

In This Issue

Editorial Etches page 2

Explosion in the Middle East
Stanley J. Kauer page 3

Come Quickly, O Battle of Armageddon
Jim Craig page 6

Right On?
Lucy Marrs page 7

Gold in the Sand
Hope E. Dais page 10

The Habit of Thankfulness
Bob Lair page 12

You Are What You Eat
David Robinson page 14

Tell Me, Please
Dale G. Lawson page 17

Life's Delicate Cup
Hoyt E. Stone page 12

VISTOC page 22

The Gentle Art of Restoration
William E. Winters page 23

Better Than Sacrifice
Marilyn Current page 24

A Boy and His Lunch
Minuteman page 25

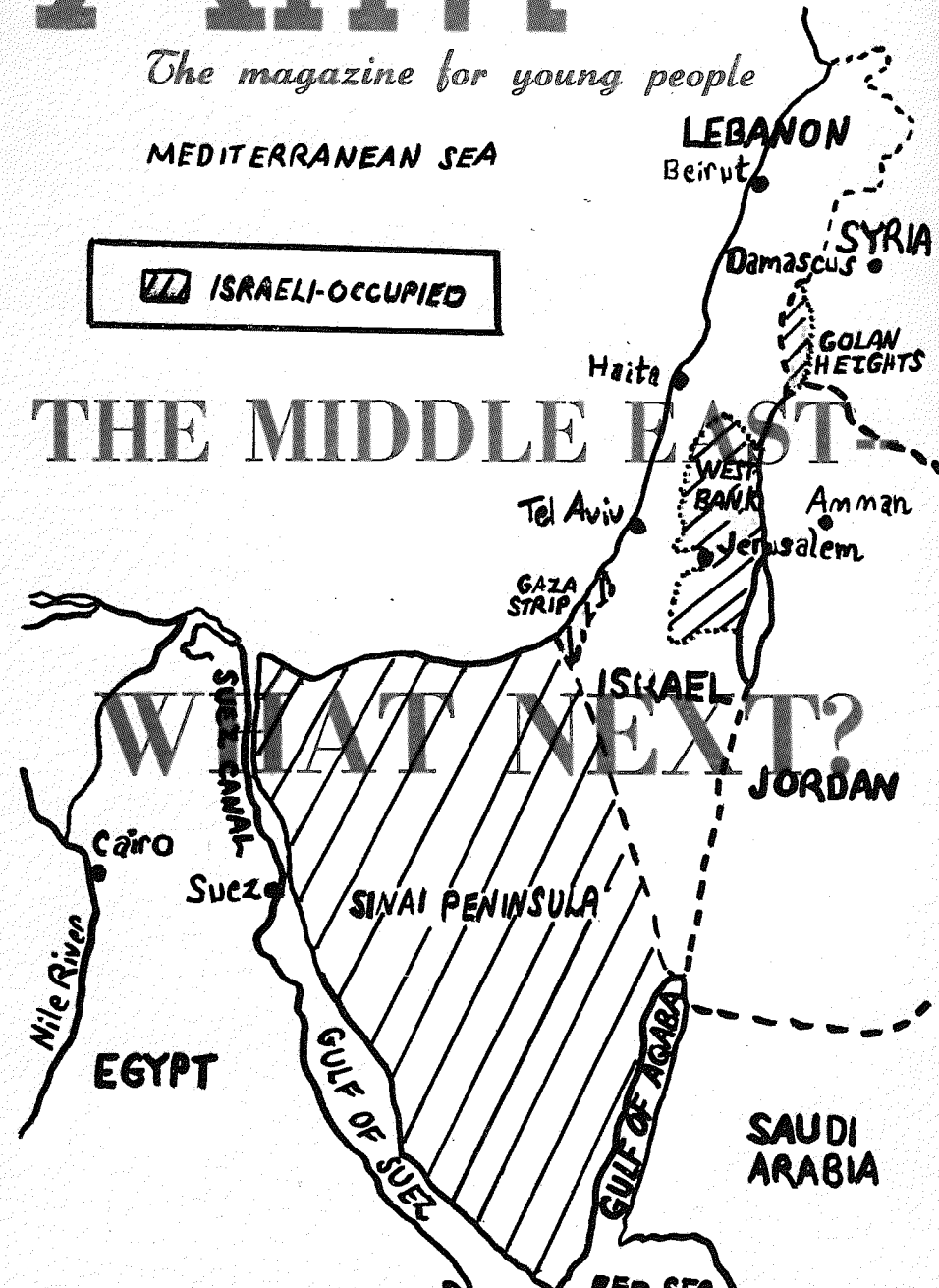
Aim

The magazine for young people

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

 ISRAELI-OCCUPIED

THE MIDDLE EAST



WHAT NEXT?

AIM is dedicated to the promotion of higher ideals and more challenging spiritual goals among young people.

It is published monthly by the Bible Advocate Press at 330 W. 152nd Avenue, Broomfield, Colorado. Second-class postage is paid at Broomfield, Colorado 80020.

Contributions of material for publication are greatly appreciated. No responsibility is assumed for the care of manuscript, however, and only manuscript which is accompanied by return postage will be returned. Material which is original with this publication may be reprinted to the Glory of God. Please give proper credit.

Subscription rates: \$3.50 per year in the United States and Canada. Foreign, \$4.00. Clubs of 6 or more to one address, U. S. and Canada only \$3.00 each.

A change of address must be allowed two weeks for processing. Please send both old and new addresses.

Address all mail to: AIM, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, Colorado 80201.

