

The Good News

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What Is the *Father's* NAME?

*Is "Jehovah" the Father's NAME? In whose NAME are we to pray?
Must we use only Hebrew names—instead of English names of
God? Here is the TRUTH on this misunderstood subject!*

by Herman L. Hoeb

THERE is *only one* NAME "under heaven given among men, where-by we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). What is this NAME? Without it *you cannot be saved!*

The Apostle John was inspired to write, "Whosoever *denieth* the Son, the same hath not the Father (1 John 2:23). You are denying the Son if you reject His NAME! It is vital that you know the NAME of the Son—your eternal salvation depends on it!

The Son came in His Father's name. *What is His Father's name?* Unless YOU bear your heavenly Father's name, YOU cannot be His son! And you will never be BORN AGAIN!

Modern Confusion

Some claim that "Jehovah" is the Father's name. They claim that we ought to use the word "Jehovah" instead of "Lord."

Is "Jehovah" the Father's name?

Others claim that when we speak of or pray to the heavenly Father and the Son, we should only use the Hebrew names of deity. They claim that it is a sin to use the words "God," "Lord," "Jesus," "Christ," "Word," and "Christian." They insist that we should always use the Hebrew words for Deity. They claim that it is a sin to pray "in the name of Jesus." A sin to be called a "Christian"!

Though they claim that "Jehovah" is not the name, they cannot agree among themselves as to what the Hebrew name should be! Some claim the

name should be pronounced "Yahvah," others that it should be "Yahweh." They vehemently insist that it is a *sin* to translate the names of God into English! They contend that it is the *sound* of the name, NOT ITS MEANING, that is important! Yet Paul was inspired to write: "Except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken?" In verse 19 Paul continued, "Yet in the Church I had rather speak five words of my understanding, than by my voice I might teach others, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue"—to the Greeks, Hebrew was an unknown tongue (1 Cor. 14:9, 19).

In the Bible, names have *meaning*. Names are given for a purpose.

The first man was called in the Hebrew tongue *Adam* because he was made of "red earth." *Adam* in Hebrew MEANS "red earth." *Abram's* name in Hebrew was changed to *Abraham* because the promise was made to Abraham that he should become "a father of many nations" (Genesis 17:5). *Abraham* means "a father of many nations."

Jacob's name in Hebrew was changed to *Israel*. The word *Jacob* in Hebrew means "supplanter," but the word *Israel* means "prevailer with God." Jacob prevailed with God and obtained His blessing.

All these Biblical names convey *meaning*. Notice that these names are usually not greatly changed in any foreign tongue because their meanings are already given in the Bible. They do

not have to be translated!

But other important Hebrew Biblical names mentioned in the New Testament ARE TRANSLATED from Hebrew into Greek! Notice Acts 9:36, "Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, *which by interpretation is called Dorcas*"—in Greek. Her name means "Doe" in English. Again in Acts 13:8, the Aramaic name "Elymas" is translated as "Sorcerer" in English, or as "Magos" in the inspired Greek New Testament. *From these examples we see that personal names are often translated in the Bible!*

THE NAMES OF THE CREATOR also have great meaning. Now let's notice how He wants the English-speaking world to understand the meaning of HIS NAMES. Here they are!

The Meaning of God's NAMES

In the Old Testament the English word "God" comes from the Hebrew word *Elohim*, meaning "mighty ones." It is a uniplural word showing that there are NUMEROUS MEMBERS IN THE ONE DIVINE FAMILY. Sometimes the English word "God" comes from another word *El*. It signifies in Hebrew "a mighty one."

Often the word *El* is combined with other Hebrew words to give new names to the Creator. Thus "El-Shaddai" means the "Almighty God," as in Genesis 17:1.

Now turn to Exodus 3:13 and 14 for another surprising NAME of the Almighty. "And Moses said to God,

behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say unto me, What is His name? What shall I say unto them? And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and He said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you."

Notice! Here is one of the many names of the Creator—"I AM THAT I AM." There is real meaning to this name! It may also be translated from the Hebrew as "I will be what I will be." This name—I AM—means that there is no one under heaven superior to, no one who exercises lordship over, the ONE who appeared to Moses. The One who appeared to Moses is above all creation—Lord of all! That is what His name means. He is the *One who is*, the *Self-Existent One*.

He Is "the ETERNAL"

Now turn to Exodus 6:1-3. Here the Creator reveals yet another name. "And God spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am the Lord" (verse 2). The Hebrew word which is here translated "LORD" is YHWH. This Hebrew name YHWH—translated "LORD" in verse 2, and mistranslated "Jehovah" in verse 3—comes from the Hebrew root word meaning "to be," or "to exist." The name YHWH means "the Eternal," "the Everliving," and as the Creator of all and superior to all, this name signifies that He is eternally Ruler and LORD!

Now notice especially verse 3. "And I appeared unto Abraham, and Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name 'Jehovah' was I not known unto them." The name "Jehovah" in the King James Version is admittedly a woeful mistranslation. It comes from the Hebrew word YHWH. Notice that the One who was worshipped by Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob appeared under the name "God Almighty"—in Hebrew *El Shaddai*. He was not known by the name YHWH. Not until the days of Moses was this name revealed. For 2,500 long years of human history this name—YHWH—was not revealed! When Moses compiled the book of Genesis, he introduced the name, beginning with chapter 2 of the book of Genesis, but the name itself was not known until the days of Moses.

If one cannot be saved unless he pronounces YHWH in Hebrew, then Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were lost forever—for this name was not revealed to them! How plain that the Creator thought it more important to reveal His *Word* than even this name—YHWH—to Abraham. Notice Psalm 138:2, "... for thou hast *magnified thy word above* all thine name."

But what about the word "Jehovah" in Exodus 6:3?

"Jehovah" Is NOT the Name

Tens of thousands are being led today to believe that the Creator's name is "Jehovah." Where did the name "Jehovah" come from? Notice what the *Jewish Encyclopedia* has to say:

"'Jehovah' is generally held to have been the invention of Pope Leo X's Confessor, Peter Galatin . . . who was followed in the use of this hybrid form by Fagius . . . But it seems that even before Galatin, the name 'Jehovah' had been in common use . . . It is found in Raymond Martin's 'Pugio Fidei,' written in 1270" (from *Jewish Encyclopedia*, article "Jehovah," volume VII, page 88).

The word "Jehovah" has come down to the modern world through the Catholic Church! Even the "Jehovah's Witnesses," in the preface to their translation of the Bible, state: "While inclining to view the pronunciation 'Yahweh' as the more correct way, we have retained the form 'Jehovah' because of people's familiarity with it since the 14th century" (page 25).

"Jehovah" is not the name! It is a corrupt mispronunciation.

Since "Jehovah" is not the proper pronunciation of the Hebrew word YHWH, what then is its proper pronunciation? Some "Hebrew Name" sects say "Yahvah," others say "Yahweh," still others believe it should be Yehweh, etc.

Why this confusion?

The answer is—the *true pronunciation* of the Hebrew word YHWH has been lost!! Here is how it happened.

The Hebrew language uses consonants and semi-consonants, not vowels. Moses was inspired to write this name for the Creator with the four Hebrew letters YHWH. This Hebrew word, which the Israelites originally knew how to pronounce, comes from another Hebrew word HWH, an old form of the root HYH, which means "to be," or "to become."

In the centuries since Jeremiah's day, the Jews became superstitious and *made an idol* out of this name! They treated it with such superstitious reverence that they decided *never to pronounce it!* Instead, whenever they found this word in the Old Testament, they read *Adonai* in its place. *Adonai* is a Hebrew word meaning "Lord" or "Master." Hence the proper pronunciation of YHWH became lost!

True Pronunciation Prophesied to Be Lost!

The Bible even prophesied that the pronunciation of this name should be

lost to us today! Notice Jeremiah 23:25-27:

"I have heard what the prophets said, that prophesy lies in my name, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed . . . which think to cause my people to *forget my name by their dreams* which they tell every man to his neighbor, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal."

The Jews in Jeremiah's day knew how to pronounce the word YHWH. But through the dreams of their false teachers they were misled into believing that the word YHWH should not be pronounced—that it is too holy a word to be uttered! And so the true pronunciation of the word became lost!

