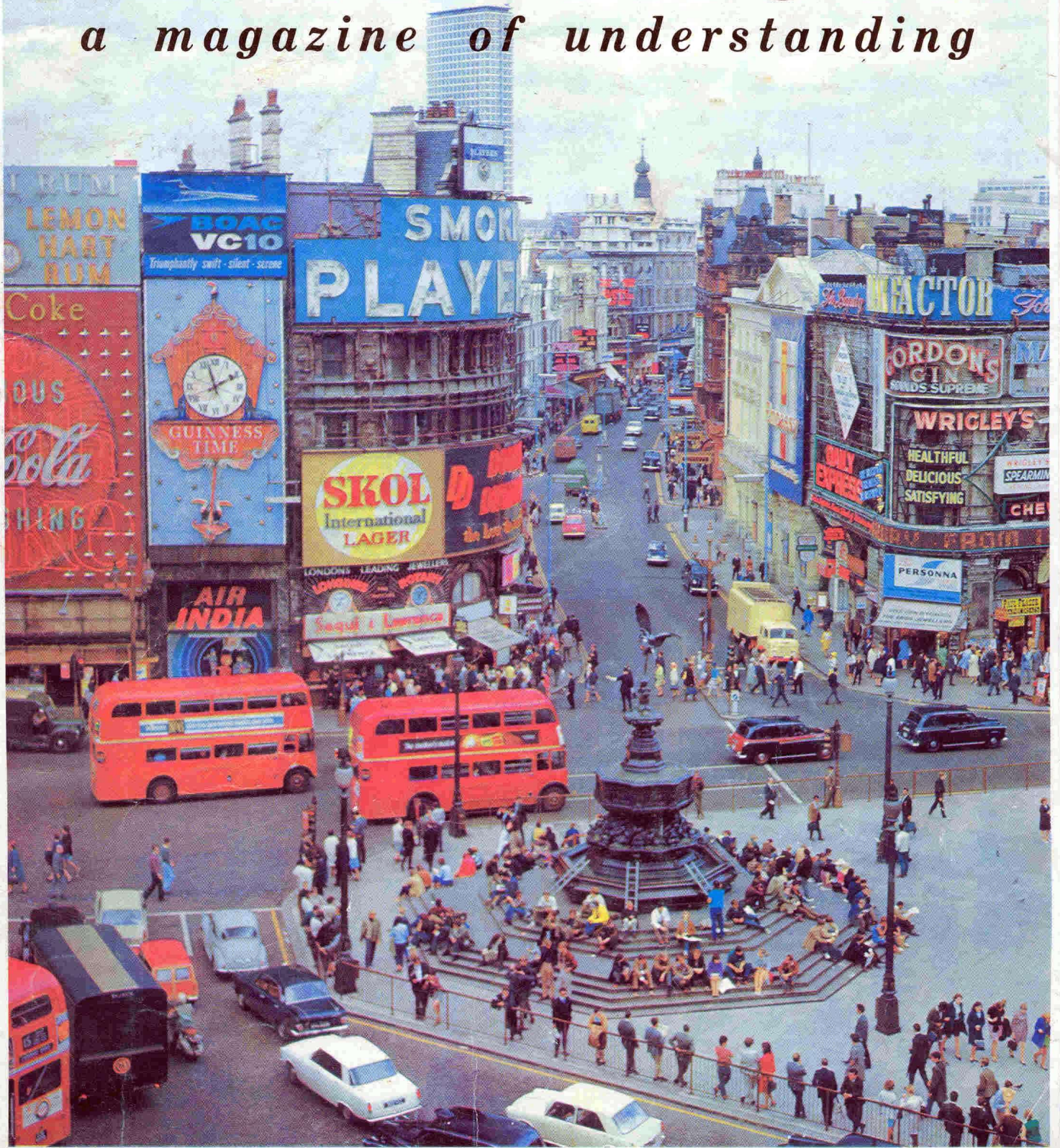


the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding



What our READERS SAY

Strange Weather

"Just a few lines to tell you of conditions around this area. In the beginning of the season the rain was more than enough. In fact, there was so much the fields of wheat across from us had to be burned off because they had rotted. Now we have no rain, and the corn and soybean crops are lost. While riding last night, my husband and I saw the pathetic attempts of the farmers to irrigate. Some of the soil looks like dust and is almost white. The field behind our home is overrun with grasshoppers. I sat and watched two of them eat the bush by our steps. I have never seen this before. We have mosquitoes, flies, beetles, and crickets as never before. I give God thanks that He has blessed us with the knowledge of why these things are happening."

Woman, Milford, Delaware

"I am interested in why we are having drought for five years. I live in the fruit belt, and farmers blame cloud seeding for not having rain. I tell some it is not so. I explained your articles in the magazine and said 'check your Bible.' But some won't believe. They have publicly threatened to shoot down airplanes."

Man, Williamson,
Pennsylvania

"In this rapidly closing summer season, as last year, in this part of the state we have only had .70 inch of rain since mid-June. Early in June we had a few small half-inch showers following a series of floods in April. Cattle and goats are rapidly getting to the point of needing additional rations to keep their weight up, as the grass is all dry now, and has not grown for a month or more. On the average, cattle prices have not been as good as last year, and of course expenses are much higher. Last year cottonseed meal was around \$70 a ton, but now it is about \$100 a ton."

Reader, Kendalia, Texas

Plain Truth Helps Student

"The PLAIN TRUTH really helps me in my school work, especially my history classes. Believe it or not, I receive more history, geography, and science from *The WORLD TOMORROW* and *The PLAIN TRUTH* than I do in my classes. So you can see that they supplement my education. Each day I study my Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course, I gain more knowledge and understanding of my Bible."

Boy, Ernul, North Carolina

"The July PLAIN TRUTH is really amazing. When we first started receiving it we never dreamed to see it transformed into a thing of beauty. Now, after two years of getting it, it's a double pleasure to pick up and read. When I read 'Genesis vs. Geology' by Dr. Hoeh and came to the abrupt end, I was so disappointed. 'To be continued!' I thought, 'Oh no!' A month seems a long time to wait to finish an article."