Gail Rincker, Editor

Vol. XXXVII, No. 11



EDITORIAL ETCHES

While driving to work one day last week i was listening to a local radio station noted for its good news coverage. i turned the volume up as the music was interrupted by the serious voice of a news reporter . . . *"The United States is facing a day of extreme, grave crisis. At 3:00 a.m. the President placed all of the U.S. military forces on alert in the event they will be needed. Yesterday Russia proposed the plan of a joint U.S.-Russian peace-keeping force entering the battlefield to insure that both sides abide by the U.N. cease-fire arrangement. President Nixon said no such proposal could be considered and no U.S. troops will be sent to the Middle East. In a special message delivered to the President this morning Russia announced her troops will go into the Middle East with or without the support of the U.S. . . ."* Suddenly the disc jockey interrupted this important newscast saying, *"We'll return to this news story after a few words from Capitol Savings . . ."* Then followed a cheery little jingle in song about how happy one can become and how secure one's future will be only if one will invest his money in this certain savings and loan company. i was more than chagrined when the advertisement ended and the words to an over-played popular song blared out over the air. Feeling disgusted at missing the remainder of the news bulletin, i turned off the radio . . . but the news broadcaster's words about the grave crisis situation facing our nation kept running through my mind only to be chased by a line from the

(Continued on page 26)

EXPLOSION

in the Middle East

by Stanley J. Kauer

On October 6, which was the Jew's Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), the state of Israel was attacked by Egypt and Syria. Most of Israel's army forces were attending synagogue services when they were notified that the nation was at war. The country quickly mobilized and rushed its armor to meet the invasion. Egypt had crossed the Suez canal on pontoon bridges and had established control of a five-mile wide area on the east bank of the canal. They destroyed the fortifications Israel had installed there and then attempted to seize more of the Sinai peninsula. A great tank battle ensued there in the desert. Most of the news reports from the Arabs indicated that they were driving the Israeli forces back and were winning the conflict. Neither Egypt nor Israel permitted neutral news men in the battle areas, and so no one knew for sure just what was happening until after almost three weeks of fighting. Then Egypt, guilty of starting the war, called for a cease-fire. It was at this time it became known that Israel had broken through the Egyptian armies on the east bank of the canal and had captured 500 square miles of Egypt on the west side of the canal. Israel proceeded to gain control of both sides of the canal, cut all communications between Egypt and its army on the west side, and then surrounded Suez City on the Gulf of Suez. Again Egypt was defeated.

On the northern front Israel had driven the Syrian army out of the Golan Heights and had advanced to within about twenty miles of Damascus, the capital of Syria. Israeli bombing had destroyed the largest oil refinery in Syria as well as its air fields and other in-



The United Nations Security Council voting on the cease-fire agreement that brought an end to the recent fighting in the Middle East.

stallations and factories. At this point in the war, Syria also accepted the cease-fire as arranged by the United Nations. At the time of this writing the cease-fire is in effect in both fronts and Israel remains with large forces in control of land inside Syria and inside Egypt. For the first time in history there has been a face-to-face meeting of Israeli and Egyptian army officials. The officials met together to design a plan for getting medicine and food supplies to the Egyptian army trapped on the west bank of the canal. The prime minister of Israel, Golda Meier, said on a television interview that the dead and wounded of Israel numbered less than five thousand. It is believed that the losses to the Arab armies of Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Jordan, and Algeria have totaled more than twenty thousand. A vast amount of ammunition has been used up and a very large number of tanks, airplanes and other equipment has been destroyed in this war. Russia began a massive resupplying of the Arab nations and then the United States began to resupply Israel with planes, tanks, ammunition and other equipment. When Russia declared its intention of sending troops to the battle zones, President Nixon called for an alert of all the U.S. armed forces including the atomic or nuclear installations. The United States stood ready to plunge into war with Russia if they were to send soldiers to fight against Israel.

The tremendous events in Israel during the month of October should greatly strengthen our faith in God and in His Word. Four times in the past 25 years the Arabs have sought to destroy Israel and four times Israel has won out. This time the war was much more costly to Israel. Israel knew the Arabs were preparing for an attack, and she could have saved herself much loss if she had attacked them first as she did in 1967, but Golda Meier said in an October 2 interview that Israel deliberately waited until the Arab nations attacked so she would not be labeled the aggressor and thereby risk the support of the United States. Even so, all the world knows the Arabs attacked Israel on their most holy Sabbath of the year—Yom Kippur, yet some are still accusing Israel of starting this war!

We of the Church of God know that the land of Israel and its people are the key to understanding Bible prophecies regarding the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus came to the land of Israel at a time exactly appointed in the 70-week prophecy of Daniel 9. After 70 and 135 A.D. the people of Israel were scattered to all the nations of the world in fulfillment of Leviticus 26:33 and Deuteronomy 28:25. This was spoken to all twelve tribes of Israel. It has been fulfilled only in the Jews, thus showing that they are of all the twelve tribes. The prophecies of a regathering from all the nations of the earth is found in Ezekiel 36:16-24 and in Jeremiah 30:1-24 and 31:1-13. In this time of return it is prophesied that they would have great difficulties and suffer much. They would be espe-

cially troubled by the descendants of Esau and Ishmael. The Arabs are the descendants of Esau and Ishmael. Esau intermarried with Ishmael as is shown in Genesis 28:9 and 36:3. There was conflict between Jacob and Esau even before they were born (Genesis 25:22, 23), and there has always been conflict between their descendants since that time. This conflict is described in Ezekiel 35:5 as a "perpetual hatred" of the people of Mt. Seir (Edom or Esau) toward Israel. Verse 10 reveals that they have always wanted to conquer the land of Israel, but God has not permitted it. Amos 9:9 speaks of the dispersion of Israel, yet states they will retain their identity. Verse 11 speaks of a building up of the land of David, while verse 12 says they will possess the "remnant of Edom." Verse 4 describes the present restoration of the land of Israel and verse 15 declares that when this is complete, they will not again be driven from their land. Israel is now a nation and it will never be destroyed! It will remain a nation until the second advent of Christ and then it will be the center of that last great conflict — **ARMAGEDDON**. But before that time there will be great conflicts with the Arab nations . . . the book of Obadiah indicates a great destruction of these descendants of Esau. We can expect more wars between Israel and the Arab nations until finally a great peace treaty will be made. Just before Armageddon Israel will apparently be dwelling safely.

The land and people of Israel are God's great timepiece showing
(Continued on page 20)

Come Quickly, O Battle of Armageddon

The war between God and Satan rages on...

