The Plain Truth—SUPPORTED BY YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

The Plain Truth has no subscription or newsstand price. This magazine is provided free of charge by the Worldwide Church of God. It is made possible by the voluntary, freely given tithes and offerings of the membership of the Church and others who have elected to support the work of the Church. Contributions are gratefully welcomed and are tax-deductible in the U.S., Canada and N.Z. Those who wish to voluntarily aid and support this worldwide Work of God are gladly welcomed as co-workers in this major effort to preach and publish the Gospel to all nations. Contributions should be sent to our office nearest you (see addresses below).

Founder and Editor-in-Chief: HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
Senior Editor for Copy: Herman L. Hoeh
Managing Editor: Dexter H. Faulkner
Senior Editor: Raymond F. McNair
News Editor: Gene H. Hogberg
Senior Writers: Roderick C. Meredith, Donald D. Schroeder, John R. Schroeder, Michael A. Snyder, Clayton Steep, Keith Stump
Associate Editors: Sheila Graham, Norman L. Shoaf
Assistant Copy Editor: Peter Moore
Editorial Assistant: Hervey J. Stachura
Design Consultant: Philip Gray, Minette Smith

The Plain Truth
A magazine of understanding
Vol. 47, No. 6
June / July 1982

ARTICLES

- Sea Gate Under Siege—Showdown in South Atlantic
- What Howard Hughes Did Take With Him When He Died
- The Plain Truth About Fasting
- What’s Wrong With Science?
- What Kind of God Do You Worship?
- The Technological Crisis of the ’80s—Can the West Survive?
- Right or Wrong? Who Decides?
- Why the Threat of New Trade Wars?
- Is God to Blame?
- When Conflicts Go Unresolved . . .

FEATURES

- Personal from Herbert W. Armstrong
- “The World Tomorrow” Radio and TV Logs

What Our Readers Say

ABOUT OUR COVER

This issue’s cover photo is a composite. The carrier H.M.S. Invincible was photographed by Stuart Franklin—Sygma. But the weather refused to provide the proper background. We enhanced the photo of the carrier with a sunset photo taken by one of our staff photographers.

The Plain Truth is published monthly (except combined June / July and October / November issues) by the Worldwide Church of God, 300 W. Green, Pasadena, California 91123. Copyright © 1982 Worldwide Church of God. All rights reserved. PRINTED IN U.S.A. U.S. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Plain Truth, Box 11, Pasadena, CA 92112. Mexico: Box 44, Station A, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2M0. Call toll free 1-800-863-1247.

Foreign subscriptions:
- United States: 300 W. Green, Pasadena, California 91123
- Canada: P.O. Box 44, Station A, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2M0. Call toll free 1-800-863-1247.
- Mexico: Box 888, Port Louis, Mauritius
- South Africa: Box 44, Station A, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2M0. Call toll free 1-800-863-1247.

Important: The publishers assume no responsibility for return of unsolicited art work, photographs or manuscripts.

WHY SO MANY churches? Why any
church at all? Are all really
GOD'S churches?

"There must be one TRUE
Church," I said 55 years ago, "but where is it?" I
had just been shocked, dumbfounded, disillusioned,
to see with my own eyes in the Bible that the
respected Christian church in which I had been
reared taught the very opposite in most respects
from the plain teachings of Christ and the Holy
Bible.

I had supposed the churches of the Christian
religion had received their beliefs from the
Bible. Haven't you? Then I asked myself,
candidly, WHY so many different churches,
teaching different doctrines? And why ANY
church at all?

I read in the Bible where Jesus Christ said,
"I will build my church." But for what
PURPOSE? Like I did until then, most people
simply take the existence of churches for
granted, never wondering whether there is any
need or PURPOSE for them.

It was early 1927, before World War II, that
these thoughts challenged me. It was during that
war that Winston Churchill said before the
United States Congress, as I have so often
quoted, "There is a PURPOSE being worked out
here below." Most people never think about
that, or have any realization of the real PURPOSE
for humanity's presence on the earth, or of the
AWESOME, incredible human potential.

I was to learn that the Church is, indeed,
God's instrumentality for working out that
supreme PURPOSE! Yet humanity has been lulled
to sleep, deceived, blinded to this great PURPOSE!
"The god of this world [Satan the devil] hath
blinded the minds of them which believe not,
lest the light of the glorious gospel of
Christ...should shine unto them" (II Cor. 4:4).

But WHY did Jesus Christ start the Church?
Look at the world into which he was born, and
in which he lived. It was the same world in
which you and I live today, except for two
changes: 1) This same world has made AWESOME
progress, especially during this 20th century—in
terms of technology, science and industry; and 2)
it has undergone APPALLING retrogression in
troubles and evils. All the fantastic progress has
been in the materialistic area—working with
matter from the ground. All the retrogression has
occurred in the SPIRITUAL area—man dealing
with man.

WHY did Jesus found the Church? To become
God's instrument for working out his grand
PURPOSE here below—ultimately to make
SPIRITUAL progress and glorious benefits far more
awesome than materialistic progress has been! To
correct and eradicate the troubles, evils,
discontents, sufferings of this world's
humanity—to replace them with contentment,
happiness and joy, constant eager anticipation of
further glorious accomplishments, both spiritually
and materially—and to give a then happy and
glorified humanity ETERNAL LIFE in vigorous and
joyful accomplishment!

What was wrong with the world in which
Christ started the Church? What's even far more
wrong today? We need to understand how
civilization started. It started with the creation of
MAN!

God had created vertebrate animals, each
after its own kind—"cattle after their kind" (Gen. 1:25),
dogs after the dog kind, elephants
after the elephant kind. Then God said (verse
26), "Let us make MAN in OUR image, after OUR
likeness"—after the god kind. But man
at that physical creation was not given
God-LIFE—immortal, inherent, self-containing life.
He was given only temporary physiochemical
existence, the same as animals (Gen. 2:7).

However, God offered him eternal GOD-LIFE! But
the man was required to make a choice. It was God’s purpose that the divine GOD-CHARACTER must first be developed within MAN. He was made in the form and shape of God, unlike animals. But man was first created with only an animal (temporary) existence. His existence is sustained by breath of air, like animals. His temporary life is supplied by a heart circulating blood throughout his body, like animals.

But, being made in the image of GOD, man was given the power of MIND! His mind, like God’s, must direct his motions and actions, whereas animals were equipped with automatic INSTINCT.

Man’s mind was supplied by a spirit within man—a human spirit that imparts the power of psychic intellect to the physical brain.

Yet this spirit imparts only the mental ability to acquire materialistic knowledge—knowledge to work with matter from the ground. But God created man to NEED another Spirit—the Holy Spirit of God—that can impart to the mind power to comprehend spiritual knowledge—knowledge to have a relationship with the spiritual GOD, and to have a right relationship with other PEOPLE.

In many places of the Bible this human spirit within every human is mentioned. In Job 32:8, “there is a spirit in man.” In verse 18, “the spirit within me constraineth me”—and in I Corinthians 2:11, no human could know, or have the knowledge possessed by MAN, except by the spirit of man which is in the man.

Likewise, no man can comprehend spiritual knowledge but by the Holy Spirit of God—which may be given to him as God’s gift upon genuine repentance and belief. It is needed to comprehend spiritual knowledge and character. In verse 9, same chapter, spiritual knowledge cannot enter the carnal mind through the eye, ear or five senses, but, in verse 10, God reveals spiritual knowledge by and through his Holy Spirit.

This Holy Spirit is the very impregnating Spirit of eternal life—GOD-life—self-containing, inherent life. This was offered to the first, created man and woman—Adam and Eve, in the incident of the tree of LIFE, and the forbidden tree of the “knowledge of good and evil.”

When Adam rejected the tree of LIFE, and took to himself the acquisition of spiritual knowledge (good and evil), God closed off the tree of LIFE from mankind—WITHHELD THE GIFT OF HIS HOLY SPIRIT (Gen. 3:22-24)—until the second Adam, Jesus Christ, should come and pay the penalty of human sin in man’s stead!

So, starting with the human Adam, man built the man-made CIVILIZATION, swayed, influenced, impelled by the invisible Satan the devil!

Beginning with Adam, equipped with acquirable materialistic knowledge only—lacking knowledge for a right relationship with human neighbor or with God, man built his own system of teaching or educating his children. Thus as the system of education developed, it remained limited to materialistic knowledge. After trial and error man learned how to produce AWE-SOME progress in materialistic and mechanical fields. But he retrogressed in his ability to get along with fellow humans—and he had no close relationship with his Maker.

Man simply was NOT developing the divine GOD-character within him!

Man developed his own RELIGIONS, swayed by Satan, who appeared as an angel of light, but deceived the whole world (Rev. 12:9). Man formed his own gods out of wood, stone, other materials. This world’s religions were developed.

Man organized his own ideas of GOVERNMENT—to regulate the lives of his fellows. Yet man was impelled by self-centeredness, the spirit of “GET”—of vanity, covetousness, jealousy and envy, competition, strife, violence and WAR—of REBELLION against the way of God, or God’s way of life. God’s way is LOVE—the way of “GIVE” instead of “GET”—the way of cooperation, serving, sharing. And so human governments seek selfish advantage over other governments and end up in controversy, WAR and DESTRUCTION!

Man built his own economic system—all contrary to God’s way. And the whole world’s economy is sick today. Half the world is illiterate, destitute, poverty stricken, living in filth and squalor—many starving to death.

Man’s social system is based on “GET”—vanity, greed, self-interest and self-gain at the expense of fellowman.

Into such a world came JESUS CHRIST, the only begotten son of GOD—actually God in human flesh, yet capable of death.

Jesus said, “I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH.”

WHY?

MAN’S unhappy civilization of discontent, unhappiness, frustration, human suffering, started with the physical ADAM, influenced by Satan.

The CHURCH is God’s instrument through which he is building the NEW CIVILIZATION of the KINGDOM OF GOD—the WORLD TOMORROW—a world of humans changed through God’s power into GOD BEINGS! A world of dynamic happiness and PEACE!

But how did Jesus START God’s Church? In a sense, he had started it long before, through the prophets of ancient Israel. They, with the apostles, became the very FOUNDATION of the Church, Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone (Eph. 2:20). The writings of the prophets were already written and being preserved.

But Jesus now called DISCIPLES. They were not apostles—ones “sent forth in power and authority.” A disciple is a student—a learner being taught. And Jesus called 12 of them. Actually he called 14—but only 12 were to become official. The other two were alternates, to be chosen later if one of the official 12 dropped out.

Jesus did not start the Church through these students. He taught them the doctrines of GOD’s world to come, so that they, upon “graduating” from his teaching after three and a half years, could, with the writings of the prophets, (Continued on page 40)
Sea Gate Under Siege

SHOWDOWN IN SOUTH ATLANTIC

by Gene H. Hogberg

With stunning swiftness, Argentine military forces overran the British-held Falkland Islands. As Britain fights back, concerns mount over the worldwide impact of this curious struggle.

As we go to press, a powerful British naval task force continues to "tighten the noose" around the Falkland Islands, 8,000 miles from London in the distant South Atlantic.

This remote British possession was seized and occupied by Argentine troops in a lightning raid in the predawn hours of April 2.

In the most dramatic developments to date, Argentina's second-largest warship and only cruiser, the 13,645 ton General Belgrano, sank in the early morning hours of May 2 in a storm after being struck by two torpedoes fired from a British submarine.

The majority of the crew members of the General Belgrano were rescued from the frigid waters of the South Atlantic.

Two days later, the British destroyer H.M.S. Sheffield was attacked and destroyed by an Argentine aircraft missile. The loss of the ship and about twenty crewmen was a stunning blow to British confidence.

Conflicting Claims

The task of the British fleet, which swelled along the way to more than 60 vessels, was outlined by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in a speech to Parliament April 14: "We shall persevere until freedom and democracy are restored to the Falkland Islands."

Until the Argentine occupation, successive British governments had continuously and peacefully ruled over the Falklands since 1833—149 years.

Argentina, for its part, has repeatedly put forward a claim to sovereignty over the islands, asserting that she succeeded to earlier rights put forward by Spain in the 18th century. Spanish-culture involvement in the Wales-sized island chain has always been minimal. The population of the Falklands numbers about 1,800, nearly all of British descent. More than 1,000 of these people trace their origins in the territory to 1850 or earlier.

Life for the Falklanders on the grassy, virtually treeless moorlands of the two inhabited islands (out of 200 in the archipelago) has not been easy. Half of the males are
engaged in sheep farming, the production of wool from the islands' 640,000 sheep being virtually the only export.

What the Falklands lack in excitement, as well as sunshine (it rains 200 days a year), has been offset by tranquility from the outside world's problems—until now. One native “kelp” (as the islanders call themselves in reference to the abundance of offshore seaweed) stressed to a reporter that his own family had lived in the Falklands for five generations. He added that “we thought it the most peaceful place on earth.”

British Weakness Draws Attack

The Falklands dispute boils down to the basic issue of balance of power. When Britain was strong, Argentina did not dare to attack. From 1833 to (at least) the outbreak of World War II, Britain was overwhelmingly more powerful than Argentina. This explains why no Argentine government could, in realistic terms, do little more than keep the claim alive.

Then came the post-war dismantling of Britain's colonial empire, coupled with the steady shrinkage of the Royal Navy needed to protect remaining farflung fly specks of empire such as the Falklands.

The Argentines signaled earlier this year that in view of stalemated on-again-off-again negotiations with Britain over the future of the islands, they might resort to force to recover the Malvinas, as they refer to the islands. In that sense, the British were caught napping. They did not have enough military presence in the South Atlantic to deter the rumored invasion.

Five years ago, the then British government of Prime Minister James Callaghan feared a similar move by Argentina. Mr. Callaghan and his foreign secretary, David Owen, ordered three British frigates from the Mediterranean to the South Atlantic. The immediate threat passed.

The British, experts believe, should have been more alert to the “signs of the times” inside Argentina. The country's deteriorating economic situation—with inflation raging at 140 percent a year and half the country's industrial plants idle—spawned large demonstrations in Buenos Aires and elsewhere. The calls for economic reform and a return to civilian rule were a clear indication that the increasingly unpopular military government would soon act to recover the islands, the one issue that unites the highly fragmented Argentine society.

The government of General (and President) Leopoldo Galtieri played its patriotic trump card only two days after throngs of protesters had demonstrated against it. This led the Times of London to editorialize that the invasion was a “reflection of the Argentine government's inability to satisfy its people without creating fantasies and distractions for them.”

The Times also notes that the Argentines “moved not because we had suddenly withdrawn our defences from the Falklands—there never were any—but because something convinced them that we no longer had the will or perhaps even the capacity to retaliate against an attack.”

Britain's prestige—its reputation for power—was too low to forestall the attack.

British Criticize U.S.

While preparing to meet force with force the British government at first gave the United States a chance to try to work out a negotiated settlement.

However, with the positions of the conflicting parties so firmly set, with national honor, prestige and the very survivability of each government at stake, the arduous shuttle diplomacy conducted by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig between the distant capitals of London and Buenos Aires (18 hours by air) proved to be futile in the end.

The British government, press and public understand American desires for peace in the Western Hemisphere. But there developed growing resentment in Britain over what was initially perceived as U.S. “fence-straddling” and the apparent unwillingness to get tough with Argentina, the clear aggressor in the struggle.

The British pointed to the fact that they have been the staunchest “thick-and-thin” ally of the United States throughout the 20th century. Whenever the U.S. has asked for similar kinds of help from its friends, Britain has given it—often at considerable cost.

In recent times the Thatcher government joined in U.S.-sponsored trade sanctions against the Soviet Union for its invasion of Afghanistan, endorsed the U.S. call for a boycott of the 1980 Moscow Olympics and backed the U.S. response to the martial-law crackdown in Poland.

Britain also supported sanctions against Iran during the U.S. embassy hostage crisis. Prime Minister Thatcher has unreservedly backed the controversial U.S. call for modernized nuclear weapons in Western Europe to meet the growing Soviet threat, including cruise missiles on British soil.

Says a senior official in the British Foreign Office: “We gave you unstinted support when you needed it and have been your loyalest global ally. If you cannot give us your strong support at a moment when British sovereign territory has been invaded, there is the possibility of grave damage being done to the alliance between our two countries.”

The United States has since come down firmly on Britain's side. But until that time, it was on the verge of offending not only a trusted ally but a close brother nation. And the wisdom of the Proverbs clearly states that “a brother offended is harder to be won”—meaning won back—“than a strong city” (Prov. 18:19).

The United States and Great Britain are brothers. Bible prophecy clearly shows (write for our free book The United States and Britain in Prophecy) that both nations are descended from the ancient “lost ten tribes” of the house of Israel. The British people are descended from Ephraim, the youngest son of Joseph. Ephraim was prophesied in the “last days” (Continued on page 41)
What Howard Hughes DID Take With Him When He Died

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Howard Hughes took none of his material wealth with him, but he did take something. So will you.

Howard Hughes will live again. So shall all who have died from Adam until now. And, like Howard Hughes, all took something with them when they died. By the same token, you are building something in your life that will survive this present life.

It's important that every human being know what this something is.

What about this riddle of life after death? Different religions have different ideas. Some believe in the transmigration of souls. Another religion says you go to a place called purgatory for a transitory life, later to be sent to a blissful heaven to abide forever in "glorious" idleness and ease.

Many Protestants believe all "unsaved dead" have gone to the ever-burning hell, being continually tortured by the most excruciating undurable pain, while those who "accepted Christ" went at the instant of death to the blissful heaven with nothing to do but look continually in enraptured bliss on the glorious face of Jesus Christ. Other millions have no idea whatsoever. Many of them just don't want to think about it.

Notwithstanding, this question has everything to do with your life NOW—with its very purpose—with the reason why you were born. And you'll rue the day you ignored or rejected the true answer.

A certain man wondered about these things. He said to himself: "Come to think about it, I have never seen proof of the existence of God. What if the evolutionists are right and there is no Creator—no intelligent and supreme mind who designed, planned and created all that exists—and it all just happened?"

He delved vigorously into an in-depth study of evolution, and of the Bible as a textbook on creation. He determined to know—to be sure—to find proof!

I was that man. Suffice it to say I found that proof and share it with those who are concerned. And I PROVED that the Holy Bible, in its original writings, is indeed God speaking—revealing truth to those concerned. I give you here God's revealed truth.

Multimillionaire Howard Hughes died. Adam and Eve and all their children, except those still living, all died. And they all took something with them when they died.

They shall all live again. God our Maker reveals to us that in Adam, the first man, all die. He says, "...it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27). Then again, "as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive" by a resurrection from the dead (I Cor. 15:22).