Marcia C., Pontiac, Michigan

• *The sequel will appear in the next issue. Dr. Hoeh is presently attending the Seventh International Congress on Prehistory and Protohistory in Prague, Czechoslovakia.*

"I am a teen-ager (16) who has read, with some interest, your magazine. In fact, I have been reading *The PLAIN TRUTH* for some time. However, I cannot accept any longer any of the altruistic drivel offered by any denomination. The presence of denominations itself is a key to the totalitarianistic nature of the present Christian psyche. I seem to sense that Christianity, or any belief in a God, rather than being a comfort, is a crutch whereby individuals can forsake the acceptance of reality for a false faith, an ignorant stupor, and an opiate. To quote one of the Beatles, 'We're not anti-Christ, just anti-Christian.' Therefore, I wish that my name be removed from *The PLAIN TRUTH*

(Continued on page 47)

the PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding

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Personal from the Editor

ONE OF THE PROBLEMS that continually comes up on all three Ambassador College campuses is ROMANCE.

Actually, this is a problem category that helps keep Mrs. Armstrong young. She is Guidance Counselor for women at all three campuses. Most of the girls come to her for counsel and advice. Their problems are not always romance, of course. But out of hundreds of girls, mostly of ages between eighteen and twenty-two, you may be sure that many are concerned with matters of love and marriage.

Let me hasten to say that we most certainly do not *require* that students obtain faculty or ministerial permission to marry.

Frequently a male student will come to me, and say, "Mr. Armstrong, I would like your permission to become engaged."

I smile. "You're not required to have my permission," I assure him.

"Yes, I know," the student will answer, "but I'd like to counsel with you about it, if I may."

On that basis—at the request of the student—we are always happy to have students come to us for counsel. On each campus there is an ordained minister, who is also a faculty member, who is Guidance Counselor for men. But some students will come to me, or to Garner Ted Armstrong, for counsel and advice.

Let me tell you the reason we are pleased to have them consult us. Out of a few hundred marriages that have resulted from campus life at Ambassador, there has so far been only one divorce—and that happened to a marriage made *against* our advice. One other, also made in spite of our adverse counsel, came to a temporary separation—but this couple apparently learned their lesson and went back together. I know

of only one or two more—in each case marriages we advised against—which have not been as happy as they should have been, but in each case the marriages have endured for several years, and appear to be permanent.

BUT, on the other hand, so far as we know, EVERY marriage which had the approval of our counselors has been a successful and happy union. Not all have counseled with faculty members by any means, but many have. And, as far as we know, our counsel has proved close to 100 percent right.

We are in no doubt as to the reason. God says, through James, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, . . . and it shall be given him."

We do ask for wisdom, and in faith. And we receive it!

Last month I told you, in this column, about our 49th anniversary which Mrs. Armstrong and I recently celebrated. I feel that a woman who has been a very exceptional HELP to her husband for 49 years, through thick and thin, adversity and success, sickness and health, and a real *partner* in the very WORK OF GOD, is specially qualified to counsel with young girls about their romance problems.

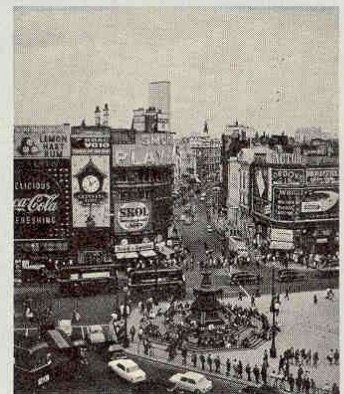
Mrs. Armstrong tells me that she usually takes a girl who is becoming romance-conscious back to the very PURPOSE of life. Not only the overall spiritual purpose, but the REASON God made WOMAN as well as man. Too few girls today have any concept of their mission in this life—the very reason God *made* them—to be a HELP to the man to whom God Himself binds them in marriage.

Too many girls today think only of the fluff and excitement of romance, with not much if any concern about the PURPOSE of marriage—the RESPONSIBILITIES of marriage, and whether they

(Continued on page 47)

In This Issue:

