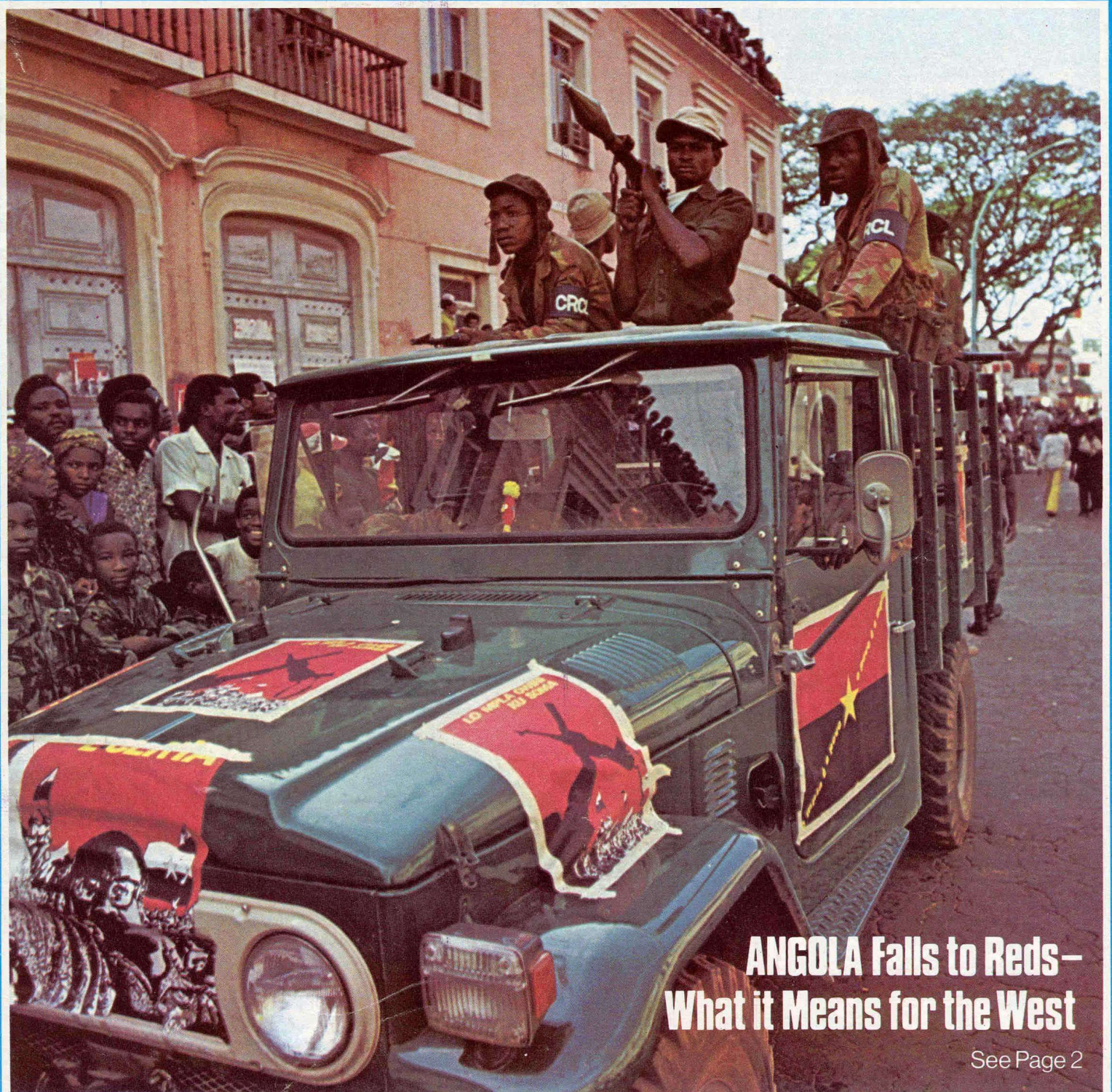


*the*  
**PLAIN TRUTH**  
*a magazine of understanding*



**ANGOLA Falls to Reds—  
What it Means for the West**

See Page 2



**The handwriting is on the wall, but unbelievable prosperity and world peace is closer than you think! To be forewarned is to be forearmed — and this will affect every one of us!**

It's time we take notice. The trend is now unmistakable. You need to understand *what it means!*

Suddenly the United States no longer enjoys the highest per capita income of any nation. Sweden has now risen above us.

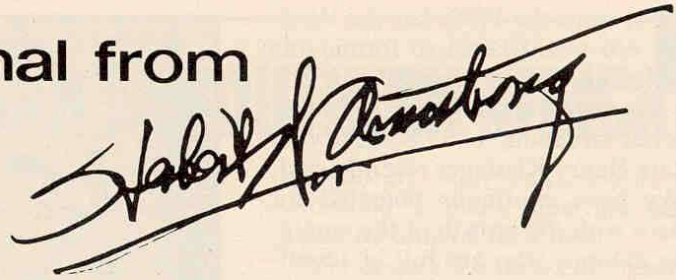
The United States' world's highest living standard *has started on the way down.* You need to understand **WHAT** is now actually happening, **WHY** it is happening, and **WHERE** it's going to take **YOU** and your family, your relatives, and your neighbors!

The buying power of the average American family dropped nearly three percent last year. And that was the second year in a row! Actually, the typical family's **REAL** income last year was even less than it was six years before — and that in spite of the fact that more wives are working now. Forty-three percent — or twenty million wives — are now working. More than that, some five percent of laborers are now holding down two jobs. Still, total **FAMILY INCOMES** are on the decrease.

What **CAUSED** American prosperity to rise so high above all other nations in the first place? And what has **CAUSED** this trend to decline?

I was involved in a personal experience that explains in part the rising of the average American income. In early January 1914, I was traveling eastward in upstate New York from Buffalo, as editorial representative of America's largest trade journal. At Utica I received a telegram from the magazine's home office to go immediately to Detroit to interview Henry Ford. A news bombshell had broken the same day. The Ford Motor Company had startled the nation — and the world — with the sensational announcement of a new \$5.00 per day wage scale. The union scale for automo-

Personal from



## **WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE U.S. STANDARD OF LIVING— AND WHY?**

bile workers was then \$3.75 per ten-hour day. Ford had announced a \$5.00 per day wage for a nine-hour day.

The magazine editors wanted an on-the-spot story by their own editorial representative. I did see Henry Ford, but the real story came from John R. Lee, head of Ford's Sociological Department. He had originated the plan.

I have published the account of this incident before, but it is important that I repeat it here, because it explains a major factor in America's rise to the highest living standard in all human history.

"You are now paying the highest wage rate in the automobile industry, *right?*" I began.

"**WRONG!**" came back Mr. Lee, with emphasis. "We are now paying the *lowest* wage rate."

"But is not the union scale at other plants \$3.75 per 10-hour day, and are you not now paying \$5.00 per 9-hour day?"