God reveals plainly that all who die shall be resurrected. Our Maker holds out the sure hope for life after death by a resurrection from the dead—those who are Christ's at his now soon coming back to earth, others in a later resurrection to judgment (I Cor. 15:23-24; Rev. 20:11-12).

One whole chapter in the Bible is devoted to the resurrection—I Corinthians 15. And it answers in verse 35 the question, "With what body do they come?" God answers that they shall be resurrected not in the same body in which they died, but that God shall give them a new body. Those in whom dwelt the Holy Spirit of God—who were led by his Spirit—shall come in a Spirit body (Phil. 3:21; John 3:6), and others a thousand years later in bodies of flesh and blood—material, as they were in this life (Ezek. 37). However all shall look as they did in this life—as shown by the transfiguration before Jesus' disciples. But, if the dead shall not be
resurrected in the same body that died, how can they be resurrected either to immortal God-life, or to mortal, to the great final judgment?

How shall they all be judged, if they shall not then know, as they knew, and what they knew, in this life? How judged unless the very character built into them during this life also appears intact in the resurrection?

To understand that “mystery” we need to know what God reveals—but what professional psychologists do not know—about the human mind.

Howard Hughes did build a certain character in his lifetime. So did Adam and Eve. So did everyone who ever lived. So are you building a definite character—either good or evil or a mixture of both—in your life now. And that is what you shall take with you when you die!

Character development is the very purpose of this present mortal temporary physical existence.

Day by day, hour by hour, year by year, you are developing a definite character. If you’re not concerned about it now, you will be—in the final judgment, which none shall escape. And there shall be “weeping and gnashing of teeth” (Luke 13:28).

But what of that final judgment? And if the body that dies is not the body that comes in the resurrection, how can the precise image, appearance, memory and character be preserved and translated into the body that shall come?

To these vital questions science cannot give you the answer. The educational system cannot teach you—it doesn’t know! Psychologists do not know! But God our Maker reveals the answers!

First, we need to understand the human mind. The brain of animal vertebrates is like the human brain. Animal brains, like human, vary in size. But the design, composition and entire structure is similar. They are qualitatively similar. The brain of an elephant, dolphin or whale is larger, but in design and structure very similar to human brain. Yet animals cannot think, reason, plan, design, make decisions. They do not exercise the same power of will, motivation, attitude as man. How, then, does human mind differ from animal brain?

Science can find no physical basis for the vast difference. For science can know only what is seen, heard, tasted, felt or smelled. And the difference, which imparts the psyche or intelligence and thought processes to human brain, is not physical but spiritual. Spirit cannot be seen, tasted, heard, smelt or felt. The scientist knows nothing about spirit. Therefore science ignores the existence of spirit.

Science is confined to the physical and material. God is not physical or material, but spirit—invisible! Spiritual truths are not physical or material, but spiritual—entirely outside the realm of material science!

Science knows nothing of the things of God—no comprehension—of spiritual knowledge. Indeed, such truths are foolishness to the wise of this world (I Cor. 2:14). Yet they are true! They are simply outside the materialist’s field. He is ignorant of them! Actually the highly educated scientist’s mind is only “half there.” He may possess much of the materialistic, but is in ignorance of spiritual knowledge! So says the Maker of the worldly wise!

God reveals that the human brain was created incomplete. The first man, Adam, was created incomplete in two ways. A purpose of his creation and being was to reproduce his kind. But the man alone could not reproduce himself. He was incomplete. He alone was of the male gender. He needed a female to be joined with him for reproduction. So God created a wife for him, named Eve.

Adam also was incomplete in mind. Within him was a spirit. Such a spirit does not exist in animals. Rather, the animal brain comes equipped with an automatic instinct not present in man. The spirit in humans empowers the human brain with intellect—the psyche aspect. Such a spirit exists in every human from birth. I call it a human spirit.

You read of it in many places in the Bible. In Job 32:8, “there is a spirit in man.” In verse 18, same chapter, “the spirit within me constraineth me.” That is, leads, impels, suggests.

The human spirit cannot see, think, hear. The brain sees through the eye, hears through the ear, feels through the nervous system. The physical brain thinks, not the spirit. Yet the animal brain cannot think as man does, or have human knowledge. The human spirit imparts to the brain the psychic power to think, know, reason, make decisions.

In I Corinthians 2:9, “Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart [mind] of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him” (that is, spiritual knowledge). How, then, may spiritual knowledge be comprehended? Next verse: “But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit”—the Holy Spirit of God.

However, mortal man does comprehend materialistic knowledge. How? Only by the senses of sight, hearing, feeling, smelling, tasting? No! The cow, the elephant, the dog hears, sees, and has all five physical senses—yet the dumb animal does not comprehend materialistic knowledge, such as physics and chemistry, mathematics, the physical sciences. Why? They see, hear, taste, smell, feel, yet do not comprehend. How, then, does a human comprehend these things?

For the answer, continue the above scriptural passage, verse 11, “For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him?...” The dumb animal has the same five senses and a brain of equal quality and design, yet the animal cannot have the knowledge possessed by the human mind. Nor could a human, except by the spirit of man, which is in him and not in the animal.

Now read the latter half of the same 11th verse, “even so the things of God [spiritual knowledge] knoweth no man, but [by] the Spirit of God.”

The human spirit imparts power of intellect to comprehend materialistic knowledge that an animal cannot know, even though it can see, hear, taste, smell and feel like a man and also has a brain similar to

(Continued on page 39)
The Plain Truth About

FASTING

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Is it starvation? Is it nature’s way of healing sickness and disease? Is it dangerous or beneficial?

It seems almost no one knows the real truth about fasting. One doctor called it the “Fast Way to Health.” Another called it “starvation diet.”

One person asked, “If I missed two meals in a row, would I die?” Apparently many people seem to feel that if they missed more than one meal a day they would at least be in serious danger.

Some people believe in fasting from the very moment they feel the first warning signs and pains of a cold or an approaching fever. Many people say: “You should always feed a cold, but starve a fever.” But is this true?

Is fasting dangerous? Is it beneficial? Is it nature’s way of healing?

Time to Know Truth

You think you already know the answer? Don’t be too sure!

I know of hundreds, if not thousands of our readers who think they know the truth about fasting—but who do not—and everybody needs, seriously, to read this article!

On the one hand sensible fasting is not a starvation diet, and those who have the starvation fear are at one erroneous extreme—whether ignorant layman or professional physician. Most doctors, incidentally, have studied medicine, not fasting, as an aid toward elimination of disease. One doctor said to me: “We doctors have been kept so busy treating sick patients with drugs and medicines, we have had little time to study the causes of sickness and disease, or much about diet and nutrition.”

In the “healing arts” (an unfortunate and incorrect term) professional men have tended to specialize each in his one field only. The medical physician seeks the cure almost exclusively by drugs or surgery. The chiropractor seeks to cure by manipulating the spine—perhaps with the aid of prescribed diet. The naturopath by “natural” means. Medical doctors generally ridicule fasting in the case of sickness or disease, just as they would avoid recommending chiropractic treatments, or any other method outside their one field of medicine. Fasting is simply outside their field. A few medical doctors have advocated fasting, but certainly they are in the minority.

But to look on sensible fasting as starvation is an untrue extreme, based on plain ignorance.

On the other hand, some go to the opposite extreme of regarding fasting as a cure-all.

Neither extreme is the truth!

Wise fasting, under proper conditions, is beneficial, not dangerous!

On the other hand, just as I say, truthfully, “there is not a cure in a carload of medicine,” so I say fasting never heals!

Those two statements, in the paragraph above, will come as a shock to many. Millions firmly believe that medicines cure diseases. I have never heard a physician make such a claim. Many doctors have admitted candidly that medicines DO NOT CURE. “We only use medicines,” these doctors have said, “to aid nature.”

But, the few who do believe in fasting when ill will surely be shocked to see the statement under my by-line that fasting never heals! Yet that statement is absolutely true—and it’s about time we come to understand what fasting is—and what it is not!

Fasting Never Heals

Fasting does not heal!

Healing is a divine miracle. Healing is the forgiveness of sin—and none can forgive sin but God. Fasting is self-inflicted—a human effort, not divine miracle—and fasting cannot forgive sin.

Jesus Christ healed the sick. It was always His will. He healed the sick in ancient Israel, long before his human appearance, born human of the virgin Mary. One of his names is Yahweh-Ropheka—which, translated into English, means our God-healer.

To the griping, complaining Israelites in the arid lands approaching Mt. Sinai, he said, “I am the Lord that healeth thee.” And in the original Hebrew language, in which Moses wrote this, his name was given as “Yahweh-Ropheka.”

David knew God heals, as surely as he forgives sin: “Who forgiving
all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases” (Ps. 103:3). Isaiah explained how. When Jesus was spending a whole night healing all that were sick, we read, in Matthew 8:16-17: “... and healed all that were sick: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet [Isa. 53:4], saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.”

How, then, did Jesus “take them”—that is, bear them—or pay the penalty in our stead? Peter explains it: “by whose stripes ye were healed” (I Pet. 2:24).

**Sickness Is a Penalty**

What is sickness—disease—debility—pain and suffering? It is the penalty being paid for the violation of the physical laws of the human body.

It is not natural to be sick, it is unnatural! God so designed the mechanism of the human body that, given proper food (and few indeed know what that is!); drinking the right amount of pure water; breathing properly of pure air; getting sufficient exercise—and that is not necessarily a great amount; obtaining sufficient rest, recreation and sleep; maintaining normal regularity of elimination, which includes more frequent bathing and rubdowns than many realize; and keeping the mind in a positive, cheerful, active and peaceful state, the body would never be sick!

Very few understand this. I have just named the seven laws of health, which God has given each of us, as a human individual, the responsibility of regulating.

Of course, it is true that even many if not most doctors know so little about proper food and diet that they are unable themselves to observe the dietary law of health. That law is the one most frequently broken.

Most people think they can put anything that pleases the palate into the mouth and call it food. That is not true. Potassium cyanide might taste good—I really don’t know, for I never experimented, and never intend to!—but every doctor will agree that it is not food! It will kill you—quickly! The only difference is that excess of starchy “foods,” sugars and greases, kills you—slowly, gradually, over a duration of perhaps 10, perhaps 60 years—and sets up colds, fevers, rheumatisms, tuberculosis, heart diseases, diabetes, kidney disorders and dozens of other ailments along the way in the meantime!

Very few know that they ought to breathe more deeply and be sure to obtain fresh air during sleep—even by leaving a window partly open. And so millions upon millions of people violate this simple health rule. And all cigarette smokers!

Almost no one knows the value, to health and long life, of regular daily rubdowns—good, brisk, vigorous (not necessarily over-vigorous or violent) rubdowns, with a bath towel, brush or other means.

The food we eat passes through the alimentary canal, with needed elements being absorbed into the bloodstream on the way, and the waste then expelled. God has given every normal human a very plain signal to know when elimination time arrives—and this can be regulated into an established habit at regular convenient times of day. Yet probably many women, and a large portion if not half of men, are suffering from constipation—due to pure neglect, and, probably, faulty diet and in some cases lack of exercise!

**Your Responsibility**

The point is this: Obeying these seven laws is the responsibility of each individual. This knowledge is available! There is no excuse for human ignorance. Such knowledge always has been accessible. These laws we, ourselves, either observe and obey—or else we violate them and bring on lowered vitality, depleted energy, befogged and dulled minds, a feeling of “dopey” laziness, and almost countless diseases.

Now Jesus Christ never broke a single one of these laws! And Jesus Christ was never sick—not for a minute!

Yet his body was just like our bodies! He set us the example. He demonstrated that, if we obey the laws God has given as our responsibility to obey, the body itself will function regularly, in perfect health, strong vigor, vitality, energy and strength—and never get sick!

It is a far more precision-designed-and-made mechanism than a Rolls-Royce automobile. It just won’t break down or get sick—of itself! It functions automatically. But, like your automobile, it needs “being taken care of,” as one conscientious chauffeur put it. Your automobile needs the right kind of fuel, oils and greases. It needs watching to see that there is proper amount of water in the radiator. Yes, it needs attention.

The trouble is, most of you give careful attention to your automobiles, but give almost no attention to the care of your own bodies!

Now what is the Bible definition of sin? Sin is the transgression of law (I John 3:4). Of course it means law of God—but it includes these physical laws. These physical laws, too, were set in inexorable living motion by God.

Sin, spiritually, is the transgression of the spiritual law of love—divided into the two great commandments, love toward God and love toward neighbor—enlarged into the Ten Commandments, and magnified by Jesus, and all through the Bible—especially the New Testament.

This law is a SPIRITUAL LAW! It can only be fulfilled—or kept—
by spiritual love, which is the love of God, which one can have only by God's grace, through his Holy Spirit—which IS that spiritual love! The penalty for violation of that law is the second, and eternal, death!

When you are sick, the physical laws that regulate the human mechanism have been violated! Of course, there can be injury from accident or violence. You, yourself, or the other fellow may or may not be responsible for that. Accidents nearly always result from carelessness—but of course it could be the other fellow's carelessness! Perhaps you drank a germ in drinking water—supposing it was pure water. Yes it is possible—and sometimes happens—that the sick or injured one did not, himself, violate the physical law. But, regardless, nature's laws were violated.

So, sickness, disease, injuries are the penalty of physical sin! Jesus Christ himself said so! Healing is forgiveness of the sin and miraculous removal of the penalty.

Healing Is Forgiving Sin

Once Jesus Christ was in a house in Capernaum. Crowds flocked in. The house became jam packed, many unable to enter. Then came four men carrying on a pallet a man sick with palsy. Unable to get through the crowd, they climbed on the housetop, tore off several tiles and let the man on the pallet down through the roof in front of Jesus.

"When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee."

Immediately the Pharisees and doctors of the law among the crowd began to accuse Jesus of blasphemy—claiming to forgive sin! He said to them:

"Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house" (Mark 2:1-11).

Jesus Christ performed this healing in order to show that healing is the forgiveness of physical sin—and, by divine miracle, the removal of the penalty being suffered.

How is this penalty removed? By the power of the Holy Spirit, because Jesus Christ was flogged—beaten with stripes—scourged—beaten so that he was disfigured, or marred, more than any man (Isa. 52:14). He, who never broke nature's physical health laws—who never was sick or diseased—paid the penalty of our physical transgressions in our stead. Thus, if we accept his sacrifice (of being so scourged before being nailed to the cross), God, by his blood, has promised to remove from us the penalty we are paying in the form of sickness or disease.

All humans have sinned—spiritually. Sin is the transgression of God's law. All have broken the spiritual law. The penalty is the second death—and it is eternal punishment. But we can have this penalty removed. How? By the fact that Christ paid the death penalty for us—he bled to death—his blood was his physical human life. The law took his life instead of ours. If we repent, and believe, then by divine miracle God's Holy Spirit removes the death penalty from us. Our sins are forgiven by the blood of Christ, and we are saved from the second death!

God heals by precisely the same principle! Not by Christ's blood—but by his stripes we are healed (I Pet. 2:24). He paid the penalty in our stead. He did the suffering for us, so God can remove it from us!

God revealed this dual truth about spiritual forgiveness and physical forgiveness through David: "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases" (Ps. 103:3). It is as much God's will to heal as it is to save!

What, Then, Is Use of Fasting?

Now it ought to become crystal clear that fasting is not healing. Fasting does not forgive sin. Fasting is not a miracle.

Yet, I myself have recommended that people go on fasts who were afflicted with rheumatism, ulcers of the stomach, constipation, high blood pressure, fevers—and after the fast they were rid of the sickness or disease.

Well then, didn't the fasting heal them? NO—emphatically NO!

Let me explain what happened. Fasting is good for certain things—indeed many things—when intelligently and properly used. But what happened is this: the sickness in these instances was brought on by faulty diet. It was the penalty of putting improper things (usually excess starch, sugar and grease) into the stomach. Now the first thing that happened was, that on beginning the fast, these people stopped sinning. They stopped, by fasting, putting more of these toxin-producing elements (really poisons, not foods) into their stomachs.

Second, fasting tends to speed up the elimination of toxins and poisons. Fasting is not pleasant. The Bible refers to it as "afflicting the soul"—that is, the body. So, they suffered the penalty of having eaten that poison, supposing it to be food. In fact, the fasting intensified the penalty by speeding up the elimination.

In summary, what happened in fasting was this: 1) they stopped the sinning that caused the penalty...
they were suffering: 2) they paid the penalty in full themselves, in a speeded-up intensified form; and 3) when it was paid, they simply didn’t have the sickness or disease any longer.

But that is not healing!

Now we come to the question: If fasting is not healing, and we do believe, and intend to rely on Jesus Christ as our Healer, should we ever fast, when ill?

Should We Fast, Then?
The answer is, yes, always provided you understand it is not a means of healing—it is not a substitute for healing—it actually has nothing to do with healing! And provided you are not currently taking prescription drugs and are not afflicted with a chronic illness, in which case you should seek a physician’s advice before undertaking a fast. But fasting does have a lot to do with stopping the sin of eating wrong things!

When Jesus healed, he said to go and “sin no more” (John 5:14). One of the conditions to being healed is that we stop sinning—stop breaking nature’s laws. We need to learn what we can about God’s dietary laws, and about proper nutrition and diet.

In fasting, we do stop the physical sinning of eating wrong things. We let our stomachs rest from the effects of improper food. And, in the case of a cold or fever, any kind of food is merely pouring more kerosene on the fire!

To prevent sinning, always stop eating the very moment you feel the first warning signs of a cold or fever—those little pains around the back of the neck, or down the spine. In fasting, you pay the penalty you have incurred in intensified and speeded-up manner. But, to have the penalty removed, obey God’s command of James 5:14-15, and rely on Christ, not on the fasting!

The Rational Diet
Nearly everyone, today, is eating an excess of starches, sugars and fats. The Bible forbids the eating of animal fat. Starch is a modern invention—millers take wheat, corn and rice apart, take out the 12 alkaline mineral elements, leave the four acid-reacting elements. The sugar refiners do the same to natural sugar.

An authority on nutrition said: “Eat only such foods as will spoil, and eat them before they do.”

Why do flour millers give us white flour; sugar refiners white sugar? Because freshly ground natural whole wheat will spoil. By removing the real food value—the 12 mineral elements—and in addition perhaps adding an artificial preservative or bleach, they prevent spoilage. Even most so-called whole-wheat flour you buy today contains artificial additives and preservatives.

The few who do believe in fasting when ill will surely be shocked to see the statement under my by-line that fasting never heals!

