

# PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE  
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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TO ALL PASTORS OF CHURCHES

by

Herbert W. Armstrong

Feast Fever is mounting! Let's make this the greatest Festival in our time! Remember, it is the LARGEST annual convention of any kind held anywhere in the world. Nothing else on earth is like it.

Much of the time ancient Israel in Old Testament times neglected to keep it. Some elements of the Church continued to observe this Feast for some time after the first century--but it faded out and was not restored until the living Christ restored it through me in the present Philadelphia era of the Church. It was not kept by the Sardis era, nor is it to this day.

But, when Christ comes to RULE ALL NATIONS, it will be restored WORLDWIDE! (Zech. 14.) Those who refuse will find rainfall withheld, and if they still refuse, God's PLAGUES will be sent the following year!

But it is not just a commanded DUTY--it is a wonderful TIME OF JOY AND REJOICING!

This year, for the very first time, EVERY PASTOR OF A LOCAL CHURCH will have opportunity to speak at one of the Feast sites.

There will be many more sites this year, due to gasoline shortage for travel. That means somewhat smaller attendances at many sites. But I remember that, back at Belknap Springs in Oregon, in the first years of this Festival in modern times, with fewer than 100 in attendance it was a WONDERFUL Feast! Everyone got to know closely everyone else. It was more like a large family gathering. Most of all, CHRIST HIMSELF WAS THERE WITH US--IN SPIRIT!

So, be sure you who speak take it SERIOUSLY.

Jesus said, "Who then is a faithful and wise servant whom the Lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat IN DUE SEASON? Blessed is that servant, whom his Lord when he cometh shall make him ruler over all his goods" (Matt. 24:45-46).

In some past years I have noticed that some ministers have spoken on just any subject they themselves liked to speak on--with NO RELATION to the MEANING of the FEAST! In this Festival we are to be enjoying a foretaste of the World Tomorrow--during the millennium, under the Government and the KINGDOM OF GOD.

So be sure your sermons are related to that joyous TIME. Give them "meat in due season!"

But I also have noticed in many Festivals, that sermons from some ministers of only Preaching Elder rank have been superbly OUTSTANDING and INSPIRING, with excellent instruction and content.

You fellows CAN DO IT! So pray over it fervently. Take it seriously. Put your whole heart into it. LIFT UP the spirits and the morale of God's people! We are drawing close to the END of this world, and to the COMPLETION of the Work God has called us to do. God bless you all. I pray for you all DAILY!

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NO POLITICAL ELECTIONS IN THE  
WORLD TOMORROW!

by

Herbert W. Armstrong

This was written August 14--last day of the Democratic National Convention. I had to think--after viewing on television both this and the Republican National Convention a month before--HOW DIFFERENT it will be in the World Tomorrow!

All three national Networks had their star and superstar newscasters covering these major conventions.

The convention halls were decorated in bright colors with red, white and blue predominating. The delegates wore loud color casual or sports attire, many with outlandish oversize hats. There were horns, sound-making instruments, beside the brass bands. There were whoop-and-holler demonstrations. There were thousands of balloons, like little children at play. There were many large signs and placards.

Each convention was quite a show!

And of course the usual politics were being played secretly in the usual smoke-filled hotel suites away from the convention halls--the jockeying for selfish advantage, political gain and coveting of power.

I am reminded of the answer given by Franz Joseph Strauss, often called "the Strong Man of Europe." He had spent the day visiting the Ambassador College campus, and was an evening dinner guest in my home.

It was a day or two after Richard M. Nixon had taken the oath of office after his first inauguration, January, 1969.

"What," asked a guest of Dr. Strauss, "do you think was going on in Mr. Nixon's mind as he was taking the oath of office?"

"How to be re-elected four years from now, of course," answered Herr Strauss without a second's hesitation.

On the Wednesday night before I wrote this, there had been considerable delay and nervous concern over what decision Edward Kennedy would make. He had lost the primary elections as a whole, had lost the open

floor fight to have delegates pledged to President Carter released and to throw the convention open. He had won the battle against the President on strategic platform planks. And now after a preweek political move to "dump Carter," the President had gone over the top on the first ballot. The President had not accepted without any personal reservation Mr. Kennedy's much-insisted on plank for spending 12 billion dollars immediately to ease unemployment. Mr. Carter got word to the convention he was for the same goal, but had personal reservations as to the Senator's method.