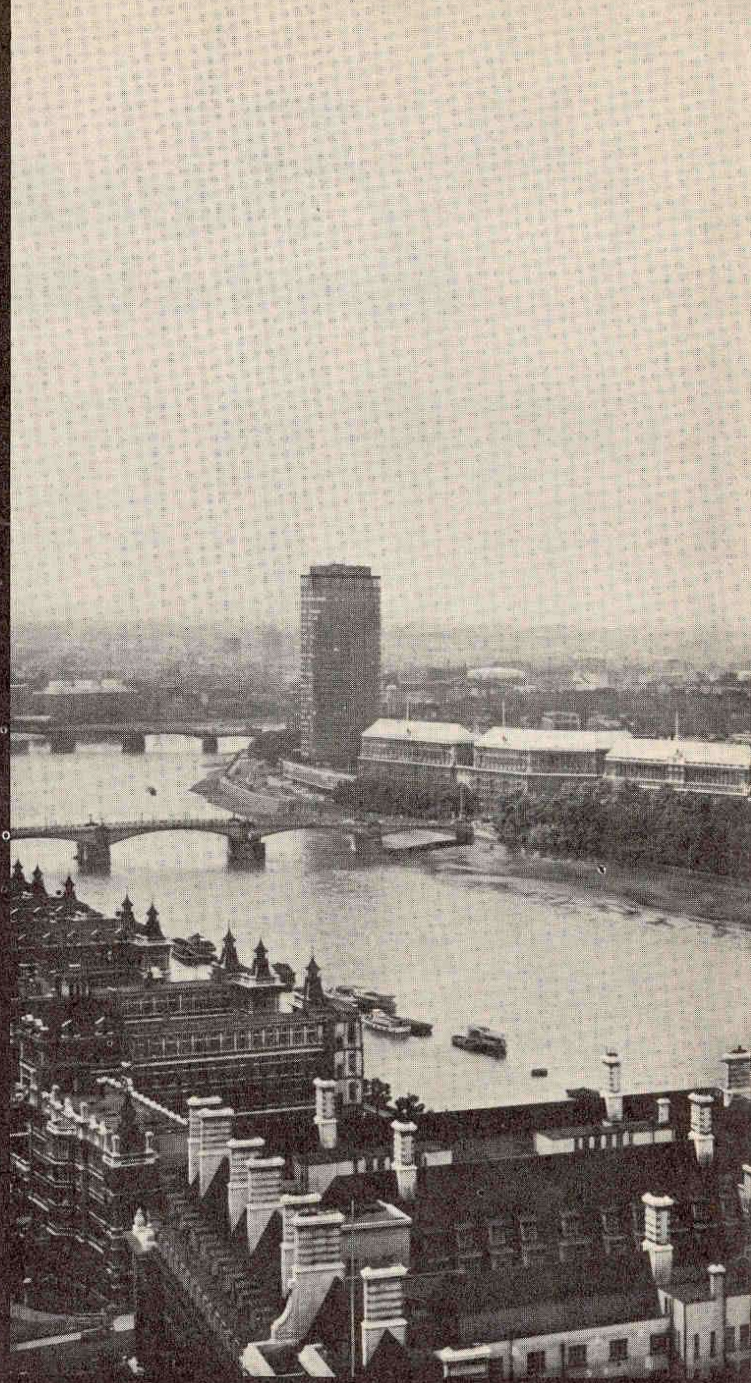
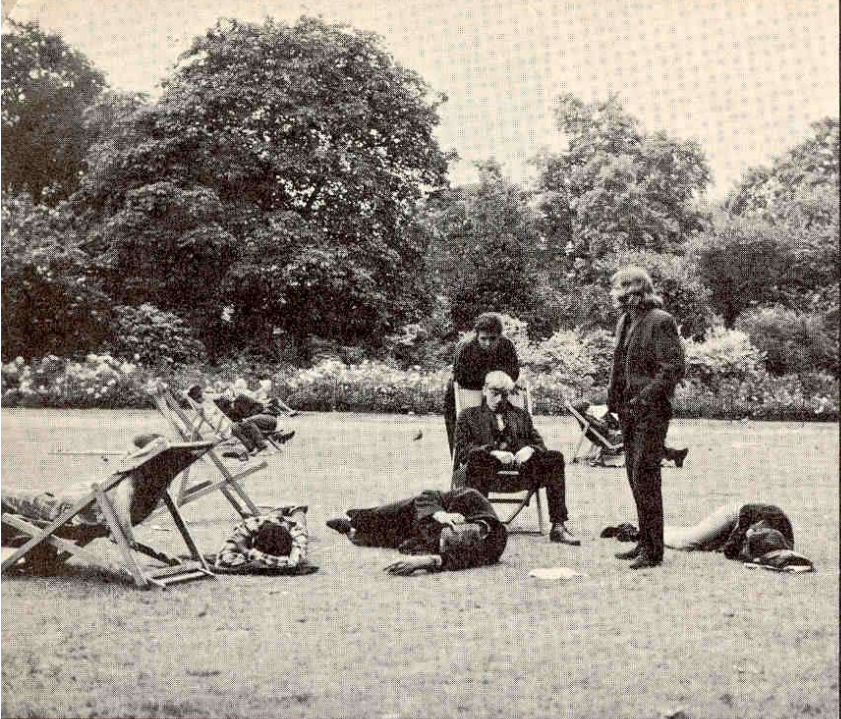
What Our Readers Say	Inside Front Cover
Personal From the Editor	1
OBITUARY of the British Empire	3
BRITAIN—"SICK MAN OF EUROPE"	7
Radio Log	14
STRAUSS' SECRET VISIT TO RHODESIA	17
Human Nature Is VIOLENT	23
Here's How	
"The Desert Shall Blossom as the Rose"	29
Short Questions From Our Readers	32
The Bible Story	33
Prophecy COMES ALIVE in Today's World News	48



Ambassador College Photo

OUR COVER

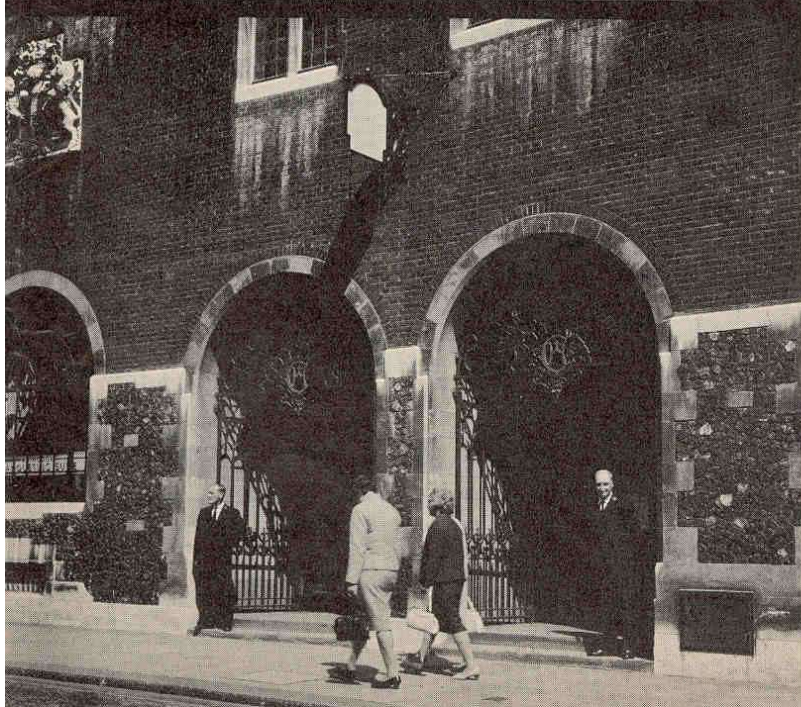
Piccadilly Circus, London. Once the "Times Square" of the world—the most famous plaza of the banking and trading capital of the world—meeting place for world leaders, and center of a worldwide empire. Today, homosexuals, beatniks, pallid-faced, purposeless teen-agers loaf beneath its glaring ads and invitations to passing pleasure. Rather than the symbol of the bustle of a world empire, it has become the vortex of wild pleasure-seeking. London is becoming increasingly noted for its wild gaming houses, its bawdy clubs, its "way out" fashions. Read the two shocking articles in this issue about the tragic state of the once-proud British Empire.



OBITUARY of the British Empire

The stupendous significance of official closing of the British Colonial Office goes unrecognized by a stultified Britain. Read the shocking truth of how this will dramatically affect YOUR life.

by Herbert W. Armstrong



THE BIG NEWS of the past month is not what happened in Vietnam. It is not the race riots in American cities, nor the mass murders in Chicago and in Austin, Texas—nor even the White House wedding.

The real BIG NEWS, of world-shaking significance, rated only small headlines, and was passed over quietly by a lethargic public in British countries and America.

Signal for World-Shaking Turn of Events

At precisely MIDNIGHT, Sunday, July 31, the British Colo-

Ambassador College Photos, Keystone Photo (left center),
Gilloon Photo (bottom center)

Tragic decay of Britain. Laziness, strikes, immorality, the beat generation—amid symbols of past glory. Top, Big Ben and Parliament House. Immediate left, Commonwealth Office, formerly British Office of Colonial Affairs.

nia Office in London came to an official closure.

With this shutdown, the BRITISH EMPIRE WAS DEAD!

