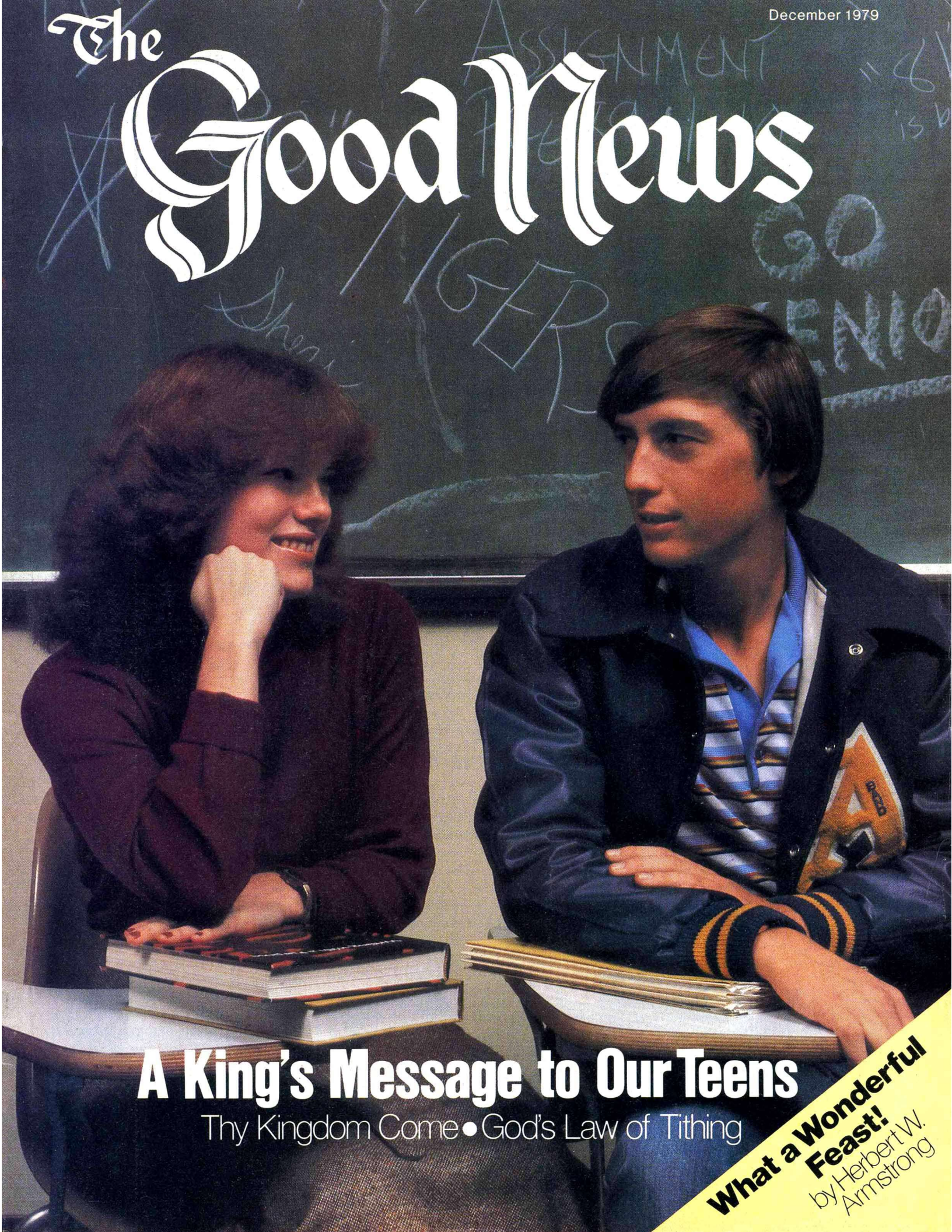


December 1979

# The Good News



## A King's Message to Our Teens

Thy Kingdom Come • God's Law of Tithing

**What a Wonderful Feast!**  
by Herbert W. Armstrong



*DID GOD REALLY CUT OFF ALL MANKIND FROM HIM — except only the VERY few specially predestinated to be called? DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE He did? Would that be UNFAIR?*

**B**Y FAR THE MOST universal error and misunderstanding in fundamental Christianity of this world is the belief that NOW is the ONLY day of salvation — that God is desperately TRYING to get everybody saved (spiritually) and Satan cunningly trying to keep everybody “lost.”

