

THE ROLE OF THE
COMPUTER
IN THE
END-TIME



RAY BRUBAKER

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IN THE
END-TIME**

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INTRODUCTION

The series of messages in this book are from the radio and television broadcasts given on God's News Behind the News. We trust they will be a blessing and inspiration to you and that you will help share this message with the multitudes who need to hear- "Jesus Is Coming Soon. Be Ready!"



GOD'S NEWS ..BEHIND THE NEWS
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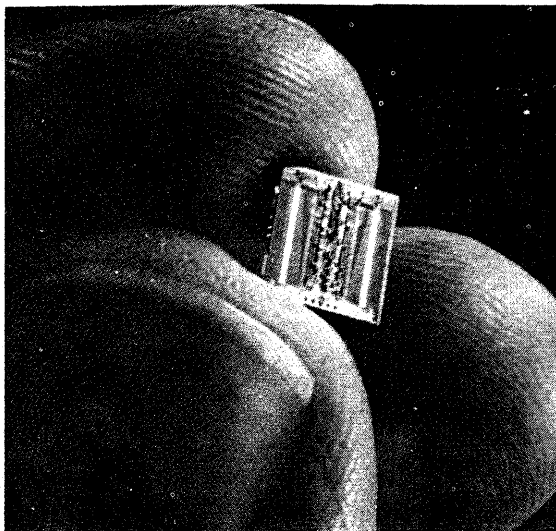
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Computers



In an article for TIME magazine, Robert Jastrow, Director of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, says: "The capabilities of computers are increasing at a fantastic rate... Computer power is growing exponentially; it has increased ten-fold every eight years since 1946. Four generations of computer evolution—vacuum tubes, transistors, simple integrated circuits and today's miracle chips followed one another in rapid succession...In the 1990's...the compactness and reasoning power of an intelligence built out of silicon will begin to match that of the human brain."

Think of it!

It is interesting to note that Jastrow's comments were sought by TIME in connection with our space program. Without the computer, our astronauts would never have been able to perform their space missions.

For example, in April of 1970, the U.S. Apollo XIII mission was suddenly aborted and the decision made to bring the crippled ship back to earth. It took scientists working with computers only 84 minutes to figure the correct return path to earth.

How long do you suppose it would have taken a mathematical brain to do this? Well, NASA figures it would have taken one man using just pencil and paper more than a million years to perform the task. With a desk calculator, a man could have performed this service in only 60,000 years.

Today, silicon memory chips, the size of a man's fingertip,

are capable of intricate computations that only a decade ago would have been thought impossible.

As one periodical has commented: "The miracle (or silicon) chip represents a quantum leap in the technology of mankind, a development that over the past few years has acquired the force and significance associated with the development of hand tools or the discovery of the steam engine."

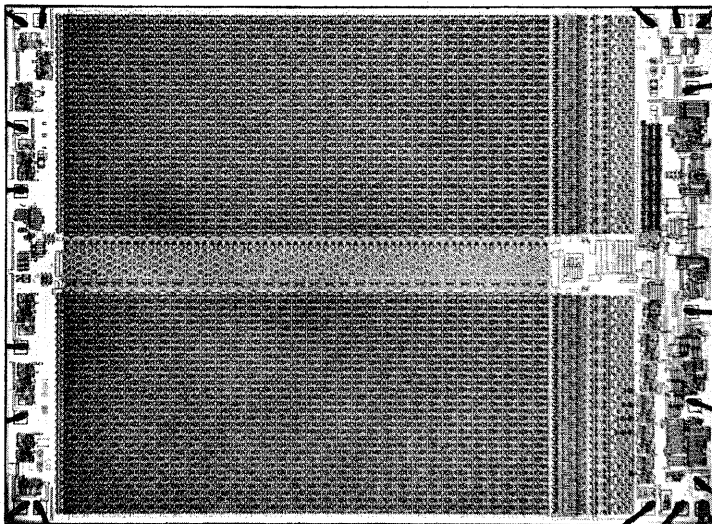
Whether we look on this computer age in a favorable light or an unfavorable one, it seems we are faced with a technology inexorable in its present and future impact in our society.

Professor Joseph Weizenbaum of M.I.T.'s Laboratory for Computer Science has his apprehensions concerning the increasing sophistication and number of these mechanized marvels. Notes Weizenbaum, "Human dependence on computers has already become irreversible, and in that dependence resides a frightening vulnerability."

Several years ago, Admiral Thomas Morrer, then Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told a Senate committee: "It is unfortunate that we have become slaves to these....computers."

However, author and futurist Isaac Asimov welcomes the new technological era. Says Asimov, "We are reaching the stage where the problems that we must solve are going to become insoluble without computers. I do not fear computers. I fear the lack of them."

Another prominent government member shares an anxiety about the future impact of computerization and feels we may be sacrificing our privacy. Says this source, "At some point in the not-so-distant future, data collection, maintenance and dissemination may no longer be merely a tool of society but will instead become an end in itself--a force with awesome powers of surveillance and control over the lives of individuals.



U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT tells of the development of a computing device so small that the power of a large computer can be put on a tiny electronic chip.

As a result, by incorporating this device in modern weaponry, a cruise missile can fly thousands of miles and not only hit a specific building, but a specific part of that building. What amazing accuracy!

Without question--this is the age of the computer!

The prophet Daniel, looking down the corridor of time, foresaw our day. We read: "Even to the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."