"Oh yes, but we figure what we pay in terms of what we **GET**, and we **GET** twice as much work accomplished per 9-hour day as other factories get per 10-hour day. In other words, other factories pay \$7.50 to **GET** the same amount of production we get for \$5.00."

This left me a little bewildered.

"You see," Mr. Lee explained, "we have now gone on the assembly-line system of mass production. This automatically sets the pace for each man's work. The machinery now does much of the work formerly done by hand. We have a mass market which makes possible **MASS MACHINE PRODUCTION.** That's the reason we can sell the Model T Ford at such a low price. That **MASS PRODUCTION** by the assembly-line method lowers production cost. No other automobile company has a market large enough to go on this method of production."

But it was only a matter of a little time until all U.S. automobile makers were on machine mass production. American population was growing. Mass machine production greatly lowered labor costs in production. No other country at the time had a market large enough to warrant mass-machine production.

Perhaps this might have made America's capitalists far richer, but labor unionism was growing by leaps and bounds at that time. They went after and got their share of the benefits from this lower-cost machine production.

Result: In a few years America's laboring class produced a new and vast **MIDDLE-class** population.

*(Continued on page 21)*



## THE INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL, PART VIII

# HUMAN NATURE—AND HOW A WHOLE WORLD IS DECEIVED ABOUT ITS ORIGINS

**Here is a BOMBSHELL of TRUTH almost no one has understood. The world's evils are attributed to HUMAN NATURE. WHY, as the Bible says, is the heart deceitful above all things and desperately wicked? Did God create in us a nature that "is enmity [hostile] against God"? Are babies born with this selfish, evil nature?**

by Herbert W. Armstrong

**I** OVERHEARD one say: "Just look at that beautiful, sweet little baby — and to think it's filled with all that evil, despicable human nature!"

But *was it?*

Think of this paradox! How can it be explained? The human mind can produce wonders. We have sent successive teams of men to walk on the moon. We have returned them safely through the earth's atmosphere. Yet these marvelous human minds cannot solve our problems here on earth — cannot bring the world PEACE!

**WHY?** All the violence, war, crime, corruption, dishonesty, and immorality is blamed on HUMAN NATURE.

But where did HUMAN NATURE come from? Did the Creator instill it within us from creation? Were we born with it? And please understand that in this article I am speaking of human nature in its evil spiritual phase — of vanity, lust, greed, envy, jealousy, competition, strife, rebellion against authority, resentment, and hate.

The answer requires a knowledge of the composition and nature of the human mind — accessible only by revelation. In Part VII (*The Plain Truth*, Sept. 6, 1975) the composition of the human mind, as compared to animal brain, was ex-

plained. BUT **WHY** does such wonderful MIND power work so much evil?

Did an all-loving, all-merciful, almighty GOD deliberately plague the human race He created with an in-born nature of vanity, lust, and greed — with a heart of hostility against God, of deceit, envy, jealousy, and hatred?

### **How Was Adam, at His Creation?**

As stated in Part VII, few indeed know *what* a human being really is, HOW we humans came to be here on earth, the real human potential, *where* we are going, or *what* is the WAY?

In preceding installments I have shown what *caused* God to create man, *why* we came to be put on earth, the real PURPOSE for human life, the AWESOME human potential. Yet we humans seem to be cursed with this evil human nature!

In the present installment I want to show what is the real source of this evil nature — *why* the human mind works as it does. The Bible is our source.

So first, let's see what is revealed about the first man, Adam, and his nature *at the time of his creation*.

The Bible reveals only the most brief high points of human history for the first two thousand-plus years — a third of all the time from the

creation of man to now! Only eleven chapters are devoted to the history of all that span of time. The account of the first created couple is merely the briefest possible summary.

The first humans were the last act of creation on the sixth day of what is commonly called "creation week," recorded in the first chapter of Genesis.

God had created plant life — the flora — on the third day of that week, animal life — the fauna — on the fifth and sixth, each reproducing "*after its own kind*." Cattle reproduced after the cattle kind (verse 25), lions after the lion kind, horses after the horse kind, etc.

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." In other words, "Let us make MAN *after the GOD kind!*" God was actually *reproducing Himself!*

And notice, the name God — the original Hebrew name as originally written throughout Genesis 1 is *Elohim*. It is a uniplural noun, like family, group, church. It is ONE family composed of more than one person. It is like one team, one church, but each composed of multiple persons. The God to whom Jesus prayed is the FATHER of the FAMILY that is GOD. God IS a FAMILY — but ONE family, ONE GOD.

"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him, male and female created he them." WHY? Because human reproduction is the type of God's reproducing Himself. And physical reproduction requires both male and female.

But continue: "And God blessed them . . ." Did He *bless* them by creating in them an evil sinful nature, utterly unable to be subject to God's *right* way of life? But continue this passage: ". . . and God



said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth" (Gen. 1:28).

"And God saw every thing that He had made, and behold, it was very good" (verse 31). If the first humans — as God had created them — were VERY GOOD, could it include a hostile and evil nature that was very BAD?

*That ought to give every reader something to think about!*

Now what does this record of the creation of the first humans reveal as to Adam's nature *at the time of his creation*? I repeat: Only the very most brief high spots are recorded here. The little that is revealed gives us, however, all we really need to know.

Here it is: "And out of the ground the Eternal God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them ..." (Gen. 2:19).

Here, in the briefest of summaries, we may see clearly whether this short account reveals a rebellious and disobedient nature in Adam, or one of compliance and obedience.

Absolutely NO REBELLION is indicated here. We find, instead, the response that Adam gave names to all cattle, to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field.

This incident reveals Adam's attitude and nature *as he was created*, PRIOR TO his temptation by Satan (which is recorded in chapter 3). Notice carefully. Absolutely NOTHING in the account of this pre-temptation incident indicates in Adam the presence of an evil, hostile, rebellious attitude or nature. It does not reflect a heart that is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked, as human nature is described (Jeremiah 17:9), nor a carnal mind that is enmity (hostile) against God and which "is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Romans 8:7).

Nor, on the other hand, does it reveal a nature filled with the spirit of God. Adam had not yet been confronted by Satan, had not disobeyed, nor had he taken of the "tree of life" to receive the indwelling LOVE and POWER of God's holy spirit, which would have im-

parted the DIVINE NATURE (II Peter 1:4).

So prior to the temptation by Satan, we have only the revelation that Adam's NATURE, as God created him, was *not* evil, hostile and diabolical. There may have been the physical and mental nature of self-preservation and such things. But NOT the evil nature of SELF-centeredness.

We need to realize that God created Adam and the human race for a PURPOSE. We need to have clearly in mind, at this point, WHAT that purpose is.

