

The PLAIN TRUTH

A magazine of understanding

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The Coming World - *Explosion* in Palestine!

IT'S coming—relentlessly, surely, step by step—the revolt in Palestine that will rock the British Empire, possibly explode the dreaded World War III!

British leaders expect it. The situation has become so desperate apparently nothing can prevent it.

The trouble over the Promised Land is much more serious than its mere localized Jewish-Arab strife. This ancient Near-East forms the very *basis* of the growing antagonism between Russia and Britain. It is the very REASON why the U. S. S. R. and the British Empire cannot both long remain members of the World's BIG THREE! The Holy Land spells DOOM of one or the other as a great world power!

What a thrilling story is being written in world history, fulfilling prophecy, with the ancient Holy Land as the stage-setting!

What Does it MEAN?

Precisely on the morrow after V-E Day, the Middle-East began to explode. On that day there was a riot in Teheran.

It was followed by a major explosion in Syria, May 23rd. Ever since, Jewish-Arab strife in Palestine has been a front-page threat to world peace.

Here is the very spot where civilization began! For generations the world has been thinking of this ancient land, with its royal tombs and buried cities, as DEAD! —as uninteresting ancient history, having no connection with the pulsating, thrilling PRESENT!

But right now this birth-place of civilization—the cradle of Christianity and several other religions—threatens to become also the cradle of the frightful, fantastic ATOMIC war which scientists and five-star

LOCKED up in the Holy Land and Middle-East is the possible answer to the world's number one question: "Will there be a World-War III?"

Here's a startling revelation of the true significance of the localized Jewish-Arab strife; and also the sputtering all over UNO Conferences of this explosive issue.

At the San Francisco conference Mr. Armstrong privately interviewed top diplomats in charge of Palestine relations for Arabian and British governments, beside members of the Jewish world-press. He learned the viewpoints of each. Here, too, is revealed the best-kept military secret of the war!

generals warn us *may* blast humanity from this earth!

What's back of it all?

Look at it!—this most historic of all lands, cloaked in mystery, dripping with secret political intrigue, now holding the answer to the fate of the world.

Today the Middle-East is the very center of the chess-board of international POWER-POLITICS; yes, and of *planning for war* as the game was played by Mussolini and Hitler, and *as it is being played by one or two of the victors who conquered them!*

There is *plenty* going on under cover of secret diplomacy among the world's big powers which would astound the American public, *if they knew!*

WHY it's the World's Most Important Spot

Look at this land—its location, size, peoples, resources—and I think you'll see how it threatens almost certainly to *prevent* the UNO from preserving world-peace—*why* it's the focal-point of Soviet-British friction.

Palestine itself is a very small land. It is located at the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea, about the same latitude as the Southern states of the United States, just a little larger than Massachusetts, *less than* one-seventh the size of the states of Missouri or Washington. Its climate is as varied as that of the U. S. A. It is mostly a mountainous country—part of it having a cold climate in winter, part of it similar to Southern California.

Palestine itself forms only a small portion of the now-crucial Near-East. To the East of Palestine is the ancient Euphrates valley—the land of ancient Babylon, now called Iraq. Still farther East, adjoining Iraq, is the ancient land of Persia, today called Iran. North of Palestine is Syria, and North of Syria is Turkey, bordered on the North by the Black Sea, and on the South-West by the Mediterranean, sitting astride the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, only possible *gate-way* thru which RUSSIA may open up warm-water routes to the seas and world-commerce! South of Palestine, to the East, is the great Arabian peninsula, of King Ibn Saud's Saudi Arabia, and to the West, Egypt and all North Africa.

This land is the vital CROSS-ROADS of world commerce, and therein lies its strategic significance as the spawning-ground of another world conflict. Palestine is the *exact* geographical center of the land surface of the

earth. With air-borne commerce the probability of the future, Jerusalem is certain to become the CAPITAL of the world. All the major powers know that!

Yet the Near-East as a whole is the largest *unclaimed land* on earth. That is to say, it is the largest land unclaimed, and unowned, by any of the world's great powers. It is inhabited by miserably poor and largely illiterate peoples, so backward that these states are more or less weak puppets whose rulers play off one empire against another for their own personal gain!

And this region is fabulously rich in OIL and other mineral deposits.

So there are geographical, economic, commercial, and political reasons why no nation can become, or remain, a number one world-empire without gaining control of this strategic world cross-roads—or, at least, as in the case of the United States, knowing that control is in friendly hands. Is it any wonder, then, that this backward ancient land, unowned by any great power, becomes now the focal-point of greedy eyes ambitious for world power?

Alexander invaded and swept thru this land in his swift conquering flight, hundreds of years before Christ. *But never since has a MAJOR power been able to take it!* Roman legions tried to march into it. The Kaiser tried to build his railroad to Bagdad. Hitler staked the greatest war in history on taking it and lost! Today Great Britain's life-line runs thru it and Britain dominates it, while Russia plans with all her power and cunning to take it!

Cruc of Soviet-British Friction

Today, Britain looks upon the entire Middle-East as its' rightful sphere of influence. Its lines of communication, commerce and world trade, to India, Australia and the Far East pass thru this strategic land. The very LIFE-LINE of the British Empire runs thru the Mediterranean, and Suez Canal. It would be severed, and Britain DOOMED as an empire, if any hostile power took the Middle-East, Palestine, and Suez. It means *life and death* for the British to protect this region!

France lost most of her prestige in the war. Her chance of regaining it is at stake in the Middle-East, as well as her large interests in middle-eastern OIL! France has vital interests stretching from Casablanca in North Africa, clear across the Mediterranean to Lebanon and Syria. So this exciting cross-roads of the world means virtual life-and-death to FRANCE, as a world power, too!

And now consider RUSSIA!

France, Britain, America, China— as well as the defeated nations—all were weakened by the war. But paradoxically, though Russia perhaps suffered greater losses than any of the "United Nations", yet she found herself suddenly thrust upward by the war into position of one of the BIG THREE powers of the world!

