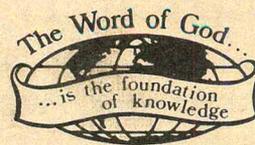


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THE PLAIN TRUTH ABOUT THE COVENANTS

By Herbert W. Armstrong

One of the most important doctrines Jesus Christ has put in His Church is that of the "Old" and "New Covenants." WHY should these be misunderstood? For that matter, WHY should the Sabbath truth, the annual Holy Days and festivals, tithing, healing or even salvation? Yet they are misunderstood.

God has made a number of covenants, among them the Noachian covenant, the Abrahamic covenant, what we call the old covenant with the nation Israel, the separate Sabbath covenant of Exodus 31:12-18, the Davidic covenant, etc.

In fact it might be of passing interest to know that my first "sermon," if it could have been called that, was a message to Church of God people near Jefferson, Ore., on a covenant that appeared to be new to them — the separate Sabbath covenant of Exodus 31:12-18. Whether worthy to be called a sermon or not, it was enthusiastically received with joy — for those people loved the Sabbath and rejoiced in receiving new light concerning it.

However, I am concerned here only about the "Old Covenant and the New Covenant."

Covenant defined

Let me first define *covenant*. Webster defines the word as "a usually formal, solemn and binding agreement; compact." In the biblical usage a covenant is a contract or agreement, solemnly binding, under which God promises certain rewards or blessings,

conditioned on man's promise of performance.

A grave mistake very often carelessly made is to confuse the word *covenant* with *testament*. We speak of the New Testament and the Old Testament Scriptures.

A testament is not a covenant, and a covenant is not a testament. Yet common usage seems to confuse them. It is important, at the outset, to understand the difference.

The word *testament* is defined as an act or written instrument by which a person bequeaths or wills certain of his possessions to another. It may or may not be a conditioned will. It is not necessarily payment or reward for work or obligation performed.

The old covenant between God and the nation Israel was *NOT* a testament or will. It was an agreement by which the children of Israel covenanted with God to obey Him, and God promised material and national blessings and dominance. *But He did NOT give* — or promise to give — *the Holy Spirit and eternal salvation.*

Before proceeding further, let's get everything in its proper setting.

Adam had to choose

The first man, Adam, was required to make a choice. The super archangel Lucifer, having become Satan the devil, an immortal spirit being of tremendous supernatural power, was there when Adam and Eve were created. In order to QUALIFY to receive God's Holy Spirit — symbolized by the tree of life — and also to restore the government of God to earth, Adam had to make the choice of whether to reject Satan and Satan's attitude and way and choose to obey God and the government of God.

But Adam chose to reject God and believe Satan. He made the fateful decision — for himself and his posterity, which is the whole world. God drove out the man from the Garden of Eden and shut mankind off from access to the Holy Spirit — except such as God should specially call.

We need the above background to understand. Too often people start viewing biblical teaching in a manner comparable to tuning in a movie two-thirds of the way through. We need this background of what went before.

But God had called Noah and saved humanity alive through his family. God had called Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Israel), fathers of the PROMISES. One of the promises to Abraham was multiple "seed" — nations, the promised land — *material national greatness.*

Four hundred thirty years after Abraham God called the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, to be a special people of God and to inherit the promised land. Other nations were still CUT OFF from God. God had specially prepared and called Moses. Through Moses God made the proposition to the Israelites. He gave them their choice.

God's proposal to Israel

God proposed to the Israelites: "Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians . . . Now, therefore, *IF* ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people . . ." (Exodus 19:4-5).

There was a very large *IF* in this covenant agreement. But the people glibly agreed, " . . . All that the Eternal hath spoken we will do . . ." they promised.

So the covenant was ratified by blood (Exodus 24:4-8). It was also a marriage covenant by which Israel promised to obey her Husband. It made them a separate NATION. Its basic law was the spiritual Law — the Ten Commandments. He gave them His civil law of statutes and judgments to govern them as a nation. He also gave them, as a CHURCH or Congregation, the law of Moses — a sacrificial law as a substitute for the sacrifice of Christ to remind them of sin and a ceremonial law of physical works (Greek, *ergon* in New Testament), rituals, and things to do morning, noon and night — a

temporary substitute for the Holy Spirit.

But something was wrong with that covenant. Religionists generally seem to blame the wrong on God. What was wrong was the flagrant disobedience of the people.

New covenant prophesied

The prophet Jeremiah summed it up: "Behold the days come, saith the Eternal, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers . . . which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Eternal: but this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Eternal, I will put my law in their inward parts, and will write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people" (Jeremiah 31:31-33).

This prophecy was inspired by one of God's holy prophets to become part of the FOUNDATION of the Church of God under the New Testament. And so, in teaching the Church, this was quoted in Hebrews 8:6-10.

Most Protestant churches teach that the fault with the old covenant was God's law, and that as the old covenant was made with Israel the new will be made with GENTILES — and as the old had law, the new abolishes God's Ten Commandments and is based wholly on PROMISES. Our ministers need to know how to meet that erroneous teaching.

The new covenant is made also with the house of Israel and the house of Judah (Hebrews 8:8). A Spirit-begotten gentile becomes one of Israel spiritually, of the household of GOD (Ephesians 2:19).

It will remedy the fault of the old covenant (disobedience of the people) and will be made with those in whose hearts is the spiritual law of God, as these scriptures say.

Old covenant a marriage contract

The old covenant was made with the carnal children of Israel and was a *marriage contract* in which Israel engaged in whoredom exceeding individual human harlots.

The old covenant was made with a people on their PROMISE to obey. They disobeyed. The

new shall be made only with a Spirit-born Church, a people who, in this mortal lifetime, through Christ and the Holy Spirit, have OVERCOME Satan (as Jesus did, and as the first Adam failed to do), have been begotten of the Holy Spirit, have already PROVED their obedience. The old covenant was made with sinning mortals. The new will be made with righteous immortals!

Now, where are we, today? Both Israel and Judah violated their solemn agreement with God (actually who became Christ). As a wife, they spiritually ran off. Finally God gave Israel a bill of divorce. Yet, even after that He entreated Israel to return to Him — but she wouldn't.

To make that Old Testament marriage finally end, Christ, her Husband, died, so that she might be cleansed of her sins and become party to the New Testament. In Romans 11 we read of how converted gentiles are like branches of a wild olive tree, broken off and grafted into the natural olive tree of Israel. But it shows how the natural branches broken off because of sin may also be grafted back into the Israel tree.

What are we under TODAY?

Then WHAT ARE WE UNDER TODAY?

The old covenant is ENDED. The apostle Paul said, " . . . God; Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life" (II Corinthians 3:6).

Yet the new covenant HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE! Its terms and conditions have been revealed to us through Christ. We ministers preach it. And even though as a final MARRIAGE COVENANT it has not been made — that is, in contract language, signed, sealed and delivered, those whom God has called are privileged to have God's law written in our hearts, to have the life-begetting sin-overcoming Holy Spirit to open our minds to spiritual UNDERSTANDING, to guide us in God's ways, and, within us, to EMPOWER us to overcome Satan and DO THE WORK OF GOD!

Some have misunderstood

But some have seriously MISUNDERSTOOD — hopefully not any of our ministers. Seeing (See COVENANTS, page 8)

Shortly after most of you receive this issue of the tabloid *Good News* you will be receiving your first copy of the new *Good News* magazine, reborn after a two-year absence. It will be filled with encouraging and timely articles as well as a number of new features to give all of you a rich diet of spiritual food. We hope it is as inspiring to you as it was to us during its preparation.

You will also be receiving *The Worldwide News* on a regular biweekly schedule beginning Jan. 2. We look forward to serving you through both publications and welcome your comments.

Dexter H. Faulkner
Managing editor

Sharing...

How to watch world news

When Jesus Christ said, "Watch ye therefore and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things," Christ meant watch world events fulfilling prophecy.

But how? One way, of course, is to be there on the scene. For example, those who will be in Jerusalem when the abomination of desolation is set up (Matthew 24:15) will be able to witness prophetic events firsthand.

But seeing events foretold in Bible prophecy with your own eyes is not practical for most of us. We must rely on secondary sources such as newspapers and magazines.

The all-important key to watching world news is knowing what to look for.

Most of today's newspapers are so filled with useless news, social happenings and trivia that significant items may be buried in an obscure corner or — as happens often with television news — aren't reported at all.

Two types of prophecies

There are two types of Bible prophecies. The first concerns ongoing social and worldwide conditions. These include the fulfillment of the first four seals of the book of Revelation (war, famine, disease and death) and ongoing social ills that the biblical prophets said would be extant in our day. Such conditions include rampant immorality (Jeremiah 5:7-8); juvenile delinquency (Isaiah 3:12); economic troubles (Isaiah 1:22, Haggai 1:6); secularism (II Peter 3:3-5); and crime (Ezekiel 7:23).

The second type of prophecy involves the specific movement of men and nations. There are at least seven such movements that we should be watching for:

1. The decline of the Israelite peoples. This includes the incredible retreat of British and American strength around the world.
2. The rise of a united Europe.
3. The rise of a beast personality to head the united Europe.
4. The rise of the false prophet.
5. The invasion of the Middle East by the forces of a united Europe.
6. The moving of the Vatican to Jerusalem and the involvement of the papacy in the region.
7. The preparation for physical destruction of modern Israelite peoples. This entails, among other things, the military potential of any European union.

But knowing what to watch for is useless if we don't know which news sources are likely to report it.

Radio and television news can be useful in helping us to hear and see what is going on, but actual coverage of important news events is limited by time. Furthermore, television news reporting is often superficial and biased in favor of political liberalism. Television and radio give only a small fraction of the range of news that is covered by the

This issue's column was written by Jeff Calkins, veteran news analyst for the *Work's News Bureau*.

printed media. We simply cannot rely on television news to watch world events.

As far as publications are concerned, there are many different ways of evaluating them. For example, there is the reputable or quality press. This includes the *New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, the *Washington Post*, *Time*, *U.S. News and Newsweek*. These are trustworthy sources of news although they may exhibit some bias and have a totally secular perspective.

Specialized publications

Other news sources specialize in various topics. There are financial publications, such as *Fortune* or *Business Week*, which report important events in the state of the economy. There are publications that are devoted to various geographical regions, such as *Asia*, *Africa*, *Canada* or *Japan*. Examples are *Asia Week* (Asia), *To the Point* (Africa), *Macleans* (Canada) and *Pacific Community* (Japan). There are even specialized publications on the Middle East (*Middle East Monitor*) and the European Common Market (*European Community*). Most of these will be found in the periodicals section of a good library.

Some publications take a forthright political stand. This means that their interpretation of events is colored by their own, often narrow, political outlook. Often, they do not report news, but merely interpret it. However, they too can be valuable for spotting some important events. For example, extreme leftist publications, such as *The Nation* or *New Times* (not to be confused with the magazine that appears on many American newsstands — this one is put out by the government of the Soviet Union itself) do a good job of reporting neo-Nazi activity, especially in West Germany and Latin America. On the other hand, right-of-center periodicals such as *Conservative Digest* do a good job of reporting the decline of the Israelite peoples and the moral decay in modern society.

Finally, there are foreign publications. The most reputable and useful for following prophetic events are the *London Times*, the *London Daily Telegraph* (an excellent source of news on Europe and Africa), the *London Economist* (one of the most complete news weeklies in the world), the *Jerusalem Post*, *die Welt*, *die Zeit*, and the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*.

No one secular news source is entirely satisfactory. For the budgets of most of us, a subscription to a big-city daily is probably the best that we can do or afford.

We also should not neglect the *Work's* own publications. World events of truly prophetic significance — whether it be the blow-by-blow decline of modern Israel or the election of a new pope — get reported in our own publications.

As vital end-time prophetic events happen with increasing frequency it becomes ever more important to watch world events.

Grave peril for West if shah goes

PASADENA — The situation in Iran is becoming more critical by the day. Dec. 10, hundreds of thousands of Iranians surged through the streets of Tehran, the capital, in a mammoth anti-shah protest. The next day, a Shiite Moslem high day, more than a million turned out, many shouting, "Death to the shah." Remarkably, the "referendum in the streets" ended without the bloodshed many feared would erupt.

The two-day Tehran outburst was the biggest street demonstration against Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi since his foes — both orthodox Moslem leaders and the left-wing political opposition — began the current campaign to oust him 11 months ago. A key political opposition leader, Karim Sanjaby, said it was "the best evidence that force cannot stop this national movement."

Dream finished

As far as force goes, raw military power still rests with the shah and his fiercely loyal 430,000-man military. Yet, underneath what is increasingly a facade of power, the fabric of modern Iranian life is crumbling rapidly.

The shah has apparently abandoned his dream of turning Iran into a first-rate industrially developed nation and major military power by 1990. Orders for billions of dollars worth of sophisticated weapons from the United States and Europe have been canceled, as have plans for eight nuclear power plants.

Strikes have crippled Iran's economy. The treasury lost over \$1 billion in oil revenue during the recent 15-day strike. The shah has given in to demands for more equal distribution of oil wealth. Some government workers have had their salaries doubled overnight, fueling the nation's inflation rate, which in turn has harmed the peasants and lower-class workers, intensifying their frustration with the shah's government.

At the root of the strife is Moslem anger over the shah's drive to westernize Iran. In this he unwittingly played into the hands of the Moslem priesthood, the ayatollahs (high priests) and the mullahs (rank-and-file priests). Writing in the *London Telegraph*, British Minister of Parliament Julian Amery asserts that "the ayatollahs and mullahs are in a desperate mood. Unless they stop Persia [the British press often uses the ancient name for the country] becoming a secular and Western-type society their

authority and wealth will be undermined irreversibly."

The religious leaders have succeeded in transmitting their fears to a significant segment of the Iranian public, who up until this year had rather enjoyed the materialistic fruits of Iran's modernization.

All this has now come to a screeching halt. In Tehran 108 of the city's 115 theaters — symbols of Western "decadence" (and some were showing mildly pornographic films) — have been gutted by fire or smashed beyond repair. Restaurants have switched off their neon signs and stopped selling alcohol, banned under Koranic law. Out of fear more

to the southwest and Iraq to the north. The other Persian Gulf states critical to Western oil supplies — Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar — are even more vulnerable to communist pressure than Saudi Arabia.

Nearly all of the region's oil wealth passes down through the Persian Gulf, past the narrow Strait of Hormuz. The Iranian navy keeps this sea-lane open — and holds the Soviet fleet at bay.

Thus, an enormous stake for the free world rides on Iran and its Peacock throne. The *Telegraph* article quoted earlier emphasizes Iran's pivotal position. "Where Gulf oil is concerned, Persia is the key.

WORLDWATCH BY GENE H. HOGBERG

than anything else, women have started to wear the veil again in public — even though the thin shroud often reveals blue jeans underneath.

What next?

The big question, of course, is what kind of government would Iran have if the shah is forced out. Would it be a constitutional monarchy, with perhaps the shah stepping down in favor of Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi, now 17? Or would the political opposition, if it emerged victorious in a free election, demand the scrapping of the Peacock throne altogether?

Whether the Pahlavi dynasty goes or stays will have great impact on Middle Eastern and world affairs. According to the *Associated Press*, Dec. 11: "The Carter Administration has given full backing to the shah of Iran without explaining why his survival is so important to U.S. national security. The reason, one official said, is simple: Some of the alternatives to the shah are so bleak that public discussion of them could alarm the American people."