Could the advance of civilization be a reminder that we are approaching the millennium--the golden age when our Lord will come to earth to reign; when sickness and death shall all but disappear, and when righteousness shall prevail? Forms of travel yet undreamed of are no doubt in store for this world, for in that day there will be annual pilgrimages made to Jerusalem from every part of the earth. As Zechariah declares: "All the nations which come against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts..." It will no doubt be an age when technology will be at its zenith.

However, we are reminded that before this glorious climactic age of history, there will arise one we call the antichrist. He will be an imposter who seeks to make the world believe that he is earth's promised messiah who fulfills the utopian dream. There is ample reason to believe that he will run this world by feeding information into a computer in order to run his world empire more successfully.

Msgr. Fulton Sheen said of him: "The Antichrist will not be so called, otherwise he would have no followers. He will wear no red tights, nor vomit sulphur.... He will come disguised as the Great Humanitarian; he will talk peace, prosperity and plenty, not as means to lead us to God, but as ends in themselves."

It is believed that he will have a computerized program wherein all will be registered. Furthermore, no one can conduct any business, buy any commodities, or sell any article, without proper identification. As we read in Revelation 13: "He causeth all both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads; And that no man may buy or sell, save he that had the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." (Rev. 13:16-17)

What an interesting description which certainly fits the picture of computers that we have today!

IBM has pioneered the computers that are going into many retail outlets. One such computer is designed to read the codes on grocery items as well as to reveal other information as it scans the product.



It's interesting to note that this computer-controlled "Scanner" has on it a number that seems rather significant. The number is 3666.

Concerning the coming Antichrist, we are told that the number "666" will be of great significance. In Rev. 13:18, we read: "Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast; for it is the number of a man; and his number is six hundred threescore and six."

Interesting, isn't it, that the Computer Scanner pioneered by IBM has the number 3666 right on its front!

The problem with using credit cards is that they can be lost or stolen so that eventually, the only way a person may be able to make purchases is to have a number indelibly marked on the body. This, too, seems to have been forecast in the Scripture. For concerning the Antichrist, we read: "He causeth all...to receive a mark in their right hand or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark."

We understand the 3666 Scanner is not only able to read the Universal Products Codes on grocery items, but it can also read the "invisible laser tattoo" that could be put on the hand or forehead. This mark can be done by a "Laser Tattoo Gun" which has already been invented.

IBM has also invented a talking computer called the IBM SYSTEM 7 Audio Response System.

According to IBM's "General Information Manual," the computer has its own vocabulary. The computer actually does the speaking using a vocabulary of over 1,000 words in digital form.... Again we're reminded of what we read in Rev. 13:15, "And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed."

That certainly fits the picture of a program when the whole world will be computerized. Are we approaching that day? Are we not living in dramatic times?

Some have believed that they used computers back in the days of early Babylon, and the Scriptures bear testimony to a remarkable age when it was said of that civilization: "Nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do."

What an unusual description!

But it likewise is a description of the endtime when man's inventive genius will result in multitudinous labor-saving devices of all kinds--computerized contrivances of convenience--to make life more enjoyable and worth living.

As far as God is concerned, He is not opposed to technology. As God, He is the author of all knowledge and all wisdom. However, it is when men come to the conclusion that they are spawned by an evolutionary process and do not need to recognize the need of a Creator or Redeemer that the result is utter chaos.

That was the history of Babylon where the attempt was made to erect a tower that would reach to heaven. For we read how they said: "Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the earth." (Gen. 11:4)

Now there is nothing wrong in building. The Bible says, "As it was in the days of Noah and in the days of Lot, they planted, they builded...thus shall it be in the days of the Son of man!" Rather, it is building without God that is the cause of all of the confusion that we are likewise seeing today. And the result of

that kind of planning is catastrophe!

Perhaps the greatest failure in our educational system is the removal of God from the classroom. Regardless of whatever explanation you may give in providing logical reasons for not allowing the Bible to be read in our public schools, the result of all such activity will be the breakdown of the superstructure on which this nation rests which is the acknowledgement of the Almighty.

As we read in Romans 1:28, "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness, full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity, whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant-breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful...."

Think of it! The list of sins that man is seen committing is endless simply because of this denial of God. By failure to retain God in their knowledge, man is given over to his own reckless ways, fulfilling his passions without regard for God or his fellowman, yielding to all kinds of violence, committing all kinds of crimes, without feeling of guilt or of wrongdoing.

What is the result of that kind of activity? It is judgment and eternal death.

As we read: "Who knowing the judgment of God that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them."

Why do people watch programs of violence and sensuality on television? It is simply because they get pleasure out of watching. It is also because their hearts have never been changed by the transforming power of God which comes about when we are converted, or born again.

What about you, my friend?

Have you experienced this transformation? The fascinating part of salvation is that you can have a genuine "new birth" relationship whereby you are transferred from the family of Satan to the family of God.

Jesus testified, "Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

So, until you invite Christ into your heart and life and sincerely want to be transformed by the power of His Holy Spirit, you will continue to want to do those things that defile your body, destroy your mind, and allow you to be controlled by Satan.

Heaven is so real, and God is so wonderful, you would suppose that every person in his right mind would choose salvation. Surely, as you feed certain information into a computer and it follows through with certain facts, so accepting the Gospel of Jesus Christ will result in your conversion. It will also provide for your transformation.

As we read in 2 Cor. 5:17, "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold all things are become new."

Aren't you fed up with the life you're now living? Wouldn't you like to begin all over again?

There are some things you will never be able to erase from your life, but you can begin anew. You can begin to live.