Russia was forced by the war to develop a vast new war-INDUSTRY—made possible only by American "Lend-Lease." Now, if

Russia is to MAINTAIN her new and dominant world position, she must develop her internal resources, convert her great new war-industry into COMMERCIAL production, and suddenly, assume a comparable dominant position in WORLD TRADE!

To do this Russia must have access to WORLD-MARKETS. And *this* in turn means *warm-water outlets* to the Seas! And this means *Russia must cut thru this pivotal world's CROSS-ROADS, thru the Black Sea, the Bosphorous and the Dardanelles, into and on out from the Mediterranean!*

RUSSIA MUST DO THIS, OR LOSE HER POSITION OF WORLD POWER WON THRU THE WAR!

And yet, *the very instant* the Soviet Union sits astride THESE waters, *she occupies an impregnable military position*, dominating the "HEART-LAND" of the geopolitical WORLD ISLAND, outflanking the rest of Europe, *in position to do at will what Hitler tried to do—CONQUER AND RULE THE WHOLE WORLD!*

The very instant Russia's boot is set down upon the Near-East and the Eastern Mediterranean, Britain's LIFE-LINE of Empire is severed, —she is CUT IN TWO—**GREAT BRITAIN'S DOOM IS SEALED— AND WITH IT THAT OF THE UNITED STATES AS A DOMINANT WORLD POWER!**

That's the real underlying cause of British-Russian friction! THAT'S why there is no real harmony and unity between the Big Three in United Nations councils!

Can't UNO Solve It?

But, some will wonder, can't this conflict over trade-routes to the high seas thru the Eastern Mediterranean be settled peacefully by the UNO? Perhaps, in the altruistic thinking of the idealist, but the hard, cold facts of REALISM are that IT WON'T BE! And there are reasons.

WHY is America great? HOW did Britain become the greatest Empire of history? Such world power and economic prosperity as we have enjoyed comes by world trade. World trade is carried on over the world's sea lanes. There are seven strategic GATES thru which these sea-highways pass. Whoever controls these GATES controls world-commerce. Other nations can have access to the highways of the Seas only if, and when, the power who controls these GATES permits. All other nations, then, are at the mercy of the one who controls the GATES!

Now digress for just a brief paragraph, and let's understand WHY the present world set-up is as it is.

The ancient Promise to ABRAHAM

Thousands of years ago, the Eternal God made a covenant with the patriarch Abraham. And because Abraham carried out *his* part of the covenant agreement by OBEYING God, keeping His COMMANDMENTS, living by God's rules, the Covenant became UNCONDITIONAL. It was a dual, or two-phase PROMISE. One phase was called the Sceptre—the promise of a line

of kings, culminating in Christ, and the spiritual promise of salvation to those of all nations thru Him. The other phase, called the BIRTHRIGHT, was the promise of RACE, not grace; the promise of MANY NATIONS to come from his descendents, including the greatest single nation on earth to be fulfilled thru the descendents of Manasseh, and of a COMPANY or COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS forming the world's greatest EMPIRE thru the descendents of Ephraim—the sons of Joseph, great grandson of Abraham. Also included in the BIRTHRIGHT was the promise of vast, unequalled MATERIAL PROSPERITY. *And one detail included in these promises was POSSESSION OF THE GATES OF ALL OTHER NATIONS!*

Now it is decisively PROVED today that the United States is 20th-Century Manasseh, and the British Commonwealth the descendents of Ephraim! This is proved in a special 24-page booklet, so fascinating it will hold you spell-bound to the last page, which you may have without charge upon request.

The REASON we possess, today, more than two-thirds of ALL the wealth and developed resources of this whole round earth is that ALMIGHTY GOD HAS KEPT HIS UNBREAKABLE PROMISE TO ABRAHAM! And together, the British and the United States control, have fortified, and guard with their naval and military power, EVERY ONE OF THESE VITAL GATES OF THE WORLD'S SEA LANES!

The Suez Canal, Eastern entrance to the Mediterranean, is one of those gates!

As this world is today constituted, NO NATION feels secure in world commerce, as long as it is at the mercy of ANOTHER NATION whose ARMED POWER controls these vital sea-GATES.

One might ask, why shouldn't Britain be willing to permit Russian shipping to cross thru the Dardanelles from the Black Sea, into the Mediterranean, and on thru Suez, or Gibraltar? The answer is, Britain is perfectly willing. But Russia does not feel secure with merely Britain's willing permission, *as long as the British Navy controls Suez and Gibraltar!* She is at Britain's mercy and with this she is not satisfied.

Well, why not turn it all over to the United Nations Organization? Why, then, in the interests of world peace, should not Britain GIVE UP possession of these vital gates at Gibraltar and Suez, and turn them over to the UNO? Would that satisfy Russia?

Oh, CERTAINLY—for the present! For Britain to GIVE UP these vital fortresses, upon which WORLD DOMINANCE AND POWER DEPENDS, would be quite acceptable to Russia—for that would be at least *half-way* toward Russia's ultimate end of controlling these fortresses herself! From there on it would only be a matter of skillful politics, pressures, and a seizure by her own Navy at the proper moment, and then RUSSIA would sit in possession of those gates!

And for that very reason, no such solu-

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Does EASTER Really Commemorate the RESURRECTION?

IT is commonly supposed, today, Jesus was crucified on FRIDAY, and that the resurrection occurred about sunrise on Easter Sunday morning.

It would seem that no one, until recently, ever thought to question or to PROVE this "Good-Friday-Easter" tradition. Yet the Bible tells us to PROVE all things. And you will be literally astounded by this proof.

For PROOF there is but one dependable authority; a sole historical record — the Bible.

Tradition No Evidence

There were no eye-witnesses to the resurrection. Even so-called "apostolic fathers" had no source of information save that record which is today available to us. Tradition, then, must be dismissed.