"The principal concern is that the entire Persian Gulf could be up for grabs if Iran, the most populous and militarily powerful country in the area, falls into unfriendly hands. One possibility in the post-shah era is the emergence of a staunchly Moslem regime closely identified with radical Arab states such as Libya. Those states have made the shah's ouster part of their struggle against Israel, which now receives a substantial portion of its oil imports from Iran."

Chief Moslem opposition leader Ayatullah Khomeini warned from his exile in Paris Dec. 11 that when an Islamic government takes over it would never recognize Israel and would stop all sales to Israel and all countries that had supported the shah's regime.

Israel is heavily dependent upon Iranian oil. The United States is committed to make up the difference to Israel should this source dry up. Western Europe and Japan are far more dependent upon Iranian oil than is the United States.

Another scenario has the shah abdicating with a military government taking over. Unable to control the social chaos, a pro-Soviet junta next assumes power, similar to what recently occurred in neighboring Afghanistan. The Afghanistan example is particularly frightening with the announcement last week that the Afghan leaders signed a 20-year "peace and friendship" treaty with the Soviet Union.

The key to the Gulf

A leftist Iran would cause shudders throughout the Persian Gulf, particularly in Saudi Arabia, which has always looked to Iran as a buffer against Moscow. The Saudis are almost encircled by pro-Soviet regimes as it is Ethiopia and South Yemen

Since Britain withdrew from the area there is no other military power to ensure its stability. Neither Saudi Arabia nor the smaller Gulf states could begin to fill this role. If Persia changes sides only massive American military intervention could save the rest.

"The country called Iran has never been a nation. It is an empire; an empire made up of Persian-speaking, Turkish-speaking, Arab-speaking, Kurdish-speaking and Baluch-speaking peoples. All except for the Persian-speaking element have a close kinship with peoples across the border in the Soviet Union, Afghanistan and Iraq. Iran has only been held together by allegiance to the Peacock throne. If the shah were overthrown the empire could well break up into its component parts, at worst to become one or more Soviet republics, at best to be partitioned between East and West."

The prospect of the Soviet Union having its own warm-water ports — and worst of all in Iran where the Red navy could bottle up the free world's prime energy sources — is sending strategic planners back to the drawing board in many Western capitals, trying to figure out what to do if the very worst happens in the post-shah era.

Even a unified but neutralized Iran, no longer desirous of selling its oil wealth in quantity to the West, no longer capable of acting as the "policeman of the Gulf," would leave a dangerous political vacuum in this most geopolitically sensitive region of the world.

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Letters TO THE EDITOR

'GN' articles appreciated

Thank you very much for your recent articles in *The Good News*. I always look forward to reading them, and I must tell you how much I learn. It is sure good to have good strong spiritual meat in the pages of *The Good News*. I never realized how much I missed it.

Ann Przemielowski
Buffalo, N.Y.

★ ★ ★

I read the article in *The Good News* on "How the Worldwide Church of God Came into Being." It has helped me to become more familiar with God's Church and how it is recorded in the book of Revelation. I hope there will be more articles on this subject as they are very helpful to me to learn about God's Work.

Michael Grimes
Nashville, Tenn.

★ ★ ★

Let me take the time to thank you and all those who make it possible for us to receive *The Good News*. We wait patiently for the next issue as they are very

(See LETTERS, page 12)

IS GOD'S CHURCH COMPOSED OF MANY SEPARATE 'GROUPS'?

By Herbert W. Armstrong

I HAVE HEARD many small religious groups, usually following one human leader, speak of "our Group," fully believing that their little unit or assemblage is A PART of the BODY OF CHRIST, THE CHURCH OF GOD.

Some have left God's Church saying, "I have not left Christ — I've only left that organization. I worship Christ in my own way."

Are they really IN Christ?

Time is now short. We are in the very last days! Christ is coming soon — to MARRY God's Church. In Revelation 19:7 the Church is called "His WIFE." This verse says, "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and HIS WIFE hath made herself ready."

We are in sobering times — the last days when "HIS WIFE" must be MADE READY for Christ's coming.

Will these "loner" individual "Christians," or these many little isolated "GROUPS" constitute part of the wife made ready?

In Matthew 25 it is written, "... the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage; and the door was shut" (Matthew 25:10).

The very eternal LIFE AND DEATH QUESTION right now is: "Just WHAT is the wife that has made herself ready? Is it one united, organized, compacted,

There are many individual and separate 'Groups' differing in belief and organization, yet supposing they are a PART of the BODY OF CHRIST. Are they?

Spiritual organism — all speaking the same thing — all joined to the one Vine and bearing fruit — all in the organized Church built upon the FOUNDATION of the apostles and the prophets, with Jesus Christ the chief cornerstone, having grown into a BUILDING — a HOLY TEMPLE, in the LORD, FITLY FRAMED TOGETHER and COMPACTED in that which every joint supplieth? OR, will it be a conglomeration of disunited "GROUPS" and denominations and a number of isolated individual "Christians," who have followed Christ in their own way?

Those who have gone off, either alone or in a small isolated group, will say: "We have not gone away from CHRIST — we have only left that organization. We no longer have a part in what it is doing, but we worship Christ in our own way."

They might refer to Mark 9:38-40: "And John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out demons in thy name, and he followeth not with us; and we forbid him, because he followeth not us. But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me. For he that is not against us is on our part."

Notice, these people were per-

forming miracles in Christ's name — by His authority — Jesus *did not* say they shall enter God's Kingdom. He merely said, "Let them alone." Now put this together with other scriptures on the same theme. Again Jesus said, "Let them alone," in Matthew 15:14. But He also said (verse 13), "... Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch."

And again, Jesus said, "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad" (Matthew 12:30).

Again, "He that is not with me is against me: and he that gathereth not with me scattereth" (Luke 11:23). Those not WITH CHRIST, WHERE HE LEADS IN HIS CHURCH, are scattering and against Him.

But consider FURTHER:

Body of Christ is UNITED

Jesus Christ is going to marry GOD'S CHURCH — called THE BODY OF CHRIST. Now is that Body united, organized on a united and firm FOUNDATION, or an assortment of "loner" individuals and various "groups"?

I was awakened this morning

thinking on this sober question. Often it seems God puts things in my mind on first awakening in the morning.

This morning God was leading my mind in thinking about the BODY OF CHRIST, which is the one and only TRUE Church of God.

WHY is the Church called "the BODY of Christ"? God the Father sent Jesus into this world with a MESSAGE from GOD. That message concerned the now soon-coming KINGDOM OF GOD. Jesus taught it to His original apostles — He proclaimed it in the synagogues and in public. Jesus said, "I can of mine own self do nothing ..." (John 5:30). But "... the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works" (John 14:10).

Jesus came to DO SOMETHING! Every one God has ever called since Adam has been called for a DUTY — to DO SOMETHING — and that something always has had to do with PREPARING FOR GOD'S KINGDOM.

Jesus taught the KINGDOM OF GOD. It was the Holy Spirit IN Him that did "the works." After He had finished the work the Father had assigned Him, personally, to do in His human life, He was crucified, resurrected and then ascended into heaven. Then He sent the SAME HOLY SPIRIT that had worked in Him, to work

in His apostles and in His Church.

The Holy Spirit had WORKED in Jesus' body. Now it worked in the collective BODY of the Church. Therefore the Church now became the BODY OF CHRIST — the BODY in which God's Spirit was "doing the work."

Christ organized Church

And Christ organized that Body — the begotten children of God, and therefore "... the household of God ... built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord" (Ephesians 2:19-21). This is the TEMPLE to which Christ is coming (Malachi 3:1). The Church is here called a TEMPLE — fitly framed together and compacted — closely knit TOGETHER.

The only PURPOSE of the Church is to CARRY ON THE WORK WHICH CHRIST STARTED! It is now the BODY in which the Holy Spirit is working. And God set in the Church, to ORGANIZE it, apostles, prophets, pastors and teachers.

The CHURCH is the BODY OF CHRIST. And Jesus pictured Himself as THE VINE, and we of His Church are the BRANCHES on that vine. Notice it — study it — in John 15. Jesus is not SEVERAL SEPARATED VINES — He is *one vine!* The members of the BODY OF CHRIST are the BRANCHES! — but *not separated, isolated* branches. ALL ARE JOINED TO

(See SEPARATE, page 8)

CHRIST IS THE LIVING HEAD OF ONLY ONE CHURCH—NOT TWO

By Herbert W. Armstrong

In an effort to mislead and draw away God's people and tithes, the misleading idea is now being circulated that this MAN (not Church) also preaches the Gospel. So, why not divide your tithe, sending half to the man and half to God's CHURCH — or else send it alternately to each.

Satan is subtle, and he does deceive even the greatest of men. Let's honestly consider that crafty suggestion.

1) The tithe is GOD'S tithe, *not yours*, and is to be sent to GOD'S CHURCH, where Christ, alive and well, is actively working, directing and blessing.

2) God has only ONE Church, and that Church has a few hundred local congregations worldwide, all a PART — and an integral working part — of the ONE spiritual organism, the Worldwide Church of God,

which is "built upon the FOUNDATION of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom ALL THE BUILDING [with its many local congregations] FITLY FRAMED TOGETHER groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord." Its whole body (with its many local congregations worldwide) "FITLY JOINED TOGETHER AND COMPACTED by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working [together] ... of every part ..." (Ephesians 2:20-21, 4:16). Jesus Christ does not HEAD, guide and work in any competing man or church. Christ is NOT DIVIDED! Christ's Body is led on earth, UNDER HIM, by His chosen apostle whom HE appointed and used in BUILDING His Church in our time. God's TRUE Church is performing the FUNCTION of the Church — carrying Christ's Gospel message to all the world.

3) The man who wants half of God's tithe does not speak the same thing. On the one hand he attempts to draw your support

saying, "I preach the Gospel too — so give me half the tithe." (The Baptists, Lutherans, Catholics, all profess to preach the Gospel — but it's not the same Gospel.) Then on the other hand he contradicts himself — speaks out of the other side of his mouth — saying he does not agree with God's Church about Church eras, about this and about that!

No, brethren, he does NOT preach the same Gospel. He was attempting to water down God's true doctrines and oppose its doctrines and its apostle and to become the self-appointed head of God's Church.

That's why he was DISFELLOWSHIPED from God's Church. HE WAS NOT speaking the same thing. GOD'S CHURCH cannot speak with an UNCERTAIN SOUND!

4) This man is NOT a Church of God. A man can incorporate himself, under man's law, using the NAME of a Church — and he came as close to the name "Worldwide Church of God" as possible, TO DECEIVE and mis-

lead brethren into thinking he is THE SAME CHURCH. Any "Tom, Dick or Harry" can incorporate himself, with the signatures of a couple other men as "directors" in the name of a church. BUT THAT DOES NOT make him a church! This effort to deceive, by using a name so close to "Worldwide" Church of God, is possibly subject to civil prosecution as an attempt to defraud and receive money under false pretenses.

Of course, God's Church will rely on Christ for protection. However, since he intentionally incorporated under a name so close to "Worldwide Church of God," and it tends to confuse and harm God's Church, steps have been taken to prohibit his incorporating or operating under that name in any other states.

5) This disfellowshipped man is not preaching any "gospel" into all the world for a witness unto all nations. His preaching is aimed only at you in God's Church, to draw you away from the Church headed by Jesus

Christ. He does not preach any gospel to the world to teach those who know not Christ's Gospel. He seeks only to unsettle you who have already accepted Christ's true Gospel. His whole effort is a resentful and bitter one to "GET" — not to "GIVE."

One member wrote, stating clearly which is God's Church. It is:

1) Where God's TRUTH is. Not with one disfellowshipped for trying to water down that TRUTH.

2) Where God's true Work is going out to the WHOLE WORLD.

3) Where Christ's chosen apostle is.

God's tithe is to be PAID to God's Church, where CHRIST is working. Jesus Christ does not work in two "churches," one competing against and trying to draw members from the other. Christ is NOT DIVIDED!

God does not have two churches — only the ONE Church that Jesus Christ founded in A.D. 31 and raised up to carry on in OUR time through His own chosen apostle.

SEVEN PROOFS OF THE TRUE CHURCH

WHERE is the one and only true Church today — the Church founded by Jesus Christ in A.D. 31? Seven major eye-opening proofs identify it unmistakably.

The first six proofs of the true Church appeared in *The Good News*, Nov. 20 and Dec. 4. This installment concludes with Proof No. 7.
By Herbert W. Armstrong

PROOF NO. 7 THE REIGN OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

HOW INCONGRUOUS! The churches calling themselves "Christian" do not know that the true Gospel is the GOOD NEWS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD. They know nothing of what the earth will be like under the rule of the KINGDOM OF GOD!

They know nothing of the only GOOD NEWS in today's world — of the WORLD'S ONLY and SURE HOPE!

Don't laugh at the word UTOPIA! It is regarded in today's troubled world as an impractical, impossible JOKE! Webster's dictionary defines it: "an imaginary and indefinitely remote place; a place of ideal perfection, especially in laws, government and social conditions; an impractical scheme for social improvement."

Jesus Christ was no impractical dreamer. His Gospel was the GOOD NEWS that a coming UTOPIA is REAL — it is SURE!

Stop and THINK! WHY should it be impossible to have ideal perfection — in laws, government and social conditions? WHY?

"Human nature," you answer? Yes, but as shown earlier, human nature was NOT created in us by GOD — was NOT born in us. It has been injected into humans by the "prince of the POWER OF THE AIR," Satan, who is so powerful that he surcharges the air with his morbid attitude of gloom, resentment, rebellion, selfishness, vanity, strife. Satan broadcasts in self-centered attitudes, and the "human" spirit in every human is tuned in on his wavelength! Thus Satan is now actually WORKING IN the people of this disobedience (Ephesians 2:2).

But when the glorified CHRIST comes in supreme POWER and GLORY to rule all nations, Satan will be totally restrained from humanity. ALL will be called to salvation and eternal life — and, as God's people now are, will become partakers of the DIVINE NATURE! (II Peter 1:4).

"Human nature" will be GONE! The earth will be as full of the knowledge of the Eternal as the ocean beds are full of water (Isaiah 11:9).

Science's postulate of the FUTURE

World-famous scientists foresee three possibilities for the future.

1) Some optimists think we

shall soon have the magic push-button century 21 — with such an array of gadgetry produced by technology that human labor will be all but eliminated, and the world shall be entranced and bedazzled by material technology. But, of course, this would not rid us of human nature. Crime would escalate, family life would break down completely, morals would sink even lower — if possible!

2) We shall have more and more evils, and, with nuclear power and other means of mass destruction, humanity will soon be erased from the earth.

3) Some say the world's only hope, now, to escape cosmicide is to form one gigantic world government, controlling the only military power and weaponry — yet in the same breath they admit the impossibility of it. WHO would sit on the throne RULING the world? The United States and Europe would never accept a Communist in supreme command. The Communists would never accept an American or Western European.

WHY? — yes, WHY should we have a world where more than half of all its people live in illiteracy, abject poverty, filth and squalor, racked with diseases and pains and without hope? WHY? — when the human mind can produce the marvels of technology, the computer, send men to the moon and back, transmit photographs from the surface of Mars to the earth?