Impatiently I wait for Armageddon and pray
it won't be long . . .
For the war will then be won, and I can
discard my armor and rest.

Til then I MUST NOT FAINT lest the
enemy catch me off guard . . .
No! I must look to the Word for strength,
and fight.

HELP! The enemy is everywhere—even within
my very being,
And it is there that he is strongest
His lies and propoganda are very convincing
until I am at war with myself . . .

I have but blind faith in the final
victory of tomorrow on my side . . .
WHO THEN SHALL TURN THE TIDE?

His truth is marching on—the scene is being
set.
On then, ye Christians—let us band together
and exhort one another.
Lest the truth catch up with us and find
us waiting with the lie.

COME, QUICKLY, O BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON

by Jim Craig

Right On?

by Lucy Marrs

*When do you feel that life is
really "right on"?*

WHEN . . . *you're in blue jeans and
clogs and AT the latest movie?*

WHILE . . . *your date, a tough-looking dude,
doesn't realize you are (as God's
person) any different from any
other date?*

WHEN . . . *you take a Sabbath afternoon drive along
the beach enjoying God's nature and mar-
velous creation?*

WHILE . . . *words, far from God's thoughts, pound
into your consciousness and subcon-
sciousness, as they have to the same fast
pulsing, drawing beat they did all week?*

Stop to consider what your involvements center around! Do most of your activities bring more satisfaction, more pleasure, more good to your self, or do they really serve your commitment to Christ? Being very honest with yourself in answering these questions is important. But WHY?

In becoming God's person, many of you have experienced what is called conversion. You used to be what was termed a "sinner." Now you deliberately try to keep God's commandments and wouldn't dare do

any of those things which you know would be against His will. How many of you, though, have ever considered the thought that the change from being a sinner to becoming a saint has more to do with what is right on the dead center of your mind than it does with complacently accepting the Ten Commandments and laws? After all, your parents have helped many of you to keep the commandments from childhood. Yet in spite of their help, you have to admit failure. When you finally do decide to give your life to Christ, you find it easier to be moral.

Remember, you are not God's person just because you are not doing things Christians don't do. Do the things you do because you must (to keep face with your Christian friends) really indicate the true direction of your life?

You may ask, what if I go to the latest movie with my friend? What does that have to do with the fact that I'm God's person? Maybe you have reasoned with yourself that this certain guy you date is actually a better person than the available and interested boys in your church. And maybe so. Maybe he is a very polite individual who really knows how to make you feel good. If so, beautiful! But, stop and think. God has a burning desire to save your friend. Save him from what? The answer lies in the need every single person on earth has—the need to center his life on God's will, to give his thoughts to God. Then and only then will one be RIGHT ON.

As long as you drift along, enjoying and doing YOUR own thing, you are separated from God... even if these concerns aren't outright violations of God's will. Does it really serve God's best interest for you to be so willing to go to a movie? Or is it God's plan for you to carefully weigh whether or not your involvement in this pursuit (especially if it is a frequent way to spend your time) actually is the best way to communicate God's will to that person you enjoy it with. Is it possible that this activity has destroyed that chance, at least for today?

And what about the day God gave for rest and renewal? Is it possible for you to get to know God better when you don't open the only Book that contains His thoughts—straight from HIM? Sure you open it in church, and that's good... but what about the rest of the day? Becoming acquainted with God's thinking is CRUCIALLY IMPORTANT because He only promises success to those who think like He does. Oh, that's right! You are already "acquainted" with God's thinking. But how often throughout the fast-moving days of the week do you have access to His thinking on situations that have come and gone BEFORE you could do any research to see how God wants you to respond?

Maybe you feel, as I did for a while, that you know what's in the Bible so why go out of your way to expose yourself to it any more. **THE TRUTH IS, YOU ARE CONSTANTLY CHANGING.** Your thought

patterns are subject to constant influence from many directions. Does God's thinking really have a chance in your current life style unless you continually seek for it?

It is God's will that you tune in to Him through His Word several times a day, every day of your life (however long it lasts). This is the easiest done if His Words a.e, as He hopes, written in our hearts. We are His. Do our life styles show it?



SELF



CHRIST

Which sketch is Right On with you? Which describes your heart's central concern? Which is the most driving motivation inside you?

Lucy Marrs is an active member of the Stanberry, Missouri F.Y.C. Lucy completed the Bible Foundations Course at Midwest Bible College and is now living and working in Stanberry.



DISTRICT NO. 5 FALL F.Y.C. RETREAT

***At Camp Comer, Mentone, Alabama (near Hammondville)

***November 23, 24, 25

Camp opens 4:00 p.m. Nov. 23

Camp closes 12:00 Nov. 25

***Theme—"TAKE HEED UNTO THYSELF" (1 Tim. 4:16).

***You are all welcome, SO Y'ALL COME!

Fee: Only \$8.00 per person

For more information contact:

Elder Dale G. Lawson
P. O. Box 108
Cloudland, GA 30709
Phone: (404) 862-2719

G O L D

I
n

t
h
e

S
a
n
d

Hope E. Dais

"As long as there are final exams, there will be prayer in the schools." This was the amusing observation I heard over the airwaves recently—and undoubtedly it was, though amusing, quite an accurate one.

Like most *amusing little sayings* I hear, I had almost dismissed this one from my mind when it bounced back with new impact—This is *more than amusing!* It reflects just too well our whole attitude concerning prayer!

Why didn't the statement go: "As long as there is food in the cafeteria, there will be prayer in the schools"?—or—"As long as there is heat in the classrooms, there will be prayer in the schools"? The answer is obvious. *To most, the thought of prayer comes not at a time of blessing, but at a time of need.*

Of how much joy and fulfillment we deprive ourselves because of our failure to have a truly thankful heart! Can you recall for a moment the fullness of joy you feel when you are so very grateful to some friend or a family member that you can hardly wait to express that gratitude?—When you can hardly say enough to let them know how very thankful you are? Each day we can thrill our hearts with praise for our Heavenly Father—but, oh, so many of our days are "too busy" to enjoy a heart full of praise.