Without Christ, the Bible says we are "dead in trespasses and sins," (Eph. 2:1) but when you sincerely trust the Saviour, you are made alive.

Listen to it: "And you hath he quickened (made alive) who were dead in trespasses and sins; wherein in times past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience; Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh...and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others."

But notice what we read: "But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ (by grace are ye saved) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not of works lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." (Eph.2:1-10)

Now the reason we read all of those verses is to acquaint you with the new life that is in Jesus Christ.

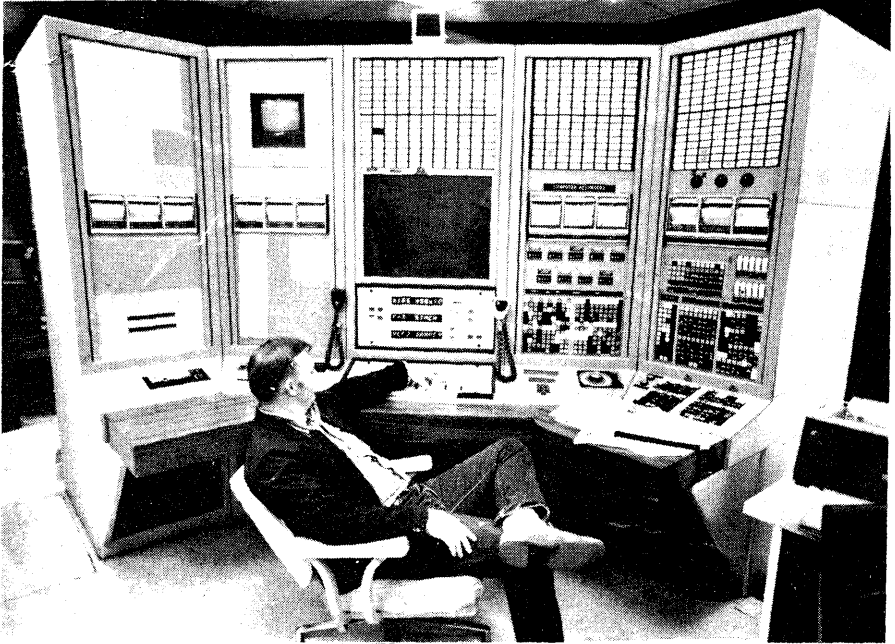
Think of being seated in heavenly places, enjoying fellowship with God!

Think of your inheritance of an eternal heaven with all of its joys instead of being confined to an eternity of outer darkness where there is weeping, wailing, and gnashing of teeth. Millions are in hell right now, saying: "Why didn't I listen to God's Word? Why didn't I heed its message?"

Friend, God loves you. He wants to save you. Christ died for you that you may experience a spiritual transformation that will prepare you for heaven. And because we believe the time is now for our Lord to return for His own, we urge you to repent of your sins and turn to Christ for forgiveness and salvation.

Today is still a day of salvation. Harden not your heart. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved. And, be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh.

God's Computer



“Without computers it would be impossible for the government to function,” so states Walter Haase, deputy associate director for information-systems policy in the Office of Management and Budget.

Scattered throughout the government bureaucracy are about 11,000 computers of all sizes and types. Some are capable of making judgments and decisions that were formerly left for managers.

Now available in government computers is a collection of information on virtually every American, including one's employment, family status, and even one's health. For those who have had a brush with the law or have been suspected of criminal activity, chances are that somewhere you'll find a record of this information.

No longer is it possible to hide such information. Most of these records are available at the touch of a button.

Attempts are even underway to create powerful computer networks. One such attempt by the Internal Revenue Service to build a nationwide computer system was scuttled by the President.

Perhaps one of the largest computer systems is a global telecommunications network which has its headquarters in Brussels, the seat of the Common Market.

According to Chet Hansen, editor of THINK magazine, the European Economic Community or Common Market is heavily

engaged in computerization. Declared Hansen of these countries in Europe, "They have computers coming out of their ears."

Founded in May of 1973, by 240 of the largest European and North American banks, is an organization called SWIFT...Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications.

S.W.I.F.T. is a system of computers linking major banks and their branches from New York to Vienna and from Helsinki to Montreal.

We're told that within 60 seconds most messages can be transmitted the entire length of the network.

The question might be asked, Where do we go from here?

One thing is certain. The Bible predicts that there will arise an endtime personage called the Antichrist. He will exercise control over the whole world. Through a computerized system, he will be able to keep tabs on every living person.

According to the Bible, the Antichrist world ruler will be able to do this by requiring a number to appear on the forehead or on the hand of the person that is buying or selling. In fact, in that day it will be impossible for anyone to buy or sell without this identification.

Here's the solemn warning that goes with this prophecy. In Rev. 14:9, we read: "If any man worship the beast (world ruler) and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation."

Did you hear it?

Several years ago a picture appeared on the cover page of a secular publication that projected for the future people with a computer number tattooed on their foreheads.

What an awful day that will be when men of earth will have to accept the devil's Antichrist or be killed! Recognizing that we are living in a computerized age makes us wonder whether that day may be close at hand.

Rex Humbard, TV broadcaster, in his publication, has stated: "I feel that today through our own government, as in the governments of the world, everybody is becoming a number. Man will be known by a number in his forehead, and I think you will have to memorize this number if they ask you who you are. To buy or sell, or to do anything, you will have to have a number."

Another broadcaster, the Rev. David Webber, similarly points out: "This prophecy involves a totally new economic system--buying and selling by using a mark or a number." And he adds, "This prophecy envisions a new money system on a world basis, controlled by one central authority."