Can't we realize there has to be a CAUSE for all these evils — and that the GREAT MAJESTIC GOD has power to eradicate the causes and usher in a REAL utopia? Don't sell God short!

The two alternatives

Let's face it! Right now there are two alternatives. Either there does exist the living almighty GOD of supreme mind and power, who will very soon intervene and SAVE HUMANITY FROM ITSELF, or else HUMAN EXTINCTION is now imminent!

There is no other alternative! But thank God, there is the GOOD NEWS of the soon-coming PEACEFUL, HAPPY WORLD TOMORROW!

When the supreme Creator-RULER comes again to earth, already crowned as KING of kings, in supreme POWER and GLORY and all the holy angels with Him, the gentile nations actually will FIGHT to resist Him!

But "... their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth" (Zechariah 14:12).

The living CHRIST is coming to RULE WITH DIVINE FORCE! And one of His first acts will be to depose Satan! THE CAUSE of the world's evils will be removed!

Jesus, after His resurrection, ascended to heaven, in clouds taking Him up out of sight. He shall return in clouds.

The mighty Lord shall descend with a SHOUT! — with the voice of the archangel and the trumpet of God. The dead in Christ shall rise in a glorious resurrection to SPIRIT IMMORTALITY! The living in Christ shall then be caught up in the air with them, changed to spirit immortality — TO MEET the descending Lord in the air (I Thessalonians 4:16-17).

Christ's feet shall stand that same day on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem (Zechariah 14:4). The immortal saints shall be continually with the Lord — reigning with and under Him from Jerusalem over all nations!

With Satan gone, the KINGDOM OF GOD shall be set up in power. Everyone whom God has called out of this world of Satan's has been called to a special mission preparing for this Kingdom!

THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD will be restored, worldwide! The humans left on earth will be ruled over. No mortal humans will rule — only those who PREPARED and QUALIFIED to rule during their earthly life after receiving God's Spirit.

The government organization

God has not revealed in specific detail how His government will be organized. He does reveal that it shall be government from the TOP down. Christ will be KING of kings over all nations. It is specifically revealed that King David of ancient Judah, resurrected, shall be king over the nations descended from the 12 tribes of ancient Israel (Ezekiel 34:23; 27:24-25; Jeremiah 30:9). Jesus Himself revealed that the 12 original apostles shall sit on 12 thrones, each ruling one of these nations (Matthew 19:28; Luke 22:30).

As a theocracy, with government from the top down, it also is revealed that God the Father is the supreme LAWGIVER, and head over Christ and therefore ABOVE ALL. The Kingdom of God is the FAMILY OF GOD — and the Father is supreme head over His family!

Jesus Christ is coming as KING of kings and LORD of lords, so the Kingdom of God shall combine Church and state, as did ancient Israel — with Christ earthly King and LORD.

NOTE WELL THIS PRINCIPLE: In a world cut off from God, God has called out of the world those pre-

destinated. And in every instance the call has been to a definite DUTY, and also in every case that duty has been one PREPARING FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

God called Abraham... All the PROMISES of our eternal salvation were given to Abraham, and we inherit them from the fact Abraham is the "father of the faithful." This reveals that Abraham will have higher position in the Kingdom than David. He will be NEXT UNDER CHRIST.

Then again, the Scriptures use the phrase "Abraham, Isaac and Jacob," grouping them together as a team. All the PROMISES were repromised also to Isaac and to Jacob. This indicates they shall be a headquarters TEAM — next under Christ — over both Church and state, with Abraham chairman of the team. In Luke 13:28, Jesus said definitely that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob shall be in that glorified Kingdom.

One government over all

When the KINGDOM — the divine FAMILY of God — reigns on earth, it shall be the ONE GOVERNMENT over ALL nations. There shall be ONE GOD, ONE GOVERNMENT, ONE religion.

In the transfiguration vision, Peter, James and John saw Christ transformed into the GLORIFIED Christ, His face shining as the sun (Matthew 17:1-7), and with Him in the Kingdom Moses and Elijah. These two, in the vision, represented the offices of Church and state.

Both Moses and Elijah, in their human lifetime, qualified for chief positions in Church and state, respectively, next under Abraham, Isaac and Jacob — Moses over all national GOVERNMENTS — Elijah over Church. It was Elijah who restored KNOWLEDGE of the worship of the true God.

All these men, who were CALLED to special missions by God during their physical human life, were prepared and qualified for these positions in the KINGDOM.

Actually, the preaching of the Gospel and spread of religion in THE KINGDOM, will be primarily RELIGIOUS EDUCATION — since ALL shall be called, and the decision will be made individually by each person. It is significant that Elijah had founded THREE COLLEGES (II Kings 2:3, 5; 4:38) at Bethel, Jericho and Gilgal, teaching God's TRUTH in a world corrupted by false paganism education.

For further details of the organization in the KINGDOM OF GOD, see our book, *Tomorrow — What It Will Be Like*. This will be

available in bookstores, beginning spring, 1979.

When ALL shall be called

The one original true Church of God is UNIQUE in the knowledge that THIS WORLD HAS BEEN CUT OFF FROM GOD — its inhabitants who were uncalled are therefore NOT BEING JUDGED — YET! They have been neither "saved" nor "lost." But they HAVE BEEN DECEIVED!

As Jesus said, many would go out claiming to represent Him, proclaiming that Jesus was the CHRIST (Messiah) — yet DECEIVING THE MANY! (Matthew 24:4-5, II Corinthians 11:13-15).

Millions have been deceived into a FALSE SALVATION. What about all these sincere people — are they "LOST"? Of course not. But neither did they receive the "salvation" they were deceived into expecting. They simply were not — YET — judged. THEY SHALL BE — all who have died — in the resurrection of the Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11-13).

Salvation shall surely come to all who — once the TRUTH is revealed, and they are undeceived — are as willing as they thought they were in the false salvation they were deceived into accepting! This will include many whom our readers may have supposed were "lost." It is a GLORIOUS HOPE!

Now notice Matthew 25:31 on.

"When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit on the throne of his glory." Combine that with other scriptures already covered. When Jesus comes in His glory, He will come as He went to heaven — in clouds. The dead shall rise — in a resurrection — first, then the living in Christ shall be instantly changed to spirit immortality and be caught up in the air with them to meet the descending Lord. His feet shall stand that same day on the Mount of Olives. The resurrected and changed saints shall be continually from then with Him. Then He shall sit on the throne of His glory — in the City of David, Jerusalem.

All the holy angels will be with Him. In Revelation 12 we find that a third of the angels followed Lucifer into rebellion. But what about all these HOLY angels — the other two-thirds? I have said angel creation was not COMPLETE until by their own decision CHARACTER — either righteous or evil — had been formed in them. What about this two-thirds of angels, here called HOLY? God does not reveal HOW their character and therefore their creation, was completed. But, in some manner not revealed, it is apparent the two-thirds had formed holy and righteous character, for here they are called HOLY angels, and in many parts of both Old and New Testaments they are (See SEVEN PROOFS, page 5)

SEVEN PROOFS

(Continued from page 4)
described as definitely holy and in God's service.

All nations gathered

Now continue, Matthew 25:32, "And before him [Christ] shall be gathered all nations. . . ." This can refer only to the people in all nations still remaining alive at that time — all MORTAL, human, flesh-and-blood people.

Remember, many who had been called and truly converted will then be sitting with Christ in His throne at Jerusalem. Con-

tinued: ". . . and he shall separate them one from another. . ." (remember the dead and living IN Christ had already been separated and risen to meet Christ in the air. This separation refers to the still-living MORTALS — who had not previously been called — who had, up to now, been cut off from God and from salvation. But now, with Christ on the throne and Satan gone, ALL are spiritually called! Now continue, still verse 32: ". . . as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats. And he shall set the sheep on his right

hand, but the goats on the left. Then [verse 34] shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

All then still living will be called. Those who decide for God's Kingdom — with Satan then out of the way — will INHERIT the Kingdom of God — BE BORN INTO IT!

"Then [verse 41] shall he say also unto them on his left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels [demons]." That fire has been described

above — the face of the earth becoming a molten inferno — burning up the mortal incorrigible. However, this fire will not take place until the end of the millennium.

Verse 46, "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal." That "everlasting punishment" has been construed by the deceived to mean "everlasting punishing" — but it is PUNISHMENT — and the wages of sin is DEATH (Romans 6:23). True, some few scriptures speak of the fire NOT BEING QUENCHED — and the deceived misconstrue this to mean an eternally burning

hell. Often I have illustrated this before audiences by placing a small piece of paper in a metal pan and lighting it. I say to the audience, "Now watch! This fire shall not be quenched!" Then I put the remaining ash on the floor, step on it and quote Malachi 4:3, ". . . they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet. . ."

WHAT A FABULOUS POTENTIAL lies ahead of all humans willing to BELIEVE when called!

WHAT WONDERFUL TRUTH God has revealed to His one and only true original Church, small and persecuted, yet vigorously ALIVE with GOD'S WONDERFUL TRUTH!

THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD TODAY

We have covered seven major proofs to identify the one and only true Church founded A.D. 31 by Jesus Christ. We come now to the true story of that Church TODAY — the only voice in the wilderness of today's religious Babylon giving a hopeless world its ONLY and SURE HOPE!

THE VISITOR, to put it mildly, was astonished! He was witnessing something he had never hoped to see.

He was professor of Comparative Religions at one of the world's great universities, visiting a Canadian Festival site of the world's largest annual Church conclave. This, however, was one of the smaller of scores of such convention sites encompassing the earth. Seven thousand were here assembled for the eight-day Festival.

At once the visitor was impressed by an atmosphere refreshingly different. And he had visited many church conventions in many countries.

Had these people been odd or fanatical it would have been no new experience. He was well aware of religious groups who generated a temporary emotional fervor in meetings. He was familiar, too, with those that were stiffly formal — and unhappy. But here he was experiencing something unique to his knowledge.

The professor happened to be sitting next to one of the ministers of the Worldwide Church of God.

"These members," he volunteered, "obviously are stable and solid people, and they seem to radiate an inner happiness that is genuine. Life to them seems to have purpose and meaning. It's an enjoyable and healthy experience I can't quite find words to describe."

"Yes," smiled the minister, "life *does* have meaning to our people. And they do radiate the inner joy you have observed, because their lives have been changed by God's Holy Spirit, and they are participating in and prayerfully backing the spreading worldwide of Christ's true Gospel message — the same message originally proclaimed by Christ Himself.

"But," continued the minister, "we now are living in the very generation that shall see that message fulfilled. It is God's time for that message of world HOPE to be again proclaimed in power, worldwide. When one knows he is having a part in giving a dying world its ONLY HOPE, it is, indeed, a

gratifying experience. We don't preach a gospel of DOOM — but of joyous HOPE — coming in our generation!"

The story of a unique commission

The true story of today's Worldwide Church of God is the story of the appearance on earth of the real Jesus Christ more than 1,900 years ago. It's the story of His message from God to mankind. And it's the story of God's rejuvenating His people with His Spirit and vitality to carry that message of SURE HOPE to this world's last generation.

It is axiomatic that for every effect there has to be a cause.

There has to be a CAUSE for all the evils in the world today — the widespread immorality, the revolt of youth, the trend toward drugs, the broken homes and rising divorce rate, the escalating crime, the almost general unrest, the rioting, violence, wars.

By the same token, there has to be a CAUSE for the condition of peace, harmony and general radiant happiness the visiting professor experienced.

Isn't it pertinent to ask WHY science and technology seem unable to point the way to such a desired state for all human society? To ask WHY education does not teach THE WAY to a better life — WHY religion has failed so dismally to make this a better world — WHY governments, committed to bettering the lot of their peoples, have never found THE WAY to peace?

There has to be a cause!

There is a cause. There is something refreshingly different. And it shines forth from multiple thousands of homes

scattered around the world.

WHY unique

These people are members of the Church of God, known in our day as the "Worldwide Church of God. This Church is unique in practicing Christianity as a WAY OF LIFE as well as a faith — even as it did originally in the days of the first-century apostles.

Its members are motivated with PURPOSE, inspired by knowing the transcendent human potential. They know the true values. They have found THE way that makes life truly meaningful, rewarding, abundant!

It is the way the whole world ought to be living. And what is that WAY OF LIFE?

It is the WAY OF LOVE — the wholesome WAY of outgoing concern for the good and welfare of others equal to self-concern. It is the way of cooperating, serving, helping, sharing — of consideration and patience.

More important, it is the way of humility, and of obedience to, reliance on and worship solely toward God. It is the GOD-centered way.

The other road travels the SELF-centered way of vanity, selfishness, greed, lust, unconcern for others, competition, envy, jealousy, strife, resentment against authority, bitterness, even hatred. It seeks self-advantage in every deal.

The Church of God has believed, from the days of Christ's original apostles, that the Christian religion is that of Christ — of His teachings and of the example He set. Jesus taught this giving way. He said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Also He said, "Man

shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God." The Bible is the Word of God in writing. Its entire teachings are based on this God-centered way of life — the spiritual law.

The Church of God knew, in the days of the first-century apostles — as it knows today — that the God-centered way of LOVE is an inexorable spiritual LAW in active motion. It is a law as real — as inflexibly relentless even though as invisible — as the laws of gravity and inertia. It is a law that governs all relationships between man and man and between man and God.

This law of LOVE is summarized scripturally by the Ten Commandments. It may be divided into the two "Great Laws" — love to God and love toward man. It was set in living motion by our Maker as the CAUSE of all GOOD. Its transgression is the CAUSE of all EVILS!

This God-centered way of life — the way of outgoing concern — inspired and empowered by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit of God — is the CAUSE of the fresh, sparkling happiness the visiting professor sensed at the Church convention in Canada. It does not produce a temporary and artificial exhilaration or pseudo-spiritual jag, but a permanent inner peace, and a faith that is a unique confidence, and stability, which reassures when there are trials and even persecutions. This is a sorely needed but sadly scarce commodity in this confused world today. This WAY OF LIFE is paying off among Church of God people in joyous happiness, successful living and abundant well-being!

This GOD-centered way

broadens and expands one's horizons. Self-centeredness constantly shrinks one's mental and spiritual outlook inwardly.

It is, to man today, astonishing to learn that Jesus, Peter, Paul and all the first-century apostles taught obedience to this inexorable spiritual law — the WAY OF LOVE. It is surprising to most to learn that the Bible plainly shows that the religion of Christ is a WAY OF LIFE as well as a living FAITH.

This spiritual law was set in living motion as the loving gift of humanity's Maker to CAUSE every desired GOOD.

Pinpoint Church history

Jesus Christ was sent into this world as a messenger bearing the most vital and important message ever sent from God to mankind. This was foretold by the prophet Malachi. His message was the greatest NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT ever to fall on human ears. It should have rocked this world and shaken it to its foundations. The word *Gospel* means good NEWS! It was news of an earthshaking future event.

Jesus' Gospel — the message He brought to humanity from God — was the good NEWS of the Kingdom of God — the soon-coming WORLD GOVERNMENT of the almighty GOD to rule all nations and bring us PEACE at last! Also, His stupendous announcement included the fact that humans, on repentance and faith, could become actual begotten children of God, could be BORN AGAIN — born of God, entering that Kingdom when set up.

