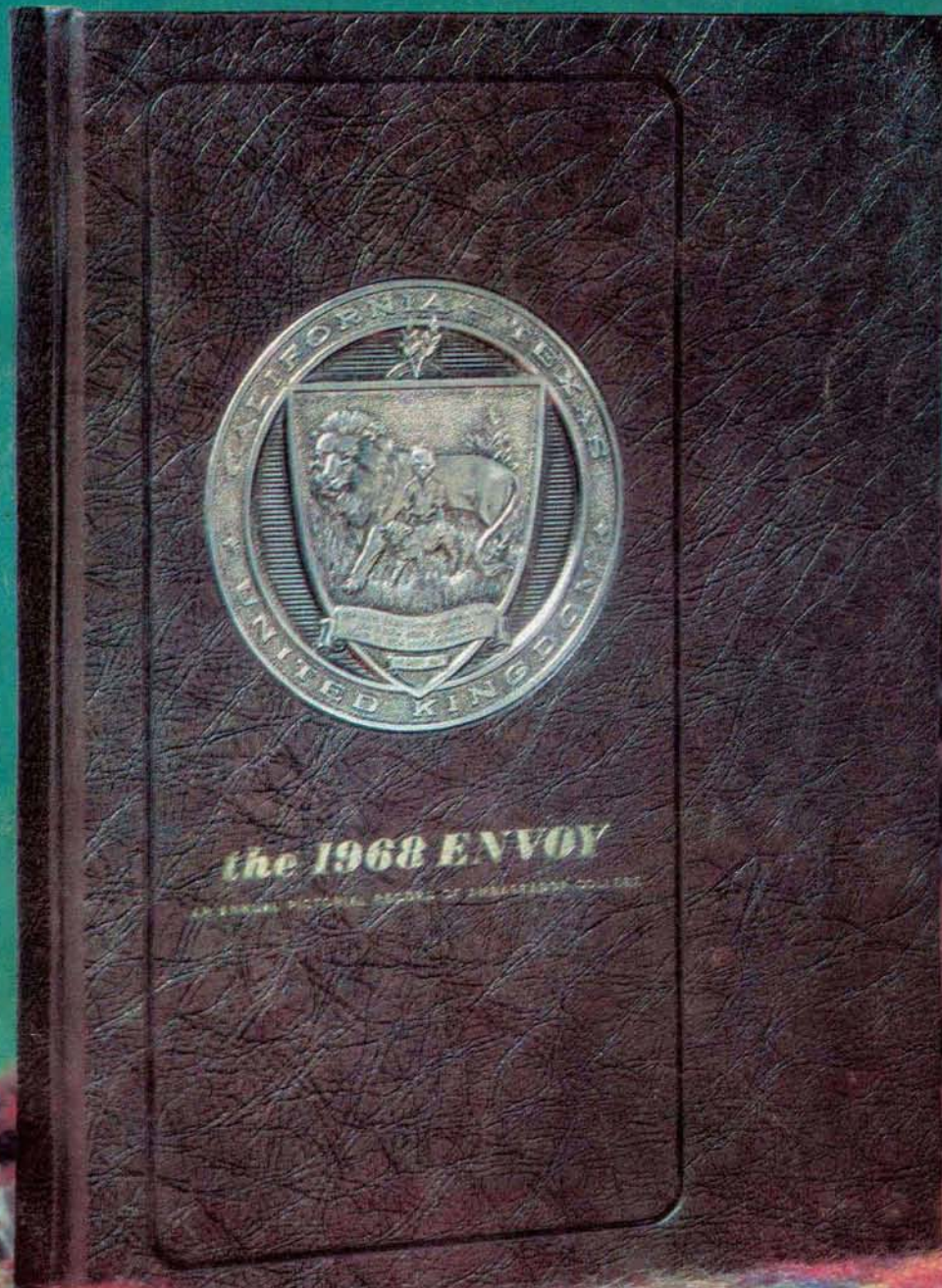


# The Good News

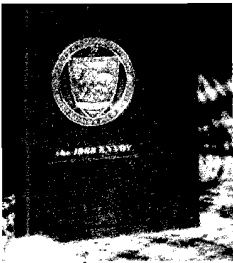
*International Magazine of The Church of God*



THE 1968 ENVOY

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1968





## More About Our Cover . . .

The 1968 ENVOY — Thousands have already ordered, delivery is at the Feast. For those of you who may have let the deadline for ordering your ENVOY slip by, we'll have extra copies available at Festival Site Business Office.

## What our READERS SAY . . .

"I would like to tell you after reading the book *Hippies, Hypocrisy, and Happiness* my eyes have been opened. I thought hippy life was fun, gay, and just a big joke. I once thought of being a hippy and living that life. After reading this book I have completely changed my mind. Your book has shown me the other side of hippy life. I'm nineteen and now have found the way to go. I now want to be a useful constructive citizen. I have shown this book to many of my friends, and now we see what a terrible thing could have happened to us."

K. G., South River, New Jersey

"I am just a couple of weeks home from summer camp, and I can't thank you enough for being able to attend. It was a wonderful blessing. I truly can say I learned a lot this summer and had fun doing so. I'm fifteen years old, and this was my first year, but I hope not the last. The activities we participated in I never thought I would be able to learn. Girls' Club gave me a lot of helpful ideas and instructions. We had sermons which helped me tremendously. I'm using my counselors as examples. I want to thank you again for a full summer at S.E.P., and I'll remember Imperial Schools in my prayers as part of God's Work."

Sharon M., Ohio

"I would like to compliment Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong on the series of broadcasts given from Germany. If it had not been for Mr. Armstrong's broadcast, we in this area probably would not have known that history was in the making. The local paper did not even write a little article on the convention being held in Germany, and it was

of the utmost importance historically. So thanks to Mr. Armstrong's timely broadcasts we knew of history being made and of the prophecies marching on."

Michael P. B., Tampa, Florida

### Fast Healing

"Just a short note to tell about my 'fast' healing: I had an accident with a buzz saw and cut my leg just above the knee to the bone and severed a large muscle. It took 21 stitches inside and out to close it. Also, I was put in a cast and on crutches and was told it would take six weeks for it to heal and that I would be on crutches that long. As soon as I got back from the doctor's office, my wife called our local minister and told him what I'd done and asked for a healing cloth, and asked to have it healed fast as we were in our biggest farm work with the first irrigation just starting. In two weeks I was able to be without crutches most of the time and the doctor is 'amazed' at how fast it is healing and took half of the cast off that was to be on for six weeks. We asked for fast healing and got it!"

Elmer A., Nebraska

### Answered Prayer

"We would like to tell of our 2-year-old daughter's recent miraculous healing. Since birth she has had skin problems often bad but always minor. But on the first of this month she had a bad case of hives and in two days was screaming with pain and scratching. . . . She was anointed on Sabbath and immediately was relieved. On Monday after her first full night's sleep in weeks, she got up and said "Mommie, God healed my bumps."

Wayne A. M.,  
Glendale, California

## The Good News

International magazine of  
**THE CHURCH OF GOD**  
ministering to its members  
scattered abroad

Sept.-Oct., 1968

Volume XVII

Number 9-10

Published monthly at Pasadena, California  
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Garner Ted Armstrong

### MANAGING EDITOR

David Jon Hill

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### BUSINESS MANAGER

Albert J. Portune

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P. O. Box 111, Pasadena, California 91109.  
Canadian members should address P. O. Box  
44, Station A, Vancouver 1, B. C., Canada.

Our members in United Kingdom, Europe, and  
Africa should address the Editor, BCM Amb-  
assador, London, W.C. 1, England.

South Africa: P. O. Box 1060, Johannesburg,  
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Members in Australia and Southeast Asia should  
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Sydney, NSW 2060, Australia.

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# The Feast of Tabernacles" - 1968 -

*The next few Feasts will be the LAST in this age. The vital meaning of this year's Feast of Tabernacles could mean life or DEATH to you. Come keep this Sacred Festival before God in rejoicing and thanksgiving with God's people before the end of this age...*

by Albert J. Portune

"THE fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the FEAST OF TABERNACLES for seven days *unto the Lord*... and thou shalt eat before the Lord thy God in the place which HE shall choose... that thou mayest learn to FEAR the Lord thy God always" (Lev. 23:34; Deut. 14:23).

When Almighty God ordained His annual Holy Days, He revealed to His people the profound plan of the ages. He revealed how He would ultimately save mankind from utter chaos, misery and death.

That plan, silhouetted against His weekly Sabbath day, allotted seven thousand years for completion.

God revealed in the Passover and the sacrifice of a lamb that one day a great Saviour would come to deliver not only His own people, but the whole world. In the following Festival of Unleavened Bread God proclaimed true repentance and the putting of sin and evil out of human lives - a truth that became a reality with the coming of the HOLY Spirit pictured in the Feast of Pentecost which proclaimed the FIRSTFRUITS to be begotten of God.

The ensuing Feast of Trumpets proclaimed in might and splendor the triumphant return of Jesus Christ to this earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lords - an event soon to occur and to DUMBFOUND all peoples.

In the solemn Day of Atonement, God announced that one day all people would be at ONE with Him at last. Then God said there would begin an

age of 1000 years in which men would live at peace and learn God's Holy and righteous ways... a time in which the earth would bloom as the rose... a time when the earth would be as full of the knowledge and beauty of God as the seas are full of water. (Isa. 11:9.)