What are the recorded facts?

The doubting Pharisees were asking Jesus for a SIGN—a supernatural evidence—in proof of His Messiahship.

Jesus answered: "An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: for as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly, so shall the Son of man be THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS in the heart of the earth." (Mat. 12:38-40).

Now consider, please, the tremendous import—the overwhelming significance—of Jesus' statement!

He expressly declared that the ONLY SIGN He would give to prove He was the Messiah was that He should be just THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS in the rock-hewn sepulchre in "the heart of the earth."

The Significance of the Sign

These Christ-rejecting Pharisees demanded PROOF. Jesus offered but one evidence. That evidence was not the fact of the resurrection itself—it was the LENGTH OF TIME He would repose in His grave, before being resurrected.

Think what this means! Jesus staked His claim to being your Saviour and mine upon remaining exactly THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS in the tomb. IF He remained just three days and three nights inside the earth, He would PROVE Himself the Saviour—if He failed in this sign, He must be rejected as an imposter!

No wonder Satan has caused unbelievers to scoff at the story of Jonah and the

WAS Jesus three days and three nights in the grave, as He said in Matthew 12:40?

Can you figure three days and three nights between sunset "Good Friday" and sunrise Easter Sunday?

We have never published an article that stirred more comment and enthusiastic endorsement than this article, which we reprint from the issue of March-April, 1943.

"Whale!" No wonder the Devil has set up a tradition that DENIES Jesus is the Messiah!

The Dilemma of the Higher Critics

This one and only supernatural PROOF ever given by Jesus for His Messiahship has greatly bothered the commentators and the higher critics. Their attempts to explain away this sole proof for Christ's divinity are ludicrous in the extreme. For explain them away they must, or their "Good-Friday-Easter" tradition collapses!

One commentator says of course we know that Jesus was actually in the tomb only half as long as He thought He would be! Some expositors impose upon our credulity to the extent of asking us to believe that "in the GREEK language, in which the New Testament was written, the expression 'three day and three nights' means three PERIODS, either of day or of night!"

Jesus, they say, was placed in the tomb shortly before sunset FRIDAY, and rose at sunrise Sunday morning—two nights and one day.

The BIBLE Definition

But the BIBLE definition of the duration of "nights and days" is simple.

Even these same higher critics admit that in the HEBREW language, in which the book of Jonah was written, the expression "three days and three nights" means a period of 72 hours—three twelve-hour days and three twelve-hour nights.

Notice Jonah 1:17: "And Jonah was in the belly of the fish THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS." This, they admit was

period of 72 hours. And Jesus distinctly said that AS Jonah was three days and three nights in the great fish's belly, SO He would be the same length of time in His grave!

As Jonah was in the "GRAVE" (see marginal reference, Jonah 2:2) 72 hours, after which he was supernaturally resurrected by God, by being vomited up, to become a saviour to the people of Nineveh upon proclaiming the warning to them, so should Jesus be 72 hours in His grave, thereupon being resurrected by God to become the saviour of the world!

Did Jesus know how much time was in a "day" and in a "night"? Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in a day—but if a man walk in the NIGHT, he stumbleth." (John 11:9-10).

Notice the BIBLE DEFINITION of the expression, "THE THIRD DAY." Text after text tells us that Jesus rose THE THIRD DAY. See how the BIBLE defines the time required to fulfill "THE THIRD DAY."

In Genesis 1:4 God "divided the LIGHT from the DARKNESS, and God called the LIGHT Day, and the DARKNESS He called Night. And the evening (darkness) and the morning (light) were THE FIRST DAY . . . and the evening (darkness) and the morning (light) were THE SECOND DAY, . . . and the evening (now three periods of darkness called NIGHT—three nights) and the morning (now three periods of light called DAY—three days) were THE THIRD DAY." (Gen. 1:4-13).

Here we have the ONLY BIBLE DEFINITION which explains and COUNTS UP the amount of time involved in the expression "THE THIRD DAY." It includes three dark periods called NIGHT, and three light periods called DAY—three days and three nights, and Jesus said they contained TWELVE HOURS for each period—a total of 72 hours!

That ought to be conclusive! Any seven-year old, near the end of the second grade, could figure it easily. We praise God that His plain truths are revealed UNTO BABES, and hidden from the wise and prudent!

What Is Wrong?

What is wrong with these plain, simple words of Jesus? How do these wise and pru-

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There has been no issue of The PLAIN TRUTH since the January - February 1945 number.

A Heart to Heart Talk with the Editor

Sometime ago I read two stories in the evening newspaper with special interest. One had to do with the popular expression: "the only good Jap is a dead Jap." The other with the problem of fraternization between our occupation troops and Germans.

Lieut. Col. Hanley, commander of the now famous 442nd infantry regiment on the Western front read the following sentence in his home town paper:

"A squib in a paper makes the statement that there are some good Japanese-Americans in this country, but it did not say where they were buried."

Does that amuse you—make you laugh? Well, it didn't amuse the Lieutenant-Colonel, and you won't laugh when you read the letter he promptly wrote his home town editor. Here it is:

"Just received the Pioneer of January 20 and noted the paragraph enclosed.

"Yes, Charlie, I know where there are some GOOD Japanese-Americans—there are some 5,000 of them in this unit. They are American soldiers — and I know where some of them are buried. I wish I could show you some of them, Charlie.

"I remember one Japanese-American. He was walking ahead of me in a forest in France. A German shell took the right side of his face off.

"I recall another boy—an 88 had been trying to get us for some time—finally got him. When they carried him out on a stretcher, the bloody meat from middle of

the thighs hung down over the end of the stretcher and dragged in the dirt—the bone parts were gone.

"I recall a sergeant—a Japanese-American, if you will—who had his back blown in two. What was he doing? Why, he was only lying on top of a white officer who had been wounded, to protect him from shell fragments during a barrage.

