

Pagan Holidays—or God's Holydays—Which ?

Was the New Testament Church founded on Sunday? What is the real meaning of Pentecost, and why have the churches lost it?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Continued from April number

IS THIS the *only* "day of salvation?" The worldly churches teach that all who die unsaved, or do not "get saved" before the second coming of Christ can never thereafter receive salvation.

They assume there is a great contest in progress between Christ and Satan. They believe Christ came to save the world, and all these churches in the world are His churches, through which He is desperately trying to "get the world saved."

On the other hand, the clever, deceptive devil is doing all he can to prevent people from being "saved." And they seem to believe there is a time-limit on the contest.

We are now near the time for the second coming of Christ, but when Christ returns to earth *in Person* He will find Himself helpless—utterly unable to save the world from Satan's clutch—because then "it will be too late." "Probation will be closed," as one denomination expresses it.

This paganized teaching represents Satan as far more powerful than God.

The Answer Revealed

The New Testament Church of God did not start on Sunday. But it did start on the *annual* Sabbath-day called "Pentecost," or "Feast of First Fruits," also called the "Feast of Weeks."

The New Testament Church continued, year after year, to keep this annual Sabbath, *Pentecost*, as we shall show.

And God gave this festival to His people in order to reveal, and keep them continually informed, that the present dispensation is only *the first, preliminary* "harvest of souls."

As already explained, God's purpose in giving His Church His annual holydays was to keep His children constantly in true understanding of God's great PLAN.

To accomplish this, God took the yearly *material* harvest seasons as the picture of the *spiritual* harvest of souls.

In Palestine there are *two* annual harvests. First, produced by the early rain, is the spring grain harvest. Second, produced by the "latter rain," comes the

main harvest—the much greater fall harvest. God intended His holydays to picture to *His* Church repeatedly year by year the fact that only those He Himself *calls* during this age can become His begotten children *now!* And they are merely the *first-fruits* of the great spiritual harvest!

The Wave-Sheaf

But let us continue the central passage which summarizes all the holydays—Leviticus 23.

Here we find *all* of God's festivals, proclaimed holy convocations, in the one chapter. First is the *weekly* convocation-day, the Sabbath, the seventh day of the week. Then, beginning verse 4, follow a listing of the *annual* festivals, also *commanded* assemblies, "which ye shall proclaim *in their seasons.*"

First of these is the Passover, followed by the days of unleavened bread with the two annual Sabbaths. Beginning verse 9, we find instructions for the wave-sheaf offering.

The Israelites were not allowed to harvest any of the early grain crop until this day (verse 14). Then, on the day following the weekly Sabbath during the days of unleavened bread, in a solemn ceremony of the Levitical priesthood (the rituals were mere substitutes and therefore not practised today) the first sheaf of grain was cut and brought to the priest. The priest solemnly waved it before the Eternal to be accepted for them.

This pictures the *resurrected* Christ being accepted of God as the very *first* human to be actually *born* of God—the first fruits of the first harvest of souls! (John 20:17; I Cor. 15:20, 23; Rom. 8:29; Col. 1:15, 18). This fulfillment of the wave-sheaf offering actually occurred on Sunday, the morrow after the Sabbath during the days of unleavened bread.

How to Figure Pentecost

Next comes Pentecost. The word "Pentecost" is a Greek word, used in the New Testament, but not in the Old. It signifies "fifty," or, literally, "count fifty." In the Old Testament this feast is called "Feast of Firstfruits," and "Feast

of Weeks."

Notice the plain instruction beginning verse 15: "And you shall *count* unto you *from* the morrow after the Sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven WEEKS shall be complete: even unto the morrow after the seventh WEEK shall ye *number fifty days.*" And that *fiftieth day* is PENTECOST!

... And ye shall proclaim on the selfsame day, that it may be an holy convocation unto you: ye shall do no servile work therein: it shall be a STATUTE FOREVER in all your dwellings *throughout your generations.*" (Verse 21).

All other holydays or festivals come on definite days of definite months. But this one annual Sabbath must be determined by COUNTING. It is very simple and plain. Any child should be able to start numbering *from* a definite day and count fifty. Yet there are three little simple points which seem to confuse some few people so that they observe the wrong day.