No one knows absolutely today how it should be pronounced. This is exactly what Jeremiah prophesied in these verses over 2500 years ago!

Here is what Rotherham says about this name in his *Emphasized Bible* page 25: "The true pronunciation seems to have been Yahwè . . . The accent should be on the final syllable." *The Jewish Encyclopedia* says of this name: ". . . the original pronunciation must have been Yahweh, or Yahaweh" (Article "Names of God," Volume IX, page 161).

So the pronunciation YHWH is definitely not Jehovah. Nor do any means today exist of knowing exactly how it is to be pronounced—YET THE MEANING OF THIS NAME IS PRESERVED FOR US TODAY. It means the "Eternal," the "Everliving," the Eternal "LORD." The meaning of the Almighty's name is far more important than its mere sound.

Now let us notice definite scriptural PROOF THAT IT IS PROPER TO TRANSLATE THE NAMES OF GOD so that we may understand what they mean in the language we speak today!

Part of Old Testament Not Written in Hebrew!

In the Old Testament the English word "God" is often translated from the Hebrew words "El," "Eloah," and "Elohim." When Babylon conquered the Kingdom of Judah, Hebrew gradually ceased to be the language of common speech of the Jews. Hebrew was replaced by Aramaic, spoken throughout the *Babylonian Empire*. Daniel wrote five whole chapters of his prophetic book in Aramaic—chapters 2 through 6. And Ezra wrote four whole chapters of his work in Aramaic—chapters 4 through 7.

When Daniel and Ezra referred to the Creator in these chapters, did they use the Hebrew words, or Aramaic translations?

The surprising answer is that God inspired Daniel and Ezra to TRANSLATE the Hebrew words for God into

the Aramaic word *ELAH!* In 78 different places in these 9 chapters, the Aramaic word *ELAH* is used to translate the Hebrew word for "God!"

If the Almighty intended that His Name should be pronounced only in Hebrew, then Daniel and Ezra were false prophets! But Daniel and Ezra were not false prophets! They were inspired men! *God inspired them to translate the Hebrew word for God* into the Aramaic word *ELAH* which means God! Every word—every letter—which Ezra and Daniel were inspired to write has been preserved for us today! Jesus said that not one jot or tittle—the least letters or marks of the alphabet—in the Old Testament would be lost (Matthew 5:18; Luke 16:17).

Since God inspired His prophets to translate the Hebrew word for God into the Aramaic *ELAH*, which means "God" in Aramaic, *then it is fitting and proper that the Hebrew word ELOHIM should be translated "God" into the English translations of the Old Testament!*

"God" Is NOT a Pagan Name

Some "Hebrew Name" sects contend that it is a sin to use the word "God!" They reason that because the word God was used by our ancestors to refer to their idols, it is improper to use it to refer to the Creator. But notice what the Bible reveals about this very question in Romans 1:21: "When they [the Gentile nations] knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and to four-footed beasts, and to creeping things." And notice verse 28, "... they did not like to retain God in their knowledge."

The nations *once knew God*, but they changed the glory of the *uncorruptible God* into images—idols! *They attached the name of their Creator to their idols.*

Notice the astounding proof of this in the Old Testament!

In the inspired Hebrew of the Old Testament the Hebrew word *ELOHIM*—which means "the God Kingdom," or "the God Family"—*is used 240 times to refer to PAGAN, HEATHEN "GODS!"* In two places this word is also translated "goddess" in the Old Testament. Again, the Hebrew word *EL* is once translated "idol" and 15 times translated "god"—and refers to the heathen gods. The Hebrew word *Eloah* is five times used in the Old Testament to refer to heathen "gods." In 16 different places Ezra and Nehemiah were in-

spired to use the Aramaic word *ELAH!* to refer to the heathen "gods" of the Aramaic-speaking people!

Thus if it is a sin to use the English word "God" to refer to the Creator—merely because our pagan ancestors used it to refer to their idols—*then it is also a sin to use the Hebrew words Elobim, Eloah, El, or the Aramaic Elab* to refer to the Creator because these words were also used by our pagan ancestors to refer to their pagan idols in Old Testament times!

Since *God did inspire His prophets in the Old Testament to use the very words also describing pagan idols for His Name*, then it is right and proper for us to use the English word "God" today when referring to the Creator!

Now let us notice how God inspired the apostles to write His name in the inspired Greek New Testament.

The Name in the New Testament

The words of your Savior are given to us in the New Testament. Before He ascended to heaven, He promised His disciples, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, *but my word shall not pass away*" (Matthew 24:35).

Heaven and earth have not passed away! Neither have the words of the Savior! They are found inspired in the New Testament today! How were the names of Deity rendered in the New Testament for the Greek-speaking converts? Notice!

Paul was sent to the Gentiles—particularly the Greek-speaking Gentiles. His ministry covered the whole Greek-speaking world. The Greeks did not know Hebrew or Aramaic. They knew Greek. In I Corinthians 9:20, Paul said, "To the Greek I became as a Greek." How did Paul explain to these Greek converts who the Father and who the Son were? What names did he use for the Greeks when referring to the Creator?

The answer is—*he used the Greek words for "God," "Lord," "Christ," the "Word," and "Jesus."* God inspired him to translate the Hebrew word *El*, meaning "God," into the Greek word *Theos*. God inspired Paul in the New Testament to translate the Hebrew word *YHWH* into the Greek word *Kyrios*, meaning "Lord."

In 665 different places in the New Testament the apostles were inspired to translate the Hebrew word *YHWH* into the Greek word *Kyrios*, meaning the eternal "Lord." And 1,345 times the apostles were inspired to translate the Hebrew word for God into the Greek word *Theos*—which means "God" in the Greek language! These two Greek words—*Kyrios* and *Theos*—meaning "Lord" or "God" in Greek, are found

hundreds of times in the gospels, in the very words of Jesus Himself! *And Jesus said His words would not pass away*—Matthew 24:35. Either these are the inspired words of Jesus, or He lied—and if He lied, you have no Savior! He did not lie. These are His words. He inspired His apostles to translate the names of God from the Hebrew into the Greek when writing to the Greek converts; and He has seen to it that not one word has perished or been lost!

There is not one New Testament manuscript with the names of God written in Hebrew! There is not one New Testament manuscript which supports the idea that the apostles used Hebrew names for God when speaking to the Greek people.

New Testament Inspired in Greek

Some sects are unwilling to admit what the inspired New Testament plainly says! They falsely claim that the New Testament was not written originally in Greek. They assume that the Jewish Christians could not understand Greek. They would have us believe that Paul wrote to the Greek converts in Greece, and Asia Minor, and Rome in Aramaic instead of Greek! This is not true!

Greek was the one universal language which united the common people in the Roman Empire in New Testament times. The Jewish historian Josephus himself testified to Greek as the language which the Jews everywhere understood in New Testament days! Not only did the Jews who lived in the Greek world speak Greek, but even the Jews who lived in Palestine, he declares, were well acquainted with Greek! Greek-speaking Jews were so prevalent in Palestine that synagogues for them had to be built (Acts 6:9). Jewish law for Palestine permitted that the Scripture "may be read in a foreign tongue to them that speak a foreign tongue" (Megillah 2§1). And it was further permitted "that the Books [of the Bible] may be written in any language," but that at the time of Christ the Books were "*only permitted to be written in Greek*" (Megillah 1§8). (From *The Mishnah* by Herbert Danby, Oxford University Press.)

Though the native-born Jews in Palestine in the days of the apostles generally used Aramaic as their common language, yet Greek was the next in importance even to them.

Josephus tell us why the Greek language, after Aramaic, was so common with the Jews in Palestine:

"I have also taken a great deal of pains to obtain the learning of the Greeks, and understand the elements of
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**The
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**Be sure to notify us immediately of
change of address.**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Marseille, [France],
the 21 June 1959

"Dear Brethren,

"We received your two tracts about the holidays and you don't know what a great joy it is for us to have found at last the people who keep the Lord's Sabbath and His Feast Days. It's now more than 30 years that we are keeping the feast days of the Lord and almost 50 years that we are keeping the Sabbath. And we were always searching such a people but we had not found them yet. We have also a few sisters in Paris who were keeping them like us. But we did not know that we should eat unleavened bread for 7 days. Do you have more booklets on this subject?"