"I recall one of my boys who stopped a German counter-attack single-handed. He fired all his BAR ammunition, picked up a German rifle, emptied that, used a German Luger pistol he had taken from a prisoner.

"I wish I could tell you the number of Japanese-Americans who have died in this unit alone.

"I wish I could tell you the number of wounded we have had—the sightless eyes, the missing limbs, the broken minds.

"I wish I could tell you the decorations we have won.

"I wish the boys in the "Lost Battalion" could tell you what they think of the Japan-

ese-Americans.

"I wish that all the troops we have fought beside could tell you what they know!

"The marvel is, Charlie, that these boys fight at all—they are good soldiers in spite of the type of racial prejudice shown in your paragraph.

"I know it makes a good joke—but it is the kind of joke that prejudice thrives upon. It shows a lack of faith in the American ideal. Our system is supposed to make good Americans out of anyone. It certainly has done it in the case of these boys.

"Come on over here, Charlie. I'll show you where 'some good Jap-Americans are buried.'"

It is a planned part of the Nazi underground and "Fifth-Column" activity in this country looking toward World War III to promote exactly this type of race hatred, as well as class prejudice and religious bigotry.

Sometime ago news correspondents in Chungking were astounded when Chiang Kai-Shek offered a prayer to God before them, and prayed for his Japanese enemies. That, and the letter quoted above, should sober us and cause us to think!

How little we UNDERSTAND what Jesus meant when He commanded: "I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you."

We seem to believe this command is an impractical thing, because we do not understand, and confuse LOVE with trust and fraternization.

One of the army's toughest problems since "V-E Day" in Europe has been that of fraternization. At first it was strictly forbidden. But our boys, true Americans, gullible people that we are, always unsuspecting, always wanting to trust everybody, found ways to fraternize secretly. They were lonely, far from home. The Nazis deliberately took advantage of this by a planned campaign in which Nazi girls set out to seduce and lower the morale of our lonesome boys. Even tho few of us realize the truth, the army's non-fraternization order was RIGHT!

Either it was right, or America should not have been fighting Germans in the first place! The evidence is pretty conclusive that the Nazis—especially the younger generation reared under Goebbels' diabolical teaching—have become a race of moral degenerates. They have been—and still are in their hearts—our enemies! They are planning World War III and prophecy says they will provoke it.

Is that prejudice and race hatred? Not at all. It is merely a statement of a FACT. Do you suppose that because the Generalissimo prayed for his Japanese enemies he trusted them, or would be willing to fellowship them?

What we can't seem to understand is that we are to LOVE those whom we cannot trust—those who hate us—those whom we should not fellowship. We mistakenly confuse love with trust.

God tells us to trust no man—to trust GOD! But we are to love all men, even our

RADIO LOG

The World Tomorrow

Herbert W. Armstrong analyses today's news, with the prophecies of The WORLD TOMORROW!

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enemies. We are to avoid hatred, resentment, bitterness, even against enemies, no matter how unjustly they treat us. Instead of gullibly trusting people, we should understand the frailties of human nature, have charitable tolerance toward all men, and put our trust in GOD.

In order to show a spirit of love instead of hate in the heart, should American soldiers in Europe fraternize with enemy Germans?

The Apostle Paul beseeches us to "mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned, and AVIOD THEM." (Rom. 16:17). "I wrote unto you in an epistle *not to company with fornicators*" (or those who commit other evils. This applies equally to war-loving Nazis, or so-called yet false "brethren" in a church.) . . . But now have I written unto you *not to keep company*, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; *with such an one no not to eat.*" (I Cor. 5:11). "Now we command you, brethren, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, that ye *withdraw yourselves* from every brother that walketh disorderly." (II Thes. 3:6). Speaking of the church people of these last days who have turned from real Christian lives to worldliness, having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof, we are commanded, "From such TURN AWAY." (II Tim. 3:1-5).

Can we follow that command with nothing but LOVE in our hearts for them? We must, if we are truly Christ's. We can, if we have "the love of God shed abroad in our hearts by the HOLY SPIRIT."

If you are a Protestant, you may rightly not wish to have fellowship with a Catholic or a Jew, but unless you have LOVE in your heart for ALL Catholics, and ALL Jews, you have not the Spirit of Christ, and you stand on dangerous ground. Why, I do not clearly understand, but it seems that some who understand our racial Israelitish identity have come to have a deep-rooted prejudice, and even occasionally bitter hatred toward Jews. Well I want to say right here that I LOVE the Jewish people, and those who do not, had better search down deep into their own hearts in earnest fasting and prayer to God before it is too late.

Some have a race-prejudice against negroes and under stimulus of our foreign enemies seeking to divide us against ourselves negroes are beginning to rise up and demand their rights. But again, the great mistake being made which is bound to lead to horrible race-riots, is this conception that to have LOVE in the heart, or to be considered as an equal, it is necessary to fraternize socially.

War production has brought thousands of Southern Negroes into the North. In some cases the colored people refuse to live among their own people, insist belligerently upon moving in between whites. This has caused minor violence in one of the nation's largest housing projects, "Vanport", a Kaiser project between Portland and Vancouver, Washington. Social intermingling is not necessary to prove equality, and no colored per-

son is proved inferior, nor should he be so considered, because he lives among his own people.

God "hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth." (Acts 17:26). And again, even though racially God Himself commanded Israel to keep separate from other nations, and forbade fraternizing with them, it is equally true that IN CHRIST "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female," —(nor for that matter, neither white nor colored)—"ye are all ONE in Christ Jesus." (Gal. 3:28).

Yes, I love the colored people, too—God bless them! Often a number of colored people have attended public services where I have spoken, and I like to grip their hands just as warmly at the door as those of white people.

If we LOVE people—all people, we are happy. But when we permit resentment, or bitterness, or hate to enter the heart we become miserable, and unhappy indeed!