How well our human tendencies are portrayed by the traditional son-off-to-college or child-at-camp syndrome, wherein the parent hears

from his child only when the child is in need of help—and then it is quite brief and to the point:

"NO MON; NO FUN; YOUR SON."

To this particular epistle, the answer was just as brief and to the point: "TOO BAD; SO SAD; YOUR DAD..."

Hardly do we expect such a reversal from our Heavenly Parent, but in one of our lighter moments of reflection, we wonder if God is sometimes inclined to be "out to lunch" when He suddenly hears from one who has had no time or thought for praise when things were going well.

Oh, yes, table grace is said in our homes every day—and probably on this Thanksgiving Day (as in the past), our grace will be a little longer than the usual daily thanks. Even so, one wonders if we are capable of knowing what it is to be *truly thankful* for FOOD since most of us don't know what it's like to be without food!

It has often been noted that true gratitude and true contentment come after tragedy—or near-tragedy. A newspaper account some time ago told the gripping story of a family whose car was swept into a river, and the mother, who alone was able to crawl out and get ashore, sat on the bank, hopelessly wishing she had stayed inside the overturned car to perish with the rest of her family—her husband and four children—whose screams and cries for help had abruptly subsided. Then, after several minutes, which had seemed like an eternity of helpless, hopeless torture, her husband miraculously appeared out of the door of the partially submerged car and, one by one, each of her family was returned to her. They had been saved by finding an air pocket in the far back corner of the car. To this wife and mother each day is now a new adventure. Each day is a gift from God, because for that short time she was sure everything that was precious to her had been taken away.

Do we need to encounter tragedy—or near tragedy—before we can have a truly thankful heart?—Before we can recognize that each new day is a gift from God? "From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the Lord's name is to be praised" (Psalm 113:3).

"If one should give me a dish of sand, and tell me there were particles of iron in it, I might look for them with my eyes, and search for them with my clumsy fingers, and be unable to detect them; but let me take a magnet and sweep through it, and how it would draw to itself the almost invisible particles by the mere power of attraction. —The unthankful heart, like my fingers in the sand, discovers no mercies; but let the thankful heart sweep through the day, and as the magnet finds the iron, so it will find, in every hour, some heavenly blessings, only the iron in God's sand is gold!"

—H. W. Beecher



The Habit of Thankfulness

by Bob Lair

It was a small child who taught me the lesson, and I've never forgotten it. She had been reminded again and again by her parents to say "thank you" whenever given anything or when shown any kindness. Hardly a day went by that they didn't prompt her: "Say 'thank you,' darling, for the nickel." "Say 'thank you' to that kind man holding the door for you." "Say 'thank you' to Grandpa for the candy."

They thought at first it would take forever for her to learn the lesson, but finally it became a habit. After that it was a rare occasion on which Mommy had to offer a reminder. But then one afternoon the tables were turned. The child had worked hard making a special card for her father. When she presented it, her father said quickly:

"Why, that's a beautiful card!" But he had forgotten the magic words. In a flash she rebuked him with: "Say 'thank you,' Daddy."

That child's mild retort set me thinking. I began to realize how terribly mechanical we are about the matters of gratitude. We usually are prompt with our verbal thank-yous, but they do not always emerge from genuinely appreciative hearts. In fact, we are often rather mechanical about the whole thing. *Thank-yous have become a matter of habit, while real gratitude is a rarer commodity.*

I notice it sometimes when we pause for prayer before meals. We would be ashamed to start piling food on our plates without that reverential moment, but too frequently I fear we go at "the bless-

ing" in a disinterested, perfunctory way, not expressing genuine gratitude at all, but merely going through the motions of an empty ritual.

"Father, we thank Thee for this food. Amen." Or "Bless this food to our bodies we pray. Amen." We say the words, but our hearts are not in them. We have fallen victim to our "habit of gratitude." Watch yourself the next time you pause to pray at mealtime; see if I am not right. If I am, then we only make a hollow mockery of that moment in which we ought to acknowledge our utter dependence upon God and to praise Him devotedly for seeing to it that we have no need unsupplied.

I am sure it is true of other aspects of our lives as well. How much genuine gratitude do we feel for the personal benefits of health, for the dawning of a new day, for courage to face difficult moments, for spiritual blessings and

insight gained in the routine of regular worship and weekly attendance at Bible study and prayer?

How often have our hearts earnestly thanked God for the joy of home and children, for the comfort and fellowship of Christian wife and husband, for capacity for work and a job at hand, for fresh air and beautiful summer days, for opportunities to witness and the sense of His nearness?

We should not cultivate the habit of seeming to be thankful, but rather we should possess a genuine response of heart and spirit to the graciousness of God which is manifest in each moment of life. Dr. Bob Jones often warned: "When gratitude dies on the altar of a man's life, that man is well-nigh hopeless." How profoundly true. **Unless our gratitude is more than habit, unless it bursts spontaneously from the soul of praise, our lives are empty indeed.**

—Lighted Pathway

HEAD FOR THE HILLS!

Come to where the air is clean and nature surrounds you with her beauty—the hills of Texas. Texas will be the home for a spiritual retreat at its finest this winter. Be watching for more information next month, but until then, start making your plans to spend three days in Texas this winter retreating with God.

PLACE: Rock River Ranch
Approximately 60 miles north of
San Antonio, Texas

Dates: December 28-31

Ages: 13-25

Tentative Cost: \$17.00 per camper

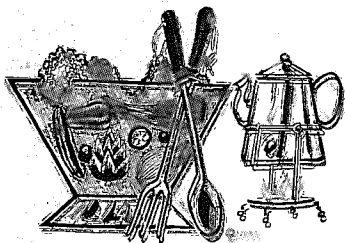
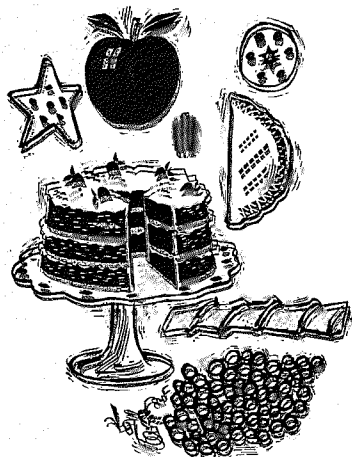
If YOU have been tagged with the descriptive title of "fatty," "string-bean" or "squirt," don't consider your condition to be hopeless. If YOU think your physical body is now a perfect specimen, be careful lest your future alter your physique. Whatever your condition it's important to realize....