This great millennial period is pictured in the seven-day FEAST OF TABERNACLES just ahead of us.

## The Time of the End Is Near

Unprecedented and thrilling new doors are suddenly opening for God's Work. As you have read in personal letters from Mr. Armstrong, and heard announced in your local congregations, we are *leaping ahead* in power and scope in periods of weeks more rapidly than we have before in periods of YEARS.

Jesus Christ is multiplying the POWER of His Work as never before. The real meaning of these events to YOU in YOUR LIVES is ominous and staggering. They herald the TIME OF THE END.

WE need the courage, the knowledge, the *reality* for the times we face.

Truly the great 1000-year millennial rest of God *is coming*, a time of peace and plenty, a time of rejoicing and happiness. But before that, a time of unheard-of sorrow and misery is coming on this world - a time of trouble such as this world has never seen.

We, God's people, have been given the staggering task of proclaiming the coming of God's wonderful and saving

Kingdom. God wants the world to hear that message in such power and strength they will have no way of escaping it.

God has said: "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins" (Isa. 58:1). He also said: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the GOSPEL [good news of the Kingdom of God] to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

God is multiplying the power of His Work to accomplish these purposes.

Brethren, unless we fully realize the vital part we personally are going to play in this all-out effort at the end of the age before the Millennium comes, God will not be able to use us.

The Feast of Tabernacles is a time to portray that wonderful world tomorrow. But, brethren it is also a time for us to hear the vital messages that relate to the times in which we live and the deep meaning of the things that are beginning to happen.

## Inspiration and Rejuvenation Necessary

God COMMANDED His people to attend the annual Holy days. (Deut. 14:23 and 16:16.) He gave this command because He wanted us all to live and relive the meaning of these days in His overall plan.

By attending the Feast of Tabernacles each year we are once again refreshed in our realization and perspective of the coming of God's Kingdom.

This year, more than ever before, we

need to attend. The startling surges ahead in our commission to preach the Gospel to the world are bringing new vigor and new perspective into a more dynamic and dedicated Church. We ALL need to feel this impact — to become more inspired and dedicated than ever before to the work that yet lies ahead.

The sermons portraying the meaning of recent events and the fulfillment of prophecy will be ABSOLUTELY VITAL to hear. You can't afford spiritually to miss a single one.

God knows His Church needs new life, new vigor, greater inspiration. This coming Feast of Tabernacles will be jam-packed with just the very elements we all need.

### Facilities Better Than Ever Before

Each year God has been granting bigger, better and more organized Feasts. This year is no exception.

Just being completed in the Mt. Pocono Festival site is the new metal Tabernacle almost 100,000 square feet in size. Brethren, this is a huge building 320 feet by 300 feet. It can comfortably seat up to SIXTEEN THOUSAND people.

For the first time this year we will be able to meet in Mt. Pocono in this beautiful new building. When you first see it you will be staggered by its size. Yet God has given us this wonderful new facility at a fantastically low cost. In addition to that He has made it possible for us to finance the construction of this building so that payments can be made from the tithe of the tithe income well within our budget.

Further in Mt. Pocono, additional parking facilities have been added together with upgraded landscaping and better operational facilities to make the Feast there a delight for all who attend.

Last year the new Administration Building was incomplete. Wait until you see it totally finished this year. It really is spectacularly beautiful.

TEN THOUSAND of God's people will attend the Feast in Mt. Pocono this year — nearly FOUR THOUSAND more than last year.

### More Buildings

When we signed the contract for the new building in Mt. Pocono, we in-

corporated a clause making provision for two more identical buildings to be erected NEXT YEAR. One will be in Big Sandy, Texas, and the other in Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri, where the SIXTH Festival site is well under way.

Work has been proceeding rapidly at the new Lake of the Ozarks site during the past few months. The site for the Administration Building, which will be identical to the one in the Poconos, has been graded, foundations poured and the walls are being erected. We hope to have the roof on and the building closed in before winter begins so that the interior work can proceed through the winter months.

This is real progress!

The entrance and internal roadways are basically graded and partially black-topped. The site for the giant metal building is being leveled ready to receive the erection of the building next Spring.

The restroom buildings are already under construction. The State of Missouri is completing its installation of our electrical service lines so we will have full electric power for the site. Drilling is proceeding on the water wells and we should all pray these wells will bring in an abundant supply of water.

With God's help and a lot of hard work and planning, the Ozarks Feast site will be completely ready for our first Feast there in 1969.

At Big Sandy, Texas, many new facilities are being added. Additional new camping sites across Lake Loma are being prepared for this year together with added restroom facilities. An improved and expanded beach area has been prepared for even better water sport enjoyment. The improvement of our water system will bring added comfort and convenience to all.

This will be the last year at Big Sandy for the "big-top." Next year, in advance of the Feast, another of the giant metal buildings will be erected to provide the added comfort, protection and enjoyment for the services.

At Squaw Valley, Jekyll Island, and Long Beach, everything is being done to make these rented facilities better in every way — to make this coming

Feast of Tabernacles enjoyable and profitable for YOU.

Brethren, God is blessing us in wonderful ways at each Feast site. The tithe-of-the-tithe from all of God's people has made most of this possible. We should all personally rejoice in being able to have a part in building these fine facilities which do so much to unite God's people in harmony and purpose. Thank you all very much. Be sure to keep up the good work.

### Feast Site No. 7

With the Lake of the Ozarks site well under way and planned for use in 1969, it would seem we could "breathe easy" for a while. But actually, brethren, the pressure is still on.

God's Church has grown!

We are no longer a few hundred in number. We are multiple thousands in number now, yet the percentage of growth has not diminished.

Do you realize just what that means?

It means that all SIX Feast sites, including the Lake of the Ozarks, will be almost full to capacity for the Feast in 1970. We will have to have a complete new site for 1971 because the growth in *new people* alone attending in 1971 will be NINETEEN THOUSAND.

So, we have only *three years* from NOW to find, plan, prepare and BUILD a whole new Feast site — and we haven't yet FOUND the right location.

Brethren, we not only need your help in the tithe-of-the-tithe, WE NEED YOUR PRAYERS. Pray that God will open to us just the right location and circumstances so that we may continue providing these facilities for God's Feast of Tabernacles.

Truly, God's Work is right down to the climax at the close of this age. We will soon have to flee to the place God has provided for us. But brethren, we cannot diminish our work nor our efforts to KEEP the Feast.

### Deep Purpose in The Feast

World conditions are deteriorating at an astounding rate. The earth threatens to explode in global war and mass uprising. Crime has exceeded all

(Continued on page 19)

# WHY DO GOOD MEN SUFFER?

*Suffering is universal. But why do GOOD PEOPLE suffer? Why trials? And how can we overcome discouragement in them?*

by David L. Antion

**W**E SEE a world of suffering around us today. Millions are starving. Countless millions live in squalor, poverty, and disease.

Most of God's people know the answer to world suffering. It is the natural result of breaking God's commandments. We see the world has gone contrary to God's laws. By so doing it has brought on itself all the misery that is in the world today.

## But Why Good People?

The answer to world suffering is relatively easy to understand. The difficulty comes when suffering happens to you. Especially if you have been trying to overcome, live righteously, be wholehearted with God. It is *hard* to explain why good people — those sincerely trying to obey God — have to suffer.

Consider this paradox. Why do the *unrighteous* prosper? Why do people prosper who do *not* pay tithes? Why do some of them live in abundance, luxury, ease.

They pay no tithes. Yet they are able to send their children to fine private schools. They become "successful" in the world.

Why?

Why do some of God's people — who pay tithes — have to struggle to make ends meet? Is there any purpose for this suffering? What is it? What must we prove by it? Will we gain anything if we endure it? And what are the answers to these enigmas?

## Reasons for Suffering

There are three basic reasons why people suffer. The first and most prevalent reason is our *own mistakes*. Chances are you have missed a nail and hit your thumb with a hammer. This

suffering was brought on by yourself. In like manner, suffering is brought on *by our own actions*.

The second reason for suffering is the action of others. People we love can cause us to suffer. You may feel fine. But if your children and loved ones are sick it brings a mental suffering to you. Thus others' sins can bring suffering to us.

The third reason we suffer is little understood by most. It is the least prevalent reason. It is the reason for Job's suffering. In order to understand this reason we must look into the Holy Scriptures.

This is one of the biggest reasons why good, sincere people run into serious trials. You need to understand it. In understanding it you will receive encouragement and strength to meet the trials you face in the future. *And you will face them!*

## Job's Sufferings

Turn to the book of Job and let us examine the account. In chapter one we find that Job was a man "perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil" (Job 1:1). The words "perfect and upright" should be translated "upright and righteous."

Notice here that by God's own account Job was a man who was sincerely trying to overcome. He "feared God." And he "eschewed [shunned] evil." In other words, although he was not a perfect man as Jesus was, he was a man sincerely trying to serve God.

We find that he had seven sons and three daughters. He was a rich man. His assets totaled seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses. "So that this man was the great-

est of all the men of the east." (Job 1:3.)

Job was so zealous that he made burnt offerings for his children lest they had sinned.