Would Senator Kennedy hold out, split the Party, or would he acquiesce for the sake of harmony and support Mr. Carter for re-election?

Just what, in these circumstances, was Mr. Kennedy thinking? Would German politician Dr. Strauss have said, "How Mr. Kennedy could be elected four years from now, of course"? Was the politician thinking of what is best for the PEOPLE, or what is best for his own fight to grab the throttle of greatest government power on earth? I won't answer that--I can't read his mind.

There was one bit of humor on the CBS coverage of the Wednesday night convention show. The dry-speaking Andy Rooney was asked by Walter Cronkite if he had any comment on whether the President should stick with Vice President Mondale for re-election. (The V.P. nomination was to come before the convention on Thursday.)

Andy Rooney did.

"I think," he said soberly, "the President should select a Vice President with more color. Why not Ex-President Ford? He almost made the Vice-Presidential bid at the Republican convention. A Republican on the ticket as Mr. Carter's V.P. would at least add color.

"Or," he continued, "If Mr. Carter does not like that suggestion, how about putting brother Billy on the ticket--keep it in the family? That way Billy could make foreign connections officially. Or, I have still another suggestion--since the First Lady, Roselyn Carter is the President's chief confidante anyway, why not a husband-and-wife team? She's a good campaigner."

Many millions of dollars of taxpayers' money have been spent on political campaigns and these conventions to nominate candidates for the people to vote on. The conventions were big noisy shows. There was laughter, "having a time," shouting, confusion, anger, jubilation, pathos, emotion and even tears.

In all this campaigning to "GET" the office of POWER, one observer said, "Thank God, only ONE candidate can win."

That is the way GOVERNMENT is carried on in this world.

Six thousand years ago, the former super archangel Lucifer, having rebelled against the Government of God on earth, was slinking around as a serpent, now called Satan. God had just created the first HUMAN--in God's own image--with a potential of inheriting the THRONE OF THE EARTH.

From this man, Adam, God made a woman, Eve, to be his wife. Eve was all for a "Woman's Rights Amendment." She took the lead. The man, created

to be the head of the wife, succumbed to her leadership. She led him into Satan's way. Adam joined her in rebelling against the GOVERNMENT OF GOD--rejecting God as Revealer of basic knowledge and as Giver of eternal LIFE!

When the first man and woman REJECTED GOD and HIS GOVERNMENT, CUT THEMSELVES OFF from God and the gift of His Holy Spirit, God made their decision binding on all their progeny for 6,000 years--until Christ, the "Second Adam," should have come, qualified by overcoming Satan and Satan's way, and actually RESTORED the GOVERNMENT OF GOD. This shall happen now, very shortly. For we are right at the END of that 6,000 years of the DAY OF MAN under SATAN, and the DAY OF THE LORD is almost upon us!

So ALL HUMANITY--except the minutest FEW God has specially called to His service in preparation for that future world government, has been CUT OFF from God and HIS GOVERNMENT. Man has been left to form HIS OWN ideas of how he should be ruled.

Down through history, some peoples have submitted to the tyranny of DICTATORSHIPS and autocratic MONARCHIES. Some have swung to the center and called it "Democracy." Others to the extreme left, calling it COMMUNISM. Even there it is actually the autocratic dictatorial RULE of a central Politburo, in which one man--a Stalin, a Khrushchev, or a Brezhnev--dominates as real RULER.

Even in the Democratic National Convention, some individual delegates interviewed were fightingly for turning "still farther LEFT."

But through TV, the public has seen a sample of MAN-made government in our day.

The living Jesus Christ is soon now going to return, as KING of kings, to RULE ALL NATIONS with the GOVERNMENT OF GOD!

There will be no election campaigns. No multi-million dollar fund-raising campaigns--no political conventions. No politics, pulling the wool over the eyes of the people in the struggle for POWER!