You Are What You Eat

by David Robinson

By means of mass advertisement, especially through constant bombardment from the television, the public is led to believe that every food product on the market is capable of either making one exceptionally strong, irresistibly attractive or the only smart one on his block. Such reinforcing words as "fortified," "enriched," "super-improved" and "healthy" are commonly used to convincingly lure YOU to the trap of buying the product.

Are YOU aware that many so-called "power-packed" foods YOU stuff your stomach with are better classified as JUNK and are detrimental to your good health? It's time for YOU to devote as much attention to the inside of your body as YOU do to the outside! Surprisingly enough, the outward appearance of your body is regulated greatly by the condition of your internal organs. Throw away every commercialized concept YOU have of how to keep yourself healthy along with the cereal boxes that give YOU a long list of supposedly needed daily vitamins, and give ear to the truth of the matter!



GOD, the Creator, manifested His infinite wisdom by creating a world with perfect cycles to assure its perpetuation. He then formed man with the needed physical and mental capabilities to become part of this world in motion. Using the natural resources provided by the LORD, man was to survive and even multiply his kind. Man was compatible with his environment, followed the principles of life as GOD gave them and therefore maintained a state of "good health." As sin did abound man's mind turned to satisfying his lusts and deviated from the basic principles of health as GOD had given. Now, even in our modern times, man is still polluting and destroying his body with junk that provides lustful pleasures while he continues to disregard GOD-given principles of good health. Realizing the plight of his physical body, but failing to see the cause, man endeavors to restore the needed basic nutrients by creating chemical and synthetic supplements and adding them to the bleached and flavored foods he consumes. What a vicious cycle man has made . . . he breaks his body down in his early life and then suffers the effects in later life.

It is quite simple to fall into this cycle of modern devastation of the body and at the same time feel you are doing your body good. Many people today have realized how serious the situation is and have turned to eating only naturally grown foods. This, as can be expected, was picked up by commercialized thinkers and has now evolved into the present day "HEALTH FOOD FAD" sweeping our country.

Originally the *back to nature* idea was good, but now we must be careful of being sold the old depleted foods under a new title. As YOU consider the deplorable condition of our "healthy" society and find yourself one of its products (whether overweight, underweight, or in reasonably good health), how can YOU protect yourself from the "junk" on the market and assure your body of receiving all the needed nutrients it requires?

If YOU want to begin getting your body back to the original way GOD created it, then implement these guidelines into your daily life.

1. YOU will never be able to get your body into good shape until first YOU get your mind into shape. This means becoming educated about how to be healthy. YOU may think YOU know what is good for YOU and what isn't, but don't trust your own wisdom when there are others who speak from years of experience and knowledge. It is an assumed fact that YOU will stand upon GOD'S Word first as your book of guidelines to healthful living and that

YOU exercise the principles found within its pages. Along with the Bible, but not in comparison, are many other books which are able to give YOU knowledge on caring for your body. Here are two suggestions which YOU will find very helpful in educating yourself:

GOD'S KEYS TO HEALTH AND HAPPINESS

by Elmer A. Josephson
Order from: Bible Light Publications
P. O. Box 3
Wichita, Kansas 67201
price, \$1.95

BACK TO EDEN

by Jethro Kloss
Order from: Lifeline Books
P. O. Box 1552
Riverside, California 92502
price, \$3.00

2. The second guideline is a **WARNING** to beware of all the commercialized endorsements of food products! Many products are not sold for the betterment of the consumer but for the monetary profit of the producer. As the well-known Bible passage states, "*Prove all things; hold fast that which is good*" . . . apply this principle to your purchase of foods which are widely advertised. Once YOU have educated yourself and know of the harm done by many commercialized foods, this step will be easily added to your life.

3. Running to the health food store and buying all types of organically grown foods along with herbs and teas with names YOU have never heard of isn't the way to achieve good health. It's very important to take good foods and arrange them in proper balance so that your diet supplies all the needed nutrients. An over abundance of certain foods may be as harmful as lacking the necessary substances these foods contain. Careful planning and strict discipline are necessary to keep on your planned diet. Again, after educating yourself this step will take on greater meaning.

"And let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Galatians 6:9). For "good health" these things are necessary, so press on as YOU have more guidelines!

4. To fill yourself with good foods and establish a proper diet will not avail YOU much if YOU do not put the energy obtained in these foods to use. *Exercising is very essential to keeping your body*
(Continued on page 21)

Tell Me, Please

Youth Questions Answered by
Dale G. Lawson



QUESTION

Is ESP bad to fool around with? I mean is it against God? What view does the Church have about the occult?

ANSWER

ESP IS bad to fool around with! It IS AGAINST GOD! The Church of God does stand opposed to involvement in the occult in any fashion, not by official doctrinal statement in a doctrinal booklet, but officially by articles, sermons, rap sessions, etc.

I know that one may be drawn to the occult practices by curiosity or perhaps despair (King Saul of Israel was drawn by despair), but involvement in the occult denies faith in God. Besides, why try to map your life with something that is "hit and miss" when you can trust God, Who never misses.

God clearly tells us in His Holy Word that we must believe in Him; that we must trust in Him. To participate in the practices of the occult denies the power of God in your life. It denies your faith in Him. The following verses of Scripture make it impossible to be involved with the occult and at the same time trust in the TRUE AND LIVING GOD.

"There are many devises in a man's heart; nevertheless, the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand" (Prov. 19:21).

"Thus saith the LORD, cursed be the man that trusteth in man . . . and whose heart departed from the LORD" (Jer. 17:5).

"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD and DEPART FROM EVIL" (Prov. 3:5-7).

