

The

Good News

International Magazine of The Church of God

*The new south wing of Ambassador Hall
—the lovely sunken patio servicing the
indoor swimming pool—portray both the
beauty and utility of Ambassador Campus.*

Letters to the Editor

Inspiring Material

"This office just received the two booklets entitled 'Truth About Earthquakes' and '1975 in Prophecy.' I immediately read them. I'm very glad to inform you that I found the messages very enlightening, factual, and inspiring. I would like very much to have more of this reading material for our Municipal Library."

A Philippine Librarian

Suggests New Booklet

"May I offer a suggestion for a new booklet? Please ask your son, Garner Ted, to gather all the material he has published in the past on the subject of child training and put it into one booklet. I have read several of his articles on this subject and sincerely believe that his teachings should be religious and legal **REQUIRED READING** for every new parent on earth. I only wish I could have had such a booklet when I was young instead of now when I am a gray-haired grandfather."

The Voice of Experience

A New Co-Worker

"I received your letter informing me that I was a Co-Worker. It makes me very happy and I certainly will help in any way I can. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for letting me help."

A Grateful Servant

Baffled Doctors

"The doctors said I had emphysema in an advanced stage, but I now work from 12 to 16 hours per day and they can't understand it. I was anointed by Mr. Hill and the distressing symptoms disappeared."

A Member from Arizona

Tell-Tale Chart

"I wonder if you realize that you actually told all observant readers your Sabbath Day was Saturday over a year and a half before you printed your series of articles on the Sabbath? On page 6 of the March, 1961 PLAIN TRUTH there appears a photograph of one of the offices at Ambassador College. In the background is a chart with every day written on it except Saturday. This to me certainly shows that you practice what you preach."

Observant

God Heals

"Our son had an allergy and was sick all the time. We would have to sit up with him at night. We sent for an anointed cloth and God has healed him.

We took him for a checkup and the doctor said he couldn't find a thing wrong with him. He said he was perfect."

North Carolina Couple

Public Schools

"Our schools are practically Godless. I can go through a whole day at school and never once hear God mentioned, unless it is His name being used profanely. We don't learn desperately needed moral and spiritual values. The kids certainly don't seem to be taught the difference between right and wrong. God blessed me with good parents who teach me to know what is right. Your magazine does a great deal to help straighten me out also."

Oklahoma High School Student

Amazed

"I received the anointed cloth you sent me and I placed it upon my forehead and prayed and thanked God for my healing and the pain stopped. I had a blood clot in my leg and had heat on it. I removed the heat and slept soundly all night. The next morning I got up and told my daughter I was now healed and ready to go home, to my own house, to take care of myself. I had been in bed for five days in my daughter's home. She was amazed but as I had been healed some time ago of a lung ailment she believed and took me home. I have been doing my own house work and have no pain in my leg. My friends have never known of anyone except me to have been healed by God so they keep on asking questions and being amazed."

Woman from Pennsylvania

• *People never cease to be amazed. God has power!*

The Burr Under His Saddle

"My husband had a chance to talk with a young, unmarried minister. He questioned my husband about his church. When he found out Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong was our pastor, he was flabbergasted. He said that . . . people from his church were listening to Mr. Armstrong and four or five that he knew about were actually getting The PLAIN TRUTH and asking him questions that he couldn't answer."

Members from Iowa

Rejoicing in Africa

"The Lord has been good and wonderful in many ways and we thank our Father for everything. We were ever so glad to see one of our pastors, Mr.

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The Good News

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*ministering to its members
scattered abroad*

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change in your address. Please inclose both old
and new address. IMPORTANT!

HUSBANDS--

Love Your Wives!

The Director of the Visiting Program here at the Headquarters Church gives in this article a clear-cut definition of a heartbreaking and present problem in God's Church world-wide . . . and gives God's plain and practical solution in concrete action YOU CAN TAKE! The father of eight children, a husband for twenty-one years, and an Elder in God's Church, Mr. Hegvold writes with both concern and authority!

by Selmer Hegvold

LOVE not VITAL!" So says the chairman of an Irish marriage guidance council, Wilfred Brennan, in a declaration before a Church of Ireland group recently. This "authority" on marriage on the Isle of Eire proceeded to say, "Romantic love is not essential for a good marriage; neither are wealth and education. What counts most are loyalty and having a place of one's own."

However, the *absolute* AUTHORITY on love, marriage and happiness charged, "Husbands, LOVE your wives!" (Eph. 5:25).

Hollywood and the TV writers say your marriage cannot be happy without the real bond of love. Yet, do *they* know the way to a full, rich and abundant life? What is the right and the wrong of modern marriage? Should you, the husband, fabricate the movieland type of romantic aura around all of your daily relationship with your wife? Or should you be the strong, silent-type mate who cows your wife into a submissive, slave-like obedience to your every whim?

What is the happy balance for your home life? Do you know?

World's Education — Not the Answer!

A true Christian has proved God exists; that the Bible is the inspired Word of God; that God is working out a purpose here below! He looks to the Bible as *the BLUEPRINT* for working out that purpose. He yields willingly and wholeheartedly to the will of this SUPREME GOD! Modern educators *do not believe* in God!!! Hence, *modern* education is not the answer!

Evolution denies God! Evolution is

the basis of the world's educational institutions! *It is IMPOSSIBLE for evolutionists to understand marriage!* The vast majority of the teachers, doctors, psychiatrists, and marriage counselors are God-denying evolutionists. This is society! You — and the people about you — are the product of such educational doctrines. Your marriage is at stake!

Further than this — and more shockingly realistic is the terrifically unbelievable impact of another medium of false education which has engulfed you! Nearly every billboard, every display window and every paper or magazine plays up — most attractively — the romantic angle in advertising. "This," they say, "is the way to *real* romance — to ecstatic LOVE!" The universal understanding of romance stems straight out of the motion picture production centers of the world!!

TV and the movies, in vivid motion — and color — realistically depict romantic love! You live and thrill vicariously in a never-never-land of make-believe! Are *these* writers wise to the meaning of love?

Here in God's Church

Details of tragic divorce and remarriage problems and wretched marriages have consumed literally *thousands of hours* of painful counseling. Innumerable counselings among you brethren have brought to light the serious impact that false indoctrination and satanic deception has had on the very Work of God.

It is heart-rending to have to witness at close hand the desperate struggle many are forced to go through to salvage a union that has degenerated into abject misery. A great part of the

ministry is taken up with marriage counseling and family relations and many are the nights that have been spent bringing husband and wife to mutually see their responsibilities and their faults. These are the problems that *erupt* into the lap of local pastors. Yet *how many others lack the nerve to air their grievances*, and continue on in a hopeless mire of animosities and disagreements? The evidence in lack of spiritual fruits, the deplorable lack of drive to accomplish prayer and study indicates how widespread this problem really is.

Too often God's ministers are called in *only as a LAST RESORT* — frequently too late to effect a beneficial reversal of trend. Grief and heartache are tragic in any individual, but the *most unfortunate recipients* of adult mistakes in marriage are the *children*. Aside from the dread, and sense of insecurity these little ones suffer, is the long-range result of *disrespect for authority* and a totally warped personality. These are life-long blights that remain to plague society.

Today many of our own college students are struggling to overcome these scars in their personalities, the product of upside down or strained family relations. With God's merciful help it can be done. But how much better it would be if our homes, our families *could recognize early* the symptoms of gross misunderstandings? How much more effective servants of God will *your* children become if they have been reared in an atmosphere of real love and companionship?

Recognition, NOW, of the wrong concepts of love, of marriage, and of basic rights can change enormously your concept of God's purpose for you in the days ahead.

Let's clear our hearts and minds of

prejudices and false concepts and understand!

Is Romance, Love?

Publicity agents splash colorful pictures and articles across the pages of magazines and newspapers with full details of the private lives of filmland celebrities. These, they say, are blissfully happy marriages. Time disproves the fallacy of such high-sounding claims! In time, pictures of these same "happy couples" appear in the same news media together with lurid stories of marital spats — of divorce battles — and in some, not too rare cases — of murder and suicide!!

Does movieland have the answer? Is romance REAL love? What is romance?

Webster defines "romance": "1. A species of tale . . . 2. Any fictitious and wonderful tale . . . 3. A romantically adventurous act or experience. 4. A dreamy, imaginative habit of mind tending to dwell on the picturesquely unusual as a girl full of *romance*. 5. A fictitious tale; a falsehood."

Had you realized?

Is this LOVE? "An adventurous act or experience"? "A fictitious tale" or "falsehood"? Is your relationship with your wife to be based on that concept? Most are! Is yours?

What Is Love?

Here is the question that should be in the minds of all who contemplate marriage. Few really know. Because so few know, trouble lies ahead!