Dr. Jack Van Impe, in an article entitled, "THE MARK OF THE BEAST", says: "The evidence speaks for itself. Only the most hardened skeptic could read these reports and remain unconvinced. The return of Christ is near."

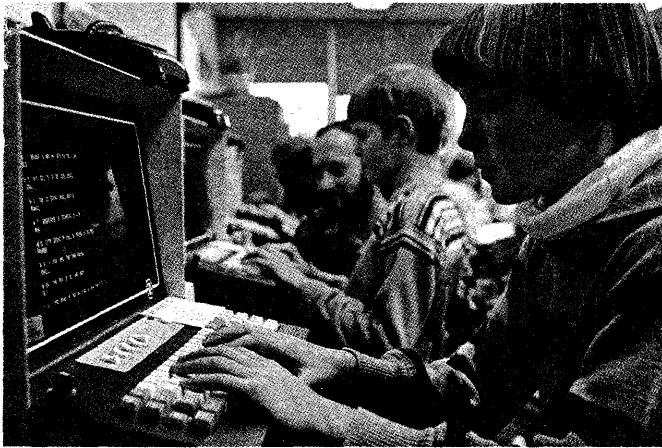
He urges: "Every unsaved person...should bow his head, repent of his sin, and trust in the shed blood of Jesus Christ for salvation. Every Christian should make certain he is ready for Christ's appearing."

The Christian looks not for Antichrist but for the coming of Jesus Christ to rapture the saints before that awful day when the

world will be ruled over by a godless, ruthless dictator. He will require the world's worship, or those who refuse to bow to him will be slain.

Today is a day of salvation when you can believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved, and then be ready for His coming.

It is estimated that before long there will be at least five million or more computers in people's homes, and nearly every office will have a computer-type system.



GERALD R. BRIMACOMBE

Author Robert Albrecht, a pioneer in electronic education says: "In schools, computers will be more common than carousel slide projectors, movie projectors and tape recorders."

These "magical beasts" as they are being called, will have stored on tiny capsules all kinds of information.

A UCLA professor notes: "The computers provide an intensely visual, multisensory learning experience that can take a youngster in a matter of a few months, to a level he might never reach without it, and certainly would not reach in less than many, many years of study by conventional methods."

It is estimated that there are at least 25,000 applications of the computer awaiting discovery.

In THE ECONOMIST, we're told: "To ask what the applications are is like asking what are the applications of electricity."

In our own office we have what is called a Word Processor which creates, monitors, and updates office records electronically. Jobs that we formerly put on index cards, we have transferred to diskettes with the enormous storage capacity of 270,000 characters, or 130 pages of information per diskette.

Magnetic cards are also used to store information which can be processed at high speed onto the diskette.

Information is typed and read on the screen while at a given signal it can be recorded on a diskette from which it can be retrieved when needed.

One of the uses of this system is to type letters. Up to 92 characters per second are printed using a jet spray process.

On the diskette we can place pertinent information such as

whether the person is a sponsor of a GOD'S NEWS radio program or a supporter of the TV program.

Contributions can be recorded and a receipt issued along with a return form to send along with the next gift.

Our office staff has given this equipment a name since it is so "human," typing up letters and recording factual information. The name they have chosen is "FLASH," because of its speed.

If you would like a letter from "FLASH," be sure to send a gift to this ministry. You'll get a letter along with a tax-deductible receipt.

When I think of the potential of these diskettes in recording all kinds of information, I think of a day coming when we all must stand before God and give an account of the life we have lived on earth.

The Bible says: "...for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ." (Rom. 14:10b) Again we read: "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

Do we consider the seriousness of this? I will not have to answer for you, and you will not answer for me. We must be individually accountable to God.

Again in 2 Cor. 5:10-11, this is repeated...

We read: "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." Then we read, "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men."

Some think it will be all ice cream and apple pie when we get to heaven, forgetting that as believers we must give an account of the life we lived on earth.

We're told: "Every man's work shall be made manifest; for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is."

Doesn't that make you want to live for God?

Again we read: "If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved; yet as by fire." (See I Cor. 3:13-15)

Some pooh-pooh the importance of works but the Scriptures make it clear that our works reveal the character of our faith. We are not saved by our works. We are saved by accepting the finished work of Christ on the cross for our sins. Nevertheless, our works will help determine the rewards we shall receive and the fiery ordeal some will encounter on that day when we stand before our Lord.

Now the Scriptures we have read apply to believers.

For unbelievers, their doom is sealed. Their future is sad because they have refused God's offer of pardon for sin through Jesus Christ.

In Revelation 20, we read of a great white throne. John the Revelator writes: "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works." (verse 12)

Here again, God is seen opening His computer files and men are judged according to their works, their unrighteous acts and deeds.

How terrible it will be if you have never received the Saviour, for you will have to pay the penalty of your sin. We read, "Who-soever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (v.15)

We repeat, what an awful fate awaits the sinner!

No wonder we read in Hebrews, chapter two: "Therefore, we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward: How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation."

Did you hear it?

The Bible tells us that God keeps a record of every sin we have ever committed, along with every disobedience. Every time we failed to heed God's Word, He has taken notice, and there will be a pay day, someday.

Some think they can hide their sin but it will not go unnoticed in the day when God opens the books, and every transgression along with each disobedience will be rewarded.

Remember how Jesus said, "Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." (Matt. 12:36)

God's computer not only records the sins, and our disobedience, but idle words that we speak also.

