

The Good News

International Magazine of The Church of God



JUNE-JULY, 1966



More About Our Cover...

The Pasadena Civic Auditorium is known around the world. Its elegance adds to the Holy Day Meetings. Here the brethren are just leaving services in the pleasant spring sunshine during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

For details of the Feast worldwide and news of ordinations, read Mr. Meredith's article beginning on page 5.

Ambassador College Photo

What our READERS SAY...

Tried and Blessed

"After Mr. Catherwood visited us and told us about the Sabbath services in Ottawa, we recognized that we should keep the Sabbath, pay tithes, and many other things. My husband lost his job. We couldn't pay the rent or any of the bills, but we were happy trusting God. Last week our three children noticed that we had very little to eat, but we remembered the verse that says, 'It is better to have a morsel of dry bread with peace than a house full of meat with strife.' Then my husband was offered a job better than we imagined, as manager of a printing firm, with the opportunity to advance and freedom to keep the Sabbath and Holy Days. Then we received a special envelope with \$24.00 inside. It wasn't signed, but we know that it was from God. We have truly been blessed."

French Couple, Ottawa, Canada

Holy Day Blessings

"Last June on the Day of Pentecost I lost my job in Virginia because I would not work that day. On January 13 my former employer called me and offered me a job. The results of God's intervention are as follows: I went back to work, not on my old job as head mechanic, but as Assistant Plant Manager in the garment industry. I have ALL Holy Days off this year. On Wednesday night Spokesman Club meets, and I can leave work early enough every week

to be there on time. I received a 47 percent increase in wages and a promise of my own plant to manage in a year or two. Everything worked out for us to live in the same place for \$30.00 less than before. God does bless us when we tithe, but in our case tithing alone didn't bring this about. We were breaking God's laws of budgeting and marriage, and we had vanity. We now thank God for His love, mercy, and patience with us that He didn't destroy us. We know we are less than nothing."

Member, Virginia

Healing

"I pray for you, Garner Ted, and for the Work every day. God just healed my little girl of an ear infection. I called our minister and he sent me an anointed cloth. Over night God healed her. I just pray I will always have the faith I had these past two weeks. I feel so rich knowing I have God on my side."

H. I. W., Michigan

Learned Another's Lesson

"In the January issue of *The GOOD NEWS* was a letter written by a reader who stated that he tithed in order to GET, and the setbacks he encountered. I also was griping and complaining about my \$25.00 a week job... Why didn't God bless me, et cetera? Your reply: 'Change your attitude and God will change His' struck home in a most

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International magazine of
THE CHURCH OF GOD
*ministering to its members
scattered abroad*

June-July, 1966

Volume XV

Numbers 6-7

Published monthly at Pasadena, California
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BE SURE TO NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY of any change in your address. Please include both old and new address. IMPORTANT!

DON'T Store Up Large Quantities of Food

There has been a MISUNDERSTANDING in relation to last month's article, "PREPARE FOR FAMINE." Several brethren have begun storing up large quantities of food and grain. That has resulted from a MISUNDERSTANDING. Here are the facts.

by Herbert W. Armstrong
and Garner Ted Armstrong

SUPPOSE all members of God's Church *would* start hoarding vast quantities of food—preparing for prophesied famine! Do you realize what might happen — **WHEN** the famine strikes?

Read the following imaginary scene—written by Garner Ted Armstrong. This is what *could* happen:

SCENE: Somewhere in Megalopolis, 1972: Over a period of months and years, you have accidentally let it be known to neighbors, plus a few food suppliers, that you have stored a prodigious quantity of food.

Your freezer is full and your pantry is bulging with canned goods, while under your attic stairs repose several huge sacks of wheat and giant cans of honey, plus upwards of 100 pounds of cheese.

Papers are lurid with pictures of piles of blue-black, bloated bodies, mass burials, the dead in the streets; accounts of famous persons and political figures who have starved, or died of disease.

The radio warns of complete chaos all around you. It is a good thing you own a transistor—or you would be out of contact with the rest of the world, because all essential services are largely cut off. There is no water—and you have long since begun to go with others, daily, to a hydrant which has been tapped only a block from your home. All the goods you had in your freezer are long since gone—magnanimously distributed among starving neighbors,

weeks ago, when the electricity was cut off.

This morning, you were apprehensive.

You're nervous about those giant cans of honey—that prodigious amount of canned goods—those huge sacks of wheat.

How long, you wonder, will it take them to realize you may have stored **MORE** food?

By now, you realize the tiny handful of people you helped in the midst of starving millions are feeling the gnawing pangs of hunger again.

You've seen your neighbors lying aimlessly about—sleeping longer hours—trying to conserve strength by avoiding all exertion. Joe, who has been, though a member of this world's society, one of your closest associations in the neighborhood, is vastly smaller than he used to be. His bones are protruding through his soiled T-shirt, his eyes yellowed, sunken, and his skin like thin, wrinkled parchment.

You see little children, formerly robust and crying aloud with laughter and joy in the streets, now sitting forlornly on the curbing with their bloated little stomachs and their huge, sad eyes.

But *you*, and *your* family, in the midst of the greatest and most calamitous dearth to ever strike human beings, remain robust, alert, crisply active. Your eyes glow, your skin shines with health—your mind remains alert—ready to be taken to a place of safety; out of

the midst of these mind-chilling plagues!

Starving Humans Become Desperate

While you're conducting morning Bible study—urgently and feverishly for the thousandth time from the beginning of these horrifying events reminding your little brood of the imminent *flying* "of the Church to a place of safety," you hear a low, rolling muttering.

It becomes a growling, rumbling, cacophonous sound, starkly punctuated with whistles, hoots, and jeers.

Suddenly a shattering crash rips a frightened scream from the lips of your wife—your two small children begin to cry.

Alarmed, you leap to your feet, whipping aside the curtain, and are utterly astonished to see a large and growing crowd surging through your gates, into the yard, and up to your porch.

Your neighbors!

They are not the same.

They don't even *look* like your neighbors! They look, rather, like enraged, crazed, starving *beasts*! And there's **JOE**, yes **JOE**, your closest "close friend" in the neighborhood—the one you gave those choicest chops and roasts to only six weeks ago—right out in front!

You can't believe it—it's crazy—it doesn't make sense!

Wait a minute. Think calmly now—you only have moments. The food.

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Ambassador College Photo
The Ambassador College Campus in Pasadena provides excellent facilities for the annual Feast days. The tennis courts are set up well ahead of time to provide amply for thousands! Here you see what the Bible would refer to as "multitudes" enjoying abundant fare during the Days of Unleavened Bread, 1966.

Church of God News—

WORLDWIDE



TWENTY recent ordinations. SEVEN new Churches and GROWTH everywhere!

by Roderick C. Meredith

SURGING GROWTH has been the keynote of God's Church these past two months. *Hundreds* of people are being baptized, new churches are steadily being established, more ministers and elders constantly being ordained.

When will it all end?

NEVER!

For this is GOD'S Work—and He will *not stop* the Work He has begun! There may be minor "setbacks" and interruptions just before and during the Great Tribulation, but then the pace will quicken more than ever.

The Work God is beginning to do *through us* is only a primitive foundation of the WORLDWIDE expansion of this Church and Work when Christ comes to take personal, visible charge. Then the Truth and WAY OF LIFE we preach will fill the *whole earth*. There will be Churches of God in *every town and city*. Ambassador Colleges and Imperial Schools *alone* will dispense *true education*. And the world will have *peace, prosperity and JOY*.

Growth?

We are just BEGINNING to grow! But we can and must have growth—and should gratefully REJOICE that God uses us as instruments in making some of it possible.

Tremendous Passover Season

This recent Passover Season was one of the most inspiring and helpful ever. Record attendances were noted in many areas—although not as many Churches are combining in *one place* as formerly, according to our new policy. Some 3200 brethren convoked at the Pasadena Civic

Auditorium for the Holy Day services there—conducted by Mr. Albert J. Portune and other Evangelists and Ministers.

One of the highlights of the Feast at Pasadena was the ordination of Mr. Elmer McElroy—graduate of Ambassador College and top assistant to Mr. Royer in the Personnel Department and Feast Office—as a *Local Elder* in the Church of God. Mr. McElroy is a very able person with a competent and dedicated wife, Ruth. Coming to Ambassador from another college in Utah, he was a little older than most of our students and now, since graduation, has been an invaluable asset in helping to plan God's Festivals and work out hundreds of details in the Personnel Department as well. A spiritual leader in many ways, Mr. McElroy's ordination will now enable him to serve his brethren even more.

At Big Sandy, Texas, nearly 2000 brethren assembled for the Feast of Unleavened Bread under the direction of Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong. Fine organization and spirit in the camping areas and good preparation helped insure a fine Festival in every way there. Again, a highlight of the Festival was the ordination service where two Ambassador graduates were raised from Local Elder to become full Ministers or *Preaching Elders* in God's Church! Mr. Cecil Battles, long a faithful servant and Elder in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, was raised to Preaching Elder. Mr. Paul Flatt—Student Body President in Ambassador College year before last and recently Local Elder in the Houston Church—was also ordained to Preaching Elder at Big Sandy.

More Ordinations in the U. S.

My wife and I flew out from Pasadena Headquarters to join Mr. Mokarow in conducting the first part of the Spring Festival in Detroit. With nearly 1200 in attendance there, a very fine Festival was experienced by all. A highlight of this Festival was the ordination of Mr. Kenneth Westby as a full *Preaching Elder* in God's Church. Formerly a Local Elder, Mr. Westby has now been reassigned to the pastorate of the Wichita-Liberal Churches, replacing Mr. Roger Foster who will be spending time at Pasadena Headquarters this winter before going on to a new assignment.

A very inspiring Festival was observed at Chicago with some 1100 brethren in attendance and the blessing of participating in *two ordinations*. Mr. David Jon Hill and his wife flew back to Chicago from Pasadena Headquarters and joined the District Superintendent, Mr. McDowell, in these ordinations and in conducting the services. Mr. Allen Bullock—1965 graduate of Ambassador College and now assisting Mr. McCrady in the Grand Rapids-South Bend area—was ordained a *Local Elder*. And Mr. James Reyer—one of the leading Deacons and members in the South Bend Church—was ordained also as a *Local Elder* by Mr. Hill and Mr. McDowell.

Mr. Richard Plache and family drove up to Portland, Oregon, from Pasadena Headquarters to join Mr. Carlton Smith in conducting the services for the area brethren there during the Days of Unleavened Bread. A very fine Festival was held, highlighted in part by the elevation of Mr. Fred Coulter from Local

Elder to *Preaching Elder* in God's Church. Mr. Coulter—a graduate of Ambassador College—has in fact been acting as a full Minister in the Boise, Idaho, Church for some time. Now Christ has clearly revealed by his fruits his readiness for ordination as a full Minister of God.

Other ordinations during the Festival include Mr. John Ritenbaugh—ordained in Pittsburgh as a *Local Elder* by pastor James R. Friddle. Mr. William Sutton was ordained in the Denver area as a *Local Elder* by Mr. Burk McNair. Up in Canada, Mr. Brian Knowles was ordained a *Local Elder* by Mr. Richard Pinelli, pastor of the Edmonton, Alberta, Church.