What should we do? If possible (too often it is not), we should procure whole grains, grown in proper soil without synthetic fertilizers, and then, with a home stone-grinder, grind our own grain—using it up before it spoils.

Also, squeeze out a glass of orange or other juice and drink it immediately. Foods ought to be eaten while fresh.

More About Fasting
But finally, back to fasting. Jesus never put sick people on fasts for healing. In every case he healed them by divine miracle—and in most cases the healing was immediate. The apostles healed through the miraculous power of God’s Spirit in the name of Jesus Christ—but they did not use fasting as a means of healing. Healing is a miracle.

Then why do I recommend fasting from the very moment of the first signs of sickness, disease or even a cold or fever? Not for healing, but merely to immediately stop sinning. Then discontinue fasting as soon as you feel and see that you are healed. Rely on God for the healing.

But let us get this straight. Seeing and feeling is not faith—and God heals according to your faith. Faith must precede the healing—and remain firm until you are healed. Faith is your evidence that God is healing you. After the healing has taken place, then you will see and/or feel that you are healed, and then stop fasting.

I simply know that so many, today, do not have the faith for immediate healing. You should have—and this faith is actually Christ’s faith, imparted to you—given to you through God’s Spirit as his gift—but if you are so far from contact with God, and so close to the material interests of this world, that you do not have this faith, then I know that it would be better that you prevent further violation of nature’s law by continuing the fast—until there is the physical evidence of healing.

However, even then, fasting must not be continued too long! Unwise over-lengthy fasts can prove fatal.

It is true that both Moses and Jesus Christ fasted 40 days. But they were physically in far better and stronger condition basically than any of us today, and besides, they were fasting only for spiritual reasons, to draw closer to God in prayer—not to cleanse the body of toxic excesses. Such a fast would be most unwise for most people, today!

Unless one is under the daily observation and supervision of a competent physician who is fully experienced in fasting, I would advise, with strongest emphasis, definitely to limit any fast to seven days—and if over 65, to three days. Never go to extremes! If necessary, take a series of shorter fasts!  □
What’s Wrong With SCIENCE?

by Jack R. Elliott

An honest scientist will examine all sources of knowledge before reaching conclusions. But modern science has rejected a vital source of true knowledge. Why?

WHERE has modern science gone wrong? What is wrong with modern scientific education that we face the ultimate possibility of world destruction through scientific warfare?

Strange as it may seem, the scientific world has the attitude that motivated man’s first sin! It is the attitude of “I’ll find out for myself.” Here is what occurred in the first scientific experiment!

It all began when the first woman was convinced that she could not trust God to give her right knowledge. She immediately assumed the attitude of finding out for herself. She experimented and found that the fruit of the tree looked good and tasted good and was desirable. So she, considering herself self-sufficient, took and ate of the forbidden fruit (Gen. 3:6).

She had performed an experiment and had drawn her own conclusion. She had scientific proof that was demonstrable in that she was able to repeat the experiment to Adam’s satisfaction. He also looked, tasted and found that it was desirable. He, too, let scientific experimentation decide his course of action. The result: both died!

Science, by experimenting, carefully measuring and cataloging its findings has come upon much physical knowledge. Much of it is helpful to you and me. But science, like Adam and Eve, is unable to discover all knowledge by experimentation. There is vital knowledge left which experimentation will not uncover.

WHERE adequate, provable knowledge is not at first available by experiment, science must first speculate what might be the answer, then experiment to prove or disprove the imagined theory.

This is exactly what Adam and Eve did. And like Adam and Eve’s experiment, science’s conclusions often incorporate irreparable error.

Scientific Achievement

Scientists have brought about a push-button age. They have unleashed power that is astonishing. Even so, something is wrong! The very power they have discovered threatens to destroy mankind.

This knowledge is the instruction on how to use human inventions and how to use the knowledge men have obtained.

Just as Adam and Eve (Gen. 3), scientists have rejected instructions from the Creator. And, like Adam and Eve, this action is causing misery and woe.

This vital knowledge is available only from the Creator—the God who created all laws, all life and all material. He is the one who set life in motion. Only he knows the purpose for its creation and how it can be used correctly. This knowledge from God is necessary to guide and...
direct scientific knowledge and power into a happy, peaceful, long and wholesome life. Without this knowledge all increase of power only heightens the tension and anxiety of impending chaos.

Science has, without scientific proof, arbitrarily rejected the Creator God and his vital knowledge that it so desperately needs. It has arbitrarily rejected the Word of God—the God, and assumes the position of telling mankind how to live. That is a direct insult to God!

Anyone who has honestly looked into the marvels of nature and seen the varieties of animals, plants and insects together with the intricacy, complexity and beauty of this creation—has to acknowledge God as Creator. Even the simplest item is awe-inspiring! One tiny leaf is made

up of millions of tiny cells, all intricately and perfectly organized. It is similar in shape to the other leaves on the same tree, but it is never exactly the same. It has its own individuality.

What marvelous laws started it to form and guided its development on the branch? Slowly and logically it developed to live out its season as it was intended! God did it!

Man would consider himself greatly exalted if he could only find out how a tiny leaf forms and why a tiny leaf grows. How much more his ego would be exalted if he could have invented it, designed it in all its beauty and given it life.

These apparently insignificant leaves also have a vital function for you and me. They transform solar energy into food and fuel.

By the process of photosynthesis the whole tree receives an important part of its nourishment and, in turn, animals, insects and even man, gain good from its branches.

Furthermore, these tiny leaves absorb carbon dioxide, which is a harmful waste product of man and animals. The leaves utilize it through photosynthesis and return vitally needed oxygen to the air.

Leaves come on the plant at the appropriate time of the year. They spread their refreshing shade, perform their many vital functions and then, turning into beautiful shades of red and gold, finally drop to the ground in autumn to become humus and fertilizer for the roots of hungry plants next season.

Has science ever made an invention which has served mankind as much as even the tiny leaf?

God's creations are marvelously beautiful, intricately complex and vital to mankind. They are drawn up and set in motion by an all-wise Creator. He is our wonderful God, whom most of mankind chooses to ignore. Though scientists cannot fully understand the how and why of leaves, they have attached the impressive name "photosynthesis" to their living, manufacturing processes, and the world ignorantly thinks science knows all about it.

The world forgets God and reverently gives science the glory.

Faith in Science

In this world, scientists' hypotheses, theories or speculations are looked upon as being very wise. Men and women everywhere accept most of their statements in explicit faith. All one needs to say is, "According to the latest scientific thinking thus and so is true."

Actually this jargon means that science is ignorant of the real answer but it assumes or imagines that "such and such is true."

Newspapers grab this result of scientific imagination and flash it around the world as "the latest (Continued on page 37)
WHAT KIND OF GOD DO YOU WORSHIP?
by Roderick C. Meredith

Where did you get your concepts of God? Here is a surprising truth that may shock you!

You may have heard the emotional evangelist ask on television: “Do you know the Lord Jesus Christ tonight? Do you feel his presence in your heart?”

Is an emotional “feeling” the way you come to know and understand the true God?

Most religious people have simply grown up mimicking from childhood the type of religious talk and attitude their elders displayed. They have not proved why they believe as they do—or why they picture God and think of him as they do.

Yet, to really know God—to become acquainted with him—and to ultimately be born as his literal son—this is the supreme purpose of your life!

How, then, can you truly know God—his thoughts and attitudes—the way he will act—what kind of personality he really is?

God Reveals His Nature

There are three basic means by which you can come to know and really understand the true God—the Creator of heaven and earth. The first way is by carefully studying what God has produced—his creation—the thing we sometimes call nature. The apostle Paul knew this. He was inspired to write in Romans 1:20, “For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made...”

So evident is the supreme intelligence of God in his creation, that the atheist is totally without excuse for denying God’s existence. This is a law-abiding universe. God is clearly revealed in nature as a God of law and order—of supreme wisdom and purpose behind every creation.

Try to break the law of gravity sometime! The unity of nature—the constancy of its inexorable laws—all point to the nature and character of the Creator. God’s creation did not evolve! Its laws remain the same. Charles Darwin’s own son said, “We cannot prove that a single species has been changed.” God decreed (Gen. 1:25) that every plant and animal should bring forth “after his kind.” Not once has this decree been violated.

God’s laws do not change! All nature thunders forth this truth. This principle applies to spiritual as well as physical things. Study God’s creation if you truly wish to understand your Creator. The Bible and “nature” both teach that God’s plan and his laws do not alter. “The works of his hands are verity and judgment; all his commandments are sure. They stand fast for ever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness” (Ps. 111:7-8).

Second Witness Needed

In contrast to the united testimony of nature, human beings are divided and confused in their ideas of God. It has been said, “Man creates God in his own image.” In the majority of cases, that is true!

People of every nation and tongue have always worshiped something. But their “god” was usually a product of their imaginations—a god that would conform to their human standards, laws and ways of looking at things.

Even today, most professing Christians read their own idea of God into the Bible. Their conception of God is just as narrow and limited as their own environment, training and mental outlook has been.

Other people go to the opposite extreme. They think of God as a far-off spiritual power with little or no direct concern with the human family. They imagine that God is “wise” enough to let us alone to choose our own amusements, society, laws—our own religion the way we want to have it. They think they are philosophic, cosmopolitan, modern. So they make God in their own image!

In every nation, city and family there are people with differing human ideas of what God is like.

Let’s quit trying to make God in our own image!

The Holy Bible is the revealed Word of the Creator God. It was written to show us the nature of God, and how we should live and worship him—that we might be his children. Diligently studying your Bible is the second way to come to know God. It is the second witness needed to dispel man’s confusion in his ideas of God. If you have...
proved and really believe that the Bible is the inspired revelation from God to man, then you should clearly realize that God's Word is not to be argued with—or falsely interpreted to bolster pet doctrines.

The Bible Carries Authority

We may have had our own preconceived human idea of God. But if we want the truth, let's put that aside and search God's Word to find out how he reveals himself to us. Remember that "all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (II Tim. 3:16). The Bible is to correct and reprove us—to show us where we are wrong. Will we let it?

God says, "I am the Lord, I change not..." (Mal. 3:6). We find that Jesus Christ is "the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Heb. 13:8). The Father and the Son do not whimsically change their plans and principles, or their laws. They 'change not.'

At this point, it is important to realize that Christ was the God or "Lord" of the Old Testament! In John 1:1-5, we find that Christ was the "Word" or "Spokesman" who was with the Father from the beginning. All things were created by Jesus Christ (verse 3 and Col. 1:16). Christ was the spiritual Rock that went before and protected the children of Israel, and that gave them the Ten Commandments (I Cor. 10:1-4).

God in the person of Jesus Christ is the one who gave the law that most preachers hate today! Why do they hide their eyes from the Christ who is supreme Lawgiver? Do they think that Christ has changed?

Your Bible says no!

God's methods and laws are basically the same from Genesis to Revelation. Apparently not realizing this, most self-appointed preachers will tell you about the "God of the Old Testament" in contrast with Christ in the New Testament. Then they go on to say that Christ preached one gospel, and the apostle Paul preached a different gospel! They are in confusion.

In Revelation 17:5, God names this mixed-up, divided system of churchianity "Babylon the Great," which literally means "Great Confusion." God's true people are commanded to come out of this system (Rev. 18:4). Why?

Because these churches don't know the true God! Satan has his own false ministers who appear to be the ministers of righteousness (II Cor. 11:15). These false ministers are deceiving people, "In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not..." (II Cor. 4:4).

How can these people be so easily deceived? First, because they blindly follow human tradition and these false ministers and therefore have a false conception of God. And second, because they are spiritually too lazy to study their Bibles and come to know the true God and his way.

Jesus Reveals Father

Jesus came in the flesh to reveal the Father. He showed that God's law would be in force until heaven and earth should pass away (Matt. 5:18). He didn't come to destroy God's law, but to fulfill it (verse 17). And fulfill means to do or perform, not to do away with. When a young man came to ask Jesus how to be saved, he was told, "Keep the commandments" (Matt. 19:17).

Indeed, Jesus' whole ministry was one of revealing God as the supreme Lawgiver and Ruler. He preached the good news of the kingdom or government of God (Mark 1:14). That is the true Gospel—the good news of God's government, God's rule.

The very foundation of Jesus' teaching was that "man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4).

What word? What God? Those Jews knew very well that Christ was referring to the giver of the law—the God who was to rule Israel. The only "word" of the true God—at that time—was the Old Testament as contained in your Bible! Jesus referred to the "law"—the Old Testament writings—as Scripture, and he said, "the scripture cannot be broken" (John 10:35).

Christ Our Example

Most professing Christian ministers talk about Christ as some sort of hero and Savior. They picture Jesus as a sweet but helpless little baby at Christmas time and as a Savior who has gone "way off to heaven" at Easter time! Their conception is that he came to die for men, but that his teaching carries no authority today!

Your Bible says the exact opposite!

In John 1:4, we find that Jesus' life was the "light" of men. It was to show them God's way to live. Peter was inspired to write, "...Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps" (I Pet. 2:21).

Now read I John 2:6. It is more properly rendered in the Moffatt translation. Speaking of Christ, John wrote, "He who says he remains in him ought to be living as he lived."

Jesus is our perfect example! If we say we are Christian—that we "remain in him"—we ought to be living as he lived! Are you? If you don't believe in and try to follow Jesus' example, you don't understand what kind of God the true God is. You are ignorant of how to worship and obey the God and Father of Jesus Christ.

What was Jesus' example? Jesus' entire life is a perfect example of obedience to God's law and his rule! He said, "I have kept my Father's commandments" (John 15:10).

His own teaching was simply a magnification of God's law (Isa. 42:21). Actually, he came in the flesh to magnify his own law—the Ten Commandments! Remember? He was the God of the Old Testament who gave the Ten Commandments and dealt with Israel (I Cor. 10:1-6).

When he came in the flesh, Jesus (Continued on page 36)
Few understand the astounding cause of the paradox facing the West today.

**MAN has harnessed the power of the atom. He hurls probes to photograph and map distant planets and now prepares to mine the ocean floor.**

Yet humans live with vermin in major inner-city areas. Violent crime soars in once quiet neighborhoods. And men and women wonder aloud about their future in a world bristling with nuclear weaponry.

Why this paradox?

Suppose you were to draw a graph of man's social and material progress over the last near 6,000 years. There would be two lines, one representing social development and the other technological progress. Each would rise slightly throughout the graph—until the lines reached the period of the last few decades. There, the line representing social development would hardly change, while the line noting technological progress would suddenly become near vertical, until it finally disappeared off the top of the chart!

The paradox of war, violence, crime and poverty contrasts with man's scientific and material achievements. Why?

Isn't it time we understood the root cause of this paradox? And the cure?

Looking for Answers

The Western world today faces complex difficulties not even dreamed of at the beginning of this century.

People like having everything done for them. Push-button convenience appliances line counters of kitchens in Europe, North America, Australia, Japan and a few other areas of the industrialized world. Housewives regularly bombard factories to perform dangerous
prices, for example, have risen so high it's cheaper to import steel in many cases than to buy locally.

In Japan, efficient robots replace human laborers, resulting in more uniform quality and lower costs. Only a few U.S. plants can retool to become more competitive because of the loss of money (capital) in flagging trade.

Now consider this shocking fact: "By 1980, the United States had managed to become last among the world's industrialized nations in annual rate of productivity growth. Our yearly productivity increases are hovering at zero or have actually gone negative, while other nations... are attaining substantial productivity increases" (America's Technology Slip by Simon Ramo, page 41, emphasis added).

If you're an American, this means your unstable economy could knock you out of a job—as millions worldwide already know.

If you live and work outside the United States, this means your country has a reduced market in the United States, and major unemployment problems. It is rightly said that "when America's economy catches a cold, Europe is hospitalized with pneumonia."

Finding the Answers
Few realize the true underlying reason for the West's economic and technological crisis!

Have you ever wondered why and how the United States—and the English speaking world in general—originally obtained its material, industrial and technological strength beyond anything experienced in the rest of the world?

And have you ever seriously wondered why the United States is losing national strength—and how the nation could recover it?

The answers lie not where you may think but in a source you wouldn't expect—a source book that is rarely considered. It reveals the simple, astonishing solutions to the problems engulfing the West.

The greatness and might of both the United States—and the former British Empire in its day—were promised, believe it or not, more than 3,000 years ago. And the future of both the United States and Britain—and other countries too—is already written in this source.

The West embraces nominally a religion based on an Israelitish book—the book (actually a collection of books) today called the Holy Bible. It is a book that largely concerns Israel. It traces the origins and development of this people, with only a relatively small portion devoted exclusively to the first century A.D. expansion of the Church Jesus founded. In this source book you can find the astounding origin and development of both the United States and Britain.

In this book, too, lies the spiritual knowledge, that if rightly applied, would transform this world into an economic, technological and political utopia!

And mark this! Spiritual knowledge is the most practical, needful commodity today—yet almost no one understands the profound implications of deliberate neglect and rejection of this vital knowledge.

To understand why the world today is what it is, you need to write today for your free copy of the book The United States and Britain in Prophecy. (See inside cover for addresses.) This book by Editor-in-Chief Herbert W. Armstrong explains in fascinating, gripping detail the biblical prophecies describing the origin and development of two of the West's prominent countries.

Let us here summarize why we have had such advanced technological nations as the United States and Britain: God made a promise of national greatness to the patriarch Abraham and he made that promise unconditional—that is, it must come to pass (Gen. 22:16-18). However, he imposed conditions on Abraham's descendants, specifically the ancient nation Israel, if they wished to receive these blessings of national greatness in their time, instead of in later centuries.

In effect, God gave ancient Israel a choice. If Israel obeyed God's laws, statutes and commandments, they would be blessed. If they disobeyed they would be under a national curse. This disobedience the Bible calls sin (I John 3:4).

Israel said to God, "All that the
Lord hath said will we do, and be obedient” (Ex. 24:7). But as even any casual reader of the Bible knows, ancient Israel failed terribly.

God made sure they didn’t fail without knowing the consequences of doing what seems right to man. In two major chapters of the Bible, God spelled out both the advantages of obeying and terrible results of breaking his laws. These accounts are found in Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28.

The ancient Israelites, through disobedience, were divided into two nations. The northern kingdom, the house of Israel, went into their Assyrian captivity because of national sins. They virtually disappeared, leaving only miniscule traces of their travels. Their national identity became blurred through the loss of Israel’s main identifying sign: the weekly Sabbath (Ex. 31:13).

Later the southern kingdom, the house of Judah, went into Babylonian captivity for national sins. They came, later, to be called by the name Israel because they preserved a knowledge of the identifying sign of God’s people—the weekly Sabbath.