Little does the world realize what this means! Few on earth know what a calamitous turn in world events this almost unnoticed action signals.

I have said many times that none of the heads of government in the world, none of the editors, news analysts or observers of the world scene can UNDERSTAND the REAL MEANING of today's world news—*unless* they first understand the PURPOSE being worked out here below—the MASTER PLAN by which it is being worked out—and also have a *right understanding* of that whole third of the Bible which is PROPHECY! And in all probability, not one in these fields possesses that understanding!

It's high time slumbering peoples WAKE UP!

Tolling the death knell of the once-powerful British Empire signals a SWITCH in world affairs that now will happen quickly, and will rock this whole world back on its heels in dumbfounded AMAZEMENT!

It's high time people in official circles, educators, and the supposedly educated of the world realize that the Bible is the most up-to-date report on world conditions that exists—that it is *not* the religious speculations of an ancient, straggling, despised, little race searching in ignorance for a mythical new concept of a nonexistent deity. It's high time the LEADERS of a suffering humanity realize that the Bible is the *living* message of the *living* Universe-Ruling GOD to mankind DURING THIS LAST HALF OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY! God's message is for NOW! It is for US!

It's high time those who are so rebelliously MISMANAGING this world's affairs come to an awareness that this living Book pertains to THEM, TODAY—to the conditions, problems, causes, and solutions of NOW!

Sun Never Sets????

The British had a world-known slogan: "The sun never sets on the British Empire." But Britain's sun actually *did* set some little time ago. The British

have been groping, blinded to the real truth, in the dusk period, seemingly oblivious to the fact that their MIDNIGHT is fast approaching. The very fact that the official closing of the Colonial Office struck at MIDNIGHT is significant!

In March, 1947, I interviewed one or two officials in the Colonial Office in London. I was informed that the postwar plight of Britain was such that, to regain the prewar standard of living, every Briton would have to produce 65 percent more, by his labor, than the prewar level of production. Reason? Loss of colonies and possessions which had supplied so much of Britain's daily living!

In late 1959 I completed the purchase of a very fine estate just outside London, which became, in 1960, the English campus of Ambassador College. This rather fabulous small estate was acquired for an unbelievably low figure. It had been totally neglected for two years. Weeds were hip high. We were obliged to employ British labor to convert horse stables into buildings and rooms for college purposes. Instead of working 65 percent harder, to produce 65 percent more, it became our standing, rather unfunny joke that English workmen came to tea, and took an occasional work break.

There is a CAUSE for every effect.

There is a totally unrealized CAUSE for Britain's former prosperity, and might, as the number one World Power. I'm going to tell you what CAUSED that never-before-equalled POWER and GREATNESS!

There is a definite CAUSE for the pitiful plight in which Britain exists today, *still little realized*. And I'm going to make plain what CAUSED this downfall! The Government and people of Britain *do not know*. AND THEY MUST KNOW!

No longer can Britain boast, "The sun never sets on the British Empire." They do not realize or believe it, but it is TRUE! *The Eternal living GOD* has taken that slogan away from Britain. He has transferred it to His very own worldwide Work! And today it is a FACT that the sun never sets on the established offices administering this great Work of God, around the world!

The CAUSE of Former GREATNESS

Prior to World War II, the British Empire and the United States combined possessed more than two thirds—almost three fourths—of all the cultivated wealth and resources of the world. All other nations combined shared less than a third!

NEVER had *any* people possessed such wealth, such national POWER and GREATNESS!

But WHY? How did we come by it?

Probably few realize it, but we had acquired it rather SUDDENLY. *Never* had any people sprouted from small stature in the world to such might and wealth and power so quickly! In the year 1800 the United Kingdom and the United States were comparatively small and insignificant among the nations. The United Kingdom consisted only of the British Isles, a very small part of India and of Canada, and a few little islands. The United States consisted only of the 13 original colonies and three added states—16 states in all. Neither the United States nor Britain possessed any great wealth or power.

But, beginning in 1800, these two little nations began to expand at phenomenal rate into vast national resources and power. By 1804 London was the financial capital of the world.

Probably many do not realize that in 1800 Britain was not an EMPIRE—was NOT a "Commonwealth of Nations." Australia was not yet a nation. Australia was not even settled until 1788 and thereafter. It did not become a Commonwealth NATION until January 1, 1909. New Zealand was not even discovered until 1642. British Sovereignty was first proclaimed in 1840, when it became a colony, and the colony became a Dominion in 1907.

Canada was "discovered" in 1497—soon after the "discovery" of America. Succeeding explorers came in the 16th, and 17th centuries. There followed struggles for possession between England and France, but the first uniting of Provinces for administration of Government, as Canada, was 67 years *after* 1800! Other Provinces were added later.

South Africa was not really settled (by white Caucasians) until "the Great

Trek" emigration of 1831, and later. It was not formed as the Union of South Africa until May 31, 1910 by act of the British Parliament.

It is not generally realized, but the British Commonwealth and the United States spurted, SUDDENLY, RAPIDLY, to wealth, and POWER, and GREATNESS, following the year 1800!

WHAT CAUSED this sudden spurt?

Did we develop it through our own human superiority, wisdom, foresight, energy, and abilities? WE DID NOT!

Let Abraham Lincoln answer for the United States—and the answer is the same for Britain:

"We find ourselves," he said, "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 the acquirement or the establishment of them."

Further, in the proclamation of April 30, 1863, President Lincoln said: "It is the duty of nations, as well as of men, to own their dependence upon the over-ruling 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."

And because President Lincoln saw a nation which had forgotten its God—a vain nation taking upon itself all the credit and glory due to the God who bestowed these riches on us, he called for a DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER FOR THE NATION TO CONFESS ITS NATIONAL SIN BEFORE GOD!

How far have our English-speaking peoples drifted from their Creator in the century since a President called his

NATION to fasting and prayer before God! If President Johnson should call for such a day (please don't laugh), the Supreme Court probably would hasten to declare it unconstitutional, and FORBID the nation to acknowledge its God!

What God PROMISED!

Here's the amazing paradox—stranger than any fiction—yet, incredible though it may sound, ABSOLUTELY TRUE!

Many centuries ago, the precise vast national wealth, greatness and dominant power which so suddenly came to America and Britain was *unconditionally PROMISED* by the Almighty God to the ancient Abraham for his literal racial descendants. This promise of inheritance by birth was re-promised to Abraham's son Isaac, and to Isaac's son Jacob—whose name was changed to Israel. This promise of material wealth and power was conferred by the aged Jacob on the two sons of Joseph, named Ephraim and Manasseh.