Yes, I'm sure there are some GOOD Japanese-Americans who are *not* dead Japs. And I suspect there might even be one or two over in Japan. And even the evil Japs and Germans who sought to destroy us, we should LOVE—even tho they went to war against us and Uncle Sam rolled up his sleeves to give them a good beating. God chastises and PUNISHES every son whom He loves! I know God must love me very much—He has punished me so severely. But I love Him for it—because He first loved me—and am thankful He doesn't need to punish so often as He did when He first called me. Oh, if we only have the LOVE OF GOD shed abroad in our hearts by His Spirit, we shall be happy indeed. And how God *longs* to impart to us that love—the love that fulfills His law! "Ask," said Jesus, "and ye shall receive." Yes, pray. And ASK!

Plain Truth About EASTER

Continued from page 3

dent theologians KNOW Jesus was crucified "Good Friday" and rose "Easter Sunday"?

The simple answer is, THEY DO NOT KNOW IT—for *IT IS NOT TRUE!* It is merely TRADITION—a tradition we have been taught from childhood, and carelessly ASSUMED! Jesus warned us against making "the Word of God of none effect through your TRADITION." (Mark 7:13).

We have examined two scriptural witnesses, in Matthew and in Jonah, both setting the duration of the body of Jesus in the tomb as three days and three nights, which the Scriptures plainly define as 72 hours of time. Now let us examine four other Scriptural witnesses that PROVE THE SAME THING.

Notice Mark 8:31. "And He began to teach them that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be

killed, and *AFTER three days* rise again."

Our young second grader can figure this. IF Jesus had been killed on Friday, and then *AFTER one day* He had risen, the resurrection would have occurred on Saturday evening. IF *AFTER TWO DAYS*, it would have occurred Sunday evening, and if *AFTER THREE DAYS*, it would have occurred MONDAY EVENING!

Examine this text carefully. You cannot, by any process of arithmetic, figure any less than a full 72 hours—three days and three nights—in a resurrection which occurred three days *AFTER* the crucifixion! If Jesus was in the grave only from Friday sunset to Sunday sunrise, then this text too, must be torn out of your Bible or else you must reject Jesus Christ as your Saviour! If He rose *AFTER THREE DAYS*, it might have been MORE than 72 hours, but it could not have been a second less!

Notice now Mark 9:31. ". . . they shall kill him; and *AFTER* that he is killed he shall rise *THE THIRD DAY.*" The duration expressed here must be between 48 and 72 hours. It could not be one second PAST 72 hours, and Jesus still rise *THE THIRD DAY.* And it could not be Friday sunset to Sunday sunrise, because that is only 36 hours, carrying us into the middle of the second day, *AFTER* He was killed.

In Matthew 27:63 Jesus is quoted as saying "*AFTER THREE DAYS* I will rise again." This cannot possibly be figured as less than 72 full hours.

And in John 2:18-22, "Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and *IN three days* I will raise it up . . . but He spake of the temple of His body." To be raised up *IN three days* after being destroyed, or crucified, could not possibly be in a day and a half—it could not be less than 72 hours.

If we are to accept *all* the testimony of THE BIBLE, we must conclude that Jesus was exactly three days and three nights—three full 24-hour days—72 hours in the grave or the only supernatural proof He gave must fail.

The TIME OF DAY of Resurrection

Now notice carefully this fact: In order to be three days and three nights—72 hours—in the tomb, *our Lord had to be resurrected at exactly THE SAME TIME OF DAY* that His body was buried in the tomb!

Let us realize that very vital fact.

If we can find the *TIME OF DAY* of the burial, then we have found the *TIME OF DAY* of the resurrection! *IF* the burial, for instance, was at sunrise, then in order to be left an even three days and three nights in the tomb the resurrection likewise had to occur at sunrise, three days later. *IF* the burial was at noon, the resurrection was at noon. If the burial was at sunset, the resurrection was at sunset, three days later.

Jesus died on the cross soon after "the ninth hour" or three o'clock in the afternoon. (Mat. 27:46-50; Mark 15:34-37; Luke 23:44-46).

The crucifixion day was called "the preparation," or day before "the sabbath." (Mat. 27:62; Mark 15:42; Luke 23:54; John 19:42). This day ended at sunset, according to Bible reckoning (Lev. 23:32).

Yet Jesus was buried before this same day ended—before sunset. (Matt. 27:57; Luke 23:52-54). John adds, "There laid they Jesus, therefore, *because* of the Jews' preparation day." According to the laws observed by the Jews all dead bodies must be buried before the beginning of a Sabbath or feast day. Hence Jesus was buried BEFORE SUNSET on the same day He died. He died shortly after 3 p.m.

Therefore—*notice carefully!*—the BURIAL OF CHRIST'S BODY WAS IN THE LATE AFTERNOON! It was between 3 p. m. and sunset as these Scriptures prove.

And since the RESURRECTION had to occur at the SAME TIME OF DAY, three days later, *THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST OCCURED, not at sunrise, but IN THE LATE AFTERNOON, near sunset!* Startling as this fact may be, it is the PLAIN BIBLE TRUTH!

If Jesus rose at any other time of day, He could not have been three days and three nights in His grave. If He rose at any other time of day, He failed to prove, by the only sign He gave that He was the true Messiah, the Son of the living Creator! Either He rose near the END of a day near sunset, or else He is not the Christ!!! He staked His claim on that one and only sign!

So a time-honored tradition must be shattered! Let us praise God for His TRUTH which has been preserved through the dark ages, so that the true light may now shine forth, if our hearts and minds are still willing to receive it! Praise His name! Do you LOVE the TRUTH as it is revealed, or despise it and love the traditions you have heard? "Whosoever despiseth the Word shall be destroyed!" Let us say with David, "How precious also are THY thoughts unto me, O God!"

What Day Was the Resurrection?

Now which DAY OF THE WEEK was the resurrection day?

The first investigators, Mary Magdalene and her companions, came to the sepulchre on the first day of the week (Sunday) very early, while it was yet dark, as the sun was beginning to rise, at dawn. (Mark 16:2; Luke 24:1; John 20:1).