Satan has a false concept of love! He is confused and he has confused and darkened human minds! The present generation is the most confused of any generation that has ever existed!!

Satan, the Deceiver, has been at work! (Rev. 12:9).

One beautiful movie actress, declared to be an authority on marriage and men (after three marriages in twenty years), in effect admitted that "being a movie star *has nothing to do with . . . knowing how to act or being a happy, fulfilled person!*"

She has passionately portrayed, in a totally *false light* in movie after movie, her version of love! She, and others like her, have tutored you in the art of romance — not LOVE! The result has been false indoctrination! Look at the fruits — three marriages on the rocks!! "By their fruits you shall know them" (Mat. 7:20).

God warns, "They be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch" (Mat. 15:14).

What is love?

Webster defines "love": "A feeling

of strong personal attachment induced by sympathetic understanding, or by ties of kinship; ardent affection." Only deep concern and desire to help and protect, to nourish and care for another individual could fulfill that definition.

God says of love, "Perfect love casteth out fear" (I John 4:18) and, "He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love" (I John 4:8) and again, "For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments" (I John 5:3).

Paul was a man of God, full of wisdom and authority. He said, "This love of which I speak is slow to lose patience — it looks for a way of being constructive. It is not possessive; it is neither anxious to impress, nor does it cherish inflated ideas of its own importance." Could these be the words your wife would speak to others concerning *your* love toward her?

"Love has good manners and does not pursue selfish advantage. It is not touchy. It does not compile statistics of evil, or gloat over the wickedness of other people" (I Cor. 13:4-8, Phillips translation).

Can you truthfully say you meet these requirements? Do you have *this* LOVE — not the pseudo-romantic love — for your wife?

Your Responsibility!

Marriage is a stern responsibility. A famous marriage counselor in New York City has stated, "The greatest need for marriage preparation today is due largely to our changed cultural attitudes."

Yes! Cultural attitudes certainly have undergone a drastic change in just less than one-half century!

Woman suffrage is almost universal. Woman has been elevated by society to the level of equality with man. This has been man's, not God's doing! This is called culture! God has a name for it — **ABOMINATION!!**

God certainly does hold the women responsible, and they will have to answer for the results — and are presently doing so!

At the same time God holds *you* responsible! You have failed your office as a husband! Untold suffering, great perversions and inequalities have resulted. Women have supposedly freed themselves from untenable (even sadistic) shackles as a direct result of man's failure. Yet they have not freed themselves — but only left themselves more vulnerable to heartache and distress than before! All have become confused! "The way that seemeth right" (Prov. 14:12) is the wrong — the confused — way!

Responsibility lies heavily upon you! Are you a man? Are you helping your wife to be a woman? The masculine,

natural leadership from creation — faithfully carrying out God's purpose here below — would have made it unnecessary for womankind to entertain any thought of usurping man's place in their relationship. You as a husband have slipped from that right pattern established by Christ!

The children of God make up the Church of God. Christ loves each of these children more than any human in the Church can. This is not a romantic love! This is all-fulfilling love! — outgoing, cherishing, never selfish. However, Christ's Work has always been far more than just that of providing love and sustenance for His Church. He rules the *universe!* He has *multiple* tasks! *Nevertheless, He has never forsaken one in favor of the other.* He has not forsaken His children! Christ has perfect balance in everything. You need that balance desperately!

Christ's Instructions

Your *first* requirement in order to qualify for salvation is to care for those of your own house. Many have just not comprehended!

Have you qualified for the office of a bishop? Whether or not you are ever *ordained* to the office — you should be *qualifying* now!

Paul, under inspiration, wrote, "This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work." (Try substituting the pronoun *I* for *bishop!*) "A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous." These are only common-sense requirements of *basic Christian character.*

"One that ruleth well his own house." One who directs, by leading or showing the way. Not a bullying, suppressive iron on those under you! — but in keeping with all of the precepts of God.

"Having his children in subjection *with all gravity;* (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the Church of God?) Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil." This requires *maturity;* it requires LOVE! "Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil."

The deacons too! "Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience" (I Tim. 3:1-9).

Bishop, deacon or *husband;* it ALL
(Please continue on page 15)

Pagan Doctrine of the Soul -- *Deliberate Deception!*

Modern believers in the immortality of the soul would be laughed to scorn by the philosophers of antiquity. Yet, theologians of today base their doctrines on the philosophers of old who purposely lied in the name of religion.

by Ernest L. Martin

THE TRUTH about the doctrine of the Immortality of the Soul and the doctrine of Hades is startling. There is clear testimony even from the originators of the doctrines themselves that their pagan teachings about Immortality and about Hades (with its purgatory, limbo, etc.) were all LIES! Since it is a known fact that Catholic and Protestant teachings about those doctrines have stemmed from the ancient Greeks and Romans, it is time the TRUTH about their origins be more fully known. Frankly, if the ancient pagan originators were alive today, they would *laugh to scorn* the educated people who believe such nonsense!

Yet, so-called Christianity has been deceived into believing these same LIES — lies which the political and religious leaders of antiquity *INVENTED* in order to govern the unlearned masses of common people. The teachings concerning the Immortality of the Soul were *invented* to support the idea of immediate rewards or punishments after death. If the people had believed that once a person dies, he was *DEAD*, as the Bible teaches, the pagan doctrines concerning *instant* punishments or rewards after death would have had *NO basis*.

Paul Condemns Those LIES

Paul said that those who call themselves the philosophers of the world *became fools* (Rom. 1:22). Why? Because they *held back* from the people the general knowledge of God *WHICH THEY KNEW* (v. 18 and 19). It is no wonder that he condemned the ancient philosophers by saying: "They are *without excuse*" (v. 20). These so-called philosophers — the leaders of the masses — knew the truth, but *withheld* it from the people, telling the people outright LIES. "Who *changed* the truth of God into a LIE" (v. 25). These are

strong indictments, but Paul knew what he was talking about.

The Ancients *ADMITTED* They Lied

The primary reason for the invention of the doctrines of a terrible and never-ending Hades, and its supporting doctrine of inherent immortality, was clearly that of state expediency. The common people were told falsehoods to keep them subject to the state. This was especially true among the Greeks and pre-eminently among the Romans. We have these judicious remarks by one of the most stable historians of the old world: Polybius. This Greek writer lived in the first century B.C., and wrote a history of the Roman Republic. In his section on Roman government he writes:

"But, as the people universally are fickle and inconstant, filled with irregular desires, precipitate in their passions and prone to violence; *there is no way to restrain them, BUT BY THE DREAD OF THINGS UNSEEN* [i.e. the compartments of Hades], and by the pageantry of *TERRIFYING FICTION*. The ancients therefore acted not absurdly, nor without good reason, when they *invented* the notion concerning the gods *AND THE BELIEF OF INFERNAL PUNISHMENTS*" (Bk. VI, 55, 56. The quote is from Hampton's translation, vol. II, pp. 405, 406).

This is pretty plain, isn't it? Polybius was wise enough to know that the pagan doctrines of Hell and the heathen gods were plain *FICTION*. However, he thought that such teaching was a *good* thing so that the passions of the masses could be bridled and that the state could function properly. But, as he states, the educated leaders *know the whole teaching was a LIE!*

We have the records of many learned men of ancient Greece and Rome who plainly knew that the doctrines about the Immortality of the Soul, the compartments of Hades, etc. were ALL

falsehoods. They were invented to deceive the common people into a type of obedience to the state. "Cicero, Seneca, Panaetius, Polybius, Quintus Scaevola (The Pontifex Maximus), and Varro regarded religion as a device of statesmen to control the masses by mystery and terror" (*Dictionary of Religion & Ethics*, vol. 7, p. 61).

Pagan religion and all its ramifications was simply manufactured to control the masses. The doctrines of a hell immediately after death — which signified that people had inherent immortality — were meant to scare the common people into being faithful citizens. Philosophers, theologians and statesmen developed what became known by the first century B.C. as the "double doctrine" or the "double truth" teaching.

This "double truth" doctrine was manifested principally through the Mystery religions. Those few who were initiated into the highest degree of the Mysteries were told the truths regarding the Immortality of the Soul, Hades, etc. They were *TOLD* that the *common doctrines* were LIES, but *beneficently* given to control the people! This "double truth" doctrine is mentioned in the *Dictionary of Religion & Ethics* (p. 63) as "one truth for the intellectual classes and one for the common people, the climax reached is the phrase, '*It is expedient for the state [the people] to be deceived in religion.*'"

The populace were told one thing — a pack of lies — and the intellectuals (actually those initiated into the Mysteries as we will see) were told the naked truth. It is no wonder Paul said that the leaders were *WITHOUT EXCUSE* — *they knew better!* "They *hold [back] the truth*" (Rom. 1:18). The leaders would not tell the people the facts which they were very much aware of. The *Dictionary of Religion & Ethics* shows how these men *made jests* about

the credulity of the common people in accepting their teachings.