Thus the Bible gives us adequate background to know what type of man Job was. He was a man like many of God's people today. He wanted to serve God. He tried hard every day to please God.

In Job 1:6-12 we find an account hidden from Job at the time. You and I are privileged to view this account. But Job had no knowledge of it at the time.

The Bible says, "Now there was a day when the sons of God [angels] came to present themselves before the Eternal, and Satan [Adversary] came also among them. And the Eternal said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the Eternal, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. And the Eternal said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth [shuns] evil?" (verses 6-8.)

But Job was an outstanding man. Most of the world was under the sway of Satan the devil. Most went Satan's way. Job — a man of God — stood out among them like a sore thumb. God wanted Satan to know that here was one man who was not under Satan's sway.

But Job was not sinless. He tried hard to obey God. But he did it *by his own righteousness*. He had a great lesson yet to learn.

## Satan Accuses

But Satan had a comeback. Notice it in verse 9. "Then Satan answered the

Eternal, and said, *DOTH JOB FEAR GOD FOR NOUGHT? Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land*" (verses 9-10).

Did you get that? Do you see the accusation?

Here is the crux of why good people suffer. Let's understand!

Satan was saying that God bought Job off. Satan said in effect, "Why shouldn't Job serve you? Does he do it for nothing? Have you not given him everything, protected him on every side, blessed the work of his hands and made him rich and prosperous? Why shouldn't he fear you and serve you? But the ONLY reason he does serve you is because it *pays* him to do so."

And Satan went on to say, "But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face" (verse 11).

Notice the challenge! Satan challenged God to take away Job's riches. He said Job would not stay on God's side. He said that Job only kept God's commandments because it *paid him* to do so.

### If You Were God

Here was a challenge to God. Satan was saying that God's people will *not* serve God unless it *pays* them to do so.

God loves His people. God wants to bless those who serve Him diligently. We see from the Scriptures that almost all men who served God faithfully and well over a period of years were *blessed* mightily by God. He wants His people to have good things and to enjoy them. But what about this accusation? God had first asked Satan if he (Satan) had considered Job. Now Satan said Job was a man who would quit serving God if he were not blessed.

If you were God what would you do? God met Satan's challenge!

But notice how God did it. "And the Eternal said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in *thy power*; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Eternal" (verse 12).

Notice here that God Himself gave the orders! God told Satan just how far to go and Satan could go no farther.

### Just Another Day

Job had no knowledge of the conversation between God and Satan. He was going about his duties as he would any other day. He arose in the morning, prayed, offered sacrifices.

On this particular day Job's children were eating and drinking in their elder brother's house. Suddenly, as if from nowhere, a messenger came running to Job. He brought news that the Sabaeans ambushed Job's servants and stole his oxen and asses. The only one escaped was the messenger who told the account.

Naturally this would be shocking news. It would be an unexpected occurrence in an average week. But before this servant finished, another came with more news. He said, "The fire of God is fallen from heaven, and hath burned up the sheep, and the servants and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee." And before he finished speaking another servant came with news that the Chaldeans had stolen Job's camels and slain the servants watching them. And while he was speaking other news came of the death of Job's sons and daughters from a great whirlwind that had smashed the house where they were.

Remember this was just another day to Job. He had no knowledge that Satan was permitted by God to take all this away.

"Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, and said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Eternal gave, and the Eternal hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Eternal. In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly" (verses 20-22).

Job knew the ultimate responsibility was God's. But he did not know the reason for this calamity. He did not know he had been accused by Satan the devil of obeying God only for the riches and blessings God would give him. And he did not know that God was purposely

allowing this trial so that Job would see his own *self-righteousness*!

### Again Satan Accuses

In Job 2 we see that Satan again appears before the Eternal with God's angels. "And the Eternal said unto Satan From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the Eternal, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. And the Eternal said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and upright [upright and righteous] man, one that feareth God, and escheweth [shuns] evil? And still he holdeth fast his integrity, *ALTHOUGH THOU MOVEDST ME AGAINST HIM, TO DESTROY HIM WITHOUT CAUSE*" (verses 2-3).

Notice! Satan's accusation wasn't true. God wouldn't take Job's possessions away because of Satan's false accusations.

God does reveal the real reason. God said of Job, "And still he holdeth fast *HIS integrity*." Job stood up underneath the trial. He continued to serve God but in *his own righteousness*!

But again Satan accuses. "And Satan answered the Eternal, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life."

He implied that Job would turn away from God if he had to suffer physically himself. In effect Satan said, "Sure Job stood up underneath this trial. He knows he will receive all of his possessions back in time. And it did not hurt *him* physically. Although his children died his life was never threatened." So Satan said to God, "But put forth thy hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and *he will curse thee to thy face*" (verse 5).

Again God met the challenge. "And the Eternal said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; *but save his life*."

God was in command! But the accuser of the brethren — Satan the devil — put a challenge before God. He implied that God's people would not serve God unless they were prospered in doing so. And that at the first sign of

*(Continued on page 17)*

# Make This Feast a Turning Point In Your Life

*It's time for the Feast of Tabernacles! How are you approaching this Feast? Will this be JUST ANOTHER YEAR? You CAN make this Feast a TURNING POINT in your life if you're willing to put forth the effort. Read in this article seven steps to the most profitable Feast ever.*

by Albert J. Portune

**T**HERE MAY well be only FOUR more Feasts of Tabernacles left before the wrath of God and the day of the Lord explode upon this world.

Brethren, that is not much time!

Soon, the time God has allotted for us to profit by and GROW — learning the vital lessons from these Festivals — will be OVER.

God has not ordained these Feasts to entertain Himself. They are the most important capsule of time we have been given to be exposed to a *concentrated* period of experiences and teaching.

What will YOU get out of the Feast of Tabernacles this year?

Why don't you resolve to make THIS Feast the most profitable one in your Christian experience? Many of us need to make this Feast a GIANT *turning point* in our lives as we turn the corner into the gun-lap of God's Work.

Some of us are faltering.

Many need a spiritual awakening and rejuvenation. Some are on the brink of Laodicean lukewarmness. There is no better time than the Feast of Tabernacles to "come alive" and rededicate yourself — to change!

Here are *seven points* to help you truly make this Feast a turning point in YOUR LIFE.

## 1. Get into a Feast of Tabernacles Attitude

You need to *identify* your life with the purpose of the Feast of Tabernacles.

God has centered His Holy Days around the harvest seasons in Palestine. There were TWO harvests — the early

spring harvest which was the small barley harvest and the large fall harvest mainly of wheat.

The First harvest was called the harvest of *firstfruits* (Lev. 23:9-17). It was also called the Feast of Pentecost (count fifty) because of the numbering of fifty days from the day after the Sabbath during the days of Unleavened Bread until the harvest.

God thus revealed there would be two great times of SALVATION. The first a harvest of the Firstfruits, the second the great fall harvest of in-gathering.

Brethren, *we* are that first harvest. We are the Firstfruits. The Apostle James writes: "OF His own will begat He us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of FIRSTFRUITS of His creatures" (James 1:18).

We are called the "ELECT." Peter calls God's Church the ELECT according to the foreknowledge of God (I Peter 1:2).

The Plan of God as revealed in the Holy Days unfolds the precious truth that WE are called as Firstfruits, to join the family of God as brothers and co-workers with Jesus Christ. We will comprise the family of Kings and Priests under God (Rev. 20:6) which will teach and rule all nations after the return of Jesus Christ and to bring peace, order, knowledge and happiness to the whole world.

The Feast of Tabernacles pictures that wonderful time.

So, brethren, as you attend this Feast *look around*; visualize the far-reaching purpose of all gathered there. Realize what we MEAN to this teetering world.

Think of what you have been called

to. Come out of *yourself* and get the BIG PICTURE. The Feast has more meaning than just a good time or a vacation for you.

Feel a part of the work and overall plan of God. See your brethren as fellow workmen and laborers in the great coming fall harvest of human lives for the Kingdom of God.

Think of the misery, death, disease, heartache, suffering and blindness throughout the world. Realize the deliverance and burden-lifting happiness *we* are going to bring.

"For the earnest expectation of the creature [creation] waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. . . Because the creation itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation *groaneth* and *travaieth* in pain together until now. And not only they, but *ourselves* also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body" (Romans 8:19, 21-23).

Yes, brethren, look around you at the Feast and *feel* the meaning of our presence there. Feel caught up in the fantastic purpose of God.

God has called us to come out of this world and be separate (Rev. 18:4 and II Cor. 6:14-17). At the Feast of Tabernacles we separate ourselves physically as much as possible from the ways and functions of this world. We dwell in temporary dwellings, showing we look for another world to come in

which dwells righteousness and peace. We look forward to the coming of the Capital City of that world whose builder and maker is GOD (Heb. 7:6.)

The Feast of Tabernacles is also called the Feast of Booths, because the Children of Israel constructed themselves temporary dwellings or booths. God thus illustrated to them that they were a selected, called and chosen generation or nation, called out of this world to be lights, examples and ultimately Kings and Priests in the World Tomorrow. (See Lev. 23:42 and Deut. 7:6.)

The Apostle Peter said: "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light" (I Peter 2:9).

