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ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

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# "CIRCUS"--Worship Without Words or Signs EPHPHATHA CONFERENCE-'76; Seward, Nebr-

by Rev. Ron Friedrich Forest Park, Illinois

Just what do our pastors and parish workers <u>do</u> at those week-long conferences every year? We always suspected that they did a lot of clowning around. But this year we have proof!

The theme of the conference, which was held at Concordia Teachers College in Seward, Nebraska, July 5-9, was centered on our unity in Christ, with special emphasis on worship. Rev. Frederick Kemper, pastor of Calvary Lutheran Church in Silver Spring, Maryland, led the conference every morning in meaningful and exciting worship. During the conference he shared some of his ideas and experiences in conducting special worship services.



A view showing some of the Ephphatha Conference participants.

The highlight of the conference came when Rev. Floyd Shaffer, a Lutheran pastor near Detroit, taught the group how to worship without using words or signs (non-verbal communication). This required a lively imagination. But Pastor Shaffer sparked their imaginations by changing into a clown before their eyes. He led them in worship and teaching about Jesus, with all the regular parts of a Lutheran service, but without saying or signing anything. Then Pastor Shaffer let the people at the conference try leading in non-verbal worship.



Pastor Frederick Kemper (right) sharing his ideas on worship. On the left interpreting in the sign language is Rev. Don Leber.











Dr. George Lobien, pastor of St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Silver Spring, Maryland, presented a lecture on the central position of Jesus Christ in Lutheran theology.

Rev. Theodore DeLaney, a past secretary of Ephphatha Conference, gave a report on the history of Ephphatha Conference. Pastor Shaffer practices what he preaches!

(please turn to page 2 for more pictures of Ephphatha Conference '76)

Every man has a right to his opinion, but no man has a right to be wrong in his facts. Bernard Baruch

Some of the participants in the non-verbal communication worship-workshop made up as clowns. Top to bottom: Rev. Roland Gerhold, Newark, N.J.; Rev. Ervin Oermann, Miami, Florida; Stephen Luke, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.; Rev. Martin Kosche, Delavan, Wisconsin; and Rev. Don Leber, Memphis, Tennessee. . . . . . .

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# A Photo Essay of the 1976 Ephphatha Conference

- 1. Going to daily worship led by Pastor Kemper.
- 2. Rev. Floyd Shaffer (right) conducting a workshop on non-verbal communication and what it means to be a clown.
- 3. Everyone at Ephphatha Conference had an opportunity to communicate non-verbally. Shown here is one group, without using words or signs, teaching the meaning of the story of Peter walking on the water.
- 4. Some became real clowns. (Can you find your pastor in this picture?).
- 5. One great clown riding his brief case all the way to the Pizza Hut!
- 6. Time out for refreshments and light conversation.
- 7. Dr. George Lobien (right) discussing the theme of the conference from a theological viewpoint. Rev. Daniel Pokorny (left) is interpreting.
- 8. The heads of our two Lutheran schools for the deaf giving their reports: Left is Dr. Herbert Arkebauer (Mill Neck), and on the right is Rev. Rodney Rynearson (Detroit)
- 9. Pastor Bob Bauer giving a report on the "Pax Natura" ranch for the deaf in Canada.
- 10. Pastors Oermann and Shaffer making aids for the day's worship.
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### ALEX M. BRODIE - -ASLEEP IN JESUS!



ALEX M. BRODIE

A PSALM OF DAVID

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want; He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me besides still waters; He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valle! of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, They comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies; Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life;

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Sunday morning, September 12, 1976, Alex M. Brodie, Lay Assistant of Trinity Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Vancouver, B.C., Canada departed this life while peacefully asleep. He was 72 years of age.

A memorial service, held at Trinity, was attended by over 120 persons, including Mr.& Mrs. Ted Brighton, Rev. & Mrs. Ludwig, all of Seattle, and Mr. James M. Lowell of Tacoma. The memorial service was held on Tuesday, September 14th. He was one of the first group who was confirmed by Pastor Walter Westermann back in 1935.