Angels had inhabited this planet before the creation of man (II Peter 2:4-6). These angels had *sinned*. God had set over them a king — Lucifer, a super archangel — to govern them with the GOVERNMENT OF GOD (Isaiah 14:12-15, Ezekiel 28:11-17). All this has been covered in detail in previous installments.

This super king, Lucifer, was the supreme being in created perfection it is possible to create (Ezek. 28:12, 15). But, remember, holy and righteous CHARACTER is something that *cannot* be created in one *instantaneously by fiat*. It must be *developed* in an independent entity through a process in which one comes to recognize the right way from the wrong, to *choose* the right and reject the wrong even against self-desire.

The great Lucifer and the angels under him (apparently a third of all angels) were created as holy beings, composed of spirit, immortal. But in order that they have personality and individuality as independent beings, it was necessary that they be provided with faculties for knowing, thinking, reasoning, and making their own decisions and choices.

These angels followed their king Lucifer in the decision to turn *from* and rebel *against* the GOVERNMENT OF God — God's WAY OF LIFE. That is THE WAY OF LOVE — outgoing concern for the good of others — the way of humility, obedience to and love for their MAKER, of giving, serving, cooperating, and sharing. They turned to THE WAY of vanity, lust and greed, of rebellion, jealousy, and envy, of competition, strife, and violence, of resentment, bitterness, and destruction. Obviously the other two thirds of the angels and

archangels have remained holy, loyal, and obedient to GOD's government.

But now, to carry out God's PURPOSE for the inhabitants of this earth, to accomplish the grand and awesome PURPOSE throughout the entire universe that could have been theirs, GOD IS REPRODUCING HIMSELF THROUGH HUMAN BEINGS!

The super archangel Lucifer was the supreme pinnacle of God's creative power in a created being. When he turned to rebellion, it left ONLY GOD Himself who could be utterly relied on NEVER to deviate from God's WAY — God's GOVERNMENT. It is impossible for God to sin — because he WILL NOT! It now became God's purpose to reproduce Himself through human beings.

That required *the development* in human beings of God's own holy, righteous CHARACTER. It was necessary, for this purpose, that man be composed of physical matter, that he CHOOSE God's government, reject Lucifer's (now Satan's) self-centered rebellious way, and strive to overcome it. God's PURPOSE in having put humans on earth can be achieved only by man coming to choose God's GOVERNMENT as God's way of life — to reject with utter finality Satan's way, completely overcoming it.

So God created MAN out of physical matter. God created in man a MIND like God's, though of course inferior, because it was composed of physical brain, empowered with intellect by a spirit (essense) in each.

Although the holy and righteous CHARACTER to be developed within man must actually come from God, each human must make his own decision. He must make his own choice to reject Satan's WAY, strive against it, and to obey God's GOVERNMENT.

Adam was compelled, therefore, to make the choice. God purposely allowed Satan opportunity to confront Adam with his way of rebellion. But He did NOT allow Satan to get to Adam *first*. God Himself instructed Adam in GOD'S WAY — the way of the GOVERNMENT OF GOD based on the LAW OF GOD, just as Lucifer and his angels had been first instructed in the ways of THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD.



Then God allowed Satan to confront Adam. Satan got to Adam through his wife. Satan subtly deceived Eve into DISBELIEVING what God had taught them. Adam followed her in choosing rebellion and rejecting God's rule and government over them. They took to themselves the knowledge of what is good and what is evil — deciding for themselves right from wrong.

Then, something happened to the minds of Adam and Eve — the eyes of both of them were opened (Genesis 3:7). The spirit and attitude of rebellion had entered their minds. Their minds (hearts) now had become perverted — deceitful and desperately wicked.

And THAT EVIL IN THEM CAME FROM SATAN, NOT FROM GOD! They were NOT created with this evil nature.

But how did humanity, today, come to have this evil attitude we call "HUMAN NATURE"? Did the children of Adam and Eve inherit it from them? Or, was it passed on by heredity?

Let me give you an example of heredity. God put Adam to sleep and removed one of his ribs, out of which He made Eve. Do all men today find themselves short one rib by heredity? Of course not. *Acquired characteristics are not passed on by heredity.*

Adam and Eve chose and acquired the "nature" or attitude of sin from Satan. It was not passed on by heredity. Jesus Christ called their second son "righteous Abel."

Then how do we humans come to have (universally) this evil attitude we call human nature today?

It's partly explained in the apostle Paul's second letter to the Corinthian church. He said he desired to present that church "as a chaste virgin to Christ. BUT I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ" (II Corinthians 11:2-3).

Satan was still around when Paul wrote. (The reason is explained elsewhere.) The people at Corinth had not received this evil nature by heredity. Rather, the apostle feared lest they (in this NEW Testament time) should be beguiled into evil

attitudes in the same manner as was the original mother Eve — directly by Satan.

Eve did not have a mind that was evil before Satan came along and confronted her. But Satan, by subtlety, deceived Eve. Eve's children were not born with this evil nature. Nor were the people of the Corinthian church. But Paul feared lest Satan, still around after some 4,000 years, pervert Corinthian minds directly, as he had done to Eve.

Satan was still around when Christ was born. He tried to destroy the Christ child by having Him murdered. Satan was still around when Jesus was thirty and baptized. And he tried to destroy Jesus spiritually then, in the temptation. As Satan destroyed (spiritually) Adam, he tried to destroy the "second Adam." Satan is still around TODAY!

But the wily Satan has succeeded in deluding many, if not most, of the best minds into believing he is a nonexistent myth. The best minds, unsuspecting, are deceived (Rev. 12:9).

Here is a TRUTH you, the reader, NEED TO KNOW!

To the church at Ephesus, God said through the apostle Paul (Ephesians 2:1-2): "And you [who] . . . in time past . . . walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience . . ."

GRASP IT! Satan is here called "the prince of the power of the AIR!" I could not have understood that 60 years ago. I did not then realize how communication by sound and by picture can be broadcast instantaneously through the air.

In past installments of this series I have stressed the point that Satan, the former great archangel cherub Lucifer, was the most perfect and powerful being that God could create as an individual being. He was perfect as originally created. But he is composed of spirit, and thus he is invisible to human eyes.

This great and powerful being, even though evil, has power literally to surcharge the air around this earth. HE BROADCASTS!

Wherever you are as you read these words, chances are there are

voices and perhaps music in the air around you. A radio or TV set tuned to the right wavelength would make them audible to you.

The spirit in every human being is automatically tuned in on Satan's wavelength. You don't hear anything because he does not broadcast in words — nor in sounds, whether music or otherwise. He broadcasts in ATTITUDES. He broadcasts in attitudes of SELF-centeredness, lust, greed, vanity, jealousy, envy, resentment, competition, strife, bitterness, and hate.

In a word, the selfishness, hostility, deceitfulness, wickedness, rebellion, etc. that we call "HUMAN NATURE" is actually SATAN'S NATURE. It is Satan's ATTITUDE. And broadcasting it, surcharging the air with it, Satan actually NOW WORKS IN the unsuspecting all over the world today! That is HOW Satan deceives the whole world today (Rev. 12:9 and 20:3). Being invisible, people do not see or hear him.