They look on this as GOD’S WORLD. But they don’t realize SATAN is the god of this world.

Jesus said, “No man CAN come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him” (John 6:44). That says all are SHUT OFF — *unable* to come to Christ, except those whom the Father has predestinated to be called *NOW!*

**Is God unfair?**

Is that UNFAIR on God’s part? Are you sure you UNDERSTAND *WHY* Jesus said that — *WHY* God cut ALL HUMANITY off from Him and from access to Him, up to now — except the VERY few God has predestinated to be called NOW? *WHY* God hides Himself from the world?

It all started with Adam in the Garden of Eden.

Now see if we can understand something perhaps you have never really understood before.

What has been overlooked is that in the CHOICE Adam had to make, God required that he choose which tree to REJECT *as well as which to TAKE.*

Satan was just around the corner, so to speak, waiting for a chance to tempt Adam into REJECTING God, even as he himself had rejected God, God’s LAW and His WAY — God’s GOVERNMENT — when he was the archangel Lucifer.

If Adam REJECTED God as Creator and Ruler over the GOVERNMENT OF GOD — as he did — what did God do?

Actually the tree of LIFE was symbolic of God’s Holy Spirit, but also of God as LORD over the government of God, as source of religion and as revealer of basic knowledge.

Satan tempted Adam through his wife Eve. Adam took of the forbidden tree.

In so doing, he TOOK TO HIMSELF THE KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT IS GOOD AND WHAT IS EVIL! In so doing he REJECTED God as Revealer of that and all basic knowledge, as well as Lord and Ruler in government.

He rejected God as Giver of ETERNAL LIFE!

In taking of the forbidden tree, he REJECTED the tree symbolic of the HOLY SPIRIT and sovereignty of GOD. He REJECTED GOD, God’s GOVERNMENT, God’s WAY of life.

**Man cut off from God**

Then what did God do? Genesis 3:22-24, God drove him out of the garden and BARRED ACCESS TO THE TREE OF LIFE lest he take, in sin, and cut Adam, and all offspring from him, off from God and the gift of the Holy Spirit — EXCEPT the infinitesimal FEW God predestinated to be specially called in preparation for the future KINGDOM OF GOD.

**WAS GOD UNFAIR?**

Supposing God had NOT cut mankind off from access to His Holy Spirit. Consider what would have happened.

Satan was still on earth’s throne, though disqualified as earth-wide ruler. Man would have TAKEN God’s Holy Spirit, the gift of eternal life, *without repentance — while being led by Satan — living in sin that would have resulted in an ETERNAL LIFE in total UNHAPPINESS, mental torment, wretchedness, utter hopelessness!*

**WOULD YOU WANT THAT?**

That would have been immortally UNFAIR to humanity.

Can you see how it would have

been supremely UNFAIR had God allowed man to bring such a fate on himself?

That is WHY God cut mankind off for 6,000 years — until CHRIST could come, REJECT and OVERCOME Satan, take on *Himself* the penalty of human sins, qualify to RULE in GOD’S LOVE on that throne of the earth, replacing Satan and putting Satan AWAY from mankind!

God put mankind — all but the few CALLED — in a state *cut off* from God, but NOT YET JUDGED OR CONDEMNED!

Meanwhile He has called those He chose because they were the ones God felt might, as Christ had, REJECT Satan and His evil ways, ACCEPT the GOVERNMENT OF GOD through faith in Christ, and as Jesus did, overcome Satan, even though specially tempted by him.

Those of us called now, IF we *repent*, overcome Satan, this world and ourselves, shall inherit the KINGDOM OF GOD and SIT WITH GOD ON HIS THRONE, when we shall then — *with Satan gone* — undertake to SAVE THE WORLD!

Those from Adam to now who died, not yet being judged, will be resurrected to *mortal* life in the GREAT WHITE THRONE Judgment, and be then, after the Millennium, called to repentance and the gift of IMMORTAL LIFE — with no Satan to tempt and oppose them!

Above all, the Creator GOD is creating RIGHTEOUS and HOLY CHARACTER! That comes from REJECTING the evil WAY and turning voluntarily to the way of God’s love.