While still a very young man, Mr. Brodie saw the need of a church for the deaf of British Columbia, Canada. The first worship service was held there on November 3, 1929. Many years afterwards Alex gave himself to serve his Lord, his church, and his many deaf friends.

For 47 years, Mr. Brodie was employed by The Vancouver Province Newspaper. In addition to his activities in behalf of the deaf of Vancouver, he found time to assist Pastor John Beyer in Seattle several times.

Following his retirement, he became an active layworker during the summer of 1965. He and Rev. Wayne Bottlinger succeeded in having a church built especially for the deaf. This building was dedicated on Sept. 10, 1967. November 3-4,1974 the 45th anniversary of the establishment of church service for the deaf of Vancouver was celebrated in which Mr. Brodie and Mr. William Reid were honored for their Christian service.

Following the Memorial Service September 14th, many persons gave tribute to Mr.Brodie's multiple labors for his deaf fellows:

Bob Barr for Western Institute of the Deaf, Canadian Coordinating Council on Deafness, and the Vancouver Catholic Deaf Association; Derek Sweeting for Greater Vancouver Association of the Deaf; Harold Arnetzen for Trinity Lutheran Church; Rev. William Ludwig for Northwest Region and I.L.D.A.; Rev. Ed Lehmann for A.B.C. district; James Lorwell for Western Washington Church for the Deaf; Maureen Donald for Jericho Hill School for the Deaf; and Rev. Simmons for British Columbia Council of Organizations Serving the Deaf.

Alex M. Brodie is survived by his loving wife, Laura, two daughters, Betty and Laura, and two granddaughters, Susan and Janice.

In showing appreciation to him for his unselfish services, Pastor John Beyer on June 21, 1957 said:



Bible Reading **OCTOBER 1976** FOR RESPONSIBLE LIFE

1 .....Isaiah 12:1-6..... .....Isaiah 35:1-10.....

#### RESPONSIBLE LIFE

3	SundayLuke 15:1-10
4	Luke 15:11-32
5	2 Kings 7:3-11
	2 Samuel 12:1-4
7	2 Chronicles 36:11-21
8	
9	Isaiah 5:1-7

10 Sunday...Malachi 3:6-12..... 11 .....Matthew 25:14-30..... 12 .....Psalm 47:1-9..... 13 .....Psalm 67:1-7..... 14 .....Isaiah 42:1-9..... 15 .....Isaiah 43:1-13..... 16 .....Isaiah 51:1-11.....

LIFE UNDER GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY AND CARE

17	SundayEzekiel 34:6-16
18	Hosea 11:1-12
19	Joshua 23:1-11
20	1 Samuel 12:13-35
21	Matthew 6:19-24
22	Luke 14:15-24
23	John 6:53-69

#### A SEPARATED LIFE

24	SundayPhilippians 3:1-16
25	2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1
26	Genesis 28:10-22
27	Exodus 3:1-15
28	Exodus 13:17-22
29	Deuteronomy 32:1-12
30	Psalm 119:105-112

#### DIVINELY GUIDED LIFE

31 Sunday...Joel 2:21-32.....

8

Alex was born on December 31, 1903 in Johnstone, Scotland. While an infant, he became a child of God through the Holy Spirit's gift of faith through baptism. At the age of nine, his family moved to Canada. When he was fifteen years old he was stricken with spinal meningtis which was the cause of his deafness.

"I can do all things through Christ, which strengthenth me." Philippians 4: 13 (PTL)

### **Book Printed**

WASHINGTON - The National Grange has published a songbook for the deaf, a collection of patriotic and inspirational songs illustrated in sign language with music for the guitar.

Grange officials said the project was undertaken after the farm organization found that such a song book was not available. It was developed in cooperation with Gallaudet College, Washington, D.C.

Formal unveiling of the songbook will be at the National Grange's annual meeting November 8-15.