"Cicero was an augur [a Roman religious official] yet he quotes with approval Cato's saying that *he wondered how one augur could meet another without LAUGHING*" (*ibid.*, p. 63).

Even these two were pagan theologians sponsored by the State, yet they were well aware of the nonsense they were so sincerely and reverently teaching the common people.

The *Dictionary of Religion & Ethics* continues:

"The latter-day philosophies of Greece proved to the Roman that the foundations of his religion were baseless, *yet its existence was indispensable for the preservation of the State*. This conflict between private belief and public conduct can be seen, for example in Ennius. He wrote treatises, embodying advanced sceptical doctrines, and *he also wrote patriotic poems in which the whole cycle of Roman gods was exhibited and most reverently treated*" (*ibid.*, p. 63).

Ennius used the familiar *Double Doctrine* method of teaching.

Double-Doctrine Manifested in ALL Philosophical Schemes

One of the most important observations to be made regarding the teachings of the pagan philosophers and/or theologians is that they *ALL* adhered to the "double doctrine" method of teaching. Pythagoras in the sixth century B.C., Plato, Aristotle, and even those of the first century always had *two doctrines!* Invariably, their disciples were told the truth (*as much as the philosophers understood*), and the common people were told as many bold-faced LIES as was necessary to control them and render them governable.

Notice the teachings of one of the first of the heathen philosophers: Pythagoras. Origen says of him and his system:

"He divided his disciples into two classes, the one he called ESOTERIC, the other, the EXOTERIC. For to *those* [the first] he trusted the more perfect and sublime doctrines; to these [the latter] the more popular and vulgar." (*On Philosophy*, see fragments.)

Dr. Warburton who quotes this section about Pythagoras says: "This, we may be sure, would incline him to a more than ordinary cultivation of the DOUBLE DOCTRINE" (*Divine Legation*, vol. 1, p. 434). It is Warburton who proves that *ALL* the philosophers used the DOUBLE DOCTRINE teaching — it was simply the common thing to do (*ibid.*, p. 444).

One of Pythagoras' intimate disciples, Timaeus Locrus said, speaking about the Immortality of the Soul and punishments immediately after death:

"As we sometimes cure the body with unwholesome remedies, when such as are most wholesome have no effect; so we restrain those minds [of the common people] by *FALSE RELATIONS*, which will *not* be persuaded by the *TRUTH*. There is a necessity therefore of instilling the dread of those FOREIGN TORMENTS" (*World Life*, near the end).

In other words, it was perfectly all right to use as many LIES as was necessary in order to *teach* the people! How perverse the natural human mind is (Jer. 17:9).

Pythagoras, in his teaching about the Immortality of the Soul, was followed by another of his disciples, the renowned Plato.

We have the clearest testimony of Galen on Plato's DOUBLE DOCTRINES. Notice it:

"Plato declares that animals have *constantly a soul* [i.e. all animal beings, including man, have an immortal soul], which serves to animate and inform their bodies; but as for stones, wood, and what we commonly call inanimate parts of the creation, all these, he says, are quite destitute of soul. *And yet in his Timaeus, where he explains his principles TO HIS DISCIPLES AND SELECT FRIENDS, he there GIVES UP THE COMMON NOTION*, declares that there is a soul diffused through the universe, which is to actuate and pervade every part of it. *Now we are NOT to imagine that in this case he is inconsistent with himself, or maintains contrary doctrines, any more than Aristotle and Theophrastus are to be charged with contradiction, WHEN THEY DECLARED TO THEIR DISCIPLES THEIR REAL DOCTRINES and to the COMMON PEOPLE, principles of another nature* (*On the Natural Faculties*, fragments).

All these philosophers told FABLES — outright LIES — to the general population, but they told the truth (the truth that they lied to the people) to their own disciples. Notice how Galen says that Plato *told the masses* about the Immortality of the Soul, but to his real friends he rightly said that *one* universal spirit pervaded the universe to give life to all. There was *nothing about the Immortality of the Soul* to the latter group! It is as clear as it can be that Plato, himself, did not really believe such nonsense, even though he taught it to the laymen.

Listen to Strabo, who knew what Plato really taught. He is speaking about the religious doctrines of the Indians.

"They INVENT FABLES also, after the manner of PLATO, on the immortality of the soul, and on the punishments in Hades, and other things of

this kind" (Bk. XV, Ch. 1, 57, Bohn Translation).

Plato plainly *lied* to the common people and he knew that he was lying. Read Plato's bold admission:

"As for the symbol on the private note, you *desire to KNOW MY SERIOUS LETTERS* and which contain *MY REAL SENTIMENTS* from *THOSE LETTERS THAT DO NOT*, know and remember that (the word) God [i.e. God — singular] begins a serious letter, and (the word) gods [i.e. gods — plural] begins one that is otherwise" (Epistle 13).

Lying Necessary!

It is well known that Plato's teachings on the Immortality of the Soul and about the punishments in Hades were his EXOTERIC teaching — meant for *public* consumption. It was clearly FABLE. But what is strange, Plato, and the other philosophers, *felt no wrong* in teaching such things. They thought that *lies were necessary!*

We are told by Synesius, a thoroughgoing Platonist, "that philosophy, when it has attained the truth, allows the use of LIES and FICTIONS" (*Synesius*, Epistle 15).

These are well-known facts. *Lies and fictions were regularly employed by the ancient philosophers.*

The ancient pagans believed that the people, especially in the realm of religion, *NEEDED* to be deceived. They felt it was expedient for the State. Even the Roman Pontifex Maximus Scaevola frankly declared "*that Societies should be deceived in religion*" (Augustine, *City of God*, Bk IV., ch. 10).

Augustine further tells us that:

"Varro, speaking of religions, says plainly, that there are many TRUTHS which it is *NOT EXPEDIENT* the common people should know, and that many FALSEHOODS which yet it is useful for the people to receive as truths" (*ibid.*).

It is striking that the Bible says just the opposite to this. We are told that God is sending us His Spirit in order that we can be led into *ALL* the truth (John 16:13).

There can be no doubt that Pythagoras, Plato, Aristotle and the rest taught deliberate LIES about the Immortality of the Soul, and that they laughed among themselves at the doctrine of punishment in HADES immediately after death. These people *knew better*.

Dr. Warburton, a thoroughly trained classicist — especially in the field of pagan religion — remarks:

"It is very true, that Plato in his writing inculcates the doctrine of a future state of rewards and punishments: but this, *ALWAYS IN THE GROSS* (Please continue on page 12)

CHRISTIAN VIOLENCE-- A RELIGIOUS PARADOX

Modern Christianity is a PUZZLE to many people! Maudlin ministers mouth pious platitudes of love and kindness on the one hand and sanctimoniously sanction bloody wars on the other. This sets up a double standard, and frustrates any serious attempt to apply the teachings of Jesus Christ in today's chaotic world. Read this article to understand this world's plight — and to see Christ's own clear-cut advice for true Christians.

by L. Leroy Neff

A PERSON reading the teaching of Jesus cannot reconcile His teachings regarding love and kindness to neighbor with the violent and bloody wars in which many multiple millions of "Christians" have participated! No wonder there is confusion and uncertainty regarding Christianity today!

The pagans and heathens have looked at "Christianity" and have evaluated it as a hypocritical religion. It teaches love and kindness, justice and mercy, but completely fails TO PRACTICE these virtues in such areas as war, big business and brutal sports such as boxing and wrestling.

Because of the conflicts between the teaching and the actual practice of Christians, even many of the educated of our day have questioned Christianity and have accused it of failing. Is it any wonder that there are so many people who are irreligious agnostics, skeptics and atheists? Christianity to them appears unreasonable because of this great flaw in what is today called "Christianity."

Religion Has CAUSED War — Not Prevented It!

Instead of preventing war, the religious peoples of the world have frequently been the cause and instigators of war. There have been many "holy" wars fought over this earth's surface. History has proved that the religions of this world cannot bring about a change in man or a solution to our mounting increase of wars and rumors of wars.

The character of man must be changed before we can have peace. But who is going to bring that about? Will

it be the Catholic Church? Will it be the Protestant churches? Will it be any of this world's religions?

"Although many religious systems accept the same basis for their creeds, their differences as to interpretation have caused the most vicious and antagonistic conflicts — conflicts that have led to murder and massacres, and to the bloodiest wars man has ever suffered upon this earth" (Joseph Lewis, noted atheist, in *The Age of Reason* magazine, December, 1959).