We understand that the walls of our homes have the capability of recording our conversation and had we the equipment, we could listen to our idle talk.

How watchful we should be of our words!

The telephone is a marvelous invention. But you have to pay to use it. Now there are certain calls--local calls--that are included with the rate that you pay. Then there are other calls--long distance--that are listed on your monthly statement for which you must pay extra. So God keeps a record of idle talk--unnecessary conversation--jesting and joking.

In Eph. 5, we have the admonition given to believers to be careful of their speech as well as their behaviour. We read: "But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; neither FILTHINESS, nor FOOLISH TALKING, nor JESTING, which are not convenient; but rather giving of thanks."

So, the Lord is concerned with our speech. Filthy talk and vile language should not be in the vocabulary of a believer.

I recall going to a barber shop and hearing the barber relate how his minister was such a personable guy. The barber said that when he (himself) told a dirty story, his minister topped it--told one that was worse!

May God help us.

Now, unless we repent of our sin and turn to Christ for salvation we are going to face the record of our past. We must give an account of every idle word.

I checked that word "idle" in the Greek and it means "unprofitable" or "inactive."

How many times we should speak a word for the Lord. We should witness to a friend or neighbor but our tongue remains silent? Will we have to give an account of words we fail to utter?

We must remember that God keeps a record of our conversation...of idle chatter, or gossip.

When pastoring, I was approached by this person who said that lies were being told about her. Of course, no one likes to be accused wrongfully, but I reminded her of a day coming when God will set the record straight and the truth will be made known.

As Jesus said, "For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness (said Jesus) shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops." (Luke 12: 2-3)

My friend, how will it be when Jesus comes? Will He find us ready to meet Him? How will it be when God's computer reveals the record of my life and your life?

Of this we can be certain--Sin cannot enter heaven. As we read in Rev. 21:27, "And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life."

Is your name written in heaven? Have you trusted Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord, and are you living for Him every day?

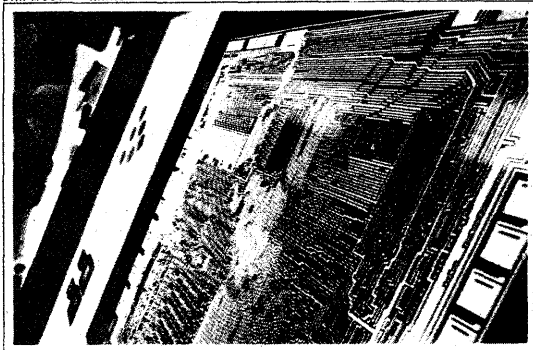
If you've never invited Christ into your heart and life, pray this prayer: "Lord Jesus, save me. Forgive me of all my sins. Make me yours to do your will. Help me to live for you every day--to read my Bible and pray--loving you and serving you. I believe that you died on the cross and rose again for me, and I want to live for you until you come. Amen."

Pray that prayer and mean it. Then find a Bible-believing church and seek to win others to the Saviour.

Live for the Lord every day, and "Be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."

Lessons from the Computer

DAN MCCOY—RAINBOW



TIME magazine explains: "The microelectronic revolution promises to ease, enhance and simplify life in ways undreamed of even by the utopians."

Houses run by computers may very well be the norm rather than the exception for the future. Thermal shutters on the outside can be operated both electrically or manually. Experts believe that such houses will soon be built commercially.

Imagine having a home computer that sets off the alarm to wake you up, then automatically turns on the coffee pot, starts the furnace to heat your home to a cozy 70 degrees, even opens the bedroom curtains to let the light in, and switches open the back door to let the dog out. What a life!

As one magazine notes, "Barring headaches, tummy aches and heartaches, the American day should proceed as smoothly as it begins. All thanks to the miracle of the microcomputer, the supercheap chip that can electronically shoulder a vast array of boring, time-consuming tasks."

Mass production of the miracle chip has already made possible home computers that sell for under a thousand dollars, and prices will continue to fall.

An investment banking firm official sees the "chip" as the major technological development of our time. Testifies Benjamin Rosen of New York's Morgan Stanley investment banking firm: "The miracle chip...will have more impact on our society in the next 20 years than any other invention."

Though still in the development stage, the miracle chip has already given rise to one of the most astonishing, competitive, and fastest growing industries this nation has ever seen.

For instance, here's a picture of IBM's complex "computer on a chip," which in actual size is about 1/2-inch square.

And, apparently, what we are seeing is just the beginning. We're told that today's computers are "dumbbells" compared to those on the horizon.

According to C. Lesster Hogan, vice chairman of Fairchild Camera and Instrument Corporation, soon it will be feasible to build a pocket calculator "that will be more powerful than, and almost as fast as," the \$9-million CRAY-1, recognized as the mightiest computer in the world.

These miracle chips are made in a room that is so clean that there cannot be a speck of dust, for that would ruin the making of a chip. The air is constantly filtered and workers wear surgical-type garb.

We're told that some 65,000 bits of information can be stored on a chip. Among the latest attempts being made to cram more information onto a chip there is the use of the "magnetic-bubble memory."

Microscopic pockets of magnetism ("bubbles") are created in semi-conducting material. In the midst of an external electric or magnetic field, the bubbles move along orderly pathways. As they pass fixed stations, the presence or absence of bubbles is read as coded information. A 250,000-bit experimental bubble memory has already been produced. Think of it! This means an entire encyclopedia, or film library, or record collection could be stored on a single chip.