"I should like to know also how you keep the Sabbath Day. Because the Adventists are cooking food on the Sabbath Day but we don't see that it is right.

"I received also 'The British Commonwealth' and The PLAIN TRUTH magazines you sent. Thank you very much for all, though there are lacking numbers to read the whole story of Brother Armstrong. But you say you don't have them. I'm sorry.

"Please send me also 'The Key for Revelation.'

"I should like to enroll in the Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course in English. But I was told that

you're translating it in French also. I would be very glad if you would send it in French to the following two addresses: . . .

"Thank you also for the handkerchiefs you sent me with a letter express. I got everything you sent and I'm feeling much better now. Please continue to pray for us.

"With thanks . . ."

Church Needed

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"I must congratulate you on your choice of ministers. Messrs. Smith and Meredith are the most REAL CHRISTIANS I have ever met. Couldn't you please start a church in New York City and allow Mr. Smith to be the minister? We [New Yorkers] need your Church DESPERATELY. No one in this area is preaching THE TRUTH. Please see if this can be arranged. I have prayed faithfully for a church since they arrived."

Woman from Brooklyn, New York.
Editor's comment: We are happy that plans being made include a new church in New York City, right after the Feast of Tabernacles.

Daughter Healed

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"One year ago my daughter . . . was afflicted with Saint Vitus Dance. We have studied Scripture for years and have received The PLAIN TRUTH and other help from you for about 3 years. We took our daughter to a physician. First he put her on phenobarbital for about 3 months until her skin broke out—then switched her to a tranquilizer, plus medicine to undo the breaking out on her skin. For 4 months, no improvement except to keep her in a state of grogginess; of course her condition deepened and if you have ever seen a person with this affliction you must know how pitiable their condition is.

"We listen every night to you on WWVA and heard your explanation concerning not calling a physician, but rather the elders of the Church. We are sincere believers in God and Jesus Christ and try to conform in every way to their teaching thru the Holy Covenants, and your teaching. We threw away all pills, did not return to doctors, but requested prayer of you, also an anointed handkerchief, and we sincerely prayed and asked God to keep His promise to heal and *He has*. My daughter from that day on has steadily improved and is now healed. Doctor and prescriptions had cost us \$13.00 per week. We thought you would like to know of this healing, and we thank God and pray for you and your family, also the success of the program."

Man from Canton, Ohio.

Her Light Was Shining

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"We have been searching for the real true Church, and have prayed for God to lead us. Thursday while at the beauty parlor, I asked my operator what denomination she belonged to. She said not any. I was so surprised because she acted as if she were a Christian. She was so different from the other girls, that would talk of drinking parties, and bleached hair they had. This girl wore no make-up and her hair was a natural color. Besides she was and is just plain SWEET. I kept quizzing her and she told me she took a Bible Course and went to the Fresno Church of God on Saturday. I found she believed as we had found the Bible to read. Then she asked me if I was really interested in the real truth. I told her I really was but we had been fooled twice and I had almost come to the conclusion that Church membership was a sin. Then she gave me her phone number and I called her and went and visited her. What a wonderful reception I got, and we talked until almost midnight."

Woman from Porterville, California.

Doctrine Cleared Up

"Dear Brethren:

"I want to express my appreciation for the article in the July GOOD NEWS, entitled 'What You Should Know About Tithing.' I have been waiting a long time for that article. Even though I had accepted the teaching of the second and third tithe from the beginning, because I know that God's ministers were responsible to Him, this subject had never been proved to me from the Bible."

Member from Leesville, Texas.

God Answers Prayer

"Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"Give praises to God. My prayers have been answered again. This time there is no doubt that it was a miracle. I arrived here Monday night at midnight, after leaving my wife and three children with relatives a hundred miles away. Tuesday I started working on my new job. I was told by everyone with whom I talked that I would have a hard time finding a home big enough for my family. Last night I got down on my knees and asked God to give me shelter for my family in Clarksburg. This morning, at approximately ten o'clock, I paid the first month's rent on a very desirable three-bedroom home in a very desirable residential neighborhood with enough ground to plant a garden in the spring. I asked God for suitable shelter for my family. The blessing I received was many times what I asked for. . . ."

Man from Clarksburg, West Virginia.

More BLESSINGS in God's Church

*Let us praise God for these blessings He is showering upon us—
His human instruments!*

by Roderick C. Meredith

DAY AFTER DAY, God continues to just simply SHOWER His blessings upon His Church! Here at God's headquarters in Pasadena, we are truly *grateful* and *thankful* for all the good things our Heavenly Father has showered upon His work—and upon us.

Even so, as a Church we all should be more *deeply* THANKFUL than we are for the tremendous privilege God has granted us in having a direct part in His work at this time. As human instruments, He is using us to *warn* this entire earth of what lies just ahead—and to prepare to CHANGE the entire world to God's way in "*The World Tomorrow*."

San Antonio Campaign

As I reported to you last month, we were then in the midst of a local evangelistic campaign we were holding in San Antonio, Texas, to build up and strengthen God's Church in that area. Now that campaign is completed.

God greatly BLESSED this San Antonio campaign!

Hundreds of people attended the campaign in San Antonio during the first week. Afterward, although everyone could not attend every night—six nights a week—the attendance averaged a hundred or more even for the rest of the campaign.

The song leading of Mr. Albert Portune, and the music and solos provided by Miss Ruth Myrick at the piano, my sister, Kathryn, on her violin, and Mr. Portune singing vocal solos—all combined to make these meetings memorable and enjoyable for all those who attended. The messages from God's Word going through the prophecies and the vital doctrines of Christian life formed a chain of truth that certainly was a compelling witness to any who attended regularly.

Now, as a result of the campaign, the San Antonio Church has *more than doubled!* And many interested people are yet to be contacted and perhaps brought into the Church as a result of the *personal contact* with God's work they experienced through these evangelistic meetings.

I would like to ask, personally, and

for the entire evangelistic team, that all of you brethren PRAY earnestly that the increase in the San Antonio Church will continue and that God's blessing will continue to be with that Church in every way in the crucial weeks that lie ahead. Many new people there are just *beginning* to really live the Christian life. They will have trials—problems—and persecutions. They will need *divine help* to keep them from giving up and quitting! They need *your prayers!*

Splendid Baptismal Harvest

Did you know that God's Church is sending out at least *ten* baptizing tours this summer? Well, *we are*—and they are reaping by far the greatest spiritual harvest of truly converted souls in the modern history of God's Church!

As this article is being written, our baptizing tours and local ministers have already baptized *well over* eight hundred people! By the time most of you read this article, I am sure that *over one thousand* people will have been baptized this summer by God's Church!

We think our work is still pretty small sometimes, but when you consider that these people are *REALLY* CONVERTED, then this is something to simply *rejoice* and give God great THANKS for making possible!

In last month's column I told you about the tours that were out. I won't repeat those facts again, but would like you to know that as a result of the article on "False Conversion" we are sending out two *additional* baptizing tours for those who wrote in late wanting to be baptized.

Mr. George Meeker and Mr. Carl O'Beirn are just starting a short tour through the Midwest as this is being written. Mr. O'Beirn is another example of an older family man who moved to Pasadena, has been attending Ambassador College, and is now beginning to be used full time in God's work. He will accompany Mr. Meeker for about two weeks, until college starts, and then Mr. Meeker will proceed on to Chicago where he will assist Mr. Dean Blackwell in the large Chicago-Milwaukee Church areas.

The other special tour will be led by

Mr. Carlton Smith. He has just returned from a normal, full summer's baptizing tour on which he was accompanied by Mr. Bill McDowell. They baptized 142 people throughout the northern United States and Canada, and talked to and helped many scores of others.

Now, Mr. Carlton Smith is at last getting married! His bride is Miss Beverly Cain, one of our dedicated and competent college women. They will already be married and beginning this special baptizing tour by the time you read this article.

