

The Good News of
**TOMORROW'S
WORLD**

Feb. 1971



**GARNER TED ARMSTRONG
WARNS THE WORLD —**

An In-Depth Report Takes You
Behind The Scenes On Page 24

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More About Our Cover

In our radio studio at Pasadena is a globe of the world with lights representing some of the main stations around this earth over which the "light" of *The WORLD TOMORROW* is broadcast. During the actual live broadcast the globe rotates, adding an inspiring note to Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong as he speaks to the microphone in front of him which is the physical instrument that makes it possible for him to reach millions represented by the globe! Be sure to read our in-depth article in this issue beginning on page 24 which takes you on a word and picture tour behind the scenes here at Ambassador in Pasadena.

Ambassador College Photo

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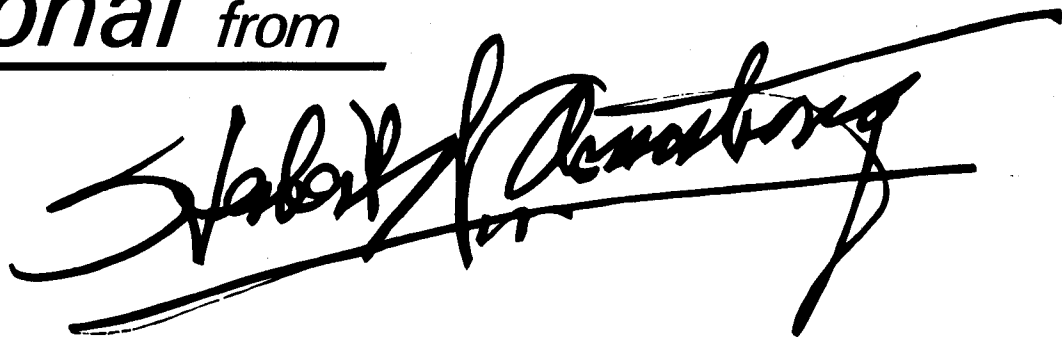
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Personal from



SOME OF our readers of TOMORROW'S WORLD are unemployed right now. Others may be in danger of losing their jobs. Not since the closing of the Great Depression have so many been without jobs. Yet as a recent article in *The PLAIN TRUTH* pointed out, in 1969 there was an average of three million hirings every month in the United States. Although in 1970 that rate dropped somewhat, estimates indicate businessmen and employers are even now hiring many thousands every month. Someone must replace those who retire, quit, die or are fired. Of course, new jobs constantly open as businesses expand, communities grow, buildings are built, and people buy more goods.

Who will obtain these jobs depends on certain basic unseen laws. There are certain economic laws that regulate economic conditions.

I remember vividly the sudden nose-dive depression of 1920. I was then a publishers' representative in Chicago. I was a member of the Chicago Association of Commerce, through its Advertising Club division.

In early January that year, at the regular midweek Association of Commerce luncheon in the Cameo Room of the Morrison Hotel, the noted business analyst, Roger Babson, was the speaker. He warned the businessmen of Chicago that within less than a year we were going to crash into the most drastic economic depression our generation had seen.

I noticed some important bankers and security brokers smile knowingly in disagreement. They were sure Mr. Babson was wrong.

A year later Mr. Babson was again the speaker at the same Association luncheon.

"I saw some of you businessmen smile, a year ago, when I warned you of the coming economic tragedy," he said. "Now let me tell you WHY I knew what was coming, and you didn't. When you want to know what is the temperature in the room, now, you look at the thermometer on the wall. But if you want to know

what the temperature *will be*, an hour or two from now, the thermometer can't tell you. You go down to the boiler room, or consult the U. S. weather prophet. You look to the factors that *determine* conditions, not the thermometer that records conditions after they have occurred. You gentlemen looked at charts of current business activity, at bank clearings, records of freight car loadings, the stock market quotations — the thermometers on the wall.

"But," he continued, "there are LAWS that *govern* economic conditions. These laws are the factors which determine what conditions *will be*, a few months or a year from now. They are the CAUSES."

How YOUR FUTURE Is Determined

Yes, and *your own personal* economic future is determined by definite LAWS! Very few realize that the Eternal Creator set in motion invisible, yet inexorable LAWS, which regulate personal financial conditions!

In my forty years in God's ministry, I have seen these laws *actually work* in the experiences of many people whom I have known personally. I have experienced their relentless working *in my own life!* I had to learn this lesson *the hard way*, myself!

I have often mentioned on the air, and in articles in *The PLAIN TRUTH*, how God struck me down, not physically, but *economically*, to bring me to Him. That very depression of 1920 destroyed my business in which I was making the equivalent of \$35,000 a year in today's money. Everything I touched turned, *not* to gold like "King Midas," but to loss of and lack of money. It was in poverty and hunger that God actually *conquered* me, and turned me to HIM, giving my life to HIM, over 40 years ago.

But even after conversion — even after my ordination as a minister of Jesus Christ in 1931 — our family was still on the economic rocks. I had begun to learn something about God's law of Tithing as a Bible *doctrine*. I had studied it in the Bible. I had

learned — seen PROVED — that this law was still in effect. Yet, in those early years, it didn't seem to apply to *me*. I had seen it as a doctrine to accept as true — *not* as a LAW which I, personally, must OBEY.

How many of YOU are right now like I was then?

For a few months I had been receiving a salary of \$20 per week as a minister, holding evangelistic campaigns. We had been able to live, very modestly, on that. But at the end of November that year, the salary was cut off. The Church Conference treasury was empty! I *had* learned the lesson of FAITH. I trusted God implicitly to *supply every need*, as He has promised (Phil. 4:19).

But I didn't yet realize how much we must "TRY the spirits *whether* they are of God" (I John 4:1). So when a former newspaper associate came to me with an urgent request that I join him, as advertising manager of a new morning newspaper he was starting, I *assumed*, foolishly and without making sure this offer was caused by GOD, that it was the answer to my petition to supply our financial need. I had not yet learned, as I was to learn later, how to launch out in God's Work *on faith*, knowing that God had called me. Of course, many try to launch *themselves* into God's ministry when GOD NEVER CALLED THEM. They are making a bigger mistake than I made in turning back to the advertising profession.

In my case God had called me *from* the advertising profession into His WORK. He had ordained me, *put* me into His ministry. I had "put my hand to the plow," but did not realize Jesus' command never to turn back. Of course I did not turn back from the Christian life — nor, for that matter, even consider for a minute that I was turning back from the ministry. I regarded this as only a *temporary* job. I thought God had sent it, to supply this need temporarily. I actually accepted the job on the condition that it was to last three weeks only, fully expecting the way would open to be back in the ministry within three weeks.

But, once on this newspaper job, there was no quitting. God did not open the way to get back into His ministry until a year and three months had passed — during which time I had realized my mistake and prayed earnestly to be released from the newspaper job and restored to God's Work. God let me learn the lesson, *by experience*, that His instruction to ministers: "Preach the word, *be instant* in season, out of season," meant "KEEP AT IT in season, and out of season."

How I Learned the Lesson

Once on this newspaper job, December 1931 — in the midst of the Great Depression — there was no money to pay salaries. I had to work out a way of trading advertising for food, clothing, hotel and rooming-house accommodations for the 23 men on the staff.

We had frequently gone hungry before I was converted. Now we went hungry even more frequently. Then one day, it dawned on my mind that we, ourselves, were actually breaking God's financial law by not tithing! All of a sudden God made me see His financial law as something *personal* — not merely a doctrine to accept impersonally. It meant *ME!* That very day I took 10% of what we had — and it was not enough to buy food — added an offering, and mailed it to the Church treasury.

That very afternoon food came for a completely adequate meal. I don't remember how, but I do remember that *the very day* I REPENTED for not having accepted tithing as a *personal obligation*, instead of a mere doctrinal *argument*, THAT VERY DAY FOOD CAME!

God did not bring us immediate financial prosperity. For some years more, for our own good, we were forced to live in very poor economic circumstances. But *that very day* our financial condition started upward.

Scores of Friends Too

Since that time I have known of the experiences of scores of other people. It was only a short time after that experience that God opened the way to bring me back into His active ministry. By

this time I had learned *that* lesson, too. I have never left God's service, and never shall, as long as God permits me to live.

It was some months later that the very man whom God sent with his truck to move us, together with what household furniture we had, back to the Willamette Valley in Oregon — where I was to start an evangelistic campaign in Salem — himself had an experience in tithing.

This young man already was tithing the *money* that he handled. He was a farmer, and suddenly realized that they were not selling their eggs, and had not been tithing them in any way. He brought us a tithe of all the eggs his hens had laid that day.

Believe it or not, that same day his hens went on an egg-laying spree. Yes, laugh if you will — those hens cackled too — it actually *happened*. It was the off-season for eggs. But that very day they began to lay more eggs than was normal in the best egg-laying season! It seemed incredible — BUT IT HAPPENED!

I have given you the facts, before, of the well-driller who was unable to get any business in 1933. He began to tithe — one single dollar of the only \$10 he had. Next day a man who had owed him \$50 he never expected to collect came and paid it — and he tithed \$5. Immediately he began to get more wells to drill than he could handle.

Almost daily, *some* radio listener, reader of TOMORROW'S WORLD, or Co-Worker in this great Work writes me a letter telling of a similar experience — beginning to pay God's honest TITHE, and beginning to PROSPER financially.

Now don't get the idea from this that in *every* case God is going to work some incredible miracle. Don't get the idea that if you TRY tithing, you are to expect some astounding thing to happen, or that you are going to fall heir to a million dollars the next day. Perhaps in most cases the increase in income is not immediately apparent at all.

But of this, you MAY BE SURE! Over the long haul, the 90% of income God
(Continued on page 37)

Is God Fair?

Why has God permitted 6000 years of human woe and suffering?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

LOOK AT THE WORLD TODAY! War, famine, pestilence! Poverty, inequality, hunger, want! Sicknes, disease, suffering, death! Crime, graft, dishonesty, corruption! Insanity, degeneration, decay! Unhappiness, fear, wretchedness and woe!

How, so many are asking, can a supreme, all-powerful God of LOVE permit such human woe?

WHY does God allow devil-inspired Communists to run amuck? WHY is He permitting civilization itself to crumble?

Is God FAIR?

Listen! Some men are saying, "God isn't fair!" — or "Is there a God, after all?" But what do you suppose men would say if God took away their right to think and do as they please? For God could never stop this awful carnage without FORCING men to act according to His will — denying them a free will of their own!

It is *men's ways*, so contrary to God's ways, that have brought on this unhappy state. And they have brought on all the world's sorrows and anguish *in spite of* the pleadings of God. He says, "Your ways are not my ways" (Isaiah 55:8).

God's ways, had they been followed, would have led inevitably to peace, happiness, prosperity and joy. God always has revealed to men His ways. Always He has pleaded with the human family.

Suppose God had taken the only

alternative. Suppose He had FORCED men, against their wills, to have lived according to His laws?

Can't you almost hear the defiant, rebellious, stiff-necked human race indignantly screaming at the Almighty: "You can't cram your religion down *my* throat!" For it *is* a matter of religion. Can't we see that, had God followed that course, more than ever men would have shouted, "GOD ISN'T FAIR!"

For six thousand years men have lived in defiance of God's laws. Had God denied them this right to be wrong, men would have accused God of injustice, demanding freedom to follow their own ways.

God's Plan has for its purpose the creating of perfect CHARACTER in beings that are separate entities from God, yet members of the very family of God. Character cannot be created automatically by fiat — it must be developed through *experience!*

Nor could character be instilled without free moral agency. To achieve this great purpose — that of producing the supreme pinnacle of all God's creation, sons of God having perfect character — man has to be *convinced*, of his own free will, that God's laws are JUST, and that His ways are the only right ways for man! Man must turn to them, voluntarily! This lesson could be learned *only by EXPERIENCE!*

In the beginning, Satan appeared to contest the wisdom of God's

Law. This law is, simply, LOVE for God and love for neighbor, as defined in the ten broad principles of the Ten Commandments. A fundamental, spiritual, eternal law. The philosophy Christ taught is that it is more blessed to GIVE than to receive. But Satan argued for the GETTING way. Competition, he argued, is the lifeblood of activity. Self-desire provides incentive to endeavor. Vanity spurs to action. And so, in Satan's philosophy, self-desire, competition, strife, provide the root-principle for accomplishment. The way of GETTING is the way of progress and advancement.

Had not God permitted this selfish way to be tried, tested, and demonstrated, God's creatures could argue throughout eternity that they had been denied the better way.

The Devil's WEEK

And so God turned over to Satan the first six days of ONE WEEK, consisting of seven one-thousand-year days, in which to *demonstrate* the falsity of this way — the way of greed.

During the first six days of this week of seven thousand years Satan was permitted to retain DOMINION over all the earth. "Six days," God said, "thou shalt labour, and do all thy work" — his work of deception and hate — "but the SEVENTH day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work." Six thousand-year

days have been permitted Satan for his labor of DECEPTION. Even then his dominion has been limited to the power of influence and suggestion. Never has God permitted even Satan arbitrarily to force men against their wills.

And so for nearly six thousand years men have been left free to accept the self-seeking competitive philosophy of Satan, or to follow the Golden Rule of God. And for six thousand years Satan has labored. And mankind has fallen for his delusion!

Satan's philosophy is the philosophy of the world today. On it our present civilization has been built. A civilization men love and cherish, and for which they patriotically sacrifice their lives! A civilization developed on desire for self-gain, competition, strife! In its success is determined by HOW MUCH a man has been able to GET, not on how well he has served.

God has never left men in ignorance of the TRUE way of life. Always He has made known the true values — the way of His spiritual law of Love! Continually God has pleaded, with patience and in love. He pleaded through Noah in the days before the flood. He set up a nation of His own on earth that pledged to follow His laws, dedicated voluntarily to God's ways of life. But ancient Israel turned from God's ways, and persecuted and killed God's prophets!

God sent His only begotten Son to point men back to the true paths. And Him, too, men rejected and killed!

During these six thousand years since Adam, men continually have spurned God's love, rejected His Law, turned a deaf ear to His prophets and His true ministers. They have built a world after the false philosophy of Satan, replete with its pagan customs, traditions and beliefs. Today people are hopelessly engulfed in these false ways, but, being deceived, realize it not at all!

Satan is revealed as the "GOD of this world" (II Cor. 4:4). The original inspired Greek should properly be translated, "the god of *this* AGE." And this worldly civilization worships its GOD. The appalling fact unrealized by the world is that Satan, not the Eternal, is its god! The Creator God "is *not* the author of confusion," we read in I Cor-

inthians 14:33. Its real author is Satan, the world's god! And so he has his many denominations and sects, all striving in a babylon of confusion!

The Devil's WORK

There is just one thing, it seems, that most of Satan's ministers can agree upon. "God's LAW," they chorus in unison, "is DONE AWAY!" Yes, they have to tell that in order to draw their salaries! Today the people of organized religion refuse to HEAR the Law of the Lord (Isa. 30:8-11). They demand that their ministers preach the soft and smooth things — the deceits! They have turned away from the TRUTH, and are accepting and believing FABLES (II Tim. 4:2-4). They are BITTER against God's Law, and against the few who have courage today to proclaim the PLAIN TRUTH of God's Word!

Yes, Satan has *organized* religion. He himself appears, not as a devil with horns and a tail, bearing a pitchfork, but "is transformed into AN ANGEL OF LIGHT" (II Cor. 11:14). His ministers are transformed *as* the ministers of righteousness, appearing *AS* the apostles of Christ! (Verses 13, 15.) But they are preaching "another Jesus" (verse 4), in the power of "another spirit," and deceiving men with "another gospel" than the true Gospel of the Kingdom which Christ brought and Paul and all the apostles preached! (Gal. 1:6-7.)

Satan's congregations go in for much FORM. "Having a FORM of godliness, but denying the POWER thereof: *from such turn away,*" plainly warns God's Word! (II Tim. 3:5.) The present worldly order — its competitive principle, its customs and traditions, its political systems — are upheld by Satan's churches within every land! Truly, ALL nations are deceived! (Rev. 12:9; 17:2; 18:3.)

Jesus Christ appeared 1900 years ago as a messenger bearing a message from God. He brought to an unhappy world steeped in false ways the "GOOD NEWS of the KINGDOM OF GOD." A Kingdom now, soon, to replace these crumbling governments on earth!

That Kingdom today is near at hand — *even at the doors!* (Luke 21:31.)

Thank God, we are near the END of the six working days allotted to Satan's

dominion. God's thousand-year Sabbath day is just about to dawn!

There is a saying that it is darkest just before the dawn. Now we see on every hand the final fruitage of men's ways. Written in unerasable blood, in human misery, anguish and despair is the six-thousand-year record of EXPERIENCE!

Even now men will not heed this horrible lesson — not until they are FORCED to see it!

But, as Satan's sixth "working day" closes, God is about to step in and supernaturally interfere!

The coming seventh millennium — typified by the Feast of Tabernacles — shall see Satan restrained. Christ will return to rule the earth with all the power of God. God's New Order for the next thousand years will restore peace, happiness, and joy.

Then men may look back over this present world, and COMPARE! *Never* will God FORCE a single human being, against his own will, into salvation and eternal life.

But, with the seven-thousand-year record of EXPERIENCE set plainly before seeing eyes, do you think anyone will *want* to return to these ways we seem now to love? Not many, you may be sure of that! Yet some, even then, will rebel.

Finally the world shall acknowledge, of its own free volition, that God's ways are right. Christ, says the scripture, "learned obedience by the things which he suffered"! (Heb. 5:8-9.) Even He who never did wrong! "And *being MADE perfect*" — through experience — "he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him."

Some day we shall look upon GOD'S Plan with breathtaking admiration and awe! The suffering of this present time shall have faded completely from mind. The lessons of experience we shall have with us for eternity! Finally humanity shall accept God's ways of life, KNOWING that they are right ways. The happiness and joy we shall then experience cannot be conceived by our minds today! Through all eternity we shall worship and praise the Eternal God for His wisdom, His mercy, His LOVE!

Do you think anyone, then, will look back and say, "God isn't fair"? □

Don't let doubt, despondency and discouragement Ruin Your Life!

Are YOU one of those millions suffering from FEAR? Are you despondent, morose, doubtful, discouraged? Do you have an inner sense of timidity, inferiority, and a lack of self-confidence? Millions do! Here's the positive cure!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

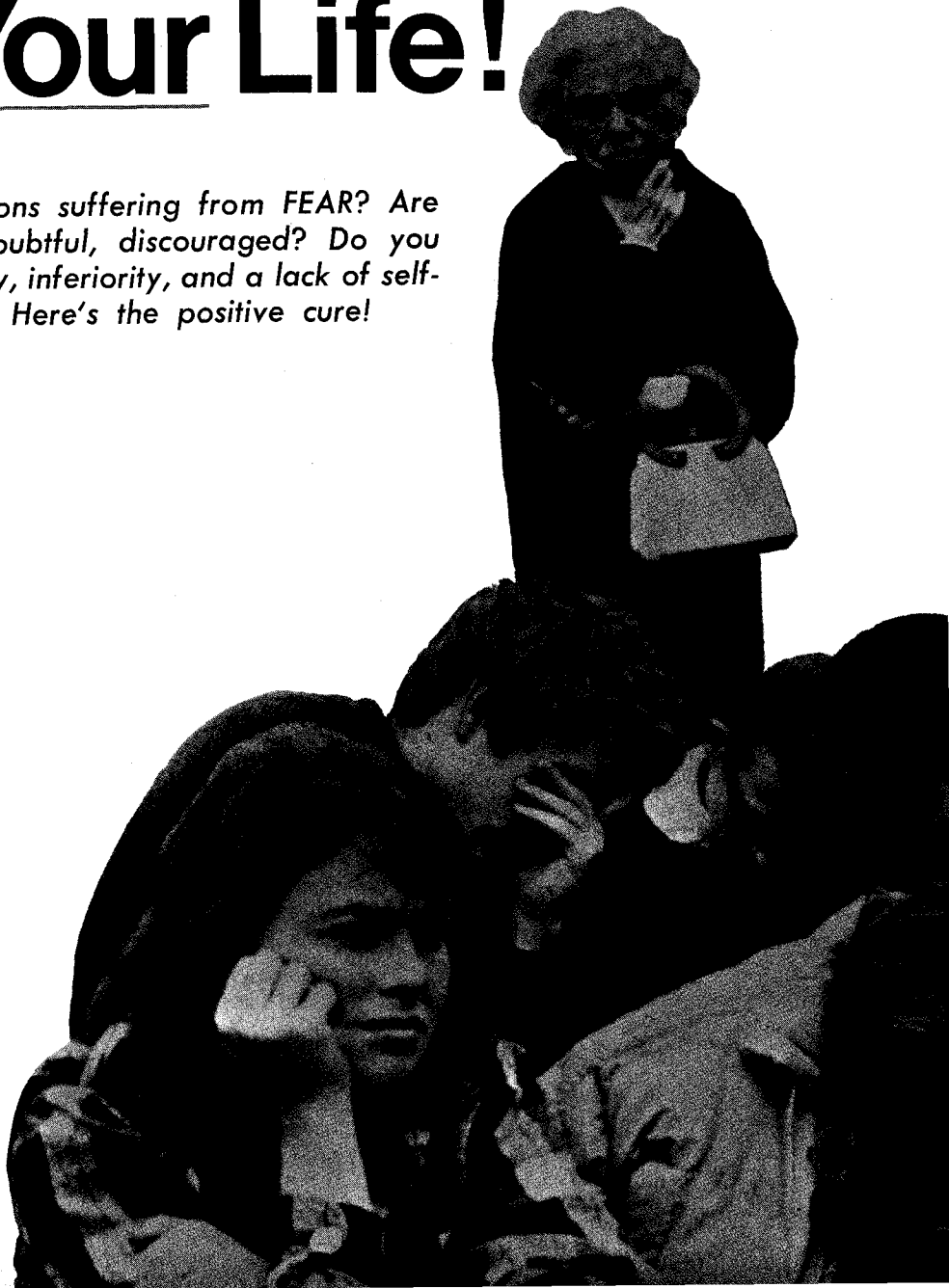
EVERYONE wants to be happy. And life was *meant* to be happy — filled with thrills, joy, pleasures, and rewarding experiences! Why is it, then, so very FEW seem to really *enjoy* life?

Discouragement, despondency and frustration are not limited to the poverty-stricken and the shut-ins alone! This *universal* disease of inferiority, timidity and doubt afflicts people in ALL walks of life — every income bracket!

Whether through failure in business, the loss of a loved one, disappointment at unachieved goals, or severe discouragement through some handicapping accident, the result is the same — terrible unhappiness, and a “what’s the use” attitude.

But whatever the *apparent* cause — the one ROOT cause is always the same! That one *root cause* is simply not knowing WHY YOU WERE BORN, in the first place!

Not one person *on earth* — once he



understands the TRUE PURPOSE in human life, the great and awesome DESTINY of every human being, the tremendous POTENTIAL of each of us — could *possibly* suffer from these terrible feelings of inner doubt, inferiority and frustration.

So — whatever your status, whether wealthy businessman, elderly pensioner, partially disabled shut-in, or young housewife — you need to understand the REAL CURE for your doubts and discouragement!

The Psychologists' "Cure"

But can you "kid" yourself out of your troubles? Can any of you who are confined to your beds "delude" yourselves into thinking you are *not* in bed? Can a person who has recently lost a husband or a wife "talk himself" out of his despondency?

Modern psychologists advance empty theories of SELF-confidence — trying to show people how to overcome their feelings of insecurity, timidity, or despondency.

But these very "cures" of the modern psychologists oftentimes are not the CURE — but the real CAUSE of much of this despondency.

My father has told me about a book he read in his late teens, titled, *He Can Who Thinks He Can*. It was one of the "inspiration" books published in those years — several by this same author, Orison Swett Marden. These books had a profound influence on my father.

He has told me how, as a boy, he was always a follower instead of a leader — filled with a feeling of inferiority. Then, at age 16, away from home for the first time on a summer vacation job, his employer continually expressed confidence in him — told him he was destined to make a big success in life — fired him with ambition and zeal.

For the first time he began to *believe* in himself. Confidence skyrocketed. These "inspiration" or "pep" books implanted the idea he could accomplish anything if he only *thought* he could, prepared diligently for it, worked hard and energetically at it, and stuck with it through thick and thin.

He explained how he studied intently, "burned the midnight oil," adopted a rapid "hustler" walking gait,

generated boundless energy commensurate with a *belief in himself* that displayed intense "cockiness," and simply "oozed" self-confidence and conceit. But because he studied incessantly, thought intently about what he was doing, and worked industriously, he was becoming successful — unusually successful, in his field, for a young man his age.