This prince of the power of the air — this god of this world — IS THE REAL SOURCE OF WHAT WE HAVE COME TO CALL "HUMAN NATURE"!

Here is the real CAUSE of all the world's evils!

But it seems nobody understands it, and therefore the world does nothing about it — except to go along with it blaming human nature and supposing it was GOD who created us with an evil nature. Actually, it is Satan's nature.

Let me give you an illustration of how we can be swayed, influenced, and driven Satan's wrong way by his broadcasting through the air. When God wanted to cause captive Jews in ancient Babylon to return to Jerusalem to build the second temple, He put it in the mind of Cyrus, king of Persia. The Persian Empire had taken over the rule of empire from Babylon. Following is the explanation of how God moved Cyrus to do what God wanted.

"Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia . . . the Eternal stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom . . ." (Ezra 1:1) that a contingent of Jews return to Jerusalem.

God did not speak to Cyrus in  
(Continued on page 24)



wicked Jews?" (Arian Controversy, Gwatkin, p. 38.)

So strong was the anti-Jewish feeling that pork or ham — an abomination to the Jews — was deliberately eaten on Easter to show utter contempt for anything "Jewish."

Thus the Nicaean Council — regarded by the world as one of the great milestones of Christianity — condemned observance of the New Testament Passover without even looking into the Bible. And by "violence and bloodshed" — as history shows (Hislop, p. 107) — the observance of the pagan Easter was enforced in its place.

### Does It Make Any Difference?

Some will still say, "Yes, I know that Easter has a pagan origin, and I can plainly see that Christ was not resurrected on a Sunday. But as long as we keep Easter in a Christian spirit as a kind of remembrance of Christ's resurrection, what difference does it make? After all, regardless of the significance of the day or the various customs associated with it, we're doing it to remember the resurrection of Christ, aren't we?"

Not the Christ of the Bible, you're not! Really, though, it doesn't make a bit of difference — if Christ is not alive, if the Bible is not the Word of God, and if there is no God.

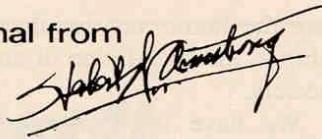
Because if there is no God and we're left free to pick and choose whatever custom most appeals to us for our own religions, then let's have at it with great zeal! But, at least, let's call a spade a spade — and realize the true significance of the symbols we use.

But since there is a God and since Jesus Christ really did walk out of his tomb, then it does make a tremendous difference — to Christ!

There is not a single word in the Bible telling us to observe Easter. Instead, God thunders, "Learn not the way of the heathen" (Jer. 10:2). And any encyclopedia will tell you that Easter is a pagan festival, long antedating Christianity. More detailed proof is available in our surprising free booklet, *The Plain Truth About Easter!*

Are you going to obey God? The choice is yours. □

Personal from



(Continued from page 1)

But by about 1960 something significant had happened. The average American wage was about three times higher than that paid in Britain and Europe and almost four times higher than that paid in Japan. But meanwhile, the Common Market had given European nations a MASS MARKET, and they had gone to mass-machine production. Result: European nations had come to mass-machine production with low-cost labor, while the United States had mass-machine production with HIGH-cost labor.

This in turn got the U.S. dollar into trouble abroad due to unequal cash balances.

But this is only a partial explanation of what skyrocketed the United States up to the highest per capita income — the highest living standard of the nation as a whole of any nation in the history of mankind. And it also is only a partial explanation of the present downturn of that affluent living standard.

A major cause lies in much deeper roots and involves a history of upwards of 3,000 years. Actually, what is now happening — this sudden downward trend in American prosperity, the accelerating trend worldwide of increasing violence, wars, overthrow of governments of nations at the rate of one a month, and world evils in general — is the beginning of a staggering climax of world trouble such as never occurred before.

World leaders do not realize what's coming. They are almost totally unaware. They have been falsely educated into closing their minds to the CAUSES of great world events. They have been educated to ignore causes and deal with effects.

The world's best minds are in ignorance of the unprecedented cataclysm that is about to strike. It has

been laid out in advance for thousands of years in prophecy. But the prophecies have not been understood or believed because the vital KEY that could unlock prophecies has been LOST!

That key is the identity of the United States and the British nations in biblical prophecies. It's all explained in our free booklet *The United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy*.

This booklet shows that it was prophesied long ago that, beginning 1800-1803, the United States and Britain would suddenly spring to the greatest wealth and power ever attained by any nation. God had promised that. It happened!

These nations reached the zenith of world power and wealth by the year 1950. The most amazing fact of world history is the sudden skyrocketing of two nations — the United States and Britain — to unprecedented wealth and power. The British and Americans came into possession of more than two thirds — almost three fourths — of the cultivated wealth and resources of the WHOLE WORLD! All other nations combined shared between them less than a third!

What CAUSED this unequaled surge to wealth and power?

Abraham Lincoln answered: "We find ourselves in the peaceful possession of the fairest portion of the earth, as regards fertility of soil, extent of territory, and salubrity of climate . . . We . . . find ourselves the legal inheritors of these fundamental blessings. We toiled not in their acquisition or the establishment of them."

Again Lincoln said, "It is the duty of nations, as well as of men, to owe their dependence upon the overruling power of God . . . and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations *only* are blessed whose God is the Lord. . . . We have been the recipients of the choicest blessings of heaven. We have been preserved, these many years, in peace and



prosperity. We have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation ever has grown, *but we have forgotten God!* We have forgotten the gracious Hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own."

The living God *gave* us this vast, unprecedented prosperity.

Lincoln saw a nation that had forgotten God — a nation drunk with a success not due to its own efforts — a nation taking all the credit and glory to itself. This great president called for a day of fasting and prayer to confess the national sins before God. The fate of the nation was then hanging in the balance. God heard and answered — the nation was saved.

But today the threat is a thousand times greater. And today there is no national leader with the UNDERSTANDING, the courage, and the faith to bring our nations to their knees for our deliverance.

What have we done with these multitudes of national and individual blessings which actually were the gift of the living God? God did NOT promise to continue the blessings if we rebelled. We have been rebellious and unwilling to yield to our God and HIS WAYS which would have guaranteed *lasting* peace and prosperity. We have become arrogant and selfish. We have polluted the fertile lands the living God GAVE US. We have polluted the air, the rivers, lakes and oceans. We have polluted our own minds and those of our children — teaching the anti-God fable of evolution. We have given public acceptance to the misnamed "new morality" which is gross IMMORALITY! We have given public acceptance to homosexuality, premarital sex, and perversion. We have polluted the sacred institution of marriage, and through a constantly increasing divorce rate, we have started on a course of destroy-

ing the home and family relationship — the foundation of any stable society.

