

CONGRESS OF LEADING MINISTERS HEARS DEFINED AND REEMPHASIZED SPIRITUAL ORGANIZATION OF CHURCH

By Herbert W. Armstrong
GREETINGS everybody! I have called this as a congress of the leading ministers of God's Church worldwide.

We have here today the office managers from our different offices around the world, the evangelists and top ministers from the United States. In other words, a congress of the leading ministers of the United States.

I would like to read what I have today. I have called this congress of leading ministers of God's Church worldwide because, first, conditions in the world fulfilling biblical prophecies are now fast accelerating, indicating that we are indeed in the very last of the last days.

And things are coming to a crisis at the close very rapidly in the world. I do not think they are going to be delayed very much longer.

Secondly, this necessitates a dynamic stepping up in the intensity of God's Work by His Church, proclaiming Christ's Gospel of the coming Kingdom of God, which is not being proclaimed to the world by others and has not been for 19½ centuries to the world — except what



CONGRESS OF MINISTERS — Pastor General Herbert W. Armstrong accepts applause after addressing a congress of leading ministers of the Worldwide Church of God in the Ambassador College Recital Hall in Pasadena Feb. 25. (Photo by Dexter H. Faulkner)

we are doing now ourselves.

I want to acquaint you leading ministers with the plans for this intensified homestretch finishing of the Great Commission of the living Jesus Christ that the living Jesus Christ has called us

to do.

And third, to update you so that you may update the brethren and the other ministers and brethren under you in the true purpose that this, the organization and the government of the

Church of God, has for this time — this present Commission in the time that we have left.

Former Prime Minister Winston Churchill, speaking before a joint session of the United States Congress in the time of

World War II said, "There is a purpose being worked out here below." His statement, of course, was a great deal more than that, but that's the essential part.

A Higher Power above, of course, is working out that purpose. That purpose is the creation of perfect, holy and righteous character in separately created beings for continuing God's creative Work throughout the endless universe, perpetually time without end.

Now I wonder if you grasp all of that? That is far more than anything that we would normally consider as the Work of this Church here and now. That is more than a thousand years yet into the future. What God is doing now is preparing for that. He is producing Himself in His Church now. He is going to continue reproducing Himself when Christ comes to set up the Kingdom of God during the Millennium.

But we are the first to be called. We are the firstfruits of His salvation. And those of us who overcome are going to sit with Him in His throne when He takes over the throne of the earth from Satan. We are going to be given power over the nations and
(See ORGANIZATION, page 2)

STANLEY R. RADER RESIGNS EXECUTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES— CONTINUES AICF, LEGAL AND FINANCIAL ADVISER TO HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

At a congress of ministers of the Worldwide Church of God in Pasadena Feb. 25, Herbert W. Armstrong, Pastor General of the Worldwide Church of God, made the following comments.

By Herbert W. Armstrong
Just over two years ago, on Jan. 3, 1979, armed deputies from the California attorney general's office suddenly, without notice, invaded the Pasadena headquarters of God's Church and college. It was a massive lawsuit attack that threatened to DESTROY God's Church and His Work.

It was primarily through the extraordinary work of Stanley R. Rader that the Church, its activities, facilities for those activities, properties and assets were protected, preserved, kept in continuous operation and their destruction prevented. These properties and facilities, which I would conservatively value at more than \$100 million, were saved for the Church.

1) Mr. Rader had the expertise to guide the installation of what I feel undoubtedly is the most sophisticated accounting system of any church in the United States, prior, of course, to this massive government, unconstitutional invasion.

During our legal defense, which he masterminded, he had the wisdom to hire the largest CPA firm in the United States, Arthur Andersen & Co., to go over all of our records, and to relate to this very prestigious accounting firm so as to clear the Church and its officers of any allegations of financial wrongdoing.

This was a mastermind strategic move. The attorney general's case was doomed from the time of the Arthur Andersen & Co. audit.

2) Mr. Rader masterminded bringing together in our defense highly qualified attorneys from several top legal firms to defend the Church in the many hearings and court appearances.

Mr. Rader had the ability to command the respect of these prestigious legal firms, and to assume overall legal leadership as a master general of a master legal army to defend us against the overwhelming legal army of the State.

3) Mr. Rader spent much time in Sacramento, Calif., working behind the scenes with other organizations that were working to put the Petris bill through the legislature. This bill nullified the law on which the attorney general's office based their case against the Church.

4) For two years Mr. Rader was working effectively with the media nationally, including television, radio and the press, using expertise in the media



STANLEY R. RADER

field over and beyond ordinary lawyer services. He appeared on talk shows over the nation.
(See ADVISER, page 9)

ORGANIZATION

(Continued from page 1)
we shall rule them with a rod of iron.

That does not apply to any but the Church of this time now. That does not apply to those who shall be converted and changed into God Beings from human beings during the Millennium. That applies to the Church and those who are called now.

Judgment is on us now. Judgment is a time of trying and testing to see whether you are innocent or guilty. When you are in a court of law, you don't go there just to be sentenced — that usually comes after the trial.

When you are in a court of law you are being tried as to whether you are innocent or guilty. The Church is being tried now. Judgment is on the Church, and we are the first to be judged. Judgment is not on the world as yet.

Let me give you something else that has come to my mind in the last 24 hours that I hadn't thought very much about before. We are going to judge angels.

You read in II Peter how God spared not the angels that sinned. They are being kept in *tartaroo*, that's the Greek word translated "hell." *Tartaroo* is a word not used anywhere else in the Greek Bible, including their equivalent of the Old Testament. It is a place where angels are reserved for their judgment.

Now stop and think a moment. Have we considered or thought that the angels are all judged and condemned already? I think Satan is, but that verse does not say Satan. It says the angels that sinned. Maybe some of them were deceived by Lucifer, the great archangel who became Satan. That's something for you to think about.

We are to judge angels. Angels are yet to be judged. There is a time when judgment is coming on the world and it has not come yet. The world as a whole is not being called.

Jesus Christ said, "No man

But first, while God can create separate living entities or beings, this righteous, spiritual character cannot be created automatically by fiat.

There are things even God cannot do. Did you ever think of that? God can create living, separate entities, separate beings who have mind power, power of mind. He created separate entities or beings we call animals, who have brain but don't have mind power to think, to reason and to come to making choices and decisions.

But He did put that power in angels. He has also put that power in human beings. You have to have that power before righteous holy character, perfect character, can be inculcated, built and developed in you.

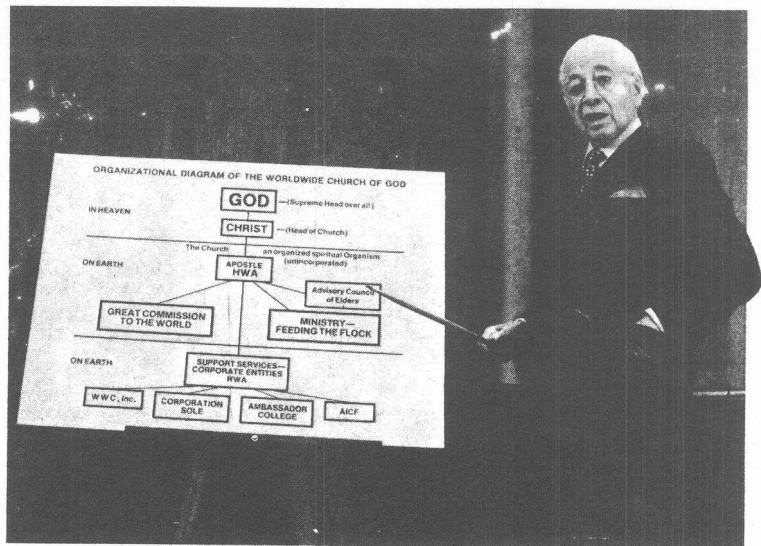
That character must come from God. But it does require the decision and the effort on the part of each separately created entity. God cannot do that.

If He were to make anyone a perfect character at the time He created that being, it would be like man making a machine that has to do what God says and cannot have any will of its own. And that would not be holy righteous character.

Character is the ability of an individual to come to a right decision, to choose a right decision, the right choice, even against what might otherwise be a pressure or a will of his — to choose the right and to do the right and resist the wrong. That is what God has and no living creature had that originally but God.

Now the holy angels apparently have that, though it isn't revealed to us in the Bible how it was developed in them. But it is revealed that the angels that sinned, spoken of in II Peter, are immortal and are kept to their day of judgment. But they have not been judged. That's something new I didn't intend to say but I've just ad libbed that.

While God can create sepa-



ORGANIZATIONAL DIAGRAM — Pastor General Herbert W. Armstrong explains the organizational diagram of the Worldwide Church of God to a congress of leading ministers who assembled in the Ambassador College Recital Hall in Pasadena Feb. 25. [Photo by Dexter H. Faulkner]

Bride marrying Him. The husband, Christ, will rule over the wife, the Church, and Christ will be ruling next to God.

All judgment has been given to Christ, not God the Father. God the Father has given it to Christ. And God, Jesus said, judges no man. But Jesus Christ does. God is the Lawgiver, Christ is the Law Enforcer and He enforced it on Himself. He built that character when He was on earth as no other human ever did.

God first created argels before He created any other type of living beings, so far as we know. He placed angels on this earth at its creation. Angels were created before the creation of the earth, because in Job 38 you will find they shouted for joy at the creation of the earth. They must already have been here to shout for joy at the creation of the earth. They were placed here to inhabit it.

God set a throne of earthward rulership on the earth. He placed

hour and day-by-day thinking and planning. In the background of their mind if you asked them they'd say, Oh, yes, I believe in God. They don't believe God. That's something else again, believing what God says.

But many believe in God and also there are many — and that number is increasing — who do not because they have been misled and deceived by Satan the devil.

So God created man in God's image. But man was composed of material flesh and blood from the ground. That's all we are. But there is a spirit in us that gives man a mind that the animal does not have. Animals have a physical brain just as man does.

But the animal does not have the kind of spirit with the brain that acts as a computer to store knowledge and to give him instant recall of knowledge in the process we call reasoning and thinking, decision making, even creative thinking.

The first man, Adam, had to make a decision. He made the decision for his human family. The whole world today had been born from Adam. We are the family of Adam. He made the decision for his children, his family, for the world, to reject the Government of God.

But the Government of God enters into the picture and has from the time God set the Government on earth over angels and put Lucifer on that throne. The world is overlooking the Government of God. The Government of God is based on the law of God. You cannot have a government unless it has a basic law or constitution.

And the basic constitution or law of the Government of God is the law of God. This law is summed up in one word, *love*, two words, love to God, loving your neighbor as yourself. Love has 10 divisions, the Ten Commandments. And you can go on and apply it at lesser levels as it expands over more and more territory.

Adam's sin cut the world off from God as a whole — that is, all but the minute few that God would specially call, as He has, I believe, called us. And He cut them off from access to His Holy Spirit as you'll read in the last four verses in the third chapter

of Genesis.

He set angels with flaming swords pointing every way lest man go back to the tree of life, gain immortality and live forever in unhappiness and misery and wretchedness — the results of sin, which man had chosen to live in.

God is not going to let any human have immortal life now in unhappiness. Instead, you have now a temporary life. It's a temporary existence. It's not actually really life.