**But how has Satan deceived?**

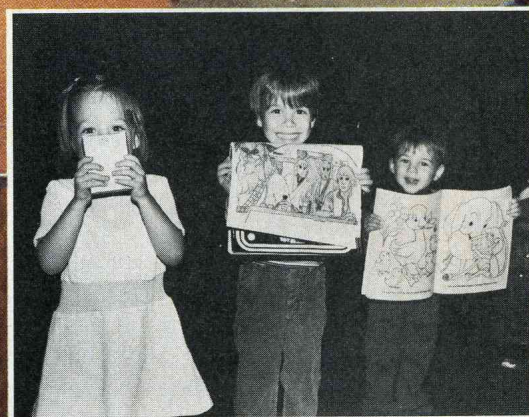
Satan poses as an angel of LIGHT! He deceives the world into accepting HIM as GOD! He deceives into thinking evil is righteousness and God’s law is evil. He deceives the Christian world into believing that they can

*(Continued on page 23)*





**Church brethren** from 14 Feast of Tabernacles sites hear Pastor General Herbert W. Armstrong by microwave hookup from Tucson, Ariz., on the Last Great Day, Oct. 13. Inset: Mr. Armstrong strides to the stage to give his sermon, left; brethren examine a copy of Mr. Armstrong's book, *Tomorrow . . . What It Will Be Like*, center; and children enjoy themselves at the Festival, right.



# What a Won

The following article by Herbert W. Armstrong was published in *The Worldwide News* of Oct. 29, 1979. It is reprinted here for the benefit of our co-workers.

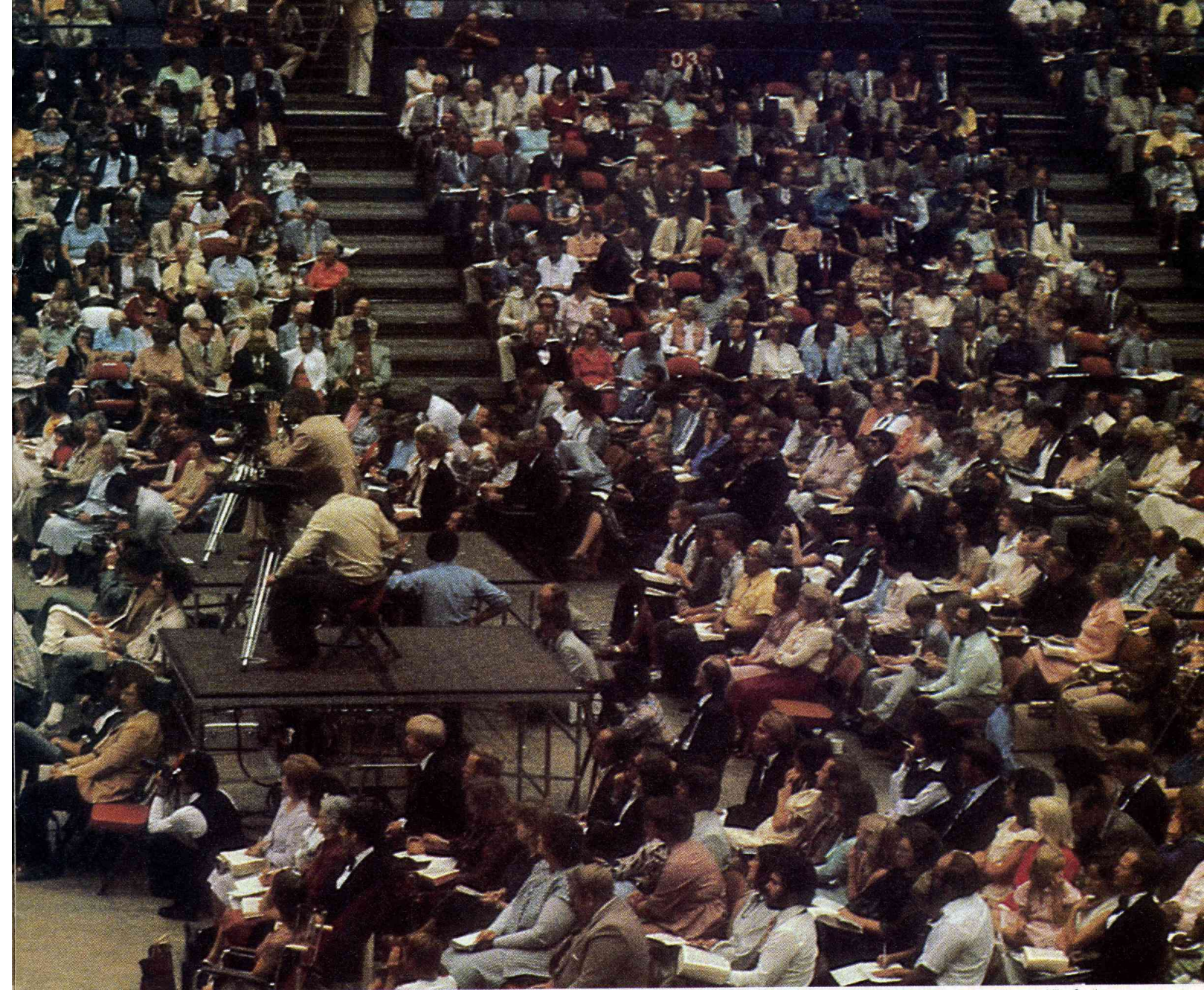
**G**REETINGS! Surely this was the greatest, most joyous, inspiring and helpful and blessed Festival in 1,900 years!