We're told the chip is patterned after God's creation where a cell is known to possess all the human characteristics with which you are born. God has stored into that tiny single cell your complete physical make-up...the way your body will grow, the color of your eyes and hair, and all about you. As a professor at M.I.T. has noted: "Even the amoeba is a far smaller and far more powerful information processor than today's best chips."

Why wouldn't man believe in a Creator when wrapped up in a living cell is a world that cannot be seen except under a powerful microscope?

Isn't that what we read in Romans 1:19-20? We read: "That which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse." (vs. 19-20)

There's no excuse for anyone not being a Christian. The world that God has created should prove to all that there is a Creator. How can anyone look at the miracle world in a living cell and be an atheist?

Yet, many today choose to look the other way, closing their eyes, stopping their ears, and hardening their hearts to the truth of God's Word.

The wondrous message of God's Word is that we don't have to remain sinners. We can be born again, changed, transformed by the grace of God so that we don't want to sin. We will want to love and serve this Creator; and we will willingly and gladly accept the salvation that He has offered in His Son, Jesus Christ.

Let me ask you today, Why not accept God's offer of forgiveness? Will you not turn from your sin to trust the Saviour? Will you not invite Jesus Christ into your heart and life and experience this glorious transformation that is happening to millions of people?

An official at Bell Laboratories suggests concerning computers, "The most exciting applications will not come until the kids who are still in high school and have grown up with pocket calculators and home computers become the engineers of the 1980's and 1990's."

But the miracle chip is here now and already is finding use in a multitude of ways. For instance, cars are coming on the market designed to make it easier for the driver and passengers, too. Now at the push of a button, the driver can get a read-out on the amount of fuel in the tank, and the number of miles he can expect to go (at current speed). Chips are already being used on some cars, regulating ignition systems, but it may be some time before computers will be found in every automobile coming off the production line.

What is feared most is that computers will fall into the hands of criminals. As one authority asserts: "There is no computer made today that cannot be outsmarted by somebody."

Take the Defense Department employee who initiated a fraudulent scheme to issue \$100,000 in checks in the name of his co-conspirators for goods that were never delivered. Or the clerk who introduced fictitious food-stamp claims into a computer-based welfare system, making off with \$90,000 worth of stamps before being discovered.

However, the computer is here to stay and with the "miracle chip" is bound to be exploited in myriads of ways to the advantage of everyone.

Today we would like to ask, What lessons might be learned from the computer?

While on one hand man has succeeded in developing such a marvelous invention, he has not been able to make wars to cease, or eliminate disease, or control crime. He has succeeded in eliminating God from the classroom where the Almighty should be recognized as the source of all knowledge. And man has suppressed the truth by substituting "evolution" for "creation" for which there is a price to pay.

We read in Romans 1:18-20, "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth (suppress the truth) in unrighteousness; because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath showed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse."

Here we are told that the things that man has made reveal God. For instance, in the Bible we read, "Thou God seest me." We might ask, How can God see us? Yet we have television capable of getting pictures from outer space. Some may ask, How can God hear me? Yet, we have "radio" capable of transmitting voices through the ether waves for unknown distances. So, man's inventions reveal God.

Take the tiny chip the size of your thumbnail--a quarter of an inch square. This miracle chip has the calculating capacity equal to a room-size computer of about 25 years ago.

The chip is an imitation of man's brain which God has made to assimilate and coordinate all kinds of information at a split

second.

However, man's inventions can never replace God's creation.

How can anyone be so foolish as to believe that man evolved? Scientists point to a single cell in the human body to suggest that it is far more complex than any computer man has devised. So the computer teaches us the sacredness of life.

In the case of Sodom and Gomorrah, we find destruction of these cities because man perverted the purpose of man's existence. And today God's wrath is against all those who take lightly the sacredness of life in the reproduction process by relegating it to a vice instead of a virtue.

So we read: "Wherefore God gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves." And again we're told, "For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections."

The result of such action is often indescribable perversions.

How many times we have read of those who entice and then kill because they have developed a warped sense of life. The Bible says they have been given over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient.

Today perversion is a big joke and it is said that some are denied their rights rather than to see the gross wickedness of their sin which God says is worthy of death. As we read, "Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them." (Rom. 1:32)

That's why Christians are not to abuse their bodies for they are made in the image and likeness of God. Their bodies are meant to be the temples of God.

In I Cor. 3:16-17, we read: "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."

When we defile our bodies, we are inviting destruction. No doubt many die before their time because they mistreat their physical bodies.

Now this does not imply that the marriage relationship itself is sinful. We read, "Marriage is honorable," for God has ordained it. But we must ever realize that one day we will have to stand before God and receive the things done in the body... according to that we have done, whether it be good or bad. (2 Cor. 5:10)

The third thing we would like to note about the miracle computer chip is that it must be made in an atmosphere that is pure and clean. No other manufacturing process is quite like it. A single speck of dust can ruin a chip, so work must be done where the air is constantly filtered and workers are swathed in surgical-like garb.

This is a reminder that God demands purity in His people. Hear Him as He says: "Be ye holy, for I am holy." (See I Pet. 1:16)

Again we read in Heb. 12:14, where we are to follow peace with all men and holiness without which no man shall see the Lord."

So the Lord would have us be free from all defilement of the flesh and spirit, "perfecting holiness in the fear of God." (2 Cor. 7:1b)

As we consider lessons we might learn from the computer, we see where volumes of information can be stored on a memory chip. Engineers are working on methods to get even more bits on a chip. A 250,000-bit experimental bubble memory has been produced on which can be printed a library of information.