We are and have all been dead in trespasses and sins. In the Garden of Eden there was a tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Adam didn't have real life. He had a chemical existence that was running down. Every hour and every day it was running down towards death. He was dying every hour of every day and so are you and I.

And unless we are spiritually fertilized, as an ovum in our mother's womb was fertilized by our father's sperm cell, and unless we are so fertilized by the Holy Spirit of God to join with our spirit, we will just run out of physical life and die.

(See ORGANIZATION, page 4)

"Terrible, frightful things are going to happen in the next few years . . . There are many things in Bible prophecies, and God is revealing them rapidly . . . to me now. And I'm going to be revealing them to you as God reveals them to me."

can come to me except the Father which sent me draws him." Otherwise, no man can come to Christ. That was true 1,950 years ago.

God has called only a few now. We who are called, if we overcome, are going to sit with Him and reign when Satan is taken away. When Satan is taken away and Christ is ruling — and there is no Satan here to deceive the world — judgment is going to come on all that remain alive. That may not be over a third of the people that are alive today on earth.

Terrible, frightful things are going to happen in the next few years that are going to take the lives of probably two thirds or more of all of the people now living on the face of the earth.

There are many things in Bible prophecies, and God is revealing them rapidly, I would say, to me now. And I'm going to be revealing them to you as God reveals them to me.

rate living entities and with mind power for free choices and thinking, this righteous spiritual character cannot be created automatically by fiat. The individual created being must make his own decision, take his own action in the creation of character.

The character will come from God but he has to want God to give it to him and believe in God. He must repent and he must believe — believe what God says — and let God put it in him with his own consent and his own will. That is righteous character, that is what God is creating.

In man God is reproducing Himself. We shall be as much God as God Himself is God. It will be a Family of God, a God Family. God the Father will always be at the head of that whole Family. Jesus Christ will always be next in that Family. The rest of us at the resurrection, at the time of the Second Coming of Christ will be the

on that throne a super-archangel, the great cherub we know as Lucifer, to administer the Government of God over the earth and those inhabiting the earth who were, at that time, angels.

Lucifer rebelled and led his angels into rebellion. Lucifer became Satan the devil. His angels became demons. They are spirit beings with immortal life. They've been living for untold thousands of years already, and they will live forever.

Satan is going to be tormented forever and ever. But it does not say all his angels will. They are yet to be judged, that's a new thought for you to think about.

Lucifer, who became Satan, is still on that throne today. He's invisible to human eyes.

The world today is not really conscious of the existence of God or of created spirits. They don't stop to think about it. It doesn't enter into their hour-by-

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REPORTS ABOUT GARNER TED FALSE

By Herbert W. Armstrong
TUCSON — March 3: Last week newspapers in Los Angeles, Calif., Pasadena, Tyler, Tex., and, I understand, other parts of the country, carried stories speculating on the return of my son, Garner Ted Armstrong, to the Church.

Some of the media coupled this speculation with the resignation of Mr. Stanley R. Rader from his executive responsibilities as treasurer of this Church.

Let me say emphatically, this is merely newspaper speculation, and totally unfounded. My son denied it, and I deny it. A coincidence was used by the press to raise the question. Garner Ted was in Los Angeles at the same time Mr. Rader was resigning. I knew nothing of his presence in the Los Angeles area until I read it in newspapers. I was also in Pasadena very briefly to address a congress of leading ministers and foreign office managers, worldwide, convening in Pasadena. But there was no connection whatsoever.

Let me speak frankly and candidly.

Would I like to have my son back? Did the father of the prodigal son rejoice exceedingly when his son returned repentant? Ted did not go out under the same conditions. He did not take his share of property (which I didn't own) and spend it on riotous living and drunkenness.

There have been many words about details of why my son was sent away . . . But the real basic CAUSE lies in something my son was quoted as saying some time ago in a newspaper — to the effect that he had never agreed with his father. Newspapers almost never quote me correctly. But it seems to me that this statement attributed to him is about true and explains basically it all.

In my serious in-depth study of the Bible from the fall of 1926 to spring of 1927, I had been challenged and I was studying almost night and day to have my own way — TO PROVE THAT GOD IN THE BIBLE SAID WHAT I THEN BELIEVED HE SAID. But I had to see with my own eyes that God in the Bible said just the opposite of what I believed. I had to learn that I was WRONG — not only in what I believed but what I was. I learned I had NOT AGREED WITH GOD.

Two can't walk together except they be agreed (Amos 3:3). I had to REPENT of what I was, what I had done (turn from it), and of what I had believed. I realized I had never AGREED WITH GOD. I was not until then walking with God. He opened my mind to UNDERSTAND HIS WORD — what God says. Adam did not believe God. Multiple thousands heard Jesus preach, but only 120 believed what He said. Just about the most rare thing on earth is to BELIEVE GOD! TO AGREE WITH GOD!

I PROVED the Bible was God's Word — God speaking in writing. I surrendered completely to Him. I decided with all my heart to GIVE myself to Him. Jesus Christ had bought and paid for me with His shed blood. I decided to GIVE myself to Him, and to WALK WITH HIM!

As we have walked along

together, AGREED, I have stumbled and fallen down through weakness — not disagreement — a few times as in I John 1:6-9 (which study again), when I confessed and repented, He reached down, forgave, picked me back up so I could continue walking with Him. But I had to AGREE with Him (His Word).

My son did not agree with me. And since I was agreeing with CHRIST and walking with Him,

and false concepts on points of doctrine. I need not here go into detail.

The Work of God's Church started from NOTHING financially. But it started rich in TRUTH and in FAITH that was THE faith of Jesus Christ. It grew from smallest beginnings at the phenomenal rate of 30 percent a year on the average for 35 years — a record UNMATCHED in the annals of organizations, institu-

WHOM I AM IN AGREEMENT! But I have repented of that, worked on myself to OVERCOME — cried out to God for divine HELP in overcoming this weak human flesh. But I have WALKED WITH CHRIST BECAUSE I AM IN AGREEMENT WITH HIM!

Let me tell you of the FOUNDATION of this present era of God's Church (another point — this "era" my son has disagreed with). Let me tell you how YOU

I carried on, but in much prayer! I had one son left, now my only living son. Garner Ted was working into the broadcasting, and in due time became executive vice president of the Church and Work of the living God!

When, after being overseas most of the time for a number of years, I came to realize what was happening to the Work of the Church. I was appalled. It would be easier to lose a son in death, as in Dick's case, than to have to dis-fellowship him and send him away. Three times before I had felt compelled to do this — twice privately to protect his good name on a hoped-for and expected repentance, the third time openly in the presence of all Pasadena-based evangelist-ranked ministers. Each time I made the mistake of accepting remorse for repentance. I feel the remorse was real and sincere. But I myself had to learn just how deep repentance is! Remorse and godly sorrow only initiates or works toward repentance, which is permanent turning from!

A father naturally LOVES his son. Every man, I think, wants a son. My wife and I were of opposite RH-blood-factor type. She almost died in bearing our second child.

But soon after my conversion, summer of 1927, God miraculously healed instantly my wife of several complications. She would have died in less than 24 hours. I had been converted, received God's Holy Spirit and His gift of FAITH only a few months before. My wife and I knew upon this miracle from God we could have a son!

The next year God gave me my long wanted son — 10 years after our first child! Born of a miracle! A GIFT FROM GOD! The happiest day of my life, I called it! About a year and four months later God gave me a second son, Garner Ted! More than two years later he was dumb — could not talk. When I knelt and prayed for him he was instantly healed of pneumonia, and his speech restored. By next day he was speaking in small sentences!

Both my sons became ordained ministers in God's

"The Work . . . started from nothing financially. But it started rich in the truth and in faith that was the faith of Jesus Christ."

Church. My eldest son Richard David (Dick) was the most loved minister in the Church — because, I think, he GAVE the most love toward all. In his 30th year he suffered multiple injuries, broken bones, internal injuries in a head-on automobile crash while "in harness" on a baptizing tour.

I prayed. I thought of Abraham having to be willing to sacrifice his only son. I had to face the question. Would I be willing? It was a SERIOUS monumental moment in my life. I told God that if that was His will, I would be willing. I didn't think God would require it. He did not in Abraham's case. But in mine. HE DID REQUIRE IT! Dick died one week after the crash!

four incidental reasons — the final straws — that broke the camel's back.

I said above, my son did not go out taking his share of material goods, which his father did not have anyway. I have here tried to cover as clearly as possible the real underlying reason why he was sent out. In all of that it was a different circumstance than Jesus' parable of the prodigal son.

But, if God does draw him to "come to himself" and see why he was not walking with his father, or with Christ as I walk with Him, and be brought, at last, to a REAL repentance that is basic and PERMANENT, I would rejoice as overwhelmingly and

(See REPORTS, page 4)

"When this Work has pleased God, He has prospered us and the Work has grown steadily. When the Work does not please God it does not grow!"

my son — whether he realized it or not — was disagreeing in many ways with Christ. We just could no longer walk together.

Time changes things — and sometimes changes us. I begin to realize now more than I did that he may have been really sincere in his disagreement with me as I was agreeing with Christ, in principle as well as specific word. But regardless of sincerity, he disagreed with much of the doctrine, both in principle and in detail.

He disagreed in regard to the Church and wrote a booklet, after starting his own work, in disagreement on this important subject. True, he continued to believe in Christ, and in the Commandments, but in many general and basic areas he was in vital disagreement. He has said, as quoted in the press, that he preaches the same Gospel. He may believe that, but he is in vital and basic disagreement.

He disagreed with what Christ was doing through His chosen apostle, and in how it was being done. The basic doctrines of God's Church were being watered down. My son was being influenced and misled by scholars bent on secularizing Church doctrines to conform with the "Christianity" of this world as it is foretold in Revelation 17, especially the "daughter" churches.

During the years 1973 through 1976 and into 1977, I was overseas carrying Christ's Gospel (Revelation 10:11) into many nations, and through personal meetings and visits with many kings, emperors, presidents and prime ministers of nations — as well as other high officials in governments and in universities. I was away from Pasadena up to 300 of the 365 days in the year. I was leaving the day-to-day executive administration at Pasadena to my son as executive vice president. The Church was being turned upside down. It seemed to be a matter of going as far as possible in the ways and beliefs of this world's "Christianity" as influenced by Satan — which amounts to going as far as possible into Satan's ways and AWAY FROM GOD'S WAYS!

The HARM that was done as a result of this attitude to God's Church is INCALCULABLE! It harmed, in a way I think my son did not realize, thousands of members of the Church of the living GOD. It led to lukewarmness, a more careless attitude toward real or strict obedience to the ways of God. It led to wrong

tions or human operations that I know of. That is from 1934 to 1969.

When I finally turned the microphone for broadcasting over to my son I was able to say: "Into this mike you are speaking over more wattage of radio power worldwide than any other program on earth. It's all been built for you to use. I've gone out and actually SOLD this program to the station managers of super-power stations all over America and the world. You don't have to produce the money to pay for it. The Church and organization is built."

But when I had to take him off, and excommunicate him, in 1978, our program was the SMALLEST in the religious field. We had gone down to five-minute programs, and they were ineffective and had to be canceled.

