

# Bible Society News

By MARY ALLRED  
Member of Women's Speakers Bureau, American Bible Society

NEW YORK — "Concern about the Scripture shortage in Africa and man's urgent quest for inner peace as he probes outer space, makes it particularly appropriate that Ethiopia's representative to the United Nations and an Apollo space program executive was the principal speaker at the American Bible Society's Advisory Council, November 13-15," Roy I. Madsen, acting ABS church relations secretary, said today.

The meetings were held at New York's Hotel Manhattan, Eighth Avenue and 44th Street. The final session on November 15 was held at Fible House, ABS headquarters, at 61st Street and Broadway, near Lincoln Center.

His Excellency Lij Endalkachew Makonnen, permanent UN representative from Ethiopia, gave the keynote address at the November 13 dinner. Edward B. Lindaman, manager Interdivisional Projects, Apollo, Space Division, North American Rockwell, Downey, Calif., was speaker at the November 14 dinner.

Representatives from more than 65 Protestant and Orthodox denominations, eight church related

agencies as well as Roman Catholic observers attended the three day meetings. Total attendance was over 250," Mr. Madsen said.

Of special interest was a discussion of developments since 1966 of cooperative efforts between the Bible Societies and the Vatican working toward a common text of the Bible, based on the original languages in which the Scriptures were first written. Leading this dialogue was Rev. Dr. Eugene A. Nida, ABS translations secretary, and Paul A. Hopkins, ABS overseas secretary. Dr. Nida also explained the Advisory Council theme, "God's Word For a New Age—The Book For New Readers." This is phase one of a five year plan of the United Bible Societies designed to point up the urgent need for Scripture distribution to keep pace with the population and literacy explosions in emerging countries as well as here at home. Mr. Hopkins also discussed the critical need for expanding Scripture distribution and translation in almost 200 different languages and dialects of Africa.

Other speakers included Rev. Dr. Robert T. Taylor, an ABS general secretary, whose subject was "The Importance of the Advisory and Orthodox denominations, eight church related

national distribution secretary, who spoke on Scripture requirements in the United States. Charles W. Baas, ABS treasurer, discussed the Society's budget. Also speaking was Mrs. Paul Moser of Topeka, Kan., past ABS director of women's activities and Dr. Dorothy E. L. Haas, formerly of Minneapolis, Minn., who succeeded Mrs. Moser. Dr. Bryant M. Kirkland, minister of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, and ABS church relations committee chairman, chaired the opening session. Edmund F. Wagner, ABS president, presided at the concluding session. Chairing other meetings were: Coleman Burke, Dr. L. Venchael Booth, Dr. Malvin H. Lundeen and Mrs. Norman Vincent Peale, all ABS board members.

Other highlights of the Advisory Council included special recognition by the Armed Forces Chaplains' Commission of 150 years of Scripture donations by the ABS to men and women of the armed forces of the United States and their allies. A similar ceremony was held in observance of 25 years of ABS service to the Boy Scouts of America.

Referring to Mr. Makonnen's appearance, Mr. Madsen noted that "the name Ethiopia developed from the tradition that Ethiopians, the son of the Biblical Cush, was the father of Aksumawi. The sons of Aksumawi are known as 'The Fathers of Aksum,' the ancient Sabaeen Empire established in the north of the country."

He also pointed out that "His Excellency is the first ambassador of his country to be appointed with cabinet ministerial rank. This testifies to the importance Ethiopia attaches to the UN and to the role she feels bound to play during coming years." Highlights of his career which began in 1951, when he was attached in the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs include: Member of the Ethiopian delegation on the Suez Canal; Ethiopian Ambassador to the Court of St. James and Minister of Commerce and Industry. In the last post he headed numerous Ethiopian delegations, notably to the Trade and Development Conference in Geneva and the annual session.

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# Let's Go To Church Sunday

## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

CAN THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH?

International Sunday School Lesson for Dec. 10

Memory Selection: "He shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."—Micah 4:3.

Lesson Text: Micah 4.

In today's lesson we shall study the contributions Christianity has made in the past towards peace, and, bearing this in mind, we shall examine the part it can play in making this troubled world a more peaceful place for all nations in the years ahead.

God intended man to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Yet, as we scan the headlines in the newspapers, as we listen to the radio and newscasts on television, we cannot fail to realize that man has fallen far short of his destiny.

But we cannot afford to sit around and bemoan our fate; nor can we afford to lose heart for the fight that lies ahead of us. For it is not thus that we will put an end to bloodshed, or fight aggression wherever it rears its ugly head. We must rather summon the weapons of courage, of justice, of concern for our fellow men.

Great men have contributed to world peace in the past; great men are contributing to world peace even as these words are written. But the spirit of their greatness must not march alone. It must be backed by every true Christian in all the lands—far flung though they may be.