Meanwhile God knew who the people of the northern kingdom were, and he knew he must keep his promise to them of national greatness as declared in Genesis 35:11 and Genesis 12:2; 22:16-18.

We pass through 2,500 years of history to the time of the Industrial Revolution, specifically around A.D. 1800.

What nation and group of nations suddenly sprang into international prominence, to the eventual unparalleled material greatness long ago promised to Abraham, beginning about 1800?

The United States and the British Empire!

The tiny island nation of Britain became Great Britain. The United States laid claim to what would become the breadbasket of the world. In fact, eventually the two peoples came into possession of more than two thirds of all the cultivated resources and wealth of the entire world—the very material promises God had given to the patriarch Abraham and his descendents.

Through the material blessings granted by God, the United States has led the world in agricultural and technological development. The United States, through the earlier part of this century, was the chief oil exporting nation on the face of the earth. “Yankee ingenuity” set new technological standards for the Western world. Britain held economic leadership and was empowered through its early industrial advantages. London has been the world’s center of banking for more than a century.

The Present Crisis


Indeed he is! As a condition for continued national blessings, God expects obedience to his revealed laws (Lev. 26:1-3).

But what have the English-speaking nations done?

They have gone far from God, devising alliances, trusting in their own military might. “I call heaven and earth to record this day against you,” God says to ancient Israel’s modern descendants, “that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: THEREFORE CHOOSE LIFE, that both thou and thy seed may live” (Deut. 30:19).

But the nations God blessed have rejected God. “Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men” (Mark 7:7). (If you’d like to know what God does expect of you and the resultant blessings in your personal life, write for our free booklet The Ten Commandments.)

Notice now the results of disobedience to God’s laws—laws that would bring us social peace and harmony: “But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments… I will break the pride of your power… ye shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it… your strength shall be spent in vain…” (Lev. 26:14, 19, 16, 20).

Once a superpower, Britain has slid to second-rate status, a shadow of her previously globe-girdling strength.

And the United States is rapidly following! The war in Vietnam and the Watergate scandal rocked the nation. Without an inherent strength from sense of purpose, the United States suffered a tremendous identity crisis and subsequent shattering of moral and political ideals in the years 1965 to 1974.

It’s not pleasant to read about, but the downward trend is continuing—and the United States and Britain are economically dragging the rest of the West and other nations with them!

“For the first time in its history, the United States is no longer growing in power and influence among the nations of the world. In fact, the United States is now in steep decline, and the Pax Americana that shaped modern history since World War II is fast disintegrating” (The Decline of U.S. Power, by the Business Week team, page 1).

It is evident that America and Britain are descending the economic ladder in tandem. “The parallels between the decline of the United States and the dollar in the 1970s and the fall of Britain and sterling in the 1930s are astonishing” (ibid., page 4).

What’s to Come?

While mankind on the whole refuses to even acknowledge that God intervenes in human affairs (Rom. 1:19-21), God still moves powerfully according to his purpose. God has marked out a period of 6,000 years for man to rule himself (except as it should seriously violate the purpose of God), setting up his own institutions of religion, government, education and society.

But for the United States and Britain today, God is moving strongly with the punishment spelled out in Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28. The people have worshipped the works of their hands, they have served their technological inventions instead of the Creator God (Lev. 26:1). Dr. Ramo put it in these words: If “scientific research and technological development were not worshipped, at least . . . such activity was revered and encouraged (op. cit.).”

Instead of looking to God, men look to technological development (Continued on page 30)
**THE WORLD TOMORROW** RADIO AND TV LOGS

Herbert W. Armstrong analyzes today’s news, with the prophecies of *The World Tomorrow*

### TELEVISION LOG

Listed by state or province are the station’s call letters, location, channel number and time when program is aired.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S.</th>
<th>LOUISIANA</th>
<th>RHODE ISLAND</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALABAMA</td>
<td>WRBT, Baton Rouge</td>
<td>WPIR, Providence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WWL, New Orleans</td>
<td>- 12, 11:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>KTLA, Shreveport</td>
<td>SOUTH CAROLINA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 6, 10:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WPDE, Florence - 15, 8:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALASKA</td>
<td>WAFN, Atlantic City</td>
<td>WFBF, Greenville - 4, 6:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUAT, Anchorage</td>
<td>2, 10:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>SOUTH DAKOTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KTVU, Oakland</td>
<td>- 2, 7:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WTVK, Knoxville - 26, 6:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KFBB, Juneau</td>
<td>- 13, 3:00 p.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WPTV, Memphis - 24, 9:30 p.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>KISW, Seattle</td>
<td>TENNESSEE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KAZN, Flagstaff</td>
<td>2, 9:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WDEF, Chattanooga - 12, 10:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KTVK, Phoenix</td>
<td>- 3, 7:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WKPT, Kingsport - 13, 11:00 p.m., Sat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KAZZ, Tucson</td>
<td>- 11, 9:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WTVK, Knoxville - 26, 6:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARKANSAS</td>
<td>KIN, Little Rock</td>
<td>WXYZ, Miami - 24, 9:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KARK, Arkansas</td>
<td>4, 10:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WNYT, New Haven - 9:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KABC, Bakersfield</td>
<td>29, 7:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WOR, New York - 9:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KSEE, Fresno</td>
<td>- 24, 6:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WHTM, Kalamazoo - 11:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KHJ, Los Angeles</td>
<td>- 26, 10:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WITN, Washington - 7, 11:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KTTV, Los Angeles</td>
<td>- 36, 7:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WXYZ, Birmingham - 10, 10:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KTUH, Kaohsiung</td>
<td>- 19, 12:00 noon, Sun.</td>
<td>WXXI, Rochester - 10, 11:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KTXL, Sacramento</td>
<td>- 40, 7:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WXXII, Winston-Salem - 12, 10:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KCST, San Diego</td>
<td>- 39, 7:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>NORTH DAKOTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOC, Denver</td>
<td>4, 7:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>KTHI, Fargo - 11, 7:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KWHN, Denver</td>
<td>- 11, 2:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>OHIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONNECTICUT</td>
<td>WTRG, Hartford</td>
<td>WAKR, Akron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 20, 10:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>- 23, 11:15 p.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA</td>
<td>WTTG, Washington</td>
<td>WVLH, Cincinnati - 5, 11:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 5, 6:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WUAB, Cleveland - 43, 9:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLORIDA</td>
<td>WXIX, Miami</td>
<td>WTVN, Columbus - 6, 6:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WBBH, Ft. Meyers</td>
<td>20, 9:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WDDO, Toledo - 24, 9:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WWWS, Jacksonville</td>
<td>30, 9:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WTTY, Youngstown - 35, 11:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCIX, Miami</td>
<td>- 6, 7:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>OKLAHOMA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WTVJ, Miami</td>
<td>- 4, 9:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>KOHK, Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFTS, Tampa</td>
<td>- 28, 7:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>KOKI, Tulsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WESH, Winter Park</td>
<td>- 2, 9:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>OREGON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGIA</td>
<td>WATL, Atlanta</td>
<td>KOIN, Portland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 36, 10:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAGL, Augusta</td>
<td>- 26, 10:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WBBF, Daytona Beach</td>
<td>- 7, 7:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WBBH, Ft. Myers</td>
<td>20, 9:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WBBF, Miami</td>
<td>- 41, 9:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KXJZ, Fort Myers</td>
<td>24, 9:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGN, Chicago</td>
<td>- 9, 7:00 a.m., Sat.</td>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KGOM, Quincy</td>
<td>- 7, 8:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIXG, Evansville</td>
<td>- 7, 7:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WJHS, Jacksonveille</td>
<td>- 33, 9:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WISN, Milwaukee</td>
<td>- 10, 11:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCW, Columbus</td>
<td>- 3, 8:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WTIC, Savannah</td>
<td>- 11, 10:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAWAII</td>
<td>WCWI, Honolulu</td>
<td>WPTP, Bridgeville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 13, 9:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td>WPXI, Pittsburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IOWA</td>
<td>WOI, Des Moines</td>
<td>WSBA, York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 5, 6:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KANSAS</td>
<td>KWWL, Waterloo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 7, 10:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KJCO, Fairway</td>
<td>- 5, 9:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KMRN, Wichita</td>
<td>- 3, 12:00 noon, Sun.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KENTUCKY</td>
<td>WLEX, Lexington</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 18, 9:30 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WDRB, Louisville</td>
<td>- 41, 10:00 a.m., Sun.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RIGHT OR WRONG?

Who Decides?

by Keith W. Stump

You probably have assumed it is your responsibility to decide what is right for you. And you couldn't be more wrong! Here's why!

THE TOBACCO industry recently placed a thought-provoking advertisement in major U.S. magazines.

The ad concerned the subject of cigarette smoking. In the ad was an offer for a free booklet examining the issues involved in the smoking controversy.

Near the end of the ad came the following statement:

"We offer it [the booklet] to you in the belief that full and free discussion of these important public issues is in the public interest. And that in matters of adult social customs, the vast majority of fair-minded Americans honor individual freedom of choice."

At the very bottom of the page, in large bold type, was a final admonition:

"WEIGH BOTH SIDES BEFORE YOU TAKE SIDES."

It is not our purpose to question anyone's right to advertise. But it is our purpose to make our readers think about what they read—to think about the big issues of life. And this ad did touch on one of the big issues of life.

The ad's wording stayed away from the question of right versus wrong. Instead, it spoke of "taking sides." The ad portrayed the smoking-nonsmoking issue not as a question of right and wrong, moral or immoral, but simply a matter of personal taste and choice.

What about it? Is right and wrong involved in the smoking question? Or is deciding whether or not to smoke in the same category as deciding what to have for breakfast or what color of shirt to wear?

What does the Bible have to say about right and wrong in this or any other subject, and what about "individual freedom of choice"?

NO QUESTIONS MORE CRUCIAL

Everyone today has opinions. Just name a controversial issue: smoking, abortion, premarital sex, drug use, women's rights, homosexuality. Everyone has a view, and there is always a human "authority" to support any side of any issue.

How many times have you heard someone say, "The way I see it is . . ."?

It is not surprising, therefore, that the Bible has much to say on the subject of opinions and personal choice. The important questions of individual freedom of choice and right versus wrong are addressed at the very beginning of the Bible.

All have read or heard the story of the two trees in the garden of Eden. God placed there two symbolic trees: the "tree of life" and the "tree of knowledge of good and evil" (Gen. 2:9).

But have you ever stopped to consider the great meaning of these two trees?

God said to Adam and Eve that they could freely eat of the trees in the garden—including the tree of life—except for one tree. And of that tree God commanded them not to eat. That was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Gen. 2:16-17).

The tree of life, as often explained in these pages by Plain Truth Editor-in-Chief Herbert W. Armstrong, symbolized a life of obedience to God, of obeying what he has declared to be right.

The tree of the knowledge of good and evil, on the other hand, symbolized man's deciding for himself—apart from God—what is right and what is wrong. That tree typified man's taking to himself the prerogative of defining good and evil. That's why it was called the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil."

The first humans received clear instructions from God. But notice! God then left it up to them to decide whether they would do what was commanded them. He had no intention of forcing them to obey him. He gave them full freedom of choice!

Understand this important point! God gave Adam and Eve the liberty to choose whether to obey or to

(Continued on page 29)
by Donald D. Schroeder

The specter that haunted the 1930s again threatens world economic instability. Here's why!

Suddenly, battles over trade are heating up! Charges and countercharges of unfair trading practices are flying across oceans and national borders. Trading conflicts threaten to undermine relations between even the closest allies.

Calls for protectionism and retaliation have reached, in recent months, the highest levels since the 1930s. "The world trading system is at a crossroads," warns Robert Hormats, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs.

Emotions Out of Control?

These new battles over trade are strident in tone, with strong emotions. And no wonder! The focus of these battles is simple: It is preserving and protecting scores of thousands of industries and jobs—the only means of livelihood for millions. It is a matter of national survival! Your job or livelihood—or that of your family's—is directly or indirectly at stake!

In recent months, trade negotiators have threatened their counterparts from Europe and Japan that more U.S. demands for freer trade must be met or there will be retaliation with reciprocal barriers. Japanese and European officials reply they will then have to respond in return with "corrective" action.

Something is wrong with the world's economic and trading system! Why do trade wars plague mankind about every 50 years? Nation after nation is in the grips of serious recession. Millions are unemployed, plagued with inflation and deep debt as in the late 1920s. And everyone fears that recession could slip into depression.

Again and again and more and more are finding their only means of earning a living being undercut or wiped out by a flood of foreign imports. Many thrown out of jobs are left destitute and hopeless. They are without other marketable skills or alternative means of employment.

Why do these economic problems plague mankind?

Millions believe the West's economic system, based on intense competition between industries and between service institutions, is the best way to produce the most goods and services for the most persons at the best price. "Competition is the life of trade," say businessmen.

But then why has the "world's best system" produced so many casualties, so much suffering?—millions thrown out of their only means of livelihood. Why must this trading system produce a few nations prosperous in trade and growth at the expense of wiping out the livelihoods of thousands in other nations?

Certainly the Soviet communist system is no answer—witness Poland and all Eastern Europe, and Cuba, too.

Few yet grasp the danger that lies ahead because of trade disputes. The danger of trading conflicts with their whipsawing retaliation threatens to cause more than loss of jobs. It forebodes startling changes in alliances and military confrontations far more dangerous, because of modern technology, than experienced in the 1930s and 1940s. In 1970, in Tokyo,
NEW TRADE WARS?
Surprising Facts About Trade

- West German exports account for 28 percent of the nation's gross national product (GNP), while Japan's export share is 12 percent.
  - In 1970, U.S. exports of goods and services were about 6 percent of GNP, but by 1980 had risen to 12 percent.
- One out of every eight jobs in U.S. industry now depends upon export sales. One out of every three acres under cultivation in the United States produces food or fiber for export. Many other jobs supply goods and services to workers in export production.
  - In one recent year in the United States, 45 percent of all wheat, 25 percent of aircraft, more than 40 percent of construction and surface mining machinery and 20 percent of agricultural chemicals were exported.
- Foreigners complain of Japan's huge balance of trade surpluses with major nations. But the overall Japanese balance of payments is in the red because Japan spends more money abroad than it takes in.
  - More than 45 percent of Japan's exports are purchased by developing countries, while one U.S. job in 20 is in production for export to such nations.
- Japan's cost advantage over U.S. autos in the American market ranges from $1,500 to $2,000 a car, due in large part to lower wage rates and greater production efficiencies.
  - The typical Japanese subcompact is assembled in about 14 hours, vs. 29 hours in the United States. In 1980, one large U.S. auto manufacturer figured its workers earned $7.82 an hour more than their counterparts in Japan.
- A Japanese auto can be produced, transported and sold in West Germany for one-fourth less than the cost of a comparable German model.
- Japanese products account for more than 20 percent of the U.S. auto market, 60 percent of the radio market and 90 percent of motorcycle sales.
- Cheap-labor countries can absorb the rising costs of U.S. cattle hides and still export finished leather goods to the U.S. at prices that undercut domestic producers.
- West European and U.S. officials agree that survival in trade with Japan and other newly arising competitors lies in new measures to improve industrial efficiency, greater cooperation between employers, unions and governments.

Prime Minister Eisaku Sato told the editor-in-chief of this magazine, Herbert W. Armstrong: "... I have to warn you. I see approaching danger of an economic and industrial war between our two countries! We must do everything possible to prevent that, for it might be more terrible than a military war!"

There is a cause for repeated cycles of these crises in world affairs! Millions will not believe it. But the vast majority of humanity are living the wrong way of life! Wrong patterns of living are causing our terrible economic problems. Trade wars, with their attendant threats of unemployment and political upsets, have a cause.

How did our fiercely competitive world trading and economic systems begin? How did mankind get into repeated cycles of threats of trade war?

There is a beginning cause! There will also be a tragic ending—and soon, unless nations change totally their ways of living.

What is the cause of these problems? The Bible reveals the answer—believe it or not!

Source of Competitive Spirit

How many know there is a "father" of the world's competitive spirit? How many know why that attitude of mind fills most of humanity? Competition truly is the "life of trade" today, as businessmen say. It fills almost every human activity. And it is the cause of evil, human conflict and war—including economic and trade wars!

The essence of the destructive competitive spirit is the attitude of getting the best of every deal—to take more than one gives. It is the attitude of being concerned only for oneself, getting now, making a quick killing for self. It is not concerned about what happens to others.

Destructive competition is the way of taking, exalting self, putting others down, pride and ridicule. It is the way of get.

There is, by contrast, an opposite way of life—the give way. The give way is the way of cooperation and encouragement, the way of helping, sharing and serving others with what one has. It is equal concern for others' well-being as for oneself. It is willingness to work harmoniously,
Corporation chairman Akio Morita in a newspaper interview recently. He said he had not seen Americans get so emotional about Japan since the war. "Most leaders, however, remember and fear the trade wars of the 1930s. When trade barriers were then erected they were met with retaliatory barriers from trading partners. Once retaliation started it proliferated and inflamed and prolonged the Great Depression. Everyone lost. Trade war fueled the hostilities which led to despotism and World War II."

Several nations are self-sufficient. Nations must be able to trade in order to secure resources essential to their economic survival, to expand their economies and provide employment. They must be able to sell so that they may keep balance of payments in check. Nations wanting to sell in others' markets must be willing to buy from them. If trade disputes are not peacefully resolved between the main locomotives of world trade—the United States, Europe and Japan—then more than widescale unemployment is at stake. The very underpinnings of Western order and cooperation could crack.

Prosperous trade and economic relations among these nations are vital to maintain the flow of aid to developing nations. But now every nation is struggling to overcome the greatest period of recession, inflation and unemployment since the Great Depression. Governments feel the need to mount export-led recoveries. At the same time politically influential import-beleaguered industries and union officials are pressuring political leaders to mute post-World War II free trade policies. They want to protect their vulnerable livelihoods from imports.

"Protectionism could destroy the Atlantic Alliance," said Sir David Nicholson, a British Conservative member of the European Parliament.

Few nations are self-sufficient. Nations must be able to trade in order to secure resources essential to their economic survival, to expand their economies and provide employment. They must be able to sell so that they may keep balance of payments in check. Nations wanting to sell in others' markets must be willing to buy from them. If trade disputes are not peacefully resolved between the main locomotives of world trade—the United States, Europe and Japan—then more than widescale unemployment is at stake. The very underpinnings of Western order and cooperation could crack.