Other outstanding Festivals were held in New York City—with Dr. Herman Hoeh flying back to join Mr. Raymond Cole in conducting services there; in Oakland, with Mr. Ron Kelly flying out from the Big Sandy Campus to join Mr. Luker in conducting services; and in Atlanta, Georgia, where Dr. Charles Dorothy—Dean of Ambassador College at Big Sandy—flew to join Mr. Ken Swisher in conducting services during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

Also, although we do not have exact details, we understand a most inspiring Festival of Unleavened Bread was conducted in Great Britain this spring, and in South Africa as well.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Armstrong Visit Australia at Passover Season

Following is a report from Mr. Don Abraham, Local Elder in Australia, highlighting one of the most outstanding Passover Services conducted this spring anywhere on earth: "God's people in Australia have just been blessed with the *greatest Feast of Unleavened Bread* ever observed here! Over 1150 persons assembled in three locations to hear inspiring and *moving* sermons on the purpose and meaning of this festival.

"And for the *first time*, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. Armstrong were able to be in Australia for one of God's festivals! Everyone in the Sydney area was happy to see Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong and to hear Mr. Armstrong speak—for most, a "first-time" experience hearing him speak *in person*.

"Mr. Armstrong was assisted throughout the feast by the Regional Director of God's Work in Southeast Asia, Mr. C. Wayne Cole.

"On the night of the Passover, Mr. Armstrong led 309 of the Sydney brethren as they solemnly partook of the sacred symbols representing the body and blood of Christ. In Melbourne, 174 persons took the Passover under the direction of the local pastor, Mr. William Winner, while Mr. Roy Page, pastor of the Brisbane Church, led 119 of the Queensland brethren in their solemn acceptance of Christ's sacrifice.

"On the night following the Passover, over 1150 people met throughout Australia to rejoice and enjoy the *night to be much observed*, commemorating their deliverance from sin even as Israel remembered their release from physical bondage in the land of Egypt.

"The sermons throughout the entire festival were *powerful, inspiring and highly convicting*. Both Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Cole spoke *movingly* on the need for God's people to put sin out of their lives. On the first Holy Day Mr. Armstrong asked the question, "Why are we here?" The answer was clearly given, time and time again, with the unveiling of *God's great plan and purpose* during the many sermons.

"The *weather* throughout the festival in Sydney was highly unusual for this time of the year. Remember that in Australia, the Feast of Unleavened Bread is not observed in the *spring* but in the southern *autumn*! The weather is usually *changeable*, often being wet and windy. However, God truly blessed His people with *unseasonably warm temperatures* and fine, often *cloudless* days. This added a lot to their physical comfort and enabled them to derive even *greater* benefit from the sermons.

"The only 'complaint' heard this year was that the feast ended *far too quickly*! Many remarked on how it no sooner had started when it seemed to finish! Nevertheless, everyone received tremendous help from the many sermons and sermonettes. And, all are looking forward with increased anticipation to the coming Feast of Tabernacles on God's own property at Blackheath, in the beautiful Blue Mountains."

Three Ordinations in Australia

Mr. Herbert Armstrong's presence and participation added an even greater emotional impact to an inspiring ordination service for three *Local Elders* in Australia! First was Mr. Trevor Higgins—a retired successful businessman who has since joined our staff in Australia as a business consultant, auditor and Festival planner. Long a spiritual leader among the brethren, his ordination will further equip Mr. Higgins to even greater and more productive service in God's Church.

Next, alphabetically, Mr. Gene R. Hughes—graduate of Ambassador College and assistant in the business office—was ordained as a *Local Elder* also. In the rapidly growing Sydney office, Mr. Hughes has become the Business Manager for the Australian activities of God's Work. A spiritual leader also, Mr. Hughes has found time to counsel and serve God's people and now his ordination as a Local Elder will enable him to be of even greater service in this way.

Mr. Edward Tupper was next ordained as a *Local Elder*. Originally from Western Australia, Mr. Tupper with his wife and daughter moved to Sydney to be near the church in 1961. Later, he joined the office staff in Sydney and began serving on the Visiting Program. Now a zealous leader in visiting and bringing sermonettes in the churches, Mr. Tupper's ordination will empower him to help and encourage his brethren in even greater measure than before.

Inspiring Pentecost Services!

Around the world, very inspiring services were held this spring on the day of Pentecost. God's Work is growing so large and there is so much news, though, that we will just report to you a few of the highlights in this column.

Undoubtedly, the attendance at Pasadena Headquarters was the largest on earth. With Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong preaching in the morning, and Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong in the afternoon, a total of 3850 brethren filled the Auditorium adjoining the spacious Long Beach Arena for the Headquarters.

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CONQUER *EVERY* OBSTACLE!

Every Christian must have what it takes to bring the power of God into fruitful, effective, uncaged use! You know Old Testament heroes had it. You know Christians of old had it. Well, YOU CAN HAVE IT, TOO! HERE'S HOW!

by Clint C. Zimmerman

JOSHUA and Caleb were willing to take to the field and battle it out with the fierce, giant inhabitants of the promised land. Even though towering giants stood between them and possession of the land, they did not cower in fear.

Where did they get such courage?

Years later that same land was invaded and threatened by a huge host of Philistines. But the stripling youth, David, challenged, fought and killed the most fearsome warrior of the day. And the Philistine armies fled back across the border.

Why? Where did David get such all-conquering power?

Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, Samuel and the other prophets, were able to repel invading armies; close the very mouths of lions, put out furious fires that threatened to burn them alive, and escape what seemed to be imminent death time after time. They found the strength to overcome their every weakness. Some of them nearly single-handedly put huge foreign armies to flight.

How did they do it?

The BIG Picture

The basic reason they succeeded, and you have often failed, may be quite simple—once you see it clearly. All these men had the **BIG PICTURE**, and **BELIEVED** in it! They saw the **KINGDOM OF GOD**. They had vision and proper perspective. They responded valiantly and moved forward to secure the kingdom.

All these men had deep and abiding **BELIEF**, and through it dutifully served their God and nation. They knew the kingdom God had promised Israel was **REAL** and worth any effort or price. They had the **BIG PICTURE** and so they did everything possible to establish the **KINGDOM**.

However—if you have *not* seen the big picture and the **REALITY** of the Kingdom of God, that may explain why you have not overcome problems and have found yourself coming up short.

Disobedience and Disaster

Now let's look at the *other* side of the picture.

Whenever Israelites *failed* to believe God, lost sight of the goal and disobeyed, they began to die like so many bugs. They died because they rebelliously stiffened their necks. They set their wills to a wrong end. They lost sight of the big picture. They started in pursuit of their own goal. The kingdom was forgotten.

Some of them died naturally. But usually their deaths were gruesome and frightful. They died swollen, suffering, screaming because of venomous snake bites. They died in battle gasping out their last breath through bubbles of their own blood. They suffocated under the crushing, juice-spurting weight of the earth as it swallowed them in earthquakes.

God provided a *physical* kingdom for Israel so they could have the happy

safety, satisfaction, and success for which they had so feverishly longed during their slavery in Egypt. God promised them every physical blessing if only they would move to the land He had chosen and accept His government. *All they needed to do was believe* God and see the reality of the plan He was working out in their behalf. Joshua and Caleb saw the plan in reality. They comprehended it. *They really BELIEVED* it!

Those Israelites who **BELIEVED** GOD, were able to overcome all of the obstacles and trials which beset them during that 40 years of miserable wandering on the Sinai Peninsula. *They moved steadily toward the goal. Nothing stopped them!* Continuously they looked toward the promises which had been given them. Nothing took their eyes from the kingdom. And so they won! *They were rewarded!*

They received and had the power to make the trip and obtain their inheritance simply because they believed in the kingdom God had promised.

Promise of Power

When you and I come to realize the plan of God—when we **SEE** the Kingdom, then we, too, *can make it!* Look what Paul says in Romans 1:16, "... **THE GOSPEL... IS THE POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION TO EVERY ONE THAT BELIEVETH.**"

Christ's entire ministry was centered around and concerned with preaching the **GOSPEL**. He said we must **BELIEVE**

this good news (Mark 1:15)). Let's apprehend how awesomely powerful is BELIEF in this Gospel.

The Gospel, as you know, is the good news of the Kingdom which God soon is going to set up. Those who BELIEVE in this Kingdom are going to be saved! But we must *give due* CREDIT to the promise. We must have an utmost mental PERSUASION that the goal is there and can be reached. The plan of God must become *real* REALITY to us! We must view the Kingdom as if it already were! We must KNOW *that we know* about the Kingdom of God. We must be *caught up* in the pursuit of the Kingdom.

You and I must come to yearn, crave, long for, yes, burn and ache for the Kingdom!

The goal—the Kingdom—must become *the very reason for our existence!*

As we see the grand magnificence of it our very being will be changed. We will become motivated with the accomplishment of God's plan. We will be entirely enthusiastic about doing the Work of God.

We can't do this without believing it.

Bigness of Belief

The word "believe" is a BIG, STRONG word. It means to have FAITH, *conviction*, confidence, TRUST, to be persuaded, *to be* CERTAIN!

In defining the Greek word which is translated "belief," the staid Thayer's *Lexicon* uses such pithy and impressive phrases as this:

"*Holy* FERVOR born of FAITH and conjoined with it.

"CONVICTION *that God exists and is the Creator and Ruler of all things, the Provider and Bestower of eternal salvation through Christ.*

"Strong and WELCOME conviction.

"Conviction and trust to which a man is *impelled* by a certain inner and higher prerogative."

Maybe you haven't yet seen and comprehended and realized the depths to which the faith of God plumbs!

Faith and belief are not little words that nibble weakly on the edge of hazy notion or fantasy. They are not concerned with superficial opinion. They

are not acquainted with dainty sentiment. They have no double meaning or supposition. They leave no room for theory or mere impression.

Faith and belief in the Kingdom encompass all that mind, intelligence, thought can muster and contain or explain about this most important concept.

These words crash thunderously, unstopably to the very root-tips of all thought concerning the promises of God.

They unabashedly, unequivocally gather all reason and purpose concerning certainty, reliability and positive persuasion and they simply must result in *action!*

When you say, "I believe the Gospel of the Kingdom" you go to the very heart and core, the very bottom of the reason for being. Belief is *of* God and has the very certainty of "I AM THAT I AM!"

Faith leaves no room for equivocation, vacillation, variance or doubt.

Faith is the substance of things not yet seen.

Faith *already* sees God as He is.

Faith will force us to respond as Christ did!—as God does!—as growing Gods are expected to!

Be Like Christ!