That message was LIGHT shining in a dark world. But it is recorded, "And this is the condemnation that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil" (John 3:19).

Jesus Christ was sent into this world, the Son of God, born of the virgin Mary in the likeness of human flesh, to start this WORK OF GOD.

Church empowered by Spirit of God

He came with the tremendous announcement of the Kingdom of God. He came also to conquer the god of this world, Satan the devil, and thus qualify

(See THE WORLDWIDE, page 6)

THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD TODAY

(Continued from page 5)
to become the King of the world-ruling Kingdom of God. He came also in the human flesh for the suffering of death — to pay by His shed blood the penalty of human sin — for all have sinned — thus reconciling repentant believers to God and making possible the gift of eternal life through His resurrection.

Jesus said that, of Himself, He could accomplish nothing — it was the POWER OF GOD — the Holy Spirit of God within Him — that accomplished the work.

Before His ascension into heaven after His resurrection from the dead, Jesus commanded His disciples, whom He had trained and taught this message, to remain in Jerusalem until this same Holy Spirit of God entered within them, to empower them. The Spirit of God, dwelling in the human body of Jesus, had started the Work of God. After Christ's ascension to heaven, this same Spirit of God energized the collective body — the Church. The Church thus became the "Body of Christ."

Under those apostles, the Church of God, during the next several years, was imbued with vitality and power. Its initial growth was phenomenal. Then, after two years, "There was a great persecution against the Church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad . . ."

Work had ebbed

Before A.D. 70 the real Work of God of proclaiming the good news of the coming worldwide Kingdom of God, had lost its momentum, due to the Roman military invasion and Roman persecution. That worldwide Work of God continued to ebb through the centuries to scarcely a trickle.

The Roman Empire, in cooperation with the Babylonian mystery religion (Revelation 17:5) had SUPPRESSED the true Gospel. The true Church suffered great persecution and martyrdom. It had been forced to continue assembling secretly,

try. The local congregations were small, in most cases not more than 35 to 50. There was at that time a limited evangelistic effort, though mostly ineffective. But now God's time had come for His last warning message to go to the whole world.

The great commission becomes a far more complex and sizable operation today than it was in the first century. The world's population has multiplied many times over. We live in a different, far more mechanical and complex world today.

In 1930 the Oregon members, in order to revitalize the Work of God, incorporated under the name, "Oregon Conference of the Church of God."

New leadership drafted

Meanwhile, the conversion of Herbert W. Armstrong had occurred in the spring of 1927.

Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong, wondering "Where is God's one true Church?" had been meeting with these brethren in Oregon — but NOT joining as members.

Having been a magazine and newspaper writer, Mr. Armstrong had, from the spring of 1927, been writing in article form much he had been so enthusiastically learning from the Bible.

Mrs. Armstrong had shown some of these manuscripts to ladies of the Church of God. They had been impressed. Many of them [manuscripts] appeared on the front page of the Church's weekly paper, *The Bible Advocate*, published at their national headquarters, Stanberry, Mo.

Oregon members began urging Mr. Armstrong to speak before them. He had refused, saying he had found revealed in the Bible that the ministry is a profession no man is free to choose — he must be clearly called to it by the living Christ.

However, discovering what he knew would be "new light" on the Sabbath question to these people, Mr. Armstrong, at last, had felt impelled to speak, revealing it to them.

But almost half of the members were very vocally followers of A.N. Dugger and the Stanberry church. The dispute over Stanberry politics entering the Church and Mr. Dugger's fitness for office, was heating up toward a fistfight.

Mr. Armstrong leaped to his feet, saying, "Brethren, I'm only an invited guest — but may I say a few words? You all know, as recorded in the first chapter of Job, that when the sons of God came together, Satan came also. You know also that in the 12th chapter of Revelation it is revealed that the people Satan is most angry with are those who keep the commandments of God. SATAN IS HERE! I am going to drop to my knees right here and ask God to restrain Satan and give us PEACE. It's up to you whether to go on fighting or kneel with me as I pray."

On arising, there were wet eyes, but no angry voices. These people were sincere. They had just allowed emotions to rise. The state conference was agreed to and immediately incorporated as a separate body.

This Oregon Conference was anxious to "get things moving in proclaiming the Gospel." The Stanberry ministers had done almost nothing, and effectiveness had been nil.

Now they urged Herbert Armstrong to come into the ministry full time and lead them in "getting things moving." Realizing Mr. Armstrong had the background, the business experience, the education, vision, know-how and energy, they saw the opportunity of getting the Gospel going out into a modern complex world in real power.

By now convinced the call to the ministry had truly come from God, Mr. Armstrong was ordained.

A new era, new life

It was under his leadership that a new era of the Church of God was entered, revitalizing the Church, injecting into it new life and vigor by the Spirit of God to get Christ's Gospel — His MESSAGE — going out with

of HAPPINESS, JOY in abundance and plenty, under the living all-powerful and glorified Jesus Christ!

In the summer and autumn of 1933, Mr. Armstrong gave a series of lectures in and around Eugene, Ore., proclaiming the true Gospel of the KINGDOM OF GOD and THE WAY OF LIFE that produces peace, true success and real happiness. The response was spontaneous and beyond expectation. This raised up the parent Church of the present era of God's Church — known today as the WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD. An invitation followed to speak on Radio Station KORE, then Eugene's only radio outlet. Frank Hill, owner,

1934, and publishing *The Plain Truth*, Feb. 1, soon were absorbing all of Mr. Armstrong's time.

It finally became clear that the Stanberry Church of God had been the remnant of the "Sardis" era of the Church (Revelation 3:1-6) and that the parent Church at Eugene was the start of the "Philadelphia" era (Revelation 3:7-13). This was the era when Christ, living Head of the Church, was OPENING DOORS for proclamation of His Gospel.

Phenomenal growth

God now began opening doors for a Spirit-empowered Work to leap forth (Revelation

"The time had come for God's Work to prepare the way for the soon-coming Messiah to supreme power and glory and the wonderful WORLD TOMORROW!"

suggested a weekly half-hour program to give this missing dimension in education, exposure to a wider audience. He, himself, contributed substantially to its cost.

Meanwhile, the Church of God, Seventh Day, headquartered at Stanberry, Mo., had ousted Mr. Dugger from leadership in a political struggle (which never belongs in God's Church) by one vote. Mr. Dugger then teamed with a C.O. Dodd of Salem, W.Va. In an effort to "draw away followers after him" (Acts 20:30), Mr. Dugger announced a new "Bible form of organization" for the Church and now claimed Jerusalem as world headquarters — even though there was not a member there — and Salem as U.S. headquarters.

Those in the newly raised-up Church of God at Eugene, Ore., knew that the Dugger "Bible form of organization" was NOT the biblical form at all. But most of the Oregon Conference brethren fell for it — at first — and wanted to go into it. Mr. Armstrong and the Church at Eugene, now growing rapidly, were providentially restrained from joining.

However, they did want to continue fellowship with the Oregon Conference brethren. Mr. Armstrong, who had been "nominated" by the new Dugger organization as "one of the 70 leading elders" (although there never were anywhere near that number of ministers in it) consented to cooperate with the Salem people, NEVER JOINING — and never receiving salary or money in any form from them. This cooperation continued until late 1937. But meanwhile, GOD'S WORK, through the Eugene Church, grew until it absorbed all of Mr. Armstrong's time. HE DID NOT EVER LEAVE THAT CHURCH or the one at Stanberry — he had NEVER BEEN A MEMBER OF EITHER!

But the raising up of the Church at Eugene, and the start of the radio broadcast Jan. 8,

3:7-8). The Work from this point grew in power and scope at the rate of 30 percent per year over the next 35 years.

The first week in 1934 *The World Tomorrow* program went on the air. It met with an immediate response, considering the small power and limited coverage of the station. It was then of the very smallest wattage for commercial broadcasting — 100 watts. Gradually the program went on more and more stations. By 1942 the program had gained national coverage in the United States and by 1945 it became a daily program.

It grew until it purchased more wattage of radio time than any program on earth using radio and TV stations worldwide — more than 50 million watts of power weekly reaching an estimated 100 million listeners.

The Plain Truth magazine, monthly, developed into one of the finest quality magazines in the world, with a circulation of more than three million copies, in five languages. Ambassador College was founded in Pasadena, Calif., in 1947, as the educational arm of the Church — for producing an educated ministry and training many people for administrative personnel.

The Church founded the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation (AICF), through which it carries on many charitable and humanitarian projects in many parts of the world.

In 1968 the living Christ opened a NEW DOOR to Mr. Armstrong through which to carry Christ's Gospel message into many countries. By invitation, Mr. Armstrong came to have very cordial personal meetings with emperors, kings, presidents, prime ministers and others in high office in Asia, Southeast Asia, Europe, Africa, Central and South America. Since 1968 Mr. Armstrong has visited more than 70 countries around the world and has received special honors from Japan, Israel, Jordan, the Philippines, South Africa, Kenya, Liberia and others.

"The Spirit of God, dwelling in the human body of Jesus, had started the Work of God. After Christ's ascension to heaven, this same Spirit of God energized the collective body — the Church. The Church thus became the 'Body of Christ.'"

underground in the main.

The Church continued assembling, but more than the regular assembling of members, it had been given a JOB to do — proclaim the message to the world in POWER. And it had not been getting the job done!

That vital POWER of God's Spirit that had worked dynamically in Christ and in the first-century apostles, had scarcely been working in the Church. That Work, by the early 20th century, had become virtually dead (Revelation 3:1).

By 1927 in the United States, members continued to assemble regularly in their local congregations scattered over the coun-

Then in November, 1930, Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong had been invited to attend a business meeting being held in a member's home near Jefferson, Ore. This meeting was called to organize Oregon members into a separate Oregon Conference of the Church of God.

Immediately division among the members surfaced. It was probably a majority of the Oregon members who wanted to split off from the Stanberry headquarters and incorporate in order to keep their own tithes in Oregon. They were dissatisfied that the Church was doing virtually nothing to carry out the great commission to the world.

power to the whole world.

Much more than human experience and know-how was required.

Once again God was sending forth and infusing into His Church His Spirit of POWER.

The time had come for the final message of God for this present world to go with great impact. The time had come for God's Work to prepare the way for the soon-coming Messiah to supreme power and glory and the wonderful WORLD TOMORROW! The time when by the act of God His government will be restored on earth, ruling all nations with WORLD GOVERNMENT! It will be a world of PEACE,

AMBASSADOR COLLEGE IS UNIQUE!

By Raymond F. McNair
PASADENA — There are approximately 3,000 colleges and universities in the United States. Does America, and the world, need Ambassador? What can this unique college offer that other institutions of higher learning do not give to their students?

The founder and chancellor of Ambassador College, Herbert W. Armstrong, answered this question: "I was never called to engage in the college business. But in 1947 the need had become imperative to establish an educational arm of the Church on the college level.

"It definitely was not because this world needed another college. There were too many of this world's institutions of higher education already!
"But the living God had caused me to realize the serious need for a college to train an educated ministry for His Church and other personnel to fill the increasing need for administrative offices.

"For this purpose it had to be God's kind of college — utterly unique in the world. No college or theological seminary extant filled this purpose" (*The Good News*, July 17).

But exactly what kind of a college would God want for the training of those to be used in His Church and His worldwide work?

After much thought and prayer, Mr. Armstrong was forced to the conclusion that God did not want him to found a "Bible college" or some kind of a "theological seminary." God wanted the students of His college to receive a broad, general type of instruction, a liberal arts education, not a narrow, restricted Bible education only. It became clear that God didn't want the kind of college that would graduate "Bible-quoting freaks." But He wanted to train

well-educated students who would be taught a wide variety of subjects, which would give them the breadth and depth of knowledge necessary for them to become leaders, both today and tomorrow!

It was clear that the large, assembly-line colleges and universities were missing the mark. They were turning out to be institutions of higher learning where God and His way of life were neither recognized nor taught, where large numbers of students lost their identities.

The dilemma of modern education

Mr. Armstrong aptly described the dilemma of modern education. He said:

"Something is criminally wrong in education today!

"Ambassador College came on the world scene free from the shackles of materialism and the errors of tradition. Ambassador has dared to recapture the true values — to blaze new trails, while retaining all that is sound and that has been proved good in educational experience.

"Educational institutions, generally, have grown so large that regimented assembly-line processes have replaced individualized instruction. The student has lost his identity. Development of personality and initiative is largely sacrificed.

"Moral bars have toppled... Stuffing minds with crass materialism, while moral, spiritual and emotional development is neglected, produces lopsided, unbalanced education and is criminally dangerous.

"There can be no well-balanced, broadening and worthwhile education where the true values have become obscured from view, where character building is a lost and discarded art and minds are filled with

dead knowledge and false materialism.

"... The development of the man himself, his character, right sense of values, knowledge of the real purpose of life and the laws that govern happiness, peace and abundant well-being is neglected. Modern education commits the crime of developing the machine while failing to develop the man.

"At Ambassador College, students find the true values. They learn the real purpose of human life. Life takes on true meaning. Emphasis is upon character building. Students acquire a well-rounded, broadening, balanced education. There is not only mind development, but also that of personality, true culture, poise and emotional maturity.

"The Ambassador policy is based upon the recognition that true education is not of the intellect alone but of the whole personality — not alone of technologies, sciences and arts, but an understanding of the purpose of life, a knowledge of the spiritual laws which govern our lives, our God-relationship and human relationships. Not a memorizing of knowledge alone but a thorough training in self-discipline, self-expression, cultural and character development. Not book learning only but broadening travel and experience; not only hearing and learning but doing.

"In other words," concluded Mr. Armstrong, "the curricula are planned to give students a broad, cultural background — a foundation for the art of living happily, usefully, successfully, abundantly. Hence the emphasis upon character building and spiritual development is aptly stated in the Ambassador motto: 'Recapture True Values'." (*Bulletin of Ambassador College*, 1966-67).

These words clearly express the foundational policy, the very pur-

pose, for the establishment of this college.

Ambassador opens its doors

Ambassador College first opened its doors in the fall of 1947. Many trials beset the college from its inception. But under the courageous, uncompromising leadership of its founder, Mr. Armstrong, Ambassador weathered all of those storms.

Speaking of the early years of Ambassador, Mr. Armstrong recently said:

"During the first three years of Ambassador's life I personally fought and bled and died, so to speak, to keep this leaven [of secularism and materialism] out — to make it truly God's own college" (*The Good News*, July 3).

From the inception of Ambassador, there were many who opposed the way the college was being run. They didn't want it to be run God's way, but wanted to introduce the worldly concepts of education into the college. Mr. Armstrong withstood all attacks and continued guiding Ambassador along the path of God's way. God continued to be the center of every class and activity in the college. And Ambassador College not only survived — it thrived!

Too much specialization

In today's educational morass, many are coming to see that modern education is in deep trouble. There is far too much specialization, and precious little being taught in the field of general education to equip young students to cope with the serious problems they will soon face in a complicated world.

In America, and in much of today's modern world, academic standards have been lowered — partly due to the pressures of militant students on many campuses (espe-

cially during the 1960s) who forced revisions that actually tended to downgrade education.