He had gone, as the few who leap out of the inferiority rut usually do, over to the *opposite extreme*. That's human nature. But he has also mentioned how terribly he had to suffer, later, to have this cancerous disease of *belief in himself* cut out, and replaced with THE ONLY RIGHT KIND OF CONFIDENCE! More of that, later.

My father had adopted the psychologists' cure for inferiority. And then he had, in turn, *to be cured of that cure!*

"Self-Confidence"?

The methods usually recommended by modern writers and philosophers for developing confidence include positive thinking, the desire to reach others and the expression of SELF. The doubts and fears will flee, they say, with faith in *yourself*.

To cultivate this faith, you must free yourself from hesitancy and anxiety by "kidding" yourself into believing you really *have* the assurance you lack. This means *flattery* of the self, *careful coddling* and pampering of the *self*.

Among businessmen's groups, speakers' clubs, lodges, and women's clubs, these practices are followed. There is the usual insincere flattery, on-the-surface discussions, empty, useless and profitless conversation.

The real *objective* behind this practice is *what other people think of you!* The only *goal* set forth for gaining self-assurance is that of gaining more friends, having people "think well of you," and the acquiring of material possessions. By telling yourself "I'm pretty good," or, "I'll make it all right; I don't need anybody else," the "moderns" assure their eager followers they may have plenty of *self-confidence*.

The *ways* of this modern society, of flattery, back-slapping and handshaking each other into *believing in themselves*, lead to the *false* values and the

synthetic foundation for REAL CONFIDENCE. The flattery will begin to take effect. The one being flattered begins to really *believe* in himself. He begins to think these things are really *true* about him, and perhaps he *is* the best speaker, the most personality-filled and competent man in the group after all.

What a let-down it is — what a disheartening SHOCK it is, when this individual finds all the pseudo-confidence has fled, that he cannot meet a difficult situation, and all his ego and trust in SELF is shattered! Then, after being swept to the heights of SELF-confidence and trust in the SELF, he is dashed to the gutter of despair and hopelessness — feeling himself to be a complete FAILURE.

For this is exactly what happened to my father. God was calling him for a very special mission. So God took away his business — his success — shattered his self-confidence — plummeted him from the heights of egotistic conceit all the way down to the deepest chasm of despair, disillusionment, and feeling of utter failure. Then God was able to reveal to him the only REAL confidence, and start him toward REAL success!

The Right Kind of Confidence

What does GOD say about the way to confidence? WHY, THE EXACT OPPOSITE from the psychologists, OF COURSE!

God said through the Prophet Isaiah that the wicked man must *forsake* HIS WAY! God tells us to THROW SELF AWAY — not to pamper and fondle it. God says to GET RID of self — *man* says to FLATTER self. Man talks about "positive thinking," and God says to forsake even your own thoughts! (Isa. 55:6-9.)

The wisest man who ever lived, under the inspiration of God, wrote many scriptures concerning the differences between those following the customary way of this world and those who were willing to listen to the instructions of God. Solomon knew the difference between confidence in the SELF and the *right kind* of confidence. He called the person who trusts in his OWN heart a fool! (Prov. 28:26.)

Jesus Christ directed one of His parables toward those who TRUST IN THEMSELVES. Christ said those who *exalt themselves* shall be abased; and those



Ambassador College Photo, Wide World Photo

Young people often simply give up when confronted with today's problems. Right: By contrast, this amputee has returned to the slopes — determined not to let his handicap restrict him.



who *humble* themselves shall be exalted (Luke 18:9-14).

Too Many GIVE UP!

The *real test* of one who has the RIGHT KIND of confidence comes when the "chips are down." The man who sets his jaw and says, "I will NOT quit!" despite all the handicaps and apparent obstacles, is the one who has the quality for success. Solomon wrote, "If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small" (Prov. 24:10).

What a *great principle* — and how FEW really follow it! So *many* simply lie down and *quit* when some terrible disaster strikes in their personal lives.

Perhaps it is because it is SO RARE when a person who is severely *physically handicapped* truly SUCCEEDS in life that it is usually so widely publicized.

Think of the examples you have known of persons injured in accidents,

or afflicted through sudden strokes or other diseases. Even though partially handicapped, or confined to bed — have they CONTINUED to be their usually cheery selves? Do they *strive* (if their minds have not been afflicted) to keep mentally alert and growing? Do they enter even the simplest tasks with real ENTHUSIASM, and a WILL to overcome?

Usually not.

Most shut-ins, it seems, fall into the depths of despondency, feeling sorry for themselves — blaming the set of "circumstances" which conspired to bring this terrible affliction upon them. They have the attitude of Job. They know God is good, and that they are "righteous," and cannot honestly understand WHY such a terrible thing should have befallen them — knowing it must ONLY be in the "province of God" and not anything THEY have done!

So, instead of finding the *true source* of real CONFIDENCE, and surging ahead, even in the face of great *adversity* — they simply QUIT!

But remember, God says, "If you faint in the day of *adversity*, your strength is small!" (Prov. 24:10.)

Confidence in Others?

In this modern age of pact-making and peace parleys, you are constantly seeing men putting their confidence in one another. Nations place trust and confidence in allies, who, perhaps a few short years later, become their bitter enemies. Strange though it may seem, this, too, is another extreme. Because of the widespread lack of confidence in SELF, people begin placing their confidence in other people!

At this moment, the United States is putting her confidence and trust in many foreign nations, three of which

(Continued on page 47)

Does God REALLY Understand People?

Does the great God who sits at the controls of the whole glittering universe really understand human **FRAILITY** and **WEAKNESS**? Does He **KNOW** what it is like to be **HUMAN**? Is God unreasonable in His dealings with humanity as some claim? Does He expect **TOO MUCH** of us? Does He really care?

by David Jon Hill and Brian Knowles

IN AN increasingly cynical and disillusioned world it seems some have concluded that the Creator expects far too much of His creation! Some have claimed God to be unfair and unjust in imposing allegedly impossible standards on mankind! His laws are too difficult to keep and His way requires more than mere men are capable of giving, they assert. "How can God understand?" they reason. "He doesn't have to worry about sinning and being punished for it! He can do anything He wants! He doesn't have all the pulls and drives of human nature. He isn't subject to temptation. How can GOD know what it is like to fight against the pulls of a morally decadent society and resist the temptations of an angry devil?"

Perhaps some have felt that if God could come down here and just be **HUMAN** for a while, He'd understand and not be "so hard" on humanity. So the reasoning goes!

Of course, such reasoning is *humanly* understandable, but it is also incorrect and not based on fact. It is mere emotion and self-pity!

Let's understand!

Did Henry Ford understand Ford automobiles? Certainly! Did Strauss understand waltzes? Of course! Did Stradivarius understand violins? Undoubtedly! Then why should anyone suppose the Creator would not understand His human creations *made in His very image?* (Gen. 1:26). After all, human beings are a whole lot more like God than Stradivarius was like a violin!

Of course God understands people. He made them and formed them in His very own likeness! And as Henry Ford surely knew what kind of care and maintenance was best for Ford cars, so God *more certainly* knows what is best for mankind!

Manufacturer's Operating Manual

Formerly, auto manufacturers distributed operator's manuals along with the purchase of their product. Some still do. The instructions contained in them provided for the most efficient possible operation of the auto, if followed. In like manner, the Creator of the human machine has also provided an *instruc-*

tion manual to accompany His creation!

Now any instruction manual must be written with a *thorough understanding* of the product it accompanies! God's Instruction Book is the *Bible*. In it, God reveals over and over the **DEPTH** of His understanding of the human mind and capacity!

Let's look into it! "He **KNOWETH** our frame; he remembereth that we are **DUST**."

These are David's inspired words in Psalm 103:14.

God realizes there is nothing immortal or eternally powerful about man. He is a mere creation of **DUST**! Man is frail, transient in existence and inconsistent in conduct. The Creator *understands* this! He does not demand more than we can give. In fact, God has *not* dealt with us according to our sins or given us what we *really deserve* (verse 10) — or we would all have long ago ceased living!

ALL human beings have sinned, and the wages of sin is **DEATH**! (Rom. 3:23; 6:23.) God has endured human hypocrisy, lying and just plain dis-

obedience for CENTURIES and millenia and could justifiably have obliterated *all* humanity long ago. But He hasn't! "But he, being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity, and destroyed them not: yea, MANY A TIME turned he his anger away, and did not stir up *all* his wrath. FOR HE REMEMBERED THAT THEY WERE BUT FLESH..." (Psalm 78:38-39). God is totally fair and just in His dealings with mankind. Those who suggest otherwise simply *do not know God!*

It is not the Creator who is unjust. It is *man* who is inequitable! Any who point the accusing finger at God have several more pointing back at themselves! Notice the inspired words of the Prophet Ezekiel! "...*You* say: The Lord isn't being fair! Listen to Me... Am I the One who is unfair, OR IS IT YOU?" (Ezek. 18:25, *Living Psalms* version.)

Human Rights

Today's world is filled with injustice (read Isaiah 59:8-15). It seems everywhere you turn, people from one group or another are demanding their *rights* — and in many cases their demands are justified. But only because incompetent, ignorant and bigoted human beings are generally in charge of government.

When people transfer their demands from complaining against human government and begin demanding their rights before God, they are making the same mistake Job made! (Job 35:2-3.) Strange as it may sound, you and I DO NOT want justice from God! We have all sinned (Romans 3:23) and are *justly* condemned to *death!* (Romans 6:23.) Exercising perfect *justice*, God could execute us all!

No! You do NOT want justice from God — you want MERCY, FORGIVENESS, GRACE! And that is exactly what the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob offers you and me so abundantly, liberally, lovingly!

God's understanding is vast and unsearchable (Isaiah 40:28). He deals with mankind only with the greatest compassion and restraint. *Every* human life is important in God's estimation, and it is not His will that *any* should

ultimately perish! (Matt. 10:29-31; II Peter 3:9.) The Eternal God is *daily* working out a great *purpose* here below.

Whatever God allows us to experience in this life will work for our good in the final analysis, even though it may be difficult to comprehend this now! (Rom. 8:28.) Once God has begun a purpose in an individual human life, we can be SURE He will see it through to completion — even if it takes until the return of Christ to do so! (Philippians 1:6.) We can be *confident* of this!

Once God has begun to work with you, *He will not allow you to be tested beyond your capacity!* He will *only* allow you to undergo those trials and tests you COULD PASS if you really wanted to! "There hath no temptation [to put to proof by experience or adversity] taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, *who will not suffer [allow] you to be tempted [tested] above that ye are able...*" (I Cor. 10:13).

Power to Spare

All the great men and women of the Bible underwent severe and intense periods of testing! Abraham was even asked to sacrifice his only son when he was over 100 years old! But he was not required to go through such a severe and emotionally turbulent test until he was *fully ready for it!* And he WAS READY! He *passed* the test with flying colors! Read about it for yourself in Genesis 22!

Even though, humanly, we may feel totally inadequate to be tested in an intense way, we must realize that God can also provide us with the necessary strength to go through with it! But we must *actively seek* such power by fervent, prevailing *prayer!* If we do so, earnestly and expectantly, we will receive additional strength and power. Notice God's promise in Isaiah 40:29, 31 (*Living Psalms*): "He gives POWER to the tired and worn out, and strength to the weak... They that wait on the Lord shall RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." That is

a PROMISE of God! Will *you* claim it?

It ought to be evident then, that God is eminently fair and understanding in His dealings with mankind! He understands human frailty and weakness. He only allows us to be tested *within* the limits of our capacity. And if we are lacking in the strength to undergo periods of trial or testing, God is willing to provide us with the necessary power to handle it! There could be no greater justice and equity!

But HOW is God able to be so understanding? How is *He able* to comprehend the depth of human frailty and feebleness in the face of trials, tests and the ravages of evil human nature? How does He KNOW what it is like to be human, with all the limitations that imposes?

Personal Experience

God is a FAMILY of spirit beings. At present, that family is composed of *two* separate beings: God the *Father* and God the *Son*. The Holy Spirit is the *power*, the life, and the mind of God. It is not a "person." (For the truth about the Holy Spirit, be sure to write for our FREE articles, "How You Can Be Imbued With the Power of God" and "Is Jesus God?") The *family* name is "GOD." Both members of the God Family jointly planned the creation of the human race. The Father was the overall Director. But the One who later became known as Jesus Christ executed the *actual* creation of the material universe and man. He was then called the "Word of God," meaning the *Spokesman* of the Divine Family (John 1:1-3; Genesis 15:1; Ephesians 3:9). He was the "Rock" that led and followed the children of Israel in the wilderness (I Cor. 10:4).

This One actually worked *personally* with all the great men of the Old Testament whom God was training for positions of leadership in tomorrow's world! He actually walked and talked with men like Adam and Enoch (Gen. 3:8; 5:22). He dealt *personally* with Abraham, who was known as the "friend of God" (Gen. 17:1; James 2:23). Abraham is destined to become the heir of the whole world under Jesus

Christ! (Rom. 4:13.) Notice how close God was to Moses: "And the Lord spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend..." (Ex. 33:11). God *appeared* to Joshua and was with him *in the same way* He had been with Joshua's predecessor, Moses (Joshua 1:5, 15-18). The Spokesman *spoke* to Job and taught him about the Creation and the workings of the universe under His direction (Job 38 and 39). Jacob actually *wrestled* and mingled his perspiration with the One who later became the Messiah! (Gen. 32:24-30.)

Countless others were known *personally* by this second member of the God Family. He observed them, taught them, fought for them, worked miracles for them, forgave and comforted them over a period of almost four thousand years!

This puzzled people of Jesus' day just as it does today. One day the Pharisees were attacking Him and He remarked, "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad." By the retort the Jews came back with it is easy to tell Jesus was talking about personal acquaintance with Abraham: "Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and *hast thou seen* Abraham?" Jesus put the record straight once and for all with a classic statement full of the ring of eternal authority: "I say unto you, *before Abraham was, I am!*" (Above quotes from John 8:56-58.)

And as far as compassion, and its expression for *every generation*, nothing can beat Jesus' poignant statement so full of personal concern: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" (Matt. 23:37.)

The One who became Jesus Christ of the New Testament watched many great civilizations come and go. He set up kings and put them down. He answered the prayers of the faithful and punished the wicked. The teeming hordes of humanity passed before His eyes as He inspired His prophets to predict the course of human events.

"For God So Loved the World..."

That same member of the Divine Family who had worked with so many of the patriarchs of old and led the children of Israel for forty years actually **BECAME HUMAN!** For a period of thirty-three and one-half years He actually walked this earth in *human* form. Yet He was *very* GOD in the flesh! (Psalm 45:6-7; Phil. 2:6; Titus 2:10, 13.) During His human lifetime He successfully resisted the tempting of Satan the devil (Matt. 4:1-11). Jesus was *tempted in all the points we can be tempted in* today, yet He *never once* yielded to the pulls of the flesh! "... Jesus the Son of God... was in **ALL POINTS** *tempted* like as we are, yet without sin" (Heb. 4:14, 15). He **DOES** understand what it is like to be tempted by an angry devil and to resist all the pulls of human nature and the pressures of a sin-filled world! He has *experienced* all those things! Christ even knows what it is like to be *sick*, although He *never* broke the physical laws that normally cause human sickness. Instead He bore in His own body all *our* sicknesses and infirmities. He was beaten, whipped and punched into a bloody pulp before His cruel crucifixion! He was a chiropractor's nightmare, having many major bones disjointed! The flesh was literally torn from His bones so that they were visible to the eye! His face was marred beyond recognition. (Read it for yourself in Isaiah 53:3-5, 7; Psalm 22:1, 14, 17; Matthew 26:67; 27:30-31 and Isaiah 52:14.)

Make no mistake about it! When Jesus walked the dusty streets of Palestine almost 2000 years ago, He experienced a real taste of what it is like to be *human!* And Jesus **IS** God!

Today Jesus Christ sits at the right hand of the Father in heaven. He acts as the *one and only mediator* between God and man. He functions in the office of high priest — an **UNDERSTANDING AND A COMPASSIONATE HIGH PRIEST!** "... We have a great high priest... Jesus the Son of God... *ours* is no high priest who cannot have

sympathy with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in every respect like ourselves..." (Heb. 4:14-15, Moffatt translation).

God *understands* human frailty and weakness all right! It was *Jesus* Himself who said, "... The flesh is **WEAK!**" (Matt. 26:41.) He does not expect us to do *more* than we are able. *Whatever* God asks of us is within the realm of possibility. God *will* provide the help we need to endure rigorous trials and testing of this human existence.

God is all *for* us! He wants each individual He calls to *succeed!* Those that *overcome* their human pulls and the influence of an evil, selfish society and the temptings of Satan the devil will be granted positions of rulership in tomorrow's world! (Rev. 2:26; 3:21.)

God has provided man with a great **GOAL** and *the means* to *achieve* it! *In spite* of fleshly feebleness and human frailty *it is possible* to attain the Kingdom of God! What shall we say to these things? "If God be for us [and He is!], who can be against us?" (Rom. 8:31.)

Don't be too proud to ask for the help God **WILL GIVE YOU** — *if you ask Him*. "God is always against the proud, but he is *always ready* to give grace to the *humble*. So, humble yourselves under God's strong hand, and in his own good time he will lift you up. *You can throw the whole weight of your anxieties upon him*, for **YOU ARE HIS PERSONAL CONCERN!**" (I Peter 5:5-7, J. B. Phillips translation.)

God understands you — loves you — wants you to become a member of His Family! □

In addition to the two free reprints mentioned in the above article ("How You Can Be Imbued With the Power of God" and "Is Jesus God?"), we have three other reprint articles available about related subjects. They are:

"Why Does God Hide Himself?"

"Why God Is Not Real to Most People"

"Why Must Men Suffer?"

This literature is sent *free of charge* by the Ambassador College Extension Program as an educational service in the public interest. Be sure to request each article *by title*.

WHY YOU NEED TO CHANGE!

Whether you think yourself "religious" or not, vast CHANGES are going to take place in YOUR LIFE. These will be either for good — or for eternal DEATH. YOU have a rendezvous with destiny!

by Roderick C. Meredith

WE LIVE in an age of lying and deceit. An age of hypocrisy and ignorance in religion, in education, in politics.

We live in an age of *rebellion* — an age seemingly bent on *destroying itself*.

WHY?

Because people have lost their moorings. They no longer feel truly responsible either to the Creator God or even to their fellowman.

"Do your own thing," is the keynote.

Ours is the age that produced the H-bomb, germ warfare and the ever-increasing threat of *human annihilation*. Ours is the age that murdered President John F. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King.

And many writers and thinkers have discussed the probability that we would also *murder* Jesus Christ if He were to appear in the flesh — *in this age* — and indict us for our sins, our hypocrisies, our crass selfishness and stupidity.

Yes, *this age* would honestly do that, wouldn't it?

A SICK Generation

As I write, I have before me one of the best-known "advice columns," printed recently in a major newspaper. This particular column answers the plea of a heartbroken mother whose daughter has become a *lesbian*.

What should the mother do?

The woman columnist answers that "you who profess to love her must accept her as she is or not at all." Then she quotes Sigmund Freud's statement that homosexuality is "nothing to be ashamed of" and is merely a "variation" of sexual functions.

All of this was printed, remember, AS THOUGH IT WERE TRUE and had the backing of our society — in a MAJOR West Coast newspaper!

As nations and as individuals, we in the English-speaking world have gotten to the place where we will accept almost ANYTHING as lawful, decent, acceptable and even call it "normal"!

Is homosexuality "normal" or "right" in ANY way?

It depends on whether your "authority" is the *reasonings of men* or the inspired WORD of the Creator as revealed in the Holy Bible.

Speaking of the human philosophers who are regarded and even *honored* as the "fathers" of Western thought, God inspired the Apostle Paul to write: "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools. . . . For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is

unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet" (Romans 1:22, 26-27).

Our generation has come to regard as "acceptable" what the Bible describes as VILE affections and PERVERTED lusts and appetites. This, along with openly accepted immorality at every level, is the reason why venereal disease is now termed "pandemic" *for the first time in the penicillin era!*

Many don't like to admit it, but people do, eventually, reap the bitter "fruits" of their labors in sin and rebellion against the laws of their Creator.

This is a SICK generation!

Put Yourself in the Picture

Each of us needs to realize that — like it or not — *we have been affected* by this sick world around us. God has been made to seem impotent or far off, His laws unreal or impractical.

As a people, we have tended to *compromise* or "water down" basic principles which, deep down, we know are right. And most of us haven't had much practical, *powerful* and authoritative teaching direct from the Bible, have we?

So we have "gone along" with and probably *participated* in *lying, cheating, stealing, adultery, fornication, homosexuality, juvenile delinquency, drug*

abuse or many another CRIME against God and against our fellowman.

Be *honest* with yourself!

We have so scarred and seared our collective conscience that we would undoubtedly — as a people — literally KILL Jesus Christ should He appear in the human flesh and indict us!

Now listen! Over 1900 years ago a generation very similar to ours had *literally* done this very thing. But through logical, powerful and heartfelt preaching — and through *direct miracles* — thousands were beginning to realize the wretchedness of their own lives in even *countenancing* this act. They began to see that *their* “establishment” — religious and political — *their* society, *their* grown-up “playhouse” was a SICK and WRETCHED thing, and that it had *infected them* personally and individually.

For their generation had *directly* KILLED the promised Messiah!

“Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly,” Peter said, “that God hath made that same Jesus, *whom you have* CRUCIFIED, both Lord and Christ” (Acts 2:36).

Here was an indictment that could have been *bitterly resented*.

But *at least* several thousand people of *that* generation were intellectually and spiritually *honest*. They were willing to *face the fact* that they, *personally*, had become callous and sinful and *guilty* before their God. They needed *help* and FORGIVENESS even as we in *this* generation do also.

How can it come? *How* can man be *reconciled* to the Creator God and receive *divine help* to truly UNDERSTAND the *will* of God, the *purpose* of life, and then have the *spiritual strength* to accomplish that purpose?

Those people were “pricked in their heart” and said, “Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, REPENT, and *be baptized* every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost [Spirit]. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call” (Acts 2:37-39).

Notice that verse 39 puts YOU into the picture. For the promise of receiving

God's Spirit is extended to *all* people of *all* generations — “even as many as the Lord our God shall call.”

True Conversion

No human can naturally or normally yield himself to obey God in his own strength. You MUST have God's Holy Spirit to understand, grow and overcome spiritually (Rom. 8:9).

As Acts 2:38 and the entire New Testament make clear, you must unconditionally SURRENDER your will to the Creator God, and then be symbolically BURIED in *water baptism* in order to receive the Holy Spirit. Then you are to arise from the symbolic baptismal grave and walk in *newness of life* — following Jesus' example.

You are promised the gift of God's Spirit to guide and help you in following and *obeying* Jesus Christ — your real Lord and Boss whom you are to serve and obey *in actual fact*.

God's Spirit is a part of His very CHARACTER placed within you to enable you to live as you should. Paul explains that “the *love of God* is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us” (Rom. 5:5).

There are many *human ideas* about how we should express this love every Christian must have. Most professing Christians seem to think that it is a sentimental *emotion* about the person of Christ, or a sanctimonious attitude with lots of religious-sounding talk in front of our fellowmen.

But, in His inspired Word, God tells us what this divine LOVE *really* is.

“For this is the *love of God*, that we KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS: *and his* commandments are not grievous” (I John 5:3).

Perhaps the best definition of a “Christian” contained in any one verse of the Bible is found in I John 2:6. The Weymouth Translation makes the intended meaning more clear than the older King James wording. It reads: “He who says that he abides in him is *bound to live* AS HE LIVES.”

How many of today's professing “Christians” feel BOUND to live exactly as Jesus Christ did — to literally keep the Ten Commandments as He did; to refrain from killing, stealing, lying; to keep HOLY the same days that Jesus

did; and, through the Holy Spirit, to literally let Him LIVE HIS LIFE all over in them as human instruments?

Total Surrender

The complete, *unconditional surrender* of one's self to God and to Christ as Saviour *and* Master is the key to real conversion.

If *you* would really be a Christian — examine yourself. Have you come to the place where you BELIEVE in the Creator God and in the Bible as His Word — His inspired Revelation to man? Are you willing to totally SURRENDER your will to OBEY His Word — to *study* it *honestly, zealously*, and to *live by it*?

Are you ready to actually GIVE your life to Christ — yielding *completely, willingly*, so that He may *live His life* in you through the Holy Spirit? Are you willing to let God *fashion and mold you* after His own divine CHARACTER — that He may give you *eternal life* in the resurrection and a place of RULE over cities and nations under Jesus Christ in the *World Tomorrow*?