Prosperous trade and economic relations among these nations are vital to maintain the flow of aid to developing nations. But now every nation is struggling to overcome the greatest period of recession, inflation and unemployment since the Great Depression. Governments feel the need to mount export-led recoveries. At the same time politically influential import-beleaguered industries and union officials are pressuring political leaders to mute post-World War II free trade policies. They want to protect their vulnerable livelihoods from imports.

Most leaders, however, remember and fear the trade wars of the 1930s. When trade barriers were then erected they were met with retaliatory barriers from trading partners. Once retaliation started it proliferated and inflamed and prolonged the Great Depression. Everyone lost. Trade war fueled the hostilities which led to despotism and World War II.

The most troublesome trading quandary facing many nations today is how to meet the enormous power and efficiency of Japanese production and exports. The Japanese economic miracle of the 1960s and 1970s has turned into a juggernaut in the 1980s.

A flood of Japanese exports—from the tiniest components to autos, television sets, machine tools, office equipment, computers and high technology goods—has inundated Europe, the United States and other nations like a tidal wave, raising anger and hostility. "Imagine! In just a comparatively few years' time Japanese imports have all but wiped out the once-famed British motorcycle industry. And Japanese electronics companies now supply all the smaller color-television tubes used in Europe and have taken a commanding 80 percent to 90 percent of the market of videocassette recorders, Europe's hottest new consumer item.

Japanese exports to the European Community almost doubled between 1977 and 1980, widening the EC's trade deficit with Japan. With nearly 10 million unemployed in the European Community, and a demonstrated European liking for Japanese products, industry and government leaders are inflamed. "The Japanese, however, feel they are being made the scapegoats for the inefficiencies of other nations' industries and economic and political policies, and for recession and inflation which were not of their making—which is largely true.

Adding to the import flood, many nations—even Japan—are finding their products undercut by less expensive but high quality goods from newly emerging industrially developing nations like Taiwan, Singapore, Hong Kong, South Korea, Mexico and Brazil.

Unresolved Hostilities

In recent months the United States has filed numerous charges against European nations, Japan and other developing nations for unfair dumping of steel, autos and other goods below production costs. The United States says sales below production costs with losses made up by government subsidies are contrary to the rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). If charges are proven true, the United States says it will slap stiff tax penalties on future imports of those commodities from offending nations. In response a European steel official said, "We are going to ask our government to retaliate."

More and more differing domestic economic policies to control internal problems are colliding in trading areas. European and a host of developing nations are irate at the United States' policy of high interest rates and severe budget cuts to fight inflation. This policy forces high interest rates to hold investments in their own countries and reduces demands for their goods. That stifles their own economic recoveries. "How can we defend our alliance with the United States when critics say American policy is making us bankrupt?" asked France's Finance Minister Jacques Delors in February.

Every nation has been angered by a host of nontariff barriers (more than 800 different kinds) set up by other nations to restrain imports. Japan is particularly under heavy pressure to reduce its complicated structure of barriers. The United States has threatened "reciprocity" legislation with varying levels of retaliation against nations who fail to allow equal access for U.S. goods in their markets.

So far the fear of a repetition of the trade war of the 1930s has caused efforts of compromise to prevail at trade negotiating tables. Promises of reducing barriers and opening markets—especially by Japan—have cooled tempers somewhat. But danger still exists.

World economists warn that the heady days of rapid post-World War II economic expansion are slowing down. They predict that trade competition in the rest of the decade is going to become fiercer than ever.
The Robot Revolution

Whom will machines replace next?

Recently, the U.S. Secretary of Labor made a startling prediction. By 1990, he said, half of the workers in U.S. factories will be specialists trained to service and repair robots.

Industrial robots are now moving rapidly onto assembly lines, replacing blue-collar workers in such jobs as painting, welding, grinding, assembly and heavy metal or equipment lifting.

Japan is now the leader in the use of robots. But the United States and European nations are also moving quickly to introduce them.

It isn't hard to understand why the "iron-collar" workers are attractive to industry. They don't give the boss a hard time, or ask for exorbitant pay increases or fringe benefits, or days off. They don't go on strike. They never get pregnant. They pay for themselves in a few years' time.

What is this new threat to jobs? Or is it a threat?

Actually the industrial robot really looks more like a hydrant than the mechanical man of fiction. The first industrial robot was built in the United States in 1961, but the Japanese have embraced them with a zeal far greater than any other nation.

One highly robotized plant in Japan produces more than 70 kinds of lathed and machined parts. Only six people are required on each of two eight-hour shifts. Once it took 215 persons to man the plant in three shifts.

At a Panasonic television plant, the rate of defective parts is said to be only one fiftieth of what it was before the robots took over.

So the robot revolution is under way. But the question is, what happens to blue-and white-collar workers in today's brave new world of mechanical men?

Some predict great threats to jobs, massive upheavals in business practices and more serious trading competitiveness.

Others argue that by holding down costs and making industry more competitive, robots can create as many or more jobs than they eliminate.

Lessons from the Robot Leader

One thing is for sure, robots can be a blessing rather than a curse only if management and labor are already highly disciplined and workers are willing and able to be retrained.

In a recent article in The Wall Street Journal, Kenichi Ohmae, manager of a consulting firm in Tokyo and Osaka, gave these lessons about Japan's experience with the revolutionary robots.

Lesson number one is, robots will shake up the structure of an industry where labor accounts for a significant portion of manufacturing costs. Companies relying on labor will be extremely vulnerable to companies that have switched to robots.

Lesson number two is, robots provide recession resistance. The Japanese are striving to build operations that make money at anything over 70 percent capacity.

However, some Japanese firms utilizing computerized machines and robots break even at 30 percent utilization. These plants are extremely resilient to economic downturns. They can simply switch from a two-shift to a one-shift operation with few changes in employment.

The third lesson is, robots reduce barriers to entry into high technology manufacture. What robots do is help smaller companies enter precision machinery, fabrication and assembly industries from which they had been barred for a lack of a large supply of skilled workers. With robots, managers no longer face the constraint of lack of skilled workers, or having to move where they are.

Robots cannot only replace simple manual workers, but experienced and skilled workers. Companies need only attract first class management talent. In Japan, by the end of 1984, it is expected that smaller factories will account for as much as 40 percent of total robot installation.

The fourth lesson is, robots greatly increase manufacturing flexibility. Robots allow profits on lower-run productions, and the rapid introduction of variations of new models.

Robots can be designed with short turn-around or down time in stamping operations or in changing specifications for new models. And they can carry out new operations with flawless and tireless accuracy.

The fifth lesson from Japanese experience is, companies can benefit from robots only if they take great care in their introduction. Managers must make sure robots don't alienate workers or unions.

Where robots have taken over unpleasant work they have been well received. But when workers in Japanese industry are replaced by robots, there are efforts to retrain the workers as "masters of robots," overseeing and maintaining them. Other workers are retrained in computer programming or related industrial fields. These workers take pride in the "steel-collar workers" working for them.

But economic and social attitudes in Japan are quite different from many other nations. Japan has a homogenous, slowly growing and industrially oriented population. There is no large reservoir of hard-core unemployed, no tide of immigrants. Japanese workers don't see robots as a threat because in return for company loyalty most are rewarded with lifetime employment or economic security. No one is thrown on the scrap heap because of robots.

By contrast, a recent study by Carnegie-Mellon University in the United States concluded that existing state-of-the-art robots could replace one million workers by 1990 in the automotive and a handful of other industries.

If robots grow more sophisticated, they could eliminate three million jobs. Are employers worldwide willing to cope with this problem as the Japanese have?

The robot revolution has the potential of being a blessing in dangerous or boring manufacturing jobs. But for millions whose jobs are threatened by workers in "steel collars," the robot revolution represents another challenge to a secure livelihood.
cooperatively, rather than with antagonism, hostility or threats of retaliation. One could also call the give way the love way of life.

All competition is not wrong. Beneficial competition can exist when persons are self-motivated to strive for the highest good and development of everyone.

"Iron sharpeneth iron," says Scripture (Prov. 27:17). When individuals are inspired to improve themselves because of the good example of another and the benefits they derive from the right way of living, that's healthy competition. It's worth promoting. But those blessed with more abilities or who have achieved greater accomplishments must realize they have the responsibility to help and inspire others to achieve higher standards of living.

The destructive competitive spirit, by contrast, wants to "get all the marbles" and it's too bad if others get hurt or left behind in the process.

Primary Source

The father of the world's destructive competitive spirit is none other than Satan, a great fallen spirit being. The Bible reveals him as "the prince of the power of the air," who bombards unsuspecting minds with his attitudes (Eph. 2:2-3).

But leading educators and economists today don't see his influence on human minds at all. To even postulate in a forum of world economists such a spirit being influencing mankind, is to be ridiculed and labeled a lunatic.

But the God of the universe, who made all things, reveals to man in the Bible the real cause of competitive human nature.

Once there was no destructive competitive spirit anywhere in the earth—or universe. Scripture reveals that, before his rebellion against God, Satan was called Light-bringer—Lucifer in Latin.

Lucifer was an archangel, the most beautiful and intelligent being created by God. He was to be the bringer of God's truth, God's way of life to the earth.

But Lucifer allowed his beauty and brilliance of intellect to be filled with jealousy and the spirit of competition with God. He wanted to exalt his throne, which God had given him over the earth, to the level of God's throne. He wanted to knock God off his throne by war and aggression. His mind and reasoning became perverted.

Lucifer led a host of angels whom he swayed with his attitude into rebellion against their Maker. But they were hurled back to earth. Lucifer's name was changed to Satan, meaning Adversary. His fallen angels became demons. These events are revealed in Isaiah 14:12-15, Ezekiel 28:12-17 and Luke 10:18.

God had originally created a perfect and beautiful earth (Gen. 1:1 and Job 38:4-7). But Satan's hostile and competitive nature led him to retaliate against God's beautiful creation. He destroyed the surface of the earth. This is the cause of the destruction described in Genesis 1:2.

The first two chapters of Genesis describe God's re-creation of the earth to a habitable condition and the creation of the first man and woman, Adam and Eve. These chapters reveal God talked directly with Adam and Eve. He gave them many personal instructions in the way to live.

But Satan at the first opportunity implanted in the first couple attitudes of disbelief, doubt and rebellion against God (Gen. 3). They didn't resist Satan's thoughts. They chose to disbelieve God and experiment for themselves. They disobeyed and took (stole) of the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil." They chose to decide for themselves what was good and evil.

For their rebellion and rejection of God's ways, God cut them off from access to his Spirit—the way of love or give—symbolized by the "tree of life."

All this knowledge is critical to understanding this evil world today!

God decreed that mankind would be allowed to live its own ways of life for 6,000 years under Satan's sway. God would intervene only to fulfill his purposes and plan. The Scriptures reveal Satan has deceived and misled all mankind (Rev. 12:9).

The first sons of Adam and Eve—Cain and Abel—chose to follow diametrically opposite ways of life. Abel feared and obeyed God. He was led by God's Spirit and was called "righteous Abel" (Matt. 23:35). But Cain "was of the evil one" (I John 3:12, RSV).

Cain became jealous and angry because his ways didn't please God as Abel's did. The resentful attitude in Cain caused him to rise up, retaliate and kill his brother. When God asked Cain where his brother was, Cain snorted back the answer, "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Gen. 4:9).

That spirit in Cain—which was
from Satan—is the same spirit that has swayed humanity into the way of strife, competition and retaliation for the past 6,000 years.

Man Far Astray

Through the centuries man has been led far away from God's way of living.

In the beginning, God offered the first humans all the land and resources necessary to support their lives and secure their livelihood—free and clear. He offered them bountiful and fertile land. He gave them an agricultural heritage upon which to develop their families. They were to dress and keep this heritage as the primary base upon which to develop their lives culturally and socially.

But from the beginning, nations cut off from God rejected the way of give or love—they rejected living free and clear. They chose the way of competition, war, lust and greed. The way of get and competition filled their minds. They would trade cooperatively only if they got the better of a deal. If they got less they threw aside all signs of civility and chose war or retaliation.

What Could Be

In such a world God called a special people—ancient Israel—from slavery. They were to have the opportunity to experience a totally different way of life. They could experience fantastic economic and social blessings if they obeyed God's revealed laws.

The first thing God commanded, when Israel entered the Promised Land, was that each tribe and family was to receive a permanent inheritance in fertile land. God did not want his nation to become a country of landowners and impoverished tenants without a secure means of earning a livelihood.

For obedience to God's way he promised to protect them from their enemies. He promised rain in due season. Moreover God commanded each landowner to rest his land every seventh year to preserve its fertility (Lev. 25:1-6, 20, 21).

If a family through carelessness fell into debt and had to borrow money, it would be loaned from fellow countrymen without interest. And if the debtor couldn't repay all the debt, it would be forgiven in the seventh year, a set year of release for the whole nation. Money didn't need interest. It held its value. And God promised to bless the creditor if he released the debts owed him (Deut. 15:1-11).

If for some reason a family fell into deep debt and had to sell part or all of the family inheritance, that part which was sold would return to the family without cost on the jubilee year—the 50th year of God's economic cycle (Lev. 25:10-16, 23). That meant the fundamental means of earning a livelihood would never be out of a family's possession for more than one generation.

God set all these laws in motion to correct the causes of inflation and depression, laws that would protect everyone's security and livelihood.

How different from the ways of mankind through the centuries!

Man's Jeopardized Livelihood

Through the centuries man has suffered or feared loss of land and means of livelihood from wars or from confiscation by governments claiming to act in the name of the people. In much of history landless impoverished hordes were little more than serfs under powerful landowners or governments. In areas of the earth the same is true today.

The Industrial Revolution dramatically changed the way man lived. It offered employment and a means of earning a living to the landless, but it offered no security or place to turn if people lost their jobs.

So what do we find in our own century? What caused the Great Depression in the 1930s and the trade wars that inflated and protracted it? Before the Great Depression people had been encouraged to spend unwisely rather than save. They had low financial reserves.

People were trying to get more than they earned or produced. Depression was fueled by uncontrolled speculation on stocks inflated beyond their worth. People wanted to make a quick killing by bidding low and selling higher.

Speculators in the markets suddenly realized they couldn't recoup their costs. Panic selling ensued and the stock market in the U.S. collapsed, causing many to pull whatever savings they had out of banks, collapsing the banking system.

Nations who had through the 1920s been building up barriers to imports to protect their own industries, clambered for higher, more protective barriers. The world economy shuddered. Nations met trade barriers with retaliations of their own.

But within the world's competitive system, there are industries and nations who are staffed by workers who are more willing to sacrifice and work for the good of the whole company or nation; willing to receive pay increases only when they produce more and earn more; willing to hold down their standard of living for some greater good. They can beat out greedy competitors over the long term.

Do you want to know who is living more by the law of give, if only in the area of the production of material goods or services? All you need to do is look and see where the workers and managers labor in harmony, work efficiently and honestly—give to their companies, earn their wages and increase productivity by improvements in work and machinery. They are the ones who will win in this world's trade competition.

Today Japan and a few other nations are practicing some of the ways of "give" on their jobs more than their competitors. Only belatedly have workers and unions in many advanced industrial nations awakened to this fact. Millions in their greed for self forgot they were competing with all laborers of the world.

But every nation—including Japan—possesses fatal flaws in economic and social structures. None can escape serious economic and trade difficulties in the years ahead.

Look at your own life. How secure is your job? Where would you turn if you lost your means of livelihood? How many humans in this world can boast of a secure means of livelihood?

The issue of trade war boils down to attempts on the part of governments—often for selfish political reasons—to protect jobs, the essential means of people's livelihood and security.

The PLAIN TRUTH
But more and more humans have no alternate means of support or livelihood if their jobs fail. Most persons don't own fertile land free and clear. Many are burdened down with high monthly home payments with exorbitant interest. Most don't grow their own food, possess their own fresh water supply, self-contained utilities or essential resources. Today everybody must earn money to survive. We work in competition with others to earn the cash to pay some­one else to provide most of each day's necessities.

Even those who own productive land or property free and clear are still burdened down with oppressive government taxes and other inflation-plagued costs. And in today’s misguided and confused world, we all can suddenly find our livelihood jeopardized by unantici­pated economic recession or war.

If we think trade competition is getting fierce now, what will the world be like when many more nations gear up their economies and produce steel, textiles, comput­ers and other manufactured goods in competition with everyone else; when all demand equal access to foreign markets to earn money or they will deny markets or their raw resources? There will be a few temporary winners, and many losers. The Bible reveals man's economic and trading systems will clash in war and totally collapse (Rev. 18).

Some nations will go down before others because of their sins.

What will happen to the United States, Canada, Britain, other democracies of Northwestern Eu­rope and various English-speaking nations of the world is explained in our free booklet The United States and Britain in Prophecy. What happens to much of Europe and a host of other nations trading with a revival of the Holy Roman Empire is prophesied in Revelation, chapters 17 and 18.

Then comes the return of Jesus Christ to the earth to put down all remaining warring, competitive governments and armies.

Then—and only then—can the world be taught the right way of living, the way of God's laws, that will bring peace, prosperity and job security—for all!

Who Decides?
(Continued from page 21)

disobey—but not to determine for themselves what was right and what was wrong! There is a big difference!

Adam and Eve chose to disobey God's clear instructions. God had shown them his way. They chose, instead, to go their own way—which was really Satan's way, for that great archangel had pioneered the way of rebellion against God (Isa. 14; Ezek. 28).

God had given them the privi­lege of disobeying. But in so doing they also had to suffer the conse­quences of disobedience (Gen. 3:16-24).

Ever since Adam and Eve ate the “forbidden fruit,” mankind has continued wrongly to take to itself God's prerogative of defining good and evil. God is allowing it only for a time.

Under Satan's tutelage, Adam's progeny has been eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil for nearly 6,000 years. Humans have followed their own traditions, their own philosophies of life, rather than the way of God. The sorry record of those six millennia—written in blood, sweat and tears throughout the pages of history—is clear.

God has permitted the world to go its own way to learn a great lesson: that Satan's way of competition, of deciding for oneself what is right and what is wrong, of rejecting the law and government of God, can in the end bring nothing but disaster.

Man's Alternatives

In rejecting the revealed knowledge of God, man has had no alternative but to rely on his own humanly devised approaches to life that appear right to him. That's why the world is beset with so many differing opinions of what is right on controversial issues!

Notice the biblical warning in this regard: “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death” (Prov. 14:12).

Just because you might think something is right doesn't make it so!

The world is in confusion! It has cut loose from the foundational anchor that would have prevented it from drifting into the turbulent waters of moral and spiritual chaos.

God is the Author of right and wrong! He is the Lawgiver. It is not a matter of personal decision after “weighing the issues.” The determination of right and wrong is not left up to the whim of the individual! It is God's prerogative and his alone!