Mr. Smith and his wife will be planning to reach those people in the South who have written in late for baptism. They will plan their itinerary so that their tour will wind up at Gladewater for the Feast of Tabernacles. Then, afterward, Mr. Smith may baptize a number of others while going east from Texas toward New York to begin God's church in New York City.

Another baptizing tour we have not mentioned is that which was taken by Mr. Raymond McNair and his wife, Leona, over in the British Isles recently. Mr. McNair is our pastor in the London Church and has taken out time to go on a couple of shorter baptizing tours through portions of the British Isles, counseling with new listeners and baptizing those who had written in and were ready. He has already baptized more than a dozen on the short trips out from London and will undoubtedly baptize many more before summer's end.

Although England may seem far away to some of us, it is good to remember that these people are having their lives *totally* CHANGED by the same God who opened our minds and hearts to His precious truth! These are our *brethren* in the body of Christ, so let us PRAY for continued growth and blessings on the work of God's Church as it gains momentum in the British Isles and throughout other areas around this earth!

New Church in Long Beach

We are happy to announce that a new local Church of God in Long Beach, California, began its first services Sabbath, August 15! Mr. Herman

Hoeh was there to conduct the first service—assisted by Mr. Don Billingsley—and they report that the attendance at the very first service was 94!

As in the case of the church raised up last year at Sherman Oaks, California, this church will be pastored by God's ministers from headquarters here in Pasadena. It will be a *blessing* to those local members in the Long Beach area who have had to drive clear up to Pasadena to attend church services before. Also, it will give them more *personal responsibility* to grow and become the "backbone" of this new church. And, of course, many more interested people whom God is calling will feel freer to attend church in that area now that we have one there locally.

So, let us give God *thanks* for this new local church, and remember to pray for it and its members that they may have the zeal and love they should, and take advantage of this opportunity for personal Christian growth, service, and development.

San Diego Church Picnic

My wife and two children and I had the pleasure last Sabbath of once again being with God's Church in San Diego, California. We were there for the first time after our return from the campaign in San Antonio.

It was wonderful to be back again, and we enjoyed the additional privilege of being with the brethren there at the church picnic which was held on Sunday, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lambert Leliviere near Potrero, California. What an experience it was!

Even when I announced the location of the picnic in the Sabbath services, I still did not realize how far out in the mountains it would actually be. Potrero is a tiny mountain village about forty miles southeast of San Diego, right near the Mexican border. The Leliviere's home, where we held the picnic, is a few miles north and further east of Potrero and is *completely* secluded from the world. In driving down the winding desert road to their home, one is suddenly pleasantly surprised to come upon a group of trees near a small hill just behind their home. It is indeed an unusual location, but an ideal one for a private church picnic where the children could run, shout, and laugh to their heart's content!

The entire church had a wonderful afternoon and evening in fellowship, and the main course of the picnic dinner consisted of absolutely *delicious* lamb which had been cooked underground by the hot coals of a buried fire—a method with which some of you brethren may be familiar. After being taken out of the fire pit, the lamb was as

tender and tasty and tantalizing as any meat I have ever eaten in my life! And, of course, the meal included many delicious side dishes of vegetables, fruits and desserts which the women in the church prepared.

After lunch, there was much visiting and fellowship between the members and their families, and many of the brethren engaged in various recreational activities planned for the occasion. Some of the men pitched horseshoes, and a number of both sexes and all sizes participated in a rousing softball game. Later in the afternoon, a Bible study was held, and, as my family and I were leaving, some square dancing was getting under way.

It was a most enjoyable occasion, and brought the San Diego brethren closer together and gave them an opportunity to express the Christian love and fellowship which we all should feel toward each other as brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ.

New Church of God in Akron

Mr. Wayne Cole, our pastor of God's Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has recently raised up a new church in Akron, Ohio. So, God's Church is now established in another area—the state of Ohio!

Mr. Cole has been assisted in this endeavor by Mr. Bob Hoops—a recent graduate of Ambassador College, who came to us as an older man, already a converted member of God's Church. Mr. Hoops will continue to help Mr. Cole in the foreseeable future in this two-church area of Pittsburgh and Akron. He is a dedicated servant of God, and many of you brethren will get to know him in the future.

The Akron church has only been holding services for a few weeks, but there are fifty-five in attendance on the average now, and prospects are that it will grow to be a much larger church in the future. Mr. Cole reports that the new group is very zealous and filled with God's love. But, as all of us do when we are first coming into God's Church—or even a local fellowship—they need *your prayers!* And as we pray, let us give God *joyful THANKS* for this new church He has made possible for our brethren in this new area!

Continued Growth in all the Local Churches

Mr. Wayne Cole also reports on the continued growth of God's church in Pittsburgh. The latest attendance there was 171! With God's continued blessing and guidance, it seems destined to become a very large and strong church—a "lighthouse" and *witness* to that area.

Our churches in Texas are also growing. As mentioned before, the San Antonio church has now more than doubled as a result of the campaign held there recently and the attendance is now more than 80. Mr. Jon Hill reports that attendance in the Dallas church is now running about 160 and the Houston church now has 190 in almost regular attendance!

A recent phone call to Mr. Dean Blackwell revealed that our church in Milwaukee—formerly one of our newest and slowest churches—now has a regular attendance of about 55 and is still growing. He also said that the Chicago church is still mushrooming in growth—with attendance there now running about 325 adults and children!

From overseas, Mr. Raymond McNair reports that the small Bible study group in Bristol, England, has now grown to comprise about 20 persons. And he indicated that the Church of God in London now has about 60 or more in regular attendance. And it is constantly *growing*—slowly but steadily—as do most of God's local churches under the blessing and guidance of His Holy Spirit.

Translations Into Russian Now Beginning

Thus far we have three vital booklets for the Russian people translated into their own language—"Does God Exist?" "Why Were You Born?" and "The Proof of the Bible."

For this translation, we have been privileged—through the efforts of Mr. Apartian, our French professor—to acquire the services of Mr. Vladimir Nikouline, who was born in Russia and who translates professionally for Yale University. His family fled Russia about the time of the Communist Revolution. Though not converted, Mr. Nikouline has treated us very courteously.

Numerous people of Russian descent who have fled the Soviet Union to Switzerland and France are beginning to listen to "The World Tomorrow" over Radio Monte Carlo.

Can we *really* REJOICE in this wonderful growth that God has given His Church? Ought we not be *radiantly happy* and *joyful* with all of the good things God is giving us as His human instruments in carrying His message to the world?

Let us be sure to have the deep GRATITUDE we should have for these things God is giving us! And let us *study* and *pray* and *fast* that our spiritual *growth*, and *zeal*, and YIELDEDNESS will keep pace with the lavish physical and spiritual blessings God continues to shower upon us. We are HIS instruments! This is His Church!

SEVEN Proofs of Conversion

*From our minister in the Colorado-Kansas churches
comes this surprising message!*

by Bryce G. Clark

CONVERSION means a "change." It means to *turn* from our evil past conduct. It means to totally *forsake* human tradition, to yield in unconditional surrender to the Creator God.

Conversion is impossible to achieve through human effort alone. It can be done only through the supernatural power of God.

What Is Conversion?

Two factors must always be present before a man can be converted: 1) he must receive a divine calling from God, and 2) he must heed that calling, surrendering his self-will to God. Either one of these factors *alone* is not enough! Many hermits and people sour on society have realized what this world is. They are pessimistic, they have forsaken social contact, yet they are not converted. Why? Because God has not called them.

On the other hand, many other individuals have rejected the calling of God. Why? Because bright lights, associations, friends, and the pleasures of this world still mean too much to them. Therefore, to be converted, a man must receive a divine calling from God—a command to meet God *on His terms*—and he must yield himself to that summons! He must change in respect to his past conduct. This change must be in God's direction. It means absolute surrender to the laws and ways of God—ways that bring happiness, joy, peace of mind, and eternal life. Conversion is a living, dynamic change he has experienced.

Conversion produces definite signs or fruits.

Not only are they distinguishable to the person himself, but also to outsiders and spiritual brethren in the Church. These signs are the signal lights of a converted mind. *There are seven of them.*

Each is an absolute, integral part of conversion. A lack of any one of them denotes spiritual infancy, carnality, and disobedience to God. Only those who have these seven signs are fully the people of God!