In the book of Philippians, the apostle Paul perfectly describes the attitude which we must have:

"*So by whatever appeal there is in our relation to Christ, by whatever incentive there is in love, by whatever participation there is in the Spirit, whatever affection and sympathy, make me perfectly happy by living in harmony, with the same attitude of love, with the same feeling and purpose. Do not act for selfish ends or from vanity, but modestly treat one another as your superiors. Do not take account of your own interests, BUT OF THE INTERESTS OF OTHERS as well. Have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. Though he possessed the nature of God, he did not grasp at equality with God, but laid it aside to take on the nature of a slave and become like other men. When he had assumed human form, he still further humbled himself and carried his*

obedience so far as to die, and to die upon the cross. *That is* WHY God has so greatly exalted him and given him the name above all others, so that in the name of Jesus everyone should kneel, in heaven and on earth and in the underworld, and everyone should acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord, and thus glorify God the Father. . . . For it is God who in his goodwill is at work in your hearts, INSPIRING YOUR WILL AND YOUR ACTION. . . .

"Brothers, I do not consider that I have captured it yet, only, forgetting what is behind me, and straining toward what lies ahead, I am *pressing toward the goal*, for the prize to which God through Christ Jesus calls us upward. Let as many of us therefore as are mature have this attitude. If you have any different attitude, God will make this clear to you. Only we must live up to what we have already attained.

"Follow my example, brothers, all of you, and notice those who follow the pattern we have set you. For there are many who live, as I have often told you, and tell you now with tears, like enemies of the cross of Christ. They are doomed to destruction: Their appetites are their god; they glory in their shame; they are absorbed in earthly matters. But the commonwealth to which we belong is in heaven, and from it we are eagerly awaiting the coming of a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will make our poor bodies over to resemble his glorious body, by exerting the power he has to subject everything to himself" (Philip. 2:1-11, 13; 3:13-21—Goodspeed Translation).

Christ demonstrated and proved His great love for humanity when He willingly left the very throne of God and His high position in order to become a mere man. He was willing to die—and because He was willing to die—He was again made very God. He returned to the Kingdom, which He so easily left because mankind needed a help. *He saw the big picture.* He saw that in the end all mankind could be in the Kingdom. All of us who repent and believe in the Gospel can be kings and priests with Him as very God.

He took the opportunity to preach the Gospel to the world in order that all of

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OVERCOME SUMMER DOLDRUMS

Israel of old simply couldn't remain zealous—quickly departed from God. Throughout forty years of wandering, they learned few lessons. Israel failed in struggle after struggle. But God had their biography written up for us. Read their story, their disobediences—and learn how to avoid the same problems!

by Paul Kroll

“SUMMERTIME and the livin’ is easy . . .” “That lucky old sun, ain’t got nuthin’ to do but roll around heaven all day . . .” These two old-time favorites illustrate a state of mind that can be *very dangerous* for a Christian to have! It’s an alarming snare especially during summertime.

Summer Doldrums

The weather’s hot and muggy. It’s vacation time. School’s out. That two week paid vacation is coming due. You look forward to summer. It’s time for travel and fun.

Nothing especially wrong—but all this can expose us to carnal traps.

It is very easy to allow ourselves a vacation from living a *dynamic* Christian life. And after all, what does vacation mean? Simply “emptiness.” It means to “vacate”—*to empty the mind*, to escape! It means idleness.

God warns us constantly against falling into an idle, empty, escapist, lackadaisical, fun-enthralled attitude.

Watch Spiritual Slackness

About one third of the churches mentioned by name in the New Testament had a problem of letting down, taking a vacation from Christianity, becoming *spiritually lethargic*.

The congregations at *Laodicea* were neither cold or hot. They simply drifted along like that “lucky old sun.” The church at *Ephesus* had lost its first love. *Sardis* was plain dead! The apostle Paul was amazed how soon the *Galatian* congregations were removed from the truth. They simply let down

and allowed others to deceive them. The *Corinthians* were yet carnal.

Why is there so much written about spiritual stagnancy and negligence in the Bible? Why does Christ command us to “WATCH AND PRAY ALWAYS, that we may be accounted worthy to escape.” Why the parable of the ten virgins? Why the parable of the sower and those that fell on either stony ground or among thorns?

Simply because letting down, vacationing spiritually, getting the doldrums is a weakness COMMON to *all* men! Being lackadaisical is doing what comes *naturally*.

It’s easy anytime!

But it’s a lot *easier* to let down in summer.

Amazingly enough, most of the disobediences, the rebellions, the lack of faith, the griping, the losing of true goals by the children of Israel during their wilderness wandering HAPPENED IN THE SPRING AND SUMMER!

That’s a most dangerous time. It’s interesting that God gives us a Festival in the spring, one in early summer, three in late summer or early fall. Almost as though it were planned to bolster us up BEFORE summer doldrums. Then to lift us OUT OF them *after* the hot summer months.

The Wilderness Drifters

If any people were drifters, the children of Israel in the wilderness were perfect examples. If ever any people were *quickly removed* from the truth, it was Israel.

Remember, they were called the

“CHURCH [ekklesia, congregation] in the wilderness” (Acts 7:38). Is God trying to tell us something? Is he trying to point out that we can learn a great lesson from that wandering?

Absolutely so!

“Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

“And did all eat the same spiritual meat; and did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

“But with many of them God was not well pleased; for they were overthrown in the wilderness . . . now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are *written for our admonition*, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

“Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth *take heed* LEST HE FALL” (I Corinthians 10:1-12).

True, Israel was *completely* carnal. True, we have the spirit of God. But we are still human as they were. We are susceptible to the same problems!

They had Christ in person! They saw His miracles! But it didn’t do any good—at least not for any length of time! Israel repented—the people were sorry—for a *little while*. Then they lapsed into complaining and murmuring once again.

Why?

Simply because they were spiritual Laodiceans. They saw God in the

picture for a *moment*. Perhaps were able to grasp for an atom of a second His purpose. But they *quickly* forgot.

The same thing can happen to us. We're still physical beings. Remember *we'll have human nature until we die*.

But we should be growing in grace and in the power of God—to counteract and put down the evils of our flesh.

The Wilderness Wandering

Very quickly, let's take a journey with the children of Israel. Let's comprehend their problem. Let's realize what God is trying to tell us by their example. Then, *avoid the same mistakes* Israel carelessly made.

In Exodus 12, 13, and 14 we read how the children of Israel came out of Egypt with a high hand. They left sin. As they left, Israel was figuratively baptized in the Red Sea. This pictures a Christian coming out of sin and being baptized.

In Exodus 15, Israel was jubilant and exulting: "Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the Lord, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

"The Lord is my strength and song, and *he* is become my salvation: HE IS my GOD" (verses 1, 2).

Read through verse 19 for the rest of this song. Here was great understanding! Here was real trust in God! How typical of a Christian when he first comes out of sin.

But what happened to Israel?

They QUICKLY fell from this belief in God.

The Great Grippers

Israel came out in the fifteenth day of the first month. This corresponds to our March/April. One month later, Israel had become so spiritually lax, they fell from the depths of understanding they seemed to grasp at Passover time.

"The children of Israel came into the wilderness of Sin . . . on the fifteenth day of the *second month* after their departing out of the land of Egypt.

"And the whole congregation of the children of Israel MURMURED against

Moses and Aaron" (Exodus 16:1, 2). They were hungry. Their one thought was, "Let's rush back to the Egyptian flesh pots."

Within a month's time—in early summer (April/May) they had already forgotten God. How long does it take *you* to forget all the wonders God has done for you? That's one reason why God instituted the Sabbath every seven days. We need constant reminders, constant exhortation, constant encouraging to get "back to the faith once delivered."

That's why summer can be so dangerous. Filled with idleness, vacationing, separated from the influences that help you to grow spiritually—it poses a threat to your conversion.

God gave Israel manna to eat. After about a week, they began their journey again. Israel continued to murmur and complain. This time they didn't have water (Ex. 17:2, 3).

God gave them water to drink.

In the third month after coming out of Egypt (Exodus 19:1) they came to Sinai. It was around Pentecost. God was going to make a covenant with his people.

"And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the Lord commanded him.

"And all the people answered together, and said, all that the Lord hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the Lord" (Exodus 19:7, 8).

Once again, Israel seemed ready to go all the way with God. They had God's conditions rehearsed in their ears. They had "counted the cost" and had decided to obey God.

God gave Israel the ten commandments and various judgments (Exodus 20-23).

Again, how interesting a parallel with each of our lives when we first step out to obey God. We are ready to obey God at any cost—no matter what the terms.

Rebellion Again

Shortly after Pentecost (May/June) Moses was called up to the Mount of God for forty days. It was a period of trial for Israel. How would they fare?

Would they lose their first love? Would they grow lukewarm or cold?

The time was approximately June/July. The weather was hot. There wasn't much to do. Idleness plagued the camp of Israel. No doubt they began to think of the "good times" (Only a fool thinks that the "good old days" were better—Ecc. 7:10). They began to let their minds wander and think about their old religious practices, their old friends, their old habits.

They forgot the pact they made with God—with just a month or less gone by.

Spiritual laxness led to disobedience.

"And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, "Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him" (Exodus 32:1).

So they sat down to eat, to drink—and to play.

They took a vacation from Christ.

God punished Israel. Once again they repented. You can read the account in Exodus 33. "And all the people saw the cloudy pillar stand at the tabernacle door; and all the people rose up and worshipped" (verse 10).

Mind On Work

Moses went up into the mount again. As soon as he returned Moses put Israel to work on the tabernacle. Once again, Israel seemed to be repentant.

They really put their heart into the work.

Again, a lesson for us. If we're really concerned, praying for and doing our part in God's Work—we won't become spiritually lazy. As Mr. Armstrong has said, "Our spiritual condition can be measured by how much our hearts are in God's work!" How much do *you* think about *God's Work*? Or is *your* mind on *your* problems, pleasures and desires?

So Israel was kept occupied in the Work. Their hearts were once again turned to God. Notice how generously Israel supported the building of the tabernacle. "And they spoke unto Moses, saying, *The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work,*

which the Lord commanded to make" (Exodus 36:5-6).

All through the fall, winter and early spring Israel was kept busy doing the Work of God. The tabernacle was finally finished and dedicated in the first day of the first month of the second year (Exodus 40:17). Again, approximately March/April.

If they could have only maintained this zeal for God!

But summer was coming—and so were problems!

Israel Becomes Lax Again

The second year the children of Israel kept the Passover (Numbers 9:5). Some people had to keep the Passover in the second month (April/May). (See Numbers 9:6-14.)

After this Israel continued its journey in the 20th day of the second month (Numbers 10:11). Once again they forgot God as summer approached!

"And when the people complained, it displeased the Lord: and the Lord heard it; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the Lord burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp.

"And the people cried unto Moses; and when Moses prayed unto the Lord, the fire was quenched.

"And the mixed multitude that was among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept [complained] again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat?

"We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick: But now our soul is dried away: there is nothing at all, besides this manna, before our eyes" (Numbers 11:1-2, 4-6).

Once again, Israel forgot God. They got their minds on the physical problems around them. *They were day-dreaming*, their minds were wandering, they were trying to escape.

They forgot how they were forced to serve with rigor in the land of Egypt. They forgot their moaning and groaning under bondage.

But the point is *they forgot GOD*—they lost contact with their Saviour. They began to become anxious about

what they should eat, drink or wear.