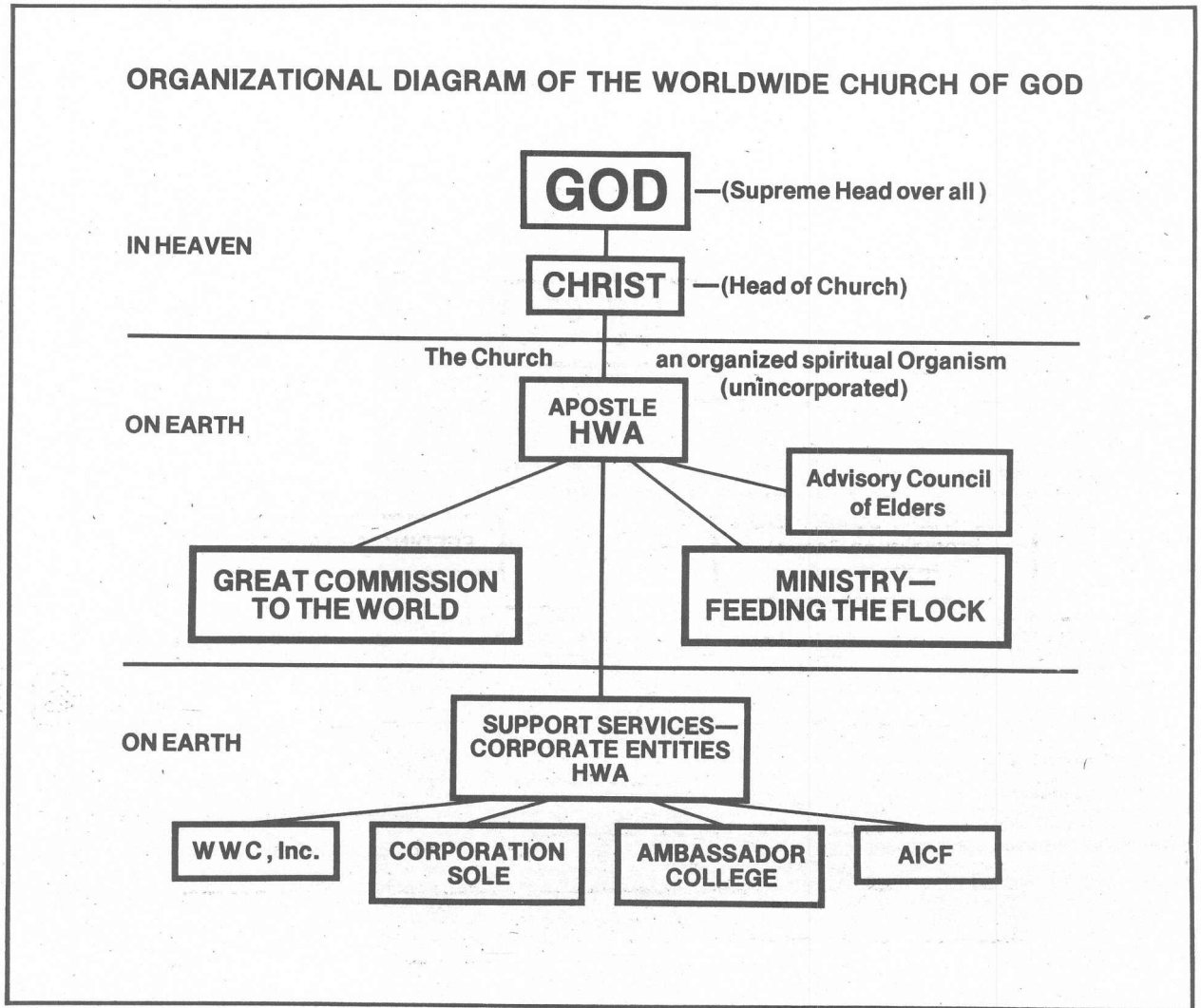
When this Work has PLEASSED GOD, He has prospered us and the Work has GROWN steadily. When the Work does not please God it DOES NOT GROW! From 1968 through 1978 THE CHURCH AND ITS WORK CEASED ITS GROWTH. Those were the years I was away proclaiming the Gospel in nations all over the earth (Revelation 10:11) and my son was in executive administrative charge at Pasadena. In those years the Work, especially in the United States, DID NOT GROW!

In many ways, I have been appalled at the HARM done to God's Church during those years!

The REAL enemy in this is not my son or any man — it is SATAN. I well know that many will rise up in indignation and say, "Satan can never deceive ME!" But Satan HAS deceived every human who ever lived, except Jesus Christ!!! He has deceived the greatest human minds that live today or ever did live! The root question is, can we allow GOD to open our minds to this?

I had to, 54 years ago. I was deceived by Satan. I BELIEVED I was right. I was sincere. God caused me to be PAINFULLY CHALLENGED! I had to come to see I was WRONG! It was a bitter pill to admit. A STRUGGLE went on inside me. I didn't want to admit I was wrong. It was a spiritual BATTLE. I lost that battle. Jesus Christ won! He "brought me to myself" and I surrendered.

I BELIEVED Christ, the living Word of God. Through human weakness I have not lived perfectly — I have stumbled and fallen down a few times as I have WALKED WITH CHRIST WITH



ORGANIZATION

(Continued from page 2)

As in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. A resurrection is coming and a judgment for all who ever lived. And everyone will finally have a chance. God has not given everyone a chance while deceived under the great deception of Satan the devil. No one on earth has this truth but this Church.

God shut man off from immortal life, which is impregnation by the Holy Spirit, until the restoration of the Government of God over the earth. Man is shut off until the restoration of the Government.

While Satan is here deceiving all nations, deceiving the whole world, it's only the few that God has called. And we are of those few who have to resist Satan. But we are going to have a greater reward. We are not saved by our works but we will be rewarded according to our works.

Those who are called are having to fight Satan in a way that those who are saved during the Millennium will not. And they will not have the same reward

that we can have now.

I want to tell you it's a tough time fighting off Satan. I've had to do it a good many years. I know just how hideous and how tough Satan is, perhaps more than most of you know. Satan would love to destroy me — and how well I know that.

Others, not called, are reserved for their judgment day, which will come after the restoration of God's Government over the earth during the Millennium. And it will be in a resurrection.

Their judgment will come in a resurrection to judgment in the afterlife, as explained in Revelation 20. And we have one Holy Day, the eighth day after the seven days of the Feast of Tabernacles, which is looking forward to that judgment of the Great White Throne after the Millennium. And you will read of that time in Revelation 20, Ezekiel 37 and other scriptures.

Jesus Christ, the second Adam, came more than 1,950 years ago. Jesus is the first human who could ever qualify to

wrest the Government and the throne of the earth from Satan. Jesus overcame Satan. He qualified to reestablish and restore the Government of God and to establish the Kingdom of God on earth.

The Kingdom of God is different from the Government of God. The Kingdom of God is the Family of God, which will administer the Government of

God.

Jesus said, "I will build my Church and the gates of the grave shall not prevail against it." The word *hell* used there in Matthew 16 means the grave. The Church of God, which He founded in A.D. 31, is a spiritual organism. It is not a secular organization. That is not what the Church is.

The Church is a spiritual

organism, but it is organized and organized on God's spiritual pattern as explained primarily in I Corinthians 12 and Ephesians 4 and other New Testament scriptures. Of course, God the Father is the head over all. But Jesus Christ is the living Head of the Church. He's in heaven on God's throne.

Under Him on earth are apostles (See ORGANIZATION, page 5)

REPORTS

(Continued from page 3)

gratefully as the father of the prodigal son.

I have continued to pray earnestly, fervently from the heart for this EVERY DAY. I never let my eyes close on my pillow at bedtime without beseeching God in Jesus' blessed name for this every night. I have asked our membership to pray for this and I ask again now that you pray for him earnestly every day!

I think now my son may very well have been sincere in his own mind in not agreeing with his father — and as his father was walking with Christ. I didn't

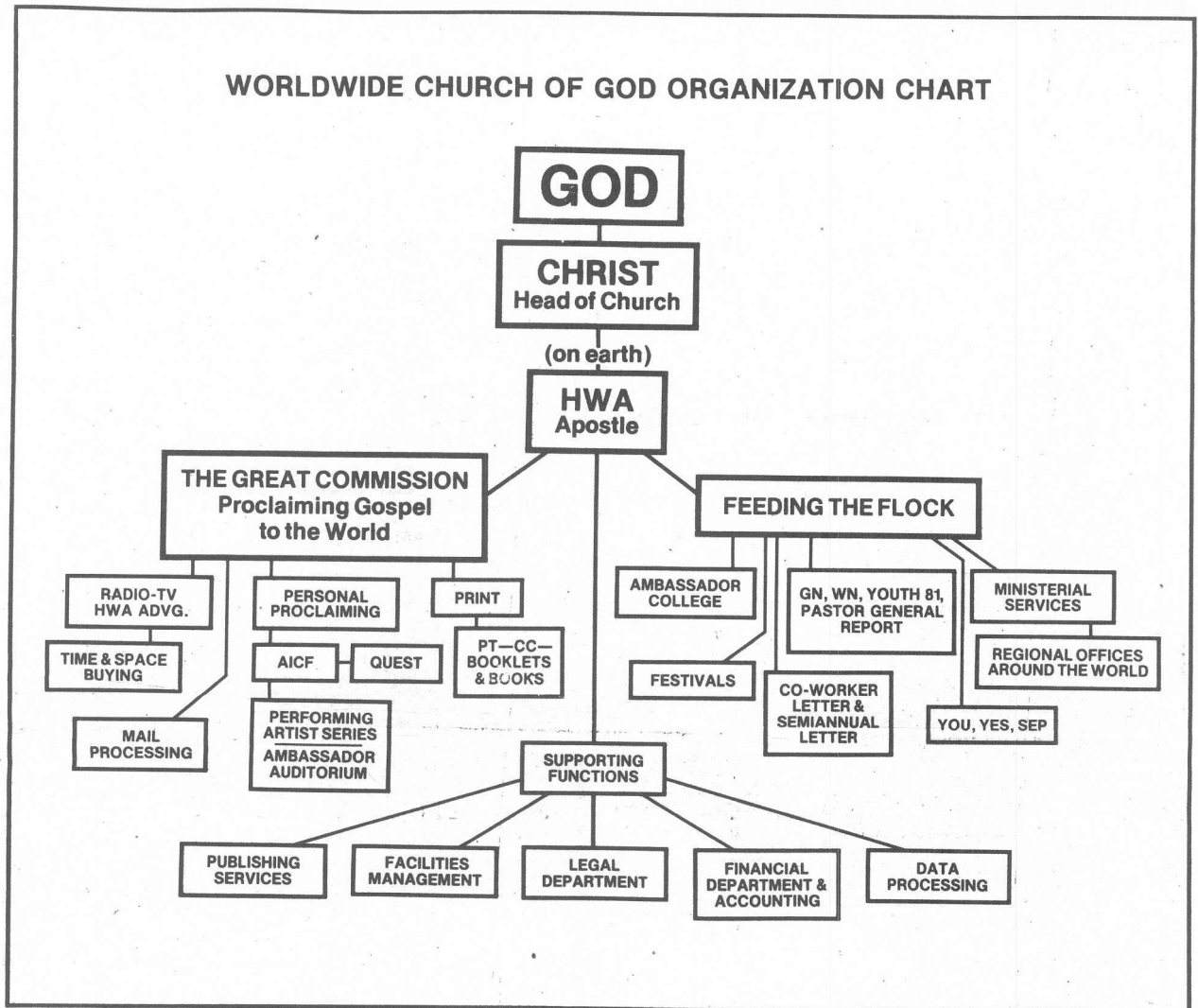
realize at the time he might be really sincere in his own mind about his disagreement.