We have filled our lands with crime — with corruption in high places — with violence.

Speaking of this very condition and time, God says in the prophecy of Leviticus 26, "I... will break the pride of your power..."

Fifty years ago we had less power, but we had PRIDE in our power. When a German battleship was steaming toward Manila Bay, President Theodore Roosevelt sent a strong note to Kaiser Wilhelm demanding the immediate withdrawal of the battleship. When the Kaiser ignored the demand, "Teddy" sent another note. Only, as I myself

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***Today there is no national leader with the understanding, the courage, and the faith to bring our nations to their knees for our deliverance.***

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heard him say, he did not send this note to the Kaiser. He sent it to Admiral Dewey, in command of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. It instructed Dewey to steam with the whole fleet full speed toward the German battleship, to fire one warning shot over her mast, and if she did not thereupon turn around, the note instructed, "SINK HER." Roosevelt said, "The Kaiser learned that I MEANT IT!"

But we as nations have turned from the God who so richly blessed us. And He is now withdrawing the blessings.

The United States has now won its LAST WAR! We were defeated humiliateingly in South Vietnam by little North Vietnam. We *have the power*, but WE ARE AFRAID TO USE IT! Our high standard of living is starting DOWNWARD. Our defeat in South Vietnam and our Watergate scandal — followed by the CIA scandal — have greatly weakened the respect other nations had for us.

Europeans had relied on the United States for protection against Russia. They are fast losing con-

fidence in that reliance. Soon they will unite POLITICALLY and MILITARILY in a gigantic U.S. of EUROPE — a resurrection of the once powerful "Holy Roman Empire." And it will be a threat that could DESTROY the U.S. and Britain.

Already the once proud British Empire has crumbled. They were PROUD of their power — a PROUD people. They are no longer a major nation.

Now, as other prophecies reveal, the United States and the British peoples are to be visited soon by such extreme drought and famine that disease epidemics following in their wake will take millions of lives — up to one third of our populations! When the heaven above us is as iron and the earth is as brass (Leviticus 26:19), our nations will realize that needed rain does not come from iron above, and an earth like brass does not soak up rain nor grow crops.

"And," continues the prophecy, "your strength shall be spent in vain: for your land shall not yield her increase, neither shall the trees of the land yield their fruits" (Lev. 26:20).

But continue the prophecy: "And [after this] if ye walk contrary unto me, and will not hearken unto me; I will bring seven times more plagues upon you according to your sins. . . . And I will bring a sword upon you . . ." — INVASION — NUCLEAR DESTRUCTION! (Lev. 26:21, 25.)

Unless these nations do turn to our God and to HIS RIGHTEOUS WAYS OF LIFE, this and other prophecies warn of another third of our people being destroyed by military invasion. Our CITIES shall be destroyed — undoubtedly by NUCLEAR holocaust — and our people will go into CAPTIVITY AS SLAVES!

But UNDERSTAND THIS! With God, punishment is CORRECTION for our GOOD — not revenge! Prophecy shows OUR PEOPLE IN CAPTIVITY AND SLAVERY at the time of Christ's coming!

BUT THEN will come DELIVERANCE, at Christ's coming, and





# In Brief

by Stanley R. Rader

## The Lesson of Angola

**Nassau, Bahamas, February 16, 1976:** Former Secretary of Defense James R. Schlesinger, forced to resign late last year after losing a power struggle in Washington with Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, has written in the February issue of *Fortune* that "global realities have thrust us [the American people] into a role that we might have preferred to avoid. It is an unenviable fate. Yet, it must be faced soberly. There is no escape." Mr. Schlesinger sees a specter arising and haunting Europe — a specter of Soviet hegemony resulting from the steady expansion of the military power of the Soviet state.

He is not alone, however, in his concern. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, leader of Great Britain's Conservative Party, is likewise concerned. She has recently stated that the strategic threat to Great Britain and its Western allies from Soviet power was greater now than at any moment since the end of World War II. NATO's General Alexander Haig, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, agrees that Soviet power is greater than ever before on the sea, in the air, and on land, and it threatens not only Europe but also Japan, the Middle East, and Africa. Russia, he has said, has risen from a regional or continental power to become a superpower playing a global, imperialistic role.

Such power, General Haig has cautioned, will not be controlled by mere rhetoric. There can be only one

answer — the maintenance of equivalent Western power. Within NATO, he has said, with twice the industrial base and one and one half times the human resources, this power is clearly greater — given the will.

Mrs. Thatcher has said the West will wind up on the scrap heap of history if it cannot learn the lesson of what the Soviets and their 12,000 Cuban proxies have successfully accomplished in Angola. It is either stand up to future challenges or see the entire world ruled within a short period of time by *Pax Sovietica*.

Angola is not the only area where Russia is operating in Africa. Russia is now operating through its "technical advisers" in Algeria, Libya, Somalia, Guinea, Nigeria, Uganda, and Mozambique. Such an elaborate network of Russian activity in Africa reflects a policy — both economic and military — which should give rise to great concern in Washington and elsewhere in the West.

Yet, despite Mr. Kissinger's general efforts toward "détente" and despite his statements in Congress and on his recent swing through Latin America denouncing the Soviet intervention in Angola, the U.S. response has encouraged additional Soviet activity in Africa and elsewhere.

*The Plain Truth* has warned of the danger from the Soviet Union and from communism in general for more than 40 years. In issue after issue, its pages have been devoted to warning the American people, as well as its

friends in the West (readers throughout the world in the English, French, German, Spanish, and Dutch languages), of the Soviet threat or of the specter of Soviet hegemony, as Mr. Schlesinger has referred to it. Mrs. Thatcher was right that we must learn our lesson from Angola — and there is not much time to do so.

As I write this column, it is just a little difficult to remember that the world is such a dangerous place and that we are truly confronted with such an ominous threat to our future security. Nassau is truly beautiful, and we are enjoying one of its more beautiful days. Mr. Herbert Armstrong and I are here for another of his personal appearances, and just a few hours ago we completed our interviews with two local newspapers, several international wire services, and the national radio network. Mr. Armstrong once again stressed that man is in a position now to destroy all human life and that the world will know more chaos and more destruction, although man will not be permitted to destroy himself entirely. Once again, he emphasized a strong, supernatural, intervening hand will be necessary to prevent cosmocide. On Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights he will tell his audiences more about the world tomorrow, as well as this troubled world today.

Postscript: We have just received word from Japan that one of our greatest friends and one of Japan's great leaders has died. Dr. Nobumoto Ohama, former president of Waseda University and a man who has worked throughout his long life in bringing about better understanding between the people of Japan and the United States, had cooperated with us in so many ways throughout the years as we have striven to build a bridge between his people and ours. He had recently agreed to serve as the Chairman of the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation of Tokyo, Japan. □

WORLD PEACE, with OUR PEOPLES elevated to once again become the HEAD — in greater prosperity and blessings than ever before — and with our peoples turning to and receiving SPIRITUAL SALVATION AND ETERNAL LIFE!