Richard Berendzen, provost of American University in Washington, D.C., recently summed up the dilemma in modern education: "Academic standards in higher education have been declining in the past few years. It's a national disgrace."

And quite recently, some of the big universities (like Harvard University and the University of California) are encouraging students to acquire a broadly based, liberal arts education. They are beginning to realize that many students tend to specialize in one narrow field of endeavor and fail to get a liberal arts education. This fact recently led Harvard officials to revise its curriculum so that students will be forced to take more courses in the area of 1) literature and arts, 2) history, 3) social and philosophical analysis, 4) science and mathematics, and 5) foreign languages and culture.

"The trouble is not simply that the sciences have displaced the humanities. The humanities, as currently taught and studied, are as much addicted to specialized scholarship as are the scientific departments to highly specialized research. The trouble rather is that the broadly educated generalist [the man with a liberal arts education] has become an endangered species. The ever-increasing specialization of knowledge in all fields has almost completely displaced the generalist." So stated Mortimer J. Adler, chairman of the board of editors of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* (*Newsweek*, Aug. 21).

The basics at Ambassador

But at Ambassador College, the (See UNIQUE, page 11)

CAMPUS NOTES

AMBASSADOR COLLEGE ACTIVITIES

Headquarters Church members got a taste of college life when the students of Ambassador College held an open house Nov. 5. Mayfair, Terrace Villa and Grove Terrace, all student dormitories, were opened for visitors. A country-style roast-beef dinner

followed the open house. Later in the evening a Walt Disney movie, *The Apple Dumpling Gang*, was shown.

The open house had a western theme, and participants were encouraged to wear appropriate costumes.

★ ★ ★

Explorer-adventurer John Goddard addressed the Ambassador College faculty and student body in an assembly Dec. 5 in the Ambassador Auditorium.

Mr. Goddard, who has addressed assemblies at all three Ambassador campuses in past years, narrated a film of his recent trip to the Galapagos Islands and mountaineer-

ing expeditions on Mt. Hood in Oregon and Mt. Ranier in Washington. He also showed films he had taken while piloting one of the Goodyear blimps, flying some of the Air Force's most advanced fighter aircraft and a hot-air balloon, formation skydiving and hang-gliding.

Mr. Goddard, a resident of La Canada, Calif., stressed the importance of setting and achieving goals and described how he, at age 15, listed 127 goals he wanted to accomplish in life. He has accomplished over 100 of these to date, although he commented that he adds to the list as new activities and adventures come to mind.

★ ★ ★

During the past semester the Sabbatical Ministers Club in Pasadena has had several guest speakers at its biweekly luncheon meetings. The first speaker was C. Wayne Cole,

who discussed "What Is a Minister?" At the Nov. 8 meeting Stanley R. Rader was guest speaker, relating some of his personal experiences and discussing characteristics of successful people he has known at many levels of business and society. Raymond McNair, deputy chancellor of Ambassador College, spoke at the meeting Nov. 22, speaking about his 30 years in the ministry.

★ ★ ★

Despite heavy fog and icy mountain roads, about 35 Ambassador College students spent Dec. 1 through 3 in a rented house at the Lake Arrowhead mountain resort area 30 miles east of Pasadena.

The students are members of the men's "Monday Night Live" club and the women's Monday night club and were accompanied by sabbatical ministers Steve Smith and Vincent Szymkowiak and their families.

Highlights of the weekend were walks and drives around the area, films of some of Herbert W. Armstrong's early telecasts, dances, table games and discussions with the ministers and their wives.

★ ★ ★

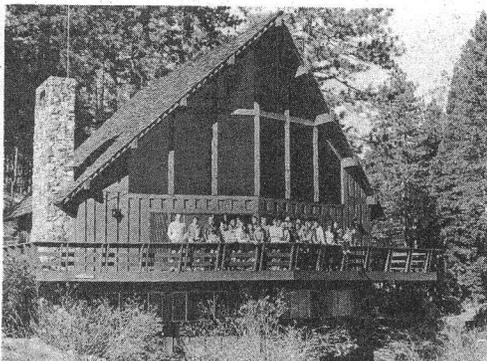
The Ambassador College student body presented *The Bong Show*, a takeoff on TV's *Gong Show*, before a packed house of Pasadena Church members in the Ambassador College Recital Hall Dec. 9.

Masters of ceremonies were students Dave Myers and Paul Williams with Dean of Students Greg Albrecht and ministers David Antion and Bernie Schnippert serving as judges for the students' acts.

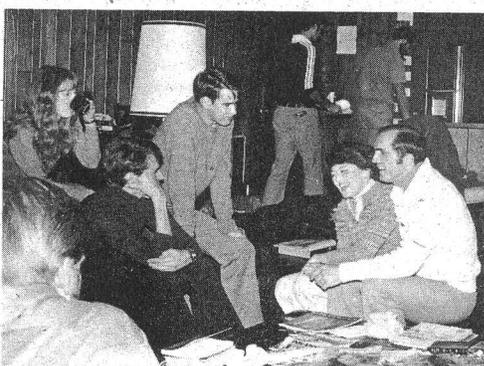
First place went to a band called Tohuski and Bohuski and worst place went to a skit entitled "Queen Tut." After the show banana splits were served in the college Student Center.



EXPLORER — Explorer-adventurer John Goddard addresses the Ambassador College faculty and student body in Ambassador Auditorium Dec. 5. (Photo by Scott Ashley)



WEEKEND IN THE WOODS — Students and members of their chaperons' families pose for a shot at their Dec. 1 to 3 weekend retreat.



left, and participate in a discussion with sabbatical minister Steve Smith and his wife, right. (Photos by Dennis Gonzalo)

Rumors and their mongers

By Bob Fahey

PASADENA — Talk about rumor is usually too simplistic. Communication people know that rumor can be a good sign because it shows interest. Somebody *cares* about the person being discussed. His actions are important and significant.

People talk about what is of interest to them. We have given our lives to this Work. We are concerned about every facet of its operations. We *care* about the triumphs and the troubles. We discuss them both. We want to know particularly about the leadership — what they are doing, thinking, planning or even dreading. Because those activities will affect the Work and us.

We do not discuss what is of no interest to us.

If our hearts (and treasure) are in the Work, we will surely talk about it. And so we should. The problem, of course, is *how* we talk about it. As Herbert Armstrong has said about everything from shotguns to sex, it is not the thing, but the misuse of the thing, that is wrong.

And talking about the Work and the people in it has been misused — badly.

Why?

The demand for news

First we must remember the old marketplace principle of supply and demand. If demand for news exceeds the supply in normal channels, interested parties begin to rely on each other for information. So any barriers that hinder the rapid dissemination of news such as censorship (in a government or a boardroom) or physical barriers arising in catastrophes (earthquakes, war, etc.) encourage rumors.

Investigators, in studying rumors,

have found that people deprived of authoritative news tend to speculate. Either individually or with other interested parties, they pool what information they have to form reasonable estimates of the whole story.

There are other reasons. Events are discussed for purely entertainment value. Just to keep life and the conversation interesting.

Another common reason is to bestow status on the teller. But the specialists who study these things tell us that people who give information outside of official channels usually distort the news by distilling it ("leveling" in rumor argot) because of 1) time considerations (long distance calls are costly), or 2) the conversation is on a tact that only involves the news in part (on a tangent) or 3) the bits that support the teller's own opinion are highlighted while those that conflict are diminished. Shaky at best.

An ego trip for some

For some it is an ego trip to know something others don't. Of course, if those around them are unaware of their ignorance, the joy of knowing is diminished. So, a bit of baiting is called for. The techniques vary from silly to stupid. They are never sophisticated. This bait becomes the whole morsel to the one who receives it; unless he can pump more out. But if not, that will have to be his meal for that day. He will add that piece to others from different sources in an attempt to form a more complete picture. In doing so, he will share his bit (a kind of barter) in discussions with others. The more "others" the better. Additional pieces of information are added or discarded as seems best.

Both the baiter and the baited are

in the wrong. Together they create rumor and spread it. All to satisfy both their quests for self-esteem. Christ's prophecy that "he that exalts himself shall be abased" seems to have been overlooked. Their goal is to be exalted in the eyes of those around them. That may be their only reward.

Or, it may not. When the blind lead the blind in this way, it is not only they who fall into the ditch. Hundreds may fall with them, because the conclusions they arrive at and spread usually have an ugliness and a viciousness about them that could make a "little one" stumble. If that happens, another reward may be the promised millstone.

People appear to have an ungodly fascination with the negative and ignoble. The worse the rumor, the faster it travels. Presumably more want to hear it and tell it.

To God, builders and suppliers of ugly rumors reveal more about themselves than they do about the truth of the people and events they seek to report. He said He will have a little chat with them about it in the future. Matthew 12:36.

The age of cynicism

There is still another reason. This is the age of cynicism. So many cover-ups have been uncovered, so many "facts" have been proved fraudulent, so many stories demonstrated to be specious, that we of this age are forced to view everything with doubt and disbelief. There is no innocence.

But that outlook does not belong in the Church. If it is, we are not overcoming the world, it is overcoming us. We would be accepting the attitudes of a dying society instead of the way of God that leads to life. If we infer that Church leadership is suspect or evil, that they willingly deceive us and are selfishly motivated, we are actually saying that Christ is not ruling His Church as He should.

Christ pictured Himself to John (Revelation 1) as standing in the middle of His churches with the angels completely in His control — totally involved! He wanted the Church to know that He is aware, active and in charge.

Responsibility demands accountability

When something or someone needs correcting, He can and does correct. He waits. He is criticized for delay. He acts. He is censured for severity. Part of the "living by faith" is trusting Him to govern His own Body. Especially the leadership who bear the responsibility of their office. Responsibility demands accountability.

If we believe He is the Head, our words should show it. If we do not, there is no reason to belong to this Church.

Remember, the Church is His bride. With all our flaws, He is making us into a clean, righteous and faultless bride to marry forever at His return. You would not view with favor anyone who besmirched the reputation of your bride-to-be. Nor does He. Revelation 12:9-11.

Our thinking should not be determined by the hostile, wrathful, distrustful and unforgiving world in which we live. We have been called out of it. Our minds must be transformed into the truly converted Christian mind that in an open and honest way follows Christ and the leadership He puts over us.

Perhaps the greatest problem is the way many feel free to speak about or listen to critical words about a brother in the Church or in the ministry. The basic Bible teaching on

brotherly relations is found in Leviticus 19:18: "Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but *thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself*: I am the Lord."

The Jewish scholars expound the famous last phrase by saying, "Let the honor and the property of your fellowman be as dear to you as your own." Frankly, the honor and name of our brothers hasn't been as "dear" to us as God's law says it should be. And that is the basic yardstick He uses in judging us in human relations. That should be a sobering thought.

Jesus prayed for unity.

Jesus Christ's last night on earth as a human being was an emotion-etched event. He knew He would not be physically present with His Church till His return. He knew the weaknesses, sins, faults, power struggles and selfish attitudes of those around the table with Him — and of those who would come later. He also knew they all had *pride*, that ancient adversary of peace and harmony in the Church of God. So He prayed.

If you examine the theme of that prayer in John 17, you will find it is unity. . . . Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one. . . . He asked for God's special help to keep us together. That the wills, wants and pride of the members of Christ's Body would not cause disharmony. And in case anyone wanted to argue about what unity is (as surely many would) He added "as we are." As close and mutually respectful as the Father and the Son. There is no finer example or standard for measuring unity.

With all that has happened over the last several years, the answer to Jesus Christ's prayer is probably the most pressing need for the Church today. We should all be praying for oneness — especially now.

Most things take action as well as prayer before they are accomplished. Unity is no exception. It takes positive action to produce unity — by everybody.

Words can bring us together

If words have divided us, words, coming from a right spirit, can help bring us together.

To begin, every member of the Body of Christ should let the honor of his fellows be as dear to him as his own.

When someone's name comes up in conversation, make your words

convey the love and respect due a brother in Christ. I am not suggesting we all become Pollyannas. You can disagree with someone respectfully. (The British have developed this into an art form. For the French, it is a duty of civilized men!) The key is to assume that if he were present he would put forward sound reasons for his actions or words that are at least as valid as yours.

Next, the supply of news from official sources must come closer to the demand. Not that the supply will ever equal the demand. That is impossible. But for years there has been room for improvement.

Many rumors involve finance, Stanley Rader and even Mr. Armstrong himself. So Mr. Rader, as Mr. Armstrong's assistant and treasurer for the Work, is holding forums for employees at Pasadena. He asks for any question on any subject from the floor. The enquirers have been candid in their questions. Mr. Rader has been equally candid in his replies.

So that everyone can benefit from these forums, the transcripts are published in *The Good News*. Regular forums of this type are planned for the future. This openness and candor will help to stop the rumor mill.

Keep division out

Finally, the seditious practice of fracturing into camps within the Church must stop. That is what Satan did; he got all those around him to view with suspicion and malice those that were not members of their "sphere" group!

There should not be "we" and "they" within the Body of Christ. We should all be "us."

Christ gave clear commands to keep division out of His Church. He said, "if your brother shall trespass against you" (Matthew 18:15) or "thy brother has ought against thee" (Matthew 5:23), go to him directly and get it solved. That instruction was given by Christ personally.

How many reasons can most of us give for not doing it? Regardless of the excuse, we are not doing what God says. Disunity is the result.

God's Church has gone through an extremely trying, sorrowful time. If we can learn and grow from it, as a Body, God can use us more effectively.

Words, conversations, fellowship will always be a part of the Church of God. If those words are of a spirit that helps Christ's final prayer to be fulfilled, God can put us in a position to bring light to all who are in the house. If not, we deserve to be hidden under a bushel.

SEPARATE GROUPS

(Continued from page 3)

THE ONE VINE — the BODY OF CHRIST.

Separated "Christians," or "groups" are branches *broken off* from the VINE — the BODY OF CHRIST!

The Father is the Husbandman — the Vinedresser. Every branch of this grapevine (the Church) that does not bear fruit for the Kingdom, the Father prunes it — cuts it off — that the organized, united vine may bear MORE FRUIT.

When there are some in the Church who cause division or sow the seeds of discord, God says, ". . . mark them . . . and AVOID THEM" (Romans 16:17; see also II Thessalonians 3:6, 14-15). The Church will bear more fruit when the dissidents, those who obey not the Work, those who cause division and discord, are PRUNED OFF!

Also branches of a grapevine cut off cannot bear fruit. They DIE SPIRITUALLY.

To the Church of God at Corinth, the apostle Paul wrote that all in the Church must SPEAK THE SAME THING, that there be no divisions among us (see I Corinthians 1:10).

NOW FROM WHERE does the Church receive the doctrines and teachings they must all speak? THINK ON THIS! The Church, as Christ organized it, RECEIVED ITS BELIEFS AND TEACHINGS AND EVEN ITS CUSTOMS FROM THE APOSTLES!

And the apostles had been taught by CHRIST.

Apostles held responsible

But the various individuals did not decide for themselves what to say, believe or speak — nor did they individually receive the truths from Christ. But God taught the apostles, and He HOLDS THE APOSTLES RESPONSIBLE for the doctrines given to the Church, that there be no divisions. We must all speak the SAME THING, but God holds the apostle responsible that what they all speak and believe is the RIGHT thing!