Any student of history knows that these accusations are true! What a shame that such murderous and bloody conflicts have been a result of religion rather than in spite of religion. This

is not the way of the meek and gentle Carpenter of Nazareth Who taught that we should love our enemies and do good to them that hate us!

This world's religions are also shown guilty by another source — the *Encyclopedia Americana*, Volume 23, pages 346-347, 1941 edition.

"... In the past it (religion) has certainly been the direct or indirect cause of war — there has been no century without its authorized representatives or INTERPRETERS inciting the nations to conflict for its greater glory and power.

"Religions of old failed admittedly to appreciate their opponent's point of
(Please continue on page 13)

Battle of Milvian Bridge (312 A.D.). Constantine had seen a fiery cross in the sky—with the words "by this sign you shall conquer" emblazoned on it. Thus, thousands more were killed in a religious war supposedly sanctioned by God.





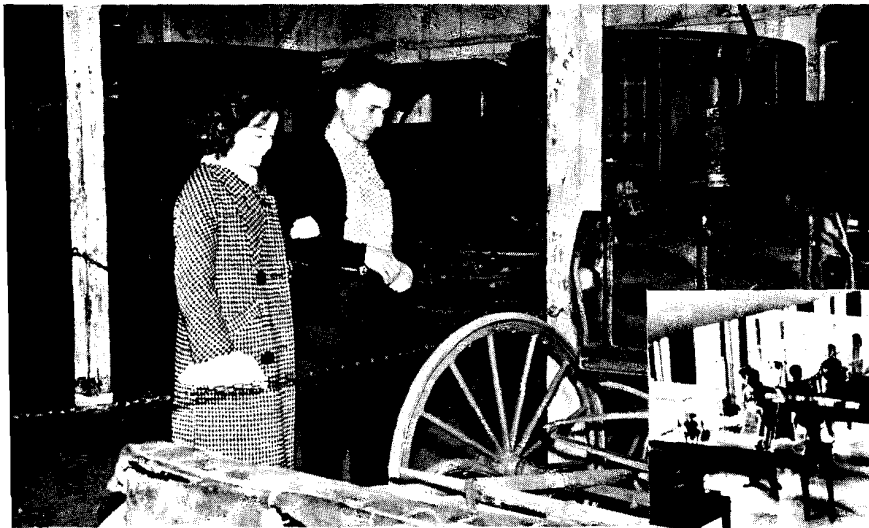
The sixty voices of the Ambassador Chorale fill the auditorium with the classic song, **BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC.**

YOU Are N

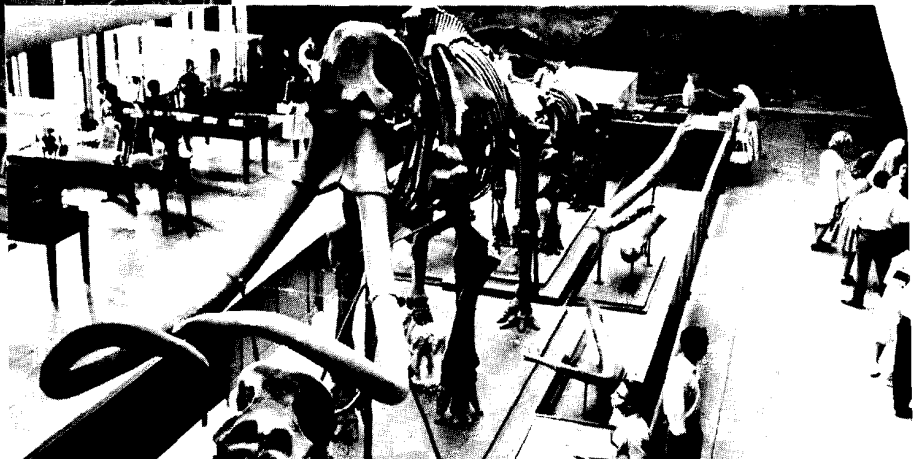
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A field trip to the Los Angeles Museum is an opportunity to view first hand the remains of a perished world.

The annual feast days are made even more enjoyable with student participation. Smiling classmates return to the campus to help in serving a delicious pot-luck meal.



An early step in the production of the 1963 Envoy; the posing and taking of student portraits.

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Graduates at Work

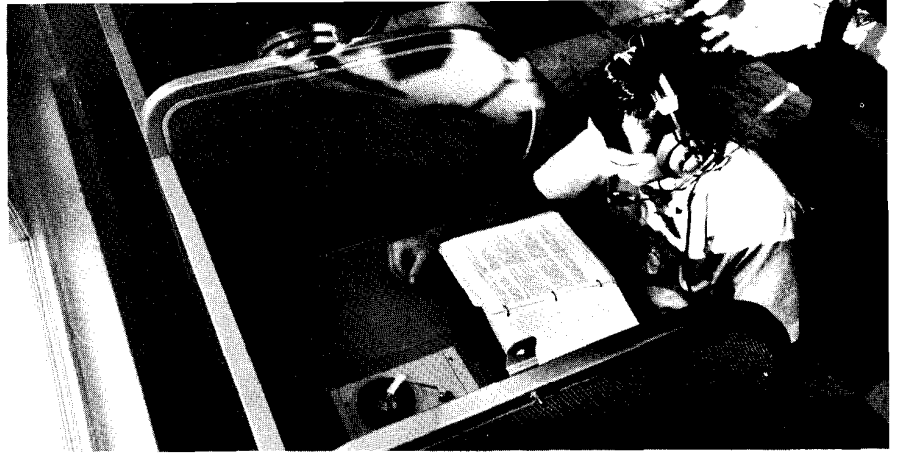
A "Scroll of the Alumni" provides a graphic portrayal of the growth of our graduating classes from the original two in 1951 to the burgeoning classes of the ensuing years. Note their vital positions in God's Work, ministry, education, offices, laborers in special fields; see the growth and purpose of Ambassador College in a never-before-published view.

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(Please continue on page 12)



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larger order has meant a more costly ENVOY but at no increase in cost to you. The price per copy of The ENVOY remains at \$5.00, and that is the complete cost to you including postage, wrapping and so forth.

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Note to our British Subscribers

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Note to our Australian Subscribers

Our new price this year is two Australian pounds, current value in U. S. dollars being \$4.49.

Mail your request direct to Radio Church of God, Box 345, P. O., North Sydney, N. S. W.

Note to our Canadian Subscribers

ENVOY sales to you in previous years brought us more than five U. S. dollars. Though the rate of exchange has shifted during the past two years, the price of The ENVOY to you will remain the same. Five dollars sent as a personal check or

in currency, can be exchanged at the bank for \$4.65, while Postal Money Orders bring the full five U. S. dollars. Either way your continued subscriptions are welcomed. Mail your order direct to The ENVOY, Box 111, Pasadena, California.

Evangelist Writes From Africa

Dear Brethren in God's Church:

Greetings from Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa! I arrived Wednesday, March 13, at 12:30 p.m. and would like to relate how wonderfully God has blessed the beginnings of establishing churches and the Work in this country — it has been phenomenal!

In that we have no offices here and consequently no credit references, you can appreciate more thoroughly what has been accomplished in just two and one half days, up to the weekly Sabbath.

First, without any knowledge of where I ought to start looking for suitable facilities in which to conduct Sabbath services, weekly Bible studies and the Passover as well as the Days of Unleavened Bread, Christ very definitely led me in a fast-moving series of events to a most suitable place which is able to accommodate us for *all of our needs* throughout the entirety of the year! Not to elaborate on these events, but only to show how speedily these things transpired, I will state that from the time I left the hotel until these bookings were finalized was only two and one half hours! This could very easily have taken days, or even weeks!

In the afternoon of the 14th, I was able to purchase and take delivery of a typewriter on which a letter to the brethren, informing them of the GOOD NEWS that a church would start in Johannesburg on *March 23rd*, was typed early yesterday morning, the 15th. A printing concern was engaged to print the letter — it was ready by 12:45 p.m.! While the printing was being done, I purchased envelopes and other necessary supplies to facilitate the mailing of the letters in the afternoon.

Before I returned to the hotel — with little hope of having a car for at least a week — Christ led me to just the right car salesman who was unusually favorable toward extending credit, in spite of my being new in the country and without any credit references, making possible the acquisition of a car — delivery is to be effected Monday! A car is vitally needed to properly carry out the work necessary between now and the Passover. Later in the afternoon, the letters were mailed to the brethren.

I was privileged to visit brethren this morning and while in their home, the letter arrived! Most of the brethren, then, will have been informed of this GOOD NEWS by Sabbath morning, in spite of the fact that I arrived only Wednesday.