WHY have those who profess to base their religion on the BIBLE

never WARNED our people of these plain and clear PROPHECIES?

I have been commissioned by the living GOD to get out this WARNING to our peoples — as well as to take Christ's last MESSAGE to Gentile nations for a warning to ALL NATIONS! Sure, I get persecuted for it. Sure I've had to make unrealized per-

sonal SACRIFICES for it — but SOMEBODY has to have the courage to DO IT, and the living Christ has called and chosen me. And our great God continues to bless me with youth, strength, dynamic energy and vitality. And I know, that with YOUR PRAYERS and help back of me, it will be accomplished! □



# HUMAN NATURE

(Continued from page 13)

words or direct communication, as He talked with Moses and God's prophets. God reached Cyrus *through Cyrus' spirit*. God stirred up his spirit, causing him to want to do it. God did cause King Cyrus to know that in issuing this proclamation he was doing it according to the will of God.

Utilizing this same principle, Satan, prince of THE POWER OF THE AIR, stirs the spirits of humans, injecting into them attitudes, moods, and impulses of selfishness, vanity, lust, and greed, attitudes of resentment against authority, of jealousy and envy, of competition and strife, of resentment and bitterness, of violence, murder, and war. People do not recognize the source of these attitudes, feelings, motives, and impulses. As I said, they do not SEE the invisible Satan. They hear no audible voice. They do not know the attitude came from Satan (Rev. 12:9). But they come to FEEL such attitudes, impulses, and desires. That is how Satan DECEIVES THE WHOLE WORLD.

People will feel depressed and won't realize why. But those unaware of this phenomenon, with this self-centered attitude being broadcast and injected into their unsuspecting minds from earliest childhood, do, to a greater or lesser degree, absorb it until it becomes their normal attitude. It becomes habitual. It does not, of course, exhibit the *same degree* of effect in all minds — one person will become more evil than another. But the natural tendency is there. They come to have it *naturally*. It becomes their very NATURE. And we call it "human nature."

All this is an outstanding example of just *how subtle* Satan is! The finest and most brilliant human minds have been deceived by it. Thus the WHOLE WORLD has been swayed by Satan into what I often term, simply, the "GET" way of life — the way that has become HABITUAL and NATURAL which we term "HUMAN NATURE."

Few realize how many passages in the Bible, especially in the New

Testament, warn us about Satan and his subtlety. But first, before I take you to more of these, let us follow on through this 2nd chapter of Ephesians.

In chapter 1 of this letter to the church at Ephesus, the apostle Paul gives thanks and praise to God who has blessed "us" (the converts at Ephesus and Paul — all Christians) with every spiritual blessing within the heavenly sphere. God had chosen us before we were born — before the foundation of the world — predestinated to be called to spiritual salvation. God has richly *lavished* on us His grace. He shows that we being called in this time — this New Testament "church age" — are the *first* to be called to this glorious grace (emphasizing that this is NOT the time God is trying to save the world, but only those predestined to be called NOW). Paul has heard of their faith and never ceases to give thanks for it. He prays for their eyes to be opened fully to the awesome human potential — the supreme greatness of their divine heritage.

I urgently suggest the reader carefully read this first chapter in the Moffatt translation. As translated by Moffatt I think it is one of the most beautiful, uplifting, and inspiring pieces of literature I have ever read.

Now the highlights of chapter 2: You Christians at Ephesus were spiritually dead, but Christ has given you the impregnation of eternal life. You are now spiritually alive. In the past you lived according to the way of this world (the SELF-centered way), according to the PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR. In II Corinthians 4:4 Satan is called the god of this world, who has blinded the minds of those who do not believe in Christ and His truth. NOT that they inherited this spiritual blindness — but that *Satan* blinded those living in that generation *directly*.

But here in Ephesians 2 Satan is referred to as the PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR! Notice the word *POWER* — the POWER of the air. Then it calls him the SPIRIT (being) that NOW — the time when they were living — actually was WORKING IN those of the world who were not obedient — that is, the world in general. The Phillips translation in

modern English renders this: "You [then] drifted along in the stream of this world's ideas of living, and obeyed its unseen ruler [who is still operating in those who do not respond to the truth of God]."

Emphatically this shows Satan is the UNSEEN one who, unrealized by the people, is actually swaying their minds, leading them in what I term the "GET" way.

The Phillips translation continues (verse 3): "We all lived like that in the past, and followed the impulses and imaginations of our evil nature... like everyone else." This "nature" has been *acquired* from Satan. It was not inherited from our parents. It was not created in us by God. That which has become *habitual* and therefore *natural* becomes a NATURE within us.

Such nature is NOT hereditary, but an *acquired* characteristic. This very passage shows the AUTHOR of this "nature" to be Satan, NOT GOD. The next words in the Phillips translation are: "being under the wrath of God by nature." It would make no sense at all for God's wrath to be ON US BECAUSE OF WHAT GOD PUT WITHIN US. Adam was NOT created with this "EVIL nature." Adam acquired it from Satan. Lucifer (Satan) was created PERFECT. He acquired it by false reasoning. These Ephesians, in their generation, had acquired it from Satan. But now, IN CHRIST, through His grace, Christ had given them LIFE, who *were* spiritually dead because of this acquired evil nature.

But how about the converted Christian? His spirit, like all others, is tuned on Satan's wavelength. The same tendency, just as if this evil nature were inherent in him from birth, is present. Satan has been injecting it since early childhood. But the true Christian has repented of that WAY. He has REJECTED it. He has turned from it. He has accepted and turned *to* GOD's way — the way of GOD'S GOVERNMENT!

The passage in Ephesians 2 explains it. People generally, in the world, are spiritually dead. They have gone along with the rest of the world in the self-centered way. As the Phillips translation renders it, they have "drifted along on the stream of this world's way of living."



They have "obeyed its UNSEEN ruler [who is still operating in those who do not respond to the truth of God]."

I have quoted from the Phillips translation, not because it is a more accurate or dependable translation, but because it brought out the meaning more clearly in this particular passage.

Conversion *does not disconnect* Satan's wavelength. The tendency to become resentful over real or fancied wrongs or injustices from others, the tendency to try to get the best of others, may still prove a temptation. THESE are the things the converted Christian must strive to *overcome!*

When Jesus spoke of OVERCOMING, He referred to overcoming these WAYS of Satan, which are contrary to GOD'S way. The Christian must, as Peter was inspired to write, GROW in grace and in the KNOWLEDGE of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We read in James 4: "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." This is speaking of resisting these very self-centered thoughts, attitudes, tendencies, and ways which Satan injected into us from childhood and is constantly broadcasting and injecting into unsuspecting minds through the spirit in man.