But there was no "Doctrinal Committee" nor group of other ministers or lay members who voted on doctrine, and practice. Christ gave all that to His Church THROUGH HIS APOSTLES!

When Christ comes — SOON NOW — His WIFE shall have made herself ready and will enter in with Him to the marriage — the NEW COVENANT — and the DOOR WILL THEN BE SHUT (Matthew 25:10). Others who were alone, or various "groups" will then come and knock on the door — but Christ will say, ". . . I KNOW YOU NOT" (verse 12).

God's Church has sorely needed a spiritual reawakening and revival. But the recent Feast of Tabernacles gave evidence that the needed revival is well *under way*. IT MUST CONTINUE, for very soon, now, the Church will have to have MADE HERSELF READY!

THE COVENANTS

(Continued from page 1)

that the old covenant was ended and supposing the old *covenant* and the old *testament* are one and the same thing, they reject, for example, Malachi 3:8-12, which makes failure to PAY the tithe each OWES to God the SIN of STEALING — and the HEINOUS SIN of stealing from GOD at that!

In the days of Jesus' ministry, the writings we now call "the Old Testament," were *not called that*. In fact the old covenant was NOT a TESTAMENT AT ALL! Those writings then were called "the law, the prophets and the writings," or the "Psalms."

When Jesus said, "Think not that I have come to destroy the law or the prophets," He was saying that He did not come to end the Old Testament (as we now call them) *Scriptures*. God's CHURCH is built on the very FOUNDATION of the apostles AND THE PROPHETS, Jesus, Christ,

being the chief cornerstone!

Much of the Church's doctrine and teaching comes from the prophets, as their writings are recorded in what today we call Old Testament Scriptures.

The Old Testament Scriptures record for us, today, all the history of ancient Israel, the old covenant and God's dealings under that covenant.

The Worldwide Church of God is based on THE WHOLE BIBLE.

Those CALLED of God are privileged to live according to the conditions of the NEW covenant, though the actual covenant has not been, as we might say today, yet "signed, sealed and delivered." Those NOT called specially by God are, as were all outside Israel in Old Testament times, cut off from God — not being now judged — neither lost nor saved. Their time is yet to come!

Worldwide Church of God full-time international ministry

PASTOR GENERAL

Herbert W. Armstrong

EVANGELISTS

Dibar Apartian, Pasadena, Calif. (French Work); Frank Brown, Great Britain; Leslie L. McCullough, Canada; Dean Wilson, Australia.

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C. Miller, Saskatoon, Sask.; Robert J. Millman, Kamloops and Salmon Arm, B.C.

Pacifico Z. Mirto, Camarines Sur and Laguna, Philippines; Robert J. Mitchell, Sydney (East), Australia; Owen B. Murphy, Lloydminster and North Battleford, Sask.; Peter Nathan, East Rand, South Africa.

David K. Noller, Brisbane (South and West), Australia; Alvin Nordstrom, Courtenay, B.C.; Brian W. Orchard, Melbourne (North and West), Australia; Pedro S. Ortiguero, Pampanga, Philippines; Royston Page, Winnipeg (South), Man.; Stuart Powell, Bricklet Wood, England; William Rabey, Cornwall, Ont., Lake Placid, N.Y., and Montreal (English), Que.; Jose Raduban, Cebu, Iloilo City and Negros Occidental, Philippines; Charles Ranchie, Red Deer and Wetaskiwin, Alta.; Robert Regazzoli, Ballarat, Bendigo and Shepparton, Australia; Fran Ricci, Sarnia, Ont.; T. Victor Root, Hamburg and Hannover, West Germany; Terrence Roth, Prince Albert and Tisdale, Sask.; S. Rainer Salomaa, North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury, Ont.; Roland Sampson, Hamilton, Bermuda; Bob Scott, Quebec City and Trois-Rivieres, Que.

Peter Shenton, Aarhus, Denmark, Basildon, Ipswich and Norwich, England, Oslo, Norway, and Stockholm, Sweden; Lyle V. Simons, Kitchener, Ont.; Douglas E. Smith, Toronto (East), Ont.

David M. Stirr, Hull, Leeds, Newcastle-on-Tyne and Sheffield, England; Norman T. Strayer, Vancouver, B.C.; Arthur Suckling, Birmingham, Northampton and Nottingham, England.

Paul R. Suckling, Bricklet Wood, England; Colin Sutcliffe, Canberra, Temora and Wodonga, Australia; Gordon R. Terblanche, Pretoria (European and Non-European), South Africa; Edward C. Tupper, Adelaide, Australia.

Thomas D. Turk, Mexico City, Mexico; Bruce C. Tyler, Ballarat and Geelong, Australia; Andre E. van Belkum, Johannesburg (European and Non-European), South Africa; Dennis Van Deventer, Regina, Sask.

Anthony Wasilkoff, Hamilton, Ont.; Glen Weber, Prince George, B.C.; Dennis Wheatcroft, Didsbury, Alta.; A. John White, East London, King Williamston and Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

Peter Whitting, Sydney (North), Australia; Richard Wilkinson, Trail, B.C.; Will Wooster, Edmonton (South), Alta.; Maurice Yurkiw, Dauphin, Man., and Yorkton, Sask.

LOCAL ELDERS

Bernard Andrist, Geneva and Neuchatel, Switzerland; Bernard Audoin, Bordeaux, Nimes and Toulouse, France; Ross Beach, Bathurst and Blackheath, Australia.

Encardio Benitez, Don Carlos, Kiara and Misamis Oriental, Philippines; Francis Bergin, Bricklet Wood, England; Martin Bode, Bonn and Duesseldorf, West Germany; Chuck Boehme, Cornwall, Ont.

Adriaan Botha, Durban (European and Non-European), South Africa; Jonathan Buck, North Battleford, Sask.; Percival Burrows, Toronto (West), Ont.; Gilbert Carbonnel, Martinique, West Indies; Abraham de Bree, Utrecht, Holland; Glenn Doig, Prince Albert and Tisdale, Sask.; Erick S. Dubois, Basse Terre and Point-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe; William Duncan, Aberdeen, Scotland.

Robert Flores II, Monterrey, Mexico; Richard Forkun, Toronto (East), Ont.; Pablo Gonzalez, San Juan, Puerto Rico; I. Toluta Ha'angana, Tonga; Gordon Harry, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Alfred Hellemann, Salzburg, Austria; Bernard Hongerlout, Montreal (French), Que.; Sydney J. Hull, Johannesburg (European and Non-European), South Africa; David Hulme, Johannesburg, South Africa; Mohan Jayasekera, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Walter S. Johnson, Vancouver, B.C.; Karl Karlov, Hamilton and Tauranga, New Zealand; Gary King, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.; Paul Linehan, Dauphin, Man., and Yorkton, Sask.

Lloyd H. Longley, Perth (North), Australia; Bienvenido Macaraeg, Benguet and Pangasinan (East and West), Philippines; Edmond D. Macaraeg, Davao Del Norte and Davao Oriental, Philippines.

David Magowan, Liverpool and Stoke-on-Trent, England; Bryan Mathie, Johannesburg, South Africa; Don Mears, Winnipeg (South), Man.; Alfredo Mercado, Guadalajara, Mexico; James Muir, Geneva, Switzerland, and Lyon, France.

Frank W. Neite, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa; Carlos Nieto, Bridgetown, Barbados; Laurie Nyhus, Edmonton (South), Alta.; Donat Picard, Montreal (French), Que.

Alan Redmond, Red Deer and Wetaskiwin, Alta.; John W. Reedy, Windsor, Ont.; Thomas Root, Bern and Zuerich, Switzerland; David A. Sheridan, St. John's, Nfld.

Philip Shields, Edmonton (North), Alta.; David J. Silcox, London (South), Maidstone and Orpington, England; Victor Simpson, Bridgetown, Barbados.

Adrian Smith, Halifax, N.S.; H. Guy Stillborn, Moosomin, Sask.; Ronald J. Stoddart, Bulawayo and Salisbury (European), Rhodesia; Henry C. Sturcke, Sherbrooke (English and French), Que.; Leo D. Van Pelt, St. Catharines, Ont.

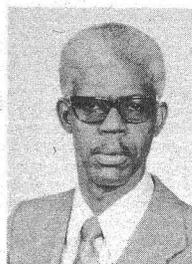
Kenneth B. Webster, Salmon Arm, B.C.; Bill Whitaker, Cape Town (European), South Africa; Owen Willis, Nairobi, Kenya; Chin Gee Yong, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and Singapore.



COLIN ADAIR



DIBAR APARTIAN



STAN BASS



MARTIN BODE



FRANK BROWN



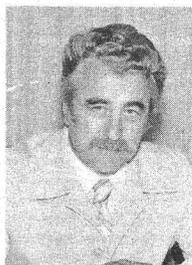
ABRAHAM DE BREE



WALTER DICKINSON



ROY MCCARTHY



LESLIE L. McCULLOUGH



BOB MORTON



FRANK SCHNEE



DEAN WILSON

LOCAL CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

VARIED ACTIVITIES

The Ambassador College Agency Regional Office in MANILA, Philippines, held an open house for the Manila brethren the afternoon of Nov. 5. About 200 people came to see the new office facility, which was acquired last August. The office occupies half of the ninth floor of the Fedman Suites building, located in Legazpi Village, Makati, a burgeoning business and commercial metropolis in the country. Guests were guided through the administrative offices and given refreshments. The Manila Office was established in 1962. *Johnny Logrono.*

Elbert Atlas, New York area coord-



NINE DECADES — Lucy Turnbull, who celebrated her 90th birthday Nov. 18, was presented a bouquet of nine red roses, one for each decade of her life, and white carnations from the Bricklet Wood, England, church by pastor Paul Suckling. Mrs. Turnbull has been a Church member since September, 1968.

inator, visited CAPE TOWN, South Africa, Oct. 31, conducting a Bible study for the Retreat and Cape Town congregations, who combined for the event. He discussed his impressions of his travels through West and East Africa, relating present conditions to the world tomorrow. The next night local elder Peter van der Byl held a barbecue at his home so Mr. Atlas could get to know more of the brethren. Three weeks previous evangelist Gerald Waterhouse visited the church, painting a glowing and inspiring picture of the world tomorrow in a marathon 3 1/2-hour sermon. *Henri Fortuin.*

The HINSDALE, Ill., congregation (Chicago Southwest) held a farewell tea Nov. 11 in honor of Carl Gustafson, who has been the church's pastor for seven years. The Gustafsons and their four children are returning to their native state of Wyoming, where they plan to settle in the area of Centennial, near Laramie, close to the aging parents of Mrs. Gustafson. Preceding the tea the congregation presented the Gustafsons a gift certificate, and the Hinsdale Women's Forum gave them a decorative wall clock. *Paul P. Dzing.*

A week later, Nov. 18, the NANUET, N.Y., brethren said farewell to Edna Demarest, deaconess and one of the area's pioneer members. She was given a corsage by Audrey Reynolds and a gift by Gerald Backhus on behalf of the Nanuet and Woodbridge, N.J., churches. Mr. and Mrs. Demarest, who have lived for 37 years in the small town of Old Tappan, N.J., and have battled many health problems during the last 10 years, are moving to Pennsylvania to live with their son. Three of their children have graduated from Ambassador College, each from a different campus. Mrs. Demarest was among the original members of the first New York City church, which was pastored by Carlton Smith, and has attended most of the New Jersey churches. *Lynn Sandland.*

Too many volunteers came forward when a request was made for a TOLEDO, Ohio, church money-making project, sorting broken beer bottles at Great Lakes Distributors in Toledo. Frank Klett,

member and driver-salesman for Great Lakes Distributors, conceived the idea and met with pastor George Kackos and James Ayers Jr., sales manager for Pabst Blue Ribbon, to work out arrangements.

Out of 80 volunteers, 35 were selected to work on Sunday, Nov. 19, opening cases of broken beer bottles; sorting the good from the broken, washing the good bottles and making eight-pack cartons. The group finished twice the number of cartons Mr. Ayers thought possible for one day's work. The bottle brigade netted \$600 for the local church fund. *Jean Cox.*

NOVEMBER SOCIALS

The women of the LAKE OF THE OZARKS, Mo., church worked with the YOU members to present a Thanksgiving celebration Nov. 25. Turkey with all the trimmings was served family style by the YOU girls to Church members dressed in costumes depicting the first Thanksgiving. Of the many games for the children, including musical chairs to the theme from *Star Wars*, the children particularly enjoyed the critter race, where each had to call his entry to race out of the circle. The black beetle won first place, completely outdistancing the cricket, the worm, the cockroach and the turtle (who had stage fright). Some of the ladies panicked when the winning critter couldn't be immediately located. *Mrs. Ray Roberts.*

About 350 brethren of the ROCHESTER and SYRACUSE, N.Y., churches gathered at the Airport Holiday Inn for Sabbath services and the second annual YOU Thanksgiving Ball. Deacon Harold Maybury of Syracuse gave the sermonette, speaking to the teens on the proper way to have fun. Special music, "The Lord's Prayer," was sung by Syracuse YOU members Charlotte Maybury and Alvin Hazelwood. Then Dan Bierer, pastor of the Buffalo, N.Y., church, delivered the sermon on the importance YOU to the Church.