When through this area for *twelve days* in December 1962, it seemed Christ inspired me above anything I had experienced before. This in addition to the way He had already been dealing with His people here, certainly indicated Christ was very concerned with feeding them by raising up churches in the area — perhaps foreseeing that time is short in this country!

Everything which has transpired since my arrival Wednesday certainly substantiates all this! In spite of the many problems which confront us here, it is most encouraging and gratifying to see that Christ is able to give us the victory! And, when He sees it is vital to His Work, He can accomplish miraculous things through the human instruments He calls in a very speedy manner.

Brethren, I know all of you will rejoice with me in all this, for it is very definitely the beginning of another vital facet of the over-all COMMISSION Christ is accomplishing through His Body, the Church. Overseas branch offices and churches are vital to properly back up the witness being placed before the nations through The WORLD TOMORROW broadcast!

On my way to South Africa from the Philippines, I spent *twelve days* in Australia. While there, I had the wonderful privilege of visiting all three areas raised up while Christ directed the Work in the land "down under" through me — Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. As I viewed the tremendous growth Christ has given His Work there during the past *forty months* — I left Perth, Western Australia, for Johannesburg on March 12th, exactly *forty months* from the date on which Mr. Ted Armstrong and I arrived in Australia to start the Work, November 12, 1959 — I could not help but reflect on these miraculous beginnings.

No less miraculous have been the two assignments carried out through me from the time I left Australia to my arrival here — both very vital in preparing me for this assignment! This is being realized more fully each day as I reflect on the experience received through the work in Alabama-Mississippi and later in the Philippines. There were very definite reasons why Christ would not open the door to this country in 1961, but has now — after experience was gained in these other areas.

To show the control Christ exercises over His Work and His ministers, let

me point out just a *few* of the signs which followed the work in Alabama-Mississippi, confirming it.

Christ worked it out that I arrived in Birmingham on January 24 (2x12) and did not permit churches to start until February 24 (2x12). After 21 (3x7) Sabbaths in Birmingham, Christ had added 77 (7x11) to these attending church. He had allowed me to conduct 14 (2x7) Bible studies in Meridian, Mississippi for the Negroes — an experience vital to the future conduct of the Work here! There were 7 Bible studies in Birmingham. And, my departure — upon direction from Headquarters — was after conducting my last Sabbath services in the *seventh* month, July 14 (2x7).

Not to dwell on numerics at length, it was very satisfying to see Christ perform in a most phenomenal manner in the Philippines. I arrived on Monday, July 23, and by early afternoon, Mr. Ortiguero and I were led completely away from an area in which I thought offices would be opened to a most inspiring, newly-opened business district. In this district in Makati, Rizal, space was opened to us in the CCC (Commercial Credit Corporation) Building. And, I will say that had I been given months to try and find a more suitable place, it couldn't have been done! It is convenient in most every way and up-



East side of CCC Building where our office entrance is located.

holds the dignity of God's Work around the world — a very respectable building, having two law firms just across the corridor from us, one of which is directed by a very prominent senator in the liberal party under President Macapagal. The way God opened a completely new and modern home for us was no less miraculous.

But, above all, it was gratifying to
(Please continue on page 16)

WILL YOU BE CAUGHT OFF GUARD?

This question was discussed thoroughly in a recent graduate prophecy class here at Ambassador College. Here a graduate student reports the important points brought out.

by Eugene M. Walter

SUDDENLY Cuba is a Communist military base! UNEXPECTEDLY Great Britain is out of the Common Market! *Without warning* the entire Northern Hemisphere finds itself in the cold, icy grip of the worst winter in the last one hundred years! OVERNIGHT 87 per cent of the American citrus crop is *wiped out* by a fierce, merciless cold wave!

These major headlines have all screamed across *your newspaper* within recent weeks and months. With them have been literally *hundreds* of less-significant reports of SUDDEN and UNEXPECTED loss of life and property through fires, drownings, highway accidents, heart attacks, accidents on the job!

Those in the world react to these things like the proverbial ostrich who sticks its silly head in the sand — they quickly bury themselves in their own little routine, fearful to *face reality*. They turn to thrills and pleasures to shut out of their minds any thought that *sudden disaster* could strike *them*. "To be sure," they reason, "there are problems — but, after all, any *real* danger is in the far-off, distant future — there's nothing we need to REALLY worry about *today*. It will all turn out all right. There will always be a brighter day tomorrow. And if there isn't . . . well, we'll worry about that *tomorrow!*"

This is the natural reaction of the human mind — the way the *world* looks at it. And because this IS the attitude of today's world, never has a society been more vulnerable to SUDDEN DESTRUCTION than we are. And never has man had more numerous ways to bring this destruction about! Few realize how *precariously* balanced our society is — what a thin, frayed, *artificial* THREAD is holding it together.

For example, in today's world, electric and telephone lines, water and gas lines, highways and transportation lines are our *LIFELINES!* They must all be in top operating condition or our man-made society cannot function "normal-

ly." Yet *all* of these lifelines can very quickly and easily be severed in *any number* of ways — by man or by the forces of nature.

And consider the delicate balance of our gold supply. France and Germany simultaneously demanding their gold from our dwindling supply could SUDDENLY *WRECK* our entire economy! Or consider the paralyzing, chaotic effects of a general, *nation-wide strike* called in an outburst of uncontrolled passion by a greedy, selfish labor union leader! Or let your mind envision the holocaust of *accidental* nuclear war — to say nothing of calculated, deliberate nuclear attack.

These are not vague, unlikely-to-happen possibilities affecting only a *few* people! These are just a few of *many* very REAL possibilities! Possibilities of SUDDEN DESTRUCTION with *far-reaching* consequences — affecting WHOLE NATIONS and *huge sections* of nations! Truly, never in all human history has a society been more susceptible — more RIPE — for SUDDEN and UNEXPECTED *DESTRUCTION* than ours today! And that destruction will SURELY come! God Almighty SAYS SO!

God Punishes SUDDENLY

God is infinitely patient with mankind but once man has filled the cup of sin and lawlessness to the brim, God intervenes SWIFTLY and SURELY in meting out justice and punishment. God inspired Solomon to write: "Therefore shall his [the wicked's] calamity come *suddenly*; SUDDENLY shall he be broken without remedy" (Prov. 6:15). "For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men *snares* in an evil time, when it falleth SUDDENLY upon them" (Eccl. 9:12).

The flood at the time of Noah and the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah are two outstanding examples of this *living principle*. Jesus Christ Him-

self used these examples as types of the destruction that will come in our day. He said: "And *as it was* in the days of Noah, *so shall it be* also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, *until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and DESTROYED* them all. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; but the SAME DAY that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. *Even thus* shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed" (Luke 17:26-30).

Destruction came QUICKLY when God intervened in those days — and it will come *quickly again* when He intervenes in our day. Just as God warned ancient Israel that if they sinned their punishment would be SUDDEN AND SURE (Deut. 7:4), so God warns modern Israel that if *we* continue to sin, we, too, will be destroyed SWIFTLY AND SUDDENLY.

"Take heed to yourselves," God says to modern Israel, "that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them. And then the Lord's wrath be kindled against you, and He shut up the heaven, that there be no rain, and that the land yield not her fruit; and lest ye PERISH QUICKLY from off the good land which the Lord giveth you" (Deut. 11:16-17). Today modern Israel has *broken* this command and now this punishment — this CURSE — is beginning to be carried out. "The Lord shall send upon thee CURSING, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do, UNTIL THOU be destroyed, and until thou PERISH QUICKLY; because of the wickedness of thy doings, whereby thou hast forsaken me" (Deut. 28:20).

This is PROMISED by God Almighty to come on modern Israel today *wherever* Israel may be. And on Israel's

captor — modern Babylon — punishment at the hand of God will also come *quickly* and *surely* (Jer. 51:8; Isa. 47:11). Yes, the *WHOLE WORLD* — Israelite and Gentile nations alike — are going to be taken by *complete surprise* — *totally caught off guard* — by the catastrophic events which will soon come crashing down on it.

Destruction *ALWAYS* falls *SUDDENLY* AND *UNEXPECTEDLY* on an unsuspecting and God-rejecting world.

How About YOU?

But what about YOU? Will YOU be "caught off guard"? What is YOUR reaction to world news and the events you see taking place about you daily? Does it seem unlikely or highly improbable that anything sudden and drastic could happen to YOU? Is *sudden death* of a heart attack or in an automobile accident something you've always thought of as happening to the *other fellow*? The fellow in the "*world*"? Do *you* think none of these things could happen to YOU, because you're a "member" in God's Church?