No wars. No crime. No more broken families. No hospitals, for people will be divinely healed.

What will be the BIG DIFFERENCE, THEN?

The present world, though the world of humans doesn't realize it, is actually swayed and RULED by the invisible Satan--the former Lucifer who originally sat on the THRONE of the whole earth.

Backtrack a second, to the original Adam and Eve. In the Garden of Eden were the two symbolic trees--one the "tree of LIFE" symbolizing the Holy Spirit of God and gift of eternal life. The other, the tree of "the knowledge of good and evil," and this knowledge they--for all humanity--took to themselves.

Just one super-significant thing was wrong with that. They did not realize--and mankind does not know today--that man was made with a "human" spirit inside him. This spirit, not present in animals or any other

physical life form, imparts the power of intellect to the human brain. But man's KNOWLEDGE is confined to the physical and material.

Man's PROBLEMS, troubles, evils, are all SPIRITUAL in nature. Man was made to NEED a SECOND SPIRIT--the HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD. This was freely offered that first Adam. But he rejected it--rejected GOD'S GOVERNMENT and GOD'S revealed spiritual knowledge. All humans have been born with only this one spirit, limiting human knowledge to the physical and material. Man, without the Holy Spirit of God, is NOT MENTALLY COMPLETE--actually "NOT ALL THERE!" Human consciousness is limited to the physical and material, yet all his problems are SPIRITUAL and beyond his comprehension!

NOT ONLY THIS!

Satan the Devil is REAL--he EXISTS--he is SUPER-POWERFUL--and he is "the PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR" (Eph. 2:2). He BROADCASTS! He surcharges the air with HIS ATTITUDE of selfishness, vanity, lust for power and greed, envy and jealousy, competition and strife, rebellion against GOD!

It is not only that mankind--our human LEADERS--are only "HALF THERE" mentally--Satan has begun injecting from infancy into every human his SELF-CENTERED ATTITUDE! All we humans grow up saturated with it. It has become HUMAN NATURE!

So it is not only a matter of what ISN'T IN OUR HUMAN MINDS--spiritual comprehension! It is a matter of WHAT IS IN HUMAN MINDS--what from infancy Satan has been injecting there--the SELF-CENTERED ATTITUDE--that of competition, getting the best of others, "GETTING" instead of "GIVING" --TAKING FROM OTHERS!

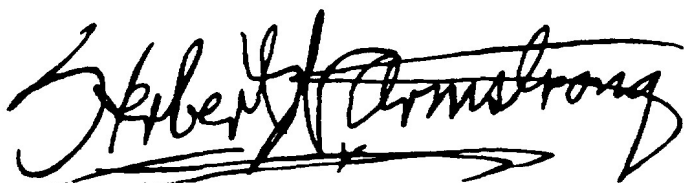
This writing was finished on Friday morning after the conclusion of the Democratic National Convention. Senator Kennedy did conciliate just far enough to go to the convention hall platform after President Carter's acceptance speech. But he was not smiling. He was sullen, plainly resentful. He coldly shook hands with the President--but no lifting of arms together in joyful smiles. I felt sorry for him. He had not gotten all he coveted--like a spoiled baby, who failed to take away a toy from another baby. Just as in all of us, Satan had injected that spirit of animosity in competition. He is only human. God's Spirit of LOVE was not in evidence. Neither is it in evidence in ANY of this world's leaders.

HOW DIFFERENT in the WORLD TOMORROW!

Satan will be GONE! Jesus CHRIST will be RULING! Ruling with, but under Him, will be truly converted saints then made IMMORTAL--filled with GOD'S Spirit of "LOVE"--immortal GOD BEINGS with no SELF-interest of coveting, but outflowing LOVE for the good, happiness, welfare and eternal salvation of all others!

Jesus taught us to pray, "THY KINGDOM COME--THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN."

We'd better be PRAYING!



# Mr. Attorney General of California:

The battle lines are drawn!  
Your office launched a State vs.  
Church lawsuit—to test the strength,  
power and the very existence of the  
Constitution of the United States.