This was a promise *separate and distinct* from the promise of the Messiah, and of spiritual salvation through Him. *That* promise, called in the Bible the "Sceptre," passed on to the sons of Judah—(the JEWS)—(also one of the twelve sons of Jacob). But the Birthright—meaning *right by birth*—was passed on to the sons of Joseph (I Chronicles 5:1-2).

The Birthright Promise pertained to RACE. The Sceptre Promise pertained to GRACE. *The two were totally different.*

WHEN Birthright Inherited

Now when the Children of Israel were first formed into the Kingdom (or nation) of Israel, under Moses, it is important to notice HOW, and WHEN this tremendous national wealth and power of the Birthright would actually be inherited.

It is explained in Leviticus 26. To this people, God said:

"Ye shall make you no idols nor graven image . . . to bow down unto it; for I am the Eternal your God. Ye shall keep my Sabbaths . . . IF ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them; THEN I will give you

rain in due season. . . ." etc., etc.—their land would produce year-'round crops, they would inherit the WEALTH promised in the Birthright, and they would have become the most POWERFUL nation on earth.

"BUT," continues God's proposition to them, (verse 14), "if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments . . . I will do this unto you . . ." and God enumerated punishments of sicknesses and diseases, sorrow and suffering, invasion and captivity, and becoming the slaves of other nations—saying (verse 18), that He would punish them "seven times" for their rebellion against His Government.

Now "times" in their terminology referred to YEARS. And in Ezekiel 4:4-6, and in Numbers 14:34, we are given the key that Israel is to bear punishment on an "each day for a year" basis. Thus, the "seven times" becomes seven years—and on the prophetic-year scale of 360 days to a year, the total punishment becomes 2,520 years.

In other words, IF the Israelites of Moses' day submitted to God's Government, especially obeying the two commandments emphasized, then *that generation* of Israelites would inherit the great Birthright promise. They would become the mightiest World Power on earth. BUT, if they rebelled, they would become slaves, and the inheritance of the Birthright *would be withheld 2,520 years!*

What actually happened?

Four hundred thirty years after Abraham, his descendants, the children of Israel, were led by Moses out of Egyptian slavery and they became God's own NATION. But they rejected GOD as their Ruler (I Samuel 8:1-7). They had Saul as their first King, then David, then Solomon, then Rehoboam the son of Solomon. But when Rehoboam threatened to tax the people more heavily than his father Solomon, the nation REJECTED REHOBOAM as their King, and elected Jeroboam, Solomon's chief deputy executive, as King.

Thereupon the Tribe of Judah seceded from Israel in order to retain Rehoboam as their King. This set up a new and *different* nation, called the Kingdom of JUDAH. The tribe of Ben-

jamin went with Judah. Then Jeroboam threw out the tribe of Levi from being the priests, and most of the Levites also left the nation ISRAEL, and entered into the Kingdom of JUDAH.

Two Different Nations

And so the Children of Israel now were divided into two different nations. Four entire historic Books of the Bible are devoted to recording the rival governments and their wars. Yet most professing Christians still believe they were never more than one single nation, called "the Jews."

Incredible as it may sound, the Kingdom of ISRAEL were NEVER called "Jews." The name "Jews" is merely a nickname from their tribal name, Judah. Judah was merely one of the tribes of Israel. So *they* and their Kingdom of Judah *only* were Jews. Of course the Benjamites and the Levites, who became part of the Kingdom of JUDAH also were called Jews. But NONE of the ten-tribed nation of the north were ever called Jews.

The first place in all the Bible where the word "Jews" occurs is II Kings 16:6. There you will find that, beginning verse 5, ISRAEL was allied with Syria, and they went to war against the Jews. So the very first place where the word "Jews" occurs in the Bible describes the nation ISRAEL going to war against the Jews.

It is highly significant to note that the Birthright promise was given jointly to Ephraim and Manasseh (sons of Joseph) (Genesis 48). These were counted as two of the Ten Tribes of the Kingdom of ISRAEL. But the Sceptre—the promise of the Messiah, and spiritual salvation through Him—was now in a *different* nation—THE JEWS. Jesus was born of a Jewish mother. God was His Father—not any human. Yet, as the Son of man, Jesus was a Jew of the House of David—a direct descendant of David, who was of the Tribe of JUDAH.

Idolatry Enters Israel

When Israel first rejected Solomon's son as King, and elected Jeroboam as their King, Jeroboam immediately turned the nation away from the worship of, or obedience to GOD. His

reason? He feared losing his office. Like most politicians, he was interested *first* in his selfish *personal* welfare, and that of his people secondly. He reasoned (I Kings 12:26-32) that if his people continued to go to Jerusalem every autumn to attend the Feast of Tabernacles, in the 7th month (sacred calendar), and the people should see King Rehoboam, they might turn again to Rehoboam, and dethrone Jeroboam.

So Jeroboam set up two idols, golden calves, one in Dan and one in Bethel. He issued a proclamation to his nation saying that these calves were the gods that brought them out of Egyptian slavery. To further fortify his personal power, he rejected the tribe of Levi from the priesthood, and made priests of the lowest, most ignorant of the people—priests who would do his bidding—not God's. Thereupon the rejected Levites migrated from Israel, moved south and became part of the nation of JUDAH.

Jeroboam did one thing more to fortify his personal power. He ordained his own Feast of Tabernacles one month later—in the EIGHTH month. Although it is not recorded, it is evident that he also changed God's Sabbath from the seventh day, which God had hallowed, to the EIGHTH day—the day *following* the seventh day—(actually the first day of the following week)—the same day on which the pagans worshiped the sun-god.

This Sabbath of God had been made the IDENTIFYING SIGN between God and Israel—the SIGN that identified Him as their God, because in six days He made heaven and earth, and rested on the seventh day (Exodus 31:12-18). CREATION is the PROOF of God's existence. Creation identifies God. The One who created not only earth, but MAN, is man's true God. On the other hand, God's Sabbath identified Israel as GOD's nation.

WHY? Because, 1) no *other* nation ever kept it; 2) there can be no reason to keep it *except* that it is a memorial of creation—that God made it HOLY TIME—and that God COMMANDED mankind to *keep* it holy; so 3) it became a matter of OBEDIENCE to God, respecting that which is HOLY TO *HIM*. Thus, since no other nation would OBEY, or

show this respect to the true GOD, it SET ISRAEL APART from all others as GOD's nation. That is, as long as they kept it! It was a sign OTHER nations could recognize—a sign causing other nations to RECOGNIZE this nation as GOD's nation.