It is of very grave importance we figure the right day. This day, and this only, is made HOLY by the Eternal Creator. Suppose at the time the Church of God was founded the Apostles had mis-counted, and "When the day of pentecost was fully come," (Acts 2:1) they, instead of being all *with one accord* in one place were in discord, some having observed the day preceding, and some waiting until the following day!

Three Errors

The first of these three errors is figuring from the day after the first *annual* Sabbath. The erring Pharisees figured that way. But the wave-sheaf was waved on the morrow after *the* Sabbath—the weekly Sabbath. Christ fulfilled that which it pictured on the day after the *weekly* Sabbath. So we always start by counting fifty days *from* a Sunday.

The second mistake made by some is in counting seven *Saturdays* instead of seven WEEKS. As Moses wrote this in Hebrew, the word "*Shabbawth*" was used. This Hebrew word has more than one meaning. It means "seven," and "week"

The Good News

The national magazine of
AMBASSADOR COLLEGE
*ministering to The Church of God
 scattered abroad, and
 reporting on campus happenings*

VOL. 1 Number 2

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Sent free on personal request, as the Lord provides. Address communications to the Editor, Box 111, Pasadena, California.

as well as rest, and "the Sabbath" or seventh day of the week. Like the English words, "saw," and "bear," it has more than one meaning. Therefore we must put other Scriptures together with this to let the Bible itself tell us which meaning is intended.

In eight places in the New Testament this same Hebrew word was used in the original writing to indicate the word "week," as in Mat. 28:1. In Deut. 16:9 we find another instruction for counting this day of Pentecost. Here, a different Hebrew word was written by Moses—"shabua"—which *never* means the weekly Sabbath, but *always* means "week." It says "Seven WEEKS shalt thou number unto thee; begin to number the seven weeks from such time as thou beginnest to put the sickle to the corn. And thou shalt keep the Feast of WEEKS." Also Num. 28:26—same Hebrew word. Pentecost is the day *after* these seven WEEKS—"after your weeks be out," and not the last day of those weeks. In Ex. 34, the very NAME of the Festival is Feast of WEEKS. Not feast of "Saturdays." The Moffatt and other translations translate Ex. 23:15 "seven WEEKS shall be complete." In view of these other Scriptures it *cannot* mean anything else, though in the King James translation the word "sabbaths" was used. But the word "sabbath" is merely the English spelling of this Hebrew word which means WEEKS.

Counting FROM

Now if on a given Sunday some friend arranges to go fishing or hunting with you "one week from today," you certainly would meet that friend on the next Sunday. In counting *from* one Sabbath to another, we count seven days. And the first of those days counting *from* a Sabbath is Sunday, the second Monday, and so on until the seventh day from Sabbath is the next Saturday.

This brings us to the third error. Some start counting fifty days *from* the Sunday after the weekly Sabbath of unleavened-bread week, by numbering the very day they count *from* as "Number one," and then come out with Pentecost on a Sunday.

There are TWO ways to count "Pentecost." First, count seven WEEKS from the particular Sunday following the weekly Sabbath in unleavened-bread week, which brings you to the seventh SUNDAY, and then count even to the morrow *after* that seventh week, and you will correctly figure Pentecost to come on MONDAY.

Second, count FIFTY DAYS *from* this same Sunday, and that fiftieth day is Pentecost. It is very simple. One day from Sunday is Monday. Two days from Sunday is Tuesday. And so on until you count *fifty* days from Sunday is Monday.

The simple little word "*from*" means, according to Webster's dictionary, "away out of." The day you count as number

one day *from* Sunday is the very first day that is "*away out of*" Sunday. You cannot number Sunday as the first day from Sunday, because it is not away from it or out of it, but still in it. A carpenter who would count two feet *from* a house would certainly never set his mark two feet *into* the house. The word "*from*" never means "*into*" but exactly the opposite.