That evening about 85 teens from the Binghamton, Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse churches danced to the music of Downtown Connection. The theme of the dance was "This One's for YOU," and the hall had been decorated, under the direction of Ken and Diane Witter, with live trees and fall harvest items such as cornstalks, squash and pumpkins. *Jake Hannold.*

One-half hour after Sabbath services Nov. 18 members of the TERRE HAUTE, Ind., church met for their first social. Pastor Steve Nutzman later announced that the social was attended by 95 percent of the congregation. After a potluck dinner, Jeff Osborne was master of ceremonies for the after-dinner entertainment, then the adults played table games, and the teens and young adults danced and Floyd and Ruth Spencer kept the children

busy with relays and games. Julie Hopkins went home with the door prize. *Cindy Hopkins.*

The TRENTON, N.J., members postponed their regular social-snack hour after services Nov. 18 in order to enjoy a potluck luncheon and a Bible study. Thomas Oakley, Trenton church elder, inspired participation from all, first answering questions from the children and gradually working through the entire congregation present, also answering written questions. *Jim Stokes.*

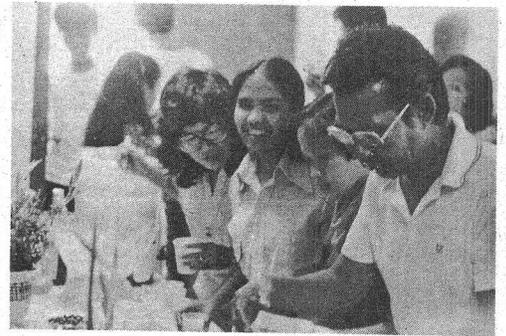
The first fall social of the VANCOUVER, B.C., church Nov. 18 featured 21 entertainment skits by children ages 3 to 12. The program included songs, dance routines, recitations and instrumental music. The evening, which began with a potluck meal, ended with movies for the children and dancing for the adults to prerecorded disco and big-band music. *Lorna A. Lukinuk.*

The WATERTOWN, S.D., church sponsored a potluck social Nov. 19 to welcome the visit from the church's previous pastor and his wife, Art and Linda Dyer, and their son Wesley. Table games and lots of conversation accompanied the several games of volleyball. Mr. Dyer is presently pastoring the Indiana and Altoona, Pa., churches. *Dianne Skorseth.*

CLUB MEETINGS

Eighteen men who attend the TILBERG and BILTHOVEN, Netherlands, churches held their first meeting of the new Tilburg Spokesman Club Nov. 13. Bram de Bree, pastor of both churches, is club director, and officers are Jan Blaauw, president; Martin van Zanten, vice president; Paul Ursem, secretary; Frans Peeters, treasurer; and Ben Bruning, sergeant at arms. Meetings are held every two weeks in the Dutch language. Club members have a completely translated version of the manual available to instruct them in goals of the club and their speeches. The men are also looking forward to a community-service project during the 1978-79 session. *Paul Ursem.*

The BRIGHTON, England, church also has a Spokesman Club now, directed by Peter Noon. The club's sixth meeting, Nov. 15, was a ladies' night, with topic-master Keith Hartrick's thought-provoking subjects gaining enthusiastic response from most of those present, especially Mary Noon and Jenny Tompsett. After a half-hour break for coffee, biscuits and mints, toastmaster John Ward introduced the speakers: Michael Oram, Roy Beaumont, John Ives and Stephen



OPEN HOUSE — Members of the Manila, Philippines, church help themselves to chicken sandwiches, canapes and pineapple juice during the Manila Office's open house Nov. 5. From left are Bessie Lim, Eva Tagaca, Arlene Baguio and O.B. Pangilinan. (See "Church Activities," this page.) (Photo by Jun Rustia)

Spykerman. *Clive Walters.*

It was role-reversal night for the LAUREL, Del., Spokesman Club Nov. 18 as the men cooked a potluck dinner and the women delivered the speeches. The theme for the evening was "What Every Wife Wishes Her Husband Knew About Women," with Ann Hampton, Bobbi Rutter, Janet Frank, Barbara Culp and Pat Larimore speaking on the topic. Babysitting during the program was provided by the YOU members under the direction of Vannetta Chase. *Elaine Walker.*

The Ambassador Women's Association of the HOUSTON (Tex.) West church sponsored an exciting evening of food, fun, fellowship and dancing Nov. 18 to commemorate its first year as a club. The guests were members of the Family Co-op Club, the Houston West Spokesman Club and Ed Marrs, pastor of the church, and his wife. A professional dancer demonstrated the triple Latin hustle, the newest disco dance to be released in New York, to those attending. *Sharon Johnson.*

The Women's Club of the SARNIA, Ont., church met Nov. 9 for a roller-skating party, followed by a potluck meal. Plans were made for the next meeting, which will center around macramé. The Spokesman Club also held its first meeting of the season. Robert Maruschak is the new president. *Iva Mae Grimes.*

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

ATHENS, Ga., teens, their families and friends attended their annual YOU awards banquet Nov. 18. Mark Loudermilk and Darla Wilson were named as delegates to this year's YOU conference in Pasadena, and last year's club officers

were recognized and new officers announced. Darla Wilson was appointed president; Susan Culpepper, vice president; Cindy Norris, secretary-treasurer; and Tracy Deter, sergeant at arms.

The Athens girls' volleyball team received a trophy for its first-place win in district competition, and local YOU coordinator Doug McCoy and his wife Tracy were given a plaque in appreciation for their service and dedication. After the potluck meal, which was organized by Susan Culpepper, several teens performed musical and vocal pieces. Entertainment chairman was Susan Lassiter. *Darla Wilson.*

The camp fire girls of the headquarters churches in PASADENA combined their efforts Nov. 24, each donating gift-wrapped, used toys in good condition to needy children. The girls plan to "adopt" some of the children by continuing to save used toys and clothes for them and inviting them to several outings. The project is in cooperation with the headquarters Outreach program. *Carol Nelson.*

The culmination of a week of daily YES coloring and drawing contests at the ANCHORAGE, Alaska, Feast of Tabernacles was another contest to see who had the best pictures. The Anchorage YES children met Nov. 4 to share their impressions of the Feast, then the judges awarded prizes to the winners. The children had colored and drawn more than 900 Bible-oriented pictures. Winners from the Anchorage church were Samantha Ann Eledge (for ages 9 to 11), Danny Franks (ages 6 to 8), Kristel Phears (ages 3 to 5) and Mikey Pickett (creative drawings). Winners from other church areas were Rachel Robinson of Fort Worth, Tex. (for ages 9 to 11), Arra Mentor of Idaho (ages 6 to 8) and Stephen Robinson of Fort Worth (ages 3 to 5). *Mike Pickett.*

During Sabbath services Nov. 18 at the CINCINNATI (Ohio) East church, 56 children received Certificate of Attendance awards for completing their first year in the YES program. The children are divided into four age-groups for the classes, which are held every other Sabbath. Twelve of the children were promoted to the next level, and five from the oldest group were advanced to the church's YOU Bible-study group that meets Friday evenings at the home of Cincinnati East pastor Reinhold Fuessel. *Mike Brandenburg.*

The EVANSVILLE (Ind.) Eagles YOU basketball team took its uniforms out of summer storage to play the first game of the season Nov. 18. The players and cheerleaders traveled to Bowling Green, Ky., where they took on the Bullets. The game went into two overtimes, throwing the fans into hysteria. The Eagles, however, flew on high-powered octane to the very end, conquering the Bullets 65-60. *Wilma Niekamp.*



BOTTLE BRIGADE — Toledo, Ohio, members take time out from sorting broken beer bottles and assembling eight-pack cartons. (See "Church Activities," this page.) (Photo by Gene Davis)

'LOCAL CHURCH NEWS' DEADLINES

Reports for "Local Church News" must be postmarked no later than 14 days after the date of the event reported on and be no longer than 250 words. Reports lacking the date of the event cannot be published.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHS

ALVAREZ, David and Louise (Ortega) of Albuquerque, N.M., girl, Isabelle Irene, Nov. 27, 10 a.m., 7 pounds 1 ounce, first child.

BUTLER, Jim and Cheryl (Beattie) of Oklahoma City, Okla., girl, Jaimi Dianne, Oct. 26, 7:18 a.m., 8 pounds 1 1/2 ounces, first child.

CANCEL, John and Dolores (Ruybal), of Albuquerque, N.M., boy, Seth John, Oct. 31, 8 p.m., 9 pounds 2 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

GRIFFIN, Gene and Nancy (Windom), of Jacksonville, Ark., boy, James Allen, Nov. 22, 10:45 a.m., 8 pounds 12 ounces, now 2 boys.

HAWKER, George and Gwen (Allison), of Durban, South Africa, girl, Raylene Gwen, Nov. 13, 11:29 p.m., 7 pounds 8 ounces, first child.

HAER, Forrest and Joanne (Egger), of Grand Junction, Colo., boy, William George, Nov. 9, 5:50 p.m., 10 pounds, now 3 boys.

HUNTLEY, Mark and Laura (Bloom), of Portsmouth, Ohio, boy, Matthew Ryan, Nov. 17, 3:22 a.m., 5 pounds 5/8 ounces, first child.

JACQUES, Danny and Denise (Edgar), of

Ashville, N.C., boy, Clint Edgar, Nov. 19, 1 p.m., 5 pounds 4 1/2 ounces, now 2 boys.

KAPLAN, Mark and Linda (Martin), of Midland, Tex., girl, Rachel Elizabeth, Sept. 22, 8:25 a.m., 7 pounds 11 ounces, now 2 girls.

LARABY, James and Maria (Gasser), of Appleton, Wis., girl, Nicole Ann, Oct. 19, 5:56 p.m., 7 pounds 14 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

LEIKER, Curt and Tamy, of Hays, Kan., boy, Shed Tyson, Nov. 1, 4:11 p.m., 8 pounds 8 1/2 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

PURSLEY, Herbert and Stephanie (Parker), of San Jose, Calif., boy, Herbert John, Nov. 4, 9 pounds 4 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

RICHARDSON, Mike and Barbara (Lamb), of Lafayette, Ala., girl, Barbara Michelle, Oct. 12, 3:59 p.m., 8 pounds 5/8 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

RISING, Stuart and Jill, of Dunton Green, England, girl, Abigail Elizabeth, Nov. 14, 6:24 a.m., 6 pounds 13 ounces, now 2 girls.

ROBINSON, David and Rhonda (Fleming), of Woodbridge, N.J., girl, Jacquelyn Nicole, Oct. 5, 1:33 p.m., 8 pounds 4 ounces, now 3 girls.

SHVLANE, Tony and Cheryl, of Brickel Wood, England, boy, Michael Benjamin, Nov. 18, 3:05 a.m., 9 pounds 15 ounces, now 3 boys.

SHIELDS, Philip and Carole (Beeston), of Edmonton, Alta., girl, Rachel Danielle, Nov. 30, 4:40 p.m., 6 pounds, first child.

SKORSETH, Kenneth and Dianne (Cerding), of Waterlown, S.D., girl, Glenda Lee, Oct. 11, 10:20 p.m., 7 pounds 7 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

SLOTSVE, Louis and Marie, of Saskatoon, Sask., girl, Kristin Lee, Oct. 3, 11:23 p.m., 8 pounds 9 ounces, now 2 girls.

TANNERT, Walter and Ann, of Tucson, Ariz., boy, Mark William, Nov. 24, 11:10 a.m., 10 pounds, now 2 boys.

TRANQUADA, Martin and Nancy (Dorman), of Altadena, Calif., girl, Fiona Jean, Nov. 28, 3:30 p.m., 7 pounds 15 ounces, first child.

VARNADO, Maurice and Betty (Rogers), of New Orleans, La., girl, Anne Elizabeth, Nov. 11, 2:17 a.m., 7 pounds 2 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

WEBSTER, Ken and Kim (Griswold), of Salmon Arm, B.C., boy, Zachary Chad, Nov. 23, 7:38 a.m., 7 pounds 1 ounce, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

ZERBE, Tom and Linda (Reinhold), of Harrisburg, Pa., girl, Tammy Lee, Nov. 10, 8 pounds 14 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

ENGAGEMENTS

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Hunter of Jefferson, Ga., are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Shirley, to Edgar J. Hardaway of Gary, Ind. Both Shirley and Edgar are former Ambassador College students. The wedding is planned for May.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Anton of Bridgewater, Pa., wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Pamela, to Stephen S. Hart, son of Martha F. Hart and the late William J. Hart of Gibsonburg, Ohio. Both Pam and Steve are graduates of Ambassador College. The wedding is planned for early next fall.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clark Sr., of Memphis, Tenn., are happy to announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Mona Lisa, to Edgar Bland, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Bland Sr., of Sledge, Miss. The wedding is planned for Dec. 23.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Kirkpatrick of Portales, N.M., would like to announce the engagement of their daughter Jane to Gary D. Shaffer of Wichita, Kan., son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert V. Shaffer of Rogers, Ark. A July wedding is planned in Pasadena.

WEDDINGS

Bruce Allen Hard and Deborah Ruth Morgan were united in marriage Nov. 23. George Meeker, pastor of the Springfield, Mo., church, performed the ceremony. Michael Foster served as best man and Dorothy Frost as maid of honor. The couple reside in Kimberling City, Mo.

Jennifer Knowles and Roger Fowler were united in marriage in Midhurst, England, Aug. 13. Parents of the couple are Helen Knowles and the late Peter Knowles of Midhurst, and Violet Fowler of Northampton, England. The ceremony was conducted by David House, pastor of the Godalming, England, church. The couple now reside at Kendall's Cottage, The Brickfields, Radlett, Herts., England.



MR. AND MRS. GEOFFREY BERG

Wendy C. Brownson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon C. Brownson of Santa Rosa, Calif., and Geoffrey S. Berg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Berg of Redondo Beach, Calif., were united in marriage Oct. 3 in the Ambassador College Fine Arts Recital Hall. Wilbur Berg, copastor of the Long Beach, Calif., church, officiated. Best man was John Stryker, and maid of honor was Christine Brownson. The couple now reside at 99 Topeka, Irvine, Calif., 92714.

Gerald Knott of Willard, Ohio, and Nancy Muncy of Dingess, W.Va., were united in marriage Nov. 11 at 4 p.m. with Steve Botha, pastor of the Charleston and Parkersburg, W.Va., churches, officiating. The couple will reside at Rt. 4, Willard, Ohio, 44880.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Hix happily announce the marriage of their daughter, Beverly Raye, to William Jelen Saxon, son of Mrs. William Harney Saxon, Sept. 10 in Anoka, Minn. Bonnie Lundberg, Marilyn Jensen, Sue Hix and Lori Hix, all sisters of the bride, were attendants. The couple now reside in Natchez, Miss.



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE LYLE

George D. Lyle and Brenda J. Abrams wish to announce their marriage on Sept. 3. Dick Thompson, pastor of the Dayton, Ohio, church, officiated at the ceremony in Dayton. The couple now reside in Dallas, Tex.

Patsy Ann Moffett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Ross of Baltimore, Md., and Dell Mark Annis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar T. Annis of Alcoa, Wyo., were united in marriage Sept. 30 at Wheatland, Wyo. James E. Jenkins, pastor of the Wheatland and Casper, Wyo., churches, performed the ceremony. Rose Annis was maid of honor and F. David Annis was best man.

ANNIVERSARIES

To Mom and Daddy: Lynn, Bob, April and Don wish you a happy anniversary. You have shown us that marriage is not the end to a life, but the sharing of two separate people. We love you both.

To Mom and Dad (Mr. and Mrs. H. Fleming): Happy fourth anniversary. Nov. 27. I hope someday I can give my children the example you two have given me in just three short years. Love, your daughter, Ray Ann.

Happy 25th anniversary, Mr. and Mrs. Marion F. Wyatt Jr., from all your kids, with lots of love.

Obituaries

CHICAGO, Ill. — Stella Makatura, 65, died Nov. 11 after a heart attack. She was a member of God's Church for 10 years. Roger Abels, minister of the Chicago Southeast church, officiated at the funeral services Nov. 13.

Mrs. Makatura is survived by six children: Stephen, Ronald, Louis, Julie Benefield, Mary Marurane and Fran Sheets; and 19 grandchildren.

KELLOGG, Minn. — Melvin D. Edelbach, 74, died Nov. 12. A member of God's Church since 1958, Mr. Edelbach is remembered for his examples of "never give up no matter what the odds." Richard Shuta, pastor of the La Crosse, Wis., and Rochester, Minn., churches, officiated.

Mr. Edelbach is survived by his wife Wilma, six sons, four daughters, 45 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and two sisters.

NANUET, N.Y. — Betty Ann Hendricks died Oct. 24 after a long battle with cancer. She is fondly remembered by her brethren, especially for her contributions to special music.

Mrs. Hendricks is survived by her husband Phil and three children.

Mrs. Hendricks' family extends its appreciation for the encouragement, cards, letters and prayers for Mrs. Hendricks throughout her illness.

Mail your announcements to: Announcements, The Good News, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif., 91123, U.S.A.

Church, Church Educational Programs for Children and Youth, and History of Christian Thought.

Additional required courses: English Composition and Fundamentals of Speech.

Two semesters of Greek/Latin Literature in Translation, American Literature, English Literature or History of Western Civilization.