WHY did the ten-tribed nation ISRAEL later become known as the LOST Ten Tribes? *Answer:* They lost God's SIGN of identification.

WHY does the world suppose that only the JEWS (part of the descendants of the Kingdom of JUDAH) are the "chosen people"? *Answer:* Because they did retain this SIGN which identified them!

What Happened to Israel

Remember, now, in Leviticus 26 we saw that God had put special emphasis on TWO of His Ten Commandments—Idolatry and Sabbath-breaking. The first four of the Ten Commandments regulate man's relation to GOD. The last six regulate man's relation to MAN. Idolatry and Sabbath-breaking are the two which, above all others, cut humans off from contact with GOD.

After the Israelites rejected Rehoboam, and elected Jeroboam as King, the very first things Jeroboam did were to CUT HIS NATION OFF FROM GOD by turning them to idols and Sabbath-breaking.

But the ETERNAL was patient. He allowed them to remain in their land through seven dynasties and the reigns of nineteen kings. He sent them prophets, but the people stoned and killed them. They had completely lost knowledge of God during the reign of King Ahab. God sent them the prophet Elijah, who restored the KNOWLEDGE of God, and of God's LAWS, giving the people no excuse. Yet after recognizing the true God—in their KNOWLEDGE (I Kings 18:21, 39)—the kings of Israel and their people refused obedience to God and returned to their idols.

Finally, this northern Kingdom—the HOUSE OF ISRAEL—was invaded by the armies of King Shalmaneser of Assyria. After a three-year siege—721-718 B.C.—(II Kings 17:5-6) the nation ISRAEL was defeated. The Assyrians

(Continued on page 45)

THE BRITISH EMPIRE AFTER WORLD WAR II



KEY

 Important land areas and gates controlled by Great Britain after World War II.

 Areas and gates lost by Great Britain since World War II.

... Now Shattered

In 1945, Great Britain dominated over one quarter of the world's population. Britain controlled thirteen million square miles of territory — one quarter of the earth's land area! Its influence was felt the world over. The sun never set on the British Commonwealth. Today, it is a shell of its former greatness.

The "Commonwealth" exists today only on paper. Gone are most of the important sea gates. The others, like Gibraltar and Aden, are to be dismantled. Britain is phasing out of Malaysia. The so-called "New" commonwealth of non-white nations aren't really bound together. There is no central foreign policy, no effective trade agreement, no single defense pact.

Today, "Great" Britain and the Commonwealth consist of a few islands, a paper pact of squabbling nations, and a home island beset by economic, and moral decay. The sun has set on the British Empire! And to prove it, the British Colonial office struck the flag at midnight, July 31. It was the obituary notice of the death of the British Empire.

to tighten their belts and go to work. But seemingly nobody listens!

Thus far postwar British Governments have only papered over Britain's economic symptoms. No British Government of recent years has yet been willing and/or able to attack *the root cause* of Britain's economic ills.

The British Prime Minister has repeatedly warned that "sheer . . . laziness" is the cause of Britain's economic plight. He has often exhorted Britons to give "a full day's work for a full day's pay." But no one has been able to shake Britain out of her lethargy.

"Will Sterling Topple?"

Just how serious is Britain's present economic malady? Will sterling really topple? This question is being asked repeatedly throughout Great Britain, America and around the world.

Will a big financial crash really come? Sir Alfred Owen says, "Sooner or later the crash will come when as a nation we shall be down on our knees."

Sir Halford Reddish, Company Chairman, recognizes



OBITUARY

(Continued from page 6)

ians removed them from their farms and cities, and took them as slaves to Assyria, to the south and west of the Caspian Sea. The only Israelites left in Palestine were those of the Kingdom of JUDAH (II Kings 17:18). The Assyrian king then placed Chaldeans—those who embraced the "Babylonian Mystery" religion—in the cities and towns of the ten-tribed nation ISRAEL. These were the ones whose descendants were in this land of Samaria in the time of Christ.

More than a hundred years later, the Jews—of the Kingdom of JUDAH—were invaded and conquered by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. They were removed from their homes, towns and cities, and taken as slaves to the land of Babylon. Seventy years later, according to Jeremiah's prophecy, a portion of these people—from the tribes of Judah, Benjamin and Levi ONLY—returned to Judea in Palestine to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem. But NONE of the ten-tribed House of Israel were among them (Compare Ezra 2:1 and Nehemiah 7:6 with II Kings 17:18).

By the time of the Jews' captivity, most of the Assyrians, and the ten-tribed BIRTHRIGHT-POSSESSING Israel had migrated northwest across Europe. Many of the Israelites had already settled in northern Ireland and other parts of the British Isles.

By this time the KINGDOM OF ISRAEL—the northern Kingdom—the TEN tribes—had become lost, so far as historians were aware. WHY? They had LOST their identifying sign. They were following PAGAN religions and customs. They had lost their Hebrew language. They, themselves, had lost their identity as Israelites, and supposed themselves to be gentiles!

Birthright to Britain and America

In due time the ten-tribed Israelites had become established in western Europe and the British Isles. For PROOF of this, if you have not already received and read the booklet, *The United States and the British Commonwealth in Prophecy*, be sure to request your free copy at once.

Stranger than any fiction, and incredible though it may seem, the descendants of Ephraim and Manasseh had migrated together to the British Isles, and Manasseh *later* to the United States—with some of the Ephraimites—also *later*—migrating to New Zealand, Australia, South Africa and Canada.

REMEMBER, now, it was the TWO tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh who possessed the all-important BIRTHRIGHT.

REMEMBER, too, these tribes FAILED to qualify to receive this gigantic national and materialistic blessing in ancient time, while they yet were in Palestine.

REMEMBER, further, when they then failed to qualify to receive it, the actual RECEIVING of this tremendous God-given promise was deferred for 2,520 years!

REMEMBER, still further, that God made this promise UNCONDITIONALLY to Abraham, repromised to Isaac and Jacob, and passed on by Jacob to Ephraim and Manasseh.

THEREFORE, once the 2,520 years expired, *God was absolutely* BOUND by His oath to bestow that never-before-matched blessing on the descendants of Ephraim and Manasseh. He was BOUND to do it, NOT because of any goodness of these modern-day descendants of Jacob and of Joseph, but *solely because of Abraham's obedience*, and because of God's FAITHFULNESS to His unconditional PROMISE!

