdom of God*. Paul preached *the Kingdom of God* to Gentiles, and pronounced a double curse on any who should preach any other gospel.

Can You Believe CHRIST?

Today we live in a world of religious babylon. There are many ideas being taught about *what* the Gospel *is*. There are, perhaps, as many differing conceptions about the Kingdom of God.

One proclaimed to a world-wide radio audience that it is *not* the gospel for US or our time. Many sincerely believe—because they have been taught it and always heard it—that the Kingdom of God is THE CHURCH. Some talk about “men everywhere working together for peace and brotherly love, so that the Kingdom of God may at last be set up in the hearts of men.” Some represent it as “the god that is within you.” Some even say it is the British Empire.

If you will be willing to read and believe the plain words of Jesus, of Paul, of John and those inspired to write the

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you did not receive the March number, containing Part I of this article, a copy will be sent you on request—or, if copies are exhausted, you will be sent the entire article in booklet form later, as soon as printed.

very WORD OF GOD, you may know what it is.

It is startling! It is shocking! But *can* you believe the plain words of GOD? Always, when I write on such a subject, some reader is sure to accuse me of departing from the false traditional teachings learned from MEN. Such critics gloss over, without reading, the Scriptures I give. They ignore the very Word of God. If the Bible differs from pagan teachings they have accepted as “Christianity”, they call me a “false prophet” and impute evil motives. They make the Word of God of no effect by their traditions. They worship Christ in *vain*, believing for doctrines the teachings of men (see Mark 7:7, 9, 13). Yes, truly, the MANY are today deceived!

Are YOU willing to believe CHRIST? Is your mind open? If you have sincerely accepted and believed something that is false—contrary to the plain teaching of your Bible—are you willing to confess it and accept the plain TRUTH? If your mind is *closed*, stop reading right here. If you are willing, with open mind, to accept TRUTH when proved, and reject error, then read on! Believe what is in YOUR BIBLE!

Can Be Entered

In Jesus' day, the religious leaders

knew He was a Teacher sent from God with GOD'S TRUTH. They branded Him a false prophet, heretic, and seditious. Yet *they knew* His was the Voice of GOD!

One of them, a Pharisee named Nicodemus, occupying an office of authority over the Jews, came secretly by night to see Jesus.

“Rabbi,” said this Pharisee, “we know that thou art a teacher come from God” (John 3:2). Yes, *we Pharisees*, he said, *know that!* He did not say “I know it.” He said “*WE know*”—*we Pharisees!* They knew He spoke the TRUTH—yet they not only rejected it, they crucified Him!

But Jesus hewed straight to the line! He told Nicodemus about THE KINGDOM OF GOD. He told him some things you need to UNDERSTAND!

Notice! “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God” (Verse 3—John 3). Yes, notice! The Kingdom of God is something that CAN be seen, but only by those who have been “born again.” It is something others *cannot see!* Read the article: “Just What Do You MEAN—BORN AGAIN?” in the February number—or write for it in booklet form.

But what about the CHURCH? Can carnal people who make no claim to having been “born again” SEE a CHURCH? Of course! But they *cannot* see the Kingdom of God! SO SAID JESUS! Then, if you believe Jesus, the CHURCH cannot be the Kingdom of God!

Notice further: “Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God” (Verse 5). The Kingdom of God is

something that *can be entered into*—BUT, only those "born of water and of the Spirit" can enter into it!

Notice further! In the Resurrection chapter of the Bible, we read: "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption." (I Cor. 15:50). The Kingdom of God is something no human, of flesh and blood, can enter or *inherit!*

Now do flesh and blood people enter into the CHURCH? If so, then the Kingdom of God *cannot* be the CHURCH—for the Kingdom of God is something flesh and blood humans *cannot enter into!*

What do you think the "church" is? Is it the building? Flesh and blood people can and do enter buildings and cathedrals called "churches." Is it the converted PEOPLE? Flesh and blood people can and DO enter into the membership of any group of PEOPLE that may call itself the church. But flesh and blood *cannot* enter the Kingdom of GOD—so the CHURCH *is not the Kingdom of God!*

In Men's Hearts?

Now some think the Kingdom of God is some ethereal sentimental feeling or something set up in men's hearts. If so, then the Kingdom of God enters into mortal man. But these plain Scriptures say plainly that it is men after they are no longer flesh and blood—but resurrected into spirit-composed bodies—who can *enter into* the Kingdom of God. It does not enter into men. Men enter into it—*after* resurrected in glory—*after* they are no longer "flesh and blood."

