



SUMMARY OF SERMON

May 30, 1961

Can our minds conceive of a world in which there is no sickness, disease or infirmity -- nor any societies, movements or organizations relevant thereto? It shouldn't be thought a strange thing -- the Bible specifically foretells of such a glorious utopia. Right now, the world could be free from these ills if it were living by God's Truth (Mat. 4:4; John 8:31-32). But the world has chosen the way of the CURSE (Deut. 11:26-28). The United States is a typical example of what a nation blessed with an abundance of material things brings on itself if such wealth is not directed God's way -- the way of BLESSING (Deut. 11:27). To illustrate this, here are a few FACTS about the alarming situation existing in the U.S. which show it is a SICK NATION. The increases in the death rate from 1900-1955 were noted as follows: cancer up 130%; diabetes up 145%; stomach ulcer up 145%; heart disease up 160% and polio (acute) up 775%. Diphtheria up 200% in Texas 1959 over 1958. Respiratory illnesses jumped 100% in Los Angeles in 1959 over 1958. Also in Los Angeles during the same period, polio climbed 50%, measles 300%, mumps 200%. Whooping cough up 50% or more in 18 of 25 reporting states. Scarlet fever and strep throat up 50% or more in 17 of 25 reporting states. There are 700,000,000 virus infections a year in the U.S. -- an average of four per person. Americans get 500,000,000 colds a year. The common cold costs industry well over 5,000,000,000 dollars a year in lost time and production. 10,000,000 have cardiovascular (heart and blood vessel) diseases -- accounted for 54% of all deaths in 1958. Half of middle-aged men harbor heart disease conditions. 15,000 children die annually from it. One out of four Americans show positive reaction to TB tests. 300,000 are currently blind. Arthritis affects 30 million Americans. Cerebral palsy and related brain disorders affect 3,500,000. 8% of U.S. population suffers from chronic headache -- most are of the "tension" variety caused by emotional conflict. 2,000,000 Americans have, or will have, rheumatic fever. A child is born with cerebral palsy every 53 minutes. 30,000-40,000 are born with heart defects annually. More than 70 new viruses affecting man have been found since 1948. 200 new occupational diseases appear yearly. Some authorities estimate 10% of the entire U.S. population suffers from some sort of venereal disease. Appalling increases in syphilis in big cities from 1955 to 1959: San Francisco up 591%; Houston up 378%; Los Angeles up 291%; Washington D.C. up 280%; Boston up 211%; Chicago up 174%. Ten percent of U.S. population suffers from some form of mental ailment -- nearly 750,000 are hospitalized mental patients. America's bills for medical care ran about \$22,000,000,000 in 1959, double the amount paid in 1950 and 6½ times the amount paid in 1929. The typical family spends 294 dollars a year for personal health services -- 42% more than only five years ago. Over 200,000,000 dollars was spent on tranquilizers in the U.S. in 1958. Care of mental hospitalized patients costs two billion dollars a year. BRETHREN! These statistics clearly show why Christ must return to save a dying humanity and how the nations have brought curses on themselves by breaking God's laws and commandments -- a clear picture of prophecy being fulfilled (Deut. 28:15, 20-21, 27, 35, 58-62).

Sicknesses, diseases and infirmities are brought on through transgressed physical laws of God (Mk. 2:9). Christ came to pay this penalty in our stead -- if we only recognize it and accept His sacrifice (Mat. 8:16-17; Isa. 53:4-5). He as the very Creator of heaven, earth and the inhabitants thereof came to this earth, was made a flesh and blood individual with the ability to sense excruciating pain to take on Himself the sufferings we should rightfully experience when we break God's physical laws. He endured pain unequalled by any other in order that we and later the whole world might experience forgiveness of physical sins and be made well. Men beat Him in the face with rods (Mat. 26:67, marginal translation). He was scourged! (Mat. 27:26). Scourging was inflicted on the worst criminals by Roman soldiers -- yes, Christ submitted to the worst possible punishment that we might be forgiven of our wrong ways of living. Henry H. Halley, on page 400 of his pocket Bible Handbook, states that, "Scourging was done with a whip which was made of a number of leather thongs weighted with pieces of lead or sharp metal. The victim was stripped to the waist, then bound, in a bentover position to a post, and beaten on the bare back with the scourge

