

# Church

## A Word Through Bishop E. N. Webb:

### The Prodigal World



BISHOP WEBB

There are many people in America today who live wasteful, spend-thrift, reckless and lavish lives by spending and wasting all they earn.

Jesus spoke of this wastefulness in the 15th chapter of St. Luke: "A certain man had two sons, and the younger of them said to his father,

Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided

joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his

*Bishop E. N. Webb is the Presiding Bishop of the Church of God In Christ, State Of Nevada*

unto them his living.

And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together and took his journey into a far country and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

"And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in the land, and he began to be in want.

"And he went and

fields to feed swine.

"And he would fain (or gladly) filled his belly with the husks that the swine did not eat and no man gave unto him.

"And when he came to himself he said, how many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger.

"I will arise and go to my father and will say

unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and before thee.

"I am no more worthy to be called thy son. Make me as one of thy hired servants.

"And he arose and came to his father."

This parable that Jesus spoke of gave me the foundation of what I would like to write about.

I was in Europe a few weeks ago and visited eight different countries. I am convinced that the American people waste enough foods and clothes in garbage cans and in alleys to feed another small country. America is a paradise as opposed to some of the foreign countries. We would like to keep America strong, but we know no chain is

stronger than it's weakest link.

I am concerned about the youth of America today. They live prodigal lives, buying all kinds of smutty and pornographic literature and dope. These are some of the leading devices the devil uses to lead our youth into the hog pen of destruction. The statistics show that a high percentage of our youth today have experienced some type of drugs.

There is no need for our youth of today being led astray by the doings of satan; for once he gets you into the hog pen of destruction, he will forever feed you the slop of the world, and you drive farther and farther away from God.

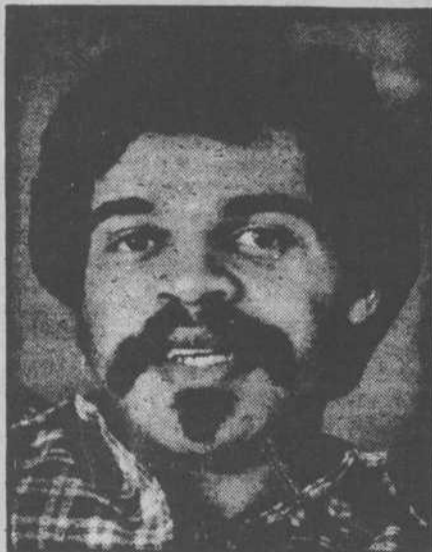
## Gospel Rev. Walter Hawkins Decries Music's Racial Lines

The Reverend Walter Hawkins isn't your ordinary East Oakland preacher. He's soft-spoken, almost to the point of being shy. He's fashion-conscious, sometimes showing up in neatly pressed designer jeans for Sunday services at Love Center, the storefront church he had pastored for the past seven years.

The 31-year-old minister is also the country's top-selling

as if he is already at the top of his field, Hawkins is perplexed by the racial lines that divide gospel music within the record industry. "Soul" or "spiritual" are used to denote artists who appeal to black audiences, while "inspirational" refers to the white market.

"I don't know how they choose those categories. It's really strange," Hawkins said, shaking his head as he



By John O'Hara

### REV. HAWKINS

black gospel recording artist. Last year, his album, "Love Alive II," received Billboard magazine's award for Number One Soul Gospel Album and is still in the Top 10 after nearly two years on the gospel chart. And he shared with Reverend James Cleveland that publication's No. 1 Soul Gospel Artist of 1979 award.

Though it would seem

sat in the handsomely appointed living room of his home in Oakland's Fruitful District. "At the Dove Awards in Nashville, they gave me No. 1 Soul Gospel Producer of the Year, which meant that there was another gospel producer of the year who apparently was white since he's "inspirational."

Unlike his wife

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