Is it the "god within you"? No, it is not something that was born inside of man, or has ever entered into man—it is something man may enter *after* he is "born again".

What about the British Empire? Well, I have been pretty well over the British Isles, Canada and Australia—and all of the multi-thousands I have seen there were flesh-and-blood humans. They *did* enter The British Empire—but they *cannot* enter the Kingdom of God, in their present flesh-and-blood life. So the British Empire *cannot* be the Kingdom of God.

But, someone misunderstanding the Scripture may ask, "Didn't Jesus Him-

self say that the Kingdom of God is 'within you?'" In the 17th chapter of Luke, verse 21, King James translation, is a MISTRANSLATION which has led some to suppose the Kingdom of God is some thought or feeling or sentiment within man.

In Hearts of Pharisees?

Let's take a good look at this. First realize, if it does say that, it is contradicted by all the other Scriptures I am giving you in this article. If the Bible does contradict itself, you can't believe it anyway—so then it still would prove nothing.

First, *to whom* is Jesus speaking? Read it!

"And when He was demanded of the Pharisees, when the Kingdom of God should come, He answered them and said, The Kingdom of God cometh not with observation: neither shall they say, Lo here! or lo there! for, behold, the Kingdom of God is within you" (Luke 17:20-21).

He was speaking to the unconverted, carnal, hypocritical lying Pharisees. Notice, "He answered *them*, and said—" It was the Pharisees who asked Him the question. Were they in the CHURCH? No, never! If one thinks the Kingdom is the CHURCH—and the Kingdom was "within" the Pharisees — was THE CHURCH *within* the Pharisees? Such an assumption is rather ridiculous, now, isn't it?

Notice again, precisely WHAT JESUS SAID. Remember the CHURCH had not yet been set up. Jesus *did not say* "the Kingdom of God *shall be* set up in your hearts." He said *none* of the things people interpret *into* this verse. He said to the Pharisees "the Kingdom of God *IS*"—present tense—*is, NOW!* Whatever He was saying the Kingdom of God is, He made it present tense, not future.

But Jesus was speaking in the Hebrew or the Greek language. At any rate, Luke *wrote* these words, originally, in the *Greek* language. He did not write the words "within you." The Greek words he wrote were mistakenly translated into the English words "within you." If you have a Bible with the marginal references, you will notice that this is corrected in your margin to read

"*in the midst of you,*" or, "*among you.*" If your Bible is a Moffatt translation, you will notice that the translator recognized that Jesus was talking of His *reign*, or *rule*, at the head of *government*.

This is the Moffatt translation of the same verse: "He answered them, 'The Reign of God is not coming as you hope to catch sight of it; no one will say, 'Here it is' or 'There it is,' for the Reign of God is now in your midst.'"

The Revised Standard translation renders it "the Kingdom of God is in the midst of you." All these translations render it *present tense*.

Jesus was not talking about a Church soon to be organized. He was not talking about sentiments in the mind or heart. He was talking about His REIGN, as the Messiah! The Pharisees were not asking Him about a Church. They knew nothing of any New Testament Church soon to be started. They were not asking about a pretty sentiment. They knew, from the prophecies of Daniel, Isaiah, Jeremiah and others, that their Messiah was to come. They overlooked completely the prophecies of His first appearing as the "Lamb of God," to be slain for the sins of humanity—being born as a babe, growing up, being rejected and despised by them, as recorded in Isaiah 53. They looked only to the prophecies of His *second* coming as the all-conquering and ruling KING.

But they had even these prophecies distorted in their minds. They looked for Him to come as a purely Jewish Messiah, to liberate them from the Romans, and reversing the situation so that the Jews would be masters over the Romans. They looked for a limited *Jewish* Kingdom, located in only a small part of the world, with the Messiah ruling and letting the Jews lord it over the Romans.

This, the Pharisees anticipated as the Kingdom of God. They had an erroneous conception of the Kingdom of God—but at least they did know it was to be a REIGN—a GOVERNMENT.

World-Ruling Government

Jesus set them straight. He explained that it would not be a local, or limited Kingdom for the Jews only. It would not be merely one of many human and visible kingdoms which men could point

out or see, and say, "This is it, *here*"; or "that is the Kingdom, over *there*." But He, Himself, was born to be the KING of that Kingdom, as He plainly told Pilate (John 18:36-37). The Bible uses the terms "king" and "kingdom" interchangeably (see Daniel 7:17-18,23). The KING of the future Kingdom was, then and there, standing *in the midst of them*. And in the language in which He spoke to them, that is precisely what He said—as the marginal rendering and other translations state.