Are you willing to quit arguing and reasoning with your Maker and say, “Yes, Lord, *THY will be done*”?

If you sincerely feel this way, you should be *baptized — immersed in water* — as an outward sign of your willingness to completely BURY the old self in full surrender to Christ. “Sprinkling” or “pouring” do not picture this burial. Christ taught *water baptism* and so did all the apostles in the inspired New Testament Church.

Remember and *heed* the words of the Apostle Peter's inspired sermon at the time he commanded repentance and baptism: “*Save yourselves from this perverted generation!*” (Acts 2:40, Phillips Translation).

For if there was ever a generation that was *decadent* and *sick*, we are *it*. We are now making rapid progress (?) in a full-circle return to the degradation and FILTH of ancient Sodom, Gomorrah and pagan Rome.

Those of us over forty may remember President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's sobering words: “This generation has a rendezvous with destiny.”

The population explosion relentlessly gains momentum. The Soviets per-

sistently close the gap in nuclear arms and missiles. A German-dominated United States of Europe looms ever closer on the horizon. Britain slithers and slides from a second to a third or fourth-rate power — her former greatness GONE. America's pride in her power and her real national strength and influence slowly slip away.

Darkness gathers.

Millions remember the inspired warnings and specific prophecies thundered for years through *The WORLD TOMORROW* program, *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine and now *TOMORROW'S WORLD*. They fearfully realize that unless deep and heartfelt *repentance* comes, *this generation* is destined to experience divine intervention and PUNISHMENT from a Creator who is *very much alive* and who *will not be mocked!* Our actual "rendezvous with destiny" will be

quite a SHOCK to those who leave the true God out of the picture.

But true conversion is a *personal* matter. Each of you — with God's help — can SAVE YOURSELF from *this* generation which ridicules the idea of a real GOD and the necessity to OBEY His laws and ways.

It is up to you.

What to Do

Jesus Christ commands us as His true servants: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that *believeth* and is BAPTIZED shall be saved; but he that *believeth not* shall be damned" (Mark 16:15-16).

If you feel that this is the *very Work of God* — preaching Christ's message as a *witness* to this dying world — perhaps you would like to write us about being counselled or baptized.

We now have dedicated, fully

instructed and trained, ordained MINISTERS in all parts of the world. Their hearts and their *very lives* are wrapped up in this great Work of God.

But they know that *only* GOD can open your mind and call you to true conversion. So they will only call on you IF *you request it*. They will NEVER attempt to "pressure" you, "cram" any of God's truth down your throat, solicit contributions or try to get you to "join" anything.

For God's true Church *cannot* be "joined." It is composed of those who have been called OUT of this "untoward generation" by *God Himself* to receive His Spirit, to *understand* His prophecies now rapidly being fulfilled, and to *qualify* for a position in His divine Government soon to be set up on this war-torn, sin-sick earth — the glorious Kingdom of God! □

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

"Repent" is a theological term that means CHANGE. Everywhere you look today the cry is for change. Scientist, educator, politician, doctor, minister, rabbi or priest, all would like to see some changes made in this world. The cry of the long-haired dissident is "change." Everyone, it seems, wants change! How about you? Are YOU satisfied with the way you are? Would you like to see some changes in your life?

by A. E. Carozzo

MANY men and women would like to quit smoking because they know it is harmful to their health. It is a sickeningly bad habit they have developed, and they would desperately like to CHANGE the bad habit for a good one. But they simply are not willing to make the necessary effort to *change*.

A famous television star recently pleaded with his audience to kick the smoking habit before it was too late for them. He said he would have quit — changed — *if* he had known continuing would have brought on the terminal cancer of which he was dying. But for *him*, it was too late.

It seems everyone talks about change,

but few really understand what *real change* is.

Change Is for Today

What does change mean? Is changing, or seeking change, just theological terminology that should be relegated to a specific area of a by-gone age? Not at all! It is a constant part of everyday modern living. This is a term for the most modern, up-to-date society. One current saying goes, "There is nothing more permanent than change."

It seems everyone can agree that change is for today. But what about repentance? To most mods, repentance is an archaic word found only in Bible dictionaries or outdated books of the past. Repentance seems to be something

you do on your deathbed to satisfy dear old Grandma or the preacher.

To the "now" generation, what we need is change all right, but not repentance. But if change is the need, then what we need *today more than ever* is wholesale repentance. Because change means repentance, and repentance means change. The words Christ uttered hundred of years ago are as relevant as tomorrow's newspaper. He said: "Except ye repent [change] ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3).

There is a greater need today for sincere, heartfelt worldwide REPENTANCE THAN AT ANY OTHER TIME IN THIS WORLD'S HISTORY.

Repentance *isn't* just an archaic term of the past. Rather, it is a modern, up-to-the-minute, *desperate need for NOW!*

Jesus said, "Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is *at hand*." Paul said, "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth ALL MEN EVERYWHERE TO REPENT" (Acts 17:30).

Why does God command all men everywhere to repent? Because it is for the good of all men. Everyone wants to be happy, but most simply don't know how. The normal, carnal mind stands in the way of the necessary changes all of us need to make. Here is where repentance comes in. It's a vital *key* to happiness and everything good we *all want*. Let's understand — what is repentance? How do we repent?

Repentance Defined

Repentance is a complete, unconditional surrender of the self! To repent means to turn around — to make an about-face. It means to *change* everything — the way we dress, look, act and think. It means rooting out all preconceived ideas about God, Christ and self. It means to actually change in mind and direction.

Repentance is also a profound sorrow for the wrong deeds committed and an actual turning to God with no reservations. It is an actual changing of the thought processes. Repentance is turning from sin and self to the great Eternal God in unconditional surrender. A man who has repented will hate sin as God hates it.

To repent is to *hate* what you are and love God and what He stands for. Repentance is a process that continues throughout your entire life. It is a three-fold process that grows and grows.

Keep the Letter of the Law

First of all, every truly repentant believer must repent of breaking the letter of God's Law, the Ten Commandments. God's Law says: "Thou shalt not bear false witness." That means if you have been lying, exaggerating, stretching or coloring the truth, falsifying your income tax report, or in any way bearing false witness, you have been breaking the letter of God's Law.

To repent of breaking the letter of this Law means you *must* STOP. Stop lying, exaggerating, coloring. Stop falsifying your income tax report. Stop every act that breaks this cardinal point of God's Law in the letter.

God's Law says: "Thou shalt not commit adultery." To repent of breaking the letter of this Law means to stop the act of adultery. If you have been cheating on your wife (or husband), you had better STOP! Quit committing the act of adultery. Quit breaking the letter of God's Law.

"Thou shalt not steal" is another cardinal point of God's Law. To repent means to quit cheating people on the job, at home, or on the golf course. It means to never lie down on the job or take your paycheck without really earning it. It also means to quit walking away with office pencils, factory tools or petty cash. Simply DO NOT STEAL! If you steal in any way, you are breaking the letter of God's holy Law.

Review every one of the Ten Commandments God gave to man, and begin to live by them. This wonderful Law of love God gave to mankind is the *cause* of happy, brimful and abundant lives. Breaking God's Law is the cause of miserable, unhappy lives. To repent is to change from your way to God's way — to keeping God's Law *in the letter*. You can do it, even in this age of lawlessness. But that alone is not enough!

Keep the Spirit of the Law

When you repent, you must stop breaking the *spirit* of God's Law. But

what is meant by "the spirit of the Law"? How do we keep the Law in the spirit? Christ gives us the answer.

When Jesus came to this earth over nineteen hundred years ago, He came with a purpose. Part of that purpose was to "... magnify the law, and make it honourable" (Isa. 42:21). To *magnify* the Law DOESN'T mean to *do away with it*. It means to make it more applicable than ever! The Law of God "... is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good." It is a *spiritual Law* (Rom. 7:12, 14).

Jesus Christ came to reveal the *spiritual* application of God's holy, just, and good Law. He came to explain what it means to keep the Law in the spirit. He revealed that we should repent of breaking the spirit of the Law as well as the letter of the Law.

Jesus said, "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: but I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matt. 5:27-28).

Perhaps you haven't actually committed the act of adultery. But if you have looked on a woman to lust after her, you have committed adultery with her in your heart. You have broken the *spirit* of God's Law.

Jesus further explained, in magnifying the Law, that to have anger and hatred was tantamount to murder. He said: "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: But I say unto you, that whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment" (Matt. 5:21-22).

To keep the spirit of the Law as magnified by Christ is to follow His teachings to "love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you" (Matt. 5:44).

You see how Christ magnified the Law that says: "Thou shalt do no murder." You may never have actually murdered anyone, but does that mean you have no need to repent of breaking that

specific commandment? Not if you have been fighting mad, extremely angry, or had hatred in your heart. You need to repent of breaking the spirit of God's Law.

Lust, envy, and hate are all ways in which you may be breaking the spirit of God's Law. To repent means to actually control your thoughts. You, and you alone, control the door of your mind. Simply don't allow lust to enter in and cause you to sin.

To lust after a woman is a sin. To hate is a sin. To have another god before the true God is a sin. Any form of breaking the spirit and intent of God's Law IS A SIN! (I John 3:4.)

But does repentance end here? **ABSOLUTELY NOT!**

Repent of WHAT YOU ARE!

What *are* you? By God's standards, you are **NOTHING** and **LESS** than nothing and vanity (Isa. 40:17). David said man at his very *best* state is altogether vanity (Psalm 39:5).

God makes it plain that the heart of man (that is, the faculty of the mind we call the heart) is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked (Jer. 17:9).

Look at the fruit of man's rule on this earth. Consider the fact that we have reached the brink of cosmocide. Study history and current events and see how man's inhumanity to man has been, and is, almost unbelievable. Realize that man by himself is absolutely rotten to the core.

Realize that man is a deceitful, desperately wicked being. I don't mean just some men — but **ALL** men. *Every man* is foul, evil, and despicable *by nature!*

Somehow it is hard for us to believe man is inherently evil. But the Apostle Paul was inspired to write: "For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth **NO GOOD THING**" (Rom. 7:18).

Even Job, in all his righteousness, had to come to the place where he saw himself as he really was. Job thought he was pretty good. He became self-righteous. It became so bad that God allowed Satan to afflict Job with boils from the top of his head to the soles of his feet. Job had to sit in abject agony

on a pile of ash with a potsherd in his hand and scrape the pus from his boils.

Finally, after untold suffering, Job came to see himself as he really was. He was finally able to say before God: "I know that thou canst do everything, and that no thought can be withholden from thee . . . I uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, which I **KNEW NOT** . . . I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee. Wherefore I **ABHOR MYSELF**, and **REPENT** in dust and ashes" (Job 42:2-6).

You, too, must come to the place where you see yourself as you *really are*. If you do, you will realize you really are despicable by nature. And finally you will be able to say with profound conviction: "**I ABHOR MYSELF!**"

That is what repentance is all about. It is seeing yourself, abhorring yourself, and repenting of **SELF!** Repent of what you *are*, not just what you've done. This is *the true* repentance. Until you have come to this point, you simply **HAVE NOT REPENTED!**

The Need for Today

The cry for change quite often falls on deaf ears today. In spite of this, the cry continues to echo everywhere. The need for change is evident. Most people see and understand this fact.

But most people don't see and understand the most urgent need in the lives of each of us. In this chaotic world, the need for true repentance has never been greater. Without it, there is no hope for us individually, or for the world as a whole. In this chaotic age, the beginning of the message from Jesus Christ is very modern and up-to-date: "Repent — the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Never before has that statement been more true than today. Today we hear statesmen, politicians and philosophers saying, as with one voice, that something must be done, changes must be made, or there is no hope for mankind. Never before have we faced the possibility of human annihilation. Never before have virtual madmen had within their grasp the power of atomic and hydrogen bombs.

What is the answer?

The answer is "Change!" The answer is "Repentance." The answer is "Turn

to God with all your heart — **NOW!**" The answer is summed up in a statement made by the late General Douglas MacArthur when he said before the combined Congress of the United States: "It must be of the spirit if we are to save the flesh."

Unless changes are made on a grand scale, there is no hope for mankind. What mankind needs more than anything is wholesale repentance. You can't repent for all mankind, but you can repent for yourself. The most important need in *your* life right now is true repentance. It is a matter of life and death — *eternal life!*

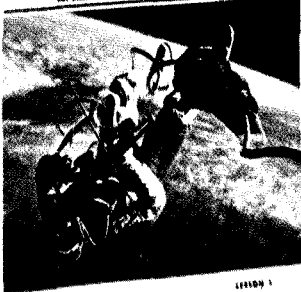
Don't ignore this need. Now is the time to repent! You need to know how. Write for our article entitled "What Is Real Repentance?" Also, enroll immediately in the Ambassador College Correspondence Course and study every lesson thoroughly.

If you feel you *need* personal counsel from one of God's ministers, write and ask for one of our representatives to call on you. You must make a personal request.

IT'S UP TO YOU! □

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Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

What is baptism? Is baptism really necessary to become a true Christian? What is the proper mode of baptism? Who is authorized to perform it? Here are the Biblical answers to these important questions.

by Dennis G. Luker

BAPTISM is a Biblical command. It is an *essential requirement* for salvation. You must be baptized to become a true Christian.

“Repent, and *be baptized* every one of you . . .” is God’s command to every one of us *personally* (Acts 2:38).

Jesus’ Command and Example

Jesus’ parting commission to His Church was, “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is *baptized* shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned” (Mark 16:15-16).

That’s strong language!

Jesus didn’t “beat around the bush” with words. He spoke plainly so we would realize the *importance* of what He said.

For that reason Jesus Himself went to John the Baptist for baptism to fulfill God’s will and to *set us an EXAMPLE*. Notice: “And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water . . . and lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased” (Matt. 3:16-17).

God the Father was “well pleased” with Jesus. Is God well pleased with you? Most certainly — *if* you have followed — or *will* follow — the example of Jesus Christ!

How and Why

Notice that Jesus “*went up* straightway *out of* the water.” Mark’s gospel renders it, “And straightway *coming up out of* the water . . .” (Mark 1:10). It is obvious that Jesus was not sprinkled! He was *immersed* — plunged into — water.

The Greek word from which the word “baptism” is translated is *baptizo*. Any Greek lexicon gives its meaning as “to dip or immerse.” The example of Philip and the eunuch also proves this: “. . . and they *went down* both *into the water*, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when they were *come up out of the water* . . .” (Acts 8:38-39).

They went *down* “*into the water*” and came “*up out of the water*.” And so, according to the Bible, the correct way to be baptized is to be **COMPLETELY IMMERS**ED *in water!*

But why does God require complete immersion in water for proper baptism? Because baptism *symbolizes* something! It is not the simple physical act of getting “dunked” for a second or two that is important. This act has tremendous *meaning* for us.

That wonderful significance is explained in Romans, chapter six: “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were

baptized into his death? Therefore *we are buried* with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, *we shall be also in the likeness of HIS resurrection*” (Rom. 6:3-5).

Did you understand what you just read?

Baptism symbolizes a death and burial, and then a resurrection to a new life! That is the sequence which Christ went through and we are to follow His example! “We are buried with him by baptism into death” (verse 4), symbolizing our burial of the old self. Our old self — our old life of sin — symbolically **DIES** — is put to death and buried in baptism — so that when we come up out of the watery grave, even as Christ arose from the dead, “. . . even so we also should walk *in newness of life*” (verse 4) — in **O**BEDIENCE to God.

A Symbol of Your Repentance

Baptism has marvelous meaning! It is joyful and exciting. Yet sobering. It pictures putting your “old self” to death — burying your sinful past — and becoming a new person!

Paul also expressed it this way: “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me” (Gal. 2:20).

Paul was not the same person after baptism! He became a true Christian

with Jesus Christ actually living in him through the Holy Spirit!

So can you!

Baptism symbolizes the complete washing away and the total forgiveness of your sins (Isa. 1:16). It pictures your being "cleaned up" and made ready to receive the Holy Spirit of God which then enables you to begin living a new life of obedience to Christ!

Then, and only then, can you begin to grow and eventually be born as a Son in God's eternal, ruling Family!

Jesus Christ suffered and died for *your* sins. And so, as part of each baptismal ceremony, God's ministers ask each candidate for baptism, "Have *you* repented of your sins? Have you accepted Jesus Christ as your *personal* Savior?" This is because being baptized demonstrates that *you* recognize your previous disobedience to God's Law,

that you desire to be forgiven, that you acknowledge your need for Christ's sacrifice and proclaim your willingness now to follow His example of obedience to God's Laws, that you wish to be like Christ and live forever.

Administered by Whom?

Does it make any difference *who* baptizes you? Absolutely it does!

You should be baptized by a true representative and servant of the living God — a man through whom God is working.

Many professing Christians have been baptized. But there was no real *change* in their lives. This confirms the fact that God usually will NOT recognize a baptism performed by anyone other than His own called ministers. God simply does not work through men who have *appointed* themselves as His minis-

ters — men who do not know or obey the truth of God!

As a result of *this Work*, the lives of thousands have been — and *are being* — dramatically changed! The fruits of conversion are being borne in the lives of thousands who have been baptized by the ministers of this Work. If you have deeply repented and sincerely want to be baptized, or if you are desirous of just discussing these vital subjects in relation to your life with a qualified and dedicated servant of God, then *do* write and let us know.

God's true ministers — consecrated men who obey the command of Jesus Christ: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Matt. 28:19) — are stationed throughout the world to counsel and baptize people like you. □

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

Just how important is it to be baptized in the RIGHT "NAME"? Is it just a matter of saying or hearing the right WORDS? Let's UNDERSTAND what God means by His "NAME" and "in the name of Jesus Christ."

by David Albert

TODAY we speak of street *names*, first and last *names*, proper and common *names*, and business *names*. But this is only a *limited use* of the word "name."

The Dictionary Tells

Any good dictionary shows that the word "name" can also mean *descriptive qualities, fame, reputation, or character*. The Bible uses the word in this larger sense, especially in connection with *God's* name. God's name implies

all He stands for, including His very office, position, and authority.

Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language, College Edition, properly defines the phrase "in the name of" as, "1) in appeal or reference to, and, 2) by the authority of; as the representative of." And that is *precisely* what is meant in Acts 2:38 where we are commanded to be baptized "*in the name of Jesus Christ!*"

Appeal and reference is made to Jesus Christ. The baptism is performed

by His authority! And it is done by someone *acting* as Christ's representative.

Much more is involved than merely mouthing the right-sounding words. Baptism must be performed properly — with Jesus Christ's *express stamp of approval* and according to His instructions — or it is a meaningless, hollow ritual that accomplishes nothing but making a mockery of Christ's sacrifice!

Thus in the Bible we often read that believers were baptized "in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 8:16) or "baptized in the name of the Lord" (Acts 10:48) by Peter, John, and the other apostles. The risen Jesus Christ made it plain to His servants — often through *miraculous* circumstances — just who had truly been called of God, had

really repented and brought forth "fruits meet for repentance" and would therefore be *ready* for water baptism.

Then with deep sobriety and purposefulness, God's servants performed the baptisms by immersion. They did so "in the name of Jesus Christ," acting on His behalf, doing so by His authority, fulfilling His will and intent.

Who Should Decide?

The apostles recognized that even though Jesus had left this earth and ascended into heaven, it was still "*the Lord*" that "added to the church daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:47). And they also knew that Christ had invested in them the authority to make binding decisions (see Matt. 18:18-20). One of these, of course, was to decide who should be baptized and who should *not*!

Like John the Baptist before them, they insisted on seeing clear evidence of true repentance, "the fruits meet for repentance" (Matt. 3:8), or they, like John, could not perform the baptism. Christ holds His servants strictly accountable for everything that is done "in His name," so extreme care must be taken by the ministry — as well as by the individual — to see that no errors are committed.

Many fail to understand that they are in fact *appealing* this first decision of their Christian life directly to Jesus Christ, and that He makes that decision *through His ministers!*

Many think that only their own desire and willingness is required and that the ministry is then obligated to perform the baptism.

This is simply *not* the case!

John the Baptist recognized no such obligation, nor did Peter when he, in effect, declared the baptism of Simon the Magician invalid because of his wrong spirit and attitude.

The decision as to who will be baptized for the remission of sins and who will later receive the *laying on of hands* for the receiving of God's Holy Spirit must be made by someone who has been given the authority to act "in Jesus' name" — usually *an ordained minister of Jesus Christ* — or else someone directly and specifically commissioned to act in that capacity, such

as Ananias in Acts, chapter nine, for Paul's baptism.

The "Baptismal Formula"

Now that we have clearly in mind what is meant by the expression "in the name of Jesus Christ," let's go on to see what Jesus Christ said about baptism in Matthew 28:19.

Here we have what is often referred to as the "Baptismal Formula" — that is, the *correct wording* of the baptismal ceremony. Here we read, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them *in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost* [Spirit]" according to the King James Version.

Two important corrections need to be made to this famous 1611 English translation of the original Greek text. One is the use of the word "Ghost," which is a very unfortunate translation of the Greek word *pneuma*. The proper English translation is "Spirit." God does not have a "ghost"! But He most certainly does have a *Holy Spirit!*

The second correction is the word "in" in the phrase "*in the name of the Father,*" etc. This is *not* translated from the Greek word *en*, which means "in," but is translated from the Greek word *eis* which generally means "*into.*"

Notice that now Matthew 28:19 does not contradict in any way the phrase "in the name of Jesus Christ," as some erroneously contend. Rather, it *adds* important information. What this means is that in baptism we come *under the government and authority* of God, *INTO His ownership and possession*. We are literally *not our own* any more after baptism!

Paul makes this clear in I Cor. 6:19-20. "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have of God, and *ye are not your own?* For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your *body*, and in your *spirit, which are God's.*"

In water baptism we are outwardly manifesting what has already become inwardly solidified — that we are now willing to lay down our lives and become God's servants, no longer free to do as we please, but rather as *God wills*. "For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we

die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, *we are the Lord's!*" (Rom. 14:8).

After baptism and the receiving of the Holy Spirit, we become part of the *begotten* Family of God and as such have the right and privilege of calling God our *Father*. We have been immersed *into* the very family name of God (Eph. 3:15). We are literally His newly begotten sons looking forward to the resurrection when we will be finally *born into* the divine Family of God!

Therefore, *putting it all together*, at the time of baptism the repentant believer is asked if he has repented of his sins and accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour. If he indicates that he has — and his works *prove* that he has — the person performing the baptism will say to the individual (giving his name), "As a result of the repentance of your sins and acceptance of Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, I do therefore baptize you *into* the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, *in the name of*, that is, *by the authority of*, Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins. Amen." (Notice carefully that *neither important part is omitted!*) He will then totally immerse the person in the water.

The Name of God's Church

There is yet one more vitally important truth connected with God's name which Jesus gave in John 17:11. Here in His final prayer He said, "Holy Father, keep *through thine own name* those whom thou hast given me, that they may be *one*, as we are." What did He mean in saying Christians should be kept in the "name" of the Father?

He obviously meant that through, or by means of, the *power and authority* of the Father, all His begotten children — His Church — should be kept from Satan and from falling away. As the Father's own children, they would naturally also be given His *name* and be called the *Church of God*. To be "one" — united and undivided — true Christians must be in the Church that belongs to God.

What Jesus meant is made perfectly clear in the rest of the New Testament record. For the *true name of the Church*

of God is just that: "the Church of God."

In the book of Acts, Paul instructs ministers to "feed the church of God" (Acts 20:28). The book of I Corinthians contains *five* distinct references to "the church of God" or "the churches of God." Study them yourself in I Cor. 1:2; 10:32; 11:16; 11:22 and 15:9. Again in II Cor. 1:1 Paul addresses "the church of God which is at Corinth." In Galatians 1:13 Paul admits that he had "persecuted the church of God." I Thes. 2:14 mentions "the churches of God," adding "in Judea" to give their location. And in the largest of the Pastoral Epistles, Paul refers to "the church of God" and "the church of the living God" twice in I Timothy 3:5 and 15.

In no less than *twelve different places*, we find the Bible — God's

inspired Word — giving the one and only true name and title of God's Church — "the Church of God." That is what Jesus meant when He prayed for the Father to keep the disciples and New Testament Church in the *Father's* name!

So "what's in a name?"

Very much indeed when that name happens to be the name of *Jesus Christ* and His Heavenly *Father!* To be baptized "in the name of Jesus Christ" (Acts 2:38) means to be baptized by *His authority* vested in one of His true representatives! And to be baptized "into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Matt. 28:19) symbolizes the coming under the *government* and *ownership* of God Himself — becoming begotten members of His Divine Family — as we are led by the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:14).