"I always give thanks to my God for you, because of the grace He has given you through Christ Jesus. For in union with Christ you have become rich in all things, including all speech and all knowledge." 1 Cor. 1:4-5 (TEV)



## Eastern Region ILDA

The Eastern Region - ILDA officers and representatives attended their ERILDA Board of Directors meeting during the weekend of September 24th in Tuscarora Inn Conference Center, Mount Bethel, Pennsylvania.

The main decision by the Board was to give each ERILDA representative the responsibilities of collecting ERILDA and ILDA dues, to explain about ERILDA AND ILDA. To plan social affairs to raise funds for both organizations and to finance their projects. Each representative was asked to serve as an officer in their churches in behalf of ERILDA and ILDA.

The following ERILDA Board of Directors are:

President: August Beyer Pres.-Elect: Elroy Triebel Vice Pres.-Elect: Pat DeRose Secretary: Dorothy Cohler Treasurer: E. Simonageli Pastoral Advisor: Roland Gerhold

\* \* \* \* \* \*



Secretary for Ministry to the Deaf, Reverend Herbert W. Rohe addressing the Central Regional Conference.



### **Central Regional Conference Meets**

NEW CENTRAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE officers that were elected at the Indianapolis Conference June 11-13, 1976. Rev. Marlow Olson (left) performed the rites of installation. Shown after Rev. Olson (1.to r. President Betty Healey; Pres.-Elect Al Reeves; Secretary Diane Foster; Treasurer Arlen Arman; Pastoral Advisor Rev. Fred Allen, and Historian George Perry.



More than 100 members of eleven deaf congregations in the four-state area gathered at Indianapolis, Indiana, June 11-13, 1976 for the Central Regional Conference.

A highlight of the conference was the sharing time when a delegate from each parish told of their special tasks of mission and ministry.

The conference spent some time studying and adopting a new Constitution/By-Laws that will be in harmony with ILDA's.

Elected for a three-year term of office were:

President: Mrs. Betty Healey (St. Louis, Mo.) President-Elect: Albert Reeves (Indianapolis) Secretary: Diane Foster (Indianapolis) Treasurer: Mrs. Arlene Arman (Chicago) Historian: Mr. George Perry (Fort Wayne)

Elected as the new Pastoral Advisor was Rev. Fred Allen, of Ephphatha Congregation, Chicago.

Holy Cross, Delavan, Wisconsin will host the 1977 conference that will probably be held in the springtime.



The Registration Committee at Central



A general view of the banquet crowd.



The Central Regional Conference was both educational and relaxing... See you again in Delavan next spring.....

THE ILDA IS SELLING PENS AND KEY CHAINS WITH THE ILDA EMBLEM TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE 1977 JULY ILDA CONVENTION IN SPOKANE. BUY YOUR PEN (\$2.00) OR KEY CHAIN (\$1.00) AT YOUR CHURCH. HELP YOUR ILDA! Under the new Constitution each congregation/field is asked to choose one representative to serve on the Region's Board of Directors that will meet at least once a year (at least). The conference will pay travel expenses.

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Another group of happy banqueteers at the Central Regional Conference which was held at the Beautiful Ramada Inn in Indianapolis, Indiana, June 11-13th

The head table: Central Region Banquet



Reverend George Winkler,

Pastor of Bethel Deaf,

Colorado.

Denver-Colorado Springs,

### Bethel Deaf Get New Pastor

### **Rev.D.C.Winkler Called to Trinity**



Rev. Donald C. Winkler, Pastor of Trinity Deaf, Pittsburgh, Penna.

by Henry D. Walls



George Winkler, from Spokane, Washington, was installed as the new pastor of Bethel Deaf Lutheran Church on Sunday, June 20th. The service was held at St. John's Lutheran Church, 700 South Franklin (at Washington Park) which also houses the chapel for the Deaf. The Rev. Edward Wessling, pastor of St. John's, was the preacher; Rev. Arnold Wessler, Executive Secretary for Missions of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, served as the liturgist, and the Rev. Lawrence Brandt, circuit counselor for the area did the installing.