"And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God . . ." (Isa. 8:19)?

"Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar" (Prov. 30:5, 6).

I urge you to read Elder Robert Coulter's article, **THE OCCULT AND THE BIBLE**, published in the August, 1973 *Bible Advocate*. You may receive a copy by simply writing to the Bible Advocate Press, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, Colorado 80201.

Life's Delicate Cup

HAPPINESS is served in the finest china. Sipped slowly, it colors and sparkles the wise man's day. Gulped greedily, it sours on the stomach and leaves a taste that makes contentment impossible.

In knowledge, our generation is filthy rich; in happiness, we are beggars. What is worse, we are beggars of the lowest nature. Our poverty comes not of birth nor of circumstance but of our choice. We have taken a gilded cup, exquisite crystal formed of tears and sweat and blood and refined in the crucible of persecution, and we have held it carelessly as children in life's kitchen, failing to appreciate its worth and carelessly juggling it until we have smashed it at our feet.

Now, with hungry souls and with the full weight of our loss hitting home, we look around as men stepping from sleep into early morning and we question whether or not there is such a thing as happiness.

Could it be that man's destiny is forever to learn values by losing them? Is it true that something basic to our natures forbids appreciation of the Father's House until there is first the smell of pigs in our nostrils?

Perhaps.

But let us not prolong the agony. Let us not lengthen the days we spend sitting by life's roadside, sores festering and dying; but let us turn quickly from the world's marketplace, where only cheap and quack remedies are offered.

And how pitiful indeed are this world's prescriptions for happiness!

Not many months ago I heard Arthur Godfrey sing a little tune entitled, "Happiness Is." It was a catchy ditty, and the melody danced through my mind for weeks. Months passed. Then I heard the same song over again—this time on radio as a cigarette commercial. The tune? Happiness is . . . "the taste of Kent."

Only a commercial, sure, but it illustrates the worthlessness of our themes. What this world pawns off as valid tickets to paradise all too

quickly turns to carbon and ash. And yet, as men obsessed en masse, caught in the throes of materialistic mania, we reach out for the substitutes, we clutch in both hands, and we cram into our gullets innumerable synthetics and dream of a time when, once again as in childhood, we will find happiness in a pill or a can or a wrapper.

Years ago God's prophets sketched a portrait of modern man: "*And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life: In the morning thou shalt say, Would God it were even! and at even thou shalt say, Would God it were morning!* (Deuteronomy 8:66, 67)."

Moses was speaking to Israel, reminding them of what would happen if they forgot God. It sounds most appropriate for us, does it not?

REAL HAPPINESS, THEN, IS REMEMBERING GOD. This consciousness is weight attached to man's soul. It keeps the wheel of life balanced and turning smoothly; and, when lost, upsets the intricate mechanism that gives perspective and makes man postpone until tomorrow the living and the happiness which he should find today.

When, with the dawn, there also rises in man the consciousness of God and His goodness, then the moment is hallowed and from the associations and the contacts of that day will drip the dew of grace. There will be challenge and excitement, victory and reward. There will be faith and a robustness that sets that man apart and makes him a salt with savor and a light that burns.

When a man goes to his job, knowing it is God who gives him strength and admitting that without God he is nothing, then that man's work will have heart and feeling. He will justly give of his energy, as much concerned with his honest investment as with his return. That man will labor with a smile. He will sing and rejoice no matter how menial the task, and his happiness will be nectar in his mouth.

Aw, happiness! So illusive to those who search and fight! So wonderful when God-given to those who have lost!

Happiness is not a hundred piece band with loud cymbals, piercing trumpets, and rolling drums. If it were, then this generation of demonstrating, rioting, lamenting teenagers would be most blessed. Their songs would veer from pathos to joy. Their lives would take on beauty and purpose.

Happiness is not grasping and hoarding, seeking and getting, taking and saving. If it were, then this middle-class, affluent, obese society of ours would be content. Tranquilizers and sedatives would vanish from our well-used medicine cabinets. Psychiatrists would go out of business. Hospitals would be virtually empty and the front lawns of our suburban homes would be dotted in late evening with mothers and dads content to live and relax and depend on God.

And yet, happiness is! We see it occasionally and the discovery is like a lonely star in a black winter's night. We find it in the oddest places, sparkling and glittering deep blue like a sapphire.

Happiness is a little man I met in Marked Tree, Arkansas. It was, fittingly enough, in church that I first glimpsed the shine on his aged face and the sparkle in his eyes.

Next morning I visited his home. Most people, of course, would not consider his riverboat a home. It has been pulled out of the water for forty years, and periodically over those years he has pushed under it another log to keep it level.

This seventy-year-old man has sweated out a living by cutting kindling wood and dredging shells from the river bottom. I found him in his yard building a box to keep winter's cold from freezing his water pump. A red squirrel frisked in the tree tops above us. I was pitched a pear so ripe and yellow that the juice dripped into my shirt and tie. He invited me into the warmth of his home. I saw cleanliness and smelled wood smoke and beans and heard the slow bubbling of water in a big pot.

"God has been so good to me," he said. "I've served him for nearly forty years." And he smiled about it.

That man's contentment etched in my mind the portrait of a happy heart and his callused hands held nobly life's most delicate and precious cup.

Would that we, too, might be wise!—Lighted Pathway

EXPLOSION IN MIDDLE EAST

(Continued from page 5)

us how close we are to the second advent of Christ. Christ was born in Israel, not because the people there were righteous, but to fulfill prophecies. Israel has been and is now being gathered from all nations. God is protecting Israel from destruction not because they are a holy people, but again, in order to fulfill Bible prophecy and to glorify His Name.

Young people, let us watch and pray and be-

lieve with greater zeal and fervor . . . and let us be ready!!!

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring . . . And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh" (Luke 21:25, 28),

YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT!

(Continued from page 16)

trim and in good working order. This, too, requires a knowledge of how to exercise properly without inflicting damage upon your body. Exercising takes effort on your part so YOU must condition yourself to establish a regular program and make sure your busy schedule doesn't squeeze out that important time. After a good session of exercising YOU will feel much better and look better too!

