

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



VOL. 3, NO. 14

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

APRIL 3, 1981

MR. ARMSTRONG BACK IN PASADENA

by

Herbert W. Armstrong

GREETINGS TO YOU MINISTERS AND YOUR WIVES FROM PASADENA, ONCE AGAIN:

I have spent very little time the past six years in Pasadena--and none for two years and three months--until last week when I returned for a brief visit. Five and six years ago I was away from Pasadena, carrying the Gospel around the world for approximately 300 out of each 365 days. In 1977 I had moved to Tucson, and in August of that year experienced total heart failure. For six months or more I was pretty much bedridden on a hospital bed--although in my own home. I refused to enter a hospital.

Let me say that reentering the office here--as well as the home--was like a new, glorified vision from God--an inspiring, refreshing experience. HOW GRACIOUS God has been to have built here the most beautiful, cultural, high character atmosphere for the HEADQUARTERS of His Church, His College, and His Work!

Being here has made me realize this is where I BELONG! This is the nerve center of God's Work.

That very important END-TIME Work may be more nearly finished than we realize. God's overall PURPOSE is far from finished. Indeed, when Jesus said, on the cross just as He was dying, "It is finished," He was referring to THE WORK God had given HIM in the human flesh to do. That phase of God's overall PURPOSE and Work was then finished. The apostles then went out, beginning the proclaiming of the GOOD NEWS of the KINGDOM OF GOD to the world. In just over 21 years, the suppression of that Gospel had set in. Thereafter false preachers proclaimed that Jesus was the Divine Messenger--the CHRIST--but not HIS MESSAGE--His GOSPEL! The world was DECEIVED!

In 1927--precisely 100 time cycles after Jesus began teaching His first apostles, He had converted, and began teaching His apostle to carry that same Gospel Message TO THE WORLD for the first time in 100 time cycles. In 1931--precisely to the month, 100 time cycles after the first apostles were ordained and started on proclaiming that Gospel, Christ ordained and started his apostle for this time proclaiming that same Gospel. In 1934 that Gospel of the Kingdom began going out over the air. Precisely one time cycle later, to the very week, first week in 1953, after one time cycle in which the Gospel had gone Coast-to-Coast in the U.S.A. it started going out on the most powerful radio station

on earth--Radio Luxembourg in Europe. And that was precisely 100 time cycles from the time Paul wrote (Gal. 1:6-7) of its suppression!

God's TIMING is perfect. When the first real persecution against the entire Church struck, January 3, 1979, God had already providentially moved me to Tucson, Arizona. The State shut off our mail privilege at the Pasadena Post Office. We immediately began operating outside this state, and from Tucson.

The fact God seems to have now inspired me to make this trip back to Pasadena (although my home and residence are still Tucson), indicates another possible crucial date.

Right now the situation is TENSE in Poland. It is reported the Soviet forces are poised ready to strike in Poland. And April is the best month in the year for a Soviet military invasion in massive form. The Poles are tensely alerted. They might move even faster than the slower-moving Russian Bear. They might, under the Polish Pope, start the long-prophesied revival of the medieval "Holy Roman Empire." For some time now, I have foreseen the possibility of this revived "Beast" power being almost half from Russian satellite nations, such as Poland, Romania, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary--instead of the Israelitish northern European nations such as Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium. They were not in the old Roman Empire--but these Balkan nations were!

The disturbance and crisis in Poland might start several of those nations becoming Fascist, into the lightning-quick Fascist, German-led United Europe!

I am beginning again a more in-depth study of the Scriptures on the flight of the Church into her place of safety, as foretold in Revelation 12 and many other Scriptures.

Meanwhile, with the Church basically back on the track doctrinally, WE NEED TO BE CALLING TIMES OF INTENSE FASTING AND PRAYER TO GET OURSELVES CLOSER TO GOD, MORE FILLED WITH HIS HOLY SPIRIT--FARTHER FROM THE WAYS AND PLEASURES AND INTERESTS OF THIS WORLD!