I thought, in 1972 when he was out of the Church and Work in Colorado, that Zechariah 3 might be prophetically speaking of him as Joshua the high priest, and wrote him a long letter expounding this. Could it be possible that is a correct application after all? Only God knows our minds and hearts.

But it is still true that two can't walk together except they be agreed. I am agreed with God and with Christ the Head of the Church. I shall never water down the TRUTH He has revealed to me, nor in any manner compromise with it. We are ALL OF

US going to have to AGREE with God and with Christ HIS Son, if we are to walk TOGETHER with them, into God's Kingdom.

Please pray for the Work! Please pray for — not against my son — that we may all WALK TOGETHER BY AGREEING WITH GOD AND WITH CHRIST! I know how hard it would be for my son to admit he has been wrong, to come to himself, to really and fully repent. But in no other way could he ever come back into the fellowship of God's Church and in NO OTHER WAY could he ever serve in it. God did bring me to such a change of attitude and belief and such repentance. Nothing is impossible with our Great God!



ORGANIZATION

(Continued from page 4)

ties. Apostles were given the oversight of the Church and its organized Work.

Originally there were 12 apostles. The principal work of the 12 apostles, if you will read carefully in the book of Acts and if you will analyze their sermons, included not only the proclamation of the Kingdom of God, but they put emphasis on the big question at that time in Judea — Jesus' messiahship.

The Jews had been influenced by the Pharisees and Sadducees to not believe in the existence of Jesus as the Messiah. Now the Pharisees knew, as Nicodemus said in the third chapter of John, that Jesus was the Messiah. But they feared Him because they had government positions over their own people.

The Roman Empire ruled Judea as a vassal state. And while they allowed a king and they had garrisons of soldiers there, they made the Jews rule themselves and that was done by the Pharisees.

The Pharisees had nice jobs

and they didn't want their situation disturbed. They knew Christ was preaching the overthrow of the governments of the world and they thought it was to be in their lifetime.

In other words, they looked on the fact that Jesus would be viewed as a subversive and off would go their necks and out would go their jobs if it were found out. They had to be loyal, they thought, to Caesar.

Now the common run of the people were not told that Jesus was the Messiah. And the 12 apostles — God needed 12 because they were eyewitnesses of the resurrection — put main emphasis during the first years of their ministry on the fact that they were eyewitnesses of the resurrection, proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

Jesus sent them on a mission. He said, "Go not into the way of the Gentiles but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." The lost sheep of the house of Israel at that time were in Britain and Western Europe.

After a few years you see no

more in the history of the New Testament of Peter and the other apostles, except that John was on the isle of Patmos in the 90s A.D.

But we do begin to see Paul. And why does Paul suddenly become so significant? Because the others had gone to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Jesus Himself said, I am not sent but to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Paul was the main apostle to the Greek world, and he had the oversight over all of those churches, as he very plainly said.

So, though the Church is a spiritual organism, it is organized not on a carnal human pattern, but on God's spiritual pattern. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the message that Christ proclaimed. That message was the Good News or the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. That is the message He preached, the restoration of the Government of God by the coming Kingdom of God.

The apostolic Church from A.D. 31 proclaimed it. They proclaimed that message but with special emphasis, as I said, on the resurrection of Jesus Christ of which they were eye-

witnesses. It required 12, as in a 12-man jury, to make it absolutely certain and to convince the people in Judea.

The two spiritual areas, which are the real purpose and mission of the Church, are, one, proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom of God for a witness to the nations of the world.

As I say, in the first century the first apostles put great emphasis on the resurrection of Christ. I'm going to show you later that the emphasis now is on the coming Kingdom of God as this is the generation to which it is coming.

Emphasis then was on the fact that Christ Jesus was the Messiah because that was the generation when He came. Do you see the difference?

Now the second mission of the Church is to feed the flock, as Jesus said, on the spiritual food of the Word of God.

Today we carry on God's Work in a world multiplied vastly larger in population, a mechanized, mechanical, complex world with instrumentalities to work with that were never dreamed of in the first century. So there is a great difference in the operation of the Church

today from what it was in that day.

The basic organizational pattern is the same today as it was then. But today we must utilize supporting services — and let's remember that — they are supporting services. The main function of the Church is spiritual.

The supporting services are mostly physical. Get that into your minds and keep it there. However, supporting services are needful to get the Work done today.

So the basic organizational pattern is the same. But today we utilize supporting services in scientific, technological and mechanical areas that were non-existent in the first century.

Moreover, we have to deal with the world's governments in a manner quite different than they had to deal with in that day. We have many complicated matters that they were not confronted with in their day.

Therefore I want to show you an overview chart of the Church organization and government to carry on the Work of God in His Church in this 20th century. Then I want to come to some scriptures on that immediately.

(See ORGANIZATION, page 8)

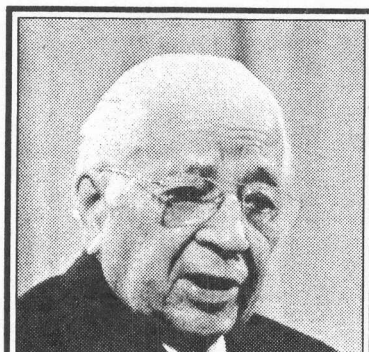
A Voice Cries Out: What's Wrong with Organized Labor?

Has it, after all, contributed to a permanently better world, or-?

THE UNION worker, as well as the capitalist, executive and all of us, stands today on the very brink of human extinction!

Right now we're all in the same boat, facing the No. 1 problem of human survival!

There has to be a CAUSE for every effect. What brought about



them to climb the ladder of success. Too often a union leader said to an employee, "Slow down, there, buddy--or we'll all have to work as conscientiously as you are!"

I remember the philosopher-writer Elbert Hubbard, whom I well knew, writing, "Unionism chains the laborer to his bench," and the theory "once a laborer, always a laborer," with no policy in unionism to inspire and help the working man to rise to higher status in life.

Has it, after all, contributed to a permanently better world, or—?

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Right now we're all in the same boat, facing the No. 1 problem of human survival!

There has to be a CAUSE for every effect. What brought civilization to the chaotic state where for the first time it's possible for man to erase mankind from the earth?

We're looking, in this series, at six major facets of man's civilization. We covered modern education first, because the leaders are what education made them, and civilization is the product of the leaders. We've covered the contributions of government, of science and technology, of business and industry. And now, organized labor.

What has been organized labor's part in the development of today's civilization?

Surely, when we look at the progress made during the 20th century, labor's achievements have been incredibly good?

Modern organized labor has produced the highest living standard for the common man—for the nation as a whole—ever enjoyed in any country since man has inhabited this earth. It has shortened work hours, increased pay, brought fabulous benefits compared to labor conditions as they existed previously—and still exist in most countries. One of the great contributions has been child labor laws.

But conversely, unrealized by most, labor has contributed its share to the chaotic state of the country and of the world.

One might not think, until looking more deeply, that organized labor has contributed its share to the present problems of unemployment, inflation,



HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

the inroads foreign competition has made in these areas—and now setting in, the lowering of the American high living standard.

Early in the 20th century American industry got the jump on that of other nations, with mass machine assembly-line production, made possible by the American mass market. This greatly lowered production cost, and as greatly expanded profits. Industrial ownership here would have followed the English custom, in the human-nature pull to "GET" rather than share or "GIVE." In Britain the rich lived in the "great houses" maintaining low-cost labor.

But the labor unions went all out to "GET" all possible from the enormous new mass-production system.

Labor wars ensued. Historically were the "Herrin massacre" coal strike, Herrin, Ill., in which 36 were killed, June, 1922; the Los Angeles Times bombing, and other labor wars of extreme violence.

A new "GET" economic philosophy infiltrated labor unionism. No longer was a single company a "team" where all worked together against rival competition. Even that had been based on the "GET" incentive. But now capital and management became the enemy of labor.

It may have been true that a union man often was a more proficient worker than a nonunion. But that was because unions enlisted the more skilled, not because unionism encouraged or taught

them to climb the ladder of success. Too often a union leader said to an employee, "Slow down, there, buddy—or we'll all have to work as conscientiously as you are!"

I remember the philosopher-writer Elbert Hubbard, whom I well knew, writing, "Unionism chains the laborer to his bench," and the theory "once a laborer, always a laborer," with no policy in unionism to inspire and help the working man to rise to higher status in life.

Yet where is organized labor different than those in other facets of a bankrupt and annihilation-facing civilization? Are not capital and management in it, also, for what they can "GET"?

The world forgets—or did it ever know?—that peace, happiness, contentment, joy, are spiritual qualities! There is a basic spiritual LAW in relentless motion that governs all life! It governs not only these spiritual conditions of well-being, but universal economic prosperity as well! That basic LAW is, simply, outflowing LOVE! I simplify it by the term "GIVE" and its transgression the way of "GET."

"GET" seems to have got us all! The "GET" incentive is the root CAUSE of all the world's troubles and evils!

The way of "GIVE," cooperate, serve, help, share, is the basic spiritual LAW of our Maker! The world has been trying to beat that law—and is being beaten by it!

The supremely powerful invisible "Strong Hand from Someplace" very soon is going to intervene dynamically to save humanity from itself—before MAN blasts mankind from the earth! This voice is crying out with that announcement—the world's only and SURE HOPE!

Whether believed or not, it is as SURE as the rising and setting of tomorrow's sun.

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
Pastor General
Worldwide Church of God

Those who care for it may have, gratis, with no follow-up, Mr. Armstrong's booklet *The Seven Laws of Success*. The nation's top executives have followed the first six. Also, on request, no subscription price, the full-color mass circulation magazine of UNDERSTANDING, *The Plain Truth*, bringing you the meaning behind world news. Address Herbert W. Armstrong, Pasadena, Calif., 91123, or call toll free (800) 423-4444. In California call collect (213) 577-5225.

ORGANIZATION

(Continued from page 5)

When the legal battle hit us a little over two years ago, we soon formed a new corporate organization: Herbert W. Armstrong, Apostle for the Worldwide Church of God, a Corporation Sole. We've changed all the salaries and handling of things and the actual operation of the Church into that corporation sole.

Now for the organizational diagram of the Worldwide Church of God (See chart, page 4.) God is the Supreme Head over all. In heaven is God, and Christ under Him as Head of the Church but under God the Father. Below we come to the earthly area. First, under Christ is His chosen apostle. Jesus said by their fruits you shall know them.

So now we are incorporated under myself. I am appointing an Advisory Council of Elders, not a Board of Directors. This type of corporation doesn't require a Board of Directors. I want an advisory council, Advisory Council of Elders, because Solomon says in the multitude of counsel there is safety.