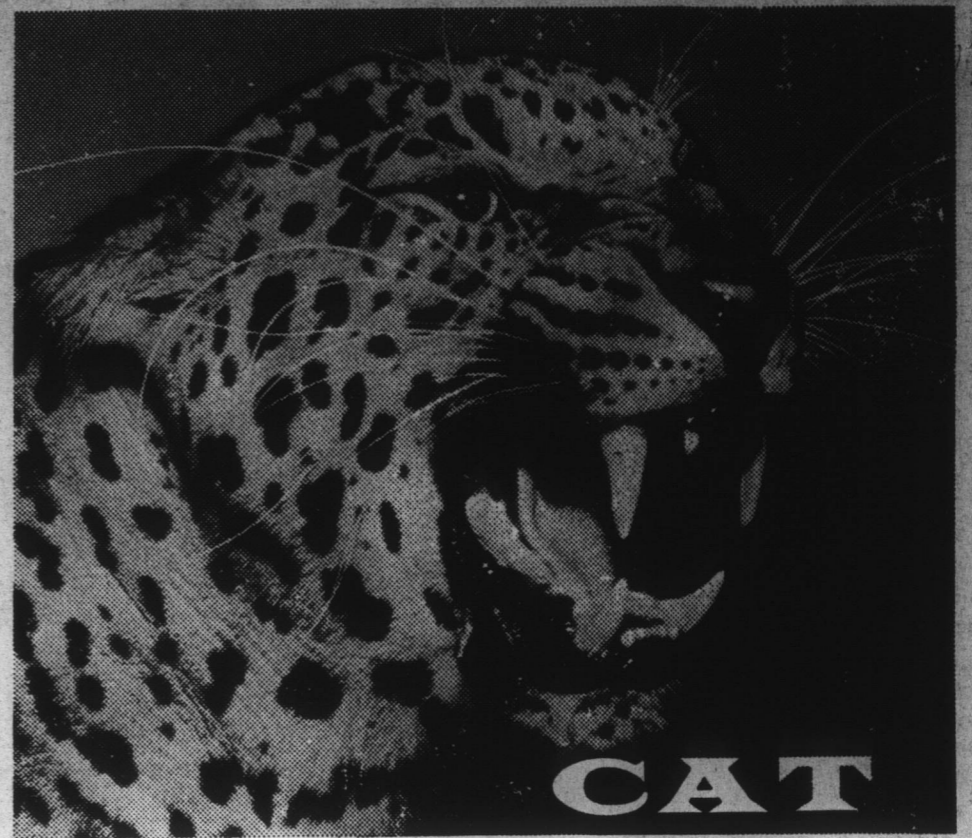
Before we give way to despondency at world disorder, we would do well to remind ourselves that Christian principles have wrought many miracles throughout the centuries. It was Christian concern that did away with slavery, conquered the evils of child labor, and raised womanhood from the level of mere chattels to their rightful place in our modern-day world.

Christian commitment is the key. Commitment of the church in leading its people into righteousness through the preaching of the Gospel; commitment of the people that make up that church in putting the ideals of Christianity into action.

World peace will only become a fact when every man has peace in his heart—towards himself, his fellow men, and other nations.

This "personal peace" is a very necessary adjunct to the dedicated Christian. Without it, he is in no condition to tackle the larger issues of peace, where they concern other human beings, other countries.

So—let us attain this blessed state within ourselves; then let us go to the peace table, with reason and justice, kindness and concern, rather than reaching for weapons that will destroy our enemies—and ourselves.



## CAT OR KITTEN?

THE CHURCH FOR ALL . . . ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For his children's sake. (3) For the sake of his community and nation. (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

If someone asked you which you would rather have for a pet, a leopard or a pussycat—you would probably think they were crazy. Why? Because to you a pussycat is a soft cuddly animal—a leopard, a ferocious beast of prey. But suppose when you were small, someone had taught you that both animals are similar? Then, the question would not seem absurd.

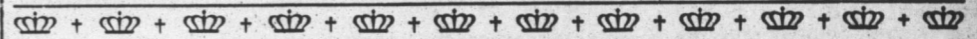
So much depends upon how we've been taught. A mistaken interpretation of a particular word can distort our thinking. Take for instance, the word *Christian*. Some people think of a Christian as a fanatical do-gooder. Others see him as a hypocrite, praying loudly on Sundays while ignoring religious responsibility. Still others, know of the spiritual riches to be found in following the examples of Jesus.

Your church teaches and interprets God's truths. The spiritual values you learn there can illuminate your entire life.

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Sunday Isaiah 11:1-9	Monday Hosea 13:4-11	Tuesday Acts 11:19-26	Wednesday I Corinthians 1:18-25	Thursday Ephesians 2:4-10	Friday James 1:22-27	Saturday II Peter 1:16-21
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Dear friends,

It deserves repeating that Social Security benefits, whether for lump-sum death benefits or other payments to survivors, are never paid automatically. Proper application must be made to the local Social Security field office in order to secure payment of benefits. We are glad to assist in this matter so that benefit payments to survivors are not lost thru ignorance or neglect.

Respectfully,

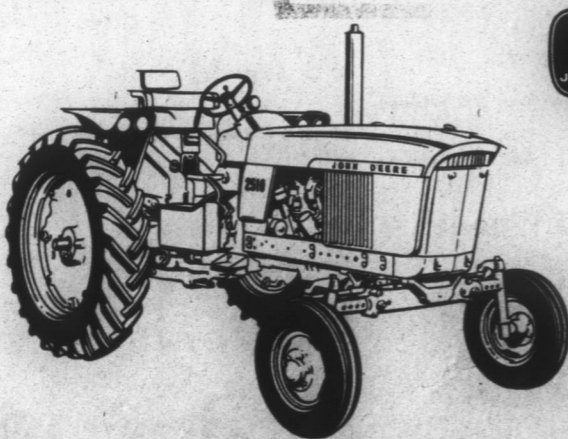
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