What are the seven basic signs of conversion?

1) Have You REPENTED?

Probably misunderstood more than any other step to salvation is the meaning of repentance. The word "repentance" has been promiscuously tossed

about. Evangelists use it to promote the "sawdust trail" routine. Vast audiences supposedly repent. This routine is often accompanied by public sobbing, and the most embarrassing moment of all, when the candidate humiliates himself enough to walk up before thousands to publicly accept Jesus. World-known evangelists utilize every form of rhetoric at their disposal to "move" vast audiences to repent. Yet, amazing as it may seem, these evangelists themselves do not fully understand what is really involved. But the Bible is very clear on the subject.

Read Acts 2:38, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for *the remission of sins* and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Repent. Repent of what?

Sin!

Repentance is a prerequisite for baptism. What is remitted as a result?

Sin!

Obviously then, we are required to repent of our *sins* before we can be baptized.

But what is the Bible definition of sin? Read it with your own eyes: "Sin is the transgression of the law!" (I John 3:4.) We are to repent of breaking God's law as defined by the ten commandments! (James 2:8-10.) The ten commandments define the great spiritual principles by which we must conduct ourselves in relationship to God and man. It is a law designed to give us abundant, full, exciting lives.

Since we must repent of breaking God's law, we now need to understand thoroughly what repentance really is.

Notice Acts 2:36, 37: "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus *whom ye have crucified*, both Lord and Christ. Now when they heard this they *were pricked in their heart . . .*" Peter told these Jews that they were the murderers of the Christ! They were pricked in their hearts—that is, moved with *remorse, deeply sorry, filled with regret*. Yes, they had *repented* for murdering Christ. Brethren, we've all done the same thing! We are Christ's murderers as well!

Why?

Because Jesus died to pay the penalty for the sins of the whole world. He had never sinned, but He took the death penalty we have incurred and died in

our stead. The wages of sin is death (Rom. 6:23), and all have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). This is why we need to repent. We need to deeply and sincerely regret all our violations of God's law which brought the death penalty on us and put Christ on the cross.

To repent means not only to be sorrowful, but also to do something about it—to stop breaking the commandments. But we must do it *sincerely*, "For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation and brings no regret but *worldly grief* produces death" (II Cor. 7:10, R. S. V.). Yes, your repentance must mean business. It must be the most important thing in your life. It involves a humbling of self, an emptying out of vanity, not "embarrassment" in accepting Christ. As Isaiah said, "Let the wicked forsake *his way*, and the unrighteous man *his thoughts*: and let him return unto the Lord. . . ." (Isa. 55:7). This entails acknowledging our worthlessness (Job 15:14-16), realizing all of our good deeds are as filthy rags before God (Isa. 64:6). Perhaps we haven't all committed murder, adultery, and theft, but we've all envied and coveted; we've all broken God's Sabbath. Whosoever shall keep the whole law and yet offend in *one point*, he is guilty of all (James 2:10).

Also real repentance is a life-long process. We may violate God's spiritual law in our minds, or even commit transgressions which we do not realize from time to time (I John 1:8-9). It is for these sins we must continue to repent (Rom. 7:23).

Those who do these things have made the first step to real conversion. They have repented.

2) Are You Absolutely SURE?

What would your reaction be if tomorrow you received this special bulletin from Mr. Armstrong: "The time has come for God's Church to flee! Use whatever means at your disposal to assemble with the brethren. Time: Two weeks from date of this letter. Place: Tabernacle grounds, Gladewater, Texas. Church fleeing!"

How many of you would be in Gladewater on that date?

Do you realize that in the future this or a similar bulletin *may* be sent out? How sure will you be of God's Church?

A converted mind is a sure mind. It

is sure God exists. It knows the Holy Bible is God's inspired Word. It knows God has a Church and that He is working through his true ministers. It has long ceased to doubt, to question, to scrutinize. It seems we all go through a doubting stage when coming to conversion, but unfortunately some of us haven't outgrown this step. Some are not convinced we should keep all of God's law, and attend the annual festivals. Some doubt this is God's Church, and that His ministers are God-called.

Brethren, such an attitude displays a carnal mind. True, we must prove all things (1 Thes. 5:21), but not in the light of *our desires or likes*. We must prove all things according to God's Word. The dangerous tendency of "proving" what we agree with, or what we want to prove, reveals an *unwillingness* to live by every word of God.

The age in which we live is characterized by doubt. Many constantly switch churches, frequently change doctrines. *We* are to be sure! We are not to doubt! James tells us doubting is a lack of faith (James 1:8), and "whatsoever is not of faith is of sin" (Rom. 14:23). Jesus said, "No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God" (Luke 9:62). The one who doubts actually desires to return to his old life, an act which Peter, in a vivid picture, describes as a dog returning to his own vomit (II Pet. 2:20-22).

When a number of disciples forsook Jesus, He then asked the twelve, "Will ye also go away?" Then Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? *thou hast the words of eternal life.*" (John 6:66-68.) Today there is only one Church—the Radio Church of God—proclaiming these same words! There is no other place you can go to receive the words of eternal life. Let's hear and apply these words. Let us be sure of God's way.

3) Are You OPEN-MINDED?

During the days of Christ and the early apostles, there were three great religious divisions—Christianity, Judaism, and paganism. It was no problem to see the physical limitations of Judaism, and the abominations of paganism. After accepting Christianity, the converts were not confused by hundreds of differing beliefs. Today this is no longer true. There are five major divisions of religion, each containing many splits and schisms. Professing Christianity itself is divided into over 450 sects and denominations in America alone. We are constantly bombarded by a "hodge podge" of religious ideas and sentiments. Millions of minds are ingrained with these false concepts.

God tells us this world is in religious confusion. It is deceived and blinded by Satan, the present invisible ruler (I Cor. 4:4, Eph. 2:2).

Spiritual truths, not comprehended by the natural mind, are understood only through God's Spirit. But God's Spirit will not work with a closed mind.

Let us notice those whom God called in the early New Testament Church. Remember, God does not change (Mal. 3:6, Heb. 13:8). "Then they that *gladly received his word* were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41).

"But when *they believed* Phillip preaching the things concerning the Kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women" (Acts 8:12).

These examples prove God's people are open-minded! They are willing to listen to God's true ministers, to examine without prejudice. In the same way, we must be willing to hear the truth of God from His true servants without a barrier of personal ideas, of things "we've studied" on our own. Perhaps the most difficult individual God must deal with is the self-made man. He is independent, self-sufficient. Although he has studied certain Bible truths out on his own, most of what he has proven is based upon carnal argument. He has "proven" what he agrees with. He is not willing to verify that which may disagree with "his ideas." He is biased and carnal. His mind, being closed, shuts out the real important truths of the Bible.

We cannot be converted with this attitude. We must be open-minded. We must follow the example of the Bereans.

"These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with *all readiness of mind*, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11). And as a result—"Therefore many of them believed . . ."—why? Because they were not prejudiced! They became converted!

The natural mind, stubborn, prejudiced, guided by emotions, is not a converted mind. Unless we can accept truth, regardless of its effects, it is impossible to attain perfection. Christ said we must become perfect (Mat. 5:48). A bigoted mind, looking at the Bible in the light of personal ideas, is lacking another vital element of conversion, a readiness of mind and willingness to accept truth even though it hurts.

4) Are You TEACHABLE?

"Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding" (Prov. 3:13). Bible under-

standing is indeed a joy and blessing. If it is applied, our lives become happy and meaningful.

Listen to this startling fact: statistically speaking, if you are thoroughly converted, you are *one in a million!* Only these converted brethren possess true wisdom and understanding. That means only one in a million have it. Yet how many of us gained it on our own? Not one!

This is why we must be willing to be taught.

The Ethiopian eunuch recognized this fact. Notice, when asked by Philip, "Understandest thou what thou readeest?" he replied: "*How can I, except some man should guide me?*" (Acts 8:30-31.) And how can *we* understand unless some man should guide us?

God utilizes human agencies to do His work. God instructs through His word, which is expounded and made clear by His ministers. Notice Romans 10:14, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?" Yes, God instructs us to be willing to hear His ministers, to be willing to be taught.