till the flesh was all torn open. Sometimes death resulted.¹⁰ Our minds can't possibly grasp the terrible and excruciating pain Jesus Christ suffered in His body through this beating, inflicted on Him because you and I and the world have transgressed God's physical laws -- designed to bring about healthful and abundant living! The suffering was great and the act of love on the part of Jesus so respected by the Father that the physical sins of the whole world can eventually be forgiven -- all sickness, disease and infirmity removed -- when the sacrifice is recognized and accepted (Jn. 1:29; I Jn. 2:1-2). The main reason the world is so sick right now is because it has mis-used the material abundance God has permitted the world to possess. Physical wealth and material things are not wrong in themselves -- they can, however, be put to a wrong use. The world has put them to a wrong use. God has let the United States have about all the material wealth a nation could hope for as a means of proving to the whole world that man apart from God CANNOT direct this wealth in a right manner. Too, as a means of proving to the world that if the goal of a nation is wealth and physical luxury INSTEAD of the Kingdom of God -- directing things God's way -- material blessings become a great CURSE. God knows we have need of material things (Mat. 6:32). But they should be sought AFTER one has learned RIGHT DIRECTION (Mat. 6:33) -- NOT BEFORE. The world has rejected God's rule and direction and has made material things a GOAL -- an idol which has been placed before God. Consequently, the nations are suffering and the people hurting themselves through a misuse of the material wealth they possess. Riches are deceitful -- we must be taught to properly use them God's way (Mat. 13:22). Because the world has lost all knowledge of right direction, of just how things are to be put to proper use, God placed before His Church facilities in which "TRUE VALUES COULD BE RE-CAPTURED" -- the motto of Ambassador College is "Re-capture True Values" -- and when sufficient of these were re-captured and understood sufficiently, God started adding great wealth to His Church for the purpose of first of all carrying out a commission of proclaiming the GOOD NEWS of the soon-coming Kingdom of God to this earth and, secondly, to enable us to live the truly abundant lives God desires. God trained Mr. Armstrong for 28 years so he would be qualified to direct material wealth God's way BEFORE the real wealth started to be added in any real appreciable amount. It was not until after the college had been functioning for a number of years that God gave the accelerated growth to His Work. It took a number of years for a sufficient number of TRUE VALUES to be re-captured and put to practice to enable God's Church to have right direction of the wealth God is now bestowing on His Work. You and I brethren, of ourselves, would not be able to direct a multi-million dollar Work in a godly manner. We would mis-use the wealth in many ways because we have not received the training Mr. Armstrong has and others who have been at Headquarters since the college commenced. That is why God holds Mr. Armstrong responsible for directing this fast-growing, world-wide Work of proclaiming and publishing the Gospel to the world and of supervising the colleges Christ has raised up.

When God saw His Work needed more material blessings, He saw that more nice homes and estates and other things came to His Work. These estates were built by wealthy men who had as a goal the material things themselves and not first of all God's Kingdom. They were not putting these fine estates to a profitable use; consequently, God passed their estates and much of their wealth on to His colleges when the men died -- their estates passed to God's Work just when they were needed as God has promised (Pro. 13:22). The wealth can now be directed in a right manner ONLY because God has trained men to seek the Kingdom of God first and to only desire material wealth for the purpose of carrying on God's Work and to make a life lived in accordance with God's laws a richer and fuller life. None of us should seek riches for any other reason. Make no mistake about it, God does want us to live a very abundant life (Jn. 10:10). He wants us to prosper materially and be in health (III Jn. 2). But He knows that unless we have first of all learned right direction, material blessings will only bring on curses. God is the wealthiest Being in the Universe. He wants to share this wealth with us (Rom. 8:17; Heb. 1:2). But such wealth of this vast Universe will not be shared with us UNTIL we learn right direction -- until we seek His Kingdom and Righteousness, right direction, FIRST. God has promised those who overcome wrong concepts and wrong practices by having the very laws of God written by practice in our minds and inward parts that we will inherit ALL THINGS (Rev. 21:7). This cannot be done until we put the spiritual things of God first, before material wealth and self-satisfaction (Rev. 21:6). Someday Israelites who have been blessed with great material wealth are going to realize that because they didn't have the Kingdom of God as a goal and seek material things only to add to an already found way of abundance through obedience to

