

# Do I Believe?

Pope Paul delivered the following address at his weekly general audience, Wednesday, Oct. 12.

The meeting that this Audience provides for you and for us, is of great importance. It may be one of those moments that remain not only memorable, but decisive. For us it is clear. The Lord Jesus has made us a fisher. He said so in the Gospel, to Peter, whose humble, but authentic successor we are. "Follow me", Christ said to the first Apostles, "and I will make you fishers of men" (Mt 4, 19). We always come, with humble apprehension, with ardent prayer, to these Audiences, with an anxious question in our heart. "Behold, we meet so many persons, naturally strangers for the most part; so many souls! Shall we have the grace, the fortune, to 'fish-out' one of them? That is, to put it in a state of real interior reflection and start it along a path of religious authenticity, of Christian faithfulness?"

And it can be clear also for you. What does it mean to be present at an Audience of the Pope? It may mean many things. For anyone who has spiritual sensibility and understanding of his own destiny, it is not only the curiosity of an extraordinary scene, or just an exterior act of religious piety, that may give interest and importance to a moment such as this. And for each of those present, we think, this is a moment of meeting, yes; not just with our modest person, but a formidable meeting with him whom it is

our mission to represent, Jesus Christ. Perhaps more than a meeting! For each of those present, this is a confrontation. A confrontation with the Lord. With that Lord before whom every person is transparent. Here everyone is, as it were, in front of a mirror. The mirror, which has become strangely clear, is one's own conscience, illuminated by the eyes of Christ. If the meeting were a tangible one, (it is not, but it is spiritually real), what state of mind would leap to the consciousness of anyone who feels that he is observed, penetrated by Christ's look?

It is, perhaps, not rash to suppose that the conscience of many, scrutinised by such a penetrating eye, would give the result of a certain confusion, so common in the religious mentality of many men today. The question that each of these persons interrogated would repeat to himself, would be that of a stagnant and incurable doubt. It is this: "But, then, is Christ the truth, or not? Do I believe or do I not believe?" And here we have one of the most

widespread spiritual situations among contemporary men, in connection with the religious question. This is the situation of uncertainty, of suspension, of systematic doubt, indicated as the most prudent position, and therefore the wisest one, for human reason; this reason which is as greedy for scientific, that is, merely natural, certainty as it is mistrustful, on the contrary, of the truth that is given freely to it by faith. Even if the testimony, which sustains faith, is that of Christ? Unfortunately, yes. Even if adherence to this testimony constitutes a reason of salvation? Unfortunately, yes.

And it is then at this point that we await the men of today, the new Christians. It is necessary to begin again from the foundation that sustains the religious edifice: faith, adherence to the word of the Master, a simple, firm faith, at once strengthened by the gift of divine certainty. Let us rec all the fundamental words of St. Paul: "He who through faith is righteous shall live"

## Dear Mr. Henderson\* we couldn't have said it any better.

\*President of Rochester Telephone Corporation

We are making reference to your statement at the stockholders meeting of Rochester Telephone Corporation on April 20th, 1977:

*"While our market surveys indicate that many residence customers will want to own their own telephones, we believe the business customer will continue to use first class service.*

*... with a quick response to trouble and around the clock maintenance."*

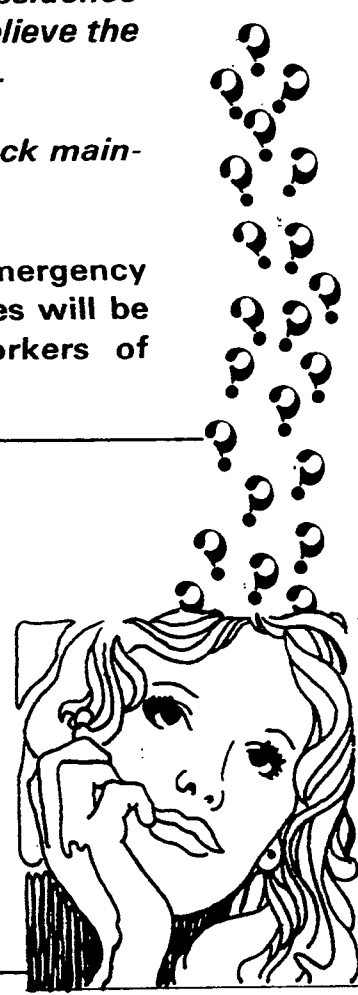
First-class telephone service and around the clock emergency maintenance is what Rochester companies and families will be guaranteed by us, Local 1170 Communications Workers of America. Unless, of course, they buy their own phone.

### Do you really want to call your phone your own?

Do you really want your telephone to be like your TV set or toaster? Do you want to pay high repair bills to have your phone work?

In the middle of the night when you need a policeman, fireman, ambulance, or have any other emergency call to make, do you want your phone to work?

Do you want to give up the "security blanket" you now have for pennies a month? Can you be prepared for an emergency without your telephone????



### Lets look at the cost comparison . . .

If you now have one wall phone, one desk phone including the outlets, and buy them from Rochester Telephone Corporation, you will pay to the phone company \$84.90 and must pay this amount within 90 days.

If you have no repair trouble, it will take you 27 months to recover your original investment of \$84.90, and if you have one repair-service call it will take you 37 months in which to recover your investment..

The cost and inconvenience of repairing YOUR OWN PHONE is

- \$22.35 per hour for labor, plus parts and materials.
- If a test is needed — \$5.40
- Take your phone to 3441 W. Henrietta Rd., wait to have it repaired. Monday to Friday 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. only.
- Throw the phone away. Buy a new one at whatever cost. You get what you pay for.

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