They forgot the purpose (Deuteronomy 8) for which they were to come through the wilderness.

Sometimes *we forget* why God gives us trials and tests in this life. Sometimes we begin to murmur and to complain. Sometimes we want to escape the realities of life.

Israel Loses Faith

God fed Israel flesh for a whole month (Numbers 11:20). Once again, Israel saw the power of God manifested.

In *midsummer* of the second year, God told Moses to send men to spy out the land of Canaan. After searching out the land for forty days (Numbers 13:25), the men returned. All of them except Joshua and Caleb "brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched" (Numbers 13:32).

Once again, in midsummer of the second year, Israel rebelled!

"And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night.

"And all the children of Israel *murmured against Moses* and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!

"And wherefore hath the Lord brought us into this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt?

"And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt" (Numbers 14:1-4).

What a tragedy!

Israel had lost faith! How *could* this be? After seeing all the miracles God had performed in their lives, why did they go quickly out of the way?

Simply because they *lost contact* with God. As a result, they no longer had faith in Him.

It's a lesson for us. We simply cannot afford to become nonchalant, unconcerned, negligent, slovenly or off-handed about our spiritual condition. Like Israel, our problems overwhelm us *only* when God is no longer real to us. He stops being real only when we quit diligently seeking him.

Israel Continues to Disobey

Israel mourned very much (Numbers 14:39). But the people were so far from God they didn't really know what to do. They had rebelled against going into the land. Now they tried bootstrap psychology on themselves. They *WERE* going to go into the land—even though God said *not to!*

Of course, Israel was badly defeated by the enemy (Numbers 14:40-45).

Right on the heels of this, Korah, Dathan, Abiram and On with other leaders of the community rebelled (Numbers 16).

God had to destroy them.

But Israel had become too lukewarm. Their spiritual condition was almost hopeless. "But *on the morrow* all the congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron, saying, Ye have killed the people of the Lord" (Numbers 16:41).

God had just shown His power. But a day later, Israel forgot.

The Last Year of Rebellion

The story skips to the fortieth year of Israel's wandering. Again, it is the first month—springtime! (Compare Numbers 20:1, 25-29 with Numbers 33:38.)

"Then came the children of Israel, even the whole congregation into the desert of Zin in the first month: and the people abode in Kadesh; and Miriam died there, and was buried there.

"And there was no water for the congregation: and they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron.

"*And the people chode with Moses*, and spake, saying, would God that we had died when our brethren died before the Lord!

"Why have ye brought up the congregation of the Lord into this wilderness, that we and our cattle should die there?" (Num. 20:1-4.)

Forty years in the wilderness hadn't really impressed any truth on their minds (Hebrews 4:2).

A month later, *in early summer*—Israel murmured once again.

"And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea to

(Continued on page 23)

Church of God News – Worldwide

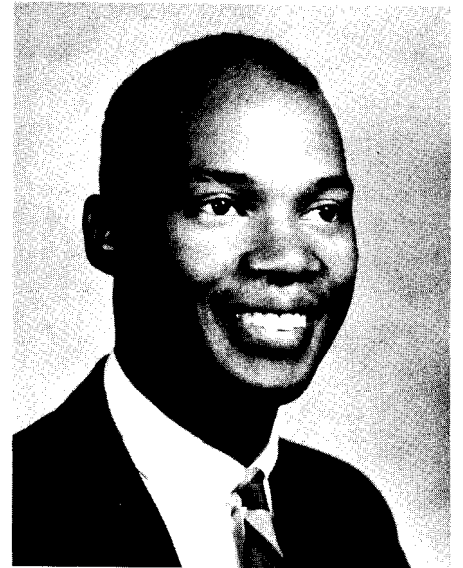
(Continued from page 6)

ters area services. A most inspiring atmosphere pervaded the occasion with beautiful weather and outstanding numbers sung by the Ambassador Chorale.

Hitting a few highlights across the United States, we were happy to hear

that over 1300 brethren attended Pentecost Services in New York City this spring with very inspiring sermons delivered by Mr. Raymond Cole and those assisting him in the area.

In Indianapolis, where the spine-chilling Memorial Day automobile race



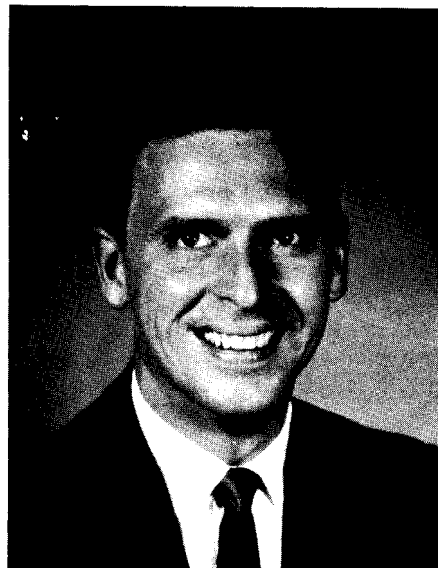
Elbert Atlas
Mobile

PREACHING ELDERS:

Seven new Preaching Elders have been ordained in God's Work just since the Passover!



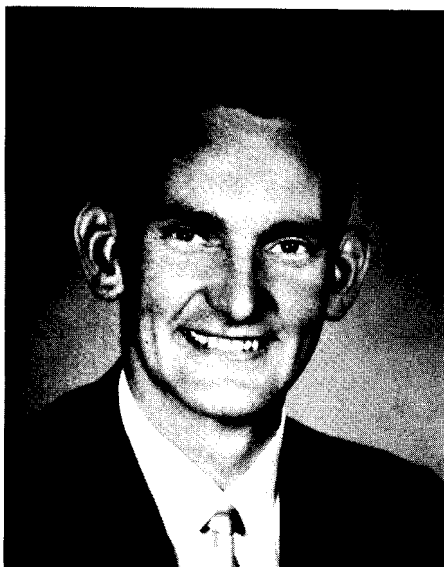
Cecil Battles
Dallas-Fort Worth



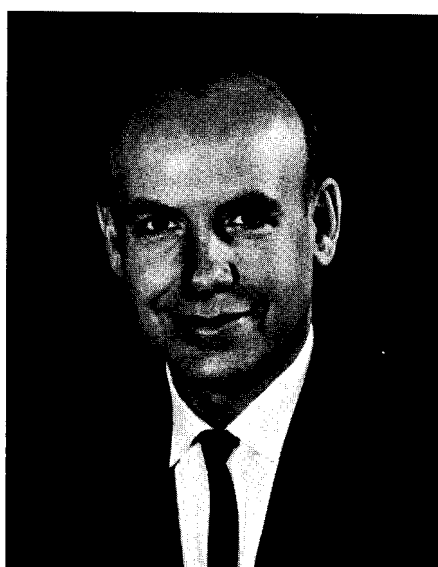
Fred Coulter
Boise



Gerald Crosswell
Kansas City



Paul Flatt
Houston



Edward Smith
Amarillo-Odessa



Kenneth Westby
Wichita-Liberal



Colin Adair
Glasgow



Tom Blackwell
Glendale



Allen Bullock
Grand Rapids-South Bend



Darryl Henson
Lakeland-Miami



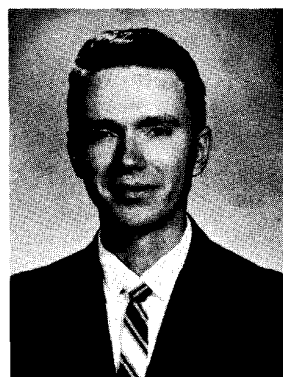
Trevor Higgins
Sydney



Gene Hughes
Sydney



Brian Knowles
Edmonton



Kenneth Martin
Dallas-Fort Worth



Elmer McElroy
Pasadena



James Reyer
South Bend



John Ritenbaugh
Pittsburgh



William Sulton
Denver



Edward Tupper
Sydney

LOCAL ELDERS:

Assisting in local church areas are thirteen new Local Elders —also ordained just since the Passover!

was in progress, a total of 490 of God's people were in attendance for the services. And Mr. John Bald reports that God's people experienced little, if any traffic problems in spite of the fact that over two hundred thousand people were in that city for the auto race!

Mr. Burk McNair reports that over 600 brethren attended Pentecost Services at Longmont—in the Denver area—and inspiring services were held with beautiful weather adding to the happy atmosphere.

From Wisconsin, Mr. George Meeker reports that 539 attended Pentecost

Services at Madison in a very inspiring service.

In New Orleans, 246 brethren attended Pentecost Services; and the Nashville and Evansville brethren met again this year for Pentecost in Hopkinsville, Kentucky, with over 600 in attendance. In Pittsburg 565 brethren were in attendance for Pentecost Services at the Soldier's and Sailor's Memorial Auditorium.

In Minneapolis, Mr. Sherwin McMichael conducted services for 820 brethren in that area on Pentecost. The Cincinnati-Lexington brethren met to-

gether with a total of 800 in attendance under the direction of Mr. Dick Ames and Mr. Bob Bertuzzi.

The Central California churches met together in the Sacramento Civic Auditorium. Over 1500 brethren were in attendance, and God poured out His inspiration upon the ministers in the sermons.

With over 800 people in attendance, Mr. George Kemnitz directed Pentecost Services for the Seattle-Tacoma churches in an inspiring Pentecost observance. And back in the Asheville-Knoxville area, Mr. Gary Arvidson conducted

services for over 440 brethren on the day of Pentecost in that area.

So it went, across the country, but nearly all the ministers reported good weather and a great deal of inspiration in the sermons on the Day of Pentecost, 1966.

Dining Hall Dedication and Commencement at Pasadena

Day after Pentecost, an inspiring dedication service was held in Pasadena to inaugurate the use of the beautiful new dining hall of Ambassador College, Pasadena. Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong and a few local dignitaries spoke, and then many civic officials, builders and architects joined the College executives in a fine luncheon to "break in" the new dining hall. The graduating students were able to eat in this dining hall at least once or twice, thankfully, before some of them had to *leave* Ambassador College for full-time service in God's Work!

But this new dining hall has been *sorely needed!*

It will be used constantly throughout nearly every day of the coming years for many and varied activities. It is beautiful in design and will provide a most attractive and inspiring atmosphere for the hundreds of College and Church-related activities for which it will be used in the years to come.

Then, on Tuesday after Pentecost, graduation at Ambassador in Pasadena!

In his Commencement address, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong spoke on "The Modern Athenians." This most revealing and helpful address should certainly have inspired the graduating seniors and the hundreds of other students, friends and acquaintances of the College to realize more deeply than ever *why* Ambassador College had to be founded and the *tremendous* contribution it can and will make to mankind in years to come!

The ceremonies were conducted in the beautiful lower gardens at Ambassador College, and—with 60 seniors receiving their diplomas, with Mr. David Jon Hill and Mr. Robert Oberlander both receiving Masters degrees—it was a most inspiring and memorable occasion.

Ordinations at Graduation Time

Just before and during this time, *more ordinations* into God's Ministry took place!