So, brethren, drink in of the deep meaning of the Feast of Tabernacles. Don't miss this God-given opportunity to live and SAVOUR your part in this tremendous step in the plan of God.

If you can *really* capture the depth of meaning of this Feast, you will return home supercharged with new zeal and purpose.

## 2. Rejoice With Purpose

The Feast of Tabernacles is a time of COMMANDED *rejoicing*.

The rejoicing at the Feast has deep and significant *meaning*. We can't afford to miss this deep meaning.

The special second tithe God commands us to save (Deut. 12:17) is not to be spent on anything but keeping His Festivals. God says we are to take this tithe and come to the place He has chosen and to rejoice before HIM (verse 18).

God further says: "And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth [earnestly desires] after, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth: AND thou shalt eat *there* before the Lord thy God, and THOU SHALT REJOICE, thou, and thine household..." (Deut. 14:26).

Why commanded rejoicing?

Our rejoicing should picture the deliverance, exuberance, spontaneous joy

and happiness of a world given true freedom from fear, want and turmoil. It should picture a world of fatness, goodness and peace.

That is indeed the meaning of the Feast.

God, in that happy world tomorrow, is going to wipe away all tears from all eyes. There shall be no more purposeless sorrow nor crying. The former ways will be changed to God's abundant ways.

Isn't that worth rejoicing over?

God says: "And in this mountain [Government] shall the Lord of hosts make unto *all people* a FEAST of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined" (Isa. 25:6).

Think of all the starving children and little babies in Africa, India, China and around the world. Think of the misery, ignorance and death. Realize that in God's world — tomorrow — all of these things will be gone and in their place every good and wholesome thing.

God also promises that He will, in that day, take away the spiritual blindness which is now cast over all people so they can know the precious saving truth you and I now know. He promises ultimately to swallow up even our enemy DEATH, in that world, to truly wipe all tears from all eyes (see verses 8 and 9).

Each time you are blessed at the Feast to sit down to a sumptuous meal — a thick steak or a succulent prime rib — or whatever you earnestly desire, REALIZE what you are picturing. Realize God WANTS YOU to have things like this at the Feast. Realize WHY He wants you to. Eat and drink to the full. Don't be afraid to eat the fat things and to drink fine wines or even, in the right moderation, strong drink.

Remember, it's a time of rejoicing for the WHOLE FAMILY.

Don't neglect your children. Take them with you. Let them eat the fat things as well. Let them enjoy the Feast and experience the joy, happiness and abundance. AND TEACH THEM WHY!

Had you planned to keep the FEAST this way? Had you thought deeply on these things? Brethren, the Feast of Tabernacles won't be the turning point

in YOUR life if you don't MAKE IT THAT.

Come to the Feast ready to rejoice and ready to rejoice with deep meaning and purpose. Come and experience what should and will be the highlight of the year. God's great Fall Harvest Feast, in all its meaning and beauty. It will truly revitalize your life.

## 3. Plan To Endure Any Inconvenience As True Christians

As long as we have not been taken out of this world (John 17:15), we are still going to encounter some of this world's ways and offences — even at the Feast of Tabernacles.

We must realize the words of the Apostle Peter do apply to us even at the Feast. "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an EXAMPLE, that ye should follow His steps: who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth: who, when He was *reviled*, reviled not again; when He suffered, He threatened not; but committed Himself to Him that judgeth righteously..." (I Peter 2:21-23).

At the Feasts around the world we have to depend much upon the facilities available to us from unconverted entrepreneurs. Most of them sincerely do us an excellent service in a fine spirit. However, in our relationship with motel and hotel owners, restaurant owners and operators and other managers, etc. of various facilities, there can occur disagreements and misunderstandings.

Some of our brethren in the past have argued bitterly and fought toe to toe with some of these. Brethren, in many cases WE have shown a greater degree of carnality than THEY.

This simply should not be.

Plan to be inoffensive in ALL THINGS. Plan to accept inconvenience and unexpected unforeseen discomforts, if they come your way, in the spirit of Christ — as a true Christian.

Don't grumble at your meals. Accept your accommodations in gratitude and with the deep perspective of how blessed we are to even have the opportunity to attend in peace and safety. Be cooperative with traffic control and seating arrangements.

Just make up your mind in advance  
(Continued on page 21)





AMBASSADOR COLLEGE . . . CALIFORNIA, ENGLAND, TEXAS

## Orientation Week Kicks Off 22nd Year

### Orientation Forum, Faculty Reception, Tests, Beach Party

"Many of you have come here because there are things missing in your life that have led you to realize that you are not all 'there,'" Mr. Plache told the Freshmen as the first Faculty member to speak during orientation assembly Wednesday, August 28.

Orientation means "to set your bearings." Representative members of the Faculty spoke on the revamping of lives and outlooks—especially at the beginning of the new school year.

Dr. Hoeh presided as Master of Ceremonies. He explained why Ambassador is co-educational: "If you train men and not girls, then one has to start over again with the next generation, as children grow up in an environment scarcely removed from the bush."

The Guidance Counselor of men, Mr. Roderick Meredith, gave three guidelines toward becoming established in Ambassador life: 1) Remember why you came here; 2) Don't let little misunderstandings get you down; 3) Be whole-hearted in whatever you do. He warned, "This is not a Bible school (with) a nicey-nice atmosphere, yet it is a veritable gold mine."

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong delivered the theme message of the afternoon. In stating the reason for Ambassador College, he pointed out, "Other colleges only teach you how to earn a living. Here you learn not only how to earn

*(Continued on page 10)*



Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong speaks to the largest incoming Freshman class in the Recital Hall of the Fine Arts Building.

## SECOND WEB PRESS FOR NEW PRESS COMPLEX

The new web press has arrived! On August 22, the four-color satellite press destined for the new Press Complex was hoisted off the freighter *Portland* at San Pedro. The sixty-nine ton payload is the Halley-Aller press. It was manufactured by Baker Perkins Limited of England in Peterborough—about a two-hour drive north of the Bricket Wood Campus.

The Halley-Aller will be the main production press for the printing of *The PLAIN TRUTH*. At present, *The PLAIN TRUTH* is printed at the rate of 600 feet per minute, which means that about 20,000 signatures come off per hour. The existing press has a capacity to produce some 1,300,000 finished copies

in 18 production days, using three shifts per day. After the Halley-Aller is installed, production potential is expected to jump to nearly 3,000,000 magazines in the same amount of time!

Plans for installation began a year and a half ago. Several tons of concrete and reinforced steel form the custom-made foundation bed for the

*(Continued on page 10)*

## De Echte Waarheid— The Plain Truth in the Dutch Language

Yes, *The PLAIN TRUTH* is in Dutch — and that's good news! Ambassador College has now smashed another language barrier to convey God's message to one more tribe of Israel.

Around the time of this year's Feast, the Dutch edition of the *Reader's Digest* will carry an ad offering, in that language, the Hippie booklet and *De ECHTE WAARHEID—The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine in Dutch. The audience is a potential seventeen and one-half million people, including the Netherlands, Flemish-speaking northern Belgium, the Netherland Antilles, and Surinam.

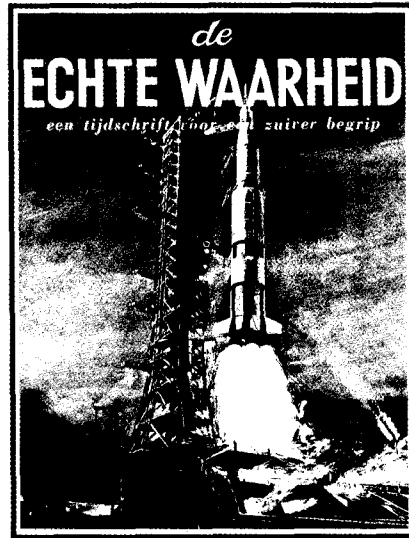
All these areas will be reached by the means of mass media. Radio Antilles and Radio Surinam carry *The WORLD TOMORROW* in English to their respective territories. The Dutch edition of the *Reader's Digest* has a circulation of 275,000 in Holland and Flemish-speaking Belgium.

## HALLEY-ALLER

(Continued from page 9)

Halley-Aller in the new building. Its stress factor is an impressive 3,500 pounds per square inch!

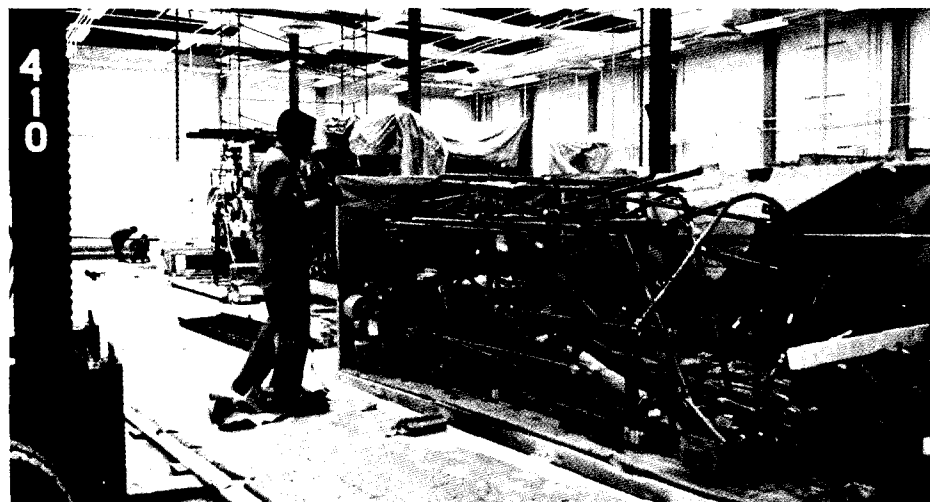
When the twin satellite printing units are finally installed, their tolerance must be within 1/1000 of an inch. This will be difficult when you consider that



Through the advertisements in *Reader's Digest* God has opened another door in the Foreign Work. His Church is walking through that door because the manpower has been trained to do it. This breakthrough represents the last opportunity for these people to hear the TRUTH before events in Europe make it impossible for the Work to continue.

its weight is roughly twice that of our present web press. But it is vital to the high quality production *The PLAIN TRUTH* demands.