Some people get mixed up by saying "A person going *from* Portland to Los Angeles came *from* Oregon to California," and they measure the miles from Portland. They measure the distance clear across Oregon, by beginning at the far end and measuring INTO Oregon instead of away out of Oregon. I would ask such people to measure a distance of 122 miles from Oregon. The way they count, they would measure 122 miles south from Portland, and arrive at Eugene, and say that Eugene is 122 miles from Oregon! Suppose it were exactly 300 miles across Oregon from north to south. Such ridiculous figuring would count that a person standing exactly on the Oregon-California border was 300 miles from Oregon!

Jubilee Settles It

One person brought up the expression "from head to foot." But this is a contraction of the original saying, "from the *top* of the head to the *bottom* of the feet." In this case these additional words are understood. Otherwise, in measuring *from* the head toward the foot one would start measuring from the *bottom* of the head.

But the counting of the JUBILEE YEAR settles the matter. God's entire PLAN is a sabbatical plan. There were the seven days of creation—six of creation by *work*, and the seventh by *rest*. God's PLAN runs seven thousand years. There are seven annual Sabbaths. There was a sabbatical YEAR—every seventh YEAR. To count the Jubilee year, they began counting *from*, (not *into* but *from*) the preceding Jubilee. Seven years from this year was the first Sabbatical Year. Seven of these Sabbatical years were counted. Then the very *next* year AFTER the seventh Sabbatical year—the FIFTIETH year—was Jubilee. Counting to the next Jubilee they never counted that Jubilee year as number one—but the year *following* it, or one year *from* it was number one. That is the way to count PENTECOST. It's ALWAYS on a MONDAY!

Meaning of Pentecost

Passover symbolized Christ's sacrifice for the remission of our sins, and the days of unleavened bread the putting away of sin. Pentecost pictures the *first* part of the Spiritual harvest—the calling
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RADIO LOG

"The WORLD TOMORROW"

Herbert W. Armstrong analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of The WORLD TOMORROW!

TO THE NATION & CANADA:

XEG—150,000 watts, most powerful station in North America—1050, at center of dial—7:30 P.M. Central Standard time (8:30 P.M. Daylight Saving time), Sunday only until fall.

WAIT—Chicago—820 on dial—10 A.M. Sundays.

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KALI—Los Angeles—1430 on dial—7:30 A.M. Sundays.

KXL—Portland—10,000 watts. Oregon's most powerful station—750 on dial—1:30 P.M. Sundays.

KVI—Seattle-Tacoma—570, first on dial—10:30 P.M. Sundays.

upon the value of good dogs. They serve many indispensable functions in the farming and hunting world. An income from sale of a dog is not wrong. What Moses meant is this: An Israelite who vows, and it is better not to vow unnecessarily (Ecc. 5:5), was to give a clean animal as a sacrificial payment. A dog is an unclean animal, not fit for food. Although Israelites later did offer dogs (Isaiah 66:3), God refused to accept them. A dog is not a symbol of Jesus Christ as is the sheep or other clean animal.

What Should I Do If My Husband Will Not Tithe? I Have No Money of My Own

This problem arises often where God has not revealed His truth to all the members of the family. The tithe is the tenth of *your* increase, not of another's. That is *his* responsibility. Unless a wife earns or is given money of her own, whatever food, clothing and other articles she uses is what her husband earns as head of the home. It is his place to pay that tithe, but he must not be forced to do so. A wife should tithe that which is *her own*.

God's Holydays

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man without God—of human suffering and failure.

And thus God, in His great wisdom, has permitted men to PROVE to themselves what sinners they are!—how HELPLESS they are, of themselves!

And finally we shall have to learn the lesson that it is only when GOD, HIMSELF, thru sending JESUS to rule with a rod of iron, undertakes to save men that the world can really be saved! And so, those now being saved are a FIRSTFRUITS of salvation, and to have the very great honor of being Christ's assistants in that wonderful Kingdom work of redemption!

THAT is God's true Plan of Redemption, as taught from Genesis to Revelation! And how contrary to the popular teaching! But it is the Plan, nevertheless, pictured in God's annual HOLYDAYS. And had we continued to KEEP these Holydays, we should never have lost sight of this PLAN, and come under the deception of Rome!

Pentecost Observed By New Testament Church of God

Just as we found the True CHURCH OF GOD continuing to observe the Days of Unleavened bread, as well as the Passover, so they continued to observe Pentecost.