5. The last guideline is a practice seldom employed but one that brings about the best results in maintaining a healthy body. GOD instructed His people to FAST, to abstain from food and drink, in order to remind them of their dependence upon Him and allow time for complete devotion to Him. Man has discovered that FASTING is very beneficial to healthful living as it purifies the system and allows the organs of the body to rest. The LORD gave the principle of FASTING as a help for His people both spiritually and physically, and when practiced properly it IS NOT detrimental as some have stated. In the suggested books for your reading, FASTING is discussed and some guidelines for properly practicing this divine, healthful principle are given.

Our bodies are inwardly crying for proper treatment and provisions which are revealed in such outward signs as overweight or underweight, complexion problems, high susceptibility to diseases, nervous disorders, and even psychological problems.

One can't place enough emphasis on the need for a healthy body . . . the condition of the mind is greatly affected by it! Will YOU continue to neglect the needs of your body and travel down the detrimental road of commercialized "junk"? Or will you wake up and realize that YOU are what YOU eat!!



David Robinson, a 1973 graduate of Midwest Bible College, is presently serving as intern in New York City. David is a member of the National Youth Committee.

To preserve health is a moral and religious duty, for health is the basis of all social virtues.—We can no longer be useful when not well.—Johnson.

V

Volunteers

The National FYC is pleased to announce the placement of three more VISTOC workers. We thank God for the dedication of these three young ladies and their desire to serve the Church.

Debi Kurtright, whose husband, Steve, is serving his ministerial internship in Denver, Colorado, is serving as a VISTOC worker for the National FYC and works in the National office in Denver.



Barbara Youngs, from Stanberry, Missouri, is a VISTOC worker for the General Conference and works in the new conference building in Denver.



Paula Wilson, from Conroe, Texas, is serving as a VISTOC worker for Midwest Bible College in Stanberry, Missouri.

Watch for the interesting details on these three girls' VISTOC work in next month's AIM.

"Brethren, if any man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted" (Galatians 6:1).

The Gentle Art of Restoration

by William E. Winters

Many people, even so-called Christians, become angry when reproofing anger; they become sinful in reproofing sin, mean in reproofing meanness, and hateful in reproofing hate. They try to settle one devil while they raise another one. They try to put one devil to sleep while they alarm another one.

The word *restore* signifies "to set in joint again," "to put in place again"—like setting a broken bone. The art of restoration requires gentleness as well as skillfulness. This applies to the Christian as well as the surgeon. A butcher could amputate an arm or a leg, but one would prefer having a surgeon. Restoration is not an act of butchery or of mutilating men and women in their character and influence, but it is an act of surgery to restore one to spiritual health.

Paul the Apostle tells us the reason we should be gentle and skillful in dealing with our erring brother: "*Considering ourselves.*" Oh yes! if a bone is out of joint be gentle, please; be careful please; be skillful, please. And too, fellow Christian, if a soul is in an unhealthy condition and his faults have crippled his testimony, and if his faith is limping, please be skillful and gentle in your acts of restoration.

Paul seems to say, "*Give mercy to your erring brother today, because you may wish to borrow some mercy tomorrow.*" The object of our reproof is to restore and to heal our brother's actions, not to make a scar on his Christian life. The best surgeons leave the smallest scar. A real friend will hide our faults from others, while exposing them to us. A real Christian friend will reprove in private rather than spread a rumor in public.

The Good Shepherd was a wonderful example in practicing the gentle art of restoration. He went out after the runaway sheep. Remember, it was an old sheep—not a lamb. When he found it, he did not throw rocks at it; he did not run or chase it back; he did not whip it back, or even lead it back—but he carried it back. This is real restoration.

Restoration must always be the object of our reproof. There are many hard heads and many hard hearts that need to be restored, and kindness is the key that opens the hardest hearts. *Please God, give us Christian brothers who are skilled in the gentle art of restoration.*

—Lighted Pathway

Better Than Sacrifice

“...Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? BEHOLD, TO OBEY IS BETTER THAN SACRIFICE, AND TO HEarken THAN THE FAT OF RAMS” (I Samuel 15:22).

Today when disobedience is so prevalent and so lightly regarded, and in fact is even glorified at times, it is extremely important for us Christians to realize the importance of obedience to God and those in authority over us. This month's daily readings will teach us much about the necessity and the blessing of obeying.

OBEDIENCE TO GOD

- Dec. 1—Rom. 1 (v. 5)
- Dec. 2—Rom. 5 (v. 19)
- Dec. 3—Heb. 5 (v. 8)
- Dec. 4—Rom. 6 (v. 16)
- Dec. 5—I Pet. 1 (vs. 2, 14)
- Dec. 6—Gen. 22 (v. 18)
- Dec. 7—I Sam. 15 (v. 22)
- Dec. 8—Acts 5 (v. 29)
- Dec. 9—Heb. 11 (v. 8)
- Dec. 10—Josh. 22 (v. 2)
- Dec. 11—John 14 (v. 31)
- Dec. 12—Gen. 26 (v. 5)
- Dec. 13—Jer. 7 (v. 23)
- Dec. 14—Ex. 15 (v. 6)
- Dec. 15—Deut. 6 (v. 3)
- Dec. 16—Deut. 4 (v. 40)
- Dec. 17—Deut. 7 (v. 12)
- Dec. 18—Deut. 28

OBEDIENCE TO EMPLOYERS

- Dec. 19—Col. 3 (vs. 18-22)
- Dec. 20—I Tim. 6 (vs. 1 & 2)
- Dec. 21—I Pet. 2 (v. 18)

OBEDIENCE TO HUSBANDS

- Dec. 22—Tit. 2 (vs. 5, 9)
- Dec. 23—I Pet. 3 (vs. 5, 6)
- Dec. 24—Eph. 5 (vs. 22, 23)

OBEDIENCE TO PARENTS

- Dec. 25—Eph. 6 (vs. 1, 5)
- Dec. 26—Jer. 35 (vs. 8, 18)

RESULTS OF DISOBEDIENCE

- Dec. 27—Deut. 21 (vs. 18, 20)
- Dec. 28—I Pet. 4 (v. 17)
- Dec. 29—Judges 2 (v. 2)
- Dec. 30—I Sam. 28 (v. 18)
- Dec. 31—Acts 7 (v. 39)

WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST?