Appeared in the Los Angeles Times August 14, 1980

**T**HIS, MR. ATTORNEY GENERAL, is a battle you can't win! Realize it or not, you have chosen to do battle against the living God! You have engaged in an unconstitutional fight to take over, own and operate (or destroy) God's Holy Church—to run it by the will of politicians instead of the will of God! God's Church *belongs to GOD*—and when you attack it you attack Almighty God!

The giant Goliath once challenged the people of God. The soon-to-be King David, then only a lad, said, "Who is this Philistine that he should defy the living God?" The giant lost that battle—and his life!

Our forefathers came to America to escape religious persecution from human government. They established a Constitution whose First Amendment guarantees the religious liberty they fled, fought and died to secure for us!

That Constitution shall stand inviolate! But even if we, as they, had to flee to other countries for a base from which to spread God's TRUTH, we would remove beyond your jurisdiction! There is **NO WAY** you can stop us!

This nation is becoming aware that your massive civil lawsuit actually is the *first REAL TEST* of the freedom of CHURCH against political encroachments of STATE! It is a battle to decide whether politicians of the STATE can take over, own and operate all CHURCHES according to political will instead of the WILL of God!

It is a political onslaught to determine once and for all that the CHURCH of the living God may be governed by HIM according as He directs through His chosen apostle, as revealed in His Word, the Holy Bible!



HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

The GOVERNMENT OF GOD once existed over the earth—a fact unknown in the world today. It exists today in only one place in the world—in God's CHURCH!

The first created man, Adam, rejected that government *OF* and *BY* God *FOR* the people. Our first forefather chose government *OF* and *BY* the people. Unfortunately self-motivated political rule has developed—sometimes evil.

The GOVERNMENT OF GOD is government from the top down—from God, through Christ as living HEAD of His Church, and on the human level the apostle of Christ's choosing, then in administrative office, evangelists, pastors, preaching elders and teachers (Ephesians 4:11-12, I Corinthians 12:28). No prophets ever served in administrative capacity in the New Testament Church.

And as His chosen apostle, I say to you in the authority of Jesus Christ the POLITICAL STATE cannot and shall not take over, govern or administer the affairs of the Worldwide Church of God. By that authority, far transcending yours, Mr. Attorney General, this Church shall continue to operate, not by

the will of politicians, but by the will of the eternal God as revealed in His Word!

Your jurisdiction extends only to the boundary lines of the state of California. The jurisdiction of GOD'S GOVERNMENT is limited to the voluntary assent of its baptized members worldwide.

Within the jurisdiction of human political government in all matters, aside from an attack to take over, own and operate God's Church, according to political will, our members are willingly subject to whatever government of man that has jurisdiction over us. We are respectable, God-fearing, law-abiding citizens in whatever country we live. We practice the law of outflowing love toward neighbor equal to self-concern. But our God is a jealous God (Exodus 20:5) who will not tolerate another usurping His rule! And in this case He will fight for us!

Mr. Attorney General, we are not in politics nor shall we be. But when your office assumed it was launching this supreme TEST CASE to test the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States you grossly underestimated God's Church! If your office assumed you were attacking a very small, weak, though a sufficiently established Church to serve as the first domino of a domino theory—that we would simply lie over and "cave in"—you must have known very little of us.

Those with us are far more powerful than any power seeking to destroy us! The Church of God is imbued with a STRENGTH greatly underestimated! God will give us the VICTORY!

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG  
Pastor General  
Worldwide Church of God

If readers wish to know more about the true GOSPEL MESSAGE proclaimed by Jesus Christ, request, FREE, the eye-opening booklet, *Just What Do You Mean—KINGDOM OF GOD!*

Also you may receive FREE—no subscription price—*The Plain Truth*, a monthly magazine of UNDERSTANDING in full color. It has a worldwide circulation, in five languages, in excess of two million copies per month. There's no

follow-up nor request for money.

Write the Worldwide Church of God, Pasadena, Calif., 91123, or call toll-free, (800) 423-4444. In California call collect (213) 577-5225.

If you have some questions for the attorney general of the state of California, write to him, The Hon. George Deukmejian, California Attorney General, 555 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, Calif., 95814.