And four days before the end of the Feast of Tabernacles, the inspi-

ration came to see if the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. could put through for us a national hookup with all other Feast sites. I was scheduled to leave Tucson, Ariz., the next day, Tuesday, for the Savannah, Ga., site, to speak there on Thursday morning and at the St. Petersburg, Fla., site on Sabbath afternoon.

It was an exciting idea, though one considered technically impossible without several weeks' time. The in-





Photos Left to Right by Mike Snyder, Dennis Bernasconi, Tom Hanson, Mike Snyder

# derful Feast!

spiration had come through Mr. Stanley Rader. He and I discussed it on Monday.

Even though it seemed technically impossible on such short notice — he had already at 5:30 that morning talked with many telephone officials by long distance — they had said they would leap swiftly onto the emergency and see if it could be done.

I needed the answer by noon Tuesday, when we were scheduled to take flight for Savannah. Tele-

phone officials, and Mr. Rader in constant contact with them from his home here in Tucson, worked through the day and night. And by Tuesday morning, Mr. Rader told me, they had already cleared the way for a hookup with at least three or four sites from the Tucson Community Center.

They had put all the emergency facilities of the greatest telephone company on earth into night-and-day action, and would have to let us know later how many additional

By Herbert W. Armstrong

sites might be hooked up, if any.

I had to make a quick decision.

"Already we are assured that you will speak to more Festival sites from here, than if you fly on east," said Mr. Rader. And there was good prospect that by the Sabbath we would be connected with more sites.

I saw the hand of GOD in this and made the decision to stay here — go ahead, and hook up as many more Feast sites as possible.

Do you realize the Bell telephone  
(Continued on page 11)



### From Herbert W. Armstrong to teenagers:

Hi! Kids: I did not have the privilege of growing up in God's Church, as you do. I was brought up from childhood in a Protestant church and in a boys' Sunday school class.

But we had an older young man as teacher, and instead of following the usual church lessons, we went through the book of Proverbs again and again. This continued until I was 18, when I dropped out of church attendance.

We boys were so interested in the book of Proverbs that when we finished the book, we began it all over again, as the years went by.

I'm sure, now, that God was guiding in this. It helped prepare me to become Christ's apostle, to raise up God's true Church for our time, so you teenagers could be brought up in God's Church. Read this article and keep on studying in the book of Proverbs.

by Scott Ashley

**I** always thought the Bible was for adults. Until I became one. Then I thought it was for older adults. After all, it contains some pretty heavy reading that isn't always the easiest to understand, much less live by! It only discussed adult behavior, adult problems and adult solutions — or so I thought.

So it came as something of a surprise to me when, while preparing a Bible study for a group of teens in an area church, I opened my Bible to Proverbs and saw for the first time Solomon's reason for writing the book.

"The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel; To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity; To give subtilty to the simple, to the *young man* knowledge and discretion," the book begins (Prov. 1:1-4). The Hebrew word translated "young man," *naar*, "is frequently used to signify such as are in the state of adolescence" (*Clarke's Commentary*).

Solomon goes on to say that even a wise man will learn from these lessons (verse 5), but he repeats over and over

again that the book is aimed at a pre-adult age-group. The phrase "my son" introduces many verses, followed by an exhortation for this or that kind of right conduct (Prov. 1:8, 10, 15; 2:1; 3:1, 11, 21). "Hear, ye children," begins the fourth chapter.