God says, "Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth" (Prov. 27:1). God has not made ANY of His children immune from *sudden death*! Any one of us — and that includes YOU — could be called to give an account of our lives *at any moment*!

But beyond the possibility of personal disaster striking you in the normal routine of your life, what about the CERTAIN disaster which is coming in a few years when the prophecies of your Bible are fulfilled? Will YOU have God's protection *then*? Do you "think you stand?" (1 Cor. 10:12).

It's very *easy* to "forget" about these unpleasant things which are coming — to throw them out of your mind. But that won't keep them from happening! It's *easy* to trust in a *chronological* date — a date which gives a false sense of security because it's a number of years in the *future*. But the date may be *WRONG* — and the "future" may *suddenly be here* — *sooner* than you expected! It's *easy* to "kid yourself" that there is "plenty of time" — that you can settle down to the serious business of *OVERCOMING YOURSELF* "just a little later." But "plenty of time" will *suddenly be "NO TIME"* — and "just a little later" will *never arrive*!

Change NOW!

These thoughts and attitudes are all very *NATURAL*. But they are also *gravely DANGEROUS*! If YOU have any such thought or attitude, *TAKE HEED*! The Bible soberly warns of *just such an attitude*. It is a warning di-

rected *NOT* to the *world*, but to *GOD'S OWN PEOPLE*!

Christ Himself gave the most serious of these warnings: "And *take heed to yourselves*, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and *cares of this life*, and so that day come upon you [members in God's Church] *UNAWARES*. For as a *snare* shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the *whole earth*. *WATCH* ye [Christ's own disciples] therefore, and *PRAY ALWAYS*, that ye may be accounted worthy to *escape* all these things that *SHALL COME TO PASS*, and to stand before the Son of man" (Luke 21:34-36). Mark also records this warning given by Christ: "*WATCH YE* therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrow, or in the morning: Lest *coming suddenly* he find *YOU SLEEPING*. And what I say unto you I say unto *ALL, WATCH!!!*" (Mark 13:35-37).

Christ *KNEW* the tendencies of human nature and He warned against becoming entangled in the cares of this life — against going to sleep *spiritually*. But He also showed how to *counteract* this tendency and to *overcome* it. His solution was simple, yet *sure*. He said to be *alert* and *awake*, to be *on guard*, to *WATCH, TO PRAY ALWAYS*.

The Apostle Paul gave this *same identical warning* to God's people. He said: "But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves [God's own people] know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a *thief in the night*. For when they [the world] shall say, Peace and safety; then *SUDDEN DESTRUCTION* cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But *YE, brethren*, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake *YOU* as a thief. *YE* are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. *Therefore let us NOT SLEEP*, as do others; but let us *WATCH* and *BE SOBER*" (1 Thess. 5:1-6).

Those living in the darkness of Satan's world *WILL* be overtaken by the Day of the Lord. But there will be *NO EXCUSE* if *WE* are caught off guard. To us God says: ". . . *knowing the time*, that now it is high time to *AWAKE OUT OF SLEEP*: for *now is our salvation nearer than when we believed*. The night is *far spent*, the day is *at hand*: let us therefore *cast off* the works of darkness, and let us *put on* the armour of light" (Rom. 13:11-12). In other words, *WAKE UP! BE spiritually PREPARED* for what lies ahead for *YOU*!

World events are snowballing — prophecy is rapidly being fulfilled. Today the world — *unknowingly* — stands on the brink of *SUDDEN DESTRUCTION*. Very soon now Jesus Christ will return *QUICKLY* (Rev. 3:11; 22:7, 20) — "as a thief" (Rev. 16:15) — bringing His reward with Him (Rev. 22:12). Only those who are spiritually awake and alert — *WATCHING AND PRAYING* — will be *prepared* to meet Him.

Will YOU be ready?

Soul Doctrine

(Continued from page 6)

SENSE OF THE POPULACE: that the souls of ill men descended into asses and swine [by virtue of their immortality]; that the uninitiated lay in mire and filth; that there were three judges of hell [over purgatory, limbo, etc.], and talks much of Styx, Cocytus, Acheron, etc. *and all so seriously*, as shows that he had a mind to be believed. *But did he indeed believe these FABLES*: WE MAY BE ASSURED *HE DID NOT*" (Vol. 1, p. 452).

Plato and all the rest *KNEW BETTER!!!*

No wonder Paul strongly rebukes these men. They were the ones "*who hold (back) the truth* in unrighteousness; because that which may be known of God is manifest in *them*; for *God hath shewn it unto them* . . . so that they are without excuse."

Why? Because they "*changed the truth of God INTO A LIE*" (Romans 1:18-25) and then the only "truth" they had — was that they themselves *WERE LIARS*!

Remember, it is not *LIES* which make God's people *free*, but the *TRUTH* — "and ye shall *know the truth*, and *THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE!*" (John 8:32).

Don't Miss Out

(Continued from page 9)

pages produced mainly for students, faculty and employees. It would be an economy-planned, black and white book, without colorful duotones, without the more than a score of full-color photos.

What is an education at Ambassador? Your 1963 *ENVOY* has the answer in a great variety of informal, often unposed scenes. The underclassmen section is filled with pictures and art of the wide variety of physical activity that enables students to maintain buoyant health.

The work of the staff on this new book is complete with the exception of packaging and mailing to you. Decide now that you will not miss out.

Christian Violence

(Continued from page 7)

view. *When arguments failed, the invariable recourse was to arms. . . .*

"On the whole . . . when religion dominated the state, the religions in the customary ecclesiastical meaning of the term were too absorbed by worldly ambitions under specious masks of humility and piety to realize the divine possibilities at the root of their creeds. . . .

"Not only the historic creeds, but smaller religionists who forgot to exercise toward others the toleration they demanded for themselves, made religion so empty and delusive a phrase that a Madame Roland might well have exclaimed: 'Religion, what crimes are committed in thy name!'"

These worldly religions, including what has *masqueraded* as Christianity, are guilty before God because of the terrible atrocities committed in the name of the Prince of Peace.

It should now be evident that the religions and churches of the world have not known the way to peace. The churches do not know what causes war. They don't know or care to know how to avoid it. They haven't understood fully nor practiced the *true teachings* of the Bible which show the *way to peace*. If they had, they would not have become involved in these so-called "holy" wars.

These churches have obviously not known the way to peace. They have not understood the plain teachings of Christ about whether or not a Christian should fight or be involved in war.

A careful look at today's world shows an entirely different Christianity in *most respects*, from the Christianity of New Testament times. This is *especially* so in regard to the Christian teachings regarding war and violence.

In this present installment the *contrast* of the teachings and practices of early Christians with present Christians will become very clear.

We will see plainly that early Christianity started off in a far different manner than it is being practiced in most professing Christian communities today.

The period of history covered in this and the next installments will be from the beginning of Christ's ministry in A.D. 27 to the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.

Christ's Teachings

Most Christian sects especially claim to believe and practice Christ's teachings summarized in the "*sermon on the mount*."

"Blessed are the *meek*: for they shall inherit the earth" (Matt. 5:5).

A person who is *meek* is one who is "humbly patient or submissive, as under provocation from others" (*The American College Dictionary*). Such a person will not be provoked to anger, but will be *patient* and *submissive*.

"Blessed are the peacemakers . . ." (Matt. 5:9).

Peace is *exactly the OPPOSITE* of *violence and war*. Anyone involved in violence and destruction cannot be under God's divine blessings! *The sword of war will NOT bring peace!*

The Christian cannot expect to live under *peaceful circumstances* at all times. He is going to be involved in conditions which are not at all peaceable, even though he himself will be at *peace* with man and God. He need not have anger or malice toward those who are angry at him.

Christ showed that the true Christian is one who *will be persecuted* (Matt. 5:10-12) for the sake of righteousness (right living according to God's laws, Psalm 119:172), but he will not become angry and take up arms against other individuals or other nations who may be angry with him or his country. Instead he will take it patiently and *not strike back*. By taking this persecution patiently, he will receive his great reward.

The Christian is instructed "resist not evil" (verse 39). How can anyone *JUSTIFY resisting evil* in war or at any other time in view of this PLAIN statement? *Instead of resisting others, Jesus instructed that we are to turn the other cheek!*

Love Your Enemies

Christ taught that we are not to hate our enemies (verse 44). How can one *KILL* in war and *not* hate?

Certain philosophers and religionists take the view that it IS possible to kill and *not hate!*
How silly!

Any experienced soldier will tell you that you *MUST HATE* in order to be a *good* soldier and *kill* the enemy! Hate is *taught* to soldiers so that they will be effective. How can any human being say that he can kill others in *love*? To make such a statement is to distort and pervert all scripture concerning real Christian *love*. It is exactly opposite from a dictionary definition of love. It is even a travesty on cold, carnal *logic!*

Instead of hating and killing our enemies, Christ *commanded* His followers:

"But I say unto you, *Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you*" (Matt. 5:44).