But even this giant press is not enough! By September of 1969 both giant presses will have nearly reached their printing capacity and another Halley-Aller will have to be ready to go into production.



Workmen begin to uncrate and assemble the Halley-Aller in the new Press Building. The press came in 24 crates.

## Orientation Week

(Continued from page 9)

a living, but *how to live* . . . This is not a Bible or religious school — but we do live by every Word of God."

Stressing the importance of the Bible, Mr. Armstrong explained that it is man's instruction book, sent along with man. It reveals man's purpose for being; where he is headed; and how to get there. "We were all put here for a purpose — and that purpose is to develop the finest kind of pure, wholesome character."

That evening the formal Faculty Reception was held.

Mr. Herbert Armstrong started the evening by welcoming the class of '72 to Ambassador College on the steps of Ambassador Hall. Then he gave them a brief history of the newly remodeled hall and led them on a tour through it.

After the tour of the hall, the students were able to meet the faculty in the mall of the Academic Complex behind Ambassador Hall over a few hors d'oeuvres and a glass of punch. Then they had an opportunity to visit the Penthouse and the newly opened — but not quite finished — Men's Dormitory.

Two days of testing followed for the new students.

At 8:30 Sunday morning, sixteen buses full of students motored down to the scorching sands and pounding surf of Huntington Beach for the annual get-acquainted beach party.

The whirlwind of activities ended Monday with registration. Classes began next day with almost 600 students in attendance, nearly 150 times more than when Ambassador first opened its doors twenty-two short years ago! That's progress!

These pages contain the main articles from the newspapers — *The PORTFOLIO* — of all three Ambassador campuses. We hope they will bring you closer to the students of Ambassador College and the Headquarters Work. *The PORTFOLIO* itself, of course, is a student publication not available to non-students.

# Photo Research Laboratory

*Ambassador College has taken some of the most unusual color photographs of nature subjects in existence. The story behind these photos is equally intriguing. This article reveals the interesting behind-the-scenes work.*

by Jerry Gentry

**J**UST what does it take to photograph an Archer fish in action?

What kind of facilities, laboratory, personnel, and camera equipment is necessary to capture *on film* the precise instant of an *Archer's* jet of water as it douses an insect?

You saw a picture — in FULL COLOR — printed in one of the first articles on evolution in *The PLAIN TRUTH* mag-

## **STRADDLING A "FENCE"**

Damsel bug adult finds going a little tricky in the flower world. The adult is only one stage of insect metamorphosis.

Gentry — Ambassador College

azine, of an Archer fish. It was kept and photographed by the Ambassador College photographic laboratory.

But there's more to the story than JUST the photo you saw in that issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH*.

It represented many dozens of man-hours, careful study, and hard work!

The story behind the archer fish photo is a perfect example of how the Ambassador College Photo Research Lab has been able to take photos of a nature *rarely, IF EVER, seen!*

But before I tell you the story of the

amazing Archer fish and how we took that picture — and MANY OTHER PICTURES of equally unique and interesting creatures such as ants, moths, insect-eating plants, and marine fish, to name a few — let me tell you how the whole project began.

## **Production Begins**

In late 1965, Mr. Ted Armstrong confronted the Research Staff with producing a full-sized, fully illustrated book entitled *Does God Exist*.

The gigantic task of researching,



### 1. Chameleon is poised — ready to strike insect on leaf.



### 2. ZOT! — Long, sticky tongue shoots out. Chameleon gets its bug.



### 3. Tongue goes limp and is slowly "reeled" in with prey.



Johnson — Ambassador College

studying, probing, and compiling a book which would require expert knowledge and accuracy, stood before us.

What does it involve to produce a fully illustrated and documented book?

How long would it take? And what are some of the *problems* to solve?

#### Photographic Problems

Just *one* part of the task was to locate and purchase top-quality color photographs to *illustrate* the entire book. This required writing dozens of letters to many different photographic agencies

such as Photo Researchers, Inc., National Audubon Society, and many individual photographers who might have photographed various creatures all over the earth.

Those creatures had to be unusual — and had to be photographed at the *split instant* of doing what that insect, plant, animal — or whatever — is famous for.

We began to pour out letters to nature photographers around the United States, and abroad. Very soon, their answers began pouring back into our office. Commercial agencies were MORE

than willing to *sell* us any available color transparencies on subjects we wanted to illustrate.

However in many cases, they DID NOT HAVE the specific picture we wanted to show. And often, the ones they had were only of *average quality*.

Many items on our subject list went UNFILLED for weeks. Gradually, some pictures of the quality and subject matter we needed began to *trickle* in. These color shots — which were few and far between — could be purchased. But the price in almost every case was from \$50 to \$125 *per transparency!* And this



would include *ONLY one time reproduction rights!*

We would have to return the transparency after use. And if it were ever printed a second time, the *original price* had to be paid a *SECOND TIME*.

### Free Photographs

We wrote letters to other organizations such as Moody Institute of Science, which has photographed the Archer fish, insect-eating plants, and bees, just to name a few. At first, Moody agreed to supply us with any pictures they had, since our book would be published as a *public service, FREE OF CHARGE*.

However, a few weeks later, we received this letter from the Director, Dr. F. Alton Everest:

"You will recall my surprise at its [Ambassador College's] recent growth. As we learn more of the *CURRENT WORK*, quite a new and different dimension is added, *casting doubt on the wisdom of our cooperating in your book to the extent I indicated* may be possible.

"To add our pictures will make the association [with Moody] irresistible to a very appreciable portion of your audience, we feel. We are very seriously doubting the wisdom of our supplying pictures for this reason.

"I am sure you will understand the reasons for my *'about-face'* in this matter and sincerely hope that it will not be too great a hardship to shift your planning gears at this time." (Emphasis ours.)

So, this was the *END* of what we thought an *excellent* source for *free* pictures of subjects we needed!

We turned to other possible free sources.

The biggest single producer of widely viewed nature films is Walt Disney Productions.

Perhaps we could get pictures from there, we thought.

We immediately contacted Mr. Harley Fortier, the Librarian there, who referred our letter to Mr. George R. Sherman, Publication Department. Here was his reply:

"As you know, Harley Fortier has forwarded to me your request for color transparencies of birds, animals, and plants. *I am sorry to report that we will not be able to help you with photographs for your forthcoming book on the wonders of nature.*

"We are not really a source for photographs. Our file of stills is maintained for publicity use, and for the use of the publishers of Disney books. Our publishers have a number of titles in work or in print using our nature material. I am sure you will understand that it would cause confusion and conflict if we made the same material available to you." (Emphasis ours.)

At this point, we began to seriously doubt that we could depend on other organizations for the very *specific needs* we had to illustrate our book. We soon saw that filming some of the *MOST AMAZING* subjects would require a laboratory of our own, fully staffed to take our own pictures. Many little creatures, such as the Archer fish, lungfish, Anableps just were *not available* on film through commercial sources!

This was the *turning point!*

### How We "Shot" the Archer Fish

After Moody Institute of Science reneged on their original promises to supply pictures—after Walt Disney Productions refused to supply photographs—after many of the pictures needed were simply *UNAVAILABLE* from any other source we had contacted, we set out to begin *TAKING OUR OWN*.

And here we faced a *GIANT* question mark!

How do you set up a laboratory *without* any experience? None of us had ever worked in a specialized photographic lab for taking close-up nature photographs. We knew nothing of keeping live specimens in captivity. Aquarium and terrarium maintenance, close-up photographic techniques, where to find specimens—*ALL* were *new fields* to us!

As all things in God's Work, the Research Lab started in the *smallest possible* way.

We began with a tiny *one-gallon* aquarium kept in our office, since there was *NO LABORATORY ROOM* at that time.

After talking to a tropical fish hobbyist, who was a student on campus, he told us where we could buy a small, two-inch *ARCHER FISH* from a tropical fish store in Long Beach.

We bought the fish, and put it in our one-gallon aquarium.

About *SIX MONTHS later* you saw the picture of an Archer fish in the October issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH!*

But between that one-gallon tank and the photograph is a bushel of problems and an interesting story.