I have always done that, as you older ministers know. And you know how far back we used to meet together. We weren't a legal board but it was the way we functioned as God's ministers and in God's Church.

Often we went into session with divergent ideas. Always after an hour or so, sometimes less, sometimes more, we were all united because we only wanted God's truth.

And we did not have someone who was trying to look for his own personal, private political interest at that time. That's why the Church was growing 30 percent a year. And we always came to a unanimous idea.

It must always be that way. Sometimes I didn't agree with the others when we went in and when we came out I did. I think that more often the others agreed with me before it was through, but there were times when I had to change my mind. We didn't want our own way. I still want this Advisory Council of Elders.

We have here the Church, an organized spiritual organism but unincorporated. Now this is not the corporation, or the corporation sole. This is just the Church as God has organized it. As for *The Worldwide Church of God, Inc., a California Corporation*, do you realize that most of you are not members of that corporation at all? The members are the officers that sign the corporation papers.

I might tell you the story I wrote up in the *Autobiography*. In Eugene, Ore., an individual organized a corporation of himself, his wife and another man who was a son-in-law. The son-in-law was not a member of the Church at all and hardly ever attended. He visited once in a great while, once in probably three or four months. Those three incorporated and claimed the ownership of the Eugene church property.

I had the deed to the church. It was made out to the two elders and two deacons as officers of and trustees for the Church of God at Eugene, Ore.

I knew what the opposition had done. I went to a lawyer. I

said, we want to incorporate.

"Okay," he said, "give me the name of your officers." I said, "I want the names of all of the members."

"Oh," he said, "you can't do that." "Why," I said, "can't I?"

"All that's required is just the three officers; that's all I want." "Well," I said, "but I want all of the members on it."

"You can't do that," he responded. I said, "Why?"

"That's not legal." I said, "You mean it's illegal, is there some law against it?"

He said: "Well, no, but I never heard of anyone doing it. The law doesn't require it." I said, "There's no law against it?" "No." "Well, then I want all their names on — all the mem-

"Conditions in the world fulfilling biblical prophecies are now fast accelerating . . . This necessitates a dynamic stepping up in the intensity of God's Work by His Church, proclaiming Christ's Gospel . . . which . . . has not been [proclaimed] for 19½ centuries."

bers." "Why in the world do you want to do that?"

I answered: "There's one man, who with his wife is very angry because I have had to tell him that he and his wife are living in adultery. She has another living husband. He is very angry, and he says he is going to take the Church property away from us."

"Now," I said, "I have the deed to that property and they are going to go to court. The Bible says we don't dare go to court against our brethren. We cannot appear in court, and we are not going to appear there against them in our defense."

But," I said, "we are going to claim the ownership of the property, and we hold the deed and three of the four members whose names are on the deed are still in the Church, and only one of them is the man who is trying to take it away from us."

"And," I said, "if they go to court against us, our deed will cloud that title and they'll have to bring that into court, won't they?" "Oh," he said: "I get the idea. They won't even be able to get a lawyer who will take it into court."

We held the church for many, many years. We finally sold it from Pasadena. Anyway, the unincorporated Church is, in a sense, the Great Commission going to the world and the ministry of feeding the flock.

Now we come to the *incorporated* area on earth — the various support services and corporation entities here on this chart. The support entities that are incorporated include the *Worldwide Church of God, Incorporated, a California Corporation*. We haven't dissolved that yet.

Also *The Corporation Sole*, which is a new corporation, and *Ambassador College*, which is incorporated under the laws of California and the *AICF*, which is a corporation.

Now I would like to go to the other chart. (See chart, page 5.) Here we have the Worldwide Church of God organizational chart with God at the Head, Christ as the Head of the Church, and God as the Head of the Church. As we come down to Earth we have

Christ's chosen apostle.

There are two main parts in the Work. First is the Great Commission of preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom for a witness to the nations of the world. And second, the feeding of the flock, those whom God Himself has added to the Church.

I do not conceive that the preaching of the Gospel is to go out and force people into being converted. It is not a crusade to make conversions. It is a proclaiming of the Good News.

God calls certain ones and puts it in their hearts to respond. They come to us.

How often have I said to our great audiences at a Feast of Tabernacles, we didn't try to talk you into becoming a member; you came to us. I have never tried to talk you into being converted. But God does add those

WLS, which is a big 50,000-watt radio station. It was WLS that really built the Church Work in the Chicago area.

I expect to speak there later to a combined meeting. I'm speaking this next Sabbath to a combined meeting at Big Sandy.

A week ago Sabbath, I spoke to a combined group at Seattle. We had about 2,800. I am informed that we will have at least 2,500 at Big Sandy. You know that the Big Sandy church is the largest church in the world outside of headquarters here. And they have an auditorium on our grounds that will seat more than 2,500. We hope to have it filled next Sabbath.

Now, on the chart, comes advertising. I write most of advertising. So it is pretty much my job. God has given me the experience, the know-how —

world and doing the Work that God has for us to do.

Now comes Ministerial Services. Under that, the regional offices around the world. Then we have the festivals, especially the Feast of Tabernacles, around the world. Then the co-worker letters that I send out monthly, semiannual letters.

Then there's the *YOU*, the *YES* and the *SEP* that are very important activities in bringing families together, the youths to the parents, the parents to the youths. In most families today, children do not eat at home with their parents, or their parents don't eat at home with the children. And if the wife is a mother she's working. We're trying to correct that as far as we can in the Church.

Now we come to supporting services. In the physical, mechanical, material phase of the Work there are various publishing services. When I write articles, or we have a magazine ready, we have to have all of the services to get it to press, printed and mailed. Facilities Management, Legal Department, Financial Department in Accounting and Data Processing — those are all supporting services. Not necessarily spiritual, but they support the spiritual functions.

That gives you a good chart of the Work as it is organized and operated today. And this will be published in *The Worldwide News* so that the brethren can see it as soon as we can get it out.

Now, I want to turn first to Matthew 24. Jesus was giving a prophecy here, which is the longest prophecy that Jesus gave. The same general purpose is recorded in Mark 13 and Luke 21. Usually we use Matthew 24.

Anyway, He was showing them what would happen at their time. He told them of the false prophets that would come. But they had also asked Him about the sign of His Second Coming and the end of this world, and the setting up of the World Tomorrow, or the Kingdom of God.

And He came to that in verse 14: "And this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all

you want to call it expertise — He's given me that in this field.

The next main function is the personal proclaiming of the Gospel. I do most of that in the trips around the world. But I have to have support through the AICF and Stanley Rader. We have used *Quest* magazine to some extent.

Now comes getting the Gospel out in print. That includes *The Plain Truth*, the *Correspondence Course*, booklets and books. And again, I am the editor-in-chief, I do the chief writing, especially in the area of the booklets and the books that are now going on sale in the bookstores all over the United States.

Now coming over to the second of the spiritual areas, feeding the flock. Under feeding of the flock is *Ambassador College*, which prepares ministers and other people for services and especially spiritual services in the Work of the Church. Next *The Good News*, *The Worldwide News*, *Youth 81* — it'll be *Youth 82* next year and so on. Going out weekly to the minis-

"Satan is going to be tormented forever and ever. But it does not say all his angels will. They are yet to be judged, that's a new thought for you to think about."

try is the *Pastor General's Report*. Semimonthly is *The Worldwide News*, and monthly, of course, is *The Good News*.

But to the world we have *The Plain Truth*, the booklets, and books and other literature of that kind. I want to remind you, even many of the bigger churches do not have the printing operations that our Church has. We may be small in numbers, while they have millions of members. We have less than 100,000 worldwide who we count as adult baptized members.

Other churches count people that used to belong and haven't darkened their door in the last 10 years. But they're still members and their children. We don't count members that way. But we have an operation bigger than most of the larger churches in getting out the Gospel to the

nations; and then shall the end [that's the end of this world] come," and the beginning of the world that will be ruled by Christ and the saints, with the saints under, and with Christ.

I said a while ago that in the first century the apostles put first emphasis on the fact that Jesus' resurrection proved His Messiahship because that was the point of interest in that generation at that time. But the point of interest is different in this generation — this is the generation at the end of this present world and that should live on into the coming of the World Tomorrow.

This is the time just before the Great Tribulation and before the Day of the Lord that will stop the Great Tribulation. This is the time when the Gospel of the (See ORGANIZATION, page 10)

ADVISER

(Continued from page 1)

on many interviews, press conferences, turning public opinion in the Church's favor.

5) He utilized authorship in writing articles and his book *Against The Gates of Hell* communicating the Church side of the lawsuit.

6) He had the extraordinary ability to coordinate all of this and put it together in an effective and winning spearhead.

These activities extended in extraordinary manner, completely beyond the abilities and services and efforts of even the best and most famous of attorneys. Yet normal attorney's fees, totally incomparable to these extraordinary and effective activities, would run into many hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Corporations have to pay very highly for ordinary legal services in corporate lawsuits. Ordinary legal services, even from top lawyers of national reputation, in my judgment, could not have won the battle and kept God's Church alive and active. I feel that Mr. Rader's salary is grossly inadequate for these extraordinary services.

Mr. Rader had expressed a desire to retire from his official Church executive position prior to the Jan. 3, 1979, state invasion. He and I had agreed to his retirement from this executive position very shortly before Jan. 3, 1979, to take effect very soon after the beginning of the year in 1979. When the State attack was launched Jan. 3, it became necessary for him to stay on.

For many years now, Mr. Rader has rendered extremely valuable services to this Church in the fields of law, accounting and finance, besides invaluable services as my assistant in carrying Christ's Gospel message to and through kings, emperors, presidents, prime ministers and other leaders of nations over all the continents of the world.

He has the expertise in the field of government to complement me in talking to as many as 70 heads of governments or near heads. I feel sure no man has talked in private conversation with as many such government heads, in their own capitals over the world, as have Mr. Rader and I.

I feel this Church would be derelict in its appreciation if it does not make suitable acknowledgment for such service, rendered two years after Mr. Rader had planned to retire from active executive duty.

For the past five months or so he has said publicly, in the public press, and before our own congregations, that it is his desire to return to private law practice, and has made public statements of intent to resign as treasurer and board member of the Church by July 1. Now he has asked that this date be moved up to March 1.

To show our appreciation, it is my judgment as Pastor General of this Church, that we should express our gratitude and heartfelt appreciation by a special bonus of \$250,000, net to him.

I would at this time like a voice approval from you who are leaders in the ministry of this Church.

Mr. Rader will continue on as

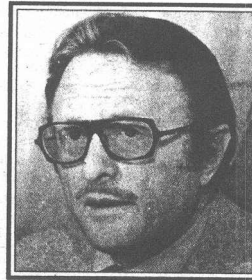
executive vice president of AICF, the performing artist series in Ambassador Auditorium, and in time and space buying for television, radio and pub-

lication space, and as my chief adviser in the legal and financial areas and in Gospel trips abroad as I shall take, but resigning his executive responsibilities in the

office of treasurer.

Leroy Neff, evangelist in God's Church, will assume the executive responsibilities relinquished by Mr. Rader.

The Attorney General Kept His Word. Now I Will Keep Mine.