Can any professing Christian go to war in face of such plain and clear statements? Can any man claim to follow Christ who gave these *binding* instructions on His *disciples for all time*, and yet kill his fellow man?

Christ sent His followers out as sheep among wolves (Matt. 10:16). Sheep have not protection against wolves — they are defenseless.

Let's compare that with a Christian. The Christian has no natural or physical defense against those that persecute and hate him. If he used weapons to protect himself *he would* have protection.

A Christian engaged in war against an enemy force who has atomic and hydrogen weapons at his disposal, would not be a sheep among wolves!

Even though a true Christian is defenseless by himself, he *does have* God's divine protection (I Pet. 3:12-14).

Should We Fight or Flee?

Instead of Christ's disciples fighting against those who persecuted them, they were instructed to flee.

"But when they persecute you in this city *flee ye into another . . .*" (Matt. 10:23).

Later on, the disciples followed this instruction. There is an example where Christ actually fled during severe persecution to save His life. He had just begun His ministry, and was in the synagogue at Nazareth. He told the congregation that the scripture of Isaiah concerning Him was being fulfilled. He had come to preach the Gospel to the poor and to set the captives at liberty. The people were incensed and angered at His statements. *They wanted to kill Him* by throwing Him headlong over a cliff. *It was not yet His time to die*. His ministry and the training of His disciples was yet ahead.

If it were proper for a Christian to fight, *here was His opportunity*. BUT CHRIST DID NOT FIGHT. He never did. Instead He just slipped through their midst and fled (Luke 4:30). Later on, after His ministry was finished and it was His time to be crucified, He again was threatened by violence. What did He do? He did not fight, nor even revile those who persecuted Him. He accepted His unjust punishment as a "*lamb led to the slaughter*."

These scriptures, and examples of Christ, ought to teach us that *there is a time to flee* — there is also a time to stand — and *even be put to death* if necessary. But there is no time to fight back and hurt others as these and many scores of other scriptures plainly show.

Many people will fight back in time of crisis or peril *out of fear*. Christ instructed us *not to fear others* (Matt.

10:28). We are to have real peace that comes *only* from God. Such peace does not come from fighting or hating others.

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. *Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid*" (John 14:27).

Instead of trying to *save our lives by fighting* we must be willing to *give them* for the sake of Christ. If we try to *save our lives by fighting we will lose them!*

"Whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it" (Matt. 16:25).

Will YOU Perish by the Sword?

The second great commandment for all mankind is to "love thy neighbor as thyself" (Matt. 22:39). Only a twisted and perverted mind could imagine that to kill in violence and war is to "love thy neighbor." And yet, history has shown that many wicked men and bigoted rulers have thought that they were *doing God a service by killing* and destroying those that opposed them or their own peculiar religious beliefs.

On the night before Christ's crucifixion, Peter cut off the ear of the high priest's servant. Jesus immediately healed the servant and told Peter to put the sword away.

"Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for *all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword*" (Matt. 26:52).

The symbol "*sword*" of that day would obviously include *any modern military weapon*. If we want to continue to live the life of a Christian we had better not take up the sword or we may *perish* quickly by the sword!

Christ came to save and heal. He did not come to destroy and to kill. *He expects His disciples to follow His example* today!

On one occasion, Christ found it necessary to instruct His own disciples *NOT to hate or kill*. They wanted some of the people who would not accept or receive Him to be killed by having *fire come down from heaven*. Here is Christ's own answer to them.

"For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, *but to save them*" (Luke 9:56).

We are instructed to follow Christ. He set us an example here to *follow* by trying to *SAVE LIFE instead of destroying life*.

Would You Give Your Life?

Instead of killing, Christ laid down His life willingly for the world. Because He willingly gave His life for

others, God gave Him eternal life (John 10:17).

He showed that this present age is not the time for His servants to fight (John 18:36). Christ's Kingdom is not of this *time* or *this society*. If it were, then His servants would fight here and now. *After* being made immortal and a part of the very family of God, *AFTER* the Kingdom of God comes to this earth, His immortal, spirit-born servants, will fight with Christ against all the wicked. All rebellion will be put down and the world will finally have real peace.

That time is not here now. Christ has not yet returned to set up His Kingdom on earth. When He does, the whole world will know about it. Armies from all nations of the earth will gather together at Jerusalem to fight against Him and His saints.

Jesus knew that there would be ever increasing wars as we near the end. He knew that Christians would not always be able to avoid being subject to the terrible things that war brings. He constantly warned of these terrible times to come.

But He nowhere instructed His followers to arm or defend themselves.

In Matthew 24 He prophesied concerning the wars of our time. He did not say that we should become involved in these wars, or that we should be *angered* or even *upset* by them. He said just the opposite. Notice:

"And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye *be not troubled*: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet" (Matt. 24:6).

We should not become fearful or troubled and try to save our own lives. Our lives are completely in God's hands. Instead of afflicting and killing others, (Matt. 24:9), Jesus said that the true Christian would be *afflicted* by persecution and wars.

In fact those that would forget these strong admonitions of Christ and start injuring and killing others would in turn be killed (Matt. 24:49-51).

Did the apostles and early New Testament Church follow these *plain* and *clear* instructions of Jesus? To find out we must examine *their own teachings* on this same subject.

(To Be Continued)

Letters to the Editor

(Continued from page 2)

Waterhouse. We really enjoyed the Sabbath service and Bible study with him. We are looking forward to having our own church out here in Johannesburg, South Africa. We still pray that the Lord will open up these doors for us so that we can enjoy keeping our Sabbaths and Holy Days together with one another."

Members from Johannesburg,
South Africa

Sign of the Times

"One of those so-called muslims hit me from behind and I have a compound fracture of the left arm. I am unable to do odd jobs but I know my Lord will find a way for me.

Lady from Los Angeles,
California

Ministerial Student

"For over a year I was preparing myself to become a minister. Then at the beginning of September when I returned to school I was introduced to your message. I tried to disprove what you said in every conceivable way. In fact my professors also were unable. What they told me just happened to be a repetition of the 'party line,' not Biblical proof. There were three of us who always listened to your program and read your articles and pamphlets. In October, my roommate and I decided

to leave school. The third has now left and is attending services in Milwaukee. I hope to attend Ambassador College."

Young Man from Detroit

Held Back

"Enclosed is money for the Work. I quit tithing ten per cent and right off, the flu, loss of four days of work and expenses to amount of \$47.00."

Repentant

"I am sending you \$10.00 as a free will offering. This is not a tithe. Once before I sent you some money and asked for some of your books and someone misunderstood me and returned the check. So this time I am sending just the check. I will write later for the book."

Man from Kansas

"My subscription to your magazine recently ended, and I received your form card for renewal. I must confess that I threw the form away without intention of renewal. After more careful study of the situation, I have decided to ask you for a renewal, if that pleases you, although, as you can discern, I do not agree with you in all your beliefs."

Man from Tennessee

• *Subscription renewed.*

Love Your Wives

(Continued from page 4)

applies to YOU!! The principles of these requirements are binding on YOU in order for you to qualify for the Kingdom of God!

If your greatest fault has been failure to *qualify* for marriage, it is not too late! Paul emphasized the necessity of *preparation* for an office in God's Work, "And let these also first be *proved*; THEN let them use the office of a deacon, *being found blameless*" (verse 10). He established the basis for *any* officeholder, be it bishop, deacon or *husband*. Paul adds sternly, "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is WORSE THAN AN INFIDEL!" (I Tim. 5:8).

Happiness — Love Are Fruits of TEAMWORK

With right relationships established, with wife and children well-provided for and happy, you will be basically *prepared and grounded* for the great Work of God. Only then can God use you fully in His Work! How else can you be proved? The way you direct and manage your home, the way real binding love radiates from your loved ones determines how well-prepared you are for any greater responsibilities beyond your immediate family.

God has said, "It is not good that the man should be alone!" Man is incomplete without the woman. He needs someone particularly fitted to be a companion, to love and cherish, to HELP him — not to usurp authority over him!

How many times have you thought, "It would just be best if we could separate and go our own ways"? Banish that thought! It was not from God. Never lose sight of the over-all purpose of the marriage relationship. Remember, it was God who instituted marriage. Everywhere He illustrates that the way to the happy, the full, the rich and abundant life is strait, it is narrow, and few are able to find it. To be able to love your wife properly, the way God commands you to do, will take hard, but highly rewarding, work.