### To Find a Specimen

There were several obstacles to hurdle. We had to find a specimen *large enough* to "spit" a *visible* stream of water. Although Archers are quite easily obtainable at tropical fish stores, the specimens are usually too small to put out a sizeable squirt! Therefore, we had to locate a hobbyist who had a large specimen. We found a five-inch Archer, bought him, and put him in a 40-gallon freshwater aquarium we bought. (The tiny one-gallon aquarium was *MUCH too small!*)

We also put three other small Archers in the 40-gallon aquarium to give the five-inch Archer company and companionship. Many fish suffer from "loneliness" without others of the same species!

Now came the problem of getting the big Archer to "spit"—in *CAPTIVITY*. Ordinarily Archers don't "spit" in aquariums (since they're fed *in* the water, the tank is filled to capacity and there's nothing to shoot at) unless special conditions are arranged, similar to those found in their *natural* habitat.

And even in nature, Archers don't really *NEED* to shoot down insects above the water. Archers eat perfectly normally, just like all the other thousands of fish in the rivers and oceans all over the world.

Yet, they still *DO* shoot insects down much like a gunner shoots down enemy planes. This is *part* of the problem of the "evolution" of the Archer fish.

Why did he "develop" a mechanism for shooting down insects, when he can live *perfectly well* by catching his prey just like ordinary fish? This question really baffles evolution!!

### To "Spit" or Not to Spit!

The next problem we encountered was to get the Archer fish to start

# SOME FISH SLEEP ANYWHERE

Clown fish can loll around anemones. But one fish's protection is another's poison. If some other fish touches anemone, he'll get stung. If he rams into it, death is sure for the fish and dinner for the anemone. But the clown fish loves his buddy so much he even feathers his bed with food morsels.

Wells — Ambassador College



“spitting” and get the ACTION caught on film.

And this was really the BIG TASK!

After a couple of weeks in our aquarium, the little two-inch archers began to put on a show. We dangled flies and other insects above the water, and the little Archers doused our “bait” frantically, with their little “half-squirts”. After the insects were doused to a soft, soggy mass, we dropped them into the water. In a split second, hungry mouths devoured them every time!

This went on for a period of days. All the time, our five-inch Archer remained in his dark corner. He was too frightened — or shy — to *join the party*.

Then one day the BIG ARCHER came out of his dark corner where he had been hiding for many days.

He made his way cautiously toward the center of the tank. Carefully he maneuvered into position under the fly

we had stuck to the glass above the water. Slowly he came closer, closer — then . . .

SPLASH!!!

A GIANT squirt came streaming out of his mouth, soaking the fly!

The impact of the water alone knocked the little fly right into the water. The *little Archers* quickly darted over and gobbled up the victim.

In frustration, the big Archer returned to his lonely corner. Surely there was an EASIER way to get a meal!

But, no. We would not feed him anything else, unless he would shoot his *jet stream* and knock down our insects.

Each day the big Archer left his corner retreat to shoot down our insects. Sometimes *he* would get the delicious bite. Other times the fast-swimming *little archers* would beat him to the bite.

## Catching the Action

Now came the problem of catching this split-second action on film!

We saw that a mechanism had to be constructed which would trigger our camera *immediately* as the water from the Archer's mouth doused the insect. After many tries, and many failures, a delicate device was constructed which would operate an electronic flash at the same instant the water struck the insect.

This device was made of a needle hanging vertically and a metal contact at the lower end. A fly was placed on the point of the needle. Just as the water hit the insect, the needle moved slightly to one side and touched the metal contact, which touched off the flash. Just as the Archer made ready to spit, the camera shutter was opened manually. This allowed the electronic flash to “burn” the photographic im-

pression on the film. (For any camera fans, it was a 4x5 Linhof we were using. A large format *still* transparency was needed, since individual frames of motion pictures are too small to print from.)

After days of patient waiting with the camera in place, the big Archer taxied into position under our posed insect. We opened the shutter, and . . . SPLASH!! The picture was taken!

Six long months of work and sweat came to fruition in one split second!

The Archer Fish was not the only creature our research team has photographed. During the long hours of waiting and struggling to "shoot" the Archer, we were also setting up and maintaining a terrarium with an African Chameleon.

Whenever hunger strikes this particular chameleon, he waits for an insect to land within the reach of his long, 6-8 inch *tongue*. A sticky substance on the end of the tongue makes it possible to capture even large butterflies and moths.

All this work on the Archer fish and the African Chameleon was done in an upstairs room of the Ambassador College Press. There was space there for only very limited projects. Expansion to photograph other interesting and amazing creatures was VERY LIMITED. It looked like the project would have to be dropped totally, for lack of space. As the months moved along, we photographed the Anableps (November, 1966, PLAIN TRUTH). Then the project slowed to a snail's pace. The whole team of researchers and photographers were spread out over at least three buildings, on opposite sides of the campus. This hindered communication, as well as ability just to get together and pool the manpower on any given project. Consequently, photographing certain little creatures slowly came to a HALT . . . almost.

### Book Canceled

But, in the meantime, more news came to us from Mr. Herbert Armstrong about the book on *Does God Exist?*

When all the facts were in, costs for

printing a full-sized, profusely illustrated BOOK, comparable in color photography to LIFE Nature Library or other books on nature, and time and personnel to produce such a book, caused Mr. Armstrong to postpone, at that time, such a project!

This was the *end*, surely, we thought. No more work needed to be done in close-up photography of nature subjects. There would be no *need* for such pictures, we thought. We packed up everything and turned to other pressing needs.

But soon, we learned that was ENTIRELY WRONG.

It was decided to print separate articles on evolution *serially* in each issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH*. These articles were to show the utter fallacy of the THEORY of evolution and give the proof in a positive way that God is Creator. These articles were destined to deal with one or two creatures of God's Creation, each issue showing the special abilities of these creatures, and explaining the "how's and why's" about each one.

EACH ONE of the articles was to be profusely illustrated with color photographs.

But still, we were limited in space AND personnel to *take* the pictures. The whole research staff was scattered all over the campus.

Months rolled along, and we continued to operate slowly, crippled by time, space, and other crowding responsibilities which had to be carried out.

### A New Building

With the increasing need to have researchers and photographers CLOSELY correlated, a *new building* was built to bring previously scattered Editors, researchers and assistants together in one location. This building eventually housed the Editorial Department and the News Bureau. The problem of location and space was, at last, solved (for the time being)!

The whole research team was brought together into a single building. Even with the extra space, though, there was no specific area designated for close-up, nature photography. The need was not

anticipated at the time the building was designed.

However, as more and more articles were written on evolution, the need pressed hard for color photographs to illustrate the series. Some of these color transparencies were obtained from the few outside sources which still supplied us pictures at commercial rates.

### The Anglerfish Fiasco

However, in a very *limited way*, our "research lab" continued to work on pictures, this time of the Anglerfish.

Anglerfish are marine creatures which are found in many parts of the world. (You saw a picture series on the Anglerfish in the July, 1968, issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH*).

They live in the oceans from Hawaii to the Carribean and off the coast of eastern North America. These fish have been found from depths of a few feet, all the way to many hundreds of feet. Fishermen have found Anglers hanging on the lead sinkers of huge nets brought up from ocean depths. The Anglers had swallowed the lead weights, mistaking them for tasty morsels of food!

Anglers have a very unique means of capturing other smaller fish. They are equipped with an extended spine which protrudes out above the mouth. When a small fish comes near the Angler, he whips his "fishing rod" around in circles to attract the smaller fish. Whenever the little fish swims near to investigate the newly found "worm," the Angler quickly flips the "fishrod" back over his own head and gobbles up the smaller fish!

We obtained a small, four-inch Angler from a tropical fish store in Long Beach. An 18-gallon saltwater aquarium was set up to keep the Angler in. Smaller fish cannot be kept in the same tank with an Angler, since he is able to swallow fish up to his own length!

Two days later, our Angler died!

Unknowingly, we had bought a DISEASED FISH, which lived only two days in the confines of our aquarium.

Next time we were much more careful.

We set up a large 40-gallon saltwater aquarium with sea plants, hermit

crabs, living coral and beautiful coral shrimp which we shipped in by air freight from a commercial diver in Florida. We then located a diver in Puerto Rico who shipped up two Anglers the size we needed. We began feeding them live freshwater guppies and other small fish. We watched both Anglers "go fishing" for the guppies we gave them. However, before our photographers were able to capture the little "fish-rod" luring our small bait fish, a disease parasite attacked our whole tank, and all our specimens were again lost!

Discouraged with both failings, we began to study saltwater marine fish diseases. We found that many fish from the polluted oceans of today actually carry inside themselves tiny parasites and disease germs which multiply rapidly in the enclosed environs of an aquarium. These parasites then attack the other fish in the aquarium and eventually kill the hosts.

This was a lesson learned in keeping saltwater fish. Extreme care *must* be taken in feeding, temperature control, selection of specimens, and care in handling, so our aquarium would not become polluted.

Since those early days of problem after problem, we have been able to keep an Anglerfish alive in a 115-gallon saltwater tank for over 6 months! This was ample time to set up and photograph the series you saw in the last July, 1968, PLAIN TRUTH. This series was the product of very recent work.

But that's getting ahead of the story!

After a year of "hit-and-miss" approach to the research and photography of creatures, a GIANT STEP was taken.

### A New Laboratory

A fully equipped and staffed laboratory was set up just for the purpose of taking pictures to be used in *The PLAIN TRUTH* series on evolution only. A budget was allowed and the new Photo Research Laboratory was formed!