### Need for proper teaching

And why is it addressed to young people? Solomon answers that himself in Proverbs 22:6, a verse very familiar to most of you, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

All children learn from their parents either good or bad behavior. If responsible behavior hasn't been taught (although it may not always be exhibited) by the time a child leaves home, chances are it will never be learned. Solomon recognized the need for proper teaching before a child goes out to face the world on his own and recorded these important lessons for you.

God wants us all to profit from the experiences of others, and had many events recorded in the Bible as examples for us (I Cor. 10:11). Experience is the most effective teacher, but not necessarily the best teacher.

Once you have tried something and found it harmful, you can't go back and "unexperience" it. Even though God forgives your sin, He doesn't necessarily remove the consequences of your actions.

Read about one of David's biggest mistakes in II Samuel 11 and 12. David committed adultery and murder, and although God totally forgave him (12:13), David still had to endure an excruciatingly painful experience as a result.

It's obviously better to learn a lesson from David's mistakes than try it yourself and have the same thing happen to you. And Proverbs is a whole book about learning from the experience of others.

### Solomon given wisdom by God

But what were Solomon's credentials? What made him such an authority on how young people (and everyone else, for that matter) should conduct their lives? For beginners, he was the wisest man who ever lived — God said so. Let's read about it.

After David's death, his son Solomon succeeded him to the throne. God appeared to Solomon in a dream and asked him what he wanted most as king.

"I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties," Solomon answered. "Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?"

God was quite pleased with Solomon's genuine humility. "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, I will do what you have asked," God replied.

"I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for — both riches and honor — so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings" (I Kings 3:5-13, New International Version used throughout).

Not bad, huh? But read on: "God gave Solomon wisdom and very great insight, and the breadth of understanding as measureless as the sand on the seashore . . . He was wiser than any other man . . . Men of all nations came to listen to Solomon's wisdom, sent by all the kings of the world, who had heard of his wisdom" (I Kings 4:29-34).

Proverbs is a far-ranging book reflecting Solomon's many interests. It discusses business and economics, nature, agriculture, marital relationships, friends, children and dozens of other aspects of human behavior. For the sake of simplicity, we will look at seven important principles and warnings especially applicable to young people.

### The company you keep

The first of these principles as it appears in the book is about keeping the right kind of company. "My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them," Solomon warns.

"If they say, 'Come along with us; let's wait for someone's blood, let's



# Wonderful Feast!

(Continued from page 3)

system is not only by far the largest telephone system in the world, but the very largest and efficiently operated corporation in the United States? When I travel in other countries I really do come to appreciate the vast superiority of our American telephone service.

Even with their vast and intricate technical facilities it would ordinarily require a few weeks' time to accomplish this.

## God intervened to help us

Did you think the Almighty GOD would ever help the telephone company? Well, He certainly did this time! There was NOT time to arrange the hookup by satellite. So they went to work to do it by microwave and cable. At one site they had to build a special tower. Many of our sites are located in other than main major telephone centers. This required special emergency operations.

As the days went by, they continued to notify us they had succeeded in adding more sites, and by Friday, I think it was, we had the good news they had done THE IMPOSSIBLE, and we would be hooked up with ALL U.S. sites — and perhaps some in Canada.

Now all this required special emergency activity also on our part. A switch at Savannah had to be made to fill in for me on Thursday morning. We had TIME-ZONE differences to deal with. We here in Tucson are not on daylight-saving time, so we are in the same time zone as the West Coast. To accommodate the Atlantic time zone Feast sites we had to arrange for them to start their final afternoon service at 4:30 p.m. Central time zone sites at 3:30. We had to move the morning service in Tucson and the West Coast sites up to 9:30, and the final afternoon service to 1:30 instead of 2:30 — and all brethren notified in time.

I decided, to avoid irregular timing mix-ups by having other Feast sites start with their own song service, and special music, it would be necessary to deprive them of this, and ALL SITES simply be with us here at Tucson, and listen in and see our open-

ing song service and special music.

Instead of a sermonette, I wanted Mr. Rader to fill in for the entire U.S. membership briefly on the California lawsuit invasion. I hated to deprive other sites of your final day special music, for other sites have *inspiring* expanded choruses.

