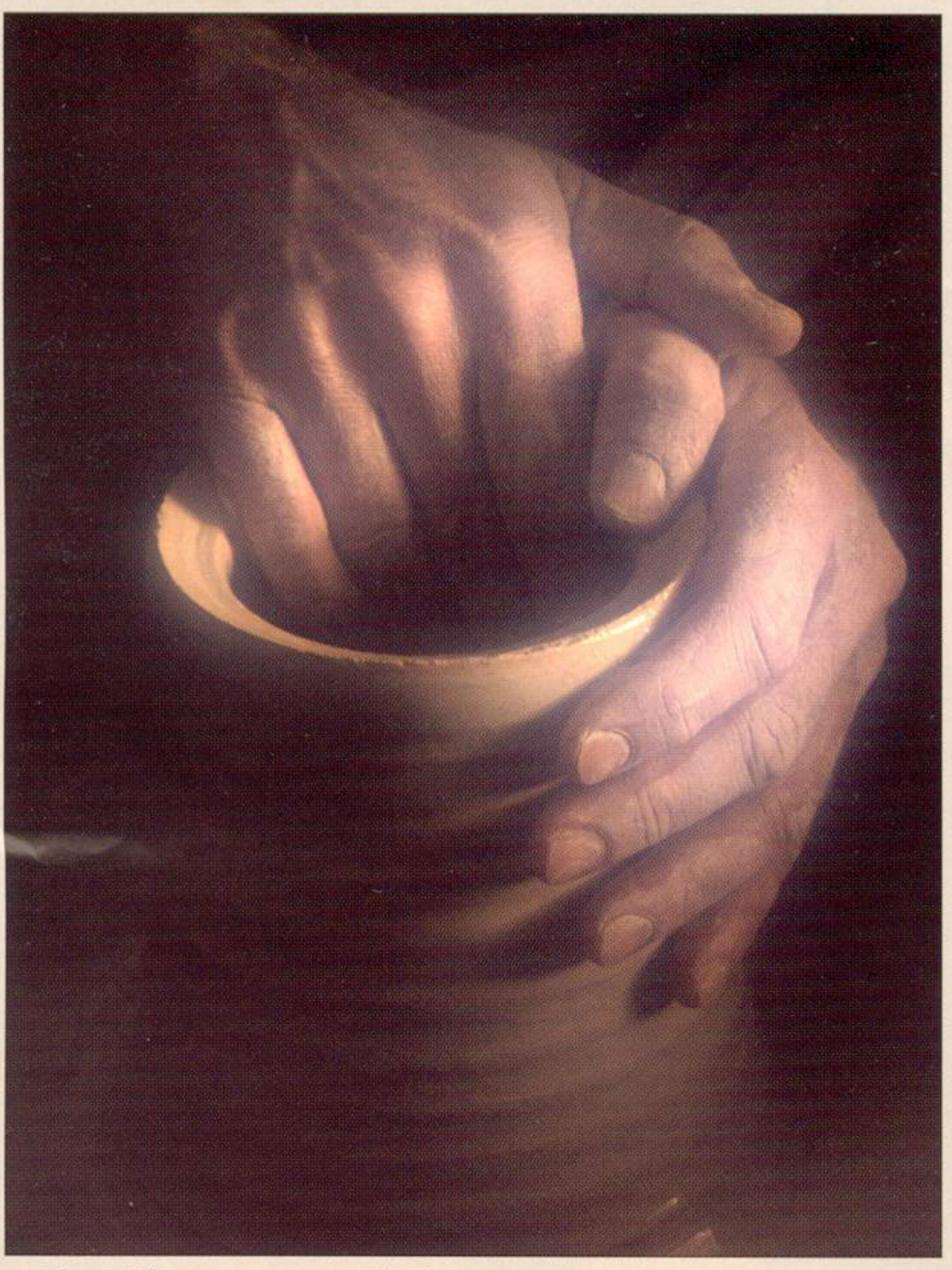
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Royal State State May-June 2003

THE POTTER'S HAND

BY HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG



About the cover Carefully shaping and molding clay into a beautiful and functional vessel is a type of God's creative process in us. (Corbis)

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Royal Vision (ISSN10979808) is published bimonthly by the Philadelphia Church of God, 1019 Waterwood Parkway, Suite F, Edmond, OK 73034. Periodicals postage paid at Edmond, OK, and additional mailing offices. © 2003 Philadelphia Church of God. All rights reserved.

Subscriptions: Subscriptions are sent free to all members and co-workers of the Philadelphia Church of God. Address all communications to the Philadelphia Church of God, P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083.

Notice: Royal Vision cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited articles and photographs.

U.S. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Royal Vision, P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083.

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GREETINGS, BRETHREN AND CO-WORKERS!...

With this issue of the *Royal Vision*, we're excited to be able to print an article by Herbert W. Armstrong, "The Potter's Hand" (see page 8). This was an open letter written to students of the Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course and was included in the 19 works of Mr.

Armstrong's that we obtained in our recent court victory (see May 2003 Trumpet for details).

Habakkuk prayed that God would "revive thy work in the midst of the years" (Hab. 3:2). That is what God has done. God gave us copyright ownership of Mr. Armstrong's material. That is already having a profound impact on our operations at headquarters.

When the injunction to stop distributing *Mystery of the Ages* was issued by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in September 2000, about 16,000 copies of the book were turned over to a local storage company under the control of the court. Along with the other six of Mr. Armstrong's books and booklets that we had printed, over 130,000 copies of his works had to be locked away.

Within hours of our being given legal permission to "open the vault," releasing all of these materials, copies were being sent out. Even though we have gone off television for a short time, our phone call response has gone up 250 percent. The first week after the announcement was made, it quadrupled! Between the time the announcement of the victory was made public and the time we were able to mail out our first copies of *Mystery of the Ages*, over 1,200 requests for the book had been made. That was essentially before we had even begun to advertise it in the *Trumpet*.

Our mailroom quickly overflowed with bags full of Mystery of the Ages and other books ready to ship, and they filled up the floor space in the central meeting area of our headquarters offices!

We are eager to print the remaining titles on our list. But because we will have to spread out those costs and the labor of producing those books, we made the decision to upgrade the *Trumpet* website (*www.theTrumpet.com*) to include the full text of most all of Mr. Armstrong's material that we own. This is a way to help distribute more of this material to "the largest audience possible" at virtually no cost. Our Information Technology and Editorial departments were able to make the necessary changes to the website within a week or two of obtaining these works. Since then, the amount of response from our website has more than doubled.

One of our long-term projects will be to introduce the Imperial College Bible Correspondence Course. This will be a wonderful tool for educating people and prospective members about our basic doctrines. It will be an exciting, purposeful, focused course of at least 24 lessons, containing much of the material from the Ambassador College course, but also including the most fundamental revelation God has given to the Philadelphia Church. Because it will be the equivalent of producing a new monthly magazine for a couple of years, we will try to involve several of our ministers and staff at headquarters in the project. Without our court victory, it wouldn't have been realistic to even attempt such a project. Please pray for the planning and success of this new publication.

Let's all thank God for reviving His work!

Gerald Flurry Editor in Chief

Gerald Flurry

ROYAL VISION • MAY-JUNE 2003