Now here are the texts most people have SUPPOSED stated the resurrection was at sunrise Sunday morning. But they do not say that!

When the women arrived, the tomb was already OPEN! At that time Sunday morning—while it was yet dark—*JESUS WAS NOT THERE!* Notice how the angel says "HE IS NOT HERE, BUT IS RISEN!" See Mark 16:6; Luke 24:3; John 20:2; Mat. 28:5-6.

Jesus was ALREADY RISEN at sunrise Sunday morning! Of course He was.

He rose from the grave IN THE LATE AFTERNOON, near SUNSET!

And since we know the resurrection was just shortly prior to that Sunday morning, and that it occurred in the late afternoon of the day, we now may know *THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST OCCURRED LATE SATURDAY AFTERNOON—NEAR THE END OF THE SABBATH!*

The Sabbath day ended at sunset. It was late on that day, before the beginning of the first day of the week. It was not, then, a Sunday resurrection at all—it was a Sabbath resurrection!

Did Christ Fulfil His Sign?

Now all this is based on the supposition that Jesus did fulfil His only SIGN of being three days and three nights in the grave. All our evidence is based on the claims of Jesus BEFORE His crucifixion. But some of the higher critics and doctors of divinity tell us that Jesus made a mistake—that He was only in the tomb HALF AS LONG as He expected to be. Let us have PROOF as to whether He did spend the exact amount of time in the grave He said He would.

Notice that in Mat. 28:6, THE ANGEL OF THE LORD gives this testimony, which we now present as EVIDENCE! "He is not here: for *He is risen, AS HE SAID.*" And He certainly did not rise AS HE SAID unless He rose at the precise TIME that He had said! So we have the proof of the ANGEL OF THE LORD, recorded in the sacred WORD OF GOD that Jesus did fulfil His sign—He was three days and three nights in the earth—He did rise Sabbath afternoon, and not Sunday morning!

Now notice carefully one more text. Matthew 28:1-6. "IN the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn TOWARD the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the Sepulchre." And at that time the angel told them, "He is not here: for He is risen as He said." If we accept this as a correct translation it places the time of resurrection directly IN THE END OF THE SABBATH, or LATE ON THE SABBATH as it is worded in the American Revised translation. In the end of anything is still IN it. Some modern translations render this text as "AFTER the Sabbath"—or at dawn the first day of the week. However, even if we accept that rendering, this text becomes a fourth witness to prove that at sunrise Sunday morning He was NOT THERE — HE HAD RISEN prior to that time. But if you accept this translation, as it is in your Bible, you have a direct statement that Jesus' resurrection was before the ending of the Sabbath.

Which Day Was the Crucifixion?

It is not difficult now to determine the day in which Jesus was crucified. Counting back three days from the Sabbath, when He rose, we come to Wednesday, the fourth, or very middle, day of the week.

Jesus was crucified on WEDNESDAY, the middle day of the week, He died on the

cross shortly after 3 p. m. that afternoon, was buried before sunset Wednesday evening. Now COUNT the THREE DAYS and THREE NIGHTS. His body was Wednesday, Thursday and Friday NIGHTS in the grave—THREE NIGHTS. It also was there through the daylight parts of Thursday, Friday and Saturday—THREE DAYS. He rose Saturday—the Sabbath—late afternoon, shortly before sunset, at the same TIME OF DAY that He was buried! And Sunday morning at sunrise He was NOT THERE—HE WAS ALREADY RISEN!

It is significant that in Daniel's prophecy of the "Seventy weeks" (Dan. 9:24-27), Jesus was to be cut off "in the midst of the week." While this prophecy has the application of a day for a year, so that this 70th week became a literal seven years, Christ being "cut off" after three and a half years' ministry, as He was, yet it is significant that He was also "cut off" by crucifixion ON THE VERY MIDDLE DAY OF THE LITERAL WEEK!

WHAT Sabbath Followed the Crucifixion?

Now we come to an objection some may raise, yet the very point which PROVES this truth! Perhaps you have noticed that the Scriptures say the day AFTER the Crucifixion was a SABBATH! Hence, for centuries, people have blindly assumed the crucifixion was on Friday!

Now we have shown by all four Gospels that the crucifixion day—Wednesday—was called "the preparation." The preparation day for THE SABBATH. But for WHAT Sabbath?

John's Gospel gives the definite answer: "It was the preparation OF the PASS-OVER."

"For that Sabbath day was *an HIGH Day.*" (John 19:14; 31).

Just what is a "HIGH DAY"? Ask any Jew! He will tell you it is one of the annual holidays, or feast days. The Israelites observed seven of these every year—every one called SABBATHS! Annual Sabbaths, falling on certain annual calendar dates, and on different days of the week in different years, just like the Roman holidays now observed. These Sabbaths might fall on Monday, on Thursday, or on Sunday.

If you will notice the following texts, you will see these annual holidays were all called Sabbath days: Lev. 23:24; Lev. 16:31; Lev. 23:39; Lev. 23:15; Lev. 23:26-32.

Notice Matthew 26:2: "Ye know that after two days is *the passover*, and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified." And if you will follow through this chapter you will see that *Jesus was crucified ON THE PASSOVER!*

And what was THE PASSOVER? It was the ancient day of Israel commemorating their deliverance from Egypt, and picturing to them the crucifixion of Christ and their deliverance from sin. In the twelfth chapter of Exodus you will find the story of the original Passover. The children of

Continued on page 7

Peace! Peace! *There is no Peace!*

NEED FOR HARMONY APPARENT AS UNO SECURITY COUNCIL OPENS FIRST MEETING, HUNTER COLLEGE, NEW YORK CITY.

Special wire by Herbert W. Armstrong, March 25.