During their stay in Britain just before returning to Pasadena for the final events and graduation, Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong joined the British Evangelists and Pastors in ordaining Mr. Gerald Crosswell as a *Preaching Elder* in Christ's Ministry. Mr. Crosswell was ordained a year ago as a Local Elder after completing college at Bricket Wood. He had been assigned as visiting elder in the Birmingham and Bristol churches, and is now coming to the United States to be the associate pastor in the Kansas City Church District for Mr. Dean Blackwell there.

On the Sabbath before Graduation in Pasadena, Mr. Darryl Henson and Mr. Tom Blackwell were both ordained as *Local Elders*. Mr. Henson was Student Body President at Pasadena this year, had assisted Mr. Carlton Smith in the Portland Church area last summer and had been a leader on the Visiting Program in Pasadena for some time. Now ordained as an Elder, he will be assisting Mr. James Kunz in the Lakeland-Miami Church areas in Florida.

Mr. Tom Blackwell graduated from college two or three years ago, and had been a great help as a leading lay member to Mr. Burk McNair in the Denver-Pueblo Churches following graduation. Now, after a year of further training at Pasadena, Mr. Blackwell joins the list of Elders in God's Church.

Then, to the joy of all present, Mr. Elbert Atlas—just before his graduation as the *first Negro Graduate* of Ambassador College—was ordained as a *Preaching Elder* in God's Church! Mr. Atlas has been in the Church five or six years and assisted Mr. Harold Jackson in Chicago for some time even before coming to Ambassador. Having had some previous college training, Mr. Atlas was able to complete his Ambassador training in three years. He and his wife are now going to the Mobile, Alabama, Church area to assist Mr. Swisher in working with the Negro brethren throughout that entire district—perhaps later raising up an all-Negro

church in that part of the country.

Also, at this same service, Mr. Edward Smith was ordained as a full *Preaching Elder* in Christ's Ministry! Mr. Smith and his wife are long-time members from the Tulsa area and he was ordained a Local Elder some two and one-half years ago at Big Sandy. Now, after a full year of training at Ambassador College, Mr. Smith has been ordained to the full Ministry and is being sent to pastor God's Churches in Amarillo and Odessa, Texas.

After the graduation exercises at the Texas campus of Ambassador College, Mr. Ken Martin was ordained as a *Local Elder* there! Mr. Martin was Student Body President at Big Sandy this year, and he and his wife have been assigned to lead the visiting teams in the Dallas-Fort Worth Church areas with which he is already familiar.

Then, just now, forcing us to change the sub-title of this article, comes word from England that the Student Body President at Bricket Wood, Mr. Colin Adair, has just been ordained there as a *Local Elder* following graduation exercises! Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong flew to Britain this spring to deliver the commencement address at the College there and led in the ordination service of Mr. Adair—who with his wife has been assigned to minister to the Glasgow, Scotland congregation.

Altogether, then, we have been blessed in being able to perform TWENTY ordinations in Christ's Ministry *just since the Passover!* Several of these, as noted above, have been "elevations" of a man to Preaching Elder from Local Elder—but most of them are ordinations for the first time as an Elder in God's Church.

So CONGRATULATIONS, fellow Ministers and Elders! And let us all give THANKS to the real leader and LIVING HEAD of the Church for making this growth and these ordinations possible!

Two New Church Districts and EIGHT New Churches Planned

This summer, because of the tremendous growth Christ is granting, two new *Church Districts* are being formed in the United States. The first of these
(Continued on page 24)

What You Need to Know About the Holy Spirit!

*A real Christian is embued with power—the power of God.
Where does it come from? What does it do? You need to know
WHY you must have the Holy Spirit!*

by Selmer L. Hegvold

IT IS LIKE a breath of fresh air in spring to encounter a person who is really smiling and happy, and who is eager to serve others! Everyone wants the happy, joyous, abundant life—but so few have it.

Why?

The answer lies in a lack of awareness of the POWER of the Spirit of God! Few really grasp WHY they need God's Holy Spirit, and what it can do for them, and THROUGH them for others!

Many, when they are first converted and baptized, are somewhat disappointed. Expressing the thought of many, one lady exclaimed as she stood dripping after being immersed in baptism. "Why, I only feel wet and cold! I thought surely I would feel a new power, new purpose, new drive pulsating through my mind and body all at once!"

In spite of counsel to the contrary, did you experience disillusionment over your baptism? Did you expect the presence of the Holy Spirit to suddenly fill you with outward signs and internal feelings? Were you a little discouraged when you noticed no surging POWER flowing through your being as you arose from your watery grave?

Such thoughts come from a LACK OF UNDERSTANDING the purpose and the function of God's gift, the Holy Spirit!

You need to understand!

What Is the Holy Spirit?

The "trinity" is a pagan invention. Nowhere does the Bible teach a closed Godhead—but that is what the *trinity* doctrine teaches. The very doctrine of the *trinity* denies, rejects, the Plan of

God. The Plan of God reveals the joyous good news that the Godhead is a family with others soon to be born into it. The Holy Spirit is *not another person* united with the Father and with Jesus Christ, His Son, forming a closed Godhead into which no others can come!

Jesus is called the Son of God. He is called the son of man. Both expressions are correct. But, He *is not the son of the Holy Spirit!* The Holy Spirit is not a person who can beget—it is *not a person at all*. The Holy Spirit is the *power of God* (Luke 1:35). It is the power by means of which God performs His deeds, His acts of creation. It was by the *power* of the Holy Spirit that God the Father begat Jesus the Son (Mat. 1:18).

The Holy Spirit has its source *in* God. It emanates from Him throughout the great, vast expanse of the universe. God controls that power. It has no volition of itself. Without God it would be no power at all! God is the Powerhouse, the source of all power. Through His power, He rules the universe.

How the Spirit Works

When you understand *how* the Holy Spirit of God works *then* you will understand why it is so essential that you pray fervently, study earnestly, meditate daily and *fast* often.

The Holy Spirit is an instrument that *must be used, exercised, utilized*, day in and day out or it becomes quenched. (I Thes. 5:19.) Through exercising it in daily living, character is developed and *perfected* in human beings (Mat. 5:48).

Jesus Christ put it to use in His

life. Through it, he established a strong relationship with His Father in heaven in daily prayer. The Father in heaven strengthened and nourished Him through the Holy Spirit.

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, said, "*Of mine own self I can do nothing!*" (John 5:30.) Yet, examine what He did accomplish while on earth.

He resisted the devil (Mat. 4:1-11) in the greatest battle ever fought. In this great temptation Satan was *disqualified*, and Jesus Christ qualified to rule the world. Without the help of God's own power through the Holy Spirit this would have been an impossible encounter!

How about you? Without that same *Holy Spirit* within you, you will have a losing battle with the devil. He will win out unless you, too, are exercising and nourishing that power daily! If you *use it* to fight your great battles, you will never fail.

This is the work of the Holy Spirit! None can hope to win out over Satan and his world without that tremendous spiritual power! You need that power desperately.

Source of Spiritual Discernment

Christ brought a message to this dying world from the Father in heaven. Could He deliver it abroad through His own strength? No! Even the selection of the twelve disciples—to whom would later be left the responsibilities of raising up and guiding the Churches of God—was the work of the Spirit of God, giving discernment (Luke 6:12 and I Cor. 2:14). He knew, without a doubt, these were men—later to be guided by the same Holy Spirit—to whom He

could entrust a great work when He ascended to His Father in heaven. This was not the working of His own mind apart from the mind of His Father. Their minds were *one* through the Holy Spirit of the Father. This is a miracle—not natural.

Problems, questions and decisions of life are much too great for you to search out alone. Your mind is yet carnal (Rom. 7:14; I Cor. 3:1, 3). Unless the Holy Spirit is active in you, your activities will veer off on a wrong tangent every time. *You need discernment*—you need the Holy Spirit to guide you and give you mental and spiritual discernment!

Power to Perform Miracles

"And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and *healing all manner of sickness* and all manner of *disease* among the people" (Mat. 4:23). He had said, "I can of mine own self do nothing!" (John 5:30.) How, then, did He perform these MIRACLES?

The fame of Jesus' miracles went far and wide. Never had men witnessed so great blessings. Jesus Christ never sat idly by with so great power available—He used the power of God's Spirit to heal and to turn hundreds to God. *That same power* has wrought its healing work in you through the laying on of hands and anointing of God's ministers in this era of His Church!

In Mat. 4:24, we read that Jesus cast out demons. That power, too, Christ has made available to His ministers today. Many demons have been cast out today!

You, as a begotten son of God, have this same powerful Spirit within you! —*But beware!* Because the ministers use that power to free many of demons, does not give you license to cast out demons from others. Note this vital lesson from scripture itself. It is found in Acts, the nineteenth chapter. Seven sons of Sceva took upon themselves to cast out demons (verses 13, 14.) Thereupon ". . . the evil spirit answered and said, 'Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?' And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that

house naked *and wounded!*" Because of their presumptuousness, a frightful disaster befell them!

This is a power God has reserved to His ministers. Yet, it is a very necessary function within God's Church.

God's Spirit Gives Understanding

Many of you have read the Bible through many times. Yet, none of you could really *understand* God's Word as Christ did. It was by means of the Holy Spirit and *the way He constantly exercised it* day in and day out that He was able to remember, recite *and apply* scripture!

Notice what Christ Himself said, "But the Comforter which is the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in My name, he shall *teach you all things*, and [shall] bring all things to your *remembrance*, whatsoever I have said unto you" (John 14:26). God's Spirit will give you the power to understand His word!

But you need to do *your part*. You need to *study* scripture daily, concentrating deeply on it as you study. Ask yourself questions about application of what you read to daily Christian living. As you do, the Holy Spirit will begin *actively* to guide your thoughts as it in turn is nourished by what you read. Gradually you will realize with amazement that you *do* remember verses, chapters and books of God's Holy Word. That blueprint of Christian living will become an open book to you!

Here again is *why you need the Holy Spirit!* Many have not realized. You can more clearly see why Christ needed the Holy Spirit while a mortal human being here on earth—Immanuel, God with us.

Why Do You Need the Holy Spirit?

Most have had only a vague understanding of the work of the Holy Spirit—a nebulous, hazy idea that they need the Holy Spirit because they cannot overcome by themselves. But, do *you* understand? The Holy Spirit will not do it *for* you, and *cannot*, if you are lying down on the job of overcoming! The Holy Spirit is God's *power!* It clears the way supernaturally, miraculously, awesomely overcomes im-

possible obstacles in your way. But this doesn't mean God does it all *for* you—you have *your vital part* to perform or God won't *supply* you with His overcoming Spirit-power.

This means, always you must be doing energetically, with all *your* might the job at hand (Eccl. 9:10)—*as though* you alone were accomplishing it all. Trust God! Have faith He will perform, then as you put your well-formulated, carefully thought-out plan into action, KNOW that God will give *you* the means to bring it to completion. This entire Work of God, of which you are a part, has been accomplished in *that* very way.

You need to *see* that added strength, that power, when it comes to your aid. You need to recognize it as a *power* freely given that requires being directed and used. Seek out God's will, and then surge ahead with all you have in you!