To those who are willing to be guided by God's revealed written Word, the answers to the major moral and social questions of our time are easily discovered. God clearly sets out right from wrong in the pages of Scripture!

He then gives us the free moral agency—the “individual freedom of choice”—to choose which way to go.

Notice Deuteronomy 30:19: “I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.”

God commands us to choose life. Anyone who refuses to do so is in defiance of God! But he will not force us. Each one of us must make a decision whether to obey God or not. And it is he who decides what is the right choice—not we ourselves!

What About Smoking?

It is not a matter of “weighing the issues” involved on various sides of a question. It is simply a matter of choosing between two clear alternatives.

Take the example of smoking tobacco or marijuana.

There is no need for a “full and free discussion of these important public issues” because God has already decided the matter!

Cigarette smoking, of course, was unknown in biblical times. But God's law is “exceeding broad” (Ps. 119:96). It covers, in principle, every aspect of daily life, for any time in history.

From a biblical standpoint, smoking is clearly wrong. It is wrong because of what it does to the smoker and wrong because of
what it does to those around him.

The Plain Truth has periodically expounded in-depth scriptural precepts bearing on the question of smoking. Smoking is addictive and as such is detrimental to one's character. It is a dirty habit and is an expression of self-desire and a means of self-gratification, from which one derives temporary pleasure at the expense of long-term health and character considerations. It is a violation of the command against lust (Rom. 7:7).

Smoking, moreover, is more than just an annoyance to others—it is a health hazard to those nearby who breathe the smoke. It is certainly not an expression of outgoing love, which "worketh no ill to his neighbour" (Rom. 13:10).

Changes Ahead!

Our world today is aptly described by the words the prophet Samuel anciently used to portray the nation of Israel. Read them, in Judges 21:25: "Every man did that which was right in his own eyes."

The sorry consequences, then as now, were readily apparent.

This long-standing rebellion against God's way of life will bring human civilization to the very brink of annihilation! (For a look at what lies ahead in Bible prophecy, request our free booklet The Book of Revelation Unveiled At Last.)

But at the last moment, Jesus Christ will intervene in this world's affairs to save mankind from self-destruction and begin setting things aright. Mankind will at last be forced to confront its history!

The contrast between the 6,000 years of man's deciding for himself what is right and wrong and the coming millennial rule of the government of God on earth will leave no doubt. No longer will mankind grope in darkness for its own standards of right and wrong. All peoples will know, at last, the true source of law and morality.

"And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem" (Mic. 4:2).

The perfect law of God will become the very cornerstone of the Kingdom of God. Then, unlike today, "the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Isa. 11:9).

God has set before you two ways of life: the way of obedience and blessing, or disobedience and cursing. For those who are willing, God offers the benefits and blessings of his way of life now! Write for our free booklets The Ten Commandments and Why Humanity Cannot Solve Its Evils.

The choice is yours!

Crisis of the '80s

(Continued from page 17)

and deployment for physical deliverance. As nations, we have forgotten God!

The result? "See now, the Lord, the Lord Almighty, is about to take from [the nations of America and Britain]... both supply and support: the hero and warrior, the judge... the captain of fifty and man of rank, the counselor, skilled craftsman and... I will make boys their officials; mere children will govern them" (Isa. 3:1-4, NIV).

America will lose the ability to lead the West. Is this now happening?

In the technologically dependent United States, notice what has already happened: In the 1960s through 1970s, "the percentage of scientists and engineers engaged in R&D [research and development] in the population increased by over 70 percent in West Germany and over 100 percent in Japan. In the U.S. we found ourselves at the end of the period with fewer engineers and scientists than at the beginning" (America's Technology Slip, page 46).

Now consider Deuteronomy 28:30, "Thou shalt betroth a wife, and another man shall lie with her: thou shalt build an house, and thou shalt not dwell therein: thou shalt plant a vineyard, and shalt not gather the grapes thereof."

Yes, God here shows that the United States and Britain will not enjoy the fruits of their labors, that what they build ultimately will be utilized by others. Is the Word of God being fulfilled?

"In the 1970s the annual rate of Ph.D. graduates fell by over 25 percent and an increasing fraction of these new doctorate holders were foreigners, their number averaging over a third" (ibid.).

Dr. Ramo lists other slips in developing American minds, finally wisely noting: "The economic advance of a nation depends greatly on science and engineering knowledge...

The handwriting is on the wall: "Says S.A. Constance, managing director of Manufacturers Hanover Ltd., in London: the erosion of American power is 'the most talked about subject in the world' " (The Decline of U.S. Power, page 7).

Technological prowess can no longer prolong American and British ways of life. For survival, our people must begin to "trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Prov. 3:5-6). Are our leaders willing?

Individually, also, the two ways of life lie before each of us. Which will you choose? The way of give and love and outgoing concern—or the way the nations have gone—the way of greed and selfishness, with its heartaches, sorrows and final national disaster? It is high time to choose the right way!
Writes an older teenager in a letter to a syndicated columnist: "Our Father who art in Heaven, where have you been? Our leaders are all lunatics and the world is full of sin."

This senior went on to thank God for tooth decay, cancer, nuclear waste and a plethora of other ills. Like many, he blames God for humanity's heartaches and difficulties.

It seems the tendency most of us have is to blissfully enjoy life, without a care in the world, when things go right. And not give God a thought one way or the other. Then, when things don't go our way or when difficulty or tragedy strikes, we wonder why God allows it—why God lets it happen!

Why Suffering?
Why does God allow humanity to suffer?

I know a sweet 11-year-old girl, seemingly healthy enough now, but suffering from cystic fibrosis. She'll be fortunate to live past teenage. I'm sure you have seen pictures of little children in impoverished places around this world, walking in a daze, their little bodies emaciated, their bellies bloated, diseased and dying of starvation. Why?

On top of all these personal miseries, world peace is shaky. Nations continue to arm themselves to the hilt, teetering on the brink of a worldwide holocaust. Is this God's fault? Why doesn't God stop it now?

There is a reason why humanity suffers, why God allows people to have problems. It's time to understand why all this suffering and set the record straight.

Back to the Beginning
To understand the underlying cause of humanity's sufferings, we have to go back to the beginning of human experience. That beginning is recorded in the pages of the Bible—and it has to do with choice.

Despite the speculation of agnostics and atheists the Bible unequivocally states: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Gen. 1:1). There is no other logical explanation for the existence of our universe! An all-powerful, all-mighty God began it all!

Those who say God's existence is unknowable have blinded themselves spiritually from comprehending the meaning of this ordered universe! Says God: "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse" (Rom. 1:20).

God, indeed, began the universe. God created also the first human beings. We read: "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them" (Gen. 1:27). God created humans in his own image, in his own likeness—godlike! The significance of this fact is tremendous and overwhelming.

God made man like himself, but infinitely limited in comparison, and physical, composed of the elements of the earth, subject to death and decay: "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Gen. 2:7). Note, man became a living soul, not an immortal soul inside the man.

What's most important is that God put before the first humans a far-reaching choice.

Man Must Choose
God placed the first humans in a beautiful, protected garden area in a region called Eden. In that garden was every kind of tree "that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food" (Gen. 2:8-9). Two special trees God placed in the middle of the garden; one called "the tree of life," the other "the tree of knowledge of good and evil."

Those two special trees in the midst of the garden in Eden had symbolic meaning. Those two trees represented two differing lifestyles and accompanying knowledge and attitudes to go along with them. The tree of life represented God's way of life, the way of giving, of loving one's neighbor. It symbolized the spiritual understanding...
God makes available to live a happy, peaceful life, and, above all, it stood for God's eternal life. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil represented the way of disobedience, reasoning apart from God, acquiring knowledge through experimentation and a way of life of outright rejection of God's revealed knowledge.

The first humans were given a choice to take either of God's way of life and his Spirit through the tree of life, or of the way of selfishness, of determining for oneself good and evil. God went so far as to direct them to choose correctly with a firm warning, saying they would surely bring certain death on themselves if they took of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil:

"And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Gen. 2:16-17).

God and His Way Rejected

Picking up the story in Genesis, chapter three, we read about the choice the first two human beings made.

In verse one we find a serpent on the scene, but more than a serpent—a superpowerful being, who, in times past had rejected God and God's way of life, permanently establishing himself as an adversary against God. He was the harbinger of a negative spiritual attitude. He's known in the Bible as "the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan" (Rev. 20:2). Our free article Did God Create a Devil? details the story behind Satan's existence. It is this Satan who "deceiveth the whole world" (Rev. 12:9).

This Satan subtly twisted what God told our first parents, Adam and Eve (Gen. 3:1). Eve listened and Adam, it seems, stood tacitly by without comment (verses 2 and 3). The first humans now listened to Satan instead of God! The woman believed this Satan—she became deceived and chose the wrong way of life by taking of the tree of the government and chose Satan's influence and government instead. They made a decision for the whole human family that has descended from them.

Their choice brought on terrible heartache! Giving birth to children, raising a family and maintaining that family would now become a problem. Through toil and labor, surrounded by weeds that would produce "thorns and thistles," man would live out his life until he returned "to the ground" from where he was originally taken (Gen. 3:16-19). Even worse, their choice cut humanity off from access to the tree of life (3:23-24), which symbolized continued direct access to God and his Spirit.

That's why all this suffering and hardships today! That's why man has suffered throughout history! Just like father Adam and mother Eve, mankind as a whole has chosen to reject God and his ways. Except for a very select few, to whom God has revealed his truth, humanity as a whole has gone contrary to God and rejected right knowledge from God on how to live in harmony and peace. That's why the world has its troubles and heartrending ills. It is a cause-and-effect relationship.

Had Man Chosen Correctly

Ponder this. Had Adam and Eve chosen correctly there would have been established on this earth an entirely different way of life. The earth itself wouldn't have been cursed. God's way of life, summed up in the Ten Commandments—the first four showing love toward God and the last six love toward neighbor—would have been established.

The earth would have become a utopia! Instead of lying, cheating,
stealing, greed, killing, disrespect for parents, coveting, adultery, fornication and other selfish actions, the opposite would have existed! Love and consideration for others would fill the earth. God with all his healing and problem-solving power would have been in the picture. There would have been continuous world peace, peace of mind, with real health and prosperity.

Human greed as we see it today would have been eliminated, doing away with such things as industrial pollution of the earth’s air, water and soil and the chemical polluting of foodstuffs, a major cause of many of today’s degenerative diseases.

Though God has made available to man knowledge about his way of life through the published pages of the Bible, humans since the beginning have persisted in doing their own thing, experimenting and testing, deciding for themselves right and wrong.

Time and Chance
Indeed, Adam and Eve’s choice set the pattern for all their offspring—all mankind—and the record lists mistake upon mistake, war after war.

But none of us has the right to throw stones at someone else. We can’t condemn the other fellow, because all of us at some time or another have made wrong choices. We’ve all had our heartaches, problems and pains. We’ve all made mistakes and still do. None of us has been perfect.

In addition, “time and chance” does happen to all of us, as the Bible reveals in Ecclesiastes 9:11. Other people’s mistakes can also affect us depending on time and circumstance. But the majority of our difficulties we bring on ourselves by wrong choices, carelessness and bad judgment.

Like Adam and Eve we’ve all made mistakes. Worse, like them, we’ve all been guilty of breaking God’s law, and of continually breaking it, maintaining an attitude of rejecting God. “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23). We’ve all sinned! We’ve all broken God’s law! “For sin is the transgression of the law” (I John 3:4).

The tree of the knowledge of good and evil represented the way of disobedience, reasoning apart from God, acquiring human knowledge through experimentation and a way of life of outright rejection of God’s revealed knowledge.

God’s Responsibility
You can’t blame God for your sins or for the sins of others. “Let no man say,” says the Bible, “when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man” (Jas. 1:13).

Man’s plight is not God’s fault. But God is responsible for how it will be solved. Our wrong choices, our mistakes, our carelessnesses and sins have caused the world to suffer the way it has. “Behold,” says God, “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).

Because sin reigns on this earth and has reigned from the beginning, suffering has been the result and death the end for everyone. “The wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6:23). It’s like the proverb says: “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death” (Prov. 14:12).

God doesn’t want humanity to suffer. He never wanted Adam and Eve to suffer. God is love (I John 4:16). He is compassionate, full of mercy, long suffering and kindness. He cares about you and me.

God is everything that love portrays and more—concern, care, kindness, warmth, help, consideration, gentleness, patience, giving, unselfishness. He embodies all that true love is and means. He has outgoing concern for others.

Though Adam and Eve rejected God and though all mankind has been guilty of disobeying God, God has provided hope. God is merciful, forgiving and compassionate. He has in these “latter days” given us a second Adam and through him an opportunity for mankind to be put back in contact with God and his Spirit.

The Second Adam
Adam and Eve were given the opportunity to choose life by taking of the tree of life. They chose not to and mankind has followed the path of wrong choices ever since. But now, through a second Adam, Jesus (Continued on page 36)
Police, during this past winter, were forced to separate two British neighbors. They were slinging snow on to one another's property.

As fast as one man shoveled the snow one way, his next-door neighbor threw it back.

This somewhat humorous incident serves as a microcosm of the tragedy of conflict and confrontation plaguing the whole civilized world. Nations as well as private individuals have more or less settled into a permanent state of conflict!

An Era of Negotiation?

At the beginning of his first term, former U.S. President Richard Nixon stated that he felt the nations were entering an era of negotiation as opposed to an era of confrontation. But what kind of negotiation? Negotiation based on a spirit of cooperation, sharing and a willingness to see the other fellow's point of view? Or negotiation in a spirit of intransigence, selfishness and stubbornness?

All too often our daily newspapers tell us it is the latter rather than the former.

As an example one needs to look no further than the regular round of British disputes involving management and trade unions. "We Cannot Budge" are the headlined words of one transport boss. "Rail Battle Lines Are Drawn Up" reads another daily tabloid headline. Another title tells us "Labour-Management Relations Have Turned Sour." Still another caption informs us that a famous trade-union leader is "The Architect of Defiance."

Such emotive phrases are hardly made of the stuff that will equitably resolve bitter labor disputes. Perhaps frustration with such intractable attitudes was what caused Britain's former Employment Secretary James Prior to say, "The time has come to break out of the trench warfare mentality which has wrought such havoc in our industry."

As time goes on it seems that society is forced to endure more and more public airings of various disputes involving not only individuals but organized groups of individuals. Many of these conflicts are, of course, intensified out of all proportion by 20th-century media exposure. Disputants are usually not left to get on with solving their personal and corporate conflicts. Third parties often report news-catching disputes not in the spirit of the Sermon on the Mount, but with a view to selling more newspapers and magazines. And when various disputants are interviewed by the media, they are often "egged on" by loaded questions, such as "Are you going to settle for such a paltry amount?"

Why?

The Danger of Conflict

It is in the nature of things that conflict is often senseless and irrational. Emotional outbursts that heighten tension are usually not even central to the dispute at hand. Valuable time is wasted by arguing out emotive nonissues. Damaging strikes are sometimes started because the participants do not interpret a single sentence in the contract in quite the same way.

Make no mistake about it. Unresolved conflict ultimately leads to heartache and bitter strife. Bitterness and hate produce the unwanted economic fruit of dissatisfying lifestyles and a lower standard of living, not to mention divorce and war. As the proverb says: "Surely the churning of milk bringeth forth butter, and the wringing of the nose bringeth forth blood: so the forcing of wrath bringeth forth strife" (Prov. 30:33).

We throw up our hands in the face of unresolved human behavioral problems and conflicts. As one psychology professor remarked: "Yet with respect to its own [human] behaviour something always seems to go wrong. It is easy to understand why people ask: 'When shall we have the behavioural science and technology we need to solve our [human] problems?'"

That appears to be a very good question, but hear the professor out. He continues: "I believe that is the wrong question and that we should be asking: 'Why do we not use the behavioural science we already have?'" (B.F. Skinner, Human Nature, March, 1978, page 86.) That's an even better question!
Another important element in the equation was brought out in The Christian Science Monitor. Richard J. Cattani wrote: “The big issue our society hasn’t faced is the spiritual deprivation in relationships.... At the deepest level is the question: ‘What are we doing together in the universe?’” (January 18, 1979.) These observations were made in a marriage context, but they apply just as well to behavioral problems in general.

The Bible puts both of these elements together. The Bible has existed for 2,000 years as a potential problem solver, notwithstanding the fact that men very rarely open its pages in the face of their many conflicts. The Bible also gives spiritual as well as practical solutions. Its solutions exemplify the ultimate spiritual purpose of why human beings exist on earth in the first place.

**Jesus as Problem Solver**

Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace! He came to this earth 2,000 years ago with solutions to human behavioral problems. In life he gave us the principles to resolve problems between ourselves. And in his death he resolved the one basic conflict between rebellious humans and the Creator.

But Jesus’ act of reconciliation did not stop there. The apostle John understood that there is an inextricable interrelationship between loving God and loving one’s neighbor and the irony of claiming to do one while omitting the other. He wrote: “If any one says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him, that he who loves God should love his brother also” (I John 4:20-21, RSV). We must, therefore, reconcile conflicts with our neighbors as well.

Lawyer Roger Fisher observed, also when writing in the Monitor: “My general theme is that conflict is natural and inevitable, but we have methods of dealing with it.” This is a statement of basic truth about all ages. Strife seems to be common to all human beings. Jesus said that offenses are bound to occur (Matt. 18:7). But he also had methods of dealing with the problem. He gave us a simple formula for reconciling our differences. This particular set of principles was primarily intended to resolve misunderstandings between Church brethren, but these principles also have wider implications for all of humanity.

Especially is this true in the matter of proper procedure. Mr. Cattani wrote in the article previously quoted: “Most people overlook the importance of procedure in a dispute. They want to consider only the substance” (CSM, op. cit.).

Here is the simple formula just as Jesus gave it to his disciples. Notice the first principle. “Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother” (Matt. 18:15).

Faithfully following this one principle alone would eliminate much of human conflict. But no, when conflict does arise, we go to friends, relatives, fellow employees—everyone except the concerned party. This is a fundamental procedural matter. We violate it at our peril!

Now when should a third party be brought into the proceedings? Notice Jesus’ instruction: “But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established” (verse 16). Occasionally the one-on-one approach may not be sufficient to defuse a particularly stubborn disagreement. Love is an art that must be learned. A third party may have to mediate in the spirit of the Sermon on the Mount.

But let us take the time to properly ingest this important instruction. Notice that Jesus gives us the option of one or two mediators—not one or two accusers. Obviously the correct choice would depend on the nature of the conflict, the personality of the principals and other factors. We would need wisdom to make an intelligent decision. Reliable, dispassionate persons should be sought!