This ability to record and then retrieve information is a reminder of God's ability to record information about us. As Jesus said concerning the hairs of our head--"They are all numbered." (Matt. 10:30; Luke 12:7)

Can you fathom that? God must have some kind of a computer to have that information about each of us!

What a great God we have. And to realize that He has revealed Himself through Jesus Christ. As we read, "God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation."

God with His computer could maintain a record of all of our sins we have ever committed. But He is willing to erase the record if we will only come to Him in sincere repentance with a desire to find forgiveness which He has promised to all who receive Jesus Christ.

For we read, "As far as the east is from the west so far hath he removed our transgressions from us." (Ps. 103:12)

Remember, God is not only ready and willing to forgive and forget; he wants to cleanse our heart from sin so that we no longer want to continue in sin.

Won't you let Him change you today? Right now, pray this prayer: "Lord Jesus, cleanse my heart from all of its sin. You said in Your Word that Your blood cleanses us from all sin and all unrighteousness. So cleanse my heart from every sin, and may I ever live for You. Help me to read my Bible and pray every day knowing this is how I can grow as a Christian. And keep me ready for Your coming whenever it will be."

Why not pray that prayer and mean it? Then God will save you. For He has promised, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."

And be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh.

Computers And The Endtimes



This is the age of the computer.

The story is told of a tired-looking man dragging himself through his front door and slumping in a chair. His wife asked sympathetically, "How did it go at the office, dear?"

"Terrible," he replied. "The computer broke down in the middle of the afternoon and we all had to think."

Seymour Wolfson, computer expert, says: "Already there is a report of computer systems that have the storage capacity of ten trillion human beings."

Think of it!

The Sperry Rand Corporation has developed a memory bank that can assimilate 850,000 words in the Bible five times in one second.

What tremendous achievements man has made, proving Daniel's assertion that at the time of the end "knowledge shall be increased." (Dan, 12:4)

A century ago in Campbell, New York, there was born a man who earned the title of the "world's greatest salesman"-Thomas J. Watson, Sr. You probably never heard of him. But his birth was to bring about a dramatic and revolutionary turn of events that may one day find worldwide acceptance of a system that will have tremendous prophetic significance. In fact, it is, no doubt, his invention that will make popular the role of the coming antichrist.

CHRISTIAN TIMES referred to Watson as the "Christian Father of IBM"--the mechanical brain which thinks infinitum. Watson was born into a Methodist home where discipline was a combination of both love and respect. It was the elder Watson's philosophy that "we are a part of all we meet." Thus he sought to create within his children a desire to have good choice companions for lasting friends.

Quoting Tom Watson, Sr.: "Although my dad was democratic and never criticized any companion we brought home, he had this warning: 'If you associate with people who lift you up, you will have gained; but if you associate with those of low ideals and practices, you will be the loser.'"

Watson thought of his father as not only an example of integrity for whom he had great respect, but recalls how his dad talked a great deal about long-term integrity, to establish credit and build a reputation for honesty and dependability. Watson recalls how as a teen-ager his father would say, "If you lose your reputation, what have you left?"

His parents wanted him to study law, but Thomas Watson, Sr. instead was interested in business techniques. He spoke of the "Golden Rule"--to "do unto others as you would have them do unto you"--as the essence of human relations. And he created a slogan, "Red tape makes red figures." Perhaps Washington should be listening.

Watson also seized on the one-word slogan that you see everywhere today. It is the word "THINK."

He recalls it was a dull December morning in Dayton, Ohio, where he was general sales manager at the National Cash Register Company. At a gathering of salesmen and executives, he said: "The trouble with everyone of us is that we don't think enough. We don't get paid for working with our feet--we get paid for working with our head."

That was in 1912. Two years later when he started with IBM, he had the word "THINK" framed and placed on the walls of offices and plants of what has become the giant establishment that it is today.

Perhaps the most notorious invention for which IBM is noted is the Computer.

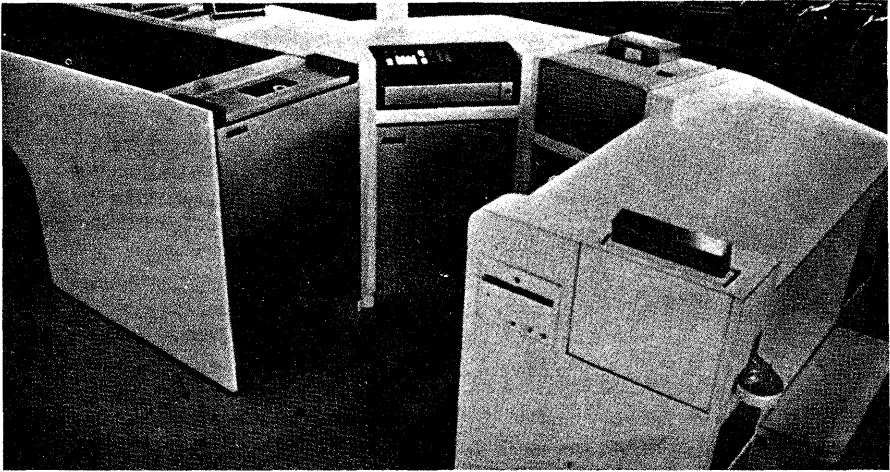
And among the most recent inventions is the IBM 3666 check-out scanner that is being adopted by stores and supermarkets worldwide.