Jesus went on, in the following verses, to describe His second coming, *when* the Kingdom of God shall rule ALL THE EARTH. In verse 24 he refers to the lightning flashing, just as in Matthew 24:27, describing His second coming to RULE the whole world. Verse 26—as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be when Christ comes in power and glory as world Ruler. Verse 30—the day when He is *revealed*.

Plainly, Jesus was not saying that the Kingdom of God was *within* those Christ-hating, hypocritical Pharisees. Nor was He saying that the Church would be the Kingdom.

Now continue with the other Scriptures, and it becomes very PLAIN!

Jesus distinctly said that those Pharisees *would not be in the Kingdom of God*. To them, He said: "There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye (you Pharisees) shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, *in the Kingdom of God*, and you yourselves thrust out. And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down *in the Kingdom of God*." (Luke 13:28-29).

The Kingdom of God is something men shall ENTER—at the Resurrection of the just! Yet Abraham is *not there yet* (see Heb. 11:13, 39-40).

Has Not Yet Appeared

But one may ask, did not Jesus Christ say the Kingdom of God was "at hand"? Yes, we quoted this, in the beginning of this article, from Mark 1:15. This naturally led some to mistake what He said, and what He meant, and assume the Kingdom of God was established and set up during Jesus' ministry. Thus some supposed it was the Church.

But Jesus did not say the Kingdom of God had been established. It was now being *preached* (Luke 16:16). He did not say it was already here. Jesus, Himself, corrected this false notion. Will you *read this* IN YOUR OWN BIBLE? Will you then *believe* Jesus Christ—or will you call Him a liar and believe so-called "Christian" traditions of men? Will you believe YOUR BIBLE?

Notice—read it in your own Bible: Jesus "added and spake a parable . . . because they thought that the Kingdom of God should immediately appear" (Luke 19:11). WHY did Jesus speak this parable? Because some, even then, mistakenly thought the Kingdom *should immediately appear*—because some thought it would be THE CHURCH!

Now continue: "He said, therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a Kingdom, and to return." (Verse 12). Christ is that "nobleman." He is speaking of His ascension to the throne of God His Father, in heaven. Notice, He went there to be *given* rulership of the Kingdom—to receive the Kingdom. Notice, too, He is to return, when He has received it! *He has not yet returned!* Other Scriptures explain this. We will turn to them a little later.

But continue: "And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come. But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us." The original 12 tribes of Israel had been divided into TWO nations, immediately after the death of King Solomon. The nation Israel rejected Solomon's son, Rehoboam, and set up Jeroboam as their King. They made the city of Samaria their capital. But the tribe of Judah seceded from Israel, in order to retain Rehoboam as King, and Jerusalem as their capital. Then the tribe of Benjamin joined them, and many Levites. The northern Kingdom then became known as the TEN TRIBES.

Now Jesus Christ was born of the tribe of Judah. The promise of the "Sceptre"—or kingly tribe, from which Messiah was to be born—was divinely given to Judah. Consequently when it is stated that Christ "came unto His

own, and His own received Him not," it is speaking of His having come to the Jews of the Kingdom of JUDAH, dwelling then in Palestine, with its capital still at Jerusalem. At that time the TEN TRIBES had migrated from Assyrian captivity northwest across Europe. They were far away, had lost their identity, were speaking a different language. It was then 700 years after their captivity and removal from northern Palestine.

Not Church Language

And so the nobleman's citizens who rejected him were the Jews at Jerusalem and dwelling in Palestine. And notice, Jesus is here talking about a KINGDOM which is a literal GOVERNMENT. His citizens would not accept Him as KING—they refused to have Him REIGN over them. That is not CHURCH language—that is *civil government language!*

So it becomes plain that the *ten servants* of the parable, to whom He gave the ten pounds, represent the TEN TRIBES, who had become known as the LOST Ten Tribes. After the Jews rejected Christ, He sent His original apostles to the "LOST sheep of the HOUSE OF ISRAEL"—and the term "House of Israel" *always* applies, after the division, to the ten-tribed kingdom—*never* to the Kingdom of Judah—or, as often called, the House of Judah.

Continuing the parable, spoken *because* some thought the Kingdom of God was immediately, then, in the first century, to appear: "And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the Kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading" (Verse 15). When Christ returns, we shall all be called before the Judgment Seat of Christ—to give account!