Finally, to be kept *in the Father's name* (John 17:11) means to be kept In His only true Church — *the Church which belongs to and is ruled by God.*

And of all the denominations bearing the name "Church of God," only *ONE* could be the true Church of God — the one that obeys *all* the commandments of God and maintains the faith delivered once for all time.

Don't be deceived! These cardinal Bible truths are *essential to salvation!* Jesus Christ said, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" or condemned (Mark 16:15-16).

Be certain you understand the importance of the name of Christ and of God before you are baptized! And forever after. □

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

You may not have realized it before, but every human being has a criminal record — a past that needs to be forgiven and forgotten. Everyone must face his record before God, and the sure penalty for your crimes — sins — is capital punishment — DEATH; the sure forgiveness, eternal life!

by George Geis

IT'S NOT easy to live with a criminal record. Many a criminal after he has been released from jail has met frustration after frustration as he tries to become accepted again in society. Often the ex-convict is just on the verge of landing a job when his would-be employer comes across his criminal record and then "coincidentally" decides it best not to hire him.

The ex-convict who wants to change

is one man who yearns that society would forget and forgive what he has done. Here's an individual who would do just about anything to have his record cleared.

The ex-convict may have broken some civil law of the land for which he was imprisoned and for which he has been cut off from society, but every human being on this earth has broken another law — and in doing so has cut himself

off from his Creator. And if every human being is involved, you must be included!

But what is it *you've* done that God needs to forgive and forget? In what way have *you* cut yourself off from your God? Can you think of anything? Anything worthy of eternal death?

God dogmatically states in Romans 3:23 that "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." And Romans 6:23 just as dogmatically states that "the wages of sin is *death.*" So God is categorically asserting that everybody is worthy of death. Plain and simple. And everybody includes *you.*

But God does not leave us "hanging." He has designed a system in which all our sins can be so blotted out that it will be as though they never exist.

ted. This is called, in the King James translation, "*the remission of sins.*"

How can you receive this remission? It's incredibly easy. And it's not "religious" in the traditional sense of the word.

First of all, let's understand what is meant by the theological-sounding term "remission." This term is translated from the original Greek word (*ἀφεσις*) *aphesis* which means *release, pardon, cancellation* and *forgiveness*. In fact, this same word is translated as "forgiveness" several times in the New Testament.

So remission simply means forgiveness. In fact, this original Greek word is derived from another Greek word (*ἀφίημι*) *aphiemi* which literally means to "send forth, send away, or let go." So in this sense "remission of sins" can be pictured as a *sending away* of the sin from the sinner.

In fact, David says in Psalm 103:12: "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us..." That's a *total* sending away or separation!

Now, let's go one step further. We've seen that remission of sin means "forgiveness of sin" or "sending away of sin" from the sinner. We've also seen that all have sinned. But *what is sin?* Exactly!

That's a very fundamental question that has received much debate. So it will probably come somewhat as a shock to learn that God's Word answers the question very succinctly and directly. "For sin is the transgression of the law" (I John 3:4). It's very plain and simple. God has given a law which is embodied in ten commandments — as spiritually magnified by Jesus Christ. Any transgression or breaking of this spiritual law constitutes sin. (For a full explanation of this *spiritual* law write for our booklet *The Ten Commandments.*)

So the "remission of sins" is the act of God forgiving us for the (numerous) times we have broken His law. And, as we have said, we have all sinned and therefore we all need this forgiveness. We all have a criminal record, spiritually speaking, that we need to get rid of.

And until we do rid ourselves of this record, we're cut off from direct contact

with God. "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: but your *iniquities* have separated between you and your God, and your *sins* have hid his face from you, that he will not hear" (Isa. 59:1-2).

But how do we clear our record with God? Here's where baptism comes in. As explained in a previous article, baptism symbolically pictures your willingness for your old self to die. As you're baptized or buried that old self figuratively dies and that old criminal record dies in the process.

By this unique occurrence in your life you become clean and pure before your Creator. All previous sin is forgiven and remitted. This is why Peter commanded: "Repent, and be baptized... for the remission of sins..."

You might well ask: "How can being submerged in a pool of water clean up my total spiritual criminal record?" The answer is that it doesn't, per se. What actually makes remission of sins possible at the time of baptism is that the blood of Jesus Christ is applied to you personally (Rom. 5:9). Your sins are transferred to the body of Jesus and Christ dies in your place. (Don't let this world's sickly sentimental usage of the phrase "the blood of Jesus Christ" turn you off. What I'm talking about here is the real thing, divorced from any improper sentimentality.)

Here's how it works. You have broken God's Law and therefore have brought the death penalty upon yourself (Rom. 6:23). You realize that you need to be figuratively buried in baptism to symbolize your acknowledgement of the necessity of putting to death your old self. God then does His part: He actually applies the death of Jesus Christ to you so that the death penalty for your breaking of God's Law is literally paid in full. Hence you don't have to literally die yourself — and you emerge from a few seconds under the waters of baptism completely justified and righteous in God's sight.

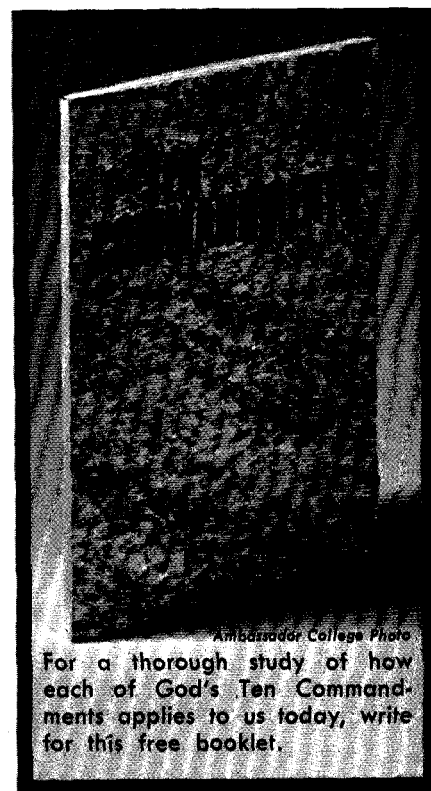
This is what Paul meant by "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death..." (Rom. 6:3-4).

So three events — your baptism, the application of Jesus Christ's blood for you, and the remission of your sins all focus in at one point in time.

There's one additional point that might need clarification: The question of why Jesus Christ's death can be applied to pay the death penalty for so many billions of individuals. The answer is elementary: Jesus Christ is the God and Creator of mankind (John 1:1-3); thus, His life (and therefore His death) is worth more than all the rest of mankind put together.

God is *eager* for YOU to gain contact with Him. He *fervently wants* YOU to have YOUR sins remitted. He *wants* you to clean up your record and to have a clear conscience before Him. And so, unlike the ex-convict who sometimes has to live with his record even after he has been released from prison, once you've been squared away with God by the remission of sins, your old spiritual record is totally forgotten. It won't hold you back in any way. And that's a fabulous feeling!

King David of Israel put it this way in Psalm 32:1: "Blessed," he says, "is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered." *You* can take advantage of that blessing! □



Ambassador College Photo
For a thorough study of how each of God's Ten Commandments applies to us today, write for this free booklet.

Then Peter said unto them, Repent,
and be baptized every one of you
in the name of Jesus Christ for the
remission of sins, and ye shall receive
THE HOLY SPIRIT
the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

Why is Acts 2:38 so important? Why be so concerned about "just one scripture"? The answer is simple. Acts 2:38 promises the gift of the HOLY SPIRIT! But how do we qualify? For that matter, why should we even want to qualify?

by Robert L. Kuhn

IT'S BOTH simple and awesome at the same time: Acts 2:38 explains how God makes it possible for man to achieve his purpose in life. This is because Acts 2:38 explains how individual human beings can receive the Spirit of God. And it is only through the Spirit of God that we can both understand the reason why God created us, and fulfill this purpose by growing to think, act and become more like our Creator Father.

Why go through the mental strain of repentance? Why make the effort to be baptized? Why even bother with understanding the name of Jesus Christ? Why seek the remission of sins?

There is in fact one simple answer to all of these questions — one basic reason for all of these "why's" — *that we may qualify to receive THE GIFT OF GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT.*

And nothing could be more spectacular. Nothing more all-encompassing. Nothing more awesome.

What Is God's Holy Spirit?

We start with a basic definition of God's Holy Spirit: It is His **POWER** — the *power* of the Almighty Creator.

Acts 1:8 gives the actual historical promise which Christ gave to His disciples: "But ye shall receive **POWER**, after that the Holy Ghost [Spirit] is

come upon you." Here is the great promise of God's Holy Spirit. **POWER.**

Power can be simply defined as "the ability to act" — or, more technically, as "the capacity to do *work*." This most certainly applies to the power of God's Holy Spirit. By His Spirit God *created* the entire universe in Genesis 1:1. And it is also by the power of His Spirit that God has continued to *sustain* the universe from that time until this time.

In another sense, the Holy Spirit is *the essence of the mind of God*. In this respect it is the *power* by which God begets His Sons and enables them to keep His Law. A basic definition of this aspect of God's Holy Spirit would be "*the love of God fulfilling the Law of God.*"

And this brings us directly to the point of this article, which is the climax of Acts 2:38.

The Purpose of Life

If we had to list Biblical verses in the order of their relative importance, Genesis 1:26 would surely be placed near the top. Here God states *the reason why* He created man: "*Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.*"

Man was designed with a physical human body resembling God's body and a human mind resembling God's mind — much as our *shadows* resemble

our bodies. But this was just a start. Man, *every* man individually, would have to *spiritually grow* in order to attain "unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ" (Eph. 4:13).

And the way to spiritually grow? There's only one: living the way of *the Law of God*.

In Exodus 19:5-6 God made a covenant with His people. He told them that they could become a treasure unto Him, "a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation." All they would have to do would be to "obey my voice" and "keep my covenant," in other words, follow the Law of God. And Israel *wanted* to obey. "ALL that the Lord hath said will we do, and be obedient" (Ex. 24:7).

But as everybody knows, neither ancient Israel nor Judah *ever* kept God's Law consistently. And as a *direct* result both were exiled (II Kings 17:6-23 for the House of Israel, II Kings 25:1-17 for the House of Judah).

Why? Why were God's physical people unable to keep God's Law and fulfill their part of the Covenant?

The answer is given in Hebrews 8. After raising the question as to why the first covenant had to be superseded by the second covenant (verse 7), Paul answers, "*For finding fault with*

THEM. . .” In other words, there was nothing at all wrong with the Law. It was the *people* who were at fault; it was *Israel*, not God, who was responsible for the failure of the first covenant.

But this is not the end of the story — it is not even the end of the eighth verse of Hebrews 8. Read this section in its entirety: “For finding fault with *them*, he [God] saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when *I will make a new covenant* with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah.” For further details, go on to verse 10: “For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; *I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts*: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people.”

Now *how* can God put His laws into our minds and write them in our hearts? In precisely the same way that God can be our Father and we can be His Sons! *Through God's Holy Spirit!*

This is the essential ingredient of the New Covenant. This is why the New Covenant can offer “better promises” (Heb. 8:6).

Without God's Spirit, the human mind is carnally minded — which means that it is “enmity against God: *for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be*” (Rom. 8:7).

With God's Spirit, the human mind is *spiritually* minded — it is a *converted* mind — which means that it is no longer enmity against God. Rather, the individual whose mind is filled with God's Holy Spirit minds “the things of the Spirit” (Rom. 8:5), he has “*love and peace*” (Rom. 8:6), and in him “*the righteousness of the law is fulfilled*” (Rom. 8:4).

In one short sentence, *God's Spirit gives a man the POWER to obey God's Laws*. Many are the false teachers who proclaim that human beings *cannot* keep God's Commandments. Now, humanly speaking, that's true — *we* can't. Yet *we must*. Because God will not allow anybody in His Kingdom if He cannot rule that person. So we have a problem. But God solves it: He supplies the *power* to obey Him — which is God's Spirit.

Recall the definition of power — “the

capacity to do work.” Now it must certainly be considered “work” to reorient and lead a human mind in the direction of obedience to God — because this is exactly the *opposite* direction from the human mind. Hence the necessity of a *power* to do this “work,” a power which God's Spirit supplies.

Putting the whole story together, we find that the individual filled with God's Spirit is well on his or her way to fulfill and accomplish *the ultimate purpose in life* — the very reason why he or she was born! This is why the crucial presence or absence of God's Holy Spirit is the only valid determination of whether or not the individual is, in reality, a *real Christian* (Rom. 8:9).

What God's Spirit Does — Here and Now

In the physical realm, obedience to God makes possible a more abundant physical life. In fact one of the reasons Christ came in the flesh was to minister this more abundant life (John 10:10).

Even more important, God's Holy Spirit increases the capacity of your mind to know and to comprehend. The addition of God's Spirit elevates a human mind onto a new plane. I Corinthians 2:9-14 tells this remarkable story. Now verse 9 is often used alone by those who wish to show that God hides His truth from man: “Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him” — and there the quote usually ends. But why isn't the next verse quoted? “But God hath *revealed them* unto us BY HIS SPIRIT: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.”

God reveals His most profound truths through His Holy Spirit. Of course! God's Spirit is a part of His actual Mind. And it can be implanted in our own human minds! So it makes perfect sense that God's Holy Spirit will lead the converted individual “*into all truth*” and will enable him to understand “*things to come*” (John 16:13).

Next, notice that God's Holy Spirit also imparts the *love* of God — the sincere, outgoing concern for others — which no carnally minded human has. Romans 5:5: “The *love* of God is shed

abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit.”

And also the *hope* of God — the quiet confidence of the certainty of the resurrection which makes a human life happy and successful — is generated by the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13: “Now the God of [the] *hope* fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in [the] *hope, through the power of the Holy Spirit.*”

In fact, the Holy Spirit brings a whole list of the attributes of God into our lives. Read them in Galatians 5:22. The fruits of the Spirit are these: “Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance.”

And there you have it. So simple. Yet so profound.

What God's Spirit Does — For Eternity

Jesus Christ stated that, “It is the spirit that quickeneth [makes alive]” (John 6:63) — or, as a modern translation puts it: “It is the Spirit that gives life” (*The Twentieth Century New Testament*).

How does this occur? How does God's Spirit “give life”?

When an individual receives the Holy Spirit, he then, for the first time, has a begetting of inherent life — self-existent life — life within himself. Christ said of the man who would have God's Spirit in him, “Out of his belly shall flow rivers of *living* water. (But this spake he of *the Spirit*, which they that believe on him should receive)” (John 7:38, 39).

What is the end result of this? We read about it in I Corinthians 15:50-54. At the resurrection, at the last trump, both the dead and the living in Christ — those who died with God's Spirit and those who will be living with God's Spirit — shall have their mortal, corruptible, physical existence exchanged instantly for an immortal, incorruptible, spiritual existence. This will be true whether that physical existence be a living body or dead dust hundreds or thousands of years old.

How We Qualify for God's Spirit

First of all, the Holy Spirit is a *gift* from our Father and Creator. Acts 2:38 makes this quite clear. But God will not

give us something we don't want. Certainly not His Holy Spirit — the most precious commodity in the universe.

We must *fervently* want it. And we must demonstrate this by *asking* for it.

Speaking to His disciples, Jesus said, "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ASK him?" (Luke 11:13.) It's a breathtaking promise. Do you want God's Holy Spirit? Then *ask* your heavenly Father. (Of course, we should realize that even our desire to ask for God's Spirit must originate from God Himself: "For it is God which worketh in you both *to will* [to desire] and to do of his good pleasure" [Phil. 2:13].)

Now it is rather simple to realize that God's Spirit is a *gift* and that we must *ask* for it. And so if these were the *only* conditions, the unlimited POWER of God's Spirit would be proliferated to anybody and everybody — and thereby disastrously misused.

Therefore, to build harmony, order and control into His overall system, God added another condition — *obedience*. God will give His Holy Spirit — with all the powers, abilities and capacities involved — only to those who have demonstrated by both attitude and actions that they want to *and will* obey God and His Laws forever. God *first* demands this wholehearted, wholly sincere *desire* to obey His Laws; *then*, and *only then*, will He give us the *power* to actually obey these Laws.

Peter told his persecutors: "We are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Spirit, whom God hath given to them that OBEY him" (Acts 5:32). Now some would misinterpret this statement and claim that Peter taught "salvation by works" — that he was a "legalist." This is a most hasty conclusion. Throughout the Bible, God plainly shows that we can never "earn" "the right" to have the Holy Spirit. It is unquestionably a free gift from God, a gift which we *do not* and *cannot* ever deserve. But this has *nothing* to do with whether or not we must first want to obey God's Laws. It is a mystery how anybody could even suggest that God would *not* require us to have an atti-

tude of perfect obedience to His Law *before* He would give us His Holy Spirit. How could God allow even the possibility for some "misguided souls" to abuse such massive power?

How We Receive God's Spirit

Just follow the simple, straightforward directions of Acts 2:38: one, "repent" — and that naturally includes "obey" — and two, "*be baptized.*"

When you have repented and have been baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, then you *shall* receive the gift of the Holy Spirit when God's ministers lay their hands on you after the actual baptism (Acts 8:17). And there are no "*perhaps's*" or "*probably's.*" You *SHALL* receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is an absolute promise of God. It is sure.

What You Should Do

There is a concrete act that you must do. You cannot baptize yourself. You *must* have a true representative of Jesus Christ baptize you.

How can you arrange this? As many of our readers already know, God has His ministers within easy reach of all areas of the United States, British Commonwealth and Western Europe. Of course, none will call on you unless you personally request it. But, if you want to meet and counsel with one of these men, write in the United States to:

TOMORROW'S WORLD

P. O. Box 111

Pasadena, California 91109

Canada: P. O. Box 44, Sta. A, Vancouver 1, B. C.

United Kingdom and Europe: P. O. Box 111, St. Albans, Herts., England.

South Africa: P. O. Box 1060, Johannesburg, Transvaal, R. S. A.

Australia and Southeast Asia: P. O. Box 345, North Sydney, NSW 2060, Australia.

New Zealand: P. O. Box 2709, Auckland 1, New Zealand.

This is all *you* have to do. Then it becomes *our responsibility* to arrange the most convenient time and place.

In this regard, there is a question that many readers have considered well

worth asking. Many of you have been baptized in the past, or have had a "religious experience," or have made a previous decision or commitment to what you then believed to be the truth of God. Now, through articles in TOMORROW'S WORLD, you have come to learn a great deal more about many things — such as, for example, the Holy Spirit. So the puzzling question arises: "What should I do? *Should I be RE-baptized?*"

The answer is found in the Book of Acts. The story is short: from 18:24 to 19:6. It concerns *Apollos* — an eloquent man, mighty in the Scriptures, who was fervently and diligently teaching what he knew from the ministry of John the Baptist.

Now when Apollos baptized people, they did *not* receive the Holy Spirit. Upon meeting some of these, the Apostle Paul immediately asked them: "Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed?" These people told Paul not only that they hadn't received it, but that they didn't even know *what the Holy Spirit was!* And there are a surprising number in today's world who share that experience!

But then, *hearing* the additional truth regarding Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, salvation, etc., they were immediately *re-baptized* "in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them." So it was only after *re-baptism* that these people *did* receive the Holy Spirit which they, though sincere, had never actually qualified to receive before.

If this be your situation, then you should follow this outstanding example and likewise be baptized into "the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Indeed, you *must* be so baptized. No matter what your previous religious history has been, don't worry about it. Start afresh. Become a "new man."

This is what TOMORROW'S WORLD is all about. Begin to put the power of God's Holy Spirit to work in your life. And begin to look forward to the day when this same Holy Spirit will transform you into a Spirit Being — an eternal member of the God Family! □

News of the Work



The Ambassador College Radio Studio Part 2 ...An Inside Look

"I would like to know," a radio station manager once asked, "how Garner Ted Armstrong does this program. *Where* does he get all the facts he is always giving us? And his amazing insight? *How* does he do the program? I don't see how he could keep pouring out so much information, unless it is all written on script — yet it certainly doesn't sound like he is reading a script! Surely he could not find the time to research and write so much — and keep it up *daily*. And surely *no one* could carry so much information in his head, and ad-lib it."

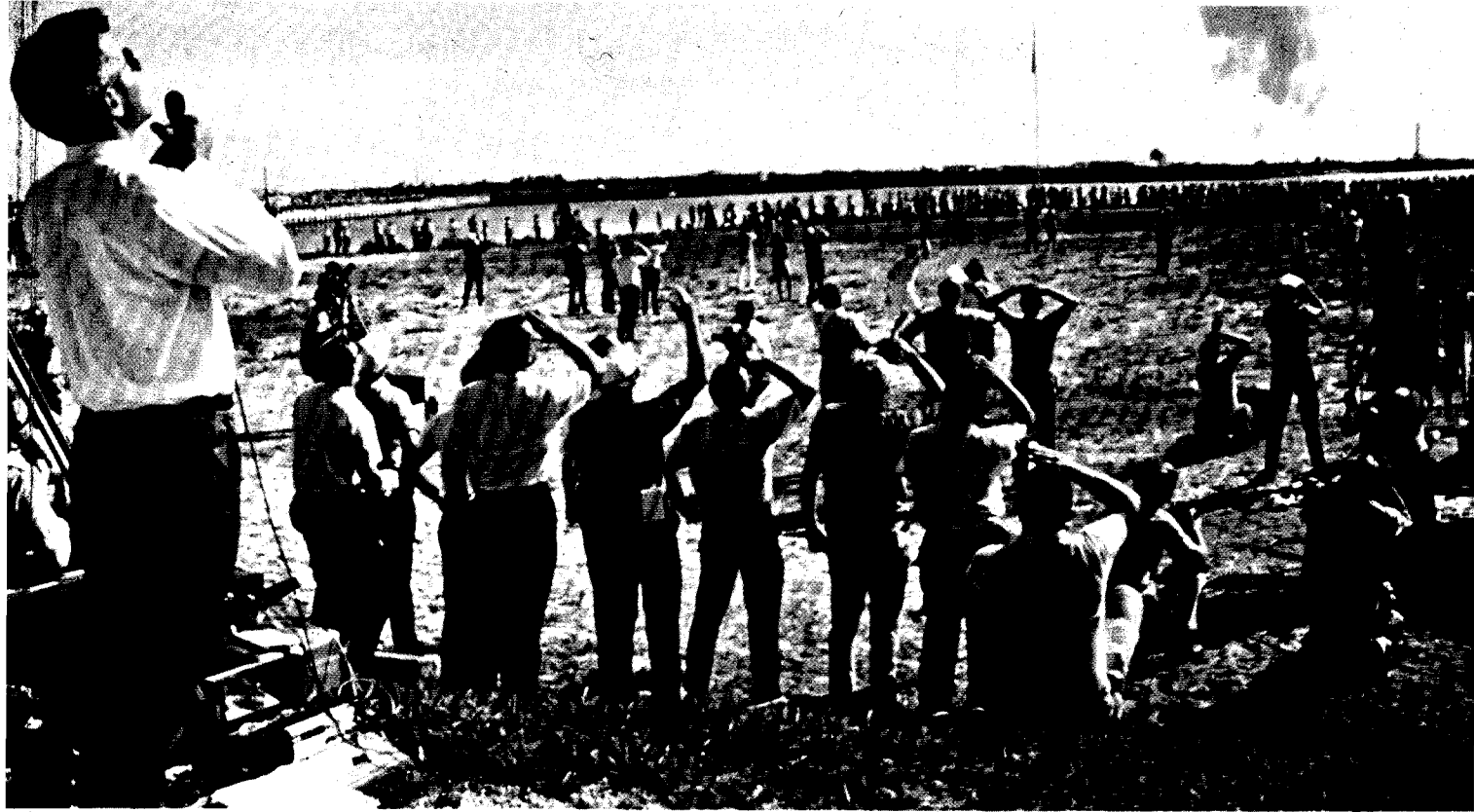
How? To begin to answer the ques-

tion, Garner Ted Armstrong is quite experienced — having been on the air for many years. Day by day, year in and year out, in not only broadcasting but also in many lectures and personal appearances, he finds himself on the spot before a microphone. It has been the most intensive sort of practical training.