God, they did not attain lasting happiness. But, rather, brought on themselves CURSES! Then they will really come to God, seeking the WAY which really satisfies (Isa. 55:1-3) -- after the great national captivity, the Great Tribulation, into which they will soon go and when they realize they should seek the Kingdom of God first. After they have asked God to write His laws in their minds and inward parts, then they will be blessed above anything they have previously experienced and direct the wealth rightly (Jer. 31:31-34; Eze. 34:11-17; Eze. 34:22-31; Eze. 36:8-38; Isa. 51:1-5; Jer. 31:11-14; Isa. 35:1-10). They will soon come to see that they should have first of all labored for the spiritual way of God and, secondarily, for the physical and material things (Jn. 6:27, 63). They will come to see they should not have set their hearts on riches (Rom. 11:8-10). They will come to see that riches were the very stumblingblock of their sin or iniquity -- yes, they will cast them off until they are willing to learn right direction first (Eze. 7:19). Even Christians have to be WARNED not to set their heart on riches and put them before God's way of obedience and right direction (I Tim. 6:1-12, 17-19). We must learn to use things rightly so we can TEACH Israel and the whole world why they were wrong in using wealth the way they did -- why it left them empty, unhappy, sick and afflicted -- AFTER Jesus Christ has returned to the earth to establish the Kingdom of God. ARE WE REALLY LEARNING TO BE FAITHFUL STEWARDS OF WHATEVER WEALTH GOD HAS COMMITTED TO US? Is our very purpose in living to help finance and support the WORK OF GOD and then as it is possible acquire nicer things through which we gain further experience in how to use them to produce the truly abundant life?

God warned Israel that if they turned from His one and only TRUE WAY OF LIFE -- the way of TRUE VALUES -- they would misuse the blessings they were to receive, bringing on themselves many CURSES (Deut. 31:19-30). They didn't fully believe God, thought they could surely use material things in a manner that produced the desired result, and started using this wealth to build things, establish societies to try to relieve people of problems they were bringing on themselves through transgressed laws and in trying to buy allies or lovers for protection because they had turned from God and His protection. The words spoken by God through Moses were primarily referring to the nations of Australia, United States and Great Britain -- Israelites existing in the "LATTER DAYS" (verse 29). Many, many news bulletins reveal that the United States has lost NATIONAL PURPOSE, that it has no goal now -- why? Because it had as a goal -- material wealth! Now that it has attained this, it has no desire as a nation to really keep going as was once the case. Had they had the Kingdom of God as a GOAL, the blessings would have been used as a means of better helping them reach the right GOAL of achieving God's Kingdom. They will soon come to realize the great mistake they have made, turn to God after the tribulation, seek His way -- THEN when God adds unheard of material blessings, they will be put to right use. We as God's Church are responsible for warning the world, especially Israel, of the terrible end to which the goal of materialism is bringing them. Also, we set forth right VALUES and TRUTHS, in setting forth the way by which God would have them live. OURS TRULY IS A WORK OF LOVE. For this reason, God has called this era of the church "Philadelphia" -- meaning "brotherly love" (Rev. 3:7). God is using us to proclaim a message of LOVE from a God of Love to our Israelitish brothers especially, and to the whold world. We should look on this commission as a WORK OF LOVE and put our all-in-all into it. Are we praying for God's Work as we ought? Are we striving to give more to the ONLY Work of LOVE on the face of this earth? (As I was typing this summary this morning -- Sunday -- Mrs. Van der Wende called from Canley Vale to inform me of how God healed her last night of a terribly painful condition for which she was anointed yesterday. Yes, it is good to know God is our Healer, that Jesus Christ bore in His own body our pains, and that we can be perfectly restored without cost).

God has opened the door of radio and of printing to enable the GOOD NEWS of the Kingdom of God and all the things God will do for us here and now to be thundered to the whole world just before the return of Jesus Christ to this earth. But we must do our part in going through them by praying for the Work and helping all we can to finance it. Plus a lot of study to prepare ourselves to teach the world the WAY of God in just fifteen or so years. God promises that many hearing and disbelieving the message being sent out through "The WORLD TOMORROW" broadcast and in the pages of The PLAIN TRUTH will someday recognize that God was using us and will come to us for the purpose of being taught the TRUTH by which we are now learning to live (Rev. 3:9). This Commission must be fulfilled BEFORE the great tribulation comes on the whole world (Mat. 24:14, 21-22). When the tribulation comes, there will be no more

opportunities to proclaim the TRUTH God has opened our minds to see (Amos 8: 11-12) -- we must work while it is yet Day for the night cometh when no man can work in getting out the Truth (Jn.9:4). We are children of Day and must prove ourselves worthy of such by taking advantage of the opportunities God is giving us to proclaim His Gospel to the whole world through the wonderful facilities of radio and the printing press which He has opened to us (I Ths. 5:1-8). Let us have our "feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace" -- let us not neglect the responsibilities God has laid on the shoulders of EACH ONE OF US. Put your talents to work for God and invest your money in this Work which is directed by Jesus Christ from God's throne in Heaven!

SUMMARY OF SERMONETTE

HOW DID CHRIST FULFILL THE LAW?