However, no man is IMPELLED to respond to and obey these impulses being broadcast by Satan. Satan has no power to FORCE anyone to think or do wrong. But the unsuspecting automatically do without fully realizing what is taking place in their minds. They drift along.

The passage in II Corinthians 4:4 adds clarity to the entire thesis that this evil spiritual nature in humans has been *acquired*, individually by each person, from Satan.

Before I became familiar with radio, I could not have understood HOW Satan injects this evil attitude into humans. He is a SUPER POWERFUL spirit being. He was set on a throne as king over the earth. He himself, by his own reasoning processes, *acquired* this evil nature. God did not create it in him (Ezek. 28:15). Though disqualified now to administer the GOVERNMENT OF GOD over the earth, he must remain

here UNTIL his successor has qualified AND been inducted into office. There is a REASON why Christ has not YET come to take over that office, remove Satan, and *restore* the government of God.

Before Jesus Christ could qualify to restore the GOVERNMENT OF GOD and RULE all nations, He had to withstand Satan's most severe temptation. You'll read of that supreme struggle in the 4th chapter of Matthew. Jesus had to — *in human flesh* — reject Satan's way and teach and prove OBEDIENT to the GOVERNMENT OF GOD — so He can RESTORE it on earth!

It was immediately after that — after Christ QUALIFIED to restore the GOVERNMENT OF GOD to earth — that Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the KINGDOM OF GOD, and saying, The time is fulfilled (Mark 1:1, 14-15). It was never fulfilled until that titanic struggle in which Jesus resisted Satan, conquered him, and showed His MASTERY over him.

Now notice something you probably never realized before:

I have said repeatedly THIS IS NOT THE TIME GOD IS TRYING TO CONVERT THE WHOLE WORLD. He is calling only a comparative VERY FEW, now.

WHY? WHY does not God call everyone on earth NOW?

Are those of us called NOW getting a real SPECIAL deal?

Well, THINK OF THIS: We, now called, *must resist Satan*, who will PULL OUT ALL STOPS to attack and DESTROY those of us called NOW!

All others are drifting along SATAN'S WAY ANYWAY. Sure, he broadcasts to sway *everyone* to his SELF-CENTERED way, contrary to GOD'S WAY. But he has the whole world already going his way. But those of us who have turned from his way, are fighting to OVERCOME it, and who are turning to God's way — the WAY of God's GOVERNMENT — are the ones Satan HATES. He seeks specially to destroy us! Without God's protection and restraining power over Satan, we could never make it!

Few, even among professing converted Christians, realize the vital and SUPREME NEED to be conscious and constantly aware of Satan's ef-

forts to get to us, who already have turned *from* Satan's way and *to* the WAY of the GOVERNMENT OF GOD. For this very reason, Satan has gotten to and overthrown many who have fallen away (II Thes. 2:3).

Few actively heed what God, through Paul, said later to the Ephesians: "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against POWERS, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness [wicked SPIRITS] in HIGH PLACES" (Eph. 6:10-12).

There is a reason WHY God allows those predestinated to be called NOW to have to withstand Satan and his REBELLION AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD.

It is necessary — in order for us to QUALIFY to become rulers (under Christ) in the KINGDOM OF GOD — that we NOT ONLY reject Satan's false way but *strive against* it until we OVERCOME IT, relying all the while on GOD for the power to do so.

As we, from earliest childhood growing up, *acquired* Satan's nature, so, through conversion and the struggle of OVERCOMING, we rid ourselves of it. We ACQUIRE, instead, the DIVINE NATURE. Peter wrote that we become "PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE" (II Pet. 1:4). We most certainly were not born with it.

So, Lucifer ACQUIRED that satanic nature by his own reasoning and choice. Humans have ACQUIRED Satan's nature from childhood and call it "human nature." But converted Christians, who reject Satan's way and OVERCOME it, turning to GOD'S WAY, BECOME PARTAKERS OF — i.e., ACQUIRE — the DIVINE NATURE. But for God's PURPOSE, it was necessary that we first know and totally REJECT Satan's way and accept GOD'S GOVERNMENT.

When God does set out to CALL EVERY HUMAN ON EARTH to spiritual salvation, Satan will be BOUND a thousand years, unable to broadcast his impulses and attitudes. The world will be at PEACE! Those called then will not have to battle what we Christians have to now. But



**WHY?** There has to be a GOOD REASON!

To those of us being called, NOW, Jesus said: "And he that overcometh [Satan and his own self], 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 . . ." (Rev. 2:26-27).

When Christ comes to RULE, as the KING of kings and LORD of lords, we who are called now will rule with and under Him, as He restores the GOVERNMENT OF GOD to this earth.

Notice again: "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my father in his throne" (Rev. 3:21). Those who shall reign WITH Christ, when He comes to restore the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, MUST OVERCOME (and that includes overcoming SATAN), EVEN AS JESUS DID!

Now does this apply equally to those who shall be converted *after* Christ comes, during the millennium?

The answer is *NO!* These two quotations (above) are found in Jesus' message to the seven CHURCHES that span this CHURCH AGE! They do NOT apply to those called later! Do they apply *only* to the era of Thyatira and Laodicea? No, they apply to ALL the church age. These seven messages DO apply to *seven successive church eras*. BUT they *also* apply to the WHOLE CHURCH through ALL eras. In other words, the Ephesus characteristics DOMINATED in the first era, and the Laodicean will dominate in the last, but SOME of these characteristics are found in EVERY era. The messages apply to the WHOLE church (and so I have said and written for 49 years) but certain characteristics predominate in the various eras.

But GET THIS CRUX POINT! Jesus had to QUALIFY to RULE the earth. God's WHOLE PURPOSE IS TO RESTORE THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD on earth and set up the KINGDOM OF GOD. Jesus had to resist and overcome the temptations — very special ones — of SATAN. Are WE to rule *without* any such qualifications? *Of course not!* Those who are to rule with and under Christ when He restores the GOVERNMENT to the earth

MUST QUALIFY — must turn FROM Satan's WAY to GOD's WAY, that is, to the GOVERNMENT of GOD. We must root out — root and branch — Satan's ATTITUDE and WAY, and so thoroughly that we shall make it IMPOSSIBLE ever to turn again to Satan's way — IMPOSSIBLE TO SIN (I John 3:9).

Those called to spiritual salvation AFTER Christ comes will not have to battle Satan.

Notice, Matthew 25 and Revelation 20:

First, Matthew 25, beginning verse 31: "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory." Christ is coming in all the supreme POWER and GLORY of the Creator GOD! He is coming to RESTORE THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD over the WHOLE EARTH — OVER ALL NATIONS! One SUPER WORLD GOVERNMENT! He will restore the throne of David at Jerusalem. Since 1968 we have been in joint participation with Hebrew University and the Israel Archaeological Society in clearing off some 50 feet or more of debris which has covered the ancient throne of David, which existed some 2,500 years ago.