STANLEY R. RADER

I AM TREASURER and General Counsel for the Worldwide Church of God. Last September, while my church was locked in battle with the Attorney General of the State of California over the question of whether or not the State had the right to investigate our work and our use of our money, I made a public statement.

Because it had been insinuated that I was leading the battle to protect our Church because, at least in part, I was personally ambitious and might even have visions of succeeding our Church's Founder and Pastor General Herbert W. Armstrong, I found it necessary to spell out my thinking and my intentions.

This is what I said then, in a press release and in an advertisement similar to this one:

"Many members of the press have asked me who will lead the Church when Mr. Armstrong is gone. And many times, I know, they ask, believing they know the answer. They think I will succeed Mr. Armstrong or, at least, that I hope to. They are wrong. I also know that there are many members of our Church who think of me as a possible successor to our Pastor General. I am touched by their love and by their faith in me. But they also are wrong. I do not consider it even remotely possible that I will succeed Mr. Armstrong. I am not worthy. I am not qualified to serve Christ in that way. I do not believe it is my calling. It certainly is not my desire. And I do not believe it is God's will.

"However, I know that my leadership role in the struggle against the Attorney General has created a public presence that apparently leads some persons to question my sincerity. As a result, my

motives become suspect as I continue to defend our Church's Work. Much of what I try to do is colored by that suspicion. There are those who believe I am self-serving or personally ambitious. But they are wrong. The only thing I want for myself is a return to a more private life. I continue the fight because I believe it is a good fight. With all my heart and soul I believe in the rightness of our cause.

"When the lawsuits against us are won and our Church is free from attack, I will resign my official Church position. I will return to the private practice of law and, preferably, will devote the rest of my working life to public service."

I closed by promising never to surrender in our fight and never to leave our Church.

That is what I said last September and that is what I meant. In October, our fight was won. Governor Jerry Brown signed into law Senate Bill No. 1493, providing that the Attorney General shall have no powers that he asserted in the litigation against the Worldwide Church of God.

Attorney General George Deukmejian had said he would ask dismissal of the lawsuits against us if SB 1493 became law. He kept his word. The suits were dismissed, on his request, October 15, 1980.

Therefore, it is time for me to keep my word.

I have resigned my position as Treasurer and a member of the Board of the Worldwide Church of God. My resignation is effective July 1, 1981. I dated my notice of resignation January 3, 1981, as a kind of symbol. It was on January 3, 1979, exactly two years ago, that our Church was first assaulted by the officers of the Attorney General.

I will continue to serve as Executive Vice-President of the Ambassador Foundation, which carries on the non-sectarian work of the Church. I also, as an attorney, will continue to defend the interests of our Church worldwide, and I will continue as a personal assistant to Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong.

I hope this statement will serve two purposes.

First, I hope it will end forever any speculation about the possibility of my succeeding Mr. Armstrong as head of our Church. That will never happen. As I have said before, I do not expect anyone to succeed Mr. Armstrong. The Living God has entrusted Mr. Armstrong with a Great Commission and God has never taken a man before his work was done. I do not look for or expect another Pastor General. Under no circumstances will I ever be Pastor General of our Church. I do not know how to put that more clearly.

Secondly, I hope this statement finally will clear the way for my return to a more private life, a move I have desired for more than two years. Those who know me will remember that I resigned my official positions once before. I stayed on only because of the battle that needed to be fought. Now that the fight is won, I am looking forward to the tranquility of a private life that my family and I have missed so sorely during the past two years.

I have learned much during the last two years. I have learned much about the reality of law as it is practiced in the United States. I know more than I once did about the need to remain vigilant in protection of our basic rights.

Too, I have learned much about the struggle of minority groups to achieve justice.

I will not forget what I have learned. What I ask God for now is the strength and wisdom to use what I have learned in ways that will serve Him well.

Stanley R. Rader

STANLEY R. RADER
The Worldwide Church of God

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT — Stanley R. Rader, executive vice president of the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation (AICF) and personal adviser to Pastor General Herbert W. Armstrong, published the

above advertisement in the Los Angeles, Calif., *Times* and the Pasadena *Star-News* Jan. 8. Mr. Armstrong asked *The Worldwide News* to reprint the ad for the brethren worldwide. (The ad appeared in the Jan. 12 *WN*.)

ORGANIZATION

(Continued from page 8)

Kingdom is to go to the world.

It's also the time for one or two other things. God made a prophecy in the third chapter of Malachi, verse one: "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me [that is before Christ]: and the Lord, whom you seek . . . even the Messenger of the covenant . . ."

He did come as the Messenger of the New Covenant. He's coming to make the New Covenant at His Second Coming. He didn't make the New Covenant at His first appearing. He announced it at the First Coming.

But He's the Messenger of the New Covenant just as Moses was the mediator of the Covenant at Sinai. The Sinai Covenant, which we now call the Old Covenant, made Israel a nation. The New Covenant will make the children of God, the Family of God, a nation—the Kingdom of God.

The first covenant made the people of Israel and the descendants of the literal Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel, a nation. The New Covenant will make the spiritual family, the children of God, a spiritual nation, the Kingdom of God. You see the difference.

Continuing: ". . . shall suddenly come to His temple . . ." What kind of a temple is He coming to? Are the Jews going to tear down the Dome of the Rock and build a new temple? Oh no! You see no evidence of anything like that happening.

I know the people well enough that if the Jews over there were going to do anything like that they would certainly have mentioned that to me. But, He will ". . . suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the Covenant [which] you delight in . . . He shall come, saith the Lord of hosts." Now let's go right on.

"But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? [Now what coming is it talking about? Who's going to stand when He does come, when He appeareth?] for He is like a refiner's fire, and like fuller's soap [that's not the way He was when He came some 1,950 years ago]: and He shall sit as a refiner and [a] purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi [He didn't do that when He came before], and purge them as gold and silver [purged of dross], that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness." That never happened at His First Coming.

"Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord [it wasn't 1,950 years ago], as in the days of old, and as in [the] former years. And I will come near to you to judgment [He didn't come to judgment His First Coming, but He is coming to judgment of the world at His Second Coming]; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against [the] swearers, and against those that oppress the hiring in [the] wages, [and] the widows, and the fatherless, and [them] that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, says the Lord of hosts."

It is talking about His coming to His temple the second time!

Now turn for just a moment to Ephesians, the second chapter, verse 19: "Now therefore you [in Ephesus, as Paul wrote] are no more strangers and foreigners [they had been; they were gentiles, foreigners], but fellow-citizens with the saints [now the citizens are not Jews physically, but spiritually, as Paul said elsewhere], and of the household of God . . ."

That's a family relationship. We are begotten sons of God if we have the Holy Spirit. And therefore, we are impregnated with immortal life, to have it when Christ comes, which will be in the Family of God. So we'll be a family. We will also be a nation.

Now notice this: "And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and the prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone [it's talking about the Church and what the Church will be; the Church is going to be a government, is likened to a kingdom, or a family and household]; in whom all the building [we're a building, and later on in the fourth chapter, we're compacted in every joint just as if we were welded together, as we are so thoroughly compacted and joined together through the love of Christ] fitly framed together [and later in the third chapter, he used the word compacted together] growth unto an holy temple in the Lord . . ."

A holy temple! Christ is coming to His Church! Christ is coming to His temple! And the Church is the temple. Do we see that? The Church is the temple. ". . . in whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." God will reside in us through His Holy Spirit being in us.

Let me read another scripture in the fourth chapter of Malachi, the fifth verse: "[But], I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful Day of the Lord . . ." The Day of the Lord is what will come to shut off and to stop the Great Tribulation. The Great Tribulation will be caused by Satan the devil.

We've had the day of Satan, or the day of man influenced by

plete destruction.

We are in the days of total destruction in which it is now possible, unless those days were cut short, that no flesh would be saved alive. In other words we're at the time when humanity can be erased from off the face of this earth by man. Man can destroy man.

For the first time in all history, the weapons of mass destruction are available that can erase all human life and all life from off this planet Earth. God says it would happen if He doesn't intervene. And He will intervene.

Now the disciples asked John the Baptist, are you the Elijah that was to come. He said, No, I am not. I have been asked, "Are you the Elijah?" And I say, "No."

Jesus said though, if you can bear it, Elijah has already come. And then He explained that John the Baptist was a different man, not the same man as Elijah. The Elijah by that time was dead and buried.

But John the Baptist was a man in the power and spirit of Elijah. John the Baptist came to prepare the way before the First Coming of Christ. He was a type of someone to prepare the way for the Second Coming of Christ.

I'm going to say something to you now, that I would not have said five or six years ago under any circumstances. I don't go out trying to fulfill prophecy. But Jesus said, by their fruits you know. And sometimes you look back on fruits and you can tell some things you couldn't tell in advance before the fruits had been performed.

John the Baptist was a voice crying out in the wilderness of the Jordan River, the physical wilderness of the Jordan River, to prepare the way before a human, physical Jesus Christ coming as a Messiah, coming to a physical temple built of stone and wood and with gold and silver and other materials and coming to His physical people and carnal people, Judah.

Jesus' coming was to announce that someday, more than 1,900 years off, He would set up the Kingdom of God. His First Coming was to proclaim His message, His Gospel, the Kingdom of God.

So now prior to the Second Coming of Christ, there is some-

back down that same day with Him, because on that same day, His feet will stand on the mount of Olives.

As He went from the mount of Olives up into clouds, He will come in clouds and come down and descend onto the mount of Olives. He's coming to His spiritual temple. He's coming to His spiritual people and not a physical people that rejected Him. He came to His own, Judah, and His own received Him not.

This time, He's coming to the Church that has received Him and is going to meet Him in the air changed to glorious immortality. And He's coming not to announce that someday He will set up the Kingdom of God. He's coming to set it up and to rule and to reign over all the nations of the earth. Does that make

talking about? He's not talking about the time in which Zerubbabel lived; He's talking about our time; this was a prophecy.

Haggai is not a book of history, it's a book of prophecy; and I will shake all nations [He hasn't done that yet. He didn't do that in Zerubbabel's day. Zerubbabel lived about a little over 500 years before Christ], and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, says the Lord of hosts.

"The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. The glory of this latter house shall be greater [more glorious] than [in] of the former [meaning greater than Solomon's temple], says the Lord of hosts: and in this place I will give [you] peace, says the Lord of hosts."

"Now we are all ready in a stepped-up homestretch spurt of this end-time Work . . . I am already deep into a new series of television and radio programs."

sense — that one is the type of the other?

God does things in a dual manner. There was a first Adam; Christ was the second Adam. There's the Old Covenant, which is physical; the New Covenant, which is spiritual. You could go on and on. I don't have time to do that today.

Now there's something else I'd like to read in Haggai, "Who is left among you that saw [the] house in [its former] glory?" It's talking about the temple of Solomon.

This is in the time when a colony of Jews had been sent from the Persian Empire, which then had taken over from the Chaldean Empire and was ruling the world, and sent them back to build the second temple. That's the temple to which Christ came the first time, the physical temple. Solomon's temple had been destroyed.