But I felt that our brethren here at Tucson did not let you down and provided superb, moving, special music under direction of John Schroeder and with possibly the two most emotionally inspiring choral numbers — “The Hallelujah Chorus,” and “Battle Hymn of the Republic” (“I have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord”), the latter accompanied by proper orchestral instruments.

On Sabbath morning Mr. Rader gave me the final good news of the “IMPOSSIBLE” telephone hookup — some three or four Canadian Feast sites had been added.

**WHAT A THRILL!** It was not like an NBC or CBS or ABC national network — already smoothly operating for years. This hookup had to go into sites far off the main telephone and television network centers. It really was the “MISSION IMPOSSIBLE” — **ACCOMPLISHED!** I'm sure it required some divine intervention — actually a real **MIRACLE!**

## Satan's opposition

**GOD WANTED HIS WHOLE CHURCH CONGREGATION IN THE UNITED STATES AND MUCH OF CANADA TO HEAR THE MESSAGE HE GAVE ME!**

But SATAN DIDN'T. It seemed every possible obstacle was thrown at me personally. Three or four nights before, I came into sleeping difficulties — nerves would not let me sleep. Wednesday night I don't think I managed to get as much as three hours' sleep. Thursday I was like a physical wreck from loss of sleep. That night I was troubled again, but managed to get about 5½ hours' sleep, due to sheer physical exhaustion.

“Don't worry, God will give you the strength and cause you to rise to the occasion tomorrow,” assured my wife. “He isn't going to let you down.”

That night again I couldn't get to sleep until after midnight — was up an hour and a half more at one time

and managed to get no more than about five hours' sleep. I went back to bed in one last desperate effort to try to gain a little strength in more sleep. I asked my wife to awaken me if asleep just in time to shower, shave, dress and get to the Tucson Community Center.

If Satan could make me too weak to go on at this last moment, he would have undone the miracle God had given us in setting up this “IMPOSSIBLE” hookup. But God DID NOT LET ME DOWN! Through the morning I did succeed in getting a little more sleep — not as much as needed — but it helped greatly. My wife's faith never ebbed, and her imperturbed assurance was almost provoking — YET REASSURING to me. She never doubted a minute.

I was certainly under par physically. My voice seemed husky, even after I arrived at the Community Center. Actually in spite of hurrying when finally awakened, I was about 10 minutes late arriving at the auditorium. I guess you all heard the long applause when I entered — as Mr. Rader was speaking. That was inspiring, and now I knew God would lift me up to the occasion!

Local TV station cameras were there. One local TV news report that night said I started out slowly and a little tired, but gained momentum. The huskiness left my voice. I was now in the hands of the Lord Jesus Christ, safe from any further thrusts of Satan. The living Jesus DID lift me up to the occasion. I knew I had His message!

## Christ's message delivered

I feel God had given me the best and most complete final-day message of my life. It is awesome to realize that God has revealed and given to all of you through me such a message, summarizing God's great master plan from original creation to now — and on through the Great White Throne Judgment after the millennial reign with Christ.

Jesus Christ wanted YOU and all His people to really fully grasp that message, which came from HIM. No man outside God's Church today has ever spoken such a message in 1,900 years! IT WAS FOR YOU AND ALL OUR MEMBERSHIP — GOD'S CHURCH!

(Continued on page 24)



# PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

gain ETERNAL LIFE *through Christ* WITHOUT repentance of transgressing God's law!

Satan deceives the traditional Christian world into believing they can have free access to the "tree of life" — eternal life — salvation — while still in their sins.

Jesus warned *first*, that "Many shall come in my name, *saying*, I am Christ; and shall deceive MANY" (Matt. 24:5). He said through Paul of these deceived ministers: "For such are FALSE APOSTLES, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles [those sent with the Gospel] of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of LIGHT. Therefore it is no great thing if *his ministers* also be transformed [misrepresent themselves] as the ministers of righteousness" (II Cor. 11:13-15).

Actually the false gospel of the professing Christian world represents that God did NOT bar entrance to the "tree of life" — or eternal salvation. But that humanity may freely go right back in to that "tree of LIFE" and gain eternal salvation WHILE CONTINUING IN THEIR SINS — while rejecting and transgressing GOD'S LAW — rejecting GOD'S GOVERNMENT, which is based on His law (His way of life).

They do *not* preach that sin is "the transgression of the law" (I John 3:4) — God's SPIRITUAL LAW as summed up in the TEN COMMANDMENTS. Rather they teach falsely that the law is done away.