Most human beings, not having a converted attitude, do not want to accept the true Bible teaching. They do not want to be taught. God says His people are destroyed for lack of knowledge (Hos. 4:6). As a whole, God is not teaching His people Israel, but He is teaching those weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts (Isa. 28:9). As Jesus clarified, we must become as little children, having the teachable, obedient attitude of a child, before God will instruct us (Mat. 18:3).

An important point must here be emphasized. Not all of us are as converted as we should be. Many of us tend to look at physical facts and circumstances. We look at personalities. We tend to have favorites even among God's ministers. Like the Corinthians, some of us say: "I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ" (I Cor. 1:12). Are God's ministers divided? Some of us tend to disregard younger ministers. Just as the Jews attempted to refute the facts by rejecting the man (John 9:34), we may sometimes be guilty of the same. We need to realize *all* of God's ministers are God-called. They are not self-appointed. Without the realization that you need to be taught by God's true ministers, ministers whom God has endowed with wisdom and knowledge, ministers who are capable of teaching you the pure word of God, you lack an important point of whole conversion—

willingness to be taught!

5) Are You SEEKING CORRECTION?

All the teaching in the world is of no value unless we are willing to be corrected. Developing God-like character requires a willingness to be corrected. This correction comes through God's ministers. But normally, we don't like to be corrected.

Why is it, for example, that the Bible is the most argued-over book in the world? Simply because the Bible *corrects!* There is no disagreement about the results of a scientific experiment or an electronic theory. These facets of learning do not correct us personally. For example, there are over two hundred different ideas and interpretations for Gal. 3:20 alone. This gives an idea of how most Americans regard the Bible. God describes this national attitude in Jer. 5:3—" . . . they have *refused to receive correction*: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return." And so we have in America alone over 450 sects and denominations. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to *his own way . . .*" (Isa. 53:6).

The way to happiness, joy, and eternal life—God's way—means we must receive correction. Most of us have lived thirty, forty, or fifty years indulging in bad habits which are contrary to God. These habits, attitudes, and thoughts must be changed. The Bible is God's instruction book. It tells us how to change. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for *reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness*": (2 Tim. 3:16).

Because as a nation we refuse to be corrected, God must bring a national punishment. Notice Jeremiah 30:14, "I have wounded thee with the wound of an enemy, with the chastisement of a cruel one, for the *multitude* of thine iniquity, because thy *sins were increased*." During World War II the Nazis liquidated the Jews at the rate of 10,000 daily, a number insignificant by comparison to the carnage coming on America (Isa. 1:9).

Why?

Because we won't receive correction!

Brethren, let's be corrected the easy way *before it's too late*. Let's copy David's attitude: "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me" (Psa. 139:23-24). Jeremiah cried out, "O Lord correct me . . ." (Jer. 10:24). Correction is for our good, but remember, it comes from God's word through His ministers. Without a willingness to be corrected,

and more important, to act upon it, we are not converted!

6) Do You RESPECT God's Servants?

Jesus Christ said, "I will build *my* church; and the gates of hell (hades, or grave) shall not prevail against it" (Mat. 16:18). Notice—Jesus said *Church*, not churches. Jesus kept His word! His Church has always existed. It is here today! Historically, it can be traced to the day of Pentecost in 31 A.D. If you have not read this amazing truth, write immediately for our free booklet, "A True History of the True Church."

In the true Church, alone, Christ has placed His ministers. God's ministers represent Jesus. Notice their purpose: "And he [Christ] gave some, apostles; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the *perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ*: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ" (Eph. 4:11-13).

God's ministers are here to lead God's people to salvation. God has given them authority to bind and loose, and to make decisions in His church (John 20:23). God's ministers must be respected! When Abraham knew representatives from heaven were visiting him, notice his conduct. He *ran*, he *bowed himself* to the ground, he *bastened*, he ran and fetch a calf (Gen. 18:1-8). In this case, the God of the Old Testament, who later became Christ, was present. Anyone who is really converted will exemplify this same conduct today. How you respect God's ministers indicates your respect for God. Notice what Paul said about the manner in which the Corinthians received Titus, a representative of God: "And his inward affection is more abundant toward you, whilst he remembereth the obedience of you all, how with *fear and trembling ye received him*" (II Cor. 7:15). Yes, God made sure this incident was recorded in His inspired Word. It is an example for us to follow today.

God's true ministers represent Jesus Christ. Anyone who deliberately disrespects them is showing disrespect toward God. A lack of respect reveals we do not fear God. Let us have respect for the office in which God has placed His ministers.

7) Do You FEAR GOD?

Last then, and probably most important, we should fear God. To fear God means to respect Him. It means

to rightly attribute power and glory to Him. It means to show God reverence and awe, guided by Love.

No man can endure to the end serving God in slavish fear. Our service to God should be in love. Love means to want to obey God (I John 5:3). God is not a merciless tyrant. Every law, every injunction God has given is for our good. God loves us. He wants us to be happy. But He knows we cannot be happy unless we fear Him, for "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: (Psa. 111:10). If we acknowledge His as Supreme, we will be willing to live by every word of God. Then all the previous characteristics mentioned—which manifest conversion—will automatically become a part of us.

Solomon summarized the conclusion of man's being placed on the earth. Here it is: "*Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole man*" (Ecc. 12:13, Jewish trans.).

God is love, and God is *just*. Every man will reap what he has sown (Gal. 6:7). Soon the nations are going to have the shock of their lives. ". . . they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, *for fear of the Lord*, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to *shake terribly* the earth" (Isa. 2:19).

Brethren, time is running out! God is soon going to begin talking to this world in the only language it will understand. God is going to chastise! The sword is being drawn from the sheath to begin with Israel. Soon to overtake sinning humanity is the "Great and terrible day of the Lord." "For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" (Rev. 6:17).

You can stand!

You can escape the day of wrath upon America! *You* can be accounted worthy to stand before the Son of man.

How?

By being thoroughly converted. It takes a lifetime of striving to attain perfection. We don't have a lifetime left! Pray diligently that God will give you the seven signs of true conversion.

What Is the Father's NAME?

(Continued from page 3)

the Greek language, although I have so long accustomed myself to speak our own tongue, that I cannot pronounce Greek with such an exactness"—Josephus spoke Greek *with an Aramaic accent*—"for our nation does not encourage those who learn the languages of other nations, and so adorn their dis-

courses with the smoothness of their periods; *because they look upon this sort of accomplishment* [learning Greek!] AS COMMON, *not only to all sorts of freemen, but to as many of the servants as pleased to learn them.* But they give him the testimony of being a wise man who is fully acquainted with our laws, [which was rare among the Jews!] and is able to interpret their meaning" (*Antiquities of the Jews*, Book XX, chapter XI, Section 2).

Notice that it was the rare Jewish scholar who learned Hebrew. It was common for the people—freeman and even servants—to learn Greek! It was more difficult to learn the Hebrew!

Now let us notice the testimony of history as to the language in which the books of the New Testament were inspired. From the Church History of Eusebius, Book VI, chapter 14, we read: ". . . the epistle to the Hebrews is the work of Paul, and . . . it was written to the Hebrews in the Hebrew language; *but . . . Luke TRANSLATED it carefully and published it for the Greeks*, and hence the same style of expression is found in this epistle and in the Acts."

Notice that to the Jews Paul "became a Jew." In order to gain the audience of the Jews, after being made a prisoner in 56 A.D., Paul spoke "in the Hebrew tongue" (Acts 21:40). Continuing with Acts 22:2: "And when they heard that he spoke *in the Hebrew tongue* to them, **THEY KEPT THE MORE SILENCE.**" Hebrew, in the days of the apostles, had become a language difficult to understand because Aramaic was the common tongue of the people and Greek was next most often spoken, followed by Hebrew.

So history tells us that, in order to influence the religiously sensitive Jews, Paul wrote his "Epistle to the Hebrews" in the Hebrew language. But notice, the letter to the Hebrews was inspired to be translated by Luke and published for the Greeks in the Greek language. It is Luke's inspired translation which God intended to be preserved for us.