Had they NOT been assembled in a HOLY CONVOCATION on the first

Pentecost AFTER everything that was abolished had been DONE AWAY, we never could have read in our Bibles the sublime record of the second chapter of Acts!

Now a "HOLY CONVOCATION" means a holy ASSEMBLY of the CHURCH, convoked under absolute AUTHORITY. Look up the word "convocation" in the dictionary. It is an assembly where everyone is COMMANDED, under AUTHORITY, to be present. The Sabbath is a weekly holy CONVOCATION. We are commanded, therefore, to assemble ourselves together. Each of these annual days is an holy CONVOCATION. The early Church obeyed. Will we?

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come they were all with one accord IN ONE PLACE." They were assembled. They were KEEPING this Holy Day. Now WHY, if God's ANNUAL Sabbaths were abolished? Let us answer honestly!

Passover in Texas

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that we could *share* these fruits of obedience and *carry the inspiration* to our homes. There *is* a genuine purpose for being convoked, which when brethren are alone, can't be shared. But in this age many are scattered, can't do otherwise—which is all according to God's wisdom.

The next morning I spent in study and walking about town, seeing an altogether different atmosphere than I find in Pasadena. I probably noticed what most Texans take for granted, as they would notice as unusual the life of Pasadena that seems commonplace to me.

One thing I learned about the fruit to be had in the markets, the best California oranges are found in Texas and the best Texas oranges are to be purchased in California! What unnecessary *wastes* in shipping and advertising occur just because competitive markets exist!

After purchasing good and healthful food for the night celebration of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, we all awaited the approaching Sabbath which was in this case an annual High Day, too. With the food prepared Friday, we mutually shared the excellent conversation and meal that caused us to be thankful for the spiritual and material blessings God gives.

It is not often Christians can have fellowship with one another (we are often one or two in a family) apart from useless conversation of the world and with food that has *not* been boiled to death, cooked to pieces, poisoned with preserva-

tives, bleached till anemic, or colored artificially to make it look like what it isn't. Instead of a yoke of bondage, these days are to us a cause of rejoicing, real events in our lives, something to look forward to.

That evening, the significance of the Days of Unleavened Bread was the subject of my talk. It can be briefly summarized in this paragraph. God's plan *does not end* with the slaying of Jesus for spiritual sins, else we would perish (I Cor. 15:18). Nor did it end with Christ's body broken for our healing as symbolized by the bread. We, having been forgiven our transgressions, must quit sinning, which is pictured by the feast of unleavened bread. Exodus 13:9 shows God gave the days of unleavened bread *to teach us obedience to the law*. Because most denominations are ashamed to obey any of the annual festivals, the average professing christian does not know that he ought to quit sinning and keep the law. Just as Israel came out of Egypt in his own strength, so we, after repentance, must struggle against sin. As our forefathers found themselves without hope at the Red Sea, so do we today have no hope of ever succeeding unless God should give us His Holy Spirit so that we can have the love of God which fulfills the law (Romans 5:5). The crossing of the Sea through walls of water on either side to protect the people is an apt portrayal of the work of the Spirit of God in and through us. The children of Israel passed through the waters, which were a means of complete escape from their past slavery and which were also instruments of destruction against the enemy. So in the christian life, we must receive the Holy Spirit or else there is no possibility of *being saved* from the sins that beset and enslave us. By the spirit of God we have the germ of eternal life begun in us and we have the enemy sin being destroyed as we yield to God with our whole hearts and minds every day. Just as Israel faced the wilderness, so we face a whole lifetime ahead full of trials and troubles. By rejecting the statutes commanding the observance of the days of Unleavened Bread, the religious world *has lost the knowledge of the purpose of living*.

After this service some of the brethren retired for the night, but I, human as can be, had to lose my key to the apartment. But as all turns out well, one of the ladies present at the services found the duplicates. The previous evening, she had kindly shown two of us the most ultra modern radio studio I have ever seen—having contour plywood walls for the best acoustics.