Two semesters of Introduction to Anthropology/Archaeology, International Relations or General Psychology.

Two semesters of either Mathematics in the Modern World or Fundamentals of Physical Science and four semesters of physical education.

Elective courses: Survey of the Arts, Painting, Principles of Management, Personal and Family Finance, Classical Civilization; Greece, Classical Civilization; Rome.

Introduction to Computer Science, Computers and Programming, Preparatory English, English as a Second Language.

Elementary French, History of the United States, Ancient Israel, Basic Clothing Construction, Introductory Textiles, Fashion Analysis, Beginning Clothing.

Nutrition, Basic Food Study, Introduction to Mass Communications, Reporting and Newswriting, Basic Piano, Basic Voice, Ambassador Choral, Introduction to Logic.

Camp Leadership, Child Growth and Development, Adolescent Development, Counseling and Interviewing.

Psychology of Leadership, Marriage and the Family, Elementary Spanish and Public Speaking.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

We'd like to let the readers of *The Good News* know about your new baby as soon as it arrives. Just fill out this coupon and send it to the address given as soon as possible after the baby is born.



BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT
"THE GOOD NEWS"
BOX 111
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Our coupon baby issue is Joanna Ochmanowicz, daughter of Joe and Dorothy Ochmanowicz of Wallon, N.Y.

Last name		Father's first name		Mother's first name	
Mother's maiden name*		Church area or city of residence/state/country			
Baby's sex <input type="checkbox"/> Boy <input type="checkbox"/> Girl		Baby's first and middle names			
Month of birth	Day of month	Time of day <input type="checkbox"/> A.M. <input type="checkbox"/> P.M.	Weight		
No. of sons you now have		No. of daughters you now have			

*Optional

UNIQUE

(Continued from page 7)

main emphasis is still on getting a good, broadly-based, liberal-arts education. Here, only a few courses are tailored toward helping students earn a living. Most courses, however, are designed to help students learn *how to live* — how to live abundant, full, happy, productive lives.

At Ambassador, we not only stress the development of the intellect, but are equally concerned with developing the *personality and character* of the students. This is far more important than mere mind development.

In order to develop a well-rounded, truly educated, happy student, we realize it is necessary for students to have many different types of experiences. Most of the students at Ambassador are working their way through college, and most of this student employment is provided by the college.

Also, during the college year, various trips are planned for the broadening of the student's life. A number of students annually take trips to Europe, the Middle East or to other parts of the world to further broaden their knowledge of this planet and of its peoples.

Currently, we are planning to send a number of Ambassador students to work during the summer of 1979 on an important archaeological site in Jerusalem.

Ambassador's ideal location

Ambassador College is ideally located in beautiful, sunny Southern California — where temperatures are

agreeable to mental and physical activity most of the year.

Within only minutes from the college, students can be at one of Southern California's beaches, climbing in the mountains or experiencing beautiful desert life.

And Ambassador is ideally situated from a cultural standpoint. Mr. Armstrong has long stressed the importance of students learning to appreciate good music, art and other forms of culture. Within easy reach of the college are a number of interesting museums, libraries and concert halls. Ambassador Auditorium is the finest (for its size — seating about 1,250) auditorium in the world and regularly plays host to well-known performers such as Artur Schnabel, Vladimir Horowitz, Pearl Bailey and Gene Kelly.

The student body of Ambassador College, a coeducational institution, is just over 300. Last year, it soared to about 1,200, but with that number the familylike atmosphere at Ambassador all but disappeared. Currently, admissions are restricted to an undergraduate enrollment of about 550.

Under the present program, the Ambassador students are living happy lives filled with purpose and determination. There are many interesting extracurricular activities (sports events, dances, talent shows, sing-alongs, forums, assemblies, special lectures and top-rank concerts) to fill the lives of Ambassador students with interesting variety.

We at Ambassador College sincerely believe we are blessed with the most beautiful campus on earth! Ambassador has twice been given the award for having the most beautiful

campus in America. With beautifully landscaped grounds and an artful blend of newly designed and architecturally pleasing college buildings (Ambassador Auditorium, the Student Center, Ambassador Hall, the Administration Building) and the older but architecturally pleasing dormitory buildings, which once served as stately homes for multimillionaires, Ambassador students are truly privileged to work and study in the most beautiful and uplifting environment to be found on any campus in the world.

The world needs Ambassador

Why does the world need Ambassador College?

Simply because Ambassador is the only place on earth where God's Word (not some denominational creed or the atheistic concept of evolution) is taught faithfully. Here the Word of God is truly the foundation of every class, every activity — of everything. This doesn't mean that students act religious or speak in a sanctimonious manner. They do not try to *act* religious, but they do try to live a truly God-like way.

Inscribed over the door of the beautiful Ambassador Hall (former home of multimillionaire, Hulett C. Merritt) are these words: "The Word of God Is the Foundation of Knowledge."

At many of this world's institutions of higher learning, little culture is being taught and nothing about God's way. But at Ambassador, lectures are given concerning proper etiquette and culture. We want to make sure that all graduates of Ambassador are truly cultured individuals.

When students are given intensive personality and character training (along with proper mind development) they are head and shoulders above the average graduate. When they are taught to be honest, moral, temperate, to work hard and be diligent in everything they do, when they are taught to live and respect not only God, but their fellowman, then they are bound to be successful citizens of this planet.

Because of the fine example of many graduates of Ambassador College, their employers have often said that they will hire as many graduates of Ambassador as they can get.

Ambassador College is already back on the track! We have already recaptured the true values, which are generally overlooked by the institutions of higher learning of this world.

Course listing

The following are proposed courses for the Fall 1979 semester and four-year program.

Four-year program required theology courses: Principles of Living, Life and Teaching of Jesus, Early Christian History.

Old Testament Survey I and II, Doctrines of the Worldwide Church of God, and Biblical Scholarship I and II.

And 18 units selected from: Epistles of Paul I and II, General Epistles, Minor Prophets, Old Testament Prophecy.

New Testament Prophecy, Introduction to Old Testament Hebrew I and II, Introduction to New Testament Greek I and II, Ancient Israel, Homiletics.

Orientation to Service in the

NEWS OF PEOPLE, PLACES & EVENTS IN THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

PASADENA — United States area coordinators will be traveling to Pasadena some days before the ministerial conference scheduled for Jan. 15 to 18, according to C. Wayne Cole, director of Church Administration.

The preconference planning meetings, which will include discussions on manpower, will be held Jan. 10 to 12.

☆☆☆

PASADENA — A fire in an office in the Hall of Administration caused the building to be evacuated the morning of Dec. 7.

Because of unusually cold weather, employees had moved a portable heater into the office, and its extension cord apparently overheated, igniting wiring, draperies and credenza.

Richard Sedliacik, Correspondence Course director, was visiting the office about the time the fire was discovered and managed to quench the blaze before firemen arrived. The building was evacuated as a precaution. The building's insurer presented Mr. Sedliacik with a \$100 check Dec. 14 for his quick action, which prevented potentially major damage to the office and building.

☆☆☆

PASADENA — A gala benefit performance of *The Bob Hope Show* television special (NBC) with guest stars Debbie Boone, Pat Boone and Sammy Davis Jr. will take place in

Ambassador Auditorium Jan. 4.

The performance is sponsored by Dolores Hope with Kathryn Crosby and the Ambassador Foundation for the benefit of the Bing Crosby Youth Fund.

This is the fourth network television special to originate in Ambassador Auditorium. The first, in 1977, was *Bing*. Subsequent shows were *Gene Kelly — An American in Pasadena*, and last August, Ford Motor Co.'s 75th anniversary show.

On Feb. 1, the Pearl Bailey show will be taped at Ambassador.

☆☆☆

PASADENA — The year of 1978 was "a period of accomplishment and achievement," according to Richard Rice, director of the Work's Mail Processing Center here.

According to figures from his department, from January to November 7.6 million *Plain Truth* magazines were mailed and an additional nine million were distributed through newsstands in the United States. Also 1.1 million copies of *The Good News*, nine million letters, 730,000 Correspondence Course lessons and four million other pieces of literature were mailed out to requesters and subscribers.

☆☆☆

PASADENA — Ministerial Services has released the name of the following man recently ordained as local church elder, Joseph E. Pope of Columbus, Ga.

First native Nigerian ordained

VICTORIA ISLAND, Nigeria — At the Feast of Tabernacles here, Lateef Edalere was ordained as a local elder in the ministry of Jesus Christ. He is the first black African in this era of God's Work to be ordained to the ministry.

The ordination was conducted by Harold Jackson, director of the Work in that area of Africa, and Elbert Atlas, a visiting area coordinator from the United States.

Mr. Edalere is a 39-year-old native Nigerian who left home in 1962 to pursue an education in Great Britain. He successfully completed his college training, majoring in management accounting and computer systems analysis. He worked in these fields while in college.

When he left Britain in 1974 for the purpose of serving as chief accountant in the Nigerian office of an internationally known British firm, he was accounting systems manager for four large firms and was serving 21 other companies in computer services.

Mr. Edalere has been a member of God's Church since 1974. He was ordained as a deacon in 1975 and was hired by the Church in 1976. His responsibilities included handling mail and business matters. His linguistic ability (he speaks at least six languages), business acumen and knowledge of his country and its customs have been of immense help to Mr. Jackson in establishing and maintaining the church in Nigeria.

Mr. Edalere and his wife Yvonne, a native of Jamaica, have been married for 12 years. They have two daughters, Athena, 11, and Allison, 8; and twin sons, Paul and Peter, 7.



FIRST ELDER — Lateef Edalere, shown here with his wife and four children, is the first black African to be ordained into the ministry in the modern history of the Church. [Photo by Elbert Atlas]

Mrs. Edalere is trained in commercial secretarial science and worked for the BBC radio and TV for more than seven years.

Two deacons were also ordained at the same services. They were Elijah

Chukwudi (pronounced Choo-koo-dee) of the Lagos, Nigeria, church and Lazarus Ekwebelem (pronounced E-queb-a-lem) of the eastern congregation of Oguta, Nigeria, in Imo state.

Letters TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from page 2)

inspiring and have helped us in our daily living. It is the best ever, and we appreciate receiving it free.

Helen Kokinda
Hazleton, Pa.

☆☆☆

I appreciate so much your listing of the WWCG ministers. Some we don't hear of very often and wonder where they are located. *Good News* is really great.

Elsie Turkovsky
The Dalles, Ore.

☆☆☆

Back to magazine

I was glad to read that *The Good News* is going back to magazine style. We Church members need the spiritual meat that will be in *The Good News*.

Calvin Lashway
Las Cruces, N.M.

☆☆☆

We're eagerly looking forward to seeing a "meaty," biblical *Good News* as well as a biweekly *Worldwide News* to keep us informed and up to date on news of the Work. Thank the Rock, fed.

David W. Bruno
Duluth, Minn.

☆☆☆

'Forum' helps eliminate rumors

We wish to thank you very much for a very informative "Forum" section of *The*

Good News. Your thoughtfulness in opening up this section is very commendable indeed. There was a time when we did not know what was happening in the Church but were afraid to ask lest we be branded as nosy. And others were reluctant to tell what they knew lest they be accused of rumormongering. Now your very timely "Forum" has totally eliminated the system of getting news from headquarters through gossips, rumors and whispers. Your sincerity, candor and humility are very evident in all your videotaped interviews and your answers.

Paul B. Salibad
Honolulu, Hawaii

☆☆☆

We appreciate the new changes in *The Good News* and we like the "Forum" by Mr. Stan Rader very much. We look forward to *The Good News* each month, also *The Plain Truth*.

Mr. and Mrs. Ash
Salem, W. Va.

Correction

In our Dec. 4 issue, *The Good News* released a list of dates when Alcoholism Awareness Seminars would be conducted in a number of cities by the Work's Human Potential Center.

According to Dale Hampton, director of the alcoholism section of the Human Potential Center, the list printed is actually tentative and subject to change.

Seminars meet alcohol challenge

NEW YORK — An Alcoholism Awareness Seminar for the deaf was called a landmark for the Work's Human Potential Outreach Program by Dale Hampton, director of the alcoholism section of the Human Potential Center in Pasadena.

Mary Mosleh, a New York Worldwide Church of God member, interpreted the entire seminar, which included the movie, *If You Left Me*, the story of a family affected by alcoholism.

The program was presented Nov. 26 in the St. Jean of the Baptist Auditorium here and was cosponsored by the Lexington School of the Deaf. Speakers in addition to Mr. Hampton included Bill Burnstine, director of child care at Lexington School of the Deaf, a representative of Alcoholics Anonymous World Service and a member of Al-Anon.

The seminar was videotaped with plans to produce a 16-mm. film for distribution to deaf communities around the world.

"This is the first seminar presented to the deaf, but it is hoped that it will open the door and provide the foundation so that the entire Human Potential seminar series can be presented to the deaf community," said Mr. Hampton.

Alcoholism seminar

While in the area, Mr. Hampton conducted an Alcoholism Awareness Seminar following Sabbath services in the New York Church on Dec. 2.

Some 250 people, half of whom were members, half nonmembers, attended the seminar held in the New York Society for Ethical Culture building. Mr. Hampton and others talked about the symptoms of alcoholism, teenage alcoholism, how to help a loved one who drinks too much and community resources available to alcoholics (family members of alcoholics). Dr. Ross Fishman, director of educational training at the New

York affiliate of the National Council on Alcoholism, also spoke.

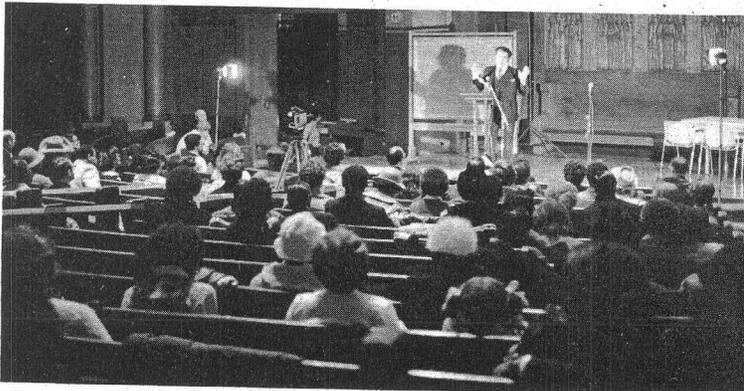
A panel of professionals was on hand to answer questions on youth and adult drinking problems.

"Alcoholism is a family affair," said Mr. Hampton. His advice to those attending the seminars is to find out what they can do to help the person they love who drinks too much. "Because you care, become aware," he said.

Workshop for ministry

New York area coordinator Elbert Atlas invited Mr. Hampton to address some 40 ministers and their wives here Dec. 3. Mr. Hampton said he conducted a workshop for the ministers on how to deal with the problem of alcoholism in their local churches.

"The problem of alcoholism is going unchallenged," said Mr. Hampton, who sees the thrust of these and other seminars as meeting that challenge.



CHALLENGE OF ALCOHOLISM — Dale Hampton, left, holds a seminar on the problems of alcoholism in New York Dec. 2. Just days earlier he held a similar seminar in New York, but this time for the deaf. Mary Mosleh, above left, interprets Mr. Hampton's message through sign language. [Photos by Norman Champagne and James Capo]