If your motive has been a wrong, *selfish*, self-centered desire for *self-gratification*, you have forgotten, or more probably, never understood the *multiple* role of your wife. Your wife is to be your helpmeet, to be your *companion*, to bear your children, to share your burdens and happiness, as well as

the physical pleasures of marriage in sexual enjoyment and fulfillment.

Your wife is extremely important in God's eyes. He commanded both of you, "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it!" (Gen. 1:28) — to master the other creatures of the earth. This requires *full co-operation* between husband and wife. "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife; and they shall be [become] one flesh" (Gen. 2:24). God intended you and your wife should come to become *one* in everything — a single, efficient, working unit! This is not accomplished overnight! It takes time, and it takes work.

Ideal happiness is reached only when both of you know the other so well there is a mutual sharing of deep love, and a feeling and *awareness* of thoughts, moods and desires of the other. Threaded through all of this is the mind of God in each through the indwelling of His Holy Spirit, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:5). Your every thought must be brought under control, "And bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ" (II Cor. 10:5).

Tongue in Action

Has your tongue plunged you into a world of woe? God says the tongue is the most offending member of your body! How many times have you wished you had controlled your tongue? How many heartaches has your tongue been responsible for? "The tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature!" (James 3:5, 6). Has this been true in your life? God created your nature. Your nature responds to the tugs of your heart. "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh!" (Mat. 12:34). You can say you are sorry, but *the damage has already been done!* "For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body" (James 3:2). Not only can this do irreparable damage to your potential happiness in marriage, but it can also store up condemnation before God — all of which will have to be *bitterly, and deeply* REPENTED OF! Christ warned, "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned" (Mat. 12:36, 37).

COMMUNICATE!

Most wives complain about a *lack of communication* with their husbands. If your wife is to effectively assist you in every phase of your life, she needs the facts. How else can she offer sound counseling advice? How else can she share your anxieties over business and family problems? She *wants* to share these responsibilities with you, and she should. You *retain the authority* to take or reject her advice — but talk things over.

Perhaps many of you are afraid your wives will have better ideas and solutions than you do — so you avoid the responsibility of having to think constructively with your wife by remaining aloof in your "authority"!

You have missed much, and have made many mistakes if you have not confided to your wife your hopes, your desires, your doubts and your problems. It is time to change!

Don't cheat yourself! (I Pet. 3:7); become heirs together — give *honor* to your wife!

A powerful way of communication with your wife is through joint prayer to God in the privacy of your own room. Have you *ever heard* your wife pray? How can you say you are carefully instructing her if you have never been with her on your knees together in supplication? Her quiet, feminine approach in prayer to her God is an inspiring thing to hear! She will often bring up matters about which you had never given thought. She will *inspire* you. At the same time she will hear your masculine approach in prayer, and the bond of love and respect will be greatly strengthened.

God's Way Is Way of Love

Can you come to really love your wife? It's time to examine yourself! The lack of real love between husbands and wives is too apparent. The truth of the matter is, you have been robbing yourself, your wife, your family! — God! Just as withholding tithes is robbing God (Mal. 3:8), just as David's sin against Uriah and Bathsheba was a sin *against God Himself* (Ps. 51:4), you also are robbing — sinning against — your Creator!

"If you keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in His love. These things have I spoken unto you, *THAT MY JOY MIGHT REMAIN IN YOU!* and that your JOY MIGHT BE FULL!" (John 15:10, 11). The powerful, majestic God of the universe is a God of love! "He that loveth not knoweth not God; for GOD IS LOVE!" (1 John 4:8). Yes,

you are defrauding Him of His right to share with you your married love!

Examine yourself! Your salvation is at stake!

Christ said, "This is my commandment, That ye love one another, AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS" (John 15:12, 13). Christ gave His life for you! How much should you be willing to overcome that *your wife* might also have the help she so desperately needs to be ready to enter the very family of God?

Without that help she may well fall by the wayside; God will have one less (your wife) to add to His wonderful family, and *you* will be responsible! A *terrible thought!* You may be sacrificing *your* opportunity to joyously enter God's own family! All because you have been unwilling to lay down your life for your wife — for one who has shared the trials and pleasures of years! In your case it may not be easy — but it will be rewarding!

Love Is a Growing Thing

Two people in love expect to reach great heights on their wedding day. Marriage to them means the smoothing out of differences miraculously. The emotional pitch is high through the marriage ceremony, and then the reality of marriage responsibilities strikes home hard. The great romantic bubble bursts. Disillusionment rears its ugly head. The expected surge of real love did not materialize! Puzzled, hurt, the great fear grows that a great mistake has been made.

Love, like character, is a growing thing. People are not born with it. Neither does one stumble across it accidentally in the course of daily living. Love needs to be developed. It needs to be nourished. Ignorance of this fact has brought about many separations, many divorces! This is the consequence of ill-advised counseling, and it has reached gigantic proportions in the world today. With proper vision, forethought, consideration, understanding and prayer *your marriage need not go the way of the world.* In fact, God commands you to have JOY — not to leave your wife, but to have joy in the wife of your youth! (Eccles. 9:9).

Don't Be TOO BUSY!

Your time, your effort, your energy, your thoughts are your life. These are what you are to lay down for your wife — "as Christ also loved the Church, and gave HIMSELF FOR IT" (Eph. 5:25). Become ONE — a life together, MUTUALLY GIVEN TO CHRIST!

Set yourself diligently to *show con-*

sideration to the wife of your youth. Begin now by going to a private place of prayer — beseech God to forgive you for your callousness and weaknesses. Ask Him to give you His great gift of love — love *first of all toward Him, then toward your wife.* Give thanks for preserving your marriage, for giving you a wife that has stuck with you through thick and thin in the face of every lack of appreciation and love. Set yourself to learn, belatedly perhaps, *HER likes and dislikes* in order that you might begin to shower upon her tokens of your growing respect and concern for her welfare. Read the article on "How to Have a Happy Marriage" by Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong, and the other articles concerning marriage that are available. It will take time, but time that brings great rewards. Read *together* — especially if your wife is converted!

LOVE IS VITAL!

Don't delay to correct the many mistakes you have made which, if continued, could cost you your salvation! Don't continue to blind yourself with the false counselings of pseudo-authorities. Turn to the REAL AUTHORITY — to GOD — Who alone can help you to work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. He alone can grant you knowledge, wealth, loyalty to Him and to your wife — and the VITAL INGREDIENT lacking in so many — MARRIED LOVE!!

Open Letter

(Continued from page 10)

see how God had so dealt with Mr. Ortiguero and his two sons, Benjamin and Jeremiah, to insure they were outstanding assistants to me in properly carrying out the Work there — a Work which was to prove much larger than I had anticipated (Eph. 3:20).

Shortly after an office was established, God opened up *nightly* broadcasting on a super-power radio station in Manila. But, even before this, to show that an office should be established — the reason I was so quickly transferred out of Alabama — Christ opened to His Work in the Philippines space in the leading magazine of the country — *The Philippines Free Press* — which brought outstanding response.

Up to the day of my departure, we had received 9,464 responses to nine advertisements — the ninth ad was placed just before I left — and from the eighth ad on "Seven Rules of Success," there were 2,555 responses, an overwhelming number! As a result, the mailing list of those receiving The

PLAIN TRUTH has grown to over 8,600.

Let us thank God that He has seen fit to single out the Filipino people for such a witness! Also, that He has now made possible a more thorough service to His people in South Africa.

We don't govern this Work — Christ DOES!

These numerical patterns and many other supporting proofs very definitely reveal that Christ intended these two assignments in preparation to sending His Work to South Africa. It has been most encouraging to me — it does take confidence in the way Christ has directed His Work through me in these other areas to have the necessary confidence and FAITH to step out and do



Mr. Gerald Waterhouse, Evangelist in charge of the South African branch of God's Work.

that which is required of me — and should greatly *encourage* and *inspire* YOU BRETHREN to know how perfect is Christ's direction of this tremendous, world-wide Work through those His Father has called and placed in His Body to be *used as instruments* in carrying out the Commission of proclaiming the GOOD NEWS of the World Tomorrow as well as that of warning the nations of where their ways are leading.

Brethren, God wants us to not only recognize His marvelous workings but also to offer thanks to Him for all which is being done for His people and for the GOOD NEWS which is being proclaimed to so many nations around this earth. Read these following scripture references and see how God always encouraged *all* the brethren by reporting how He was working in and through His chosen servants: Dan. 4:1-3; Acts 2:22; Rom. 15:18-19; I Cor. 2:3-5; I Cor. 15:57-58.

Don't forget to thank God for and ask His continued guidance on the carrying out of His Work in preaching the Gospel in *all the world* — pray for God's Work everywhere.

In Jesus' name,
Gerald D. Waterhouse