Zerubbabel was the governor of that colony. And Zerubbabel was given the commission to build that temple. "Who is left among you [who] saw this [temple] in [its] first glory? and how do [we] see it now? [it had been totally destroyed] . . . yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; and be strong, O Josh-

He's talking about the peace at the Second Coming of Christ. He's talking about a temple that will be more glorious than Solomon's. The temple, the physical temple that Zerubbabel built, was not. It was remodeled later and even added onto by Herod, a Roman ruler. And that was the same temple that Jesus came to the first time.

But again, it is a duality. It is a type of the spiritual temple to be built later, that will be more glorious. Christ is coming to His temple, and that is a spiritual temple, that will meet Him in the clouds of the sky as He's coming.

It will be far more glorious than the temple of Solomon, which was glorious in a physical way, probably more than any building that's ever been built on earth.

"The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, says the Lord of hosts." You ministers can read the rest.

God was going to prepare someone to come and build that temple to which Christ is coming this time, the second time. God was going to raise up someone who is going to prepare the way for the Second Coming and calling people, preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. That's exactly what Elijah did physically. He reminded them that they had gotten away from the Kingdom and the Government of God, and needed the restoring of the Government of God.

And now before the Second Coming, as John the Baptist fulfilled that before the first coming, someone had to announce it again. As Zerubbabel built the first temple, someone had to build the spiritual temple. Of course, God is doing it all. Christ is the One who is doing it.

Have you ever heard me say that I built this campus? What have you heard me say? You've heard me say that Christ built it, but he used me in doing it, didn't He?

God is not the author, physically or spiritually, of inferiority. The things of quality and of beautiful design are the work of artisans. Quality is the selection of better material and quality material that comes out of the

(See ORGANIZATION, page 11)

"There is someone, before the Second Coming of Christ, with a voice in the spiritual wilderness of all the mixed-up Babylon of religions . . . in the world today. A voice crying out amid religious confusion, spiritual confusion and preparing the way not for a physical Jesus, but a glorified Christ."

Satan for nearly 6,000 years. The Day of the Lord is the day when God will take over and intervene in this world's affairs and begin to take over the rulership of the world.

He begins with great signs in heaven. That's the beginning of the Day of the Lord, signs in the sun and the moon and the stars. I've been proclaiming that for more than 40 years to the world.

. . . and he shall turn the hearts of the fathers to [their] children, and hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." That word *curse* is translated in another place from the same Hebrew word as *utter destruction*. That is total, com-

one, before the Second Coming of Christ with a voice in the spiritual wilderness of all the mixed-up Babylon of religions that we have in the world today. A voice crying out amid religious confusion, spiritual confusion and preparing the way not for a physical Jesus, but a glorified Christ coming in all the supreme power and glory, to rule all nations, and coming to His spiritual temple, which is going to rise.

The dead will rise first and we which are alive and remain will be caught up to meet Him in the air. We shall be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye. And this mortal will put on immortality. And when we meet Him in the air, we come right

ua [then it gives his father and parents' names]. . . and work [in other words, work to build this physical building to which Christ came the first time]: for I am with you, says the Lord of hosts: according to the word that I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt, so my Spirit remaineth among you: fear ye not."

And His Spirit remains among His people even today. In a way it was not with all of the people then, but really is in us today.

"For thus says the Lord of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land [What's He

ORGANIZATION

(Continued from page 10)
earth and more careful and more meticulous workmanship.

That is God's way. I have tried to build this as I thought God showed me. God has built it, but He has used me.

Do you think that has happened? Do you think we're near the time of the coming of Christ? Has anyone proclaimed the Gospel of the Kingdom of God? Has anyone proclaimed the law of God? Has anyone been calling on them to repent?

Have you been reading the *Wall Street Journal* ads? Have you noticed what I was saying even on last Sunday's broadcast to President Anwar Sadat of Egypt, and how he was nodding while he smoked his pipe? But he was getting the Gospel of the Kingdom, if you were listening to the words that were right there on the television program.

But I think it's time we come to know what God is doing, and to know that the time is here and there's very little time left.

Now we are all ready in a stepped-up homestretch spurt of this end-time Work that God has given us to do. I am already deep into a new series of television and radio programs. My office is all set right now. All the lights and everything are there. Everything for a televised program tomorrow morning.

And, in addition, I need to take a trip down to Australia. I haven't been there for 10 or 11 years now. I'm way overdue. And I think it would give the Church and the brethren in Australia a big lift if I go down there. Mr. Rader has the trip all planned for early April. If I can I should go.

Anyway, we're starting out a stepped-up program from the beginning of this year, and it's already well underway.

It's going to build this Church a lot faster on television when we get on more stations than 30 percent a year like we used to be. And for the first time now, in about 11 years, the Work is growing at about 30 percent. It's not quite 30 percent in the United States, but I think it's around 20 or more, and it's coming up toward 30.

And it is 30 or more in Canada, in Britain, in Germany and in the Philippines and in other parts of the world.

And we have some of you men here who are responsible for the Work in those areas. You can tell the others that that is true as you've told me. So we're already deep into this new big spurt in pushing the Work on farther ahead, more dynamically than ever before.

Of course, the major city newspaper full-page messages have been underway, especially in *The Wall Street Journal*. Now I want to say that most of the *Wall Street Journal* ads have been tailored and written especially for that particular peculiar audience.

They are a different type audience than any other. *The Wall Street Journal* reaches businessmen and investors in bonds and stocks, the people who own the corporations, the banks and the big businesses — and people in government. It's a very peculiar audience. And the response has been good and it's getting better.

Now, however, those ads are not all appropriate to be used in Canada or other newspapers in the United States. But I will write ads, and if God will help me to write ads as good as the *Wall Street Journal* ads have been, I'll be very grateful.

I don't want to take any of the credit. But I will tell you that I think that Christ inspired those ads, and I think they're terrific ads.

He had to use someone who had know-how to write to men who are in the economic world right up at the very top. And I have had that experience. When I was in my early 20s and my middle 20s I was doing business with the presidents of the largest industrial corporations in the Middle West. That's Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, St. Louis, that whole area. And with the presidents, top vice presidents of the banks of Wall Street, New York and of South LaSalle Street, Chicago.

I know how those men think. I know them. I have known them for more than 60 years. I've had a very special training. God gave me that training, and I don't think anyone else on earth has it and also has God's spiritual training to go with it.

Now in that one paper, *The Wall Street Journal*, we reach just about everybody who owns or wants to own the properties and especially the corporate properties and enterprises of the United States, and everybody who runs or wants to run the governments of the United States, and that means state and national.

We plan to greatly expand this means of sending out Christ's message. We have plans for stepping up the newsstand circulation of *The Plain Truth*. We plan to resume the purchase of large space for Christ's message in such publications as *Reader's Digest* and *TV Guide*,

"I have called this congress . . . because . . . conditions in the world fulfilling biblical prophecies are now fast accelerating, indicating that we are indeed in the very last of the last days."

which have massive circulations reaching many millions every issue.

For all of this I am having to ask our own members and our co-workers to make extra sacrifices and to increase their free-will offerings. We do not and will not solicit the public for contributions. But God does expect His people to make sacrifices for Him and especially at this critical time.

God expected the people of the Old Testament to make sacrifices. But then they made sacrifices of animals, and sheep and goods. Today we translate all that into money as the medium of exchange. But God expects us to make sacrifices today. And they made sacrifices besides the tithe [the 10 percent], and so we must.

I'm calling on our people to do it now, because we've got to step up this Work. And it's going to cost a little extra money. I shall need the support of our ministry in this, so that the additional expansions may be finished.

Now I'm not asking it because

we're in debt and need to ask the brethren please come and bail us out. In the last co-worker letter I said the budget is balanced. I'm asking for money for expansion that the Work can go ahead.

How wonderful it is, the budget is balanced! The Work is going ahead right now, and for the first time in about 11 years it is starting to go ahead; let's give God the glory for that.

All this additional pressure we are putting on in taking Christ's message more powerfully now to a multiplied listening, viewing and reading public will begin, in one to two years' time, to bring in additional new voluntary co-workers that we don't even know of now.

The additional money that we must put into this expanded pro-

gram now is like old-fashioned pump priming, where we used to put an amount of water into the pump to prime it and then it produced a flow of water multitudes of times larger than the original priming.

So that is what I want to ask of you all, to those of you who are over other ministers in South Africa, in Australia, in the Philippines, New Zealand, in Mexico, in Germany, in Britain. That's why I've called this congress of the top leading men, of God's ministers worldwide.

Now I have something special. [See accompanying article, page 1.] Now I come to another matter. Just over two years ago, on Jan. 3, 1979, armed deputies under the attorney general of California's office suddenly, without notice or forewarning, invaded the Pasadena headquarters of God's Church and college. It was a massive lawsuit attack that threatened to destroy God's Church and God's Work.

And except for certain things all of our records. And he had, also, the ability to relate to them, to this very prestigious accounting firm, so as to clear the Church and its corporate entities of any allegations of financial wrongdoing, and they based their suit pretty much on allegations that were totally false, of wrongdoing.

This was a masterminded, strategic move. The attorney general's case was doomed from the time the Arthur Anderson & Co. was brought in to make their audit.

They hadn't dropped it yet, but they would have had to. There's no question about it. Because the things they were basing it on were simply not true.

Second, Mr. Rader masterminded bringing together in our defense, highly qualified attorneys from at least seven top, major legal firms to defend the Church in many hearings and court appearances.

Mr. Rader had the ability to command the respect of these prestigious law firms, and they were big (they were as big as any corporation could have gotten anywhere in the United States, because I think we have just as prestigious ones out here as they do in New York), and to assume overall legal leadership as a master general of a master legal army to defend the Church against the overwhelming legal army of the state.

Third, Mr. Rader spent much time in Sacramento, Calif., working with other organizations, and not behind the scenes, but in front of them, working to put the Petris bill through the legislature. This bill nullified the law on which the attorney general's office had based its case against the Church.

It was Mr. Rader's work with these people and behind the scenes that encouraged the legal departments of the great churches, the Roman Catholic Church, the Methodist church, the Baptist church people, the Lutherans, the big churches, the National Council of Churches to get back of us in this legal fight.

Now that just didn't happen overnight. It took some extraordinary work, and it's clear beyond legal, ordinary legal, services.

The average lawyer, I don't care how big he is, how noted he is, he could not have the exper-

tise or the mind to do these things, and it's time we begin to realize it.

Fourth, for the entire two years Mr. Rader was working effectively with the media nationally, and he made many trips to different parts of the United States, trips to New York, trips to Washington, other places, with the media, television, radio and the press, using expertise in the media field over and beyond ordinary lawyer services.

He appeared on talk shows over the nation on many interviews, in press conferences, turning public opinion in the Church's favor. Actually, the Church is known in a way it never was before, and it isn't known so unfavorably as it was before

"I am having to ask our own members . . . to make extra sacrifices . . . We do not . . . solicit the public for contributions. But God does expect His people to make sacrifices for Him and especially at this critical time."

either. And the media have turned now more in our favor.

At first they were against us with every kind of accusation in the world. But their accusation of siphoning off millions of dollars was, of course, totally unfounded and we never had to worry about that, and our membership never worried about it. I never had one letter of a single member that ever came to my attention of accusation or people doubting us or anything of the kind. The membership has been solid. Thank God for that.