Finally, note the last phrase: “every word may be established.” A third party can often separate fact from opinion. He or she may be able to clearly define the exact nature of the dispute by disposing of a lot of red herrings. The facts would be clearly established making it easier for both principals to
accept the inevitable truth of the matter.

Surely the proper implementa-
tion of this second principle would eliminate many more conflicts.

The Court of Last Resort

"If it be possible, as much as lieth in you," wrote the apostle Paul, "live peaceably with all men" (Rom. 12:18). But he also wrote: "... [Pray] that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith" (II Thess. 3:2). The point is that sometimes it is not possible to live peaceably with all men. Some people can be so stubbornly intransigent and set in their ways that they simply will not submit to arbitration in any given dispute.

Now consider the third principle—the court of last resort. Jesus continued: "And if he shall neglect to hear them [the third parties], tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican" (Matt. 18:17). Sometimes all the cards are face up on the table and one person is clearly in the right. If the one in the wrong stubbornly persists in his position, we are left with no other alternative than to discontinue the relationship. It is hoped such cases are in the small minority.

What about you personally? Are you a peacemaker? When unfortunate situations occur, do you pour oil on troubled waters? Do you bring offended parties back together? Are you a bridge builder and a conciliator?

Jesus said: "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." Are you one?

HAVE YOU ENROLLED IN OUR AMBASSADOR COLLEGE BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE?

The Bible is the most exciting, challenging book ever written, and its message is for you now! This course can help you understand the Bible as never before. It unlocks the truth about the purpose of life, in step-by-step detail in monthly lessons. There is no tuition fee. To enroll, just write to our office nearest you.

WORSHIP?

(Continued from page 14)

KEPT that law to set us an example. He was our "light," our example. A true Christian is simply one who follows Christ—who follows that example.

Do you begin to see the true nature of the living God?

He is the one who has set all physical and spiritual laws and energies in motion. He has an overall plan for this earth—he is Supreme Ruler.

God's Character

God is Ruler. If we become his children through repentance, baptism and receiving the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38), we may be "born again" (John 3:1-8)—changed into, actually born of spirit as a literal son of God! God is reproducing himself! He—the Creator and Ruler of the universe—is begetting human beings through his Spirit to be born as his sons—to be in his own Family—to inherit eternal life. But we must first learn how to live before God will grant us eternal life and make us his own sons.

We must develop God's wisdom, God's character. We must "live by every word of God." Realizing that the Creator knows best, we should obey him. To deny this is to admit a profound ignorance of the Eternal God's great wisdom and purpose! It betrays a lack of understanding of the character of the true God.

The apostle John summed it all up when he wrote of Christ—the God of the Old Testament, the giver of the Law—"He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (I John 2:4).

God himself calls these lawless ministers liars when they try to deny the authority of his rule, the wisdom of his law, and the very basis of his great purpose.

It is time to wake up! May God help you to repent of defying his rule, of breaking his laws, and guide you to accept Christ as your Savior from sin. Then you may begin to develop the character of God and be born of the Spirit as his son in the resurrection. You need to come to know the true God as your Father.

Talk to God

Once you come to really know the true God—the God revealed by Jesus Christ—you will want to talk to him. You may do this in prayer. This is the third way you may come to really "know" the true God.

As you come to know God in this way, you will soon realize that here, too, you have to obey God if you expect an answer. But you will find that God is love—and that he will gladly grant any request that is good for you under the circumstances. You will also discover that he has power to heal you when you are sick, to deliver you in miraculous ways from trouble and to bless you in a manner beyond human comprehension.

So get to know God by talking to him often.

And remember—the combined testimonies of nature, of the Bible and of answered prayer all reveal the same true God. He is the all-wise, all-powerful, law-giving Ruler of the universe.

Are you willing to acknowledge his government, obey his laws and inherit eternal life as his child?

BLAME?

(Continued from page 33)

the Messiah, we have the opportunity once again to have contact with God's Spirit and his way.

God has given us a second Adam, an Adam who chose correctly every time, walking with God, a very Son of God. He was tempted by Satan just like Adam and Eve and us, but he did not obey the devil. He never sinned (Heb. 4:15). He resisted the devil, gave him orders and proved he could be subject to the government of God and administer it.

Through this righteous Adam, Jesus Christ, we have the opportunity to be forgiven, to receive the gift of eternal life (Rom. 6:23, last half) with God, as God: "For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in
Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. . . . And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. . . . The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven. . . . And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly" (1 Cor. 15:21-22, 45, 47, 49).

Jesus came to pay the penalty of death in our stead: "For the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23, first half). He tasted death for every man, purging our sins (Heb. 1:3) so that we could become "sons" of God (Heb. 2:9-10).

God does care for us. He has given those whom he calls to a knowledge of his truth access once again to the Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ. You have the opportunity to choose life through this second Adam, Christ.

God's whole motivation has been to give us life, real life, eternal life. He didn't put man on this earth to live in misery and suffering. We were made in God's very image. We were put on this earth to live in misery and suffering. We were made in God's very image. We were put on this earth to choose to share in God's existence, with God, as God. Can you grasp it? God's plan for man is for man to become like God—in character, in mind, in very nature. This tremendous potential is explained in our free booklet Why Were You Born? Fuly understanding this knowledge can change your life!

God will not, however, give his eternal existence and God-Power to everyone indiscriminately. Godly character must be built and established first. It cannot be created by divine fiat. Godly character must be built through a process of choosing, and willingly, knowingly, choosing what is right as opposed to what is wrong, according to God's own standard of right and wrong.

That's why Adam and Eve were given a choice. That's why Satan was allowed to enter the garden in Eden and pull them the other way. God required that Adam and Eve resist the devil and overcome his wiles, and in so doing establish right character. They didn't, as we have read. Nor has mankind since.

So God allowed them to make wrong choices, if that was what they wanted to do. The results are heartrending suffering and misery. God chose not to force man to build godly character. If he forced us to choose correctly, we wouldn't be building character! We would be like robots. Man therefore has had to learn the hard way, through suffering and disobedience—and we have not learned the lesson yet. But that time will come! Sooner for some, later for others.

In Acts 2 we read how the apostle Peter brought this fact to the attention of those in Jerusalem. When some of them realized what their sins had caused—the death and sacrifice of righteous Jesus, the Messiah—they asked, "What shall we do?" Peter's answer remains the same for us today: "Repent."

In other words, stop sinning, stop breaking God's law, "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 2:37-38).

If you do what Peter admonishes, you will be choosing the way of the tree of life. You will receive God's Spirit and attitude of mind, giving you the desire to walk with God the way God wants you to, the way he himself walks. Your mind will gradually become like his. A whole new way of life, character-building life, will open up to you.

Once you choose correctly you will receive a peace of mind that "passeth all understanding" (Phil. 4:7). No obstacle that may befall you will separate you from God's tremendous purpose for you. You'll be able to say, like Paul: "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom. 8:38-39).

As for the world, the time is coming when God will intervene in human affairs—but not until man reaches that place that no human life would survive except God does intervene (Matt. 24:22, Moffatt translation). Only then will human beings be willing to listen and to submit to God's government and his laws that will bring us health, happiness and peace. ☐

SCIENCE?

(Continued from page 12)

scientific discovery.

Later it may be disproved by subsequent fact from actual discovery, but somehow, in respect to its god (science), newspapermen are too often discreetly quiet as to scientific blunder.

The Bible says that a day is coming when God will again intervene and save this world from destroying itself. Then science will be put in its proper place. This intervention will come suddenly, at a time and in a way that science does not expect.

One day, all scientists shall come face to face with their Creator and suddenly be forced to receive knowledge that they have deliberately ignored. Mouths will drop open, knees will shake.

If God has chosen to hide himself from his creation because that creation refuses to acknowledge and obey him, does that make him any less the Creator and the one in control? See Isaiah 8:17 and 45:15 and 54:8.

God has revealed in many places throughout the Bible that in an appointed time he is going to return and forcibly take over the control of this earth. He will smash all opposition and utterly do away with all those who despise him and refuse to acknowledge who he is and what he is (Rev. 19:11-21).

And that means narrow-minded scientists who, in their great exalted vanity, declare that none can know whether God exists—men who like to believe they themselves possess the highest intelligence in this universe—men so busy struggling to exalt themselves that they refuse to acknowledge that these wonderful, complicated, involved, but perfectly orderly, beautiful laws that they are discovering, had to be created and set in motion by a mind infinitely greater than theirs.

God Is Still Creating

As is pointed out in Isaiah 64:8, we are the clay, and God is our Potter. We are the works of his hand, and, as Ephesians 2:10
shows, “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”

Shouldn’t you be as moist, pliable, workable clay in the Master Potter’s hands so that God may form your life and shape you into the very character that is in Jesus Christ? Or shall you be stiff-necked and rebel against that Creator, and say to the Potter who would shape our lives: “Keep your hands off! I’ll shape myself the way I want to be. I will experiment and I will find out for myself what I think is good, and I will direct my own paths in the way I choose to go.”

There is a way that seems good to man, but the ends thereof are the ways of death (Prov. 14:12).

Ignorant men, wise in their own conceits, reject true knowledge and are destroyed for lack of knowledge because they are rejected of God (Hos. 4:6). As Romans 1:20 clearly shows, the invisible, nonmeasurable, nondiscoverable things of God are clearly evidenced by the things that we do see and that required a Creator.

Verse 18 and onward reveal that men who suppress the truth in their unrighteousness, ignoring the fact that this marvelous creation had to have a Creator, became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish hearts are darkened. “Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.”

How About You?

Where will you be in the day that God reveals himself? Will you be as the kings, the great men, the rich men, the generals, the politicians—yes, the bondmen and the scientists—who are to be so terrified that they will scream out to the very rocks and the mountains to fall on them and hide them from the face of their Creator and from his wrath in the day when it comes? (Rev. 6:14-17).

Or, will you be one who has surrendered yourself fully to your Creator, to be corrected, to be shaped, to be trained and led in the ways of life so that you will be able to stand in that day? (Eph. 6:13).
Howard Hughes

(Continued from page 6)

a man's. It is the human spirit IN man—something that is NOT the man, but IN the man—which empowers the human brain to comprehend the materialistic knowledge known by man. It also empowers the human brain to think, reason, evaluate, formulate decisions. Being spirit, it empowers the human mind to manifest attitudes, good or evil. A person can have an attitude of friendship or of hostility toward another.

But comprehension of spiritual knowledge—the things of the spiritual God—is in another realm altogether. The natural, carnal human mind CANNOT COMPREHEND SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE. The most highly educated human, regardless of the PhDs or other letters after his name, simply cannot come to understanding of spiritual knowledge—even when taught or revealed to him—without having received the Holy Spirit from God, joined with his human spirit!

The Holy Spirit of God does not teach or impart spiritual knowledge—such spiritual knowledge must be revealed or taught by God, his Word, or ministry. In like manner, the human spirit does not reveal or teach material knowledge. Such knowledge enters the brain through the eye, ear or other of the physical senses. Such knowledge may enter the brain of a cow or a chicken, but it won't have any comprehension of it. Spiritual knowledge may be taught to a highly educated PhD, but without the Spirit of God dwelling in him he will have no more understanding or comprehension of it than a chicken will have of philosophy when taught by a PhD. As the human spirit gives comprehension of materialistic knowledge when taught, so only the Holy Spirit within a human gives comprehension of spiritual knowledge if and when such knowledge is taught, read or heard.

How Taken Into Next Life

But how, and by what means, did Howard Hughes take his character and memory with him when he died? By what means is such memory and character, as well as form, shape and appearance, transmitted after death into the body that shall come in the resurrection?

Remember, we are told in 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, the resurrected body shall not be the same body that died. God will provide a new body. Yet it will look the same, fingerprints and all. The resurrected person will know everything he knew before death. He will have the same character he developed in his mortal lifetime.

Yet in death humans know nothing—total unconsciousness (Eccl. 9:5). When Cain and Abel, sons of Adam, awake in the resurrection, it will seem to them to be the very next second after losing consciousness in death. At death the body returns to the earth from whence it came, but the spirit returns to God who gave it (Eccl. 12:7). The body, including the physical brain, decays—decomposes—and cannot retain memory, knowledge, character. How, then, is the same consciousness, memory, character, knowledge, present in the resurrected body?

There can be only one answer. The spirit acts as a mold. To illustrate: a sculptor makes a model out of clay. A mold is made around the clay, retaining the identical form and shape inversely. Molten bronze may be poured into the mold, and when the mold is removed, the solidified bronze comes out the identical form and shape as the original model.

The spirit is like a mold, retaining the identical form and shape, even to fingerprints, and also the knowledge, memory, character, attitudes, personality, of the person who died. The resurrected body, formed around that spiritual mold, will be identical to the original human body, brain and mind. The physical matter of the original brain and entire body rots and decomposes. But spirit does not decompose—nor change. What a wonderful means God has created!

What You Make Yourself Now and What You Shall Be

You are developing now, hour by hour—day by day—year by year—what you shall be in the NEXT LIFE. THINK ON THIS!

Some people think: O well, God wouldn't be fair if he didn't send me to heaven when I die. I'll just live for fun and enjoyment and pleasure, and not worry about the future. Another becomes discouraged, frustrated, in a hopeless condition of despair. He thinks: I'll just end it all. I can't endure it any more. I'll commit suicide. But suicide won't end ANYTHING. The next split second of consciousness he is instantly (in his mind) in the resurrected life. He has the same mind—everything—except that now he is resurrected into the final judgment, where there shall be 'weeping and gnashing of teeth.' He will also then be held accountable for his self-murder! He didn't end it all—he plunged himself into the judgment!

However, the true Christian, who has been called, has received the Holy Spirit of God, has started on his judgment now. The true Christian is BEING JUDGED, NOW!

But the true Christian must realize he is building, now, hour by hour, the character, either good or bad, that shall decide his ETERNITY! Salvation is by grace, not works. But, those saved by God's grace shall be rewarded by their works IN THIS LIFE!

You, like Howard Hughes, are developing hourly in your life something you shall have with you in the life after this life!
Personal from...

(Continued from page 2)

become the foundation upon which to build God's Church.

But the Church was not founded until Jesus had been crucified in payment of human sins, resurrected and ascended to God's throne in heaven as head of the Church, and His High Priest. Christ has been serving in that capacity ever since.

Adam had rejected eternal life through God's Spirit, through which God would reveal his spiritual way of life—the way of love! And remember, God had closed off human access to God's Holy Spirit. The nations that developed on earth had no access to God's Spirit or eternal salvation.

Such nations as Egypt, Babylonia, Greece or ancient Israel had no access to salvation or eternal life—no access to comprehension of revealed spiritual knowledge.

Let me emphasize here, by repetition, humanity did not know—have the knowledge of—how to live with man or with God. Large ly, man had lost knowledge of God. God revealed himself to ancient Israel—revealed to that nation His way of life—but, because that way was spiritual, it was never comprehended nor lived by Israel.

Generations of humans came and died—"unsaved"! But, "it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this [by resurrection] the judgment" (Heb. 9:27). Again, "as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all [the same "all"] be made alive [by a resurrection]" (I Cor. 15:22).

In that judgment, humans shall be called to account for what they did—all their sins. But they shall learn that Christ paid their penalty in their stead, and, on repentance, faith, receiving God's Spirit at last, growing in grace and spiritual knowledge, they, then at last, may receive immortality in God's Kingdom, just as called Christians may now.

One of God's prophets—a predecessor of the Church—foretold, "...it shall come to pass afterward, that I [God] will pour out my spirit upon all flesh" (Joel 2:28).

But it was not in God's master plan to pour out His Spirit upon all flesh at the founding of the Church. Jesus Christ was and is the only door through which we may be reconciled to God and receive eternal life through His Spirit (find salvation).

But Jesus said plainly, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him" (John 6:44). No man can! Unless chosen and drawn by God through His Spirit, none can come to Jesus and receive God's Holy Spirit.

God's Church started on the day of Pentecost with only the 12 apostles and about 108 other believers—although another 3,000 were baptized the same day.

But why start the Church so small?

Remember this principle: Whatever God does in his own supreme supernatural power he does in a stupendous way. But whatever God does through humans always starts the very smallest and grows.

Jesus trained 12—taught them as students—so that they could teach the larger number in the Church God's way of life.

Likewise God's Kingdom—to become tremendously big—started and today is small. Why?

Just as Jesus called 12 students to be taught, so that they could teach the Church, so the Church—the true Church of God—has remained comparatively small, because they are called as disciples or students, to learn God's way of life, so that the Church, to become God's Kingdom, shall be able to teach multiple thousands of millions in the coming millennium and final judgment.

The Church is the affianced Bride of Christ, to be changed to God beings and married to him at his Second Coming. Jesus spoke of it as the grain of mustard seed, starting the smallest, becoming the greatest. The world today is Satan's world. The world tomorrow—the Kingdom of God—shall ultimately become much larger than Satan's world.

The smaller number of the Church are all disciples—learners, growing in grace and spiritual knowledge (II Pet. 3:18), being now educated spiritually and trained in spiritual living to teach and rule over the whole world after Christ's coming!

To the Church, Christ himself says: "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne" (Rev. 3:21). And, "he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron..." (Rev. 2:26-27). We shall be kings and also priests, and shall reign on the earth (Rev. 5:10).

This world—civilization—started actually by Satan through Adam. God's Kingdom (his divine family) was started by Christ, through the Church. As Adam and his children were the material Satan used to build this world, so the Church is the spiritually begotten material Christ is using to build (create) the Kingdom of God—the happy, peaceful world tomorrow!

What is the Church? The Church is simply that spiritual organism of those called out of Satan's world—out of Satan's way of life, into God's way of life! "Therefore come out from among them [of this world and its ways], and be ye separate, saith the Lord" (II Cor. 6:17). "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind..." (Rom. 12:2). "Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (II Pet. 3:18).

Yes, 55 years ago I searched for the one true Church. It did still exist, but had lost much of the original truth taught by the original apostles. They learned the truth from Christ and the writings of the prophets. Jesus in person was the personal Word of God. The Bible is the same Word of God in writing.

God taught me through that Word of God—the writings of the apostles and the prophets. Because I gave myself to him in complete surrender to his will, he used me to build back up that one true Church!
SHOWDOWN

(Continued from page 4)

(1 John 4:1) to blossom into a great "multitude" of nations—an empire and later a multinational commonwealth (Gen. 48:19).

Manasseh meanwhile—the United States—was prophesied in Jacob’s blessing to become a single great power (same verse).