## A typical incident

About 38 years ago, while the Church was still headquartered in Eugene, Ore., an evangelistic team from Southern California was conducting a tent crusade in the neighboring town of Springfield. There was the principal evangelist and eight or 10 young men of college age. These young men cruised about the town daytimes, each carrying a Bible, accosting people on the street, inviting them to the big tent meetings.

Two of them accosted me.

"Does your preacher teach salvation from SIN?" I asked.

"Oh yes, of course," they answered.

"Well does he tell them what sin is? What they need to quit doing?"

"Christ died for our sins," they answered.

"Yes, I know, but what is sin? What have we done that is sin? Can you show me in your Bible there, a plain Bible definition, saying 'Sin is —' and then giving the Bible definition of what sin is?"

"Christ died for our sins," they replied, now becoming more defensive.

"But if I come to your meetings, I

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Those of us called now,  
IF we *repent*, overcome  
Satan, this world and  
ourselves, shall inherit  
the KINGDOM OF GOD  
and SIT WITH GOD ON  
HIS THRONE, when we  
shall then — *with Satan*  
*gone* — undertake to  
SAVE THE WORLD!

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want to know if your preacher can show me what the BIBLE defines as sin — what is sin. Would one of you run and bring your preacher, so I may ask him direct?"

By this time quite a little group of curiosity seekers had gathered around us. They urged, "Yes, go bring your preacher — let's see if he can answer," some said.

The "great" evangelist came. I asked him the same question.

"Jesus died for our sins," he replied, just as he had instructed his young men.

He refused to answer or open his Bible and show us the biblical definition of sin. He and his young men slunk away.

The crowd, which had gathered, laughed.

"When someone knows how to ask the right questions, they can't answer from the Bible," one said.

"He could have, but he didn't dare, because he knew if he read the true Bible definition of sin, it would destroy his whole teaching," I said. "Would you people like to see that Bible definition?"

They would. I was carrying a briefcase from which I took out my Bible. Turning to I John 3:4, I read, "Sin is the transgression of the law." Then from Romans 7:14, 7, I showed them WHAT law it is sin to transgress: "For we know that the law is spiritual" — that is, a SPIRITUAL law, and "Is the law sin?" (Satan represents that God's spiritual law — His way of life — is evil, but that its transgression is RIGHT.) "God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin [what sin is], but by the law:" — WHAT law? — "for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet." What law said, "Thou shalt not covet?" THE TEN COMMANDMENTS!

## "Christianity's" error

This incident illustrates what I mean. A world-famous evangelist tells his vast audiences that death is uncertain — it may strike you when least expected. Someone somewhere may unexpectedly drop dead before tomorrow morning. What would happen to you if that someone should be YOU? If you don't come forward and accept Christ tonight, you have no insurance for tomorrow — tomorrow may be too late. So, to the mournful tones of the choir singing, "Just as I am" — in my sins — "I come, I come" the hundreds and even thousands begin the trek down to the altar.

The whole teaching of traditional Christianity is that we do not have to REJECT Satan's way of sin — the self-centered way of this world — that we may crash right back through that impassable BARRIER God put to guard the "tree of life" — that we may TAKE immortal life IN OUR SINS!

Jesus came to save us FROM our sins, not IN them. Repentance is toward GOD, and faith is toward our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We come to GOD *through* Christ, but Jesus said plainly, "No man CAN COME to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him" (John 6:44). YOU or I cannot take the initiative — GOD must first call and draw us to



Him. We must first REPENT — square ourselves with GOD the FATHER! There is one Lawgiver — GOD THE FATHER. We must first repent — and repentance is GRANTED by GOD and TOWARD GOD (Acts 11:18; 20:21).

On the day of Pentecost, at the very founding of the Church, the inspired Peter said, “REPENT, and be baptized [into Christ] . . . and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:38). Jesus said, “Ex-

cept ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3, 5).

### Called for a purpose

We who were predestined to be called by God the Father NOW, were called for our PART — if only by our heartrending prayers for the Work, our tithes, our encouragement and whatever is delegated to us to do — were called to this DEFINITE GREAT COMMISSION behind Christ’s apostle, whom He uses as His instrument.

But WE have to overcome SATAN, even as Jesus did — as well as Satan’s world and the human nature Satan has instilled within us. Those called in the Millennium or in the Great White Throne Judgment will not have Satan to overcome. On the other hand, WE, if we overcome, shall sit with Christ in His throne at Jerusalem and be given power TO RULE THE NATIONS!