As Secretary of State Byrnes said in opening the first meeting of the Security Council of the United Nations Organization today: "This is a moment of great importance in the history of the world. With this meeting the Security Council of the UNO begins to function permanently and continuously."

I write this from the press room of this temporary headquarters of the Security Council. The session begins today as all such conferences do, with speeches by important personages. Press men and women are milling around in the press room here, writing and filing, for their papers thousands of words, reporting names and happenings.

But what is being said in these opening speeches; and what is being sent out from here to be read in newspapers throughout the world is not of itself important.

THE RUSSIAN MIND AND GERMAN THOUGHTS OF PRIME IMPORTANCE.

What is important is what is going on in the mind of Joseph Stalin, over in Moscow, Russia!

What is important is what is still in the minds of multiple millions of Germans poisoned by Goebbel's propaganda, and for which poison our occupation forces have no cure!

What goes on in those minds will lead to the action which shall determine whether, when, and how the next war will start.

HARMONY ESSENTIAL TO PEACE

The World's LAST HOPE of preventing

atomic annihilation lies IN HARMONY in this vital Security Council of the UNO. BUT THERE IS NO REAL HARMONY!

The PLAIN TRUTH and The WORLD TOMORROW are *non-denominational*—utterly independent of denominations, sects, religious organizations of church government—wholly *dependent upon our* heavenly Father for guidance and for funds to carry on this great work for Him. We pay as we go, day by day, running no bills. The true Gospel can go, therefore, only as funds are received. We ask all believers whose hearts are in this work to PRAY, earnestly, that God will lay it upon a sufficient number to send in tithes and generous offerings, week by week, that the Gospel of the Kingdom may now go out over more and more radio stations, until "this Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness!" PRAY, as never before, for a continued great harvest of souls.

An open break on Iranian dispute this week would bomb UNO out of useful exist-

ence, make immediately imperative the British-American alliance advocated by Churchill and possibly lead to imminent war.

Russia is not ready for another war now. Consequently the Iranian dispute will have been worked out in some way before you read these lines.

The Security Council will continue to function for the present. But that does not mean the kind of harmonious unity between the Big Three IMPERATIVE FOR PREVENTION OF A T O M I C WAR!

In the minds and hearts of the principals here, and in Moscow, London and Washington, there is not that kind of unity. THERE CAN NEVER BE PERMANENT WORLD PEACE UNTIL NATIONS AND THEIR LEADERS LEARN THE WAY TO PEACE. THAT WAY THEY DO NOT KNOW AND WILL NOT CONSIDER!

COMEDY? FARCE? or TRAGEDY?

There is a beehive of activity here though this conference is on a much smaller scale than the San Francisco conference, a year ago: frankly it all reminds me of the adages "Much Ado about Nothing" and "tempest in a teapot".

The WAY to permanent peace I DO NOT FIND HERE!

But what I do find here is the way men and nations will insist upon following until the *entire Babylonish world-order finally topples to a self-imposed oblivion.*

AND THAT DAY IS NOT FAR OFF! ITS LATER THAN WE THINK!

The PLAIN TRUTH

about EASTER

Continued from Page 6

Israel killed the lambs, and struck *the blood* over the door-posts and on the side-posts of their houses, and wherever the blood had thus been applied the death-angel PASSED OVER that house, sparing it from death. Following the Passover, was a holy convocation or annual Sabbath.

Observe the dates: "And in the *fourteenth day* of the first month is THE PASS-OVER of the Lord. And in the *fifteenth day* of this month is the FEAST." (Num. 28:16-17).

The Passover lamb, killed every year on the 14th of the first month called "Abib," was a type of Christ the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. Christ is OUR PASSOVER, sacrificed for us (I Cor. 5:7).

JESUS WAS SLAIN ON THE VERY SAME DAY THE PASSOVER HAD

BEEN SLAIN EVERY YEAR! He was crucified on the 14th Abib, the first Hebrew month of the year! And this day, the PASS-OVER, was the day before, and the preparation for, THE FEAST day, or annual highday Sabbath, which occurred on the 15th Abib. *THIS* Sabbath might occur on ANY day of the week. Frequently it occurs, even today, and is celebrated by the Jews, on THURSDAY. The Jews observed this "high-day" Sabbath on Thursday in 1945.

And the Hebrew calendar shows that in the year Jesus was crucified, the 14th Abib, Passover day, the day Jesus was crucified, was WEDNESDAY. And the annual Sabbath was THURSDAY. This was the Sabbath that drew on as Joseph of Arimathea hastened to bury the body of Jesus late that Wednesday afternoon.

Honest Objections Examined

Someone is sure to notice Mark 16:9, thinking this text says the resurrection was upon Sunday. But if you read the whole

sentence, it does not say that at all. The expression "was risen" is in the past perfect tense. What was Jesus' condition early the first day of the week? Does it say he "was rising" or that He "did rise" from the grave? No, early the first day of the week, at the time when He appeared to Mary Magdalene, He WAS RISEN. Of course He was! He had risen the late afternoon before, so naturally He WAS RISEN Sunday morning. The text does not in any way refute the scores of other texts we have given.

Another passage that might confuse, is Luke 24:21: ". . . and besides all this, today is the third day SINCE THESE THINGS WERE DONE." "These things" included all the events pertaining to the resurrection—the seizing of Jesus, delivering Him to be tried, the actual crucifixion, and, finally the setting of the seal and the watch over the tomb the following day, or Thursday. Study verses 18-20, telling of "these things," and also Mat. 27:62-66. "These things" were not completed until

the watch was set, Thursday. And the text says Sunday was the third day SINCE THESE THINGS were done. These things were not done until Thursday, and Sunday truly was the third day since Thursday. But it was not the third day since FRIDAY, so this text could not prove a Friday crucifixion.

The Final Proof

There is yet one final clinching PROOF of this amazing truth.