Now notice: in verse 17, the one who had gained ten pounds is given authority to RULE CITIES "have thou authority over ten cities!" To the one who had gained five pounds, he said, "Be thou also over five cities."

This is speaking of the SECOND COMING OF CHRIST—and of His delegating *authority to rule* to saints converted

during this Christian era, between Christ's first and second appearings on earth.

This parable, then, was spoken to make clear to us that the Kingdom of God is a literal GOVERNMENT, to be set up AT CHRIST'S SECOND COMING—and *not before!* The CHURCH, then, *cannot* be the Kingdom of God. But the true Church of God is to be *changed*, by a resurrection and instantaneous change from mortal to immortal, INTO the Kingdom of God. The Church, when all its members have been changed to immortality, shall BECOME the Kingdom of God. But it is not, now, the Kingdom!

Saints to Rule

Now read the description of Christ's actual *receiving* authority to RULE the Kingdom. He is the nobleman who went to heaven to receive this kingship, and to return.

We have already seen how the prophet Daniel recorded the setting up of the Kingdom of God—at *Christ's coming*—to consume all present national governments on earth, and set up the world-ruling Kingdom of God. This was recorded in the second chapter. Notice now chapter seven:

"I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man (Christ) came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him" (Verse 13). Jesus continually referred to Himself as the "Son of man"—all through Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Christ ascended to heaven in clouds (Acts 1:9). He ascended to the very throne of God in heaven (Mark 16:19). Now continue:

"And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed." (Verse 14—Daniel 7).

That is plain! Christ ascended to the throne of God in heaven. God is Sovereign over the entire universe. This vision shows God Almighty, Father of the resurrected living Christ, conferring on Christ dominion. Dominion means

sovereign or supreme ruling authority. Also given to Him was "a kingdom." Where is that Kingdom to be? It says "a kingdom that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him." The people, and the nations speaking different languages, are here on earth. He is given dominion over ALL NATIONS—the whole world!

Important Word "UNTIL"

Now will you read, in your own Bible, Acts 3:21? It says the heavens have received Jesus Christ UNTIL—not permanently, just *until* a certain time. Until *when?* Until the times of RESTITUTION of all things. Restitution means restoration to a former state or condition. It is speaking of restoring God's laws, God's government—of restoring happiness and universal PEACE.

In this 7th chapter of Daniel, the prophet had experienced a dream, and visions. He had seen four wild animals. Notice, verse 16, *the interpretation* begins verse 17. This is GOD'S inspired interpretation—not mine: "These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth. But the saints of the most High shall take the KINGDOM, and possess the Kingdom forever, even for ever and ever." (Dan. 7:17-18).

NOTICE IT! Not *only* is Christ to rule—but *the saints*—that is, converted true Christians—those begotten as sons of God—are to take and possess the Kingdom! They are to rule under, and *with* Christ! In the New Testament it is recorded that converted saints are co-heirs with Christ!

In this same 7th chapter, Daniel explained another power. The fourth beast of his dream—the fourth Empire—the Roman Empire, was pictured as an animal having ten horns—explained here and in Revelation 13 and Revelation 17 as ten revivals or resurrections of the Roman Empire, after its original fall in 476 A.D. But among them—after 476 A.D.—arose another little horn—a religious kingdom, actually ruling over the last seven of the other "horns" or revived Roman kingdoms (Verse 20).

Now read about this "little horn"—the religious kingdom—verse 21: "I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against

them, UNTIL (*note, another "UNTIL"*) the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the Kingdom."

The saints—then no longer human flesh and blood, but immortal—are to possess the Kingdom, at the second coming of Christ!

Jesus Christ makes that plain. It is Christ who is speaking in Revelation 3:21, and 2:26-27: "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I overcame, and am set down with my Father in His throne." The Father's throne is in heaven—where Jesus Christ is *now*; but Christ's throne, in which the saints shall sit with Him, is the throne of David, in Jerusalem (Luke 1:32).

Further: "And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron."

Can't Know the TIME

After His resurrection, on the Mount of Olives at the very hour of His ascension to heaven, Jesus was explaining to His disciples how they would receive the inspiring God-begetting POWER of the Holy Spirit on the approaching day of Pentecost.

His disciples wanted to know whether the Kingdom of God was to be set up *at that time!* The CHURCH was established on that imminent day of Pentecost. Was *that* CHURCH, then, to be the setting up of the Kingdom?