Sabbath morning was the time for another gathering of the group. The *na-*
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ORGANIZING LOCAL CHURCHES

by Herbert W. Armstrong

THOUSANDS of you, we fully realize, long for local churches of God to be established in your various localities.

We know how you feel. How great is the need for a place where you can fellowship and meet regularly with those who know and love and follow the same TRUTH you hear on *The World Tomorrow* program and read in *The Plain Truth* and *The Good News*.

One of the purposes in founding Ambassador College was to train a God-called ministry for this purpose. We are now nearing the time when this activity may be started.

Yet we must keep constantly in mind that the Great Commission—"Preach the Gospel to all nations"—together with our special calling to *warn* our Israelitish nations of prophesied punishment for their sins—is of first importance.

Rapid Progress

Already plans are being considered for carrying the Message to Britain and Europe, starting possibly within a year. Definite schedules are being worked out to put the broadcast on more American stations starting October. And the recent trip of one of our senior students, Herman Hoeh, to Gladewater, Texas, where a number of Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana brethren met for the Passover, is the first small start toward actually getting many of you who have found God's true Way together for regular fellowship and worship.

It does take time. Yet rapid strides are being made. Progress is more rapid than most of you realize. We know how short time is. The work of God is being stepped up accordingly.

We Can't Send Names From Mailing List

Frequently zealous co-workers will ask us to send the names and addresses from our mailing list of those in their vicinity.

The letter will read something like this:

"I'm so hungry for regular fellowship with others who listen to the program and who know and love the truth. I think it would be a wonderful idea if I had your mailing list so I could go around and get all these people to meeting regularly together."

At first glance such an idea may seem splendid. But Scripture teaching and the lesson of experience compel us to refuse. This is difficult for some to under-

stand, so we feel it well to explain.

Sheep Must Have a Shepherd

Jesus compared His followers to sheep. The Bible speaks of ministers as shepherds. It is a most apt comparison. What would happen to a little flock of six sheep on a mountain-side here, and a dozen sheep in a valley there, without any shepherd? And especially if there were a lot of wolves in sheep's clothing seeking flocks to devour.

While Jesus' first and Great Commission to His apostles was to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom to the world, He also commanded, "Feed my sheep."

But to whom was this command given? Not to untrained lay members, but to Peter and the apostles whom He had specially called and educated and trained for this purpose. Jesus' intent was for the sheep to be fed by those He had called to this special ministry—those true and faithful servants properly trained. He did not intend for the sheep to gather *themselves* together, without a shepherd, and try to feed themselves, and guide themselves along the proper path.

Paul solemnly commissioned the God-chosen ministers and elders of the Church of God at Ephesus:

"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over whom the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers (bishops or pastors), to feed the Church of God . . . For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. (Acts 20:28-29.)

He warned them that even among their own local members some would rise up to lead the flock astray.

Experience a Dear Teacher

We had to learn this lesson by experience—and the price was costly!

In the earlier days of this work, a number of little flocks were raised up in different localities throughout Oregon and Washington—the result of the personal evangelistic campaigns by your pastor.

But there was no shepherd to leave behind to pastor and guide and feed those flocks. And it was never long until these groups were broken up. They would soon be quarrelling among themselves, or various ones would lead the others off the truth on various wild tangents, or some wolf in sheep's clothing would come along and, pretending to be a true preacher of Jesus Christ, devour and destroy the flock.

That very experience, repeated many times, was the lesson God used to cause us to see the need of establishing Ambassador College. The purpose of this college is to attract here and train those God has called to become competent pastors for such local congregations, in addition to the major purpose of carrying Christ's Message to all the nations of the earth.

We know how discouraging it is for some of you dear people to have to remain isolated—way off by yourselves, away from others who also know and *live* God's true Way, surrounded by worldly people and paganized churches. We *understand* your problem in raising your children in such a world. Our hearts go out to you!

That is why we are laboring night and day to prepare true ministers for you.

Let's Be Thankful

But we know also that as long as each isolated member or family is forced to feed only upon the broadcasts and *The Plain Truth* and *The Good News* and other literature from our office, these members are all kept individually in constant contact with the shepherd God has chosen and used in their conversion and bringing them to the true light.