Examine yourself! Have you had the power of God manifested in *YOUR* life as Christ did? Have you understood God's word? Have you had spiritual *POWER* to serve God and conquer sin?

Christ did not lie! He said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, 'He that believeth on me, *the works* that I do shall he do *also*; and *greater* works than these shall he do . . .'" (John 14:12). How? Through the Holy Spirit of God!

Where Do You Fall Short?

Notice the fruits of your *former* way of life. These were not the fruits of the happy, full, abundant and purposeful life! Why? Perhaps you *thought* you were doing right—even may have thought you were doing God's will. Twice, remember, God warns, "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov. 14:12; 16:25). God's will was not really sought.

But now you should know what are God's wishes, His warnings and His plans for you. The Bible is the *only blueprint* for true Christian living.

Only through diligent, prayerful study of scriptures can you come to know what God has promised to do *for* you when you, by yourself, are helpless to do more. And you will learn what God expects *YOU* to do, yourself!

Once you have searched out what

His will is, then you can go ahead in confidence, putting "your all" into the task at hand, KNOWING He will supply what you lack and carry the day for you! It is your lack of knowledge as to what God's will is, that saps you of confidence and that drops you into a stagnant pool of lethargy!

Do You Want These Gifts?

The Holy Spirit itself is a GIFT from God (Acts 2:38). You never earned it, and neither can you arbitrarily mani-

fest the fruits of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23). But there *is a way* you can have all of these FRUITS if you want them.

How?

How can YOU have the fruits of "love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, kindness, faith, meekness, and self-control"? How can your life be completely FILLED with these attributes of God?

Is it all up to God? Does He
(Continued on page 23)

DON'T Store Up Large Quantities of Food

(Continued from page 3)

That's it, they're after your FOOD!

Rushing to the door, you're quickly formulating the exact words you will speak to the hunger-crazed neighbors. Just before you reach the front door it splinters open with a ripping, crashing sound—the lock and pieces of wood clattering to the floor—and you stare directly into the sunken, hollow eyes of Joe—crazed eyes; almost demon-like eyes, and the bearded, spittle-covered faces of the crazed mob behind him.

Vaguely, you hear your wife scream—the bedroom windows breaking—the back door giving way. You pray aloud, crying out for deliverance—turning to your wife. Your mind rushes frantically along, saying, "Joe! Joe! old fellow—wait a minute—wait a minute, I've got a little food left—I'll GIVE it to you—all of it—Joe!"

You never really felt the bullet—just a dull, throbbing sensation, a sort of lifting, flooding, expanding heat inside your chest and then a jerk and then a gentle subsiding everywhere. Suddenly your legs will not hold your weight. You sink slowly down, strangely drained of all strength. Your mind can't seem to focus on those words you wanted to say. You—you just CAN'T be—you really *can't* be—SHOT?

Will This Happen To You?

A shocking, impossible scene?

No—it could happen to *anyone* who has hoarded foodstuffs, if such hoards were detected.

Brethren—let me clear up some of the misunderstandings.

First, let's understand some vitally important scriptural facts. We are always cautioned: "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Mat. 6:19-21).

Certainly, in the spiritual intent of this verse, *food* becomes a more essential "treasure" *especially during the time of FAMINE* than any other time! And it is certainly more immediately susceptible to all types of rot, decay, insects, fungus, humidity, and thievery than almost any other type substance.

Frankly, brethren, it would be far easier to get your minds OFF of Christ and OFF of YOUR SPIRITUAL life in saving *food* than in almost any other way!

At the Conference

The above, written by Garner Ted Armstrong at the College in England, was dictated by trans-Atlantic telephone to my secretary, in Pasadena.

Now let me explain the MISUNDERSTANDING.

At the ministerial Conference held here at Headquarters last January, my son Garner Ted brought up this subject. Everything said at that Conference was tape recorded for our records. I have just listened to that tape. We were discussing our own farming project at the College campus in Texas, where we raise much of the beef and other prod-

ucts needed for feeding our hundreds of students at the two American colleges. Also, through brethren, we raise most of our own wheat in Kansas.

My son said: "I'm just wondering, in view of prophesied famine, should we begin to think about storing up, to get a little bit of grain ahead? Now I don't mean we are going to sustain ourselves—or that we're not going to be taken to a place of safety where we shall be FED—or that this is going to keep us happy while the rest of the world starves—but I *do* believe the United States is going to be hit real *hard*—if not this year, in the years after, and *critically so*—so that we'll be down to bread rationing. The wheat reserves are now gone in every nation *except* the United States. . . . and I'm just wondering if they could store some reserves ahead for *us*—for the colleges."

There was some discussion.

I then remarked that we were not at the moment in possession of enough of the facts to make any decisions or take any action. I appointed Garner Ted Armstrong to check thoroughly, get all the FACTS—and Mr. Dale Schurter could assist—and report them to me, and then if any action should be taken that would involve the Church, I would incorporate it in a letter or article to the membership.

That was the last I heard about this situation, until I returned from the recent trip around the world, and saw Mr. Schurter's article in *The GOOD NEWS*.

The Misunderstanding

There had been a big MISUNDERSTANDING. I think Mr. Schurter had intended this article to be his report to ME—merely for me to CONSIDER—and then, IF I approved, print it as an article—saving me the time of writing it.

Meanwhile, in the press of so many duties, including his trip to the Middle East and his several broadcasts from there, Garner Ted Armstrong had no time for this research, but asked Mr. Schurter to proceed. Mr. Schurter sent in his article. Mr. David Jon Hill, Managing Editor, added several sentences intended to nullify any notion that I had made a decision that individ-

ual brethren should start laying food by, in store. However, the following sentences somehow were left in the article, WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN REMOVED:

"The time has come for true believers and members . . . to *begin thinking* about and preparing to save up to 'lay by him in store.' Jesus Christ commands us to watch (Luke 21:36) the *signs* and *events* that were prophesied to come . . . It is time for us to prepare for the coming *last*, worldwide famine. There are ways that all of us can lay aside supplies of food. . . . The following are suggested basic staples that you will want to consider in beginning your storehouse."

ALL OF THE ABOVE QUOTE SHOULD HAVE BEEN EDITED OUT OF THE ARTICLE. Whether this escaped Mr. Hill and other editors who checked the article—or whether it remained in through error in the Composing Room of the printing plant, I do not know—and Mr. Hill is not now in Pasadena for me to check. In any event, it was an error that those words got into the magazine.

No Hoarding

One other MISUNDERSTANDING I want to correct. I'm afraid many brethren received a wrong impression from the quotation from 1 Corinthians 16: "Let every one of you lay by him in store." The way it was used in Mr. Schurter's article, some may have applied it to mean that WE, NOW, ought to STORE UP vast quantities of food—to protect us from FAMINE. The Apostle Paul meant NO SUCH THING. I don't want any member to MISUNDERSTAND any Scriptures. Paul was speaking about gathering extra foodstuffs that brethren in Corinth could spare, to be taken to the poor among the saints in Jerusalem. Paul was going to come by—apparently with many others, and facilities for hauling the foodstuffs. He did not want to be *kept waiting* after he arrived at the house or farm of each member, while they went out into the orchards, vineyards, or fields to GATHER up some surplus they could spare. So he gave order for each one to LAY BY HIM IN STORE—WHY? "*That there be no gatherings when I come.*"

THEY WERE NOT STORING UP FOR THEMSELVES!

They were not HOARDING food for expected famine.

There is simply NO CONNECTION between that order from Paul, and our problem today!

Then again, some who might have read carelessly, might have read these words, NOT READING CAREFULLY WHAT FOLLOWED: "The time has come for true believers . . . to *begin thinking* about and preparing to save up to 'lay by him in store.' Jesus Christ commands us" . . . And the line ended at that point, the way the type happened to be set. Some, not reading what followed, might have taken that as a COMMAND FROM JESUS CHRIST to hoard food. IT DIDN'T say or mean that. The complete sentence was: "Jesus Christ commands us to watch (Luke 21:36) the *signs* and *events* that were prophesied to come."

God's People Admit and Correct Errors

BRETHREN, PLEASE LISTEN!

About 39 years ago I sent an exposition of Matthew 28:1 to the editor and human head of the stragglng remnant of the Church we find identified in Revelation 3:1-6 as the "Sardis" Church. It was several pages long, positively PROVING that the preaching and literature of that church was MISAPPLYING that verse—putting a false meaning on it. This editor privately *admitted* they had published that in error. That is, he admitted it *privately* to ME! But he said he did not dare publicly correct the error. He was afraid all their members would lose confidence in the church if it confessed that its leaders were, after all HUMAN, and could make a mistake. So they went on preaching a LIE!

I lost faith in that church because IT REFUSED TO REPENT, when the error was pointed out.

Brethren, THE STRONGEST PROOF that ours *is* the true CHURCH OF GOD is the fact that we, individually, and AS A CHURCH, *do* admit and repent of error, and TRY TO CORRECT IT!

An error was made in the publishing of that article. When I saw it in *The GOOD NEWS*, I was absolutely aghast!

And I have used the authority of my office to reprimand those who somehow let it slip through. They emphatically *meant no harm*—but there was carelessness somewhere! I reprimanded those concerned—I hasten to CORRECT the error—and apologize to our members!

Now will some of YOU lose faith in me—or God's CHURCH—or *The GOOD NEWS*? Well let me tell you, brethren I have to answer to the living Jesus Christ, and I'm more concerned with what HE thinks than what *you* do! But let me tell you, too—I don't think *you* are going to lose faith because your ministers are HONEST BEFORE GOD, anxious to correct errors! I have done it before. I'll do it again. And if any lose faith I'll still do it—and tell you to HAVE FAITH IN THE LIVING CHRIST—not in me!

Now I will add below the remainder of my son's telephone dispatch:

Garner Ted Armstrong Continues

We will *continue* our research into the questions involved, brethren! But Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong has come to see, and I have come to see, as a result of questions which occurred after the article appeared, that ANY storing of foods on ANY large-scale basis would be quite FOOLHARDY—even for our large growers in the wheat belt of the United States or Canada.

Such a storing could lead to immediate government confiscation. It might mean we would be encouraging some few raisers and growers to violate government regulations, quotas, and use of land. This we *cannot* do, and remain obedient to the commands of God and "OBEY the powers that be!"

And so, read these words carefully—and reread the PRECAUTIONS included in the preceding article on the subject—and DO NOT hoard, nor store large amounts of ANY type foods.

The Financial Picture

Remember the many Biblical commands against gluttony, against hoarding.

Yet—as I have found in the years of being in the ministry of Christ, there

is almost no subject over which people will become more excited and concerned than FOOD! We have seen food fanatics—those who advocated every type of weird, bizarre “diet” or near-starvation “fast” coming into God’s Church. We have seen DOZENS of people become members of the Church (we hope and pray they did—God knows) who BROUGHT WITH them their ideas about food, diet, exercise and the like.

Can you imagine the furor in the churches if we *did* seriously advocate the storage of foodstuffs on any scale whatsoever by the brethren?