"Lord," they asked, "wilt thou *at this time* restore again the Kingdom to Israel?"

Jesus again made plain that the Church is *not* the Kingdom.

"And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in His own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight" (Acts 1:6-9).

The commission He had given the

(Please continue on page 46)

parts of Italy, and did not reach France until the 8th century.

The Florentines continued to use a *totally different* method of reckoning the passage of years, until even as late as the 18th century! Further, different peoples, according to location and religion, *began* the years on different dates, and in different months.

Do you see? Nothing but chaos and confusion! But God is not the *Author of confusion!* (I Cor. 14:33.)

It was Dionysius who began assigning the years *prior* to Christ as those "Ante Christum," or, in English, "Before Christ," and those following the *supposed* date of His birth as "Anno Domini" or, "Year of Our Lord."

Who was Dionysius? Merely a Roman Catholic abbot who lived in the 6th century! His method of dividing the years with the *supposed* time of the birth of Christ has led to countless difficulties.

For instance, astronomers, counting either backward or forward, insert a year "0" between A.D. 1 and 1 B.C. Chronologers and historians do not. Isn't it a little confusing to use two *totally different* systems, the one the exact *opposite* of the other, when reckoning time?

Not only do historians and chronologers resort to a double manner of reckoning, but they must also remember that the cycles of the leap years are *totally different* in the years "B.C."

Dionysius was supposedly a *learned man*. He was an "highly skilled theologian" according to the *Encyclopedia Britannica*. But learned in *what*? Why, in the *traditions* he had always heard, in the practices and customs of those around him, and in the "knowledge" he gleaned from the accepted ideas of other human beings of his day! He was exactly like any other human being, born into a "ready-made" society, and simply *taking for granted* the things he was taught.

First and foremost, he was a loyal Catholic—steeped in the oral and written traditions of the monastic culture of his day.

Secondly, he was actively engaged, as were countless other Catholics during the same time, in attempting to recon-

cile and amalgamate the *pagan* festivals being observed throughout the Roman world with the *supposedly* "Christian" festivals of the Church!

But such amalgamation needed *skillful adjustment of the calendar!* By the means of these adjustments in the methods of reckoning time, "it was found no difficult matter, in general, to get Paganism and Christianity—now far sunk in idolatry—in this as in so many other things, to shake hands." (Hislop's *The Two Babylons* p. 105.)

What about it? Was Dionysius able to be completely objective? Was he completely honest with himself—driven only by the intellectual and philosophical pursuit of new knowledge and truth? Or was he striving to see how he could devise a method which would blend the *pagan* customs with the "Christian" ones?

To this Hislop replies: "The instrument in accomplishing this amalgamation (concealing PAGANISM by calling it "Christian") was the abbot Dionysius the Little, to whom also we owe it, as

modern chronologers have demonstrated, that the date of the Christian era, or of the *birth of Christ Himself* was MOVED FOUR YEARS FROM THE TRUE TIME! (Hislop's *The Two Babylons* p. 105, emphasis mine.)

There it is! You live in a *man-made* society. It is ordered, devised, constructed, planned and built by *human* beings, who have *totally departed* from their God!

These ancient chronologers did not *lose* four years, as some have feared. They just misplaced Christ's date of birth by pushing it backward four years on the calendar they had already devised.

You have always just TAKEN FOR GRANTED that most of what you "*learned*" was RIGHT! You have accepted, literally *without question*, beliefs and practices that stemmed directly from the pagan sun-worshippers and idolaters of Babylon and Egypt, of Greece and Rome!

Jesus WAS born, according to the *man-devised and truly erroneous method of reckoning in use today*, in 4 B.C.!

Personal from the Editor

(Continued from page 4)

a cold, cold world! Yet we may freely imbibe, drink in, be filled with and ENJOY here and now a share of the matchless BEAUTY, the SPLENDOR, the GLORY, and the HAPPINESS that belongs to and comes from the living GOD!

We may have this in ever-increasing measure. God gives us an "earnest payment" of our potential glorious inheritance *here and now*, in this life! Though this world is unhappy and full of depressing discouragements, we may share Christ's glory and peace and happiness and beauty *within!*

The greatest possible sin is that which shuts you out from the greatest possible acquirement! It is the ULTIMATE!

The most terrible possible PUNISHMENT that could be sentenced and car-

ried out on any human would be to permanently and irrevocably cut one off from all possible access to GOD!