The members of Bethel Deaf, led by president Herman Butler of Colorado Springs, lead portions of the service in the sign language. A five-member deaf choir, consisting of Herman Butler, Edwin Lappin, Dorothy Puzick, Marvel Dietz, and Helen Lappin sang: "Onward, Christian Soldiers." Bible readings will be signed by George Dietz and Willie Davis. Thomas Beyeler of North Community College was signed by George Dietz and Willie Davis. Thomas Beyeler of North Community College was the interpreter, and Fd. Kaelberer, director of Music at St. John's was at the organ.

Rev. Winkler was pastor of the Deaf in East Washington and Idaho for six years before he accepted the call to Colorado where he will be serving the members of Bethel Deaf in Denver and Colorado Springs, plus five preaching stations that will include Bountiful, Utah, Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Scotts Bluff, Nebraska.

The minister to the deaf was a former missionary to the chinese in Hong Kong for fourteen years. He was born in Texas, married Florence Michalk in 1955, and they were off for Hong Kong on a freighter via the Philippines. The Winklers have seven children: Priscilla, Mark, Jonathan, Philip, Rebecca and Sarah. They also have Lyle Schmidt, a deaf foster son, 11, living with them for the past four years. All their children were born were born in Hong Kong, except Jonathan, who was born in Texas during furlough in 1960. Stephen, 17, was nominated to both West Point and Marchant Marine Acadamies. The Winklers will make their home in Meadwood, in southeast Aurora. The deaf members of TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE DEAF, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania praised and gave thanks to Almighty God for His great blessing in sending to them a new pastor. He is The Reverend Donald C. Winkler who was installed as their new pastor on August 22, 1976.

An audience of 146 persons witnessed the laying on of hands by several guest pastors who gave their blessings for Pastor Winkler and for Trinity Lutheran Church of the Deaf. Officiant for this high religious service was The Rev. Albert Bahr, acting president of the Eastern District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; Liturgist/Interpreter was preformed by The Rev. Myron Prok of Cleveland, Ohio, who also is the Regional Advisor. The Rev. Lorenz Blankenbuehler was the preacher and gave a very inspiring sermon.

The Choir comprising of Anna Walls, Mary Mowl, Anna Kuhns, June Paul and Laura Kieffer "sang-signed" three beautiful hymns. Choir leader was Ruth Ludovico and the organist was Mr. Jack Lehnhardt of Irwin, Pennsylvania.

After the installation service, a reception was held for Pastor Winkler and his family in the church reception room in the lower level of the church.

Donald Clifford Winkler was born on June 24, 1945 to Mr. and Mrs.Donald J. Winkler, of McKeesport, Pennsylvania. He was baptized into the Christian faith on September 9, 1945, and was confirmed into the faith on May 21, 1958.

Donald graduated from Concordia Preparatory School, Bronxville, New York in 1963. He received an Associate of Arts degree from Concordia Junior College, Bronxville, in 1965 and the Bachelor of Arts degree from Concordia SeniorCollege, Fort Wayne, Indiana in 1967. He entered Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Illinois in the fall of that year. His vicarage was spent at Zion Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

#### ~~~~~~

An idea recently given to the editor is a "question and answer" column. We will give this a try starting with the next issue. Questions about our church and its history or teachings, or any questions of interest to our readers will be considered, researched, and the best ones will be preinted in The Deaf Lutheran. Please print or type all questions and mail to: Questions and Answers, C/O the editor. Donald was wedded to the former Patricia Ann Fulton in January of 1969. Their marriage has been blessed with three children, Jared Martin, Jeffrey David, and Jill Kristine.

Donald graduated from Concordia Seminary on May 25, 1972, receiving both the Bachelor of Divinity and Master of Divinity degrees. He was ordained into the Holy Ministry on June 18, 1972 at Zion Lutheran Church, Irwin, Pennsylvania. After a semester of study at Gallaudet College, Washington, D.C., he assumed his duties as Pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Columbus, Ohio, where he has served for the past four years.