Continue: "And before him shall be gathered all nations" (verse 32). He is coming to RULE the WORLD — to RESTORE the GOVERNMENT OF GOD! Every government is founded on a basic LAW.

The law of God is unlike any man-made law of any human government. It is a SPIRITUAL law (Rom. 7:14). And it is a HOLY law (Rom. 7:12). It is A WAY OF LIFE — *God's way!* When people are governed in that way of life, there will be PEACE, HAPPINESS, JOY, ABUNDANCE!

But that basic LAW of the GOVERNMENT OF GOD is also the law of the Christian WAY of life. Sin (spiritually) is the transgression of that law (I John 3:4). Christ is coming also to call ALL PEOPLE to spiritual salvation and eternal life. That is when God will seek to spiritually save THE WHOLE WORLD — and NOT TILL THEN!

Continue: "And he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth the sheep from the

goats: and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the king say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matthew 25:32-34).

The nations before the king on his throne are the nations of this world. Those called to salvation during the church age and previously (prophets, etc.), will have been resurrected to meet Christ in the air, as He descends to earth on His return (I Thes. 4:16-17). They will be ruling with Christ, already being immortal, composed of spirit (Rev. 2:26-27; 3:21). They, with Christ, will compose the KINGDOM OF GOD.

It is necessary, here, to explain the difference between the GOVERNMENT OF GOD and the KINGDOM OF GOD. The GOVERNMENT OF GOD was established on earth IN PRE-HISTORY OVER THE ANGELS.

But the KINGDOM of God is BOTH the GOVERNMENT of God and the FAMILY of God. Those now being saved spiritually will, in the resurrection, INHERIT the kingdom of God. They shall have been BORN of God — born into the divine FAMILY of God. They shall be married to Christ. Of this divine spiritual marriage will be begotten and born spiritually children of God all during the thousand years commencing with Christ's return to earth as KING.

Now let's notice the 20th chapter of Revelation:

The apostle John is recording what he saw in vision: "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years" (Rev. 20:1-2).

When Christ comes again to earth in supreme POWER and GLORY, He shall already have been crowned with many crowns. The coronation ceremony will have taken place in heaven (throne of God the Father) before His return. Christ then shall have been qualified AND inducted into office. I have said before, Satan must remain on earth swaying the nations his way UNTIL Christ, the



successor, has both qualified AND been inducted into office.

Immediately on Christ's return, Satan shall be BOUND.

Continue: "And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season" (verse 3).

Those resurrected then shall reign over all nations with Christ for a thousand years of PEACE on earth.

Imagine what it shall be like with Christ and resurrected saints forming the KINGDOM OF GOD, ruling with the GOVERNMENT OF GOD over all living humans who shall be left alive. Satan will be restrained from broadcasting. Christ will be ruling with GOD'S WAY of life.

But NOW NOTICE! Verse 7: "And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of this prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth... to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea" (verses 7-8).

Grasp it! These are people at PEACE! They have not been inoculated with the satanic NATURE we now call "human nature." They shall have been living happily in PERFECT PEACE. Now Satan once MORE BROADCASTS. Remember these nations are HUMAN. Satan is INVISIBLE to them. But notice the CHANGE come over them as soon as Satan is loosed and able again to sway humanity:

Verse 9: "And they [the human nations] went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city..." Immediately "HUMAN NATURE" shall have entered into them! Immediately they shall have been filled with envy and jealousy against the saints of God, filled with wrath and violence! But God will not allow them to destroy. They shall have been *told* — have been warned about Satan. "...and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone... and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever."

After this shall occur the "Great

White Throne Judgment" — the resurrection of *all humanity* from the time of Adam to Christ's coming who had not been in the first resurrection or called by God. In this judgment is to be "the book of life," meaning many, perhaps most, shall then find spiritual salvation and eternal life. In the time of their judgment, Satan will be GONE!

Up to now, God has called VERY FEW to spiritual salvation, contrary to general tradition and opinion in the "Christian" world!

From Adam to Noah we have the record of only Abel, Enoch, and Noah — some 1,900 years! From Noah to Christ, there was Abraham, Lot, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph, prior to calling the children of Israel out of Egypt. God NEVER offered spiritual salvation (eternal life) to the O.T. nation Israel, but only to the prophets and those called to SPECIAL DUTY.

From Adam to Christ, NONE were called to spiritual salvation *except those called to a SPECIAL MISSION TO PERFORM*.

From Christ to now, only a VERY MINUTE PORTION of humanity has been called, and they for the SPECIAL MISSION OF THE GREAT COMMISSION — "Go ye into all the world and preach the GOSPEL" (of the KINGDOM OF GOD).

We who have been called in this "church age" have been called to qualify as rulers with and under Christ in the kingdom of God, restoring the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, in other words, to develop the holy, righteous CHARACTER of God. But OUR PART in the GREAT COMMISSION is the assignment God has given as THE MEANS of preparing us for rulership with and under Christ when He comes — and THAT IS NOW SOON!

This installment began with the question of whether this evil "human nature" is born in a sweet tiny baby. Let me now, before the close, quote three passages from the Bible.

"And they brought unto him [Jesus] also infants, that he would touch them... Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for *of such* is the kingdom of God" (Luke 18:15-16). The evil nature which some erroneously

have supposed was born in babies is the nature of Satan's kingdom, but "of such" — *these babies* — is the kingdom of GOD.

"At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, and said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, *and become as little children*, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 18:1-3).

"Jesus said, Suffer *little children*, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 19:14).

We humans start out at birth all right. But soon we begin to absorb and ACQUIRE the selfish, self-centered attitude broadcast by Satan. But Satan's kingdom of angels — now turned to demons — rejected the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, and it was thus removed from earth.

GOD'S PURPOSE in having created and put HUMANS on earth was to develop in them GOD'S own holy and righteous character. God wants a people who will REJECT and overcome Satan's WAY OF LIFE and turn to THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD — which is GOD'S WAY of life.

That GOVERNMENT OF GOD exists at this time on earth only in the Worldwide Church of God. Satan is angry. He hates it! He subtly tries to inject into minds under that government of LOVE a hostility that MISREPRESENTS it as a harsh and cruel government of Satan.

But I repeat, LUCIFER was created by God "*perfect* in all his ways, until iniquity was found in him." He *acquired* the nature of rebellion and evil by false reasoning. Adam *acquired* it from Satan. The Ephesians (Eph. 2:1) *acquired it from Satan — as has all humanity, except Jesus Christ*. But now, IN CHRIST, through His grace, we may ACQUIRE the DIVINE NATURE (II Pet. 1:4).

God's GREAT PURPOSE is to RESTORE THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD to this earth, in and through the KINGDOM OF GOD!

We CAN, by Christ's grace, CHANGE "human nature" and eradicate it entirely from us, replacing it with the DIVINE NATURE! □  
(To be continued in future issues)