The new budget allowed for complete equipment for maintaining three large 115-gallon aquariums, five terrariums, and a complete close-up camera system for taking color transparencies.

A full-time photographer was hired and assigned to take pictures of the nature subjects we wanted.

At long LAST the struggling project was on its feet. It was no longer a "hit-and-miss" affair that always seemed to be pushed aside for other more demanding projects.

Now the Ambassador College Photo Research Laboratory is busily at work photographing MANY DIFFERENT subjects including moths, insect-eating plants, sea anemones and fish that live in their tentacles, bees, ants, butterflies and reptiles to illustrate the articles which are scheduled to appear in forthcoming issues of *The PLAIN TRUTH*.

Most of the pictures we are taking are "set-up" shots. This means the specimen is brought into our lab from the wilds. We simulate a natural environment, as nearly as possible like what is found in nature, adding colorful backgrounds where possible.

### Back to the Wilds

However, some VERY DELICATE specimens must be photographed out in their natural habitats.

One example of this is the Pronuba Moth and the Yucca.

In order to obtain this specimen on film, my family and I packed up photographic gear early one morning and headed for the foothills north of La Canada.

The job: to find and photograph the Yucca plant and Pronuba Moth pollinating Yucca flowers.

If it weren't for the little one-half inch Pronuba moth, the Yucca would become extinct!

And vice versa, the Pronuba moth would have no way to propagate its species without the Yucca *ovary* in which to lay its eggs.

The flowers are found *only* at the very tops of the Yucca plants, some 6 to 12 feet above the ground, out of the reach of a close-up camera. Only after some search was a young Yucca found, about 10 feet tall. It towered upward from a steep incline. But on the upper side was a flat area just large enough to stand on. The Yucca flowers were then close enough to be inspected. With

a gentle pull the tall plant bent over for ultra-close-up inspection and photography.

Carefully I pulled the tiny flower containing a moth into view of the camera. At only 2-3 inches distance from lens-to-subject the beautiful white Pronuba moth came into focus. It performed beautifully that day, pollinating the same flower for almost 15 minutes, then flying away. This made possible a whole series of ACTION photos showing the whole pollination process!

These pictures you saw in the October, 1967, issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH*.

### Research Library

An article on evolution nearly every month in *The PLAIN TRUTH* has necessitated not only facilities and personnel to take pictures, but also a full research library. Only *experts* in their fields of science are quoted to bring out the facts of creation, as well as the fallacies of evolution.

The NECESSITY of having the facts and presenting *always* the plain truth on all subjects covered required the purchase of books written by the experts of various fields. All these books, including those by leading proponents of evolution — Darwin, Huxley, Simpson, Hoyle, and many others — are researched and quoted profusely in *The PLAIN TRUTH* articles.

Articles are always researched IN DEPTH. Researchers search out the really *significant facts* about every creature written about. The material is then compiled and written into an article by Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong and Mr. Paul Kroll.

We who are on the research staff find it very exciting and interesting to study and photograph the amazing creatures of God's creation. We are glad to share with you these wonders. We hope you read every article in this series on evolution, now with a NEW APPRECIATION for the research and effort put into each one!

We hope you will look at every color picture and appreciate God's Great Creation more than ever before. For without His marvelous creation, we would have NOTHING to write about — or photograph!



# Why Do Good Men Suffer?

(Continued from page 6)

physical punishment they would leave God's way and turn back to Satan's.

## Job's Sickness

Again God himself would not afflict Job. He put it into Satan's hands to hurt Job. But Satan was under strict orders from God to save Job's life.

Again it was just another day to Job. He knew nothing of the conversation between God and Satan. All he knew was that once he was prosperous, now he had nothing. Being an industrious man he probably started to rebuild what he lost.

Suddenly one day boils began to appear on Job's skin. His skin began to crack open with running sores. Little by little his whole body was covered with an infectious, terribly painful skin disease.

Why? Job couldn't understand.

He probably asked himself what he had eaten wrong. He probably looked into his diet, checked his observance of the laws of health. But this did no good. He could not find a reason for this suffering. Satan had smitten Job with boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.

The *discouragement* of this trial began to weigh heavily upon Job and his wife. Job sat down among the ashes and scraped himself with a potsherd. Now more than she could bear, his wife said to Job, "Dost thou still retain thine integrity? Curse God, and die."

But Job knew better. He said, "What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips" (verses 9-10).

Still Job did not know *why*. He knew God was the Supreme Ruler. He knew he put his life in God's hands. He knew God was in control of his life and therefore responsible for the things that happened to him. But what he did not know was that he had been accused by Satan the devil of obeying God only when it paid him to do so. And he did

not know that God was allowing this trial to come on him *for his good* to teach him a great lesson in *true* character development.

## Accuser of the Brethren

In Revelation 12:10 Satan is called "The accuser of the brethren . . . which accused them before our God day and night."

Satan not only accused Job — he accuses *you!*

What does he say of God's people? What apparently has he said of you?

Here are some very likely accusations.

He probably said the only reason you tithe is to be blessed. The only reason you obey God is to have prosperity and protection. He probably said to God, "Let him lose his job, or have heavy financial problems, and you'll see — he will turn away from your commandments and be worldly again. Afflict his body. You'll see him run to human beings for healing. The only reason he trusts God is because it pays him to do it. He does not *really* believe your ways. When suffering comes you'll see him give up *your* ways."

Is it true what Satan says?

Would you tithe even if you had financial troubles? Would you trust God for healing even when suffering was terrible? Would you continue to obey God's laws of health even though you did run into some sickness? In other words, brethren, DO WE REALLY KNOW THAT GOD'S WAY IS RIGHT AND LOVE IT WITH ALL OUR HEARTS?

## Job Self-Righteous

From chapter 3 through chapter 38 is an account of the discussion between Job and his three friends. His friends assumed, as many do today, that when one runs into suffering and trials it is because he has done something wrong. As previously pointed out, most of our suffering comes from our own sins and mistakes. Other suffering comes from the sins and mistakes of others around us. Job's friends knew only one reason for suffering — *your own mistakes*. They

could not see that *character lessons* can be learned through suffering and trials.

They accused Job of doing something wrong. They urged Job to repent. The more they accused the more Job defended himself. Job told them he did not do something so sinful as to bring on this terrible punishment. He tried to convince his three friends that he had not sinned terribly. He upheld his *own righteousness*. God had to correct him severely for this. But after that Job saw his sin clearly and repented bitterly of it and he was physically blessed again.

## Why Not Millionaires?

Job asked an age old question. "Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power?" Jeremiah asked the same question when he said, "Wherefore doth the way of the wicked prosper? Wherefore are all they happy that deal very treacherously?" (Jeremiah 12:1.)

Even the Psalmist was inspired to write, "For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. For there are no bands in their death: but their strength is firm. They are not in trouble as other men; neither are they plagued like other men. Therefore pride compasseth them about as a chain; violence covereth them as a garment. Their eyes stand out with fatness: they have more than heart could wish. And they say, How doth God know? And is there knowledge in the most High? Behold, these are the ungodly, *who prosper in the world; THEY INCREASE IN RICHES*" (Psalms 73:3-7, 11-12).

Many assume today, as did Job's three friends, that the righteous are always blessed and never suffer. They believe the wicked *always* suffer and never receive good things. But is this true?

Eliphaz the Temanite said to Job, "The wicked man travaileth with pain all his days, and the number of years is hidden to the oppressor. A dreadful sound is in his ears: in prosperity the destroyer shall come upon him" (Job 15-20-21).

Why shouldn't all of God's people be millionaires? They pay tithes. They give the first of their increase to God. So why shouldn't they be millionaires

with more than people could want?

Why are not all the others — the wicked — who withhold God's tithes cursed beyond belief? Why aren't the other people of the world living in squalor, poverty, filth? But instead, we see many millions of people in the United States and Great Britain — and in other countries — who have prospered and are well off financially. They live in mansions, castles, luxurious surroundings. Why?

The answer is explained in Ecclesiastes 8:12. "Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him." Notice here that people can do evil many times and still have their days, prosperity, good times prolonged. That is, they do not always suffer a drastic penalty immediately.

### What Would Happen?

What would happen if God blessed all of His people fantastically? If He cursed those who did not tithe until they were living in squalor, poverty, filth? Let's suppose this happened and see what the result would be.

You drive your brand new Cadillac to your spacious, luxurious home. Your sink faucets are overlaid with gold. The finest Persian rugs cover the strongly supported floors throughout your home. Your decorations are fabulous. Chandeliers dazzling. You live on a large lot with beautiful trees, and green grass dotted with fragrant flowers. At one end you have a garden. Your garden is loaded with produce. Tomatoes hang on the plants. Big tomatoes.

You go outside, look over your garden, smile pleasantly and go back in. You notice your neighbor's garden is not doing well. His house is run down, shabby. His children live in squalor and filth. His garden is wilted, shriveled up. Weeds are growing all over his lawn. You look across the fence and hardly believe your eyes. You have God's blessings and he the curses.

One day over the fence he asks you why you enjoy all these wonderful financial blessings. He asks why he and his family have to live in such

squalor. He wants to know your secret.