Notice what the church historian Eusebius, in chapter 25 of Book VI, tells us about the first gospel: "Among the four gospels, which are the only disputable ones in the Church of God under heaven," he wrote, "the first was published by Matthew, who was once a publican, but afterwards an apostle of Jesus Christ, and it was prepared for the converts from Judaism, and published in the Hebrew language." Jerome tells us, in his "Lives of Illustrious Men" chapter 3, that Matthew's gospel *was translated into the Greek language for the whole Church.* It is Matthew's inspired Greek gospel which God has preserved.

These two are the ONLY books of the New Testament which were ever asserted to have been written in Hebrew or Aramaic!

The Aramaic version of the Bible which we have today is admittedly a *translation from the Greek* despite what Dr. Lamsa falsely claims.

Proof That Aramaic Is Not Original

Open your Bibles to Mark 15:34. The English rendering of this verse reads: "And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, 'Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?' which is, being interpreted, 'My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?'"

Notice this! The last half of verse 34 proves that Mark was writing his gospel account, including these final words of Christ, in a language different from the one in which Jesus spoke! Jesus' own words are quoted from the Aramaic, but *translated* into Greek.

Now consider the Aramaic Version. If Aramaic were the original language of the New Testament, there would be no reason to insert in the Aramaic Version the words "which is, being interpreted, 'My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?'" because every Aramean would have understood Jesus' words without translation. Yet the Aramaic New Testament repeats the exact Greek original word-for-word! This *proves* Aramaic NOT to have been the original language of the New Testament, but merely a translation from the Greek.

There are at least a dozen places in the New Testament where Aramaic words are quoted and are *translated into the Greek* for the Greek-speaking people—and in most cases the Aramaic New Testament retranslates the original Greek word-for-word!

Another example is John 1:41: "He [Andrew] first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, we have found the Messiah, *which is, being interpreted, the Christ.*" The word *Messias* is a Greek spelling of the Hebrew word *Messiah*, which means "the Anointed." But the Greek-speaking people were not generally acquainted with the meaning of the word *Messias*; hence John translates it for them into the Greek word *Christos* which means "the Anointed One."

Some sects today claim that we should use only the word "MESSIAH" and never the word "CHRIST." Their assumption is that the word "Christ" comes from the name of the Hindu god Krishna! "Christ" does not come from the name of the Hindu god Krishna! *Christos* is a common Greek word which means "to anoint."

The New Testament was inspired to read that Jesus *is* "the Christ." Even the enemies of the early true Church called the disciples "Christians" (Acts 11:26). The disciples would not have been called "Christians" in the city of Antioch if they had not been followers of *Christ!* They would have been called the "Messians!" Now turn to I Peter 4:14: "If ye be reproached for the name of Christ [*Christos* in Greek] happy are ye." The Scripture does not use some unknown Hebrew name; it uses the "*name of Christ.*" And now verse 16—"Yet if any man suffer *as a Christian*, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God on this behalf." The disciples in the New Testament Church could not have suffered as "Christians" unless they were the followers of *Christ!*

False Churches Use True Name

Notice Jesus' startling prophecy in Matthew 24:4-5: "And Jesus answered and said unto them, take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come *in my name* [using His Name], saying I am Christ, and shall deceive many." *In whose name* are the many coming? Are they coming in some "Hebrew names"? No! They are coming *in the name of "Christ"*—*in the name of "Jesus."* And Jesus said these would be using HIS NAME.

Now turn to Acts 4:10. What is the *only name* given among men whereby we may be saved? "Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of JESUS CHRIST of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by Him doeth this man stand here before you whole"—the man who had just been healed. Verse 12: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

Notice! According to the inspired Greek New Testament, there is no other name given among men whereby we must be saved than the name of *Jesus Christ!*

The English word "Jesus" is an anglicized spelling of the Greek word *Iesous*. The Greek word for "Jesus" is but the common Greek name used to translate the Hebrew name Joshua. The meaning of the Hebrew word for "Joshua" is "the Eternal is the Savior." Over 910 places in the New Testament God *inspired* the New Testament writers to use the Greek word *Iesous* as the personal name of Christ, the Messiah! **EITHER YOU WILL HAVE TO ACCEPT THE NAME OF JESUS AS YOUR SAVIOR—or you will have to throw away the entire New Testament!**

But—reason these "Hebrew Name"

sects—doesn't the Greek word "Jesus" come from the pagan Greek god *Zeus*? This is absolutely untrue! In fact, the Greek word *Zeus* and the Roman word *Jove* are both ultimately derived from the Hebrew YHWH—or JHVH. But the Greeks—and other heathen—did not like to retain God in their knowledge. So they took the names of God and attached them to their idols! The ancient Hebrew-speaking people did the same thing by calling their idols *El* or *Elohim*, meaning "God" in Hebrew.

So the name "Jesus" is actually derived from YHWH!

Jesus said if any who would deny Him—which means *deny His Name*—before men, "Him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 10:33). If you deny the name Jesus, He will deny your name before the Father in the Judgment!

What Is the Father's "Family Name"?

Notice Psalm 83:18: "... that men may know that Thou whose name *alone* is YHWH, art the Most High over all the earth." This verse does NOT say, as some assume, that the Creator has *only one name*—it plainly declares that *the Creating Family alone* of all whom men worship is YHWH or eternal.

But did you know that the Father in Heaven has also a Family Name?

In Ephesians 3:14-15 we read: "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is NAMED." Jesus Christ is the Father's Son. Every son bears his father's last name.

Jesus said in John 5:43, "I am come in my Father's name, and ye received me not." What was Jesus' last name? Notice the surprising answer in John 10:36: "... say [ye] of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, thou blasphemeth; because I said, *I am the SON OF GOD*?" Jesus claimed to be "GOD'S Son." We, too, may be called GOD'S Sons (I John 3:1). The Supreme, Divine, All-ruling Family is the GOD Family! It is the Family or Kingdom OF GOD! Jesus' Gospel—His entire Message—was about the Kingdom or Family of *God* and how you may be born into it! His whole Message was about the DIVINE NAME—"GOD"!

Just before Jesus was crucified, He prayed that His Church would be kept "in the Father's Name." Notice John 17:11-12, "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through Thine own Name those whom thou hast given me, *that they may be one, as we are*. While I was with them

Question Box

Your questions answered in these columns! Your opportunity to have discussed those problems pertaining directly to members of God's Church.

Should Farmers Raise and Sell Hogs?

Here is a question often asked by those beginning to be converted.

The Bible plainly teaches that we are to OBEY God—to obey His *commandments* (Mat. 19:16-18 and I John 3:4). Not only are we to obey the commandments, but Christ said that we are to "live by EVERY WORD that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Mat. 4:4).

The laws given in Lev. 11 and Deut. 14 regarding what foods are good for us have in no way been changed or abolished. The nature of the animals mentioned here have not changed "since the cross."

These laws concerning clean and unclean meats are to be *obeyed* by every true Christian. *Swine* are expressly *forbidden* to be eaten (Lev. 11:7). God's people are *not to eat pork*. But what about selling hogs to the unconverted who don't know better?

The Bible nowhere directly says that it is a sin to smoke. So there is also no direct scripture in the Bible which says, "Thou shalt not raise and sell hogs." BUT—there are, however, *principles* which reveal to us God's Will. These Bible principles tell us it is wrong to smoke. Bible principles also reveal why we should not raise hogs for the market.

Notice the principle given by Jesus Christ: "Thou shalt LOVE thy neighbor as *thyself*" (Mat. 22:39). Knowing that God did not create swine to be eaten—and knowing that pork is *harmful* to the body—we cannot show *love* to our

neighbor by selling him an animal which is *detrimental* to his good health? Is it love to be responsible for sickness and sometimes death? Of course they don't know better! But WE DO! Just as ancient Israel was to be a *good example of clean living* to the Gentile nations, so should God's spiritual Israel today—God's Church—be an example to the unconverted.

Jesus Christ is certainly a shining example as to how we ought to live. He lived a PERFECT life! Christ did not do one thing which was wrong. Yet, Christ *permitted* demons to enter a herd of swine, causing them to run violently down a steep place into a lake where they were *drowned* (Luke 8:32-34). Notice, Christ had a reason for this action!