Can you begin to imagine the amounts of money people would begin taking directly OUT of the most important Work of God on this earth—and invest it in FOOD, to stave off suspected, future hunger pangs?

Some would literally spend THOUSANDS of dollars on food! And, unless at least several hundreds if not thousands of dollars WERE invested—your foodstuffs would last only a very *few weeks*, at the most!

But any people who became truly FRIGHTENED about reserving and protecting their physical lives by the storing of food would bend EVERY financial effort toward this end—virtually forgetting entirely the Work of God on this earth.

No, brethren—DO NOT spend extra money on foodstuffs above your *normal* supplies and perhaps some FEW “staples” which could carry you through a TEMPORARY food shortage ON A VASTLY CURTAILED AND REDUCED DIET, IN A SEVERE AND TEMPORARY EMERGENCY, FOR ONLY A FEW WEEKS!

What You SHOULD Do

Let me spell that out further.

If anyone has stored more than a normal “laying up in summer for the winter”—he is probably saving TOO MUCH—and has his MIND in the wrong place!

Most people stock their freezers based upon seasonal produce, availability of meats, or their best financial circumstances.

My wife and I usually purchase one whole beef at a time (from our own

college herd) and have it packaged for our freezer.

This is what is becoming more *normal* in the affluent United States—but by NO means represents a fantastic investment, it is by NO means a way to avert famine—since even a temporary power failure could cause it ALL to either be eaten right away, or spoil.

Our brethren in Britain simply cannot own freezers. Possibly the average brother or sister in the Church in Australia, South Africa, and even in Canada cannot *own* large freezers. Their economic circumstances, the supply and the cost of various foodstuffs, the lack of available storage space, may mean many of these brethren will not carry as much food in *temporary* storage spaces as the average middle-income American.

What does Christ say about laying up where thieves, rust, or moths (or any type insect) could corrupt?

I’m sure you can get the point, brethren.

When Joseph was inspired to save grains, it was for the express purpose of *saving the founders of His nation of Israel*. But THIS time, NO amount of saving of grains will save physical Israel—nor will it save any human individual who is a member of God’s Church!

And so, brethren, as the previous article warned, so I now warn again—do NOT become a “food Pharisee”—DO NOT become concerned about food, about storage, about purchasing extra amounts.

Be wise in knowing HOW MUCH above normal DAILY requirements you can safely afford to have in case of friends coming over, or in case of a TEMPORARY emergency!

Remember Christ’s injunction, in His “model” prayer—“Give us THIS DAY our daily bread” and do NOT hoard food.

If you ever store more food than the normal laying up in summer for winter—you’re HOARDING, and God Almighty may well withdraw His protection from you!

Use WISDOM, brethren—and if any *slight* question remains concerning this article, be sure to take it up with your local pastor.

Readers Say . . .

(Continued from page 2)

graphic way. I asked for a change of attitude and got it. The next week I received a job paying four times as much as before.”

R. J. R., Mississippi

Welcome

“I received my first copies of *The Good News* this past Sabbath. About three years ago, I was one of the smirking skeptics. Then when I really listened, when there was no one to distract me with odd remarks, God allowed my mind to be opened! I continually thank God that I am now one of the called.”

H. C., Louisiana

Money is not everything

“Please accept my tithe for this week. I used to think that money was the greatest sacrifice a Christian was called upon to give, but I have revised my thinking. Service, love, time and study far outweigh the money. So perhaps the first blessing I have received from tithing is the realization that my money and I are very little in the sight of God.”

Mrs. E. A., Texas

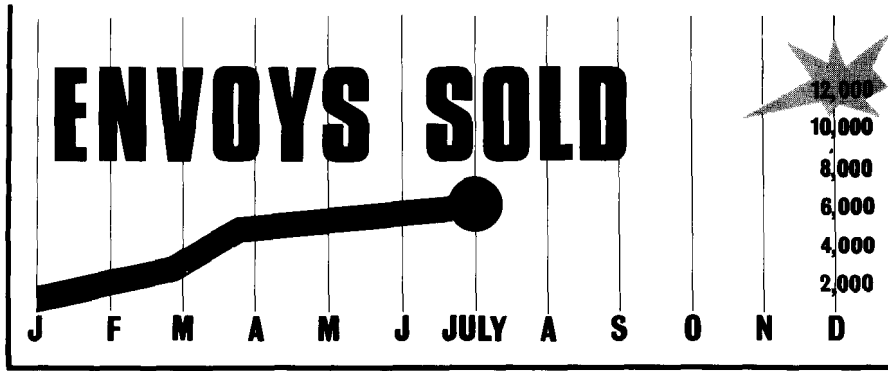
“This is my tithe for this week. I wish I could do more. I know my salary is a lot less than most of the people, but God has blessed me other ways. One thing is sure, I have peace of mind and my wife and two girls are happy and all the money in the world couldn’t buy that. I’m thankful to be putting my little bit where it can help someone else to see and hear the truth of God.”

D. M., Alabama

What Next?

“I almost had to stop and think if this is my third tithe year. It isn’t, but the blessings are raining down. Where I’m employed we are paid an hourly rate plus a fluctuating bonus based on sales. Early this week we were told the bonus is 30 percent!—the highest it’s been in years! Also, the superintendent told my foreman that if the reason for my not working five hours on Saturday was a religious one, I could work an extra hour each evening.”

Man, Ohio



More About Your 1966 ENVOY

Continuing this informative series behind the scenes of yearbook production, this installment explains how the wheels began to turn—the organization necessary to produce your 1966 ENVOY.

by David Jon Hill

THREE separate colleges, expanding and growing at a phenomenal rate—a worldwide Work, dynamic and ever-changing—more than thirty thousand members enjoying God's Festivals. All this and more had to be covered and designed into the 1966 ENVOY.

We began by establishing a theme (not to be revealed until you open the cover of *your* ENVOY), then a giant list of the major departments, people and places we *must* show you. Added to this was a list of all the additional things we would *like* to show you. After discussing this list thoroughly with Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, the ENVOY staff went back to the drawing boards and began to indicate the subject matter on each page of more than *four hundred and forty*.

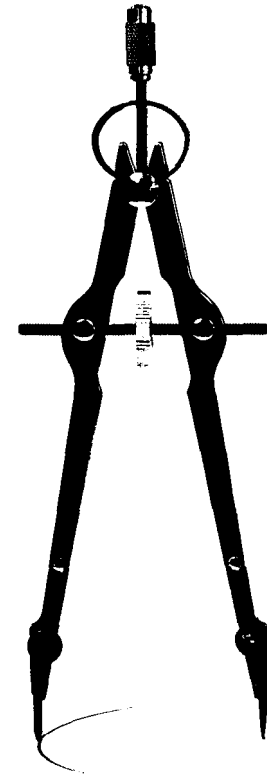
These hundreds of pages are broken down into 16-page *signatures*—just like *The PLAIN TRUTH*. Each signature is the maximum size of a sheet of paper that will feed through the press. The press is referred to in the printing industry as a "25-38"—these are *not* the last two references to a shapely young lady. Instead they indicate the size in inches of the largest piece of paper the press will print. In reference to *The*

ENVOY this size means we can print eight pages, 9 x 12 inches on *each side*—giving us a 16-page signature.

Cooperation around the World

Once a basic format and pagination had been decided, huge sections had passed on to the other ENVOY men in England and Texas. They pored over their sections, made certain revisions, and suggestions. After again checking their sections with Mr. Armstrong, and with many pages of exhausting correspondence with both campuses apart from Pasadena, a final, *final* pagination was set.

After the pagination was set, deadlines for the actual production of 16-page signature-sections was established. Some of the color work for the Festival section came first. Then student portraits. Next, some of the landmark campus scenes. As the school year draws to an end, each ENVOY staffer frantically attempts to cover the important collegiate happenings on three campuses. And *most* important as well, the major improvements on each of the Ambassador campuses—the beautiful new Dining Hall in Pasadena (which just had its open house and dedication ceremonies, and is not quite yet spruced up



for its ENVOY portrait—we'll wait just a while and show it to you *better* than it looked to our graduating seniors of '66)—the extraordinary new Physical Education Facility—gym and swimming pool—of the English campus, a whole new landscape of pools, streams and trees—the new student dorms, dining facility, *new* Lake Loma and much more from the Texas campus—ALL LAST-MINUTE RUSH PROJECTS TO PHOTOGRAPH.

Obviously God's Work grows at such a steady and astounding rate we can't hope to show you everything as appears the moment you receive your ENVOY. We could never get it into your hands that way. We have to stop and draw the line somewhere. After all we have to begin planning the 1967 ENVOY *NOW!* Giant projects just beginning now will have to wait until next year to be shown. There are so many things we'd love to show you the last-minute pictures of—even day-by-day progress that is so exciting. But we can't do everything at once, so we choose to plan ahead.

Our plan includes taking *thousands* of pictures, out of which we select a few *hundred* of the best to show you. But once they are selected they must be
(Continued on page 22)



DESIGNERS HELP

Only
Texas

AS
This is
going to
work it.

ENVOY staff members plan pagination and prepare new layouts for your 1966 ENVOY.

ENVOY

(Continued from page 20)

passed by Mr. Armstrong—and more than once this means going back to the camera for some better originals. Once passed, the film must be worked with carefully. Sometimes duplicates have to be made and hand-worked at considerable expense. Color separations have to be made, checked and, more often than not, *remade*. Written material is added, after similar careful checking. Page proofs and brownlines (to show pictures and copy in balance and check for any final errors) are made. Next come the press proofs, then the actual printing.

All this takes time!

Before, when ENVOY delivery was in June, we couldn't add anything that was taken after late January or early February. Now that the delivery is at Feast time, we can show you a complete school year. Even so we just *cannot* keep waiting for the *next* building to be completed—we have to draw a deadline beyond which we will not allow ourselves to be tempted to go, and save those things for next year. Then we can spend the required time to present to you in the best possible form the carefully selected shots of dynamic 1966!

Order Yours Now

With your last copy of *The GOOD NEWS*, you received an ENVOY order-form card and an envelope. Many have already returned their cards and the orders are pouring in. Remember last year's record—we had to send the sad news to hundreds that we were OUT one month after the release date.

Don't be sorry this year. *Get your order in now*. If you can't find your order card and envelope, just write down your address clearly, enclose \$5.00 for each ENVOY ordered and send it to *The ENVOY*, Box 111, Pasadena, California 91109.

Next month I'll tell you all about the paper, the cover and a progress report to date.

Don't put off ordering—we need more of those five dollar bills coming in to pay the *big* bills that are beginning to come in from our suppliers!

CONQUER EVERY OBSTACLE!

(Continued from page 8)

suffering humanity could have the peace and security which Godship provides.

Help Others

You and I have the sound mind of God and can view the whole panorama of human history and the world today just like Jesus Christ. We can see the importance of saving humanity. We can see the good that will come out of the salvation which God extends. We can see the love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, self-control that men can benefit from if they will only follow Jesus.

If we have the big picture we will want all men to participate in this indescribably magnificent wonderfulness. But we must see the end of the matter. We must *know* that it really can happen. We must *realize* that it will happen.