In the second place, but perhaps of even more importance, Mr. Armstrong keeps himself well-informed. He is educated exceptionally well in political science and international relations (world affairs and their significance), sociology (social conditions, family life, etc.), and psychology (human nature, child

rearing, etc.). Moreover, he has made a profound, lifelong study of the Bible, and of Biblical prophecy — studying under and with his father, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong — which explains why he can incisively analyze today's events in terms of their *real* meaning and where we *really* are heading. And Mr. Ted Armstrong often goes even beyond that — to the essential meaning and purpose of *life itself!*

Where current news and events are concerned, Garner Ted is a prolific reader. He reads rapidly — and voluminously — sifting out the important from the trivial. His mind is constantly filled with the things he talks about, so that



they simply flow out of his mouth — and fluently into the mike.

The News Bureau

As for his enormous supply of up-to-date factual information, Mr. Armstrong is assisted by a very well-organized News Bureau, staffed with a crew of experienced analysts. The very latest happenings from the international scene are gathered continually from the news centers of the world. Scrutinized, analyzed, and collated, this material is passed on fresh to Mr. Armstrong. It is this extra effort which provides the up-to-the-minute news picture necessary to keep broadcasts timely and meaningful in the light of the very latest world events. AP, UPI, and Reuters teletypes bring reports in a steady stream, 24 hours a day. Important newspapers are scanned and clipped daily — the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Chicago Tribune*, *London Times*, and others. The nine-member News Bureau staff also receives and reads about 150 weekly and monthly magazines.

Besides the Pasadena News Bureau, staffs are maintained at each of our regional overseas offices in London, Bonn, Geneva, Johannesburg, Manila, Sydney, and Mexico City for on-the-spot

news reports from those areas of the world.

Often the really important news might be printed in a small story on page 23, while a local story gets the big headline on page one. Our combined staff is trained to cull out the really important news — the news *behind* the news — the news that means something in relationship to the march of Biblical prophecy. It's news you probably never read in *your* newspapers.

This vital material is all carefully organized and classified — and the highspot news of whatever subject Garner Ted Armstrong is planning to speak on is brought to him daily, about an hour before broadcast time.

Besides the generalized news picture provided through the News Bureau, Editorial Research teams do in-depth studies into specific aspects of pollution, crime, urban renewal, the population explosion, economics, political situations, and many other pertinent subjects. These researchers interview experts, study technical reports and literature, do on-the-scene surveys — literally becoming experts themselves in these specific fields.

Putting It All Together

When you add all this to what Mr. Armstrong already has in his mind, plus

the inspiration of God's Spirit, then perhaps you will realize how the facts come flowing so fluently out of the loudspeaker of *your* radio.

The program is generally taped at one of the three Ambassador campuses. But *The WORLD TOMORROW* has been recorded in various places around the world — on-the-spot from strategic geographical locations, world capitals, and other places of primary world attention: from important locations in the Holy Land — where Christ taught, where He was crucified, and the very spot from which He arose; from Cape Kennedy for the Apollo lift-offs; from Germany for some of the major political conventions. The list is long, and growing!

Once Mr. Armstrong has finished speaking, there is yet more work to be done. *Much* more, before the voice of Garner Ted Armstrong will be heard by the *fifty million* regular listeners who tune in weekly around the world.

Next month, we will complete this "inside look" at the Ambassador College Radio Studio.

(Turn the pages for a picture look...)

...THE CABINET WAS MET TO DECIDE THE FATE OF SIR GARNER
...NATIONALIST ASSEMBLY TO DENY YESTERDAY BY A MILITARY COURT,
...THE CASE OPENED RIGHT COMES FROM WASHINGTON WHERE PRESIDENT
...NIXON TODAY CALLED CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS OF BOTH PARTIES TO A
...WHITE HOUSE MEETING IN A BID TO GAIN APPROVAL FOR KEY
...LEGISLATION IN THE FEW REMAINING DAYS OF THIS SESSION OF
...CONGRESS.

OWN FULL SCHEDULE

WASHINGTON—PRESIDENT NIXON TODAY CALLED CONGRESSIONAL
...LEADERS TO A WHITE HOUSE MEETING AT 10:30 P.M. EST IN A BID TO
...GAIN APPROVAL FOR KEY LEGISLATION BEFORE CONGRESS RECLOSES
...FOR THE HOLIDAY INCLUDING ANTI-COMMERCIAL FINANCIAL CONTROL BILL

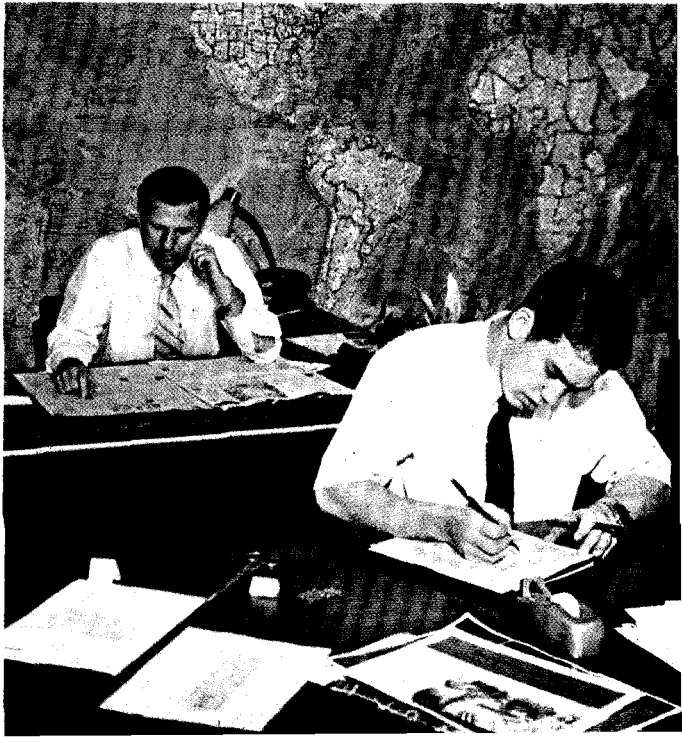
The News Bureau

The Story Behind the Broadcast...

The News Bureau leases the three major international wire services in the English-speaking world: Associated Press, Reuters, and United Press International.



Across the three teletype machines come 175,000 words daily — enough to fill four encyclopedia volumes each month.



The Staff reads and clips nine leading daily newspapers, along with nine weeklies. The readers in the News Bureau also keep up with approximately 150 magazines and journals — some weekly, some monthly. Many of these cover political, business, scientific, and environmental news of a more sophisticated, detailed nature.



A daily synopsis of researched material from the News Bureau aids Mr. Armstrong in the preparation of the broadcast. As he organizes his thoughts, the studio is also preparing for the 12:00 noon "Broadcast Time." Recorders are loaded with tapes, timing clocks are set, and a complex of electronic devices warm up. About five minutes before "Recording Time" final adjustments are completed and Mr. Ted Armstrong comes in from his office next door — notes in hand.

In the control room Mr. Norman Smith, Director of the Radio Studio, flips a switch on the master recording console. Warning lights flash on, two professional Ampex recorders spin into action, and the voice of Art Gilmore announces, "The World Tomorrow."



Ambassador College Photos



...“And Greetings
Friends Around
the World...”



The Radio Broa

Ambassador College Photos

**An on-the-spot broadcast
in progress on
the site of ancient Tyre.
The blue Mediterranean
surges around stones where
once stood
the commercial metropolis
of the ancient world.
To conquer the island city of Tyre,
the armies of Alexander built
a causeway, fulfilling
the prophecy of
Ezekiel 26:4, 5, 14.
God challenges
the skeptic to rebuild Tyre!**





dcast-

**"And greetings friends
around the world..."**
As these candid pictures
illustrate, Mr. Ted Arm-

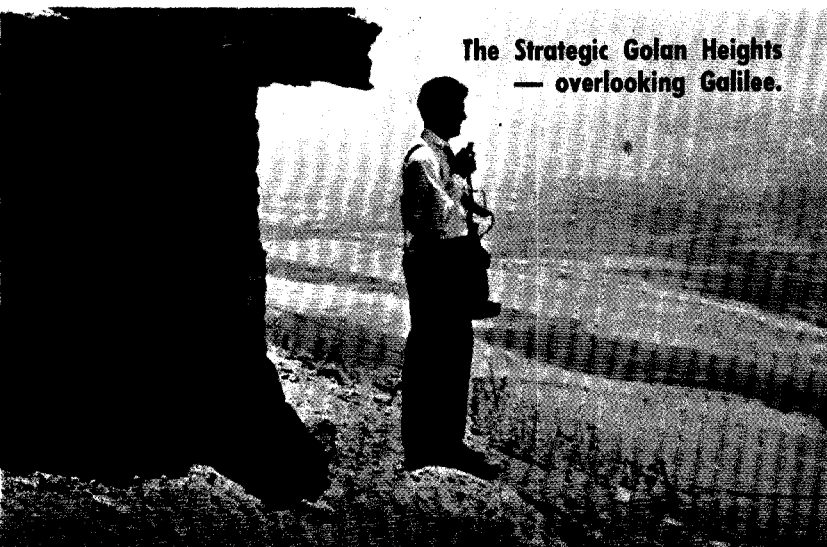
**strong is as animated
and personally involved
with his subject behind
a microphone where vir-**

**tually no one sees him,
as he is before live au-
diences of thousands, or
before the TV cameras.**



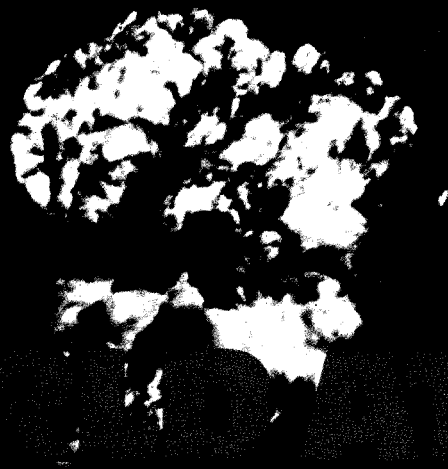
**An interview with
Herr Franz
Josef Strauss
in his Bonn office.
Herr Strauss
is regarded
by many observers
as the coming
strong man
of Europe.**

**Broadcasting from Gibraltar,
looking down 1390 feet
into the Mediterranean.
Slackening control by Britain
of this important
sea gate is
only one part of a
step-by-step series
of events
in Bible prophecy
leading to the collective
national calamities
of America and Britain
unless we as a people heed
God's last-minute warning.**



**The Strategic Golan Heights
— overlooking Galilee.**





It was Jesus Christ who prophesied of the end of this age. It was the Messiah who said the advance notices of His imminent return would be telegraphed ahead by WARS, FAMINES, PESTILENCES and EARTHQUAKES — which would grow in magnitude and eventually reach out to affect the lives of EVERYONE! (Matt. 24:6.) The DAILY NEWS reports that at least 30 wars, conflicts, and insurgencies are in progress today. Ten are in Asia, ten are in Africa, five are in the Middle East and five in Latin America.

by David Jon Hill and
J. Orlin Grabbe

YOU'RE LIVING in the prophesied "time of the end," and that's not religious speculation. No one *willing to face* the solid facts of the DAILY NEWS can deny it — regardless of his spiritual bent or church affiliation. Great signs reach out to tell him (if he understands) that humanity is rushing rapidly toward unbelievable calamity — even human extinction.

And no one can overlook, ignore, or set them aside, regardless of *who* he is, *where* he lives, what he *reads*, or what his private *beliefs* are. Pick up a copy of a current nationwide best-seller, *Future Shock*, turn to page 17 and read this:

"This lifetime is also *different from all others* because of the astonishing expansion of the scale and scope of change. Clearly, there have been other lifetimes in which epochal upheavals occurred. *Wars, plagues, earthquakes, and famine* rocked many an earlier social order. But these shocks and upheavals were contained within the

borders of one or a group of adjacent societies. It took generations, even centuries, for their impact to spread beyond these borders.

"In our lifetime the boundaries have burst. Today the network of social ties is so tightly woven that the *consequences* of contemporary events *radiate instantaneously around the world.*"

We didn't write that. But it sounds like Matthew 24 in expanded and modern language. We are living in a world where no one can, or will, escape the cumulative impact of the world's wars, famines, pestilences, and earthquakes. And you find their effects everywhere you look!

These things are the real PROOF this is the "end-time" — proof that isn't limited to the musty tomes of forgotten library stacks. It's not mystical testimony contained in the secret lore of Tibetan lamas, or exegetical ramblings confined to classrooms in comparative religion. It's not speculative evidence circulated in "insider's letters" for select groups of prominent statesmen, or hidden in the book of Jasher. Rather, it's

right out in the open — all around you.

And there's certainly no doctrinal argument or theological debate involved one way or another.

Let's look at headlines concerning just a couple of these signs. Let's take stock of just two areas — war and pestilence.

WAR!

That's the red horse of Revelation 6:4 to whom "power was given . . . to *take peace from the earth*, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword."

"War? In these days of post-1945 peace?" you might ask. But there's been no peace since 1945. The world *lives* by war. "At a conservative estimate," says Geoffrey Kemp, of the arms control project at the Massachu-

CONFLICTS IN PROGRESS TODAY!

- ANGOLA** — Portuguese vs. African insurgents.
- BURMA** — Chinese and indigenous insurgents vs. Burma.
- CAMBODIA** — Kmer Serai and North Vietnamese vs. Cambodia.
- CHAD** — Civil war between local factions combined with anti-French insurgency.
- COLOMBIA** — Castroite guerrillas vs. Colombia.
- CYPRUS** — Greek vs. Turkish Cypriots.
- ETHIOPIA** — Eritrean Liberation Front insurgents vs. Ethiopia.
- GUATEMALA** — Communist insurgents vs. Guatemala.
- HONDURAS-EL SALVADOR** — Border hostilities following "Soccer War."
- IRAQ-IRANIAN BORDER** — Iraq vs. Iran (Kurdish guerrilla operations).
- KENYA** — Somalian "Shifta" bandits vs. Kenya.
- KOREA** — North Korean incursions vs. South Korea.
- LAOS** — Laotian factions and U.S. vs. North Vietnamese and Chinese insurgents.
- LEBANON** — Lebanese government vs. Syrian Saeqa guerrillas.
- MALAYSIA** — Chinese insurgents vs. Malaysia.
- MIDDLE EAST WAR** — Israel vs. Egypt, Libya, Sudan, Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, South Yemen, and other Arab states.
- MONGOLIA-MANCHURIA** — China vs. USSR (border conflicts).
- MOZAMBIQUE** — Portuguese vs. African insurgents.
- MOZAMBIQUE-ANGOLA** — Zambian guerrillas vs. Portuguese.
- PHILIPPINES** — Huk insurgency in Luzon.
- PORTUGUESE GUINEA** — Portuguese vs. African insurgents.
- RHODESIA** — Zambian guerrillas vs. Rhodesia-S. Africa.
- SOUTH ARABIA** — Dhofar Liberation Front vs. Oman.
- SUDANESE CIVIL WAR** — Southern vs. northern Sudanese.
- TIBET-NEPAL-N.E. FRONTIER OF INDIA** — Chinese and indigenous insurgents vs. Nepal and India.
- THAILAND** — Thai government vs. Meo, Chinese-Malaysian and North Vietnamese insurgents.
- URUGUAY** — Urban insurgents vs. Uruguay.
- VENEZUELA** — Castroite guerrillas vs. Venezuela.
- VIETNAM** — South vs. North Vietnamese and Viet Cong; U.S. and allies vs. North Vietnam.

setts Institute of Technology, 'about ONE-QUARTER of the sovereign states on planet Earth were engaged in interstate or intra-state conflict involving the use of regular armed forces as the 1970s began.

"Add to this impressive figure those states that have used military power either to enforce or to protect their interests over the past decade, and those that are preparing for highly probable conflict in the near future, and the total number of countries rises to over 70, or more than half the sovereign states in the world."

"Kemp guesses that as many as 700,000 people have been killed in the internal wars of China in the past decade... and 250,000 in the Nigerian-Biafran civil war" (James Reston, *The London Times*, June 1, 1970).

The official U.S. figures on the Vietnam war record an even more grisly toll — over 44,000 Americans killed, 117,000 South Vietnamese, and over 680,000 enemy troops. There are no figures on the civilian dead.

Another bloody picture is in the Sudan, where the struggle of Negroes against Arabs has produced half a million casualties and dispossessed many more.

James Reston comments, "Most nations do not even count their dead. The United Nations cannot make even the wildest guess at the carnage, and few intelligent people are informed about the number of wars and other uprisings now taking place" (*ibid.*).

Peace since 1945? "100 Wars and Other Conflicts Since World War II," reads an article title in the *UNESCO Courier* of November, 1970. The article lists more than 100 incidents ranging in scale from outright international wars and major civil wars to ones with differing degrees of conflict.

Then there's the bomb — ever ominously looming in the background, unconsciously or consciously affecting our very life-style. The bomb is real — it's not just a tenet of religious reasoning.

Jesus said there would be war. He said that "if that time of troubles were not cut short, no living thing could survive..." (Matt. 24:22, *New English*



So many conflicts are exploding around the world in today's fast-moving scene, this map may be inadequate and inaccurate by the time you receive it!

Bible). The DAILY NEWS says that "throughout the world men dread the spectre of an annihilating nuclear war — yet the arms race goes on and the prospect of controlling it grows dimmer with each year. Historically, *arms races inevitably end in war...*

"If we continue to rely on the traditional forms of international security arrangements which have always failed us in the past, *the odds are in favor of a major war within the next two decades...*" (Dr. Jerome Wiesner of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and science adviser to three Presidents, in *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, January 22, 1967).

Another observer states that "the United States has more than 15 times as many thermonuclear warheads as it needs to devastate the U.S.S.R. . . .

"The Soviet Union has more than 8.5 times as many thermonuclear weapons as it needs to devastate the United States. [And other estimates run as high as a 50-power cumulative overkill!]

"So both sides are overkillingly armed to the teeth. Yet, both sides probably will expand their respective thermonuclear arsenals. For the *arms race now feeds on itself*" (Irving S. Benglesdorf, *Los Angeles Times*, Jan. 13, 1970).

An AP release of January 19, 1970, matter-of-factly mentions that "for the *first time in history*, human beings hold the power to destroy mankind. . . . There are *no precedents* in political science or in history to guide men who command modern power."

Jesus foretold it nearly 2000 years ago. Now war dominates *your daily news*. And you're living in that "time of the end." It is impossible to hide the fact or keep it out of the news headlines.

couldn't occur in modern Britain or America, could they?

Jesus Christ said the time of the end would be rife with pestilence. Of course some people think "pestilence" is restricted to wildly raging bubonic plague or similar diseases. But other parts of the Bible tell what forms "pestilence" would take — what types of disease the pale horse of Revelation 6:8 actually represented and what specifically Jesus meant. Notice Deuteronomy 28 where God said our national sins would "cause *pestilence* to haunt you . . . afflict you with *wasting disease* and recurrent *fever*, *ague* and *eruptions* . . . [strike you] with *tumours*, *scabs*, and *itches* . . . strike you with *madness*, *blindness*" (verses 21-28, *New English Bible*).

So just for the moment let's skip the massive cholera threat in Asia, the Middle East and Africa (cholera appearing south of the Sahara for the *first time in history*). Let's skip leprosy in Africa, rabies in Europe, dysentery in Latin America, and globe-girdling diseases like malaria, trachoma, and schistosomiasis which affect almost one quarter of the population of the earth.

Instead, let's look at the English-speaking people, theoretically so cozily divorced from the spread of disease such as among more primitive societies.

Here are "highlights" from the daily news of 1970.

"Venereal Disease in U. S. Called Pandemic," read a recent headline. Venereal disease presently affects 14 MILLION Americans and has reached "pandemic" proportions in the United States, according to the American Social Health Association. (Pandemic means everywhere epidemic.) Reported new cases of gonorrhoea last year came to two million. Dr. James McKensie-Pollack, ASHA medical director, estimated the new cases of syphilis at 250,000. An even greater number of cases are believed diagnosed but not reported (UPI release, *Los Angeles Times*, November 16, 1970).

Hospital-associated infections affect about 1.5 million Americans each year, said Dr. Alexander D. Langmuir, the Public Health Service's retiring chief epidemiologist in August (*The New York Times*, August 9, 1970).

The Federal Center for Disease Control reported that pneumonia-influenza deaths have climbed slightly above the epidemic level in New England and the Midwest (UPI release, *Los Angeles Times*, December 13, 1970).

"Astonishment of heart," your Bible foretold. The daily news states that more than *one million* Americans died of cardiovascular disease in 1967 (the most recent year for which data is available) (*Family Health*, March, 1970).

"Wasting disease?" Degenerative afflictions? A clinical professor of medicine at Loma Linda University School of Medicine said the United States is facing an "epidemic of cancer." One patient dies of cancer in the United States every minute — about 1400 a day and about half a million a year (*Los Angeles Times*, February 20, 1970).

Multiple sclerosis affects some 500,000 Americans (*Catholic Digest*, February, 1970).

Arthritis afflicts more than 40 million Americans. Almost everyone over 50 gets it. It robs U. S. industry of more than 12 million man-days of work a year, costs over \$4 billion in medical bills and lost wages, and cripples nearly one million people in the U. S. to a point where they cannot work (*Business Week*, April 25, 1970).

Perhaps you noticed the two-part series in *Today's Health* (Oct.-Nov., 1970) by renowned author Philip Wylie, entitled "Who Killed Mankind?" The story is based on material from an "imaginary history" of the next 50 years which Mr. Wylie has "in the works." The author sees mankind decimated by a series of pollution-catalyzed disease epidemics between now and the year 2000 — *with only one tenth of a peak population left to face the new millennium* — Philip Wylie said that!

And on go the reports, endlessly chronicling the tempo of today, eliciting the inescapable facts that show *now* is the "end time." It isn't just an idea that can be left to clerical speculation. Jesus said such a time would come to pass. And *your daily news* proves you're living in that very time — the "time of the end"! □

Pestilence

Isn't that a problem of bygone ages? Don't disease epidemics only occur way off somewhere in Asia? Surely they

The STORY of MAN

for children five to one hundred five

by Basil Wolverton

THE SUNDIAL OF AHAZ

CHAPTER ONE HUNDRED FORTY-TWO

IN SPITE OF the Prophet Isaiah's declaration that no harm would be done to Jerusalem by the Assyrians, there was tension and fear among some of the citizens. (II Chronicles 32:9-10, 18-20; II Kings 19:32-34.)

It was a dark night, and thousands upon thousands of enemy soldiers were out there where they couldn't be watched. The people of the city could only guess at what the Assyrians were doing or preparing to do. Jewish records say this night was the evening of the Passover Festival, the 14th day of the first spring month of the year.

A Fantastic Promise!

"Not one arrow shall be shot against Jerusalem from an Assyrian bow."

That bit of prophecy from Isaiah's encouraging message kept running through Hezekiah's mind. Before dawn he arose and went up to one of the wall towers to see what the enemy would be doing when daylight came.

With the first gray light there was an odd but relieving discovery. There were no Assyrian soldiers in sight around the city. All that could be seen, when the sun rose, were many rows of pitched tents and some horses and chariots in the distant campsite.

"Perhaps it's a trick to try to draw some of our troops outside the wall," an officer observed. "All of them couldn't be sleeping this late."

The apparent absence of men in the vast Assyrian camp was a real puzzle. One guess was that the enemy troops were hiding in their tents.

Suddenly another army came into view in the

southwest. Their banners soon proved them to be Assyrian. They marched into the quiet camp and a few of their number were seen to go scurrying about. Then they quickly reassembled and speedily departed northward. But still no one came out of the tents. Was this all some sort of trick?