St.Louis, Missouri... Sunday, September 12th during morning worship service, Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf installed six seminary field workers for the 1976-1977 school year. Working under Pastor Martin A. Hewitt in a variety of activities are: (first row, l.to r.) Joe Varsanyi(1);Fred Radtke, Robert Case (colloquy students); Dayton Williams (II); (middle row, 1.to r.) Richard Moody (II); Rev.Hewitt;



Stephen Luke(I); (Back row, l.to r.) John Gosswin, graduate student awaiting a call and who is presently working as an interpreter at the seminary, and Omahr Mørk(IV).....



Ms.Karen Dammeyer recently entered Gallaudet College as a participant in the Interpreter Training Institute II. Karen is a resident of Fort Wayne, Indiana where she has had contact with the deaf at St. John's Lutheran Church. She began studying signs at Concordia Senior College under the Rev. Dr.W.Westermann. One of her special interests is "songs signed" and she has in the past enhanced worship there by leading the congregation in Sunday hymns. This past summer she spent six weeks in interpreting

Fort Wayne, Indiana....St. John's

and Sign Language training at Gallaudet. She is one of fifteen people chosen for the fall "total immersion" program that started September 20th and will last until November 24th. The program is designed to take qualified individuals "from a basic level of sign language proficiency to entrance level competency as an expressive interpreter." Good luck Karen!

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We want this to really be a paper for and by you! Poems, stories, or anything you write and want to share with <u>Deaf Lutheran</u>' readers will be considered for the next issue. Send to the editor!

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DEAF SEMINARY STUDENTS. . . There are now some deaf students in the seminaries. In St. Louis, Missouri are Mr. K. Omahr Mørk who will graduate next spring, Mr. Stephen Luke, and Mr. Bob Case. Mr. Luke served as a youth worker in St. Paul, Minnesota, and Mr.Case was the lay-minister in Memphis, Tenn. Mr. Luke and Mr. Case are in the seminary colloquy program. At the Fort Wayne, Indiana seminary are Mr. George Ferry who is the hearing son of deaf Lutheran parents, and Mr. Laverne Mass. Mr. Perry has been the lay-minister in Fort Wayne, and Mr. Mass has been a church leader for many years in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. They are also in the colloquy program. Pray for the Lord's blessings on these men and their long hours of study!

and how to prepare for this work. In the evening, movies from the Lutheran Deaf Schools were shown and informal meetings were held to answer questions. Wednesday evening there was a Worship Service for the adult deaf of Ann Arbor -Ypsilanti area, with a good number of students attending also. As a result of this week, a Deaf Ministry Club has formed on the campus with over 35 members signed up so far. The club is meeting Monday afternoons and studying the manual alphabet and the Sign Language. Pray that this Deaf Ministry Club will produce many workers to the deaf in the various fields where God's love and salvation is carried to His deaf children.

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..Mr. and Mrs. William Maiworm recently celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary this past summer at the Central Regional Conference which was held in Indianapolis, Indiana. Although the Maiworms are now retired, they are still very active in their church, Our Savior Lutheran Church for the Deaf, North Chicago. Congratulations! May the good Lord bless both of you with many more years of wedded bliss!

\* \* \* \* \*

HEART . . . Whatever comes from the heart carries the heat and color of its birthplace.

\* \* \* \* \*

PRESIDENT FORD has asked the television industry to promote the use of subtitles on program material to aid millions of Americans who are hearing impaired. In the White House he made a statement saying he has asked the director of the Office of Telecommunications Policy to meet with representatives of the broadcasting industry to encourage "voluntary implementation of a closed-captioned system."

\* \* \* \* \* \*

WE HEAR that Silent Church in Madison, Wisconsin has a new pastor. His name is Rev. Gary Bomberger who was installed September 19th. Pastor Bomberger graduated from the Springfield Seminary in 1975 and had been assisting Rev. Wagenknecht in Clearwater, Florida. Candidate Larry Larsen was also installed September 19th in Jacksonville, Illinois. He will be assisting Pastor Anderson and residing in Peoria, Ill.