While the United States initially sat on the fence, trying to mediate between “two friends,” the British received solid support from an area where support has not always been forthcoming—its fellow members of the European Community (Common Market). The EC solidly backed up Britain's request for community-wide sanctions against Argentina.

This initial Common Market support softened in view of the sinking of the General Belgrano. France and West Germany expressed dismay over the incident. The Republic of Ireland, in fact, has now labeled Britain an aggressor.

But then came the sinking of the H.M.S. Sheffield which made the question of “aggressor” irrelevant.

Is Britain risking isolation in a South Atlantic war of attrition, much as the U.S. became ensnared in Vietnam?

The U.S. government on the other hand initially displayed reluctance in cutting ties to Argentina, a nation that Washington has hoped would help it in anticommunist struggles in Central America.

Argentina is not a brother nation descended from the patriarch Joseph, but a recently hired “lover” (Jer. 30:14), a nondemocratic country that would hardly aid the U.S. in a reverse situation.

Argentina’s Record

Argentina was a nation of open pro-Nazi sentiment in World War II. Afterward, it provided a safe haven for fleeing Nazi war criminals. At the time when former President Jimmy Carter called for a world grain embargo against the Soviet Union in the wake of its invasion of Afghanistan, Argentina responded—by breaking the embargo. Russia takes more than three fourths of Argentine wheat exports.

Yet the United States ambassador to the United Nations declined to cancel an invitation to dinner at the Argentine embassy in Washington, D.C., the very night of the attack on the Falklands.

Evil Precedent Set

The April 10 issue of Britain’s The Economist editorialized: "For America to lie low will only diminish, irrevocably, its leverage with both [Britain and Argentina]. By lying low it would cede to Argentina, and to other South Americans, the notion that their great northern neighbour is powerless to hinder even their wildest actions."

There are at least 20 border conflicts in Latin America that could be inflamed by this evil precedent.

Chilean officials are worried that the Argentines, if successful in the Falklands, will try next to wrest from them three contested Beagle Channel islands at the tip of South America.

Meanwhile, Peru and Bolivia side with Argentina on its disputes with Britain and Chile. Both would like to recover parts of northern Chile which they lost 100 years ago in the War of the Pacific.

In Central America, Guatemala has shown its support for Argentina and received inspiration to press its claims against all of neighboring Belize, formerly British Honduras. Only the presence of a contingent of British military men in Belize prevents a Guatemalan walkover.

U.S. Caught in the Middle

"Equally,” added The Economist, “for American inaction to cause Britain to lose the whole dispute to Argentina would cede to those in Britain and elsewhere in Europe the notion that the leader of their North Atlantic alliance is a fairweather ally.”

Yet, curiously, the United States could end up the biggest loser of all in the Falklands crisis.

Already there are signs of growing anti-American resentment throughout the Western Hemisphere because of the U.S. decision to back Britain’s side. Latin-American solidarity is taking form, even among nations not sympathetic to Argentina in the past.

The Soviets and Cubans are exploiting this rift between the English-speaking and Spanish-speaking countries. Communist pressures in the hemisphere will increase as Latin America as a whole resists U.S. leadership in resolving the conflicts in Central America.

Another Sea Gate Gone

Even were the British to recover their possession by force of arms, the Falklands are lost in the long run. Britain would have to maintain a large and expensive occupying force, far out of relationship to the islands’ few inhabitants and the strained British military budget, now being trimmed to provide money for Trident submarines.

Then too, how long can NATO permit two thirds of the British navy to remain far removed from its primary assigned area, the North Atlantic?

The immediate aim of the British government is to restore its rights for the sake of redeeming national honor. Eventual sovereignty over the archipelago is another matter. Were it not for the wishes of the islands’ inhabitants, who want to remain under British rule, sovereignty would have been peace-
fully transferred to Argentina years ago.

So, for all practical purposes, one more British sea gate (a maritime control point), one vital in World Wars I and II, is gone.

The Falklands sea gate is, moreover, still vital today. One major reason for growing Soviet sympathy with Argentina (aside of appreciation of grain shipments) is the desire to obtain “fishing rights”—in other words, a military base—in the Falklands, the gateway to the South Atlantic.

The Soviets know that the Strait of Magellan, “policed” out of the Falklands, is very critical in view of slipping U.S. control over the Panama Canal.

Another chapter in this story was written on April 1—one day before the Argentine invasion—when residual American control over the police force and judicial system in the former U.S. Canal Zone passed to Panama.

“They’re really going!” read one banner unfurled at the transfer ceremony. Celebrants danced and cheered in front of the police station and court buildings in the Canal Zone town of Balboa on the Pacific coast.

Also, a few days after the Falklands occupation, 20,000 Falangists (former Franco supporters) demonstrated in Madrid, Spain, in favor of Argentina’s action against Britain.


Unresolved Struggle Flares Anew

The crisis over the Falkland Islands revises, in a most interesting manner, the age-old clash between the Anglo-Saxon world and the Spanish cultures. Geoffrey Godsell, in the April 7 Christian Science Monitor, put the struggle in its true historical context, rather than just rehashing conflicting claims and counterclaims:

“The Falklands dispute has revived the centuries-old clash between the English-speaking and Spanish-speaking cultures. That was decided geopolitically in favor of the former by England’s defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588.

“But the residue of animosity from that original collision has not been completely purged. . . . Most Britons are at least dimly aware that their ancestors’ defeat of the Spanish Armada kept the door open for the liberating consequences of the Protestant Reformation, for the glories of the reign of Elizabeth I, for Shakespeare and the King James translation of the Bible. It opened the door for the colonization of English-speaking North America and its subsequent history. [emphasis ours]

“The other side of the coin is the sense of humiliation so often felt by the Spanish-speaking culture, outmatched (at least by force of arms) first in 1588 and ever since in material and social development in the New World.”

In other words, the outcome of that first armada defeat led to the eventual conferring of the birthright upon the end-time descendants of Joseph. This was according to God’s plan—even though Pope Alexander VI, in 1493, gave Spain territorial rights to all of the New World (with Portugal getting a slice a year later, which eventually expanded to become Brazil).

It is interesting—almost forebodingly so—that the British task force is now, even in the British
press, often referred to as an armada.

With the forcible takeover of the Falklands we may be witnessing a key turning point in the fortunes of the descendants of Joseph in relation to the opposing powers! We are heading into the "time of Jacob's trouble" (Jer. 30:7). The name of Jacob—or Israel—was passed on to his grandsons Ephraim and Manasseh (Gen. 48:16).

The attack upon the lonely shepherds of the Falklands could be highly symbolic—and a forerunner of far more calamitous days ahead for America, Britain and the white English-speaking Commonwealth nations. In Bible prophecy the nations of Israel are often referred to as sheep, while the gentile powers are spoken of in terms of predatory animals (Ps. 74:1, Jer. 50:17, Dan. 7:1-27).

However, in another scripture (Mic. 5:8) the "remnant of Jacob"—Britain and the U.S. primarily—is likened to a "lion among the beasts of the forest." This means that the Anglo-Saxon powers have used force on occasion to get their way in the past and in this war-torn twentieth century to keep peace in a very unstable world.

Without the influence of the Anglo-Saxon powers on the world scene, nations that believe in the rule of law and the peaceful settlement of disputes will find other powers resorting more than ever to the crude method of brute force.

**Battle Outcome Still Uncertain**

What lies ahead for the less grand but still proud British fleet as it prepares for the second battle of the Falkland Islands? (The first Battle of the Falkland Islands occurred in December, 1914, when the Royal Navy sank the cruiser fleet of Imperial Germany's Admiral Graf von Spee.)

Will Britain's armada be able to withstand the approaching terrible six-month South Atlantic winter period, full of treacherous weather conditions? What will happen to the small carrier H.M.S. Invincible, and its most celebrated crew member, helicopter pilot Prince Andrew, second in line to Queen Elizabeth II on the throne of ancient king David?

If Britain, with its nuclear submarines, is successful and Argentina is humiliated, what happens then?

Will Argentina, the most advanced nation in South America in terms of nuclear technology, embark upon an all-out program of developing atomic weapons in order to restore national pride? By 1983 Argentina will already be producing enough plutonium in its reactor to build, if it wishes, 10 nuclear weapons a year.

Truly frightful times lie ahead for this world before the dawning of the peaceful World Tomorrow.
**What Our Readers Say**

**Chemical Wastes**

The article “Chemical Wastes” by Jeff Calkins was most informative. I hope that many people are stirred by it and demand that action be taken to correct the dumping abuse.

Regrettably, this has not been the case in the matter of sodium fluoride, a waste product of the aluminum industry. When it became necessary to build costly disposal plants, the industry, with the assistance of politicians, greedy doctors, and so-called educators, decided to dump it into municipal water systems and tell the public that it was good only as a base for insecticides and rat poison but the public has literally “swallowed all this.”

Harvey N. Crumhorn
Huntsville, Alabama

**Why So Few Understand**

I am writing a short note to tell you how grateful I was for the beautifully written and inspiring article entitled “Why Do So Few Understand the Truth About Love, Law and Grace!” Never before have I read an article which touched, in such a clear and simple way, on the pertinent and practical aspects of leading a happy and successful life. Bible quotes I’ve read hundreds of times suddenly took on a new and joyous meaning in my life. I have taken Mr. Snyder’s important points and posted them at my place of work and will cherish and refer to this article the rest of my life.

Tom Chula
Muskego, Wisconsin

I was deeply touched with your article “Why Do So Few Understand/the Truth About Love, Law and Grace!” You gave an excellent explanation to the real meaning of love. Such an article deserves to be published in various media. I am sure with this kind of love there will be peace all over this globe.

Alice Turk
Los Angeles, California

The article titled: “Why Do So Few Understand? The Truth About Love, Law and Grace!” is the most understandable I have ever read in all my years (I am 79). I have never heard a sermon or explanation on love that was so clear and positive. I would so much like to send it to some friends and relatives, who are I think, as ignorant of that truth as I was. It really made my day.

Lucy L. Strack
Palm Harbor, Florida

**Genius**

In The Plain Truth you quote Elbert Hubbard, “Genius is 1 percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration.” The plain truth is that the above quotation was spoken by Thomas A. Edison!

Mrs. Jerome Endich
Steubenville, Ohio

- Edison indeed gave the saying currency about 1895. But Elbert Hubbard, when Herbert W. Armstrong visited him at his home in East Aurora, used this saying to describe his own literary endeavors.

**Family Breakdown**

Your article “A Growing Tragedy—Parents Without a Mate/Children Without a Parent” is illuminating and timely. Your suggestions, many of which are original, view family breakdown with a broader perspective, offering insights into familial and psychological aspects. Your prescriptions are simple, meaningful and are expressed without professional jargon. Professionals frequently discuss the issues with different perspectives and their explanations are different from one another. When they propose solutions usually difficulties emerge.

The Plain Truth has spoken out truly, on many issues. But this crucial article on children without a parent is very clear, constructive and meaningful.

I congratulate and thank you for your services to the family, community and the nation.

M.A. Suseelan
Assoc. Prof.
Marywood College
Scranton, Pennsylvania

**The Rational Diet**

I just read your very interesting article in Plain Truth magazine about processed foods.

On this I must wholeheartedly agree. I’m sure that our consumption of processed food is the cause of many deficiencies, and more importantly, calcium deficiencies. Of course we need this calcium to build up healthy bones and teeth. We also need iron for healthy blood.

I wish that the food companies would take note of this, but I’m afraid they won’t. They’re after the quick buck.

Thanks for telling it as it is.

John R. Simpson
Tampa, Florida

**Minning the Sea**

I was happy to see an article “Who Will Mine the Riches of the Sea?” The public is generally uninformed about the immense resources of the world’s oceans. Possibly the largest resource in the ocean is in the form of ocean energy, being pursued actively for over ten years by the United States, Japan, France, Sweden, and some other nations. The demonstration plants have proven the technology.

Jacques Cousteau has stated that the amount of solar energy in the sea is equivalent to 16,000 nuclear plants. It is non-polluting, inexhaustible, and is the only solar energy technology that is available twenty-four hours a day, all year round.

More than ninety-eight nations of the world have this ocean resource available to them, and while mining of minerals from the ocean is a likelihood within the next ten to twenty years, solar ocean energy will be available within five to ten years.

Richard A. Meyer
Secretary/Treasurer
Ocean Energy Council
Chicago, Illinois

**Roots of Crime**

I am particularly impressed with your article, “Stopping Juvenile Crime at Its Roots.” You have addressed the real heart of the problem in recognizing its source in the home. If parents could only realize that if this needful influence is missing in a child’s development, there’s nothing else that can replace it.

Charles E. Lee, Pastor
Huntsville, Alabama

**For Teacher and Student**

I teach in a small high school in western Pennsylvania. My sister placed a copy of The Plain Truth in my hands. “Read it,”
sake, "you might like it." Like it—that's the understatement of the century. It has become my base of operations. Social Studies courses now exude penetration and insight. One course in particular, Current Affairs, is tailored to your magazine. Especially the political, economic and religious drift in Europe, and the myriad ramifications allied with that sensational mutation.

Perhaps of greater significance, your staff's efforts have provided the courage to develop a spiritual awareness that there is a power greater than man that holds the only answer for our confusion today.

Earl Henry
Tyrone, Pennsylvania

Proving Readers to Think

Even the articles I don't entirely agree with provoke me to read scriptures for answers. Maybe you should have more "disagreeable" articles.

Michael Lenard
Wausau, Wisconsin

Many years ago, when I first started receiving The Plain Truth, someone else paid for my subscription, and I was grateful. I would now like to have the money I have enclosed pay for the subscriptions of others who want The Plain Truth.

This magazine has not only made me a better human being but it has enabled me to understand why others are weak. Reading The Plain Truth can help them build strong character.

Andrew Reblack
Rockford, Illinois

I must compliment you on all your fine articles in each and every one of your magazines. One can hardly put them down, and I, myself, thirst for publications of this kind. Sad to say, time seems to run out on me as I yearn to have more time for reading. As a working parent, having to make a living for myself and children, I force myself for time to read all your booklets and magazines.

Lupe Vasquez
Dallas, Texas

Thank you for your courtesy in inviting me again to receive The Plain Truth. I certainly find it a "Voice in the Wilderness," even though I often don't agree with certain conclusions reached by the editor. I have the sneaking suspicion that he wouldn't want me to, either, but is quite happy to have provoked me into thinking for myself.

A. Rustin
Toorak, Victoria

Thank you for sending us The Plain Truth. We are a migrant family and greatly appreciate the inspiring articles you publish. Even though I have to translate some of its values and information to my parents, they provide many hours of serious discussion, which greatly improves my knowledge, and understanding.

Denise Raimondi
Oakleigh, Victoria

I am a regular subscriber. The Plain Truth is the reason of my success not only from the point of view of wealth but also through peace of mind for which I am ever grateful to Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong.

Arup Kumar De
Calcutta

Battle of the Sexes

I am writing to you to know that there is a lot of food for thought in "The Battle of the Sexes—It's Killing Us All." A very truthful story that is affecting my marriage and lifestyle.

Ron C. Mitchell
Huntsville, Alabama

I would like to thank Sheila Graham for her article "The Battle of the Sexes." I have always thought that the family is the foundation of the way we live. How can we expect our world situation to get any better if we cannot keep our families together?

S.B. Castillo
Fayetteville, North Carolina

Avoid Bodily Injury

I have with interest read your article "How to Avoid Bodily Injury" and quite agree that U.S., Britain and many other countries should have to follow Scandinavian countries' restrictive and tough laws regarding driving and alcohol.

K.S. Halvorsen
Oslo, Norway

Ireland

I would like to congratulate the writer of "Ireland Divided by Fear and Hatred." I think I can sum up the situation in Ireland by saying that there are too many Catholics, too many Protestants and not nearly enough Christians, in that strife-torn land.

Ralph Ellis
Hamilton, Ontario

Easter and Lent

The articles on Lent and Easter were eye-openers! Even as a child, I couldn't see any connections between Jesus, the cross and the Easter bunny. Back then, you didn't ask a lot of dumb questions. It was "Tradition" and, supposedly, that explained everything.

Winifred Rowert
Port Huron, Michigan

I wish to thank you for your enlightening article on the fallacies and misconceptions of many Christians in regard to Easter. Not only is the observance of Easter Sunday in direct conflict with the teachings of the Bible, but things are made even worse by its commercialization with rabbits, eggs and other material items.

A small group of local friends get together twice a month to discuss the articles in your magazine. While we have previously touched on the misconceptions about Easter, I'm very pleased to finally see the plain truth about Easter in print. I'm looking forward to reading your booklet The Resurrection Was Not On Sunday, which a friend of mine is bringing over to me.

It is not enough for us to say we will observe Easter in a Christian spirit, as a reminder of Christ's resurrection. We as Christians are obligated to recognize the pagan origins of Easter, and not to be caught up in its heathen practices.

Dennis E. Herr
Crestline, Ohio

Map

Your map of percentage of distribution of Roman Catholicism in Europe fails to show Lithuania (which is at least 85% Catholic). While it indeed is unfortunately within the confines of the Soviet Union, it nevertheless is an important bastion of Christianity, directly bordering on Poland, and not to be underestimated. In fact, it is in the plans of the Vatican to bestow cardinal status on two Lithuanian bishops even within this year.

If possible in future issues, please correct this omission. Lithuania holds a unique position in the Soviet Union, as it is the only republic with an overwhelming Catholic majority.

Ben Nauseda
Woodland Hills, California

The map was not intended to delineate the separate republics within the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. If we had published a map pertaining to the pre-World War II period we would certainly have mentioned Lithuania.

Light at the End of the Tunnel

Finding an old edition of your magazine was like finding the light at the end of the tunnel. The fact that you give your magazine to anyone, without a subscription price, is amazing. I would like to become a subscriber immediately and look forward to receiving my first issue.

J. Foley
Inglewood, Ontario

I have just recently discovered your magazine, and am both thrilled and amazed at things that you have made clear to me through your study and research, that have puzzled me from childhood. It is obvious your work is spiritually inspired. It gives me courage to know there are people who have given as you have to the study and application of the Bible to today's world.

I would be interested to know how your publications and broadcasts are financed.

Jerry Horne
Mena, Arkansas
Once, marriage vows meant exactly what they said. But today these vows and the institutions that go with them—including home and family—are increasingly shaky. While divorce and broken homes skyrocket, marriage is questioned—even attacked. Is marriage outdated? Our free booklet Why Marriage!—Soon Obsolete? reveals a shocking truth that society as a whole overlooks about marriage. For your copy, just mail the literature request card inside this issue, or write the Plain Truth office nearest you.