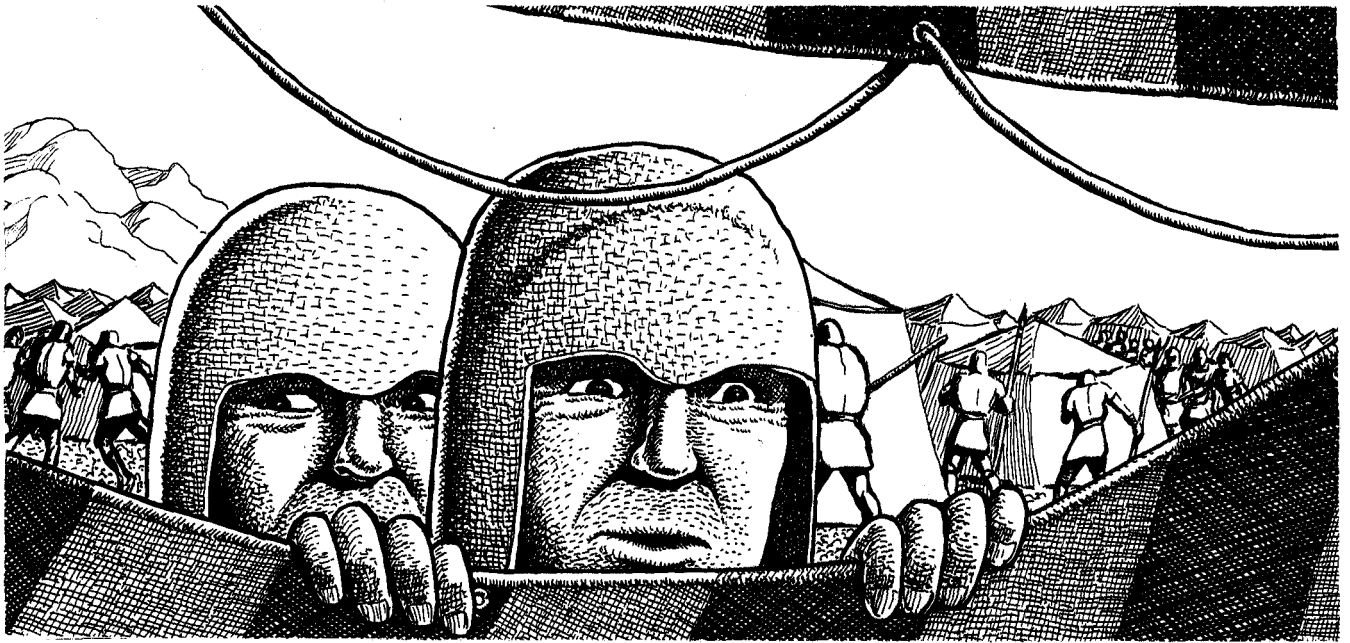
"We have to learn what's going on, and the only way is to go out there and find out," Hezekiah told his officers. "But I don't want anyone ordered to go to the enemy camp to investigate. The fairest way would be to call for a few volunteers."

So many bold soldiers were curious about the Assyrians that there were far more volunteers than the number needed for the scout patrol outside Jerusalem's walls. Hezekiah and his officers, as well as many others on the wall top, watched the eager volunteers intently as they warily advanced toward the mass of tents.

The intrepid little band of investigators reached the enemy camp safely and cautiously approached the nearest tent. On peering inside, they saw only a pile of army blankets. A closer look, however, revealed dead Assyrian soldiers sprawled under the blankets!

The next few minutes were almost beyond the belief of the soldiers of Judah. They rushed from tent to tent to find corpses in every shelter. Tens of thousands of Assyrian soldiers had apparently died in their sleep of some mysterious cause! The whole besieging army was dead. This explained why Sennacherib and his other army had so suddenly departed northward.

When news of the death of the enemy was taken to Jerusalem, Hezekiah and the people were as dumbfounded as they were relieved. God had passed over



The soldiers of Judah were surprised to find dead Assyrian troops in the abandoned tents.

His people and punished the Assyrians just as He had done in Egypt under Moses on the first Passover.

A part of the army was sent out to seize anything of value left behind by the Assyrians. Later that day thousands of soldiers of Judah buried and counted the corpses, whose number came to one hundred and eighty-five thousand. (II Kings 19:35.)

A Pagan's Dilemma

There was celebrating in Judah that next night, especially in Jerusalem. There was more than just music, dancing and feasting. The temple porch was packed with people who came that night, the 15th of the month, for the celebration of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, commemorating deliverance out of Egypt. Now they added praises to God and gave thanks for the great and mysterious miracle that had kept the Assyrians from Jerusalem. Probably there wasn't anyone more thankful than the king, who felt as though his nation had suddenly been freed from a deadly noose.

While the people returned to their farms and regular occupations and started repairing cities and towns damaged by the invaders, King Sennacherib and his other army moved on to Assyria without delay. Many months before, the arrogant Assyrian ruler had swept ruthlessly westward from his nation to the Great Sea and then southward to Egypt,

cutting a wide path of conquests by virtue of the vast size of his army. To return to Nineveh with only a fraction of his fighting force was one of the most humiliating things that could happen to this profane and boastful man. But he couldn't stay away to avoid his disgraceful situation and yet continue to share the kingship. There were others who were anxious and ready to replace him. He was on the verge of regretting the statements he had made about the Creator. The strange annihilation of one of his two armies was something he couldn't help but connect with the God of Israel.

Nevertheless, after he returned to his capital he continued for years to worship in the shrine of the pagan god Nisroch, whom he regularly asked for help in holding the conquests he had made. As the years passed this didn't look very hopeful unless he could continually muster and train new armies, even though he had left many men in these cities and nations to try to keep them subject. (II Kings 19:36.)

If Sennacherib expected swift and powerful results because of his prayers and sacrifices to Nisroch, there was, of course, only disappointment. Nearly 29 years passed.

"Why is it that my god never performs any miracles for me?" he one day asked his advisors. "There are many reports that the God of Judah has done and still does great things for His people. Is there some secret way of really gaining the help of a god? If there is, I want to know!"



King Sennacherib of Assyria was secretly murdered as he worshipped the pagan god he planned to please by sacrificing two of his sons.

The scowling king accented his demand with a loud blow of his fist on the arm of his chair. There was a strained silence until one of the advisors hesitantly spoke up.

The Tables Are Turned

"You have spoken of something difficult to discuss, sire," the man began. "Have you not heard how the Syrians, Moabites and certain other peoples make their most effective appeals to their gods?"

"I'll ask the questions," Sennacherib shouted impatiently. "Just tell me what you're talking about."

"I'm referring to the sacrificing of human beings," the advisor replied uneasily, "especially a firstborn son."

"Of course I've heard of that," the king snapped. "Do the people of Judah follow that custom?" "I know of no recent instance," was the answer. "But there is a legend that hundreds of years ago a *Hebrew* patriarch by the name of Abraham was commanded by his God to kill his firstborn son and burn him on an altar. The legend goes that Abraham started to carry out his God's will, but at the last moment was prevented from causing his son's death. However, because he had proved his willingness to obey his God, that God was so pleased that He not only rewarded Abraham, but also promised protection and prosperity to Abraham's descendants." (Genesis 22.)

The scriptural record of what happened to Sennacherib at that time gives only the salient facts. Other records, though less dependable, tell about the Assyrian king's plan to gain help from his god Nisroch by going to greater extremes than those of the Syrians and Moabites. He was particularly impressed by the story of Abraham, even though Abraham

hadn't been required to carry out God's original instructions. Sennacherib reasoned that if a god could be pleased by the sacrifice of a son, that god would be doubly pleased by the sacrifice of two sons.

The two sons he had in mind were Adrammelech and Sharezer, both of whom he knew were strongly ambitious to succeed him as ruler of Assyria. He believed that if he could win Nisroch's favor, he would be given the power and success he needed to reestablish himself as what he had long claimed to be — the greatest king in the world.

To carry out his diabolical plan, Sennacherib needed the help of trusted servants, at least one of whom turned out to be trustworthy to his sons instead of to him. When the sons heard what the king intended to do, they reversed matters by hiding in the pagan temple and slaying their father while he was bowed before the image of Nisroch. (II Kings 19:37; II Chron. 32:21.)

With the king disposed of, it could have been a matter of which son would dispose of the other to gain the throne. But neither was to become a ruler. Even though their crime had been committed in secret, they were so strongly suspected that they realized it would mean death to remain in Nineveh or even anywhere in Assyria. They managed to slip out of the city and escape to Armenia, a nation to the north in whose land were the mountains on which Noah's ark came to rest after the flooding of the earth. (Gen. 8:4.)

The throne of Assyria was immediately taken over by a third son of Sennacherib, Esarhaddon, who inherited his father's ability for arrogant boasting. Eventually he referred to himself as powerful, heroic, gigantic, colossal and the king of kings of Egypt, where his army won a major battle.

When news of Sennacherib's death reached the surrounding nations, the people of Judah and many in other countries felt that the God of Israel had caused the Assyrian king to die disgracefully before a pagan idol because of his insulting the true God, his attacks on Judah and his deceitfulness and threats. This resulted in increasing respect for Judah's God.

Hezekiah's Illness

Meanwhile, we return to another side of the story 29 years before. Just when Hezekiah was at the peak of his power and usefulness and when Judah was reeling from Sennacherib's invasion, the king's

health began to wane. The wearing pressures of months and years were taking their toll. Hezekiah's illness became so serious that he was soon confined to bed. Fearing that his life could be near its end, the king sent to the Prophet Isaiah for help.

"There is nothing I can do for you," the prophet told the king, "except advise you to wind up all personal and state affairs that need your attention, especially those having to do with choosing your successor. God has purposed to take your life very soon."

Even though he had realized that he was facing death, Hezekiah was shocked and dismayed to learn that God was going to let him die, obviously without answering a prayer from the prophet. On further thought, he realized that even the prayers of a man very close to God, such as Isaiah, couldn't always be expected to alter the purposes of the Creator of the universe.

Perhaps God had told Isaiah that his exhortation would be useless in this matter of when the king was to die. The situation didn't lessen Hezekiah's esteem for the value of prayer. He knew this was the time to do his own intense petitioning, regardless of the presence of his attendants and Isaiah. Twisting around so that he could hide his face toward the head of his bed, which was against a wall, he silently but fervently called on God.

"I beseech you not to take my life now," Hezekiah prayed. "Except for the times I have made foolish blunders, you know I have kept your laws. You promised long lives to the kings of Judah who would be obedient. If I have been useful until now, would I not continue to be useful over more years? Let me continue to be of service to you and your people. Extend my life long enough for me to bring a son into the world to take my place. Don't let the grave swallow me. From there how can I praise you or lead your people? At least don't take me until I can be sure that the Assyrians won't return to trouble our nation!" (II Kings 20:1-3.)

Hearing muffled sobs coming from the king's bed, Isaiah sadly turned and quietly left the room, whispering for the attendants to do the same for a while. As he passed through one of the palace court gardens on his way out, a clear voice came to him.

A Promise and a Miracle

"Go back to the king, Isaiah. Tell him that I have heard the prayer that he has just uttered, and

that I am aware of the causes of his tears. Tell him that I shall heal him. Three days from now he will be able to walk to the temple to give thanks. (II Kings 20:5.) I shall add fifteen more years to his life. Hezekiah soon shall have the son he desires and time to carry out plans for the nation's continued prosperity. During the rest of his life I shall continue to protect Jerusalem for my own sake and that of my servant David. These blessings shall come to Hezekiah because of his obedience."

When Hezekiah heard Isaiah's surprising news, he was overjoyed. At the same time it was difficult for him to fully believe that God had so suddenly dropped His intention to take his life.

"You have given me great hope," he told the prophet, "but how can I be certain that I shall be healed in three days and be able to go to the temple? Is there any kind of unusual sign by which you can prove these things?"

Isaiah pondered a few moments, then pointed through a window to an object in the adjoining court.

"There is the massive sundial of your father, Ahaz," the prophet observed. "The shadow cast by its gnomon on its steps clearly indicates the time of day. If God will promptly move that shadow backward or forward by ten steps, will you believe you will be healed? It's up to you to decide which way the shadow should be moved."

"It wouldn't be a great thing for the shadow to go forward supernaturally as it did when my father died," Hezekiah replied. "I'll believe I'll be healed if the shadow moves *backward* ten steps, which would be an even greater miracle."

In spite of the pain caused by inflammation in his body, especially when he moved, the king asked his attendants to prop him up so that he could distinctly see the shadow cast by the sundial pole across one of the steps that indicated the hours. After Hezekiah was fairly comfortable, Isaiah gestured for silence. (II Kings 20:8-11; II Chron. 32:24.)

"I implore you, God of Israel," the prophet spoke out, "to set back the sundial shadow ten steps, so that the king of Judah shall witness your intent to heal him!"

Hezekiah, Isaiah and the attendants watched the heavens in intense fascination as the sundial shadow began to move *backward!*

(To be continued next month)

Personal

(Continued from page 2)

allows you to keep for yourself will increase to *more* than the 100% formerly was. God PROMISES to bless and prosper the tither! God KEEPS His promises!

There's A Reason

God did not establish a binding LAW of tithing without a good REASON! Actually, there are many reasons. All of God's LAWS are for our GOOD.

Listen to God's Word to us: "Observe and hear all these words which I command thee, *that it may go well with thee*, and with thy children after thee for ever" (Deut. 12:28).

It is not *good* for a person to *get something for nothing*, or for very little effort. This evil human urge to GET without *giving* — to *receive* without *paying* — is the very thing in human nature that produces criminals.

ALL God's spiritual LAW may be summed up in one word — LOVE. But Jesus magnified this into the two great laws — love to God and love to human NEIGHBOR. Love is the principle of GIVING. Jesus summed up the reason for it when He said: "It is *more blessed* to GIVE than to RECEIVE." God knows and reveals that we receive a *greater* blessing by *giving* than by acquiring. GOD WANTS US TO HAVE BLESSINGS!

People really *want* blessings, but few know the way. Most people think the greater blessing comes from receiving — *getting* — *taking* — *acquiring*. Today we talk about "the American WAY." But the WAY of most Americans today is to try to *get* more than they *give*. Formerly employers took more in production from labor than they paid employees in wages. So labor organized. Today the labor union principle seems to be to *get* more, in wages, than they *give* in production from their labor. Less work — more pay!! Deluded labor unions seem to think this is for *their good*. They don't know GOD'S LAW. They know not that they are bringing a CURSE on themselves.

We talk, today, about owning property. But GOD actually *owns* all the

earth. That includes the property on which *you* pay taxes. God says the EARTH is His — for *He created it!* God OWNS it. He lets us occupy His earth, as temporary tenants. All wealth comes from the ground. IT IS NOT GOOD FOR MAN TO TAKE ALL HE CONSUMES OUT OF GOD'S EARTH WITHOUT PAYING ANYTHING FOR IT! If you rent ground from a MAN who *thinks* he owns it, he charges you rent — up to 50% or more of what you produce from it.

God set a LAW in motion — that we should pay HIM, not 50%, but *only* 10%, plus whatever offering we have in our hearts to *give*. Now a LAW is not a law without a *penalty*. God does not *force* you to tithe. But if you don't, there is a penalty! You lose the BLESSING that goes with honest stewardship. You come under a CURSE!

God says our WHOLE NATION is under a CURSE today (Mal. 3:9) because we have *robbed God*. The man who does not pay God His tithe is a *thief* — and, worse than a criminal robbing a bank, he is *robbing GOD!* Yes, GOD SAYS SO — Malachi 3:8! And one of the Ten Commandments is "Thou shalt not steal." The man who does puts himself immediately *under the Law* — under penalty of DEATH for *all eternity* — unless he *repents*, and pleads the blood of Christ for forgiveness, and reconciliation to God!

Ignorance of the LAW does not excuse. You may say: "Well, I never *knew* all this." Well, you are without excuse, for you know it now — or you can know it if you'll check up IN YOUR OWN BIBLE! But God is most merciful. The minute you really repent, *quit* breaking this law, begin keeping it honestly, and go to Christ for forgiveness, then all is forgiven and God begins pouring out His blessing, just as He did on me.

Hundreds of our Co-Workers have written me, during the past many years, saying God had opened their eyes to His tithing law, and telling how they have been blessed. One even wrote that she, too, had started tithing eggs, and her hens, too, had immediately gone on an egg-laying spree! She had either heard me mention that experience over

the air or read of it in a former issue. Of course I won't guarantee God will cause hens to start laying eggs faster every time. Probably it won't work out exactly that way — but He *does* promise a blessing (Mal. 3:10-12).

All For Our Good

How do you pay your tithes to GOD? By putting them into GOD'S WORK — where God Himself is working — where His Gospel is being preached, not merely MAN'S gospel *about* Christ, but the very message Christ preached. Most professing Christians have never heard the Gospel today! Jesus preached only one Gospel — that about the KINGDOM (government — rule) of GOD — of how God is going to RULE ALL NATIONS — of how we may, by being begotten *now*, be actually BORN INTO GOD'S KINGDOM at the second coming of Christ and the resurrection of the dead *in* Christ, being then GLORIFIED just as Christ is *now* glorified in the very FAMILY of God! But most professing ministers of Christianity today deny this Gospel altogether and say it is not for this time!

WHAT does God *do* with His tithe? He uses it for HIS MINISTRY, to preach HIS message of REPENTANCE, FAITH IN CHRIST, AND BEING BAPTIZED BY HIS SPIRIT INTO HIS FAMILY — His message of the KINGDOM OF GOD — the WORLD TOMORROW! It is the message of GOD'S WAY. It is the message of true salvation. It is the message of a changed and a fuller, happier LIFE — the message of ETERNAL life, God's gift through grace!

He uses it to tell mankind THE WAY to happiness, joy, prosperity, and eternal life in His KINGDOM.

But look at the CURSE! God's WAY has not been preached. The WORLD is unhappy, empty, sick, poverty-stricken, cursed with fears and worries, restlessness, frustrations, insanity, crime, violence, war — DEATH!

Even though the NATION is under a curse, *you*, as an individual, may come under GOD'S BLESSING! It's your BEST assurance of getting and holding a job — of *continuous* and *increasing* INCOME! □

Life after Death?

This month we devote our entire "Science vs. Theology?" section to this vitally important question: Is there a life after death? In America 74% say "Yes" — 14% say "NO" — 12% "CAN'T SAY." The Bible answer will surprise you.

by Robert L. Kuhn

ONLY 12 PERCENT of all Americans — that's less than one out of every eight — are *NOT* sure about whether there is, or is not, a life after death.

Is that surprising?

It *should* be. Because it means, of course, that the remainder *ARE* sure.

Why are *so few* unsure?

Why are a full 88 percent of all Americans — that's more than *seven* out of every eight — *SURE* that they themselves know the answer to what must be the most fundamental question of human existence? We intend to find out.

But first of all we should realize that these self-confident 88 percent can only agree among themselves about their own self-confidence. There is a distinct division of opinion as to what they think the answer to the question really is: Thus, 84 percent of these 88 percent (or 74 percent of the total) are sure that there *does* exist a life after death. And 16 percent of these 88 percent (or 14 percent of the total) are *just* as sure that there does *not* exist a life after death. [These figures came from the American Institute of Public Opinion (Gallup Poll) release of April 14, 1960.]

This leads us to the main point of this article. *What we are presently interested in is why all these people believe as they do — and especially why such an amazingly large proportion of Americans seem quite sure that they KNOW*

the answer to the question of whether or not there is a "life after death."

And a full 88% *do* claim to know this answer. Eighty-eight percent! That's a greater percentage than are usually sure which way they are going to vote in most political elections right down to the last week of the campaign! In other words, Americans are more sure about whether or not there is "life after death" than they are about which political candidate they like best.

What makes 88 percent of us so sure about such an important issue? Let's find out by examining the three basic positions — NO, YES, CAN'T SAY — in response to our basic question, "*Do you believe there is, or is not, a life after death?*"

The 14 Percent Who Say "NO!"

These people say that there is *no* life after death. And they seem to be rather sure of themselves. The physical life of the body and brain, they claim, is *all* there is — and all there *ever will be* — and when it dies, *you* die. And that's all there is to it. Just four to ten decades of life, to be followed by an unending stream of billions of aeons. About which you will *forever* remain unaware.

In general, the 14 percent of the American public who seem to be quite sure that there is no life after death are for the most part the product of the scientific revolution — the "knowledge explosion" — our "technitronic" civilization in which man enjoys an

ever-increasing comprehension of the organized complexities of physical life. This "enlightened elite" has supposedly been freed from the "archaic traditions" of past generations. Reality to this 14 percent is the physical world — reality is "*the now*" — reality is only that which can be apprehended by the physical brain.

No doubt, the millions of individuals composing this group consider themselves "intellectually liberated" from "the confining shackles of religious superstitions which were concocted and imagined by primitive man." And so these people surely do consider themselves to be the "enlightened elite" — a product of "our sophisticated society," a society where reality must be measured and quantified by an equation, oscilloscope, test tube, microscope or computer or else it simply *cannot be real*.

And in the 11 years since this specific survey was taken, our entire world has grown *even more materialistic*. As a result, we would expect a similar sampling of public opinion today to reveal an even *larger* percentage of people who are in their own minds rather sure that there is *no* life after death.

These people would largely claim to have based their convictions on a wholly *rational* approach to their own existence — an approach seemingly founded on "*the scientific method*." They are proud to arrive at what they reason "must be the only rational and logically correct appraisal of the human

situation — that there is nothing beyond the physical life.”

But *is* this conclusion as rational and logical as they would like to believe?

Now we are not, for the moment, interested in whether the conclusion of *no* life after death is right or wrong — we are simply asking whether this conclusion is *rational and logical* to the scientifically oriented mind!

We intend to prove that the answer is *no!* Because, whether this conclusion is ultimately right or whether it is ultimately wrong, in either case, to arrive at such a definitive conclusion of “*no* life after death” based on *physical evidence alone* is completely irrational and totally illogical. And this should be especially obvious to anyone who understands the limitations of science and the scope of the scientific method of reasoning.

Science is restricted to the physical world. The scientific method of reasoning is limited to specific deductions which can be logically derived from the original assumptions or data.

Now consider the fact that our original question, “Is there a life after death?” *really* means, “Does there exist some other form of life or consciousness which follows in time sequence the expiration and conclusion of our present physical lives?” Or, more directly, “Is there an existence *BEYOND* the *physical life?*”

To answer these questions we must dissect out and comprehend the underlying nature — the very *essence* — of these questions. And this is it: they deal with an issue which is *outside* of the physical realm. Or, more accurately, they inquire whether there is an existence outside of, apart from and/or beyond the physical realm.

Remember that 14 percent of all Americans give a categorical “*NO*” answer. But, to come to this conclusion, they have used only data and information *within* the physical realm — gathered by physical instruments, apprehended by physical sense organs and interpreted by a physical brain. And they have thereby conclusively concluded — based on this data and information from the physical realm alone — that there cannot exist anything *outside* of the physical realm.

This is a logically IMPOSSIBLE deduction.

Especially for a mind which is rational and scientific. And *most* especially for a mind trained to properly utilize the scientific method of reasoning. Because, as we have shown, our question *by definition* involves areas *outside* of the physical realm. And so as a result, when we logically and correctly apply the scientific method, all the data and information in the entire physical universe *cannot* be applied to rigorously negate, deny and disprove the existence of a *non-physical* universe. Yet everyone who *has* concluded that there is *no* life after death — no non-physical existence — has indeed based that conclusion on physical evidence. And physical evidence *alone*. Which, as we have seen, is grossly illogical.

So the very people who like to think of themselves as “the rational upholders of the scientific method” prove by their very conclusions that they have in fact been the most flagrant *violators* of that method!

The 74 Percent Who Say “YES!”

Logic is generally not the problem for the 74 percent of all Americans who believe that there *is* a life after death. It is not a problem because these people do not base their conclusion on physical evidence.

Unfortunately, these people often do not appear to base their conclusion on any genuine evidence *at all!*

“Evidence” — or proof — is never really considered. It is rather a *motivation* which generates a “YES” response to the question — a motivation which is usually *either* a *desire to maintain* a “cherished tradition,” a compulsion to protect a childhood “security blanket,” a wish to believe a comforting “sweet sentiment,” or a hope to enjoy “a happier life after death ending the trials and tribulations of this present life.”

The irrational acceptance of a life after death by such an overwhelming majority of the American populace is easily understood. The eternal emptiness of death is both *frightening* and *absurd* at the same time. Human beings have a self-conscious personality and a unique spirited animation. It emotionally seems

totally ridiculous for that peculiar “something” — which is *me* — to suddenly and permanently cease to exist. And yet every individual physical body and brain dies — after just a few halting steps along the endless corridors of time. Human beings crave something more — and a belief in a life after death, no matter how irrationally and illogically founded, satisfies that craving.

Now the contention arises that much if not most of the 74 percent who believe in a life after death base their conviction on the *Bible* — rather than on some subconscious motivation as we have stated.

Sorry, but we have to reject that contention. Because what the *Bible actually says* has little if anything to do with the overwhelming majority’s belief in a life after death. Sure, we’ll concede that the *Bible* may be used as a “crutch” for “tradition,” or as a “security blanket,” or as a “sweet sentiment” (or whatever else) by those who may not realize what their own underlying motivations really are.

How can we be all that sure that what the *Bible* actually says has little to do with the reason why three out of four Americans subscribe to a belief in a life after death?

Because so very few of these people actually *live* by the *Bible*.

Now one should expect, that if an individual believed in a life after death *because* a certain Book said it was so, that this individual should do everything in his power to fulfill the conditions given by that Book to acquire that life after death. One would think that the chance for a life after death would be of such inestimable importance that every individual would mold and modify the behavior and tenor of his entire life in any way whatsoever.