We need to be "UP" for what's soon coming! HOW MUCH, AND HOW FERVENTLY ARE YOU PRAYING? Right now the ministry, and the whole Church, are closer together and to Christ than ever before--but this is the very time Satan will try to strike his hardest blow. PRAYER, and closeness to GOD and to CHRIST is our only protection and way of deliverance!

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RESTATEMENT OF POLICY

RE: PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

by Herbert W. Armstrong

The Pastor General's Report is intended as precisely what it is named--a confidential and private report from the Pastor General of the Worldwide Church of God to the ordained ministry of the Church. It is my vehicle to communicate privately and in confidence with you ministers who, under me and Jesus Christ the living HEAD of this Church, are pastor-ing and feeding the flock whom God Himself has added to His Church.

In no sense is this Report from week to week for public distribution. We publish The PLAIN TRUTH for that purpose. Even the GOOD NEWS and the WORLDWIDE NEWS are restricted publications for communication and instruction to our members.

As always, however, certain things may appear in the Report, such as inspiring and encouraging news of the Work, my contact with various churches or my public addresses, letters from ministers having attended the Refresher Program, or such non-confidential material may be shared with your local congregations.

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NEWS FLASH ON TV AND FEBRUARY
LETTER RESPONSE

by Herbert W. Armstrong

The following has just come in from the Mail Processing Center--
by Richard Rice:

1. Response to Telecast

Your new programs are continuing to have a tremendous effect on your viewing audience. This past Sunday morning, March 29, we received 500 calls from KTTV in Los Angeles. This was a 37% increase over the previous weekend response and 10 times higher than last year's average weekly response!

500 calls were also received from the WGN telecast in Chicago this past Sabbath, which was an 18% increase over the previous weekend.

2. New Money Record From February's Member/Co-Worker Letter

We are also happy to report that your February letter produced a new all-time record in contributions for a Member/Co-worker Letter.

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FROM TREASURER'S OFFICE

Contributions compared to 1980:

Month to date..... +22.0%
Year to date..... +17.6%

The increase is INCREASING!

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NO "INACTIVE MEMBERSHIPS"

by

Herbert W. Armstrong

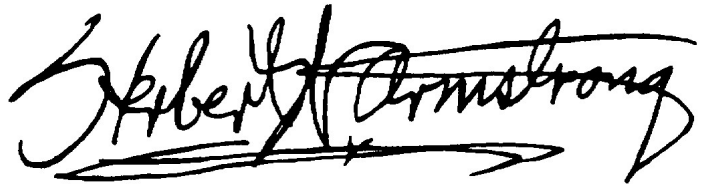
Some have been supposed to be considered in the NON-Scriptural category of "inactive members." There is no such status given us in the Word of God. The assumption of such status has never been official, nor authorized by me or the Word of God.

Therefore I announce officially that no such status exists, and any such unauthorized status is hereby discontinued.

The Bible plainly reveals that those who "ARE CHRIST'S" are members in the Church. But WHO are Christ's? NOT those baptized in water. But, "by ONE SPIRIT [the HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD] are we all baptized [inducted into] one body" (I Cor. 12:13). And, "Ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, IF so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, HE IS NONE OF HIS" (Rom. 8:9)--and "there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care (love) one for another." (I Cor. 12:25).

Either a member has and is led by the Spirit of God, and therefore is CHRIST'S and a member of His spiritual Body, the Church, or else that person IS NOT a member.

Therefore the so-called status of "Inactive Member" is ABOLISHED, and all so listed are simply not members.



DISFELLOWSHIPMENTS

The following have been disfellowshipped for cause: Joseph Kitora, John Kineston. This does not need to be announced.

FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

Change in Y.O.U. Holy Day Offering Envelopes (****PLEASE ANNOUNCE****)

Special holy day offering envelopes for the Days of Unleavened Bread and for Pentecost have been mailed to all member heads of household and to all youths who donated last year.