Now fifth, he utilized authorship in writing articles and his book *Against the Gates of Hell* communicating the Church side of the lawsuit before the world.

Sixth, he had the extraordinary ability to coordinate all of these things and put it all together in an effective and a winning spearhead, and the Church is now free from that lawsuit, and we hope forever.

There might be one chance in a million of an amendment still trying to be tacked onto that law, but by June 30th the law becomes permanent and the only thing they could do then would be to start another bill all over again.

And I don't think they will do it because the attorney general wants to run for governor this term, and he doesn't want to start anything like that right now. And all the churches would be against him and they have too big a vote. Even though our Church doesn't vote, the others do — remember that.

Now these activities extended in extraordinary manner, completely beyond the abilities and the efforts of even the best and most famous or prestigious attorneys. Yet normal attorney's fees totally incomparable to these extraordinary and effective activities would run into many hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Corporations have to pay very highly for ordinary legal services in corporate lawsuits. I think people don't realize just how costly such legal services are in cases of this kind, but they run into big figures.

Ordinary legal services even from top lawyers and lawyers of national reputation, in my judgment, could not have won the battle and kept God's Church alive and active.

(See ORGANIZATION, page 12)

ORGANIZATION

(Continued from page 11)

I feel that Mr. Rader's salary is grossly inadequate for these extraordinary services completely beyond anything that is normal. And if you know what some of the attorneys were expecting to get out of this on the other side, you would understand a little better.

It used to be that he had the biggest salary among us because he had the kind of service to give us that you have to pay highly to get and we had to go outside of the Church to get it. But Mr. Rader, in the meantime, came into the Church and came on salary full time, but he wasn't at the beginning. He was on a fee basis at the beginning, and of course, that is all known.

Mr. Rader had expressed a desire to retire from official Church executive position prior to the Jan. 3, 1979, State invasion. He and I had agreed to his retirement from this executive responsibility, and I had communicated that privately to Pasadena. His resignation was to take effect soon after the beginning of the year 1979.

But when the State attack was launched Jan. 3, it became necessary for Mr. Rader to stay on until the case was won. And of course, now it is won.

For many years now Mr. Rader has rendered extremely valuable services to this Church in the fields of law, of accounting and finance, beside invaluable services as my assistant in carrying Christ's Gospel message to and through kings, emperors, presidents, prime ministers and other leaders of nations all over the continents of the world, in all of the continents of the world.

He has the expertise in the field of government to complement with me in talking to many heads of government or near heads all over the world. I feel sure that no man has talked in private conversation with as many such government heads in their own capitals scattered over the world as Mr. Rader and I.

I don't think anybody has come anywhere near matching it. Not any government official from Washington. Nobody has. And that includes South America, it includes all over Asia, Africa, Europe, all over.

When we go and I talk to heads of state, I say some things about the Kingdom of God, but we have to talk about governments and government problems and matters like that, too. They're not letting me in just to preach the Gospel to them. Don't kid yourself about it. But Mr. Rader has the expertise to talk to them in their own language and it helps me.

There is no man on earth who could give me that help. If Mr. Rader doesn't continue to go with me I'll have to stop those trips. I can't do it alone. He can't do it alone without me either. But together we complement one another. And may I just say we do make a pretty good team.

And the heads of government all over the world have come to like us. Now I get the honors, because I'm the senior member. Mr. Rader goes as my assistant, but I couldn't do it without him. Of course, then he'll tell you he couldn't do it without me and, of course, that's true, too. We need

each other on that kind of effort.

Once doors open to the heads of state, other doors are opened. I've talked to the Rotary Clubs, to other important clubs and organizations. I talk to groups of important government people and important people in the universities and in other fields all over the world, including communist People's Republic of China.

So far I'm the only world religious leader who has been invited by the government to China. And I was the guest of the government. I didn't have to go to a hotel. They had their special government place where we had a suite of rooms, and our whole staff, even our television staff, were housed there. They allowed our own plane to fly in and that's a very unusual thing.

And we were invited to come again. Mr. Rader is going back there. I think within the next week he's going to fly back there and over into North Korea, and then on down to Australia to prepare the way for my trip to Australia.

I feel that this Church would be derelict in its appreciation if it does not make suitable acknowledgment for such service rendered two years after Mr. Rader had planned to retire from active executive duty.

For the past five months or so, he has said publicly in public press and before our own congregations that it is his desire to step down and return from executive authority in the Church to private law practice, and he has made public statements of intent to resign as treasurer and board member of the Church by July 1. But now he has asked that this date be moved up to March 1. It's this weekend.

To show our appreciation it is my judgment as pastor general of this Church that we should express our gratitude and heartfelt appreciation by a special bonus to Mr. Rader of \$250,000 net. And I would like an expression from all of you on that. [Applause]

Now there's more to this. Mr. Rader isn't leaving the Church,

"The Work is going ahead right now, and for the first time in about 11 years it is starting to go ahead; let's give God the glory for that."

but he's leaving that executive position as treasurer, and I might announce right now that I'm transferring the duties of acting treasurer at the present time to Mr. L. Leroy Neff. God has worked everything out to the advantage of everybody and certainly to the very great advantage of God's Church.

Thank you very much — because you did approve it. I don't want to be accused of a bigger amount than it should be, but I can tell you that any lawyer would tell you that that is not an excessive amount.

Mr. Rader will continue on as executive vice president of the AICF, that's the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation, the performing artists series in the Ambassador Auditorium and in time and space buying for television, radio and

publication space, and as my personal adviser in legal and financial areas, and in such Gospel trips abroad as I shall take, but resigning his executive responsibilities in the office of treasurer.

Well, that's it ladies and gentlemen. We are off to a big start on the homestretch. As you know the one who wins the race is the one who finishes first, not the one who's first halfway along, as the apostle Paul states in the New Testament. And we're putting on that spurt at the homestretch and we're coming in right now on it.

I might add this. There's been talk about who is the No. 2 man, who would take my place. Some think I'm going to die right away. When you get to be 70 years old you're supposed to die. I don't know, for some reason I have been disobedient, I didn't do it. And now, I will be in my

never could undergo it again. I still wouldn't have been so unhappy.

I would have thought, well the next one will be a son, maybe God will give me a son yet. But then they said I couldn't have a son.

Then God healed my wife. Actually we didn't know from what — we found out later it was this negative/positive RH blood factor. But God completely healed and we had two sons.

But when the automobile crash came in July of 1958, there was my son Dick just beaten. His jaw was cracked in at least six or eight places and they were trying to wire it together. It was an awful condition. His heart had been shoved over and collapsed a lung. His kidneys didn't work. He died because his kidneys didn't work. He did stay alive for one week exactly.

But again, I had to face the

for a job to do. If I have been someone in the power and the spirit of Elijah, remember there is no prophecy that God will have an Elisha following Elijah. There is no one in the Church that has the qualifications, the experience that could carry on the work that God has given me to do.

Who is there among you who can do it? If you will tell me I would like to know. It would be so nice if I could retire, because it's a pretty heavy load I have to carry. But I'm not thinking of myself, I'm thinking of what I've been called to do. And it must be done. And God's will will be done.

If anything happened to me I would expect the Church to continue right on and the local churches and the local church ministry. But the job God has called me to do is a prophesied job. It has been being done. I

"The apostles put first emphasis on the fact that Jesus' resurrection proved His messiahship because that was the point of interest in that generation . . . But the point of interest is different in this generation."

90th year in less than six months.

But while I can't run a hundred-yard dash anymore, and my eyes are not as good, and my hearing is not as good as it once was, but God has left my mind good. And my voice is good. And I can still go on the air, and I think that my programs are, if I may say so, I think they are effective. I want to do what Mr. Rader said I did do in the meetings at the Philippines.

In the meetings at Manila, Mr. Rader said that one of the things that was effective was that I seemed to just reach out and my arms would unfold that audience and draw them right up to me. There seemed to be a love or an affection, or something. I hope so, I try to express that. I feel that. And I mean that.

God didn't spare His own Son. Of course, His Son hadn't gone wrong, but God didn't spare Him. Abraham was willing to sacrifice his son if God demanded it. I had to face that.

I had to wait 10 years to have a son. We had two daughters, but three highly qualified physi-

question. I knew God was calling on me as He did Abraham, would I give up my son? He was my firstborn son even though I did have a second one. I had to say when I was praying that if that was God's will I would give him up.

But I didn't think God would make me do it. Maybe I wouldn't have said it if I thought He would. But He did make me do it and I did give him up.

And then I've had to give up my second son. Fellows, that hasn't been easy. My son said on local television just over this weekend that I'm a dictator and that a dictator never appoints anyone to succeed him.

I once appointed my son Garner Ted to succeed me. I didn't know any better. Today I wouldn't. What I've told you today is something, as I said, I would not have said a few years ago. But I look back and I look at the fruits and I see what prophecy says and I see that prophecy has been fulfilled. I wonder if you brethren see it?

And brethren, I have to say to you, no one is going to succeed me. God has called me to a job, to a commission. Mr. Rader has said time and again publicly that he doesn't expect anyone to succeed me, that God has never let anyone die until what God has called him to do is completed.

I think that when God lets me die, the thing He's called me for will have been completed, preparing the way for the Second Coming of Christ carrying that Gospel of the Kingdom to the world for a witness to all nations.

I don't know whether God's going to keep me alive for the rest of this day. I don't know whether He's going to keep me alive until next year. I don't know whether He's going to keep me alive for the next five or 10 years. I know He's able to keep me alive for 20 or 30 more years if that's what God wants to do. My God is that powerful. He can do it!

I have been persecuted ever since I gave myself to God. I try to be on the giving and not the getting side. I've been practicing the way of giving for just about 54 years now.

But I think God has called me

don't think it's anywhere near finished yet. I need your prayers. I need them daily to help me.

As I said, I will be in my 90th year in less than six months from now, on July 31 of this year. But God is keeping me in the vital areas that I need and He's keeping me in good shape to continue. I know that I can continue with God's help and with God's strength. Of myself I can do nothing. Of yourself you can do nothing.

This is an important time. I felt that I should call you in. These charts will be published. I'm writing articles that I think are very important along these lines on some of these things I think the brethren need to know. As fast as I can get to them I will do it.

I've been trying to do a bigger job, a better job than I ever did 50 or 40 years ago or any other time in my life. I expect to continue on as long as God uses me.

We are at peace right now. Satan has been striking at us. He is going to continue to strike. I can't tell you how he will strike. Now when I say something like that rumors begin to fly. Mr. Armstrong thinks something, now what's up? What's going to happen?

Brethren, don't start rumors. The only rumor you want to spread is that there is peace. Any of the ministers who have come here on this refresher course will tell you they have never found such peace at Pasadena headquarters as you are finding here now. And all of them that have come here in the past year have said that. I get letter after letter from the ministers who have been here.

Let's not spread any rumors of any problems, any troubles or anything of the kind. God is giving us peace. We need the armor of God. Satan is fighting us. He's shoving his darts and he shoves them at me!

Now I'll tell you what I've got against the darts of Satan and that is the shield of faith. I have to rely on God. I cannot outwit Satan, neither can you and don't ever kid yourself that you can. You just can't.

So we are going on now. Are you with me? [Applause] God bless all of you! [Applause]