Yet how many are even *trying* to conscientiously and continuously obey *all* of the Ten Commandments?

We can conservatively say, “*Substantially* less than 74 percent!” (If you disagree, check the Fourth, the Sabbath Commandment.)

Which all goes to prove that although many people would like to think that it is the *Bible* which has

Belief in Life After Death

	Yes	No	Can't say
U.S.	74%	14%	12%
Norway	71	15	14
Canada	68	19	13
Holland	63	27	10
Great Britain	56	18	26
Switzerland	55	27	18
West Germany	38	29	33

American Institute of Public Opinion (Gallup Poll)

caused them to believe in a life after death, it just isn't so!

We can corroborate this point with further evidence.

How many of the 74 percent of all Americans who believe in a life after death believe this way because they know that they have — or “are” — an “immortal soul” which will not die when their physical body dies? Pretty near 100 percent. That's the common understanding — shared by both the major religions and their individual members alike.

But *not* by the Bible.

What the Bible Does Say

An “immortal soul” is *not* the Biblical understanding of a life after death. As a matter of fact, the phrase “immortal soul” is not even mentioned in the Bible. Ezekiel twice emphasized that “the soul that sinneth, it shall die” (Ezek. 18:4, 20). Jesus Christ plainly stated that *both* the *body and* the *soul* can be *destroyed* in gehenna fire (Matt. 10:28). And Paul concurred: “The wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6:23).

As for those who would interpret “death” to “really mean a conscious eternal life in hell,” we can only conclude that they have apparently *not* read — or simply have chosen to overrule — the

Psalmist who said of man, “He returneth to his earth; in that very day *his thoughts* perish” (Psalm 146:4). And Solomon has also been conveniently ignored — because he proclaimed that “*the dead know not anything*” (Eccl. 9:5).

Now feeling a trifle cramped, some are sure to protest that we are dealing with a problem of translation. Not so. Both the Hebrew and Greek words translated “soul” — *nephesh* and *psuche* — literally mean “breath” and refer to *both* animals and humans. Remember, the expression “immortal soul” never appears in the Bible.

Since “immortal souls” didn't come from the Bible, where did our Judeo-Christian religions find them? The *Jewish Encyclopedia* freely admits that: “The belief that the soul continues its existence after the dissolution of the body . . . is *speculation* . . . nowhere expressly taught in Holy Scripture. . . . The belief in the immortality of the soul came to the Jews from contact with Greek thought and chiefly through the philosophy of Plato, its principal exponent, who was led to it through Orphic and Eleusinian mysteries in which Babylonian and Egyptian views were strangely blended.” Plato is also the self-confessed authoritative source for

the “Christian fathers” (e.g., Origen, Tertullian) who, two centuries after the death of Jesus, the supposed founder of the world's Christianity, first introduced “immortal souls” into Western Christians' thinking. (For further information, write for our free reprint article “Do You Have an Immortal Soul?”)

Consequently, since very few Americans live by the Bible and since the immortal soul theory is irrefutably refuted by the Bible, we can safely conclude that the fact that 74 percent of all Americans believe in a life after death has little to do with this most misunderstood Book.

The 12 Percent Who “Can't Say!”

These are the people who have not succumbed to the traditional comforts of saying “YES” or the intellectual vanity of saying “NO.” They are honest — and ignorant!

Now we realize that many in the survey stated that they “didn't know” whether there was, or was not, a life after death because they have *never even considered* the question. Others perhaps were so wishy-washy that they were unable to commit themselves one way or the other.

So, the number of individuals who in

fact seriously and candidly thought about and analyzed this most fundamental question of human life *and then* came up with the logically precise answer that *they REALLY didn't know* is preciously few indeed. But it is these few whom we salute. These are the ones who have both properly understood the limitations of science and correctly applied the scientific method of reasoning. These are the ones who have elevated themselves above the simple-minded, half-baked conclusions of both the intellectually vain philosophers and the immortal-soul-propounding religionists. These at least are intelligent, *truly* scientific individuals.

(It is interesting to compare the percentage of people in this "unaligned" category in the United States with the percentage of people in the same category in six other countries. See the accompanying box. Especially note that in Germany the number of "can't say" individuals is almost three times as large as in the U. S., while in Great Britain the number is more than twice as large as in the U. S.)

Where Do We All Stand?

All right. We have seen that the belief of those who *do* believe in a life after death is equally as irrational and equally as illogical as the belief of those who do *not* believe in such an "after-life." *Both* do *not* apply anywhere near the carefully and correctly determined reasoning procedures which are absolutely necessary. And the few people who *do* reason properly are those who, after much consideration of the problem, *CANNOT come to any conclusion at all!*

What a paradox!

You can, of course, recognize the person who through correct reasoning procedures cannot come to any conclusion at all. He is the ideal *agnostic*. (And, by the way, the *rare* agnostic. Because most agnostics choose agnosticism — literally "not knowing" — as a result of their own intellectual ineptitude and/or laziness.)

Are we then praising the intellectually sincere agnostic? Well, here is a man who has realized that the religious traditions of men are like a straitjacket. And here is the very *same* man recog-

nizing that the proper use of the scientific method prohibits a person from using the data of the physical realm to in any way "*prove*" the supposed non-existence of the non-physical realm. So we most certainly respect the agnostic's incisive reasoning.

But we are most assuredly *not* agnostics. Because we can neither praise nor respect *ignorance*. And the agnostic, by his own definition, *is* ignorant. He does not know the answer to the most fundamental question of human existence. And all too often — and incredibly — he is *proud* of it!

At a time when the whole human family is perilously perched on the brink of cosmocide, the logically consistent conclusions of the agnostic seem morbidly out of place. Like a meticulous old woman orderly arranging her trinkets on the living room table while a tornado packed with 250-mile-per-hour winds is headed directly for her little wooden house.

Humanity needs answers.

And soon.

Where Is the Answer?

Even the most casual first-time reader of this magazine can pretty well anticipate what the answer is going to be. We don't want to be trite — but we do want to present the truth.

The answer is *IN the Bible*.

Nothing could be plainer.

Skeptics delight in pointing out how many use the Bible to justify well near any doctrine that can be concocted. True! Take the "immortal soul" theory as one pregnant example. There are dozens of others. So we wholeheartedly agree with the skeptics. Nonetheless, the question we counter with is this: Where does the fault lie — with the Bible, or with the individual who uses it in an attempt to justify his personally conceived "beliefs"?

In this context it is our purpose in TOMORROW'S WORLD to show what happens when the Bible is allowed to interpret itself. For example, the issue under consideration in this article is the question of *life after death*. Here the Bible is surprisingly clear. (It's only "surprising" because we have been prejudiced by the conflicting and confusing religious ideas of men.)

When a human being dies, he is *dead* — which means that his body, mind *and soul* are *all dead*. He simply *stops "being."* He becomes as dead as the earth itself — without thoughts (Psalm 146:4) and without any consciousness whatsoever (Ecc. 9:5).

If there ever was an individual who "deserved" to have a life after death, it was David, a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22), a man whose heart was *perfect* before God (I Kings 11:4). Yet over 1000 years after he had died, yes, even after Christ had been resurrected, Peter succinctly reported — under divine inspiration — that David was both *dead* and *buried* and was *not* ascended into the heavens (Acts 2:29, 34). This means that immediately after an individual's death — and perhaps for up to thousands of years to follow — there is absolutely *no* life after death.

But this brings us to the ultimate answer: *There indeed IS a life after death — eventually!*

It is discussed throughout the Bible. It is as sure as the rising of *yesterday's* sun.

It is *the fact* of the RESURRECTION.

Of course the Bible speaks of more than one resurrection. And everybody must be in one of them! (Obviously, space does not permit us to fully discuss the various Biblical resurrections. The interested reader is encouraged to write for our reprint articles "Is This the Only Day of Salvation?" and "What Is Death?")

The *first* resurrection will occur when Jesus Christ returns to this earth. This is the moment when all who have been dead in Christ will rise from their graves (I Thes. 4:16). David will be among them. And he knew it: "I shall be satisfied, *when I awake*, with thy likeness" (Psalm 17:15).

And finally, a little over a thousand years later, when God's Plan for this present earth has been completed, "Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, *Death is swallowed up in victory*" (I Cor. 15:54).

Or as Goodspeed translates it, "*Death has been triumphantly destroyed.*"

This is the revelation of God to man about life after death.

It is sure!



Who Wrote The Law?

Did Moses write the first five books of the Bible? Hebrew tradition and Jesus say he did. But the Bible critics disagree. Why? What are their reasons? What proof do they offer? Can we know who wrote the Law? And does it really matter?

by Ronald L. Dart

THE BIBLE specifically *states* that Moses wrote "the law," made a book of it, and put it into the side of the ark (Deut. 31:24-26).

The critics deny it.

What is *unreasonable* about Moses being the author of the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Bible)? We know that Moses *could* write and that there is no historical, archaeological, or literary reason for denying it.

Why should it be inconceivable that a literate man, as educated as Moses was, would write a chronicle of the Exodus and wilderness wanderings in which he was a chief participant? Why should it be inconceivable that his works would have been retained by Israel and held in high esteem? There is no more venerated figure in all Israel's history.

But what difference does it make?

It makes so much difference that the critics have devoted more attention to *this subject* than any other in their criticism of the Bible. In spite of all the evidence pointing to the Mosaic authorship, they have chopped the Pentateuch up, giving it to at least five authors dating from about 900-700 B. C., and delayed the final compiling of the books until after the Babylonian captivity!

Why? On the basis of what evidence?

Consider the Evidence

The critical theories generally deny that Moses wrote the Law. It is sup-

posed to have been written in various periods of religious development over a span of *centuries*. Now since the Bible makes it quite clear that *Moses* wrote the Law, we must surely expect the critics to have a *very good reason* for disputing this.

It's worth taking the time to examine these reasons — by going directly to the foundations upon which these theories are built.

The critics advance three main "clues" from which they derive their theories.

Clue Number One

Astruc's Clue (1753). Certain passages in Genesis call God JHWH (Jehovah) and in others He is referred to as Elohim. This is interpreted to mean a difference in authorship (A. Rendle Short, *Modern Discovery and the Bible*, p. 167).

Virtually all of the literary analysis of the Pentateuch has proceeded from this observation. How much, however, can really be learned from a purely literary analysis of a document?

The reader can easily judge this for himself by a simple examination of his own Authorized Version of the Bible. In it the word YHVH, or YAHWEH, (pronounced Jehovah by some) is usually rendered by the word LORD in capital letters, and occasionally by the word GOD, also in capital letters. The word *Elohim* in all of its forms is simply translated "God," with no capitals. By going through and marking the words it becomes quite simple to get an overall

view of the distribution of these titles or names of God.

The first thing Astruc noticed was that the first chapter of Genesis used the term Elohim exclusively.

It must be remembered that Astruc was a Frenchman, and had for ten years resided in Paris, at a time when the niceties of style were as much studied as the punctilios of etiquette. We can hardly be surprised, then, that he should conclude that an author who used the name Elohim thirty-one times in a chapter containing only thirty-one verses, *must have known no other name for God*. For how otherwise could he have inflicted or endured what to the sensitive Frenchman was so frightful a monotony? (John Urquhart, *The New Biblical Guide*, Vol. 1, p. 22.)

In the second chapter of Genesis, however, Moses combines the two words into "YAHVEH Elohim." For Astruc this was inconceivable. It seemed impossible to impute to Moses "a fault which no other writer has ever committed." He asked:

Is it not, on the contrary, more natural to explain this variation by supposing, as we do, that the Book of Genesis is formed of two or three memoirs, joined and stitched together in fragments, the authors of which had each given to God always the same name, but each a different name — one that of Elohim, and the other that of Jehovah or Jehovah-Elohim? (Astruc, quoted by John Urquhart, *ibid.*, p. 43.)

But one simple fact was not taken into consideration by the critics. YHVH and Elohim are *not synonyms!* They are

two *different* names for God — and consequently have *entirely different meanings*. It is necessary for a writer to choose one or the other or both according to the *emphasis* which he wishes to place on the name.

What have we proved? That distribution of the divine names in Genesis may be interesting and there may even be some significance in the *choice* of words in the particular passage. But it *certainly* cannot be regarded as proof of multiple authors!

No Evidence From Computers

Now what about the differences of *style* within the Pentateuch? Does this prove that multiple authors were involved? A recent computer test of the style of the Pentateuch indicated multiple authorship. But is this kind of evidence proof?

Recently two theologians "commissioned" a computer to make a purely literary analysis of the Epistles of Paul. The computer was programmed to analyze key words in the author's vocabulary, their frequency of use, and the length of sentences. Their conclusion? "Only five out of the thirteen letters tested were written by Paul."

The results of the computer research were considered as *conclusive evidence* that Paul did not write all the epistles attributed to him. This conclusion was widely publicized.

Later, however, scientists used the same computer to make an analysis of *contemporary* authors — notably Ian Fleming, creator of James Bond. The computer's conclusions: Ian Fleming didn't write them all!

Of course, Fleming *did* actually write the books. They have grossed too much money for an unknown author to sit quietly on the sidelines while another author soaks up the money. But employing the *standards* by which the Epistles of Paul were judged, Ian Fleming didn't write all of his books!

The works of Graham Greene and G. K. Chesterton were also found to have "more than one author." But Dr. Robert Churchhouse, who conducted the experiment at the Atlas Computer Laboratory in Chilton, Berkshire, refuted his own results and felt this was "highly unlikely." In other words, the com-

puter's *literary analysis* wasn't able to accurately determine authorship.

Many of the greatest writers known to man are *quite inconsistent* in their style. Sir Walter Scott has been criticized frequently for his unevenness of style.

Let us grant that he could write abominably. But is there any great writer, especially any great novelist, who does not sometimes nod? Dickens has appalling lapses of style; so has Thackeray; so has George Meredith... (John Buchan, quoted by O. T. Allis, *The Five Books of Moses*, p. 70).

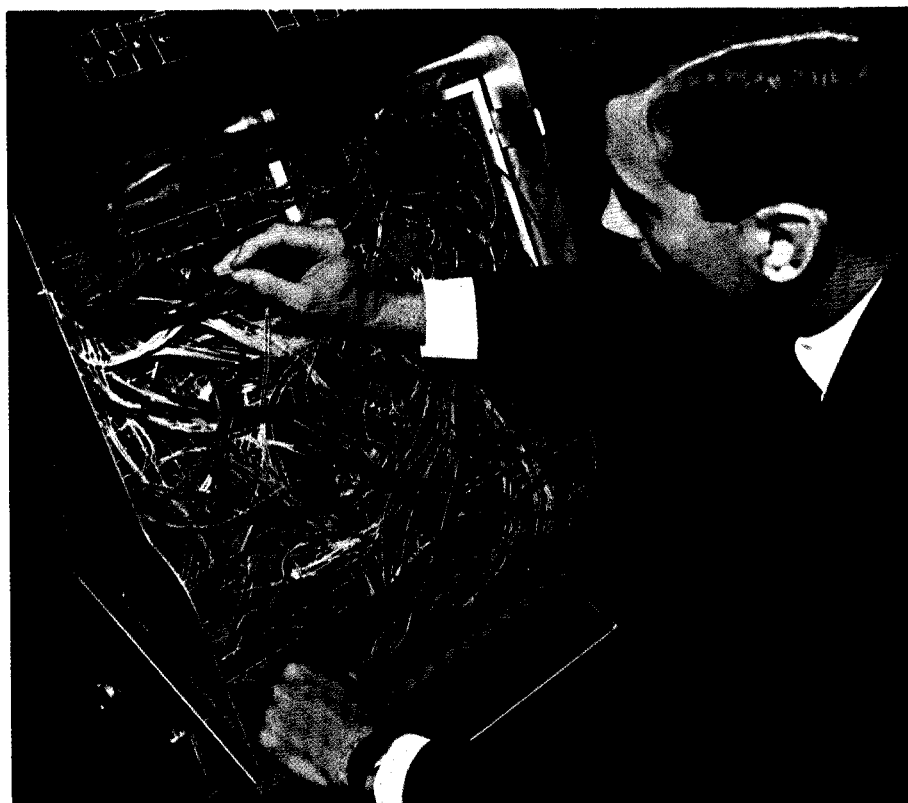
Another illustration can be found in the works of Thomas Hardy. Buchan calls the last two paragraphs of *The*

he says, "Could anything be worse?" (*Ibid.*) If the critics found this in the Bible, they would assume that *a different man wrote the last half of the sentence!*

We see then that literary analysis, including Astruc's clue, is unable to determine the authorship of the Pentateuch. We are now ready to look at the second foundational "clue."

Clue Number Two

De Wette's Clue (1805). The Laws of Moses are ignored until the time of Josiah; then we begin to hear of the central sanctuary described in Deuteronomy 12. Moreover, the literary style and moral and religious tone of the books are centuries ahead of



Ambassador College Photo

A multi-colored maze of wires forms the intricate heart of a computer — but computers are not designed, and cannot be programmed, for human decision-making in the moral and spiritual sphere.

Woodlanders "the most beautiful passage written in our day by any novelist." However, there was such a lapse in style that he is able to quote two thirds of a specific sentence and say, "Could anything be better?" Then, after quoting the rest of the very same sentence

Moses' day (A. Rendle Short, *Modern Discovery and the Bible*, p. 167).

Now De Wette wasn't entirely wrong. The Laws of Moses *were* generally ignored until the time of Josiah. But here's where a rather simple-minded assumption leads the critics astray: It is an axiom of criticism that if a law is ignored, broken, or generally unknown at any given point in an historical account, it may be concluded that the law was in reality introduced at a later date and the historical account is inaccurate. In other words, the Law of

Moses is supposed to have come along after Josiah began his reign.

The Sanctuary

We are told by the critics that it is in Josiah's time that we begin to hear of the central sanctuary described in Deuteronomy 12 — as opposed to a number of high places where offerings might be offered. The reader should examine Deuteronomy 12 for himself. It contains instructions, not merely for offerings and sacrifices, but for the observance of Holy Days. God specifically instructed them that they were not to observe these Holy Days anywhere they pleased, but they were to go "unto the place which the Lord your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there."

The place is not specified. It is simply to be a place which *God* selects.

Now for the critics to proclaim that this idea of a *central sanctuary was unknown* until the time of Josiah, and that therefore Deuteronomy must have originated about that time, they must overlook entirely the historical record of First Samuel.

A man named Elkanah is described — the father of Samuel. We are told: "And this man went up *out of his city* yearly to worship . . . the Lord of hosts *in Shiloh*" (I Sam. 1:3).

Notice that he *left* his own city and went to a sanctuary elsewhere. Reading on in the account, we find that there was a high priest at this central sanctuary, that it was a place to which people went to pray (I Sam. 1:9, 10), and that Elkanah offered his sacrifice and his vow there (I Sam. 1:21), as commanded in Deuteronomy 12:6-7.

In other words, to say that we only *begin* to hear of a central sanctuary in the time of Josiah simply overlooks the plain record of *all* the Biblical history leading up to that time.

Laws Disregarded

The key to clue number two, however, lies in the critic's idea that laws which the Biblical record indicates were unpracticed were in fact not in existence.

But this argument fails to take into account the *fact* that these laws *again* fell into disuse and became generally unknown *after* Josiah's time in precisely the same way as before Josiah.

In addition, the reader should look into II Kings 22 for himself and judge whether the Law of Moses really was totally new to Josiah and the priests. The book which Hilkiah found in the Temple was no ordinary book of laws. It is described as "*the book of the law.*" The direct article *is present* in the Hebrew. Furthermore, the reaction of Josiah when he heard the words of this law makes no sense whatsoever if he had had *no knowledge* of the existence of such a law before this time. Who would be foolish enough to swallow a totally new book concerning which there was *no tradition* and of which no one had heard — and suddenly decide that it was a book of *great religious authority*? Why would Josiah accept it? And how could he possibly impose it upon the people unless there was at least some knowledge of its authority?

It is clear that while the *contents* of the book came as a great shock to Josiah and the others, the *existence* of the book and its authority did not.

Centuries Ahead

De Wette goes on to point out that, "The literary style and moral and religious tone of the books are centuries ahead of Moses' day."

True. The moral and religious tone of the books *is indeed* centuries ahead of Moses' day. In fact, the moral and religious tone of the Law of Moses is centuries ahead of our *own* day!

The Laws of Moses are centuries ahead of their time in every way — scientifically as well as morally. Where health is concerned, for example, the Laws of Moses are an island of common sense in a sea of paganism.

The especial value of the Hebrew contribution to the development of scientific medicine was the complete repudiation of the dominance which magic was thought to exercise in the whole realm of pathology, and the substitution of a rational prophylactic approach (R. H. Harrison, *Healing Herbs of the Bible*, p. 14).

Now the evolutionary approach would have us to believe that the Hebrews *grew out* of paganism into this new phase — that it represents the *natural* progress of the *human* mind. But is this idea historically accurate? What in fact did the human mind *do* with these laws?

It is therefore unfortunate that the Jews of the apocryphal period abandoned their inheritance and began to adopt the ancient Babylonian practice of using spells, amulets and charms in the prevention and treatment of disease. . . . In later Judaism the physician became increasingly involved in magic and superstition (*ibid.*, pp. 14, 15).

The Law of Moses — *given by God* — lifted the Hebrews out of the paganism and filth of Egyptian medicine, but the human mind couldn't hold on to it. Israel reverted to the pagan superstitions over and over again. It was only occasionally, as in the case of Josiah, that revivals of faith in God and obedience to His Law took place.

Now what is left of De Wette's clue? We find that his evidence for his hypothesis about the writing of the Biblical laws in the time of Josiah is based on a naïve substitution of an evolutionary concept of the development of religion for what was in fact simply a *degeneration* in Israel's religion. We find that the central sanctuary was in use from the time of the Judges. And when we come to the point regarding the moral and religious tone of the books, we simply come back again to the question, "Are these laws of human or divine origin?"

It is *true* that *no man* living in Moses' time could have originated these laws. The critical argument is that they were written later. Yet, in fact, these laws *would* not have originated from the mind of any man at any time in the *history* of Israel — or in the history of the world!

The history of Israel proves *conclusively* beyond any shadow of a doubt that both Judah and Israel were by nature *hostile* to this law — before and after the time of Josiah! They were hostile to the law because it was the *Law of God*, and no one — I repeat *no one* — could have palmed off a spurious law of Moses on these hard-headed, stubborn, rebellious people and made them believe it was divine! Either there was some admittedly divine authority in this book or it could *never* have been accepted!

Clue Number Three

Graf's Clue (1866). There are three stages in the development of Israelitish religion. JE [The two "documents"

containing YAHWEH and Elohim] corresponds to a stage, running up to the time of Josiah, when God might be worshipped anywhere at any shrine; any layman could offer his sacrifice, and images of Jehovah were tolerated. D corresponds to a stage when worship was centralized at Jerusalem, and priests and Levites only might minister at the altar. After the exile, a full and complicated ritual was laid down by P, and only priests could minister (A. Rendle Short, *Modern Discovery and the Bible*, p. 168).

All this, of course, is purely hypothetical. A key is found in the remark that "images of Jehovah were tolerated." Tolerated by whom?

Certainly not by God!

The "Graf Clue" is based on his own mistaken interpretation of the history of Israel. It is based squarely on the evolutionary concept of culture, which has since been discarded.

It is quite true that there were numerous altars in Israel which are spoken of in Judges, Samuel and Kings and that there were images held by some people — including Michal, David's wife. All this proves nothing except the fact that the people were disobeying the law. It doesn't prove that the law was not in existence. Furthermore, it does not really represent a stage in Israel's religious *development*, but a stage in their religious *degeneration*.

Notice also that Graf held that God could be worshipped anywhere at any shrine in the earliest stage. Yet we have already seen in I Samuel 1 that Elkanah had to *leave* his city and *go* to the *central* sanctuary.

Graf-Wellhausen Theory

Actually, this "clue" is not a clue at all, but is pure theory. It was taken in hand by a literary critic named Wellhausen and developed into what is now known as the Graf-Wellhausen Theory. Strangely, this theory was *not* based upon literary analysis or archaeological discovery. It was founded entirely on the German philosopher Hegel's evolutionary philosophy.

There is *no proof* of these three stages of Israel's religious "development" at all. The Bible doesn't back it up in any way. Nor does archaeology. However, at the turn of the century the Graf-Wellhausen Theory was held in

the highest esteem. Dr. C. F. Burney wrote of this theory:

This latter hypothesis [i.e., the Graf-Wellhausen Theory] with the reconstruction which it involves of our view of the development of Israel's religion after B. C. 750, may now be regarded as *proved up to the hilt for any thinking and unprejudiced man who is capable of estimating the character and value of the evidence* (H. M. Wiener, *Essays in Pentateuchal Criticism*, p. 176).