\* \* \* \* \* \*

DEAF MINISTRY CLUB IN ANN ARBOR, MICH. Monday, September 17, 1976, Pastors Rynearson and Bailey went to Concordia Lutheran College, Ann Arbor, to be part of Deaf Ministry Week there. On Thursday and Friday of the same week, Pastor Neisch joined them. During the day students interested in serving the deaf as Pastors, teachers, or in other ways, talked with the pastors about deafness <u>DID YOU KNOW</u>? That Sign Language is the third largest language used in the United States!

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Portland, Oregon. . . After Thanksgiving Day, Rev. Shirrel Petzholdt will be teaching at Concordia College in Portland, O. The class he will be teaching is called "Communicating with Deaf People", and will give 5 hours of college credit! Now if that is not good news, I don't know what is.

*	*	*	*	*	*	*

MEAT. . . Some people have food but no appetite; others have appetite but no food; I have both. The Lord be praised! \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT. . .October 23-24 marked the celebration of 10 years in our church building in West Hartford. The Lutheran Church of the Deaf celebrated this event Saturday night with a banquet. Speaker for the evening was the Rev. Louis Jasper, former missionary to the deaf in Hong Kong. Sunday morning worship was led by the "Gospel Trio", a group of young people from St.Matthew Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Elmhurst, New York. Warren King, Dorothy Cohler, and Linda King are in the group which signs the worship with songs.

# HOW NEAR IS THE END OF TIME?

#### by Richard Neitzel from <u>The Lutheran Witness</u> June 6, 1976

Not long ago a high school girl complained to me, "My parents are on an 'end of the world' kick. That's all they've been talking about for a week- how everything could be over very soon." Then she added in frustration. "To me the end of the world is 80 years away."

In every "age of fear" there is a renewed interest in Biblical prophecy. That may be part of the reason for the growing popularity of Hal Lindsey and others who write about what Biblical prophecy says about the future.

You might not immediately recognize the name Hal Lindsey. But if you are one who enjoys turining the paperback racks at the grocery or drugstore, his books on prophecy will be familiar. The Late Great Planet Earth and its follow-up. There's a New World Coming, have both achieved considerable popularity.

We live in an "age of fear." In some people this fear provokes an end-of-the-world hysteria or preoccupation, such as that shown by a group of people still "holed up" in a West Virginia farmhouse waiting for the end. In some persons, and especially in youth, this preoccupation creates a profound anxiety that the world may collapse around them.

Renewed interst in Biblical prophecy can too easily be motivated by a curiosity for curiosity's sake which asks with the disciples, "Tell us, Teacher, when will these things take place?" or searches the Bible with the fear-ridden spirit of Saul, who "inquired" of the witch of Endor. Intense interestin the end of time can simply be the effort of an already shaky faith to shore itself up against a rising tide of doubt by creating an exactiong calendar of times and seasons from the prophetic Word. is that really true? Who would be less frightened knowing beforehand all that the future will bring? The desire to see into the future is a very human desire. But it is not necessarily Christian-especially not when it overrides faith, "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Jesus steadfastly refused to satisfy curiosity about the end. "Of that day and that hour no one knows," He said, "not the angels in heaven-no one but the Father." Instead, He emphasized constant watchfulness for the day which will come as a "thief in the night."

Of course the New Testament has a lot to say about the end times. "Repent," said John the Baptist, "for the kingdom of God is at hand."

In the light of Christ's victory on the cross and His resurrection the whole New Testament sees the kingdom of God virtually on top of us. We are in the end times right now! That time is measured from Jesus Christ, who is the dividing line of all history and all prophecy too. Aren't we in a similar position as the apostle Peter, who was able to walk on the tumultuous sea as long as he kept his eyes riveted on the One who controls all the hostile forces of life?

In this "age of fear" Lindsey's books are popular for another reason. In The Late Great Planet Earth Lindsey is at work on a prophetic "puzzle." The key to that puzzle is currentday Israel, whose restoration as a nation in 1948 and possession of Palestione, he maintains, came about as a prophetic fulfillment. In the present Mideast crisis Lindsey see the collision of powers predicted by the prophets.