This year, everyone will use the same yellow envelopes. The green envelopes previously designated for Y.O.U. members and younger children have been discontinued. However, the use of the funds remains the same.

All donations from the youth are combined with the offering from the adults and placed in the Tithe/Offering operating account for general

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A Voice Cries Out: On Forecasting the Economy

Can you predict the state of the nation's economy?

Appeared in the Wall Street Journal March 30, 1981

THE FLASH depression of 1920 was the sharp thunderclap prelude before the cloudburst Depression starting 1929.

A number of my corporate customers in the farm implement industry went into receivership. Business activity was at a satisfactory level in 1919. At a noon luncheon of the Chicago Association of Commerce that year a leading economist was our guest speaker. Rather startlingly, he predicted the most serious depression within the generation inside a year.

In 1920 this same economist again was our guest speaker at luncheon in the Cameo Room of the Morrison Hotel.

"Gentlemen," he said, "a year ago in this room I predicted that within a year we would be in the throes of the most serious depression of our generation. Most of you were not in agreement. That year has rolled around, I am here again and the depression is here with me."

He explained his forecast. "It's now winter. If I want to know the temperature in this room now, I look at the thermometer on the wall. But if I want to know what the temperature will be an hour from now, I look to what's going on down in the boiler room. I look to the factor that will determine the future temperature. A year ago I did not predict according to indexes of business activity, bank clearings, stockcar loadings or stock market quotations. They were the thermometers on the wall. Even graphs and charts of those things for the past year do not determine a continuous trend."

The Boston statistician then explained his contention that the



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future economy depends not on past records, but on the factor that *determines* conditions—the way people are dealing with one another. He expressed the source that determines conditions in terms of righteousness. "When 51 percent or more are righteous in their dealings with one another, good times are ahead. When 51 percent or more have become unrighteous in their human contacts, we are headed for economic trouble."

Whether or not this man's theory found approval in the business world, it does determine the nation's general well-being. And this nation, with the whole world, is definitely NOT in a state of happy and prosperous well-being! We are beset with seemingly insolvable problems, troubles and evils beyond the grasp of human mentality!

Repeatedly I have said there is a CAUSE for every effect. The CAUSE of the evils that beset us is the "GET" way of life—the motivation of self-centeredness—the way of "I love ME—not you!" Our positively AWESOME progress and achievements are all materialistic in nature. Our evils, before which we seem to stand helpless, are spiritual in nature. There is a SPIRITUAL LAW that says when we

are all selfishly taking *from* one another, we all have less. But when we all produce, and help others produce in cooperation instead of hostile competition, we all have more.

Besides the incentive of "GET" materially, we seem to want to find amusement and be entertained. All television basically is entertainment and is leading minds into the downward drift in areas of morality, ethics and ways of peace. We crave the excitement of modern sports, with the ecstasy of winning, but the AGONY of defeat. It seems for some to be joyous others must suffer agony.

We are breaking the overall spiritual Law of outflowing LOVE—of "thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Our competitive materialistic progress has for the first time in human history produced the weapons of mass destruction that can blast all humanity out of existence. Our No. 1 problem now is human survival. We are in a world crisis escalating at fast-increasing momentum toward the ZERO HOUR of human extinction! And we're not repenting of our folly.

Just before the hand of man utterly destroys mankind, that invisible supreme "Strong Hand from Someplace" is going to intervene and save us from ourselves! Mankind will be *compelled* to live the way that will bring world peace, happiness, universal well-being and eternal salvation. A wonderful new WORLD TOMORROW will dawn. It's as certain as the rising of tomorrow's sun!

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
Pastor General
Worldwide Church of God

We practice the way of "GIVE." On request we'll send, gratis, no request for money, Mr. Armstrong's booklet, *The Seven Laws of Success*. Also a free copy of the unique magazine of UNDERSTANDING, *The Plain Truth*. Call now, toll free (800) 423-4444. In California or Alaska call collect (213) 577-5225. Or write Worldwide Church of God, Pasadena, Calif., 91123.