The law-hating ministers of the world try to twist Matthew 5:17 to make it appear that Christ came to do away with the law by his observing it. They claim that when He came to "fulfill the law", He disannulled it or set it aside by perfectly obeying it.

The simple truth is that Christ "fulfilled the LAW," but He didn't fulfill the need for the law as these false ministers preach.

But what does fulfill mean? In all cases where this word or it's derivatives are used in the Bible it carries one of the following meanings -- to fill fully; to complete or bring to a state of perfection; bring to full expression; or bring about the realization of something anticipated. Jesus Christ brought the law to a state of complete perfection by correcting the basic fault that lay with man. He made possible the addition of that lacking ingredient -- the Holy Spirit -- making it possible for man to obey the law. At the same time He magnified the Law (Isa. 42:21) adding to it the full spiritual intent which was lacking under the old covenant.

To further understand how He full(filled) the Law. Picture the Law as a pail filled with sand. Although the pail might appear to be completely filled, it isn't -- for there is an air space around each grain of sand. However, if water is poured into the pail it becomes completely filled, without altering the original sand grains in any way. In this manner Christ filled the Law completely full, adding the Spirit to the already existing law, bringing it to a state of complete perfection.

The William's translation expresses this quite clearly: "Do not suppose that I have come to set aside the law or the prophets. I have not come to set them aside but to FILL them UP TO THE BRIM."

YOU TOO CAN REJOICE

As most of you realize, God's Church is ever growing. People are coming to the Church for their first time while others grow steadily until they come to the place where they are willing to give their whole lives to God. Such was the case for two more during the three day festival which included Pentecost. Mr. A.J. Howarth who attends the local Church here and Miss Joyce Rose of Melbourne were added to God's Church.

BIBLE STUDY

Plans for future growth of the Work in Australia were set forth by Mr. Waterhouse which reveal there could be phenominal growth for Australia in the future. Then Mr. Hammer gave the background to and purpose for writing the first epistle to the Corinthians. Following this he conducted a study through the first chapter of this epistle.

The brethren have shown remarkable interest in the studies and have come to realize how vital they are to their personal growth. For this reason the attendance remains very favorable. 69 were in attendance last Wednesday.

GROWTH IN WORK

The June issue of The PLAIN TRUTH magazine is going to forty pages! This means a lot to us when we reflect on the first few years of this Work of God to realize that such a fine magazine of character in which the TRUTH of God is made PLAIN was begun on a borrowed mimeograph machine, beginning with only one or two pages, produced irregularly and sent to only a few hundred. Now the mailing list is 300,000. By 1972 with the present 30% annual increase, there

will be 5,376,000 copies sent out to subscribers. Fantastic! Only three magazines have a bigger circulation -- Reader's Digest, Life and T.V. Guide.

NORTH SYDNEY OFFICE

Printing Department -- this news bulletin is being run on our own printing press! We trust the printing can be done by ourselves from now on. Mr. Davies has been busy familiarizing himself with the press and other aspects of the printing work for more than a week now. It is good to have him with us.

Another employee -- Mr. Glen Davies has just been with us a short while but the need has arisen for another. Ronald Lyons is soon to start working in the office.

And not only is God supplying us with additional laborers from among the Australians but He is also sending us more help from His Headquarters. Mr. Frank Simpkins and his wife, Bernice, are to leave Pasadena in mid-June -- after graduating from Ambassador College in the first part of June.

It is our desire to see Mr. Hammer and, perhaps, Mr. Faulkner freed from their office responsibilities soon. If they are, their services will be utilized in Victoria to serve the many people who are in need of help there. And to raise up a church in Melbourne. Let us rejoice in all the fruit God is bearing through everyone who is having a part in His Work here in Australia. It looks as though God has just begun to really do a big work in this continent "down under." Let us all pray fervently that God will use us very productively in His Work -- there are many in this area of the world who need God's Truth and to be steered in the way of righteousness.

FOOD FACTS

Many have asked whether or not they should use commercial jellies. No doubt many have questioned the type of gelatine used in making products of this sort.

We have inquired with the different companies making these jellies and were told from Davis Gelatine -- from whom all other companies get their gelatine -- that they use only beef and sheep in their gelatine. They get the beef and sheep mostly from Queensland. Davis is the only supplier of Gelatine in Australia.

To serve as a double check, we also contacted the other companies and they also assured us that they used Davis Gelatine and only beef and sheep products.

The companies we contacted are: Davis Gelatine, "Express", Aeroplane, Mothers Choice, Cottees, Bingo.

I would recommend that you use Davis Gelatine because in using it you know what's going into your gelatine. The other products use artificial colorings and flavoring plus refined sugars.

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