God unfair? NEVER! God is the God of justice to ALL — but to each in HIS TIME and in HIS WAY! □

## Wonderful Feast!

(Continued from page 11)

How many REALLY LISTEN? How many really GET the overwhelming MEANING of God’s great PURPOSE? Are there some like Ezekiel reports? “Also, thou son of man, the children of MY PEOPLE . . . come unto thee . . . and they sit before thee as my people [not as outsiders], and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, but their heart goeth after their covetness.

“And lo, thou art unto them as a very lovely song, of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument, but they do them not” (they do not really LISTEN — do not get the MEANING — could not remember afterward what was really said — did not grasp or understand the real MESSAGE) (Ezek. 33:30-32). Is not that a message for the Church — God’s people — in these latter days?

I have a single-track mind, which can be consciously on but ONE THING AT A TIME. If I hear a song, it is natural for me to hear really ONLY THE MUSIC, unconscious of the WORDS. If I especially want to grasp the words of the song or hymn, I concentrate on the WORDS and their meaning, but not the tune. I simply seem unable to consciously hear BOTH the tune and the words.

I wonder if some people do not hear the sound of the VOICE — but not the WORDS — during a sermon.

Jesus Christ knew our brethren — the ENTIRE U.S. MEMBERSHIP AND MUCH OF CANADA — hearing on this MIRACULOUS NEVER BEFORE INTERNATIONAL HOOKUP — needed to HEAR and UNDERSTAND this message!

The vast organization of America’s largest corporation had gone into unprecedented NIGHT-AND-DAY emergency activity for five days and nights to make this possible for us!

ALL THANKS of the Worldwide Church of God to the unprecedented emergency effort and accomplishment of the AT&T. And ALL PRAISE to OUR GREAT GOD!

It was indeed, A MIRACLE!

### Plans for next year even greater

We are going to work NOW, a year in advance, for an even greater international hookup by satellite for next year, and hope to make it possible for ALL sites to have it visually on a large screen to SEE — as well as to hear!

As to the Feast itself, I know that here at the Tucson Festival site, it seemed the BEST EVER! Sermonettes, as well as sermons, were EXCEPTIONAL. Subjects were properly varied, yet every one covered an important phase of the MEANING of this Feast — preparing for and looking into the WORLD TOMORROW in the Kingdom of God reigning on earth!

I especially want to compliment Leroy Cole for a very moving sermonette on ENDURING TO THE END. He, like some others, has seen two members of his family — two older brothers, go out from God’s Church. He spoke with some emotional feeling, but gave us a fine example of remaining LOYAL AND FAITHFUL TO CHRIST AND GOD’S CHURCH, in spite of heart-breaking divisions in the human family. I had never heard Leroy preach before.

### Closer together than ever

The other sermonettes were equally good, and every sermon was an inspiring masterpiece. And the fellowship among the brethren was the

best ever — a wonderful attitude of close-knit loyal fellowship — showing GROWTH in the Holy Spirit of God!

The massive assault to destroy God’s Church in January by the State of California, has only drawn us closer together than ever.

The living HEAD of God’s Church, Jesus Christ, is now moving to PREPARE HIS CHURCH TO BE READY FOR CHRIST’S SOON COMING! God’s people are responding! The few out-of-harmony and embittered ones are leaving. Christ is putting us through a HOUSECLEANING!

Our fellowship, during this Festival, was with ALMIGHTY GOD and with CHRIST, as well as with one another. As we were enjoying a foretaste of the millennial Kingdom of God, with the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, and SATAN PUT OUT — so in this Festival we EXPERIENCED the fellowship of one another WITH God and with Christ, and hopefully with most, if not yet quite all of the malcontents and out-of-harmony dissenters having purged themselves from us!

Let’s pray earnestly, in love, that those who have gone out may be brought to SEE their error, be brought to repentance and returned in harmony and rejoicing. Yet God’s Word says, “They went out from us but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us” (1 John 2:19).

Now let us joyfully dedicate our lives to GOING ON toward complete harmony and unity, adorning the Church of God with increasing RIGHTEOUSNESS — with GOD’S righteousness increasing in our lives, looking toward another even greater Feast NEXT YEAR — preparing for the soon coming of our Lord JESUS CHRIST! □