Now FIGURE! There was no year zero. The first beginning of Shalmaneser's siege against ancient Israel was 721 B.C. The defeat of Israel was complete in 718 B.C.; 2,520 years from 721 B.C. is the year 1800 A.D., and 2,520 years from 718 B.C. is 1803 A.D.

Now YOU KNOW WHY Britain and the United States *suddenly* spurted from minor nations to the greatest wealth and power ever enjoyed by *any* nations, beginning 1800-1803!

Jacob, in conferring the Birthright on Ephraim and Manasseh had said 1) they were to bear HIS NAME, ISRAEL (Gen. 48:16) for he had adopted them as his OWN SONS (verse 5). Therefore MANY prophecies regarding ISRAEL today apply to Britain-America specifically, in a manner that does not necessarily include the others of the Ten Tribes.

2) Eventually, when the Birthright was actually inherited, Ephraim (Great Britain) was to become a COMPANY (or COMMONWEALTH) of nations (Gen. 48:19) and Manasseh a single GREAT nation. Since these promises involved world-dominating greatness, Manasseh (the United States today) was to become the GREATEST SINGLE NATION of all earth's history.

CAUSE of Our Decline

God kept His PROMISE. I have shown you how, beginning 1800 A.D., our two white, English-speaking peoples *suddenly* grew into greater wealth, power, national resources, and dominance than any nations in history.

Now you know the CAUSE of the greatness that came to us up to World War II.

But what is the CAUSE of our decline?

In Leviticus 26, God promised this national greatness to Israel of *that* day, IF they would be HIS KINGDOM, ruled by HIM, obedient to HIS GOVERNMENT, following HIS WAYS. And He mentioned, specifically, with emphasis the TWO commandments against idolatry and Sabbath-breaking.

Failure meant TAKING AWAY the Birthright Promise from THEM, even before they had received it—and deferring it for 2,520 years!

Because of ABRAHAM'S obedience to God, the ETERNAL gave Abraham the UNCONDITIONAL promise of the Birthright. *God kept that Promise!*

But God DID NOT promise we should CONTINUE forever in enjoying that great national materialistic blessing! On the contrary, FAILURE to be obedient to GOD—to walk in HIS WAYS—and especially in the two commandments specifically emphasized (Lev. 26:1-2)—against idolatry and Sabbath-breaking, means the LOSS of these blessings!

WHAT HAVE WE DONE WITH ALL THIS MATERIAL BLESSING God has given our peoples?

Our lands are filled with IDOLS. The largest single denomination calling itself "Christian" in the United States fills its every church and cathedrals with IMAGES—IDOLS! Of course our people say "But we don't call them our

gods—they merely *represent* Christ, and Mary, and saints." But don't you know that THAT is precisely what the idolatrous pagans ALWAYS SAID—even in the Bible days, when God CONDEMNED this idolatry?

Our churches and those who *profess* to be Christ's ministers REBEL against God's Sabbath, and teach the people, FALSELY, that it was DONE AWAY! They teach that GOD'S LAW was done away!

The people worship the things they manufacture today—not only actual images, but houses, automobiles, gadgets, clothes—all sorts of things. They worship actors and actresses—we used to speak of "Matinee idols."

We Have Rejected God!

Our people have REJECTED not only the Sabbaths of God, but His annual Festivals, commanded FOREVER. And instead, they celebrate the PAGAN FESTIVALS of Christmas, New Year's, Easter, etc. They say they use these PAGAN ways to WORSHIP CHRIST. But HE says HE will NOT ACCEPT THAT KIND OF WORSHIP. Before you become resentful and angry because God, through me, is printing *The PLAIN TRUTH* for you to read, get your Bible and read what GOD ALMIGHTY says TO YOU in Deut. 12:30-31.

Look at our school systems. We have allowed the poison of German rationalism—falsely so-called—to throw GOD and His knowledge out of our schools, colleges and universities! The atheistic theory of EVOLUTION is the BASIS and FOUNDATIONAL CONCEPT, and APPROACH to all knowledge as falsely disseminated to our children!

Atheism and Agnosticism runs rampant! OUR PEOPLES HAVE REBELLED AGAINST AND TURNED AWAY FROM THE GOD WHO HAS BLESSED US! WE HAVE FORGOTTEN GOD! Our peoples simply DO NOT KNOW the true GOD, nor the true CHRIST!

In Britain-Ephraim the leading theologians—the leading religious leaders of the people—are today approving fornication, and homosexuality!

Morals have taken a toboggan-slide! Divorces and broken homes have increased until more than one in every four marriages end in divorce. Crime is on a tremendous upsurge.

WE ARE NATIONS OF LAWBREAKERS. Our nations REJECT the laws of God, turn to MAN-made laws—and now they will not obey even MAN'S laws!

God gave our peoples EVERY SEA GATE that controlled worldwide commerce. Since World War II, when we let MORALS sink into the cesspool, God has begun stripping them FROM us, one by one. *The few remaining will soon go!*

Now the BRITISH EMPIRE is a THING OF THE PAST!

I could quote enough Scriptures of prophecy, picturing England's plight today (which she fails to realize) to fill three or four issues of this magazine! Britain's SUN HAS SET! Britain's MIDNIGHT is fast approaching! Read what Hosea says. Read the parallel prophecies of Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28. Read and UNDERSTAND!

The United States came to great world power a little later. The United States' SUN sets a little later than England's. But America's sun is NOW SETTING!

Much of the prophecy of Leviticus 26 applies to OUR TIME, NOW! In verse 19 God says, "I will break the pride of YOUR POWER." In the days of Theodore Roosevelt, when I was a young man, NO NATION DARED insult the United States. We did not have as much power then as now—but we had PRIDE in our national power.

A German battleship was steaming on Manila Bay. President Theodore Roosevelt sent the Kaiser a fast note, telling him to turn his battleship around. The Kaiser didn't know he meant it. Mr. Roosevelt sent a SECOND note—but it went to Admiral Dewey, commander of the entire Pacific Fleet. It ordered the U. S. NAVY to steam full speed ahead, and if the German battleship did not turn around, "SINK IT!" The Kaiser learned that Mr. Roosevelt MEANT IT!

Why have we had no presidents of THAT pride in our power since?

Now the ETERNAL tells us, if we will READ His warning prophecies, that because of our national sins, He is going to allow us to be invaded, conquered, and removed from our homes, our farms, towns, and cities, and taken as SLAVES to the conqueror nation—UNLESS WE NOW QUICKLY HEED HIS WARNING, REPENT, AND RETURN TO OUR GOD!