Gog and Magog of Ezekiel 38 are identified as the Soviet Union. The ten-horned beast of Daniel and Revelation is said to be the ten-nation common market. "Kings of the east" crossing the great river Euphrates are the armies of Communist China entering the Mideast arena for the climactic battle of Armageddon. The Antichrist will be a charismatic world leader who will temporarily defuse this explesive situation and be proclaimed as a world emperor.

like creatures with stingers in their tails [Revelation 9) are helicopters armed with nerve gas.

This type of interpretation makes it exceptionally "easy" for people to relate prophetic statemnts to the world in which we live. No need to bother with all those people and stories from long ago. No struggle with Old or New Testament history, language, or culture. No need to understand the historical setting of a particular word of God. No problem! It is as easy as your daily newspaper.

An important part of Lindsey's popularity results from his badly misplaced emphasis. If the Bible is viewed primarily as a collection of Bible passages or even books, it can be a "puzzle" that needs to be pieced together.

What is the Bible? God's Word. Is it not also, from beginning to end, a story-the amazing story of salvation? As a story, the Bible has a major theme. It has major and minor characters, a plot, and drama that plunges like a sword to the heart of the human predicament. Its message speaks to people of all times and circumstances.

The Bible concentrates not upon earthly kingdoms but upon the victory. Biblical writers are more concerned to identify Christ crucified as the fulfillment of all God's promises than they are to identify antichrist. Jesus is the central character and the real Hero of this story.

What is the Bible? A story that happened in history. As history, all those men and nations the Bible mentions are important. They are the ones about whom and to whom God's prophets first spoke.

If you want to hear the prophet powerful message of judgment and redemption for our own "age of fear," listen as God spoke in history, as God's Word always speaks. Listen to that message through the ears or God's people Israel as they struggle in a hostile world, rising only to fall, hardheart-

But a study of prophecy on those grounds never calms fear; it increases fear. In one sense Lindsey and others with a similar slant are enjoying a popularity borne of an unhealthy spirit. His attempt to allay fear only increases that fear and unintentionally preys upon it.

Lindsey proceeds upon the idea that mere information about the future, as long as it is backed up with a Bible passage, somehow makes what's coming less frightening. But Other mind-grabbing interpretations: Lindsey interprets the seven trumpets of judgment in Revelation 8 ecologically, as air and water pollution, the defoliation of earth's vegetation, and the science fictionlike rebellion of insect life against man; the 144,000 of Revelation are a literal number of converted Jews who will evangelize the world during the final tribulation; the flying horse ed, rebellious, yet convinced of God's favor. Listen to that message as the haughty military powers of the day heard it, convinced of their invincibility, only to discover that they are pawns in the hand of God.

Hear that prophetic Word! It never says, "Peace, when there is no peace." It never preaches a "pie-in-the-sky" disregard for the signs of the time It speaks of the "peace which passes understanding" and which sustained all the saints of God as they faced with shining eyes their lions' dens and bloodthirsty Roman arenas.

(continue on page 8)



and forever. "What time I am afraid, I will trust in Thee."

These five G's will help you be unafraid in any situation, anytime, all the time.

### HOW NEAR IS THE END OF TIME?

(continued from page 7)

That Word still enables modern men and women of faith to see past the frightening lines in our newspapers and trust in the God whose kingdom, power, and glory unfold in ways we can scarcely imagine.

Hear that urgent message, my friend! For "Behold, He comes quickly! Come, Lord Jesus!" With The Word

(Check One) Fill in your name and address on the N ù spaces below. Use as many names and Sustainin Active Associate addresses as desired. Clip and mail to: Mr.Russel Healey, 737 Cumberland Drive St. Louis, Missouri 63125 Make checks or money orders payable to: ILDA Treasurer, Russel Healey Do Not Send Cash. Enclose \$2 per name. NAME Address State Zip City NAME Address City State Zip NAME Address Zip State City (Please Type or Print Plainly)