Here we encounter intellectual blackmail. If one disagrees that this hypothesis is "proved up to the hilt," then he is regarded as either unthinking, prejudiced, or incapable of estimating the value of evidence. Many a scholar has been *intimidated* by this approach. The Graf-Wellhausen Theory was almost universally accepted among higher critics of the day.

But has the theory stood the test of time and evidence? No, it hasn't.

The Theory Falls

Since 1908 a tremendous amount of new material has become available which has forced a complete reappraisal. One of the top contemporary Bible scholars, writing in 1960, tells us that:

The generally accepted account of Israel's history and religion produced by Wellhausen and popularized in the late 19th and early 20th centuries survives, to be sure, today. It is *especially among non-specialists* that it is accepted as indubitably valid, and particularly among those who would claim the label "Liberal," religious as well as secular (G. E. Mendenhall, "Biblical History and Transition," *The Bible and The Ancient Near East*, p. 36, emphasis mine).

The *specialists* in the field have had to realize that Wellhausen's theory was really not based upon evidence as much as on *philosophy*. However, there are always those who don't get the word. Mendenhall goes on to point out:

Yet, Wellhausen's theory of the history of Israelite religion was very largely based on a Hegelian [evolutionary] philosophy of history, *not upon his literary analysis*. It was an *a priori* evolutionary scheme which guided him in the utilization of his sources. *Such evolutionary schemes have been rejected nearly everywhere else. . . .* Hypotheses are basic to research, to be sure, but they should arise on the basis of some sort of evidence, not simply be transferred from a philosophic system.

Now this was not published by some obscure religious quack, but in a collec-

tion of articles by the most noted Biblical scholars and archaeologists in the world. It reflects the scholarship and research of recent years. Yet *many* theologians are still blissfully unaware of it!

While many people assume that critics have successfully repudiated the Bible, the facts are stacking higher and higher all the time repudiating the critics. Wellhausen, as others have done, started with an assumption which prejudiced the rest of his work and guaranteed a false conclusion.

The Three "Clues"

Now, what is left of the three foundational "clues" upon which the critical theory was built? Astruc's "clue" was found to be inconclusive. De Wette's "clue" was spawned in ignorance of essential evidence. And Graf's "clue" was not a clue at all but an expression of an *evolutionary* theory of religion which has since been rejected by scholars.

There is, therefore, no foundation for the critical theories which deny the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch. But there is a *very* good foundation to support the truth that *Moses* was the human author of the Pentateuch.

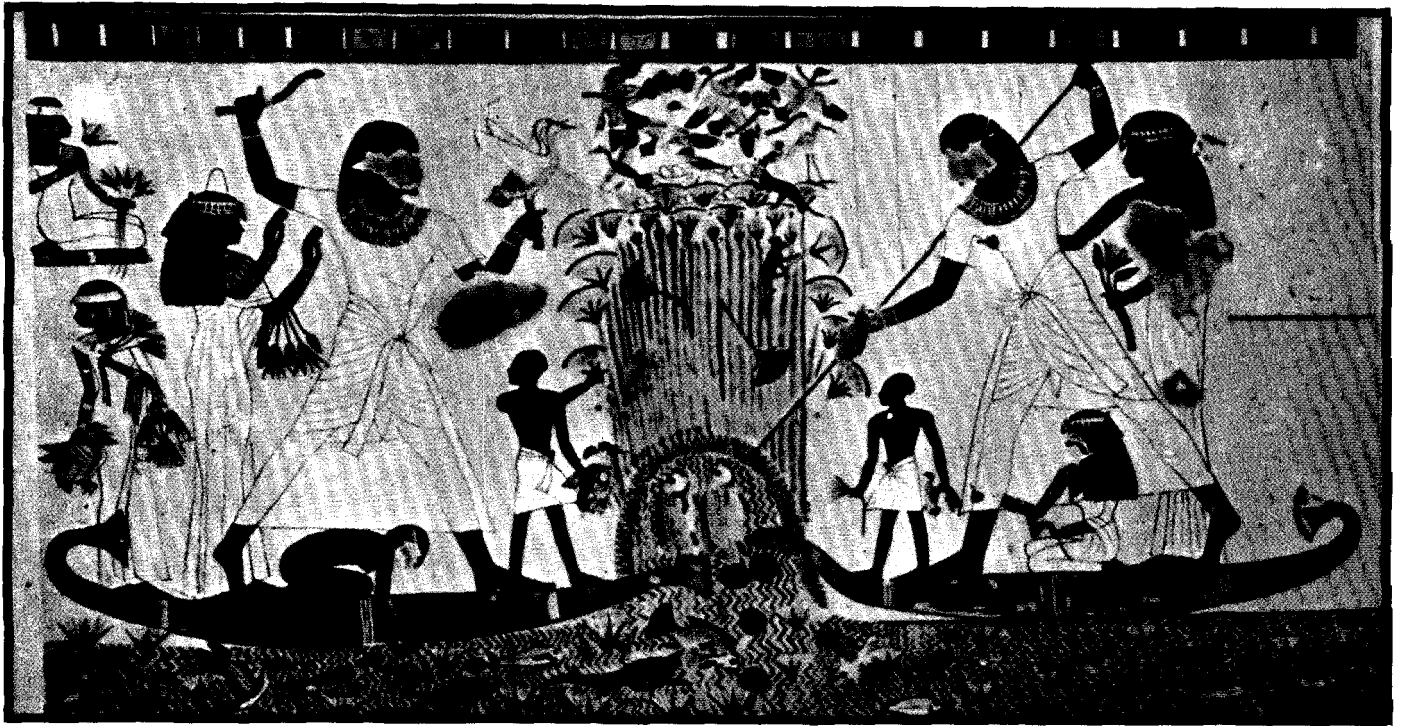
The Test of Language

If the Pentateuch was written long after the time of Moses and only was finally finished after the Babylonian captivity — as the critics would have us to believe — there should be certain clearly defined linguistic evidence available. Late Babylonian and Persian influence should be present, and there should be no special Egyptian influence. Furthermore, the history and archaeology should be "full of mistakes and anachronisms" (A. Rendle Short, *Modern Discovery and the Bible*, p. 161).

These tests certainly apply equally to other books of the Bible, which were in fact written at a later date.

Such books of the Bible as Ezekiel, Daniel, and partly also Ezra and Nehemiah, which were admittedly composed during and immediately after the exile, reveal in language and style such an unmistakable Babylonian influence that these newly entered foreign elements leap to the eye (A. S. Yahuda, *The Language of the Pentateuch in Its Relation to Egyptian*, p. xxix).

The Pentateuch, however, presents a totally different picture. The influence



Ben Haim Photo

This ancient Egyptian tapestry depicts fishing and hunting along the Nile from reed vessels similar to those used during the time of Moses.

of the Babylonian language in the Pentateuch is so minute as to be negligible and what is there is extremely archaic, dating back to the time of Abraham. This, of course, is exactly what we would expect.

It is when we look for the Egyptian influence, however, that we begin to get the full picture. Yahuda finds even the early chapters of Genesis "full of Egyptian influence." For example, the word *tebah* is used for Noah's ark, and is an Egyptian word. It occurs twenty-six times in Genesis, twice in Exodus (dealing with the little ark that the baby Moses was hidden in) and nowhere else in the Old Testament.

Piltter lists some of the more notable Egyptian words found in the Pentateuch. Read his conclusion:

These words alone (there appear to be others in the Pentateuch) show, firstly, a strong Egyptian influence upon the writer, which is adequately and best explained by his having been, although a Hebrew, instructed in Egyptian schools; in other words, they point to Moses; and secondly as they are words of everyday life—including a liquid and dry measure, and linen and woolen textiles—indicate strong and

persistent Egyptian influence upon the common life of the Hebrews which admits of no explanation so satisfactory as that of the sojourning of the Israelites in Egypt for a considerable period (W. T. Piltter, *The Pentateuch, A Historical Record*, pp. 506, 507).

This powerful *Egyptian influence* in the Pentateuch, which shows itself most distinctly in the Exodus, is unmistakable evidence of the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch. Kyle says:

These words are of such unusual meaning and of such temporary use in Egypt, belong so peculiarly to the place and the times and are used with such absolute accuracy throughout the Pentateuch, that it is incredible that scribes of a late period in Israel's history could have attained to such a linguistic nicety. The passages in which these words occur must have come from the Mosaic age, *the only age when some of them were employed in Egypt* (M. G. Kyle, *The Deciding Voice of the Monuments in Biblical Criticism*, pp. 249, 250).

Finally, if, as the critical theory would have us to believe, the Pentateuch was of late origin and based on early myths and legends, we would expect the history and archaeology to be full of mistakes and anachronisms. This however, is not the case.

Then when the archaeological data of the Mosaic age are laid all along the course of the Pentateuchal narrative, it is found to be so uniformly harmonious with that narrative, with the customs, the institutions, the topography, the itineraries, and the

history, as far as these are known, all the way from the shadows of Hebrew slavery in Egypt to . . . the turning back from Kadesh-Barnea, as to make one marvel that different authors in different centuries should have been so uniformly successful in the representations of historical fiction (*ibid.*, p. 251).

And so in conclusion, everything in the Pentateuch is as it should be for Moses to be the author.

What Difference Does It Make?

Let's return to the original question. What *difference* does it make whether or not Moses wrote the Pentateuch? Why have the critics devoted so much time to trying to prove that the Pentateuch was composed of documents written from about 750 B.C. onwards?

The answer is simple. Once we admit the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch, it becomes impossible to deny *the divine origin of the Law*. The evolutionary concept of the development of Israel's religion requires a *passage of time* in which a law could *evolve*. The Law, they reason, therefore had to be the result of trial and error—of a form of "natural selection."

No single living man in *any* given age of history could *possibly* have written such a Law. In this the critics are correct. *God*, not Moses, is the Author of the Law! □

Don't let

(Continued from page 7)

were our hated enemies a few short years ago. What is the reason?

IT IS BECAUSE THIS NATION HAS FORGOTTEN ITS GOD!

God shows that putting confidence and trust in another *man* is also an evil — and commands man NOT to put his trust in a fellow human like himself! "Put NOT your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help. His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; *in that very day his thoughts perish*" (Psalm 146:3-4).

The preamble to the Charter of the United Nations expressed determined confidence that man would at last be able to solve his international quarrels. End results show otherwise.

David wrote that it is better to trust in the Eternal than to put confidence in man! (Psalm 118:8-9.)

Christ, an Example of Confidence

Today, you hear a good deal *about* Jesus Christ. You are constantly told what a great man He was — what a great PERSONALITY He had. But few have heard very much about the MESSAGE CHRIST BROUGHT!

Jesus plainly said He came as a messenger into this world, bringing a message directly from God the Father to mankind! (John 8:38, 42.)

But Christ also said that He COULD DO ABSOLUTELY NOTHING BY HIMSELF! "The Father that dwelleth in me, HE doeth the works," He said (John 14:10). Christ said it was the WORKS He did that bore witness of Him (John 5:36), but that He, Himself, could accomplish NOTHING *by Himself!*

THINK OF IT!

The very Son of God, for all His per-

sonality and energy, said He could do NOTHING by Himself!

CHRIST had absolutely NO *self-confidence!* How much less, then, can you and I accomplish by trusting in ourselves? (John 5:19, 30.)

Yet Jesus Christ had MORE CONFIDENCE than any man who ever lived!

Where Did Christ's Confidence Come From?

What was this source of dynamic CONFIDENCE exhibited by Christ? *Let's not assume!* Let's ask Jesus Christ Himself!

He said it was the FATHER DWELLING IN HIM that did the works! (John 14:10.) THERE was the source of the absolute CONFIDENCE of Jesus Christ!

It was *faith in GOD!*

The FATHER who lived *in* Jesus through the power of His Holy Spirit did the mighty works which Christ performed. *Christ did not have one iota of self-confidence — but He had ALL confidence in God!*

Notice the *complete* confidence that was in Jesus Christ — confidence such as NO OTHER MAN has ever possessed, because it was not confidence in Himself, but confidence in the Almighty God!

When Jesus was called to the tomb of Lazarus, He demonstrated the constant *attitude* of mind that gave Him this great confidence. Christ did not have to "beg" or "plead" with God to raise Lazarus from the dead, but was in the *attitude* of SUCH CONSTANT CLOSENESS and ONENESS with God that He simply "lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I know that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me" (John 11:41-42).

Christ thanked the Father for having already heard Him before He prayed aloud.

This complete and total *confidence* in God gave Christ the assurance and faith to call out "LAZARUS, COME FORTH"! And a man who had been *dead* four days was brought back to life, and walked away from his tomb!

We, too, may have this *same* kind of confidence! "For the LORD shall be thy

confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken" (Prov. 3:26). Jesus Christ said: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and GREATER works than these shall he do; because I go unto my FATHER" (John 14:12).

Confidence With Obedience

Confidence, faith, trust, all these are closely linked to and are inseparable from obedience. Without obedience, you cannot have confidence!

Abraham, called the father of the faithful, had the kind of obedience that God wanted. It was this obedience that gave Abraham the complete CONFIDENCE he needed! God said it was BECAUSE of Abraham's obedience that He would make the promise given to Abraham of inheriting this earth UNCONDITIONAL! (Gen. 26:5.)

Abraham met one of the greatest tests ever placed on a human being. God told Abraham to take Isaac, the son for whom he had waited so long, and to go to a certain place to kill him (Genesis, the 22nd chapter).

Abraham did not question God's command! He didn't ask WHY — he did not try to remind God this was the son God had given him, after waiting for so many long years — he simply OBEYED!

WHY?

Because Abraham BELIEVED God! (James 2:23.) Abraham had COMPLETE CONFIDENCE — NOT in self — but in God!

God had PROMISED to give Abraham many multiple thousands and thousands of sons. Abraham knew *immediately* that God could either raise Isaac from the dead, or bless him with other sons according to His promises. Abraham was FULLY PERSUADED that, whatever God had promised, He was ABLE TO PERFORM! (Rom. 4:21.)

What a sad lack of that kind of confidence today! People do not believe God WILL keep His word! People do not FEAR God — neither do they want to OBEY Him! But to those who WILL OBEY, who WILL believe His Word and do those things God shows them they must do — God says "BLESSED are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek

him with the whole heart" (Psalm 119:2).

How YOU May Have Confidence

How can YOU come to have the real ASSURANCE and KNOWLEDGE that you need in making decisions in this life?

How can YOU overcome boredom, discouragement or disheartenment as a result of an accident or sickness?

How can YOU regain real *confidence* — and a sense of positive *assurance* — even in the face of the death of a loved one, or terrible financial hardship?

The Apostle Paul gives us the first step toward the only *real confidence*. He wrote, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, *that ye present your bodies* a LIVING SACRIFICE, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And BE NOT CONFORMED to this world: but be ye TRANSFORMED by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Romans 12:1-2).

God's way to find confidence is the DIRECT OPPOSITE from the *false* ways of this world! God's way is the way of GETTING RID OF ALL SELF, of *throwing away* the rebellious, cast-iron human WILL that is *contrary* to God — of CRUCIFYING THE OLD SELF with Christ!

Paul explained in Galatians 2:20 that He was *crucified* with Christ, but that he still lived by the FAITH of the Son of God!

The only worthwhile confidence is the knowledge that you have actually *given* your very SELF — your will, your desires and your complete MIND — into God's hands. If you have *real* confidence, you'll be saying with Christ, "Not *my* will, but YOUR will be done, Father."

God inspired John to write, "And now, little children, *abide in him*, that when he shall appear, we may have CONFIDENCE, and not be ashamed before him at his coming" (I John 2:28).

The one most central reason for the FALSE confidence on the EXTERIOR that people have today is because they are much more CONCERNED about what *people* will say, what *people* will think — the impressions they are making on other *people* — than they are about

WHAT THE ALMIGHTY GOD THINKS OF THEM! *Jesus Christ did not fear what man thought of Him!* Rather, He had the Spirit of the FEAR OF GOD! (Isa. 11:2.) And Christ was HEARD of God — *because He feared!* (Heb. 5:7.)

His fear was not *terror*, but a kind of *awe* that comes with a full realization of the tremendous *power* of God — an awareness of His GREATNESS!

If you really FEAR God you will want to obey Him! The WAY to real confidence is through *unquestioning obedience!* God tells us through John, "Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we CONFIDENCE toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, *because* we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in HIS [not our friends' and relatives'] sight" (I John 3:21-22).

Do YOU want *this* kind of confidence? Or do you, like most "mod-erns" of today, want God to "keep His nose out of your business"?

Admit it or not — *most* of you truly WANT more confidence!

You *deeply desire* to have that PEACE OF MIND, that positive sense of *assurance*, that sense of *knowing* that everything is going to work out all right!

You would *like* to have NO FEARS about the future. You would like to have a sense of SECURITY concerning your job, business, or source of income. You would like to have *comfort*, *confidence*, and a positive sense of spontaneity and enthusiasm in every trial and difficulty!

You would like to be *alert*, able to make wise and far-reaching decisions, able to be cheerful and happy even in the face of terrible adversity or personal disaster!

If you would truly WANT these things — then God says it is *yours for the asking!*

God says, "See? I HAVE SET BEFORE YOU THIS DAY LIFE . . . AND DEATH . . . CHOOSE LIFE!" (Deut. 30:15-19.) God offers life on the one hand — *eternal* life and rulership with Christ, and *death* on the other. God *commands* you to MAKE YOUR DECISION. Which choice will you take? He will not make that decision for you.

God grant that *you* will make *your* decision with CONFIDENCE! □

Letters to the Editor

Personal from the Editor

I was particularly interested in the "Personal from the Editor" in the last *Tomorrow's World* (Sept.-Oct. 1970). My affliction has been polio since I was three years old and I often think of Psalm 34:19. You often write on questions that are in my mind, and I find that to be not only rather amazing but extremely helpful.

Myra F.,
Somerville, N.J.

Thank you for the encouragement I found in your "Personal from the Editor" article of *Tomorrow's World* [about a Christian having trials]. I am thankful that I experienced many such things before reading about it in your printed material.

Raymond M.,
Beacon, N.Y.

A Hearer — Or a Doer?

After reading the article, "Are You a Hearer or a Doer?" in the Nov.-Dec. issue of *Tomorrow's World* magazine, I've decided to become a doer. I sincerely want to change my way of living. I want to live by the laws of God.

Dave B.,
Hilmar, California

• *Great, Dave! And remember this means a whole new way of life — not just some temporary "decision for Christ." You've just begun to really LIVE!*

Your Prayers Can Work Miracles

Thank you so much for sending me *Tomorrow's World*, I was feeling so depressed and dejected. But after reading "How Prayer Can Work Miracles" it gave me such a wonderful feeling. It lifted me up to realize how much I have to be thankful for. For without God, I would be nothing.

Octavia L.,
Bridgeton, N. J.

Temple Cover

I received my copy of *Tomorrow's World* Nov.-Dec. issue. The picture of the temple on the cover is one of the most beautiful pictures I have ever seen.

Sandra M.,
New York

Just What the Doctor Ordered

I have had the good fortune to have read your truly wonderful magazines, *Tomorrow's World* and *The Plain Truth*. As you no doubt know, a doctor's office is filled with all sorts of magazines for people to read. I have taken steps to have nothing but the two above mentioned in my waiting room. Perhaps this is a captive audience, but I am sure it lends toward a more informed and God-oriented public. I feel that to have such fine magazines in my office is an important step to help them on their way to health. Perhaps *Tomorrow's World* could be called the therapy of understanding.

Dr. Thomas F.,
Valley Stream, N. Y.

Requests for Personal Counsel

I have just finished reading "What Is Salvation?" in the Nov.-Dec. *Tomorrow's World*. I find it interesting. In the last part of your article you say that we might request a visit from one of your ministers. I am happy to make that request now; and shall be glad to have one or more of them call at their convenience. I have several questions to ask.

F.J.F.,
Spanish Fork, Utah

I received *Tomorrow's World* and was pleased to read, on page 3, "What Is Salvation?" I am ready to accept Jesus Christ as my Savior. I would be happy to have one of your ministers to call on me.

Mickey F.,
Zalma, Mo.

New Co-Workers

We are happy to be included in your group of Co-Workers. Your publications have had a terrific impact on our lives and we are most grateful for this awakening. My faith has suffered many upsets but it seems that when things are the worst, along comes one of your publications containing the message to set it right again.

June and Jerry E.,
Joshua Tree, Calif.

I wrote for *Tomorrow's World* and found it exciting. As I read and studied the articles in the magazines and in the many booklets, the Bible and the Gospel of the Kingdom began to make sense to me for the first time. I can only thank God that I have seen the truth about salvation, His coming, and the Sabbath. However, I have decided that it is time to *do* something with all the knowledge I have received. I have been reading and studying with increasing fervor and have decided that *now is the time*, for there seems to be little time left. I am requesting to be contacted by one of God's true ministers, become a full Co-Worker with Christ and be placed by Him into His Church.

Bill H.,
Horn Lake, Mississippi

• *Welcome, June, Jerry and Bill, to our growing family of Co-Workers dedicated to helping humanity!*

Interested Catholic

I'd like to compliment you on your magazines. They're very interesting. I'm a Roman Catholic, therefore, I disagree with some of your interpretation of the Scriptures, but they do give me food for thought. At least your Biblical translations are getting me to *read the Bible*. This in itself is a great achievement. Not so much that I am not a religious person, it's just that I believed without reading or confirming.

M. B.,
North Essendon, Victoria, Australia

• *Welcome aboard, ask all the questions you want to, prove all we say from your Bible and do what your Bible says — you're headed in the right direction.*

Co-Worker Letters

Sometimes, as a housewife, I get in a rut so to speak. I become so involved in my own family and personal problems, I forget for the moment about wars, famines and world leaders that truly don't know which way to turn. I appreciate the letter you send to the Co-Workers. It is a great reminder of the work that must be done before Christ's return. I am grateful to be considered a Co-Worker because my offering is so small.

Linda V.,
Pangburn, Arizona

Just received our Co-Worker letter from you and what a lift it gave to my low, troubled spirit, for as I read it I remembered how much good even the small pittance we are able to send to the World Tomorrow is doing.

Erma B.,
Tacoma, Washington

• *Thank you Linda and Erma — Jesus Christ had a powerful comment to make regarding the effectiveness of every "widow's mite" (Luke 21:1-4) — the spirit of the giving of your "small offering" and "small pittance" is the real treasure!*

Too Busy Fighting Godlessness?

It is with regret that I must ask you to discontinue sending me *Tomorrow's World* and your Bible lessons. I haven't time to do them justice since I too am actively involved in fighting Communism and Godlessness.

M. B.,
Youngtown, Arizona

• *Why throw away your weapons?*

Closing the Generation Gap

If my opinion is of any value to you — I have heard many a religious broadcast before but, to me, they were doing too much "preaching." From those of my friends with whom I discuss the program, we agree that the general idea of *The World Tomorrow* program tends to penetrate the mind of the average teen-ager without the use of "preaching" — it's nice to know that there are those who understand both sides of an argument.

Miss Carol V.,
New South Wales, Australia

Personal Concern

I have been sending you money because I want to help the organization that prints such good material as this. I like to think that it was my money that was used to pay for the booklet that helped a man quit smoking or the family out of their terrible financial crisis.

M. B.,
Mason, Ohio

• *That's exactly how your contribution was put to work, along with the help of others who care.*

Coming:

★ HOW OFTEN SHOULD WE PARTAKE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER?

Today different denominations take this sacred ordinance different ways. One church claims the bread and wine literally is transferred into the actual body and blood of Christ. Some denominations take this "supper" every Sunday morning. Others take it four times a year, and at night. Which is Biblically right?

★ HOW MUCH OF THE BIBLE SHOULD YOU REJECT?

Did God allow blunders, errors, or PRIVATE OPINIONS to creep into the Bible? Is any part of Scripture UNinspired? Here, straight from your own Bible, is the real truth!

★ 4,000 YEARS OF EASTER

Here are the amazing FACTS that have been suppressed for centuries. Here are the shocking revelations of authentic history and the Bible!

★ DOES IT MATTER WHICH DAY YOU KEEP?

WHY so much disagreement over the right day for worship? Does it really matter? Whose opinion counts? What day did JESUS keep? Should CHRISTIANS keep the same day — or some other? Is the calendar mixed up? Has time been lost? This article gives plain Bible answers to these questions so important to YOU!

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