And, even though without person-to-person fellowship with others, *they are continually fed on the true spiritual food*.

And no greedy "wolf in sheep's clothing" is going to waste much of his time trying to draw off one single individual or family. The false prophets usually go after whole groups who are without shepherds.

So, let's not grumble! Rather be thankful you are so much better off than before!

Even if most of you are deprived of attending church services, you hear your pastor more often—and right in your home via radio—than most church goers hear their pastors. Every time the "*World Tomorrow*" is on the air, *you are attending* a great church service, in one of the largest fellowships on earth—attended by more than a million others!

Our Own New BIBLE Hymnal

And soon now we hope to have ready for you the beautiful new "BIBLE HYMNAL"—our very own hymn book, which my brother, Dwight L. Armstrong, has for three years been composing.

There is no hymnal like it. In most

hymn books the words of a third to two-thirds of the songs are lies, utterly contrary to Bible teaching. And many of them are mere poetic fluff, conveying no real message.

For years I have wanted to produce a true BIBLE Hymnal. God Himself gave us the words we should sing in praising and worshipping Him. The PSALMS are *songs*, intended to be *sung*. Why do this world's organized churches throw away the beautiful words of truth God inspired for them, and sing poetic lies written by men?

God endowed my brother with special talent in music. He has composed the music, fitted to the Psalms and other poetic portions of the Bible, for the true BIBLE Hymnal.

This is *beautiful* music! The tunes will of course be new to you, but when you learn them, or have heard them several times, *you'll learn to love them!* You'll never want to sing any other hymns.

The cover design for the BIBLE Hymnal is already outlined, and the artist is finishing it. The music copyists in Hollywood already have copied most of the music ready for printing. The book will, I feel confident, be the most beautiful hymn book you ever saw. The pages will be large, and the print large so elderly people can read it easily.

... and BIBLE Hymnal Records

Soon I shall have my daughter, Beverly, (Mrs. James A. Gott), sing one or two of these new hymns for you on the broadcast. Later I will have a full choir sing some of them, so you can hear all four parts of the beautiful harmony.

Then we plan to *record* these hymns, so that we can send you phonograph records of them, and those of you who have record players can hear them in your own homes as often as you like. You can play the records, *and sing along with them!*

Many of you may not have record-players. I will see if arrangements can be made thru some manufacturer whereby we could procure for you, at reduced cost, on a co-operative basis, small record-players. I think we can arrange to supply inexpensive outfits that will play the new microgroove slow-speed long-playing records, some to be attached to and played thru your radio, others having their own loud-speakers. Whatever we can arrange will be announced when ready.

If and when these record-playing plans are completed, I could also send you at certain intervals special recorded sermons on special topics not covered over the air, in addition to the singing of our new hymns.

Thru these media—and now thru The GOOD NEWS magazine—we are doing

all in our power to bring church services and fellowship to you.

For Your Children

And now for your children, I have a real surprise for you—provided, God willing, we can work it out!

Many of you isolated brethren have a real problem—and serious responsibility—in proper teaching and rearing of your children.

I have an idea I think will be wonderful, if God will open the way to accomplish it. It is—*not* an ordinary Bible Story book like those being sold which often teach contrary to the Bible, and merely tell a number of disconnected and unrelated stories—but a continual *series* of books of an entirely NEW kind!

What I have in mind is continual TRUE Bible instruction for children *in comic-strip form*.

All children like comic-strips. The world makes use of this medium to reach children. Why should we not put it to GOD'S use, and teach the children TRUTH in this fascinating and interesting form?

About twelve years ago one of the nation's top comic-strip artists, Basil Wolverton, then an atheist, heard our broadcast. It angered him. He listened again to try to refute the truth. Six months later he surrendered to the truth and wrote me a letter. He was converted, baptised, and now is elder of our little church in Portland, Oregon, and a trustee of Ambassador College.

If I *knew* enough people would buy these books of comic-strips so we could finance the publishing of them, I believe Mr. Wolverton would devote his entire time to preaching the Gospel to children in this startling new and effective manner.

I would like to know how much demand there would be for such books.