Understand that we are not just to obtain something for ourselves. We have been drafted to help and teach others. We are engaged in the working out of God's plan. We have the same goal as Christ. We think like Christ. We want to give all goodness to all mankind.

Read John 14:12-28; 16:7-11 to see what Christ had to say about this. **FORGET YOURSELF!** The point is, *we must become thoroughly involved in the work that Christ has started!* We have been given an understanding of what the truth is. We know what the end of the matter is. We know that the Kingdom is the really important thing. Like Caleb, Joshua, Gideon, David, and all the prophets, we must do all possible to finish the work of Christ and assist in setting up His Kingdom.

In the letter to the Colossians Paul says, "If, then, you have been raised to life with Christ, set your hearts on the things that are where Christ is, above, seated at God's right hand. For you have died, and your life now lies hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our true life, shall make his appearance, then you also will appear glorified with him.

"So treat as dead your physical nature, as far as immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed are concerned; for it is really idolatry. It is on account of these things that God's anger is coming. *And you once practiced them as others do*, when you lived that old earthly life. But **NOW YOU TOO MUST PUT THEM ALL ASIDE**" (Col. 3:1-8—*Goodspeed* translation).

Christ's Power

Christ had the power to subdue His human nature and do the will of God *because* He saw the big picture. It was real to Him and He died in order that it could be real for us. When we comprehend the reality then we will be motivated, just as Christ was, to do all that needs doing. We will be able to subdue our nature. We will be able to overcome the lusts of our flesh. We will be able to give our bodies and our lives that the rest of humanity may have the benefit of God's Kingdom.

Out of necessity we will be willing to suffer, to resist the sin in our natural inclinations. Yes, our senses will become wearied; we'll crave things which we ought not. We will be pained, even outraged, in one way or another. But we can ride over the natural inclinations to give up, to quit, to forsake the job which we have been given to do.

Do you see the vision? Do you grasp the Big Picture? This is how you can have the power to conquer every obstacle in the Christian path. This is the way you can really BELIEVE, and see the REALITY of the coming Kingdom of God.

Just like dauntless Joshua and Caleb who did not fear the hulking giants in the promised land. Just like David and the other mighty and valiant men of old who faced grave and deadly dangers without flinching and without despairing and losing hope or courage. Just like Jesus Christ who gave His all, in the face of the most paralyzing dangers and persecution, to bring this Big Picture—the goal of the Kingdom of God—to each one of us.

You too can OVERCOME every tendency to slide into sin and cave in to your weaknesses. This is the way you can receive real spiritual POWER through the Holy Spirit of God to resist the

flesh and bring it into subjection. Trials and problems, difficulties which used to overpower you and lead you as a cringing slave into sin, will no longer hold you fast in darkest captivity to the flesh.

Remember this lesson of the Bible and the wonderful examples recorded there for you. Keep these examples uppermost in your mind. Like these men of old—dedicate your being to doing all you personally can to bring SOON

the *Kingdom of God* to the earth! Let Jesus Christ live His life fully, wonderfully, in you. *Get the BIG PICTURE!*

We have the Spirit of God to empower us IF we have the big picture. We will bring our bodies and minds into captivity and make them do what needs doing. If the Kingdom is actually real to us, if God is true and the reward as great as we say we believe, we will be motivated as Christ was and then we CANNOT FAIL—WE WILL WIN!

OVERCOME DOLDRUMS

(Continued from page 11)

compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way.

"AND THE PEOPLE SPOKE AGAINST GOD, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread" (Numbers 21:4, 5).

There it is!

A chronicle of forty years' disobedience. A chronicle of apparent repentance, disobedience, superficial repentance, disobedience. Never did Israel learn its lesson. These things were written for *our instruction and admonition!*

What We Can Do

First, recognize and admit that we have the exact same human nature as the children of Israel. That we are prone to *quickly* go out of the way. To easily depart from true doctrine and true spirituality. That we need constant reminders.

Secondly, we must have the DESIRE to fight spiritual laziness. Christ said: "If you know these things, happy are you if you DO THEM!" *Knowledge* is not enough.

Action is necessary!

But God's Spirit will not drive you or force you. You are a free moral agent. God's spirit will only LEAD you in the right direction.

This or any other article can only remind you of what human nature is. It can only bring to your attention a spiritual pitfall. The rest is up to you.

Thirdly, you have to use the tools at your disposal. Daily prayer, Bible study,

meditation, fasting when necessary. You need contact with God. Otherwise you WILL become spiritually lax.

But it takes effort to maintain contact with your Creator.

It takes constant, persevering diligence.

But the promises God offers are *beyond our imagination*. They are worth all the effort and work!

"Whereby are given unto us *exceeding great and precious promises*; that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

"And besides this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness love.

"For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ;

"But he that lacks these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

"Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: FOR IF YOU DO THESE THINGS, YE SHALL NEVER FALL" (II Peter 1:4-10).

Let's remember these words this summer—and for the rest of our Christian life. Let's not take a vacation from overcoming. But rather continue to endure to the end.

The Holy Spirit

(Continued from page 17)

arbitrarily give to one, but deny another? Of course that is not true. God is waiting on YOU. You must be willing and eager to do your own part.

God wants YOUR life to manifest dynamic spiritual POWER! God wants you to be a forceful, dynamically alive, Christian. He wants to pour out His Holy Spirit on you. But whether He will or not—and the extent to which God gives you of His Holy Spirit—completely depends on YOU.

Yes—on you!

God says to you, "Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; *but be FILLED with the Spirit!*" (Eph. 5:17-18).

God commands, "QUENCH NOT THE SPIRIT" (I Thes. 5:19).

The apostle Paul wrote Timothy and explained, "For God hath not given us the Spirit of fear; but of POWER, and of love, and of a sound mind" (II Tim. 1:7). We receive this Spirit at conversion, when God begets us with His Spirit of POWER (Luke 1:35). But what are we to DO with it? Let it lie dormant, undisturbed, within us? No—that is the way to extinguish it. Rather, God expects us to DAILY PUT IT INTO USE! The apostle Paul told Timothy, "Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou STIR UP *the gift of God*, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands" (II Tim. 1:6).

We must STIR UP—rekindle, ignite into flame—the Spirit of God. THIS is the way to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit. This is the way to be of real SERVICE to God, and to do the part God has given you in His great endtime Work!

Use God's Spirit, and it will grow powerfully within you, directing and motivating your life. Use this powerful gift, and it will cause you to grow and develop spiritually. Study deeply God's Word; pray for understanding and correction. Yield to God's Word. Change what you see is not right in your life. Pray that God will work more powerfully THROUGH YOU as His instrument!

He will! This is why YOU need the Holy Spirit of God!



After the noon meal on the tennis courts, families sort through a maze of covered dishes to find their own.

Church of God News— Worldwide

(Continued from page 14)

is a District that has just begun in *Central California* under the direction of Mr. Dennis Luker, new District Superintendent. Mr. Luker, a pastor rank minister in God's Church has been the leading minister working with these churches for many years already. An outstanding leader—formerly a graduate of the University of Delaware and the co-captain of the football team there—Mr. Luker is now *Superintendent* over the District comprising the Churches in Oakland, San Jose, Modesto, Sacramento and Fresno, California. Also, the Church in Reno, Nevada is in this new district—with an additional church soon to be added across the bay bridge right in San Francisco, California! This will make a total of *seven* churches in this District.

The other new Church District is to be superintended by veteran District Superintendent Mr. Bryce Clark. It will be carved out of borderline churches from the districts immediately adjacent and including the congregations in Nashville and Evansville, St. Louis, Cincinnati and Lexington, Knoxville and Asheville, Memphis and Tupelo. In addition, a new church will soon be started in Cape Girardeau, Missouri as part of this District as well. Mr. Clark

will make Nashville his headquarters, and so the brethren in this District will undoubtedly get a great deal of personal attention from him from now on!

More good news involves **EIGHT** new churches now in the planning stage! Soon, a new congregation should begin in Albuquerque, New Mexico under the pastorship of Mr. Cecil Battles! The brethren in that thinly populated area have waited *many years* for a church, so much rejoicing will certainly take place when this new church begins.

Also, up in North Dakota, Mr. Lowell Blackwell will establish new churches soon in both Bismarck and Fargo! This will be a tremendous blessing to many of these brethren who have had to travel over 400 miles to attend one of God's Churches on the Holy Days!

More new churches will soon be established in East St. Louis, Illinois and Cape Girardeau, Missouri; in Decatur and Montgomery, Alabama; and—way down on the other side of the earth—in Perth, Australia! More news about these new congregations will be forthcoming in this column next time.

Baptizing and Visiting Tours

In the French Work, Mr. Dibar Apartian is now conducting a full-scale baptizing tour throughout many areas of France and Switzerland this summer! Seven or eight have already been baptized, many visited, and a great deal of help and encouragement has come to *dozens* of those whom God is calling through Mr. Apartian's tour thus far.

Be sure to PRAY for God's blessing on the French Work to the "elder brother" of Ephraim and Manasseh! And remember Mr. Apartian, especially, for God's blessing on this tour.

In the United States, there have been so many *hundreds* of people baptized through the local churches and so *few areas not covered* by local churches that a full baptizing tour this year has not been necessary. However, a short tour through the areas of Wyoming, Nebraska and South Dakota is being conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hoops—journeying to Chicago for service there after a year of post-graduate training at Pasadena. They have baptized only three so far in this thinly populated area,

but have visited several and should do a great deal of good for many of the scattered brethren before completing this short tour.

A very important *visiting tour* is being conducted this summer by God's Evangelist, Mr. Gerald Waterhouse. Normally assisting Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong in the foreign work, he has been asked to conduct a special visiting tour which will comprise most of the churches in the western and northern Midwestern part of the United States before the Feast of Tabernacles this fall!

Mr. Waterhouse plans to show slides and give vital explanations of the wonderful growth in God's Festivals around the world where he has personally been in attendance, of the three Ambassador Colleges, of God's Headquarters at Pasadena in detail, and many other helpful and important things to bring the brethren truly "in close" to the Work of God around the world. In each Church area he will conduct a combined Spokesman Club meeting and ladies night, and then bring a special sermon in each two-church circuit on the Sabbath bringing out special news of Christ's Work and special insights into how Christ is using His Work and preparing us for our specific jobs in the World Tomorrow.

From what we have heard, this tour is already proving a *tremendous inspiration* to the church areas where Mr. Waterhouse has already been! So let me ask all of you to PRAY for God's strength and inspiration to be with Mr. Waterhouse—for *his protection*—and for God's BLESSING and *guidance* on this important tour in every way!

That about winds it up for this time, brethren! But there is *so much* constantly happening in God's Church for which we have to be thankful, that no one article could even begin to cover it all. However, be sure to keep your mind on the fact that this is CHRIST'S doing—and that we are simply *His instruments* in *His Church*, called by *His name*, preparing the way for *His second coming* as King of kings and Lord of lords!

Let this realization motivate and *inspire* all of us in our daily Christian lives to *do our part* in the Work to which *all* of us are surely called!