Our armed forces DID NOT win World War I or World War II, believe it or not! GOD caused the defeat of Germany and Japan. You BLIND and DECEIVED Americans and Britons—you will soon now KNOW that God Almighty LIVES, and that He has sent His servant to WARN YOU—and that it was GOD SPEAKING through His human instrument, and that HE MEANT IT!

If our NATIONS will not now heed, repent, and return to the LIVING God, then any and all *individuals* who will—who will really REPENT, COME AWAKE to what is actually HAPPENING to this world—and humbly SURRENDER UNCONDITIONALLY to the ETERNAL LIVING GOD, then YOU, individually, shall have divine PROTECTION through the frightful WORLD TROUBLES just ahead of us!

GOD is a living God of LOVE. God put in motion LAWS which are the CAUSE of happiness, peace, well-being, prosperity, security—every desired blessing. But people trample those laws underfoot, CAUSE unhappiness, pain and suffering, curses to come on them, and then blame it on God and call Him a harsh, stern God!

GOD blessed our NATIONS with wealth, power, material blessings such as no nations ever enjoyed. Then we call GOD a stern, harsh God—we say that the very LAWS He set in motion to BRING every blessing we desire are AGAINST US, we say "God is dead," and we CAUSE every evil and curse to come on us—and then blame it on God!

You deceived peoples of America and Britain, WHEN will you WAKE UP to TRUTH?

EVERY blessing, EVERY good thing comes from GOD—and CANNOT come otherwise. God wants YOU to come to your senses and turn to HIM, and to CHRIST, and to His RIGHT WAYS. Otherwise history will repeat, there shall

THE GRIM DILEMMA OF GOVERNMENT

PART III

WILL APPEAR IN THE OCTOBER
ISSUE OF THE PLAIN TRUTH

come invasion, captivity, our cities blasted off the map by NUCLEAR destruction. And then, in slavery, our people WILL turn to God and plead for forgiveness, and for His BLESSINGS.

In the END, God says our peoples will—with the living CHRIST having returned in supreme POWER and GLORY, ruling the world—we shall then be restored as the CHIEF nations of the world and live in HIS ways, and enjoy His blessings for a thousand years to come!

But ONLY after we learn our lesson, and surrender to God!

Personal from the Editor

(Continued from page 1)

have become trained and prepared to assume those responsibilities.

Too many young men think of love in terms of LUST. A certain girl has sex appeal to a certain young man. He has an urge to put his arms around her and draw her to him. His whole thought is self-centered. He doesn't realize that LOVE is an outgoing concern FOR the one loved. His "love" is selfish—he wants what he feels will please HIM—satisfy HIM. He wants self-gratification. It's all coming his way. Real LOVE wants to *give*, not get or take or receive. It wants to *share*, to help, to serve.

Most parents today do not know HOW to rear children. They need to read Garner Ted Armstrong's booklet on Child Rearing (it's FREE—better write in for it if you have not already done so). Many girls are allowed to grow up with virtually no teaching or training from their mothers. Many 18-year-old girls, with romance and marriage on their minds, have never been taught how to make a bed, cook, wash dishes, or maintain a home. They are no more prepared for the responsibilities of marriage than a five-year-old child.

Many girls who enter Ambassador College have had excellent training at home—come from fine families and, in due time, a few years later, will be

prepared to make some man a fine wife. But not all girls are so blest.

I wish all people might read chapters 8, 9, and 10 in my book, *God Speaks Out on "The New Morality."* Too few realize WHAT marriage is, and WHY it is. It is a direct type of the spiritual marriage to take place very soon between the glorified all-powerful CHRIST and His true Church—at the time when the CHURCH OF GOD is born of God to become THE KINGDOM OF GOD. As physical marriage by humans is expected to result in children, and FAMILY LIFE, so the coming glorious spiritual marriage between Christ and His Church brings the Church into the FAMILY OF GOD. And this divine union will bear many children—*spiritual* children, begotten by this union, and BORN into the FAMILY (or Kingdom) OF GOD!

I have, candidly, been AMAZED that, out of the hundreds of thousands of copies of this book which have gone to HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE, there have not been more—*many more*—to write in and tell me what an eye-opening, surprising, WONDERFUL truth had been opened to them, by these three chapters showing the true MEANING of MARRIAGE. When God opened *my* eyes to this marvelous TRUTH—revealing it to me so that I might reveal it to YOU—I was thrilled in ecstasy that reached to high heaven to realize how WONDERFUL are the ways of GOD—how transcendently MARVELOUS are His Purposes, and His Master Plan for working out His great PURPOSE here below!

Some few really grasped this tremendous truth. But I guess most, as the apostle Paul wrote, are too spiritually DULL OF HEARING—or UNDERSTANDING—to grasp and UNDERSTAND such glorious TRUTH.

God made marriage to be—IF we understand, and follow HIS ways, even to relying on HIM to select and lead us to the right one to marry in the first place—the most wonderful physical or material blessing possible in this life. On the other hand, when one marries the wrong one—when one or both are carnal-minded—self-centered—concerned only with what they GET from

the other—then marriage can be life's biggest curse.

Marriage is not for children. Young people in their teens may have adult BODIES, but they do not as yet have adult MINDS. They need to realize the sacredness, the seriousness, the RESPONSIBILITIES of marriage. And it is NOT old-fashioned or out of date that marriage as bound by GOD is until DEATH—it is FOR LIFE!

Mrs. Armstrong and I have received many notes, cards, and letters of congratulation since publishing the editorial about our 49th anniversary last month. May we take this opportunity to sincerely THANK all our well-wishers for this thoughtfulness, and love?

One man, past 80 years of age, married 60 years, (to the same woman), wrote: "Some say married life is 50-50. I say if the man and wife are Christians, it is 100% each."

God has planned THE WAY for every happiness—every good thing. God's Ways pay off. They are THE CAUSE of the desired EFFECT—peace, happiness, joy, well-being, security, prosperity, and eternal life."

What our READERS SAY

(Continued from inside front cover)

mailing list. So it must be until Judgment Day or rotting death."

Boy, Stockton, California

• *Sorry, Fella. Sorry, that is, that you're willing to base your whole future on what you "seem to sense" instead of what you've carefully PROVED. And, when you've gotten over the vain satisfaction you experienced in writing your cynical letter, and wish again to receive The PLAIN TRUTH—we'll be happy to start sending it again.*

Evolution in Reverse?

"Perhaps it is a type of evolution in reverse, but Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong is 'making monkeys' out of the professional evolutionists with his logical and devastating radio discourses on this subject."

Listener, San Diego, California