You all know that I never beg for money over the air. There is no price on The PLAIN TRUTH or *The Good News* or any of our Gospel literature. These media carry the true Gospel *to the world*. We cannot charge the world for the Gospel. It must go FREE, as God lays it on *your* hearts—our members and co-workers—to GIVE generously, and as you are faithful in paying your tithes.

But if we are to produce these beautiful new BIBLE Hymnals, and records, and supply you with low-cost record-players, or produce these comic-strip books for your children, we could not take the money out of the GOSPEL WORK which we must carry on to the outside world. Therefore those who receive these things will have to pay for them.

I do not know how much it would cost to produce such comic-strip books. They would not be flimsy little cheap

books like the worldly type sold on news stands, and each book would be quite large—perhaps 60 to 100 pages or more. Probably it would cost from \$2 to \$3.50 per book—but it would be the most effective possible way to teach your children, and perhaps that's more important than any other way you could spend that much money.

So I'm going to take the proverbial "bull by the horns" and ask you point-blank—WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE IDEA, and *would you order these books?*

Write at once and let me know. If the response shows the idea arouses the enthusiasm I feel it should, it may open the way to get it started and the first book could be published in a few months.

Did you ever know a child old enough to read, who didn't like to read comic books? And do you realize how much *grown-up* "children" still read the comic strips in newspapers? Newspapers couldn't exist without them.

Has there ever been such an effective idea for teaching the children the truth—and *keeping them reading it?*

Now, before you turn to the next article—before you lay this magazine down—write me what you think about it.

On the Campus

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dents would have liked to share it with us. I have no doubt that every one reading this article would also have received much inspiration from watching the slides which were shown.

Mr. Walker, who is interested in photography, presented about one hundred slides, letting us see at one sitting in a single room, the life of the Arizona-Mexican border, the San Diego Zoo, the San Francisco Oriental Gardens, the sunken Rose Garden in Los Angeles, a portion of Catalina Island and even color slides of our own Ambassador College campus.

The cotton gins of Mexico, the Joshua trees of the Arizona desert, the sluggish Colorado River winding its way to the Gulf, the doleful cacti of our Southwest—all these kept our thoughts dancing from one excursion to another.

All of us accounted it most striking to see the various hues and shades of flowers in the oriental floral arrangements shown in the slides. Brilliant cannas and noble banana blossoms interspersed the showing of the renowned Pasadena City Hall and the acrobatic bears of the San Diego Zoo. Where else but in an assembly at Ambassador College could we travel so fast, seeing some scenes from the air of irrigated farming areas of Arizona?

Not neglected, of course, were those

color slides of our own campus. How true it is that the greatest beauty may be at our own doorstep and we not realize it! Immediately outside our College windows are spectacular palms, one of which looks like a giant hand protruding from the green sod, sloping lawns studded with gigantic pines, rubber trees of diverse foliages, and magnolias. After attending Ambassador College for months or years, we come to the realization that some of the most culturally scenic spots don't need to be brought to us in picture—they are *here* for us to gaze upon day and night whenever we wish. What will another assembly hold for us?

A School Outing

by Wayne Cole

Every other Thursday or Thursday evening the students plan some form of social activity to relieve the mind from school and studying. Sometimes our activities take us away from the campus and other times we spend an enjoyable evening right here on the beautiful college grounds.

This particular outing I am going to describe to you is a beach party. You all know what a beach party is, I am sure. It was early in April and I might say a little too early in the year for such a party.

Nevertheless we had it and enjoyed it. Try it yourself if you get a chance.

We left the College, that is, three carloads of us, about 1:30 in the afternoon. The air was warm and the sun was shining. However, when we reached Zuma Beach, no sun was to be found and the wind was quite strong. It really was somewhat of a disappointment, but we were there and the distance home was about 50 miles so we were determined to make the best of it—at least pretend we were enjoying ourselves.

I think, after it was over, everyone could truthfully say he really had a great deal of fun, even if the day wasn't the best. Think of the joy one could have on a beautiful summer day.

Several of us went prepared to do a little ocean swimming, and we were not going to give that up, either. It may seem foolish to try to swim in the ocean on a windy day with the breakers rising several feet high, but that is what four or five of us did.