Do you see any significance in the number of this scanner--3666?

The scanner is part of a system to speed tabulation of groceries at the checkout counter.

You've seen on grocery packages you buy a series of small, vertical black bars with numbers under them. Well, this is part of a universal code being adopted to make checkouts faster for shoppers. And the system will be more accurate, reducing the number of mis-rings by the cashier.

The scanner uses a laser to beam light up through a narrow window in the checking device. Your package, pulled across this



window, will be quickly read without error with the name and price of the product appearing on a lighted panel, as well as appearing on your receipt. Think of it. That way you can go home knowing what you paid for every product and you can compare prices with other markets if you like.

Now this system is also capable of a multitude of transactions including multiple-priced items you might wish to purchase. For instance, if you buy five cans of tomato soup for 89¢, the scanner will accurately register the purchase if you buy all five cans or if you just buy one or more cans.

What if you mix and match items? Again the scanner can give you an accurate reading.

In addition, discounts, refunds from coupons, use of food stamps, and computation of the tax will all be done instantly. The system's "controller" tracks all items in a purchase and applies the right price formula to give a correct computation of the items purchased.

Unbelievable, isn't it?

Groceries not marked, such as vegetables, can be handled by entering a product code at the terminal's keyboard and the controller will again enter the price directly.

According to Ralph A. Pfeiffer, Jr., IBM vice president and Data Processing Division president, "The new IBM system will substantially improve consumer service and store productivity, vital in an industry where every minute and every penny counts."

Well, that's the story of the IBM 3666 checkout scanner. What has gripped our attention, of course, is this number '3666' to designate this marvelous tool destined to have worldwide use.

I was fascinated while in Israel to see all the buses and commercial vehicles, when I was there, having the number 666 precede the registered number on the license plates. This may not be of significance.

However, for the number "666" to appear in IBM's Checkout Scanner is most significant. (Perhaps after our broadcast today they may change the number when we reveal the reason for our concern.) But every Bible scholar and everyone interested in Bible prophecy knows there's a time coming when the number 666 will be of absolute significance. We're told in Rev. 13 that a time will come when no one can buy or sell without the use of this number. Talk about Bible prophecy being fulfilled--that's it!

Here in Revelation 13:15-18 we read: "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their forehead: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man, and his number is Six hundred threescore and six."

As the Rev. David F. Webber points out, this prophecy has never been fulfilled. He also notes: "This prophecy involves a totally new economic system--buying and selling by using a mark or a number." And he declares: "This prophecy envisions a new money system on a world basis, controlled by one central authority."

For some twenty years we've been reporting on plans outlined in the Scripture wherein ten nations are seen uniting in Europe within the sphere of the Old Roman Empire. And, ultimately when there are ten nations forming what we might call the United States of Europe, we can expect someone to head up this giant federation.

When this happens--when one the Bible calls the "Antichrist" appears, you can know that his power will be felt worldwide. For not only will he control the economy, but through a computerized system headquartered in Europe, he will be able to keep tabs on every living person in the world.

Now, according to the Bible the way he will do this is by a number that he will require to appear on either the forehead or on the hand of the person that is buying or selling. In that day, when antichrist rules, it will be impossible for anyone to buy or sell without identification. It's as though your social security number was indelibly imprinted on your body. And when you appear before the scanning device, it will be able to register your number and report back instantly on whether or not there are sufficient funds in your bank account and you can make your purchase. Naturally, if you don't have funds in your account or if you don't have a number, you can't do business with any of the commercial enterprises of that day.

Here's the solemn warning that goes with this prophecy. In Rev. 14:9 we read: "If any man worship the beast (world ruler) and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation."

Did you hear it?

This is a serious matter. For the Word of God goes on to say that all who do receive this identification will be "tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels..." And we read, "The smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever; and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name."

What a sad future for many who are no doubt hearing my voice today. For we believe we are living in days of prophetic fulfilment.

Mr. F. Paul Peterson, who has been a missionary for 20 years and traveled extensively in 43 countries, went to Europe to find out whether a giant computer was set up as has been publicized in various religious publications.

Before leaving, he reports contacting IBM personnel and university professors who were knowledgeable about computers. He reports, "They all agreed (1) that it is possible with present technology to computerize the whole world, (2) that there does exist a laser invisible tattoo mark that can be put on the back of the hand and on the forehead, (3) that there is a scanner, when passed over the hand, that can connect immediately with a person's bank account, and wherever a person purchases anything, the amount can be deducted and no money or checks are needed. (4) that there are supermarkets in some American cities which already are experimenting with such computers."

Some might ask: Do you mean it is possible that some may be receiving the mark of the antichrist today and do not know it?

We would reply: No, not until the appearance of a world ruler who proclaims that he is God will this system be adopted. So there is no danger at the present time that anyone can be tricked into receiving this mark.

In all honesty and in all sincerity, we would point out, however, that today is still a day of salvation. Are we not told to watch and pray that we may escape the things we have described which shall come to pass and to stand before the Son of man? (Luke 21:36)

The coming of Christ for His own to remove them from off the earth is called in Scripture the "blessed hope." We're looking for the return of Jesus Christ, and not the antichrist.

The tragedy is, my friends, that too few are prepared for the event we call the "rapture" when those who are ready are caught up to meet the Lord seen coming in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

The message of Scripture is one of urgency in repenting of our sin and receiving Christ as our Saviour and Lord and then looking for His coming. In view of events described today, we know it could be at any moment.

Remember, our Lord hath said, "Be ye therefore also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."