According to Mark 16:1, Mary Magdalene and her companions did not buy their spices to anoint the body of Jesus until AFTER THE SABBATH WAS PAST. They could not prepare them until AFTER this—yet after preparing the spices THEY RESTED THE SABBATH DAY ACCORDING TO THE COMMANDMENT! (Luke 23:56).

Study these two texts carefully.

There is only one possible explanation: After the annual high-day Sabbath, the feast day of the days of unleavened bread—which was Thursday—these women purchased and prepared their spices on FRIDAY, and then they rested on the weekly Sabbath, Saturday, according to the Commandment (Exodus 20:8-11)!

A comparison of these two texts PROVES there were TWO Sabbaths that week, with A DAY IN BETWEEN. Otherwise, these texts contradict themselves.

The PLAIN TRUTH concerning the crucifixion and the resurrection of Christ is fast sweeping the world. Thousands are coming to see it. This truth has been published in the Sunday School Times. The Oxford University Press, in their Companion Bible, publish a table proving this newly-revealed truth of the Bible.

We praise God that though the truths of His Word become trampled upon and LOST through the dark ages of superstition, apostasy, and counterfeit doctrines, that the ORIGINAL TRUTH has been carefully preserved in THE BIBLE ITSELF. We can STUDY to show ourselves approved unto God, and seek out and FIND these long-hidden truths IN THE BIBLE.

What a wonderful study it is! How

precious is HIS WORD! All the Truth has not YET been brought to light. Let us press on, and seek and find more and more! Let us feed upon the pure WORD OF GOD! Let us not reject the true light, or God will certainly reject us! Let us rejoice in it, with praise and thanksgiving.

Coming Explosion in PALESTINE Continued from page 2

tion ever will be agreed to by Great Britain—and resisting it she will have with her the total resources of the United States, because such an eventuality would seal our doom as well as Britain's!

No, THERE CAN BE NO COMPROMISE! This is one issue the UNO can't settle!

And unless and until it is settled, there can be NO HARMONY OR UNITY between the Big Three. And success of the United Nations' efforts to preserve world peace hinges upon Big Three UNITY. And the UNO is the WORLD'S LAST HOPE for PEACE!

There is the REAL TRUTH about the world situation today! To be continued - June number.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LISTENERS.

TEMPORARILY, "The WORLD TOMORROW" program is not on any LOCAL Los Angeles station, but you can hear it on station XERB, or station XELO.

Station KMTR has changed ownership. The new management refuses to sell any time for religious broadcasting, or to permit any who are independent of the great branches of ORGANIZED RELIGION—the Roman Catholics, the Jews, the Protestant organized council, to use the facilities of their station. JESUS CHRIST was wholly INDEPENDENT of all such ORGANIZED RELIGION. Thus this station, following the trend among radio stations, would, if He were here in person today as He was 1900 years ago, SHUT JESUS CHRIST OFF THE AIR, while they would give time FREE to the Pharisees and the Sadducees!

As we go to press I am in New York for the Security Council meeting of the UNO, to report inside happenings to you direct from the spot. I will return, God willing, by Los Angeles, and try to get time for "The WORLD TOMORROW" program on some other strong station in Los Angeles or Hollywood. PLEASE PRAY that God will open to us the BEST station. PRAYER CHANGES THINGS!

Meantime, if you'll TUNE CAREFULLY, you can hear the program over XERB, the great 50,000-watt super-power station at Rosarita Beach, Lower California, at 1190 on your dial. This is NEXT DOOR to KNX on your dial. So tune carefully, and KEEP TRYING, until you manage to tune OUT KNX, and get XERB. The program is on XERB for the rest of March at 6:30 PM, and beginning in April at 9:00 PM EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT.

I think most of you in Southern California can hear the program also, EVERY NIGHT except Saturday night, at 7:00 PM over XELO, the great 100,000-watt station at Juarez, Mexico, 800 on your dial.

WATCH THE ADS on the CHURCH PAGE of the Los Angeles Saturday newspapers for our ad of "THE WORLD TOMORROW" program announcing the NEW STATION and TIME as soon as I am able to get the program on another Los Angeles station. Also, watch the radio logs in Sunday papers, and I think you'll see "THE WORLD TOMORROW" listed on SOME station at some time on Sunday.

Now DON'T FORGET! I don't want you to lose us—and we don't want to lose contact with you. YOUR EARNEST PRAYERS WILL HELP US! DON'T FORGET!

ATTENTION - KXL - LISTENERS!
NEW TIME 6:30 AM Sunday thru April and 7:00 PM Sunday beginning May. Suggest listeners in and near Portland tune to KVAN 890 on dial at 2:00 PM Sundays and those outside Portland tune to XERB 9:00 PM Sunday nights.

ATTENTION ALL PACIFIC COAST LISTENERS!

NEW TIME beginning with April on Super Power XERB heard Mexico to Alaska 1090 on Dial 9:00 PM Sundays.

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WHY THE PLAIN TRUTH HAS NO SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

So many ask: "How can you publish a magazine, without subscription price, and without advertising?" The answer is simple. The GOSPEL must go to the whole world, and it must go FREE. It must not be sold like merchandise. "Freely ye have received," Jesus said to His disciples whom He was sending to proclaim the Gospel, "Freely GIVE." "Without money and without price," is God's way. We proclaim a FREE salvation. Therefore we cannot put a PRICE upon The PLAIN TRUTH.

We have been called of God to conduct this work. It is not our work, but God's. We have set out to conduct God's work God's way. We rely, in FAITH, upon God's promises to supply every need.

God's way is the way of LOVE—and that is the way of giving, not getting. God expects every true child of His to GIVE of their and offerings that His work may go FREE—that His true ministers may GIVE the precious Gospel to others. We simply TRUST GOD to lay it on the minds and hearts of His people to give of their tithes and offerings that we may be enabled to GIVE the good things of God's Word to the hundreds of thousands who hear the Message over the air, and the scores of thousands who read The PLAIN TRUTH.

Many times our faith has been severely tried, but God has never failed us. We must not fail HIM!