It was cold and we were blue but still it was fun! You should try it sometime—it's a valuable recreation! Others walked on the sandy beach, watching the billows roll sea weeds on the shore. Several pictures were taken on the beach, but I guess because it was so cloudy and dark, none of them turned out good when the films were developed.

By this time it was getting late in the evening. Three more participants, who had to come late, arrived; so it was time for our meal. We had appropriated a fire that some people had left and were busy trying to keep warm. The all-beef wieners, buns and apple cider were brought out and everyone was poking around in the fire, with a wiener on a stick, trying to roast it without its burning. I believe everyone succeeded and enjoyed the food along with the sand which one is bound to eat at a beach party.

After the eating was finished it was dark and time to leave so we gathered up our materials and started back to good old Pasadena, our home, ending another student activity.

Seeing a Museum

by Herman Hoeb

The first week in May witnessed an interesting event for the History and Bible classes of Ambassador College. This included almost the entire student body. We visited the Los Angeles County Museum.

A third of the students spent most of their time in the main museum building, while the others walked through the world-famous Sunken Rose Gardens and the California State Building.

Some of the students had never visited a Museum before. Perhaps several of you who are reading this article have never seen a Museum in your lives, or you may never have seen one so complete as this. Not only was it a pleasure to see it, but for the history we need to know, the trip added a fund of visual knowledge.

Here's what we saw and learned in the main pavilion. Many rooms are given to ancient and modern art work, varying from the glass utensils of the Near East, Greece and Rome to modern European China and cutlery, showing the bronze and black vases of the Greeks and the porcelain of China, India and Japan.

We saw encased the hideous pagan idols and images of past days—many strikingly like corrupted Bible heroes and events, as the crushing of the serpent by the Savior.

A noticeable feature of these case exhibits, with a few exceptions, is the marvellous craftsmanship of men of nearly two or three thousand years ago. Another is the fact that even the crudest pottery of our ancestors was not unlike the modern productions of the Indians in South America today—in other words, the pottery excavated by archeology does not prove that civilization is as old as men sometimes think.

As a matter of fact the museum exhibits were very accurate with the truth

of history as revealed in the Bible. The error of modern textbooks occurs when men *interpret* history according to a preconceived philosophy.

In a basement room were exhibits of South Sea Islands' peoples, their tools, coconut bark clothing, implements for the native "kitchen" and war equipment.

Another part of the Museum Building was given to the remains of the La Brea tar pits, located in the Los Angeles area. There were cases of large hawk-like fowl, saber-toothed cats and giant mastodons. Nearly the entire tar-soaked remains indicated a catastrophic preservation because of the broken and mangled condition of the bones wedged tightly against one another. Actually, these remains are no proof of "ages" but of ecological disposition.

Without the least doubt, the most attractive feature of the entire place is the "Animal Habitats" section, wherein each continent is represented with an absolutely life-like background for stuffed animal and bird remains. In the giant cases where every object is life size, the background pictures are so real that we could think ourselves *right there*. The great stretches of African grasslands accompanied the elephant, the giraffe, the zebra, lions, varieties of native cattle and mountain goats. Australia and the Americas were equally interesting.

Outside, in the Sunken Rose Garden, where there are nearly 15,000 plants of 145 varieties, we had a quite different feeling, as everything here is alive rather than preserved. The reds, pinks, crimsons and whites, as well as the copper and yellow shades, lightened the beds. Most of the roses are quite new, named after noted soldiers and newspapermen, events in recent history and just ideas. For anyone who is inspired by flowers, here is a good chance to see just what a variety of roses will do as there are so many plants of each single kind.

In the third part of our Museum excursion, which really was the focal-point for two-thirds of the group, we saw California, its history, resources, growth, shipping, industry, farming, rainfall—in short, most anything you could think of knowing.

Having been reared in California all my life (there are only two students from this state), I could really appreciate what was so well laid out. One department contained the mineral productions of California. It was arranged so that little lights would represent on a raised map wherever the special mineral was to be found—if I would press a button. In my own Sonoma county I found the mercury mines and the basalt (rock) deposits which paved with cobble stones the streets of San Francisco in days gone by.

Other divisions held the shell crea-