We hope you have been thinking of possibilities for our '74 motto and will SOON submit your suggestion along with a paragraph of no less than 50 words and no more than 100 words telling why you feel your motto would be a good one for 1974.

The deadline for entering the contest has been extended to November 30th, so get your suggestion in the mail today. Send your entries to "1974 Motto Contest, National FYC, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, CO 80201.

A committee will select the winning motto which will be introduced in the January, 1974, issue of AIM.

A Boy and His Lunch

Remember the story where Jesus fed the multitudes with five loaves and two fishes? Think what a blessing that miracle was to the little fellow who offered his lunch to Jesus. How pleased he must have felt to be a small part of that miracle—to be used by God. And how pleased Jesus must have been with the little boy who was willing to sacrifice his own lunch in his concern for others, willing to give everything he had to help Jesus.

How many of us would have stolen away quietly to eat our lunch by ourself, thinking "what good would so little be among so many? I can't really help"? How selfish we are, how weak our faith. How we limit our blessings!

Do we think for a moment that Jesus couldn't have fed the people without the little boy's loaves and fishes? Jesus, Who was present when the earth was formed from nothing; Jesus Who healed with a touch. But I dare say this little boy's life was never the same after he had been used by Jesus. What a blessing he would have missed had he soothed his conscience and eaten the lunch privately.

I wonder how often we miss a blessing by thinking what we have to offer is so small, so humble, that God wouldn't want it. If we feel

our only ability is to study or to pray, God still wants it. It is not how much we have to give, but our willingness to give it that God is interested in. Let's remember that we need God more than He needs us. Isaiah said that "God is able even of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham" (Matt. 3:9). God's work will be done, but what a shame if after sending His Son to die for us He would have to raise up, of the stone, a people to do His work. The more we give to God, the more we will have to give. God is so pleased if we are only willing.

Our verse memorization seems like such a small thing. Yet it shows God that we are willing to give Him our time. He will make these verses useful to us in ways we never thought of and He will send us greater things to do as we remain faithful and willing.

Here are eight more verses to memorize this month. Hide them in your heart.

- Deuteronomy 5:32
- Job 13:15
- Psalms 37:5
- Proverbs 15:1
- John 14:1
- Philippians 3:8
- 2 Timothy 2:22
- James 1:20

EDITORIAL ETCHES

(Continued from page 2)

catchy little advertisement jingle, "With Capitol Savings happy living is yours, you're on your way." Over and over the contrasting voices rang out... "GRAVE CRISIS"... "CAPITOL SAVINGS"... "GRAVE CRISIS"... "HAPPY LIVING..."

The interrupted newscast and the catchy jingle stuck in my mind. and later that day i began to ponder upon the way life really is. i thought about the interrupted news broadcast i had heard earlier that morning and about the impact the Middle-East war is making upon our country and upon the "average" American citizen. i thought about the catchy advertisement jingle in relation to the "average" citizen's outlook on life. Recalling newspaper articles, comments of news reporters and conversations with friends and neighbors, i thought about how the American's primary concern in connection with the current Middle-East war is that our nation not become actively involved in another war, that we don't lose our oil imports from the oil-rich Middle-East countries, and that nothing happens to interrupt our now happy, comfortable way of life. How blind are the eyes of so many! ... just another war... just another crisis that will soon be resolved and all will return to "normal" (the comfortable status quo). Then i thought of how very privileged we Christians are to know and realize the real significance of this war in the Middle-East. Oh how much we should rejoice and glorify God's Name as we see the contin-

ued fulfillment of the prophecies in His word. And oh how compelled we should be to share with those unknowing ones all around us this knowledge that life isn't going to continue the same forever... We should call their attention to Israel telling them of the great things God has planned and prophesied. Now, more than ever, we should be telling others of Christ, the importance of accepting, knowing, loving and serving Him.

And as i thought on these many things i realized how easy—so very easy—it is even for us Christians to become caught in the rut of our comfortable daily living and "forget" the lateness of this hour in which we live... "forget" oncoming Armageddon... "forget" our responsibilities to our fellowman in telling him the good news... "forget" to bring others to salvation through Christ. Oh let us not be guilty of this kind of forgetfulness, and let us "look up, and lift up our heads; for our redemption draweth nigh" (Luke 21: 28).

"Life is a journey, not a home; a road, not a city of habitation; and the enjoyments and blessings we have are but little inns on the roadside of life, where we may be refreshed for a moment, that we may with new strength press on to the end—to the rest that remaineth for the people of God. 'Tis not for man to trifle; life is brief, and sin is here. We have no time to sport away the hours. All must be earnest in a world like ours."

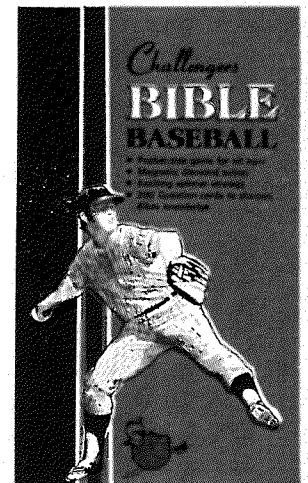
—Bonar

The National FYC Has Produced an Exciting Game!

Challengers

BIBLE

BASEBALL



This new, adventuresome Bible game captures the interest of all ages from young children through the older adults. Two hundred Bible question cards help the participants to learn important and interesting Bible facts. The questions are separated into four levels of Bible knowledge, classified as "Single," "Double," "Triple," and "Home Run" questions. Participants who answer correctly move their "players" around the magnetic diamond to pile up scores for their team.

This game is interesting, challenging—and most of all, it is Biblically instructive. Bible Baseball is an excellent gift item, too. The price is only \$3.95 per game.

Order today from:

NATIONAL FYC, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, CO 80201