This world *is* cut off from God—it has cut itself off! Yet, *not* irrevocably. YOU may have *free access* to the Great God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! The WAY is unconditional surrender of your rebellious will to HIS—to HIS WAY—His right and perfect laws. The WAY, then, is by faith in Jesus Christ as personal Saviour.

Man, without God, is utterly helpless and doomed. WITH God, he becomes the recipient of every good and perfect gift from above!

• • • •

We regret that there was no available space for the "AUTOBIOGRAPHY of Herbert W. Armstrong" in this issue. Be sure to read it in the May number.

would say that *organic matter* is so porous it can hold at least its own volume in water, and if you have 10% good organic matter in soil, you will increase this soil's water-holding capacity by something like 100%. With good soil, a 4-inch rain would cause little or no runoff. Even ½ inch of rain on poor land will cause erosion and will flood lower areas. The fine inorganic matter seals up the pores so that little or no water enters the soil.

By impoverishing our soil, we thus also lose the ability of the soil to hold and conserve moisture. Instead of building dams to hold back rivers, it would be much better to plant trees and improve the soil of the surrounding land. Naturally this isn't always practical, but dams aren't always practical either because, if the land is poor, dams will soon silt up and become ineffective.

There again, by violating natural laws, we create all kinds of disturbances and we don't know where it's going to end. Some effects of soil abuse we have touched on tonight, but there are many more, in fact, enough to write whole books about.

QUESTION: "Do earthworms produce fertility in the soil over and beyond what the rotting organic material would produce itself?"

ANSWER: Yes. Earthworms are one of those "little animals" that belong to good soil and do a terrific job in decomposing both organic matter and dirt. Darwin calculated that one worm puts through him- or herself a quantity of soil that is almost unbelievable. Soil that has passed through the intestinal process of a worm has improved tremendously in quantities of plant-available potassium and phosphate.

It has also been shown, and again I think it was by Darwin, that a *good* acre of land contains several tons of worms. Their work is also very important for aeration of the soil by means of their extensive burrowings. I have conducted experiments in many countries, and it is amazing to see how quickly the earthworm population increases with soil improvements. You wonder where they come from.

I have experimented with soil in Spain where I could not find any worms. By improving it, it was teeming with

them two years later. Earthworms are undoubtedly "little friends" that are very beneficial to the soil.

A fertile acre of land has also millions of insects of various kinds, all of which are doing their jobs. Some are devouring parasites, others are preparing organic material for subsequent decomposition by bacteria. All of them

also fertilize the soil with their wastes and dead bodies.

I thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. It has been a pleasure to be with you.

[And we wish to thank Mr. Eweson for consenting to have this material available for all who read The PLAIN TRUTH.]

GERMAN RATIONALISM Exposed!

(Continued from page 40)

Lord" (Ezekiel 7:4).

God will punish this nation until we acknowledge that God is God: "And the cities that are inhabited shall be laid waste, and the land shall be desolate; and ye shall know that I am the Lord" (Ezek. 12:20).

Your immediate future is of your own choosing.

God says "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return. That unto me *every knee shall bow*, every tongue shall swear" (Isa. 45:22,23).

God also says, "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land" (Isa. 1:18-19).

Yes, every knee is going to have to bow and confess that Jesus Christ is LORD.

You will need to be willing to give up this world's Satanic philosophies, religions and false scientific theories and get back to God's Instruction Book for you—the Bible—and live abundantly "by every word" (Matt. 4:4). Send for the following articles which will help you understand the Bible: "WHY GOD IS NOT REAL to Most People," "How to be an OVERCOMER," and "The SEVEN KEYS to Understanding the Bible." These articles are absolutely free.

The choice before you is Life—or Death—Eternal Life, or Eternal Death. God commands you, "THEREFORE CHOOSE LIFE, that both thou and thy seed may live" (Deut 30:19).

Just What Do You Mean —KINGDOM OF GOD?

(Continued from page 16)

CHURCH was to preach His Gospel to all the world. They were to receive the Holy Spirit, begetting them as saints—as Christians—putting them into God's CHURCH. This would infuse them with the power to carry out the mission of the Church. But it was NOT the setting up of the Kingdom of God. Of that they were not to know the time.

Just what did Jesus mean, "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons?" He explained it another time.

It is recorded in Matthew 24:36: There He was speaking of the end of this world, and His second Coming:

"But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." He was speaking of His second coming, and setting up of the Kingdom, the time of which man knows, but only the Father.

However, though we do not, even now, know the day or the hour, *we do know*, from God's prophecies, *that it is*