The swine were UNCLEAN animals. Christ permitted UNCLEAN spirits (demons) to enter UNCLEAN animals. Christ did not permit *unclean* spirits to enter and *defile* CLEAN animals. Christ allowed the demons to enter the swine because the swine were *unfit for human consumption* and ought not to have been sold as "good food" in the market. Jesus was indirectly solving the marketing problem of those Gadarene farmers!

The teaching of the Word of God is clear.

Unclean animals were created for a purpose, but NOT FOR FOOD! A farmer should not raise *for food* hogs, rabbits, or any other unclean animals.

in the world, I kept them *in thy Name*."

What is the Father's NAME in which the New Testament Church is to be kept? The name of "God!" In 12 passages in the New Testament, the name of the church is called "The Church of God." Paul wrote, "unto the Church of *God*, which is at Corinth" (I Corinthians 1:2). Paul wrote to the Gentile Thessalonian converts: "For ye, brethren, became followers of the Churches of *God* which in Judea are in Christ Jesus" (I Thessalonians 2:14).

Either your entire New Testament is a fraud and must be rejected or the true name of the true Church is "the Church of *God*!" "God" is the "Family Name" of the Divine Creative Kingdom.

The Hebrew name YHWH—the Greek *Kyrios*, the "Eternal" or "Lord" in English—is but one of God the

Father's numerous given *personal* names. It is also one of the *personal* names of the Son, because both are eternal. But the whole message of Jesus Christ, the Gospel, was the message about the Family NAME—the "GOD" Family. Jesus Christ came in the name of God, His Father. He called Himself the "Son of God" numerous times.

Read John 9:35, "Dost thou believe on the Son of God?"

See also Matthew 16:16-17 and especially Mark 1:1, "The beginning of the gospel of *Jesus Christ, the Son of God*!" Jesus came bearing His Father's name "God's Son"—the "Son of God."

Jesus' whole message—which He spoke "in the name of the Lord"—or "by His authority"—was to explain that the name "God"—the Hebrew *Elohim*—is a family NAME! His Gospel, or good news, is the message that we may

also bear that name God—that we may be called the sons of God and be “born again.”

Church Today Has True Name

Notice that even the Church today bears the Father's Name—God. The Church today—before which Jesus Christ is opening the doors of radio and the printing press to preach His Gospel, His message, to all the world—this Church has “kept my name,” said Jesus, and has “not denied my name” (Revelation 3:8). God's Church today is called the *Radio Church of God*—because it is God's Church scattered wherever radio waves reach.

The origin of the “Hebrew Names” sects is recent. These splintering, divided sects sprang from the “Sardis Era” of the Church (Rev. 3:1-6). In the mid-1930's two men—Andrew Dugger and C. O. Dodd—sought to introduce human ideas of Church government among the brethren. Since these new ideas were mainly Mr. Dugger's, the only way for Mr. C. O. Dodd to create a following for himself was to find some new, different doctrine that would appear attractive. He fell upon the “Hebrew Name” idea. Mr. Armstrong immediately wrote to Mr. Dodd, pointing out to him the fallacies of his new doctrine as has been done in this article. Mr. Dodd refused to acknowledge the error. He rejected the NAME!

Jesus Called the “Word”

The true Church is even promised to have forever the name of God (verse 12) and Jesus' “new name.” Jesus' new name is again mentioned in Revelation 19:12. “His eyes are as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a *name* written, that no man knew, but he himself. And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood; and His NAME was called the WORD of God.” Jesus not only is going to receive a new name, but He even now—and from the beginning—is called “the Word of God.” And, in verse 16, He has “on His thigh a *name* written, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords” (verse 16).

In Amos 4:13 and 5:27 another one of the names of the Divine Family is “the God of Hosts.” Jeremiah 46:18 and 48:15 call Him “the Lord of Hosts.” Another of His names is “Zealous” in Exodus 34:14.

Yes, “God” is the Father's Family Name! And “Jesus” is the name of His Son! But they both have many other names! It is time we called on GOD for His mercy *in the name of Jesus Christ!* It is time we *believe* the Bible—and come to recognize that God IS God!

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

With the commencement of this college year, a new and enthusiastic staff of Ambassador students is making plans for the production of the excitingly new and different 1960 ENVOY. You can have a part in it!

What Is the Envoy?

MORE than just a college yearbook, the ENVOY provides varied and important services. It is the solution to many of your problems.

Most of you are scattered—without a local church to attend and without the fellowship of other brethren. Hundreds of you were newly baptized this summer. Naturally, you aren't familiar with all of God's ministers and His College. For the majority of you a visit to the Headquarters of God's Work and a tour of the beautiful Ambassador campus is not possible. And visitors from the campus to your individual homes have also been few. The ENVOY has been planned to meet these circumstances.

Each year an alert, new staff is eager to present, in a permanent, pictorial record of highest quality, a new view and a true view of God's Work and His College in action.

The ENVOY provides you with an insight into “life” at Ambassador—a panoramic view of the campus, the student residences, the office and its personnel. You will have a chance to become acquainted with the ministers, the instructors, and the students. Once again you will re-live the eight thrilling days of the memorable Feast of Tabernacles and other Feast Days. You'll identify many friends and acquaintances in the clear, sharp pictures. The informative write-ups will provide many hours of interesting reading.

We'll pack as much information and interest, quality and quantity into the ENVOY as the subscription price will allow.

From Our Satisfied Subscribers

Here is what some of you brethren have said about last year's ENVOY.

“I received the ENVOY; it was so interesting. I treasure it highly.”

“The copy of the ENVOY for '59, I appreciate very much. The pictures of you (Mr. Armstrong) and son, and your wife—it makes you seem more personal when I listen to the broadcasts. And it makes one realize how much they have missed in not being able to attend such a college.”

“Of course I want the ENVOY . . . it means more to us than words will express . . . worth its weight in gold . . . what a blessing to open this beautiful book—understand how God's Work is carried on—know which ones are God's true ministers . . . we look forward to seeing each one at the Feast.”

You, too, can have a visitor from the Ambassador Campus come into your home year by year. You can have an opportunity to serve with us—the

ENVOY staff—as a subscriber. But first, let's take a peek into the 1960 plans.

What's Ahead?

Resembling the growth of The PLAIN TRUTH and *Good News* magazines, the ENVOY likewise began small. The first book came out in 1951, contained 24 pages and enjoyed a circulation of 150 copies. Last year, 1959, the ENVOY grew to 128 pages with a circulation of 1,200 copies. But here is the really *BIG NEWS!* This year the ENVOY will increase to 144 pages and our minimum goal will be 1,500 copies—ten times the circulation of 1951. If all you brethren do your part, this goal can go up to 2,000 copies. This is not the only news!

Last year you enjoyed the breath-taking beauty of rich duotone, the printing process that through the addition of a single color added life and realism to the scenes depicted in your ENVOY. This year we plan more duotone with the possibility of a spread in full color. The expanding Ambassador Campus, the new foreign branch of Ambassador College, the Tabernacle addition, the booth houses, new properties—these will be the settings for many new pictures never before included. One member of the Church will be taking pictures at the Feast of Tabernacles in London, England, this year. Here will be the opportunity to acquaint yourselves with our brethren in Britain.

Your Part

Yes, you too, can have a part in this year's ENVOY. By adding your name to our growing family of subscribers, you allow us to add still more to the quality of the ENVOY you will receive next June.

In spite of its increased size and quality, in spite of increased postal rates, and labor costs, the price per copy of the 1960 ENVOY is being held to \$5.00 . . . and that's the *complete price* to you including postage, mailers and so forth.

At the Feast

Visit our ENVOY Information Table at the Feast of Tabernacles this year; browse through some of the previous year's books. Beautifully color-toned pictures of campus scenes will be on display to give you an idea of the rich duotone effect used in the ENVOY. Ask us questions about anything that may not be clear. We'll be happy to serve you and to take your early order for the 1960 ENVOY. (Remember, the ENVOY shouldn't be purchased with second tithing money.)

Your early orders make possible a bigger, better ENVOY.—