You tell him there is no secret. You explain God's financial law of tithing. You tell him to send ten percent of his earnings into God's Headquarters for the Work of God. He is skeptical at first. But you urge him. Finally he gives in and reluctantly agrees to try tithing.

A month later you notice a fantastic difference. His crops grow and bear fruit. You see him purchase new appliances and repair his house. His children are dressed better. Soon he remodels the entire house and builds on extra rooms. You realize that he has also received God's great blessings. Now the two of you stand as a stark contrast to all the other neighbors.

Well, brethren, you can see what would happen. All others in the neighborhood would inquire. Soon everyone would want to tithe.

Why? Because they believe God's Law?

NO! BECAUSE THEY WANT FINANCIAL PROSPERITY! They would do it for *selfishness*. If this incident were true the entire world would tithe.

But God wants people who *really believe*. God wants us to come to know His way is right! We must want God's way more than anything else. And we must stick with it regardless of the physical circumstances around us.

Now notice Eccl. 8:14. "There is a vanity which is done upon the earth; that there be just men, unto whom it happeneth according to the work of the wicked; again, there be wicked men, to whom it happeneth according to the work of the righteous: I said that this also is vanity."

Notice that not everyone is IMMEDIATELY rewarded for righteousness. God first wants to know that we really believe His way. That we will remain righteous regardless of calamities, trials, hardships.

### The Meaning of Trial

What is a trial? What is the definition? Webster's dictionary defines "trial" as "the action or process of trying or *putting to the proof; test.*" A further definition is "the formal examination of the matter in issue in a case before a competent tribunal for the purpose of

determining such issue." Do you see? A trial is to find out something yet untested, undetermined.

Christians face trials to *test their character — to add to their character.*

Are trials uncommon? Not at all!

"Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial WHICH IS TO TRY YOU, as though some strange thing happened unto you" (I Peter 4:12). Notice further that God wants to bestow upon us His grace, mercy, strength. "But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto His Eternal glory by Christ Jesus, AFTER THAT YE HAVE SUFFERED A WHILE, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you" (I Peter 5:10).

Thus it is revealed that Christians must go through a trial of suffering. This trial is *not* a punishment. It is a test — and a lesson.

Satan the devil has accused God's people. He is the accuser of the brethren. We must *disprove* Satan's accusations.

### Even Jesus Was Tried

Even Jesus Christ — the very Son of God — was tried. He was allowed to be tempted by Satan the devil after He had fasted 40 days and 40 nights. He was *tested* to see whether He would obey God in all circumstances. Jesus Christ qualified to be the ruler in place of Satan the devil because He did obey God completely. He faced the trial recorded in Matthew 4 and passed the test!

The Bible plainly says that Jesus learned through this suffering. "Who in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto Him that was able to save Him from death, and was heard in that He feared; though He were a Son, YET LEARNED HE OBEDIENCE BY THE THINGS WHICH HE SUFFERED" (Hebrews 5:7-8).

If Jesus was tried, we must be too. We are told to follow His steps in I Peter 2:21.

We are given this admonition in II Timothy 2:12, "If we suffer, we shall also reign with Him: if we deny Him, He also will deny us."

Thus we see that suffering and trials

are inevitable to God's people. The Bible says, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous but the Eternal will deliver him out of them all." We read that it is "through much tribulation that we enter the Kingdom of God."

Why?

Again because we must *disprove* Satan's accusations! We must stand firm in the face of persecution. We must prove that we are faithful to God's commandments — that we believe God's ways with all our hearts! We must believe His way in spite of trials, sufferings, hardships. We must love His ways and continue in it.

No wonder Jesus warned those who would be His disciples: "And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:27). What was Jesus saying? A cross is the symbol of suffering, torture, death. If we are to be Christ's disciples we must be willing to follow Him — to go through suffering if necessary to do it.

### Don't Be Discouraged

We all go through trials. Sometimes the trials seem long and drawn out. BUT DON'T BE DISCOURAGED!!

Keep your mind fixed on what is

right. Go to God's throne of grace to receive help and mercy in time of need (Heb. 4:16). Think only of God's commandments. Do what He commands. And rest assured in absolute faith and confidence *that God will see you through!*

God is the greatest Father! He tenderly watches over us *even* in our trials. God wants us to *learn, grow and mature* spiritually through these trials! He — through His Holy Spirit — is there comforting us — strengthening us. He will not allow us to be tempted or tried beyond our capacity to endure (I Cor. 10:13).

Many brethren report that once through a trial they are blessed. Blessings flow to them by the numbers once they have *proved* their fidelity toward God and His ways.

But before you enter the Kingdom of God you *will* have to prove your faithfulness to God.

Be prepared! Keep close to God through Bible study and prayer. Call upon God through His Son and our High Priest Jesus Christ. And when a trial comes don't be discouraged — don't let down.

When Satan accuses you PROVE HIM FALSE!

meaning of present world events — fellowshiping, praying, is VITAL to all of us.

Your active, meaningful participation in the Feast is an *essential ingredient* in your Christian growth.

### Be Feast Oriented

Brethren, in this world of gadgets, affluence and GET, most people are thinking only of pleasures. Satan has done his deception well. But, we should not be so oriented.

We should be GOD-CENTERED.

Our primary purpose for attending God's Festival should be to come before HIM to rejoice and drink in of the deep meaning of these days.

Put the Feast of Tabernacles FIRST.

Because of the pulls and temptations we have grown up with in this world it is easy to degenerate into an attitude of frivolity and "vacation." The Feast of Tabernacles should portray the peaceful, orderly, purposeful and happy world tomorrow. Our activities should portray that our *whole lives* are centered around the coming of that world tomorrow.

While the Feast is a time of rejoicing, it is rejoicing with a POINT. Notice in Deuteronomy 14:23 that we are to come eat and drink before the Eternal THAT WE MAY LEARN TO FEAR THE ETERNAL ALWAYS.

The really main purpose of the Feast of Tabernacles is for God's people to convoke together to learn how to *live* in the world tomorrow. In that world tomorrow, ALL people will be living together in harmony and peace. God will be the *center* of their lives. They will be SERVING one another. They will live together in Christian fellowship, talking of God, thinking of God and teaching their children about the wonderful God who has given them the bountiful blessings of that world.

If we begin to concentrate and center on the things of *this* world and the *ways* of this world, we will miss the true purpose of the Feast.

"Love not the world, neither the things that are IN the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the LUST of the flesh and

## Feast 1968

(Continued from page 4)

estimates. Riots are eating away at our national vigor. Our educational institutions have decayed into sick retreats for an off-beat, dropout generation of purposeless drifters.

Unprecedented earthquakes and weather upsets continue to rock the headlines. The harbingers of world famine and population explosion have become a stark reality.

Brethren, at no other time in all history does the MEANING of the Feast of Tabernacles have more poignant emphasis than today.

The world has gone insane!

There is no stability, no decency left. There is nothing to anchor hopes to anymore.

The Feast of Tabernacles portrays — in the wonderful plan of God — the

coming peaceful, happy, stable, prosperous world tomorrow coming just a few years from now. It is the goal and future we are working for and striving toward.

God has commanded us to convoke together for these eight days — to leave this world and come live and rejoice before HIM in a way that pictures this coming world tomorrow.

God is deeply concerned!

God has inspired much planning and work to be expended to make His Feast of Tabernacles *meaningful* and profitable for all those He has called. The whole scope of the Feast in living together in temporary dwellings, eating, working, studying, relaxing together — hearing the inspired messages from God's true ministers who KNOW the



the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world" (I John 2:15-16).

There are many opportunities to serve at the Feast of Tabernacles. The willingness to serve is truly what makes the Feast possible. If it were not for the many hundreds and even thousands who do the many jobs of preparing and serving at the Feast we literally could not have a Feast.

Those who do serve in these opportunities really experience a foretaste of the world tomorrow in a unique way. They return home full of love, and joy, knowing that they GAVE of themselves to give to others.

See how much you can give of YOURSELF to make the Feast a joy to others and you will find it becomes a richer joy to YOU. Be warm and friendly. Go out of your way to be cooperative. Be willing to overlook mistakes and shortcomings in others. Yes, even be extra tolerant to those who are "without," to those of the world.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 5:16).

#### Plan Ahead

Brethren, the Feast of Tabernacles is so jam-packed with vital lessons and

opportunities you can't afford to let it JUST HAPPEN!

You will be given much concentrated Spiritual "meat" during eight days of services. If you don't plan ahead, you will not get the most out of these messages. Resolve ahead of time to concentrate and listen carefully taking neat and orderly notes that you can review to learn the vital lessons they contain.

Come with the attitude of a "dry sponge". Plan to absorb as much as possible. Plan to drink it in deeply and to hold on to it.

Certainly don't plan to miss a *single service*. Sadly, there seem to always be a few of the brethren who seem to place more importance on recreation and other activities than on attending services. There will be plenty of time for the right balance of recreation, so plan to attend EVERY service. The service you miss just might contain that one vital lesson or point you need to make the Kingdom of God. Remember Jesus' parable of the sower and the seed. Don't let the cares of this world or the pleasures of this world crowd out and choke away the vital nourishment you need.

The financial needs of God's Work are heavy and continuous. Think of this vital responsibility all of us bear TOGETHER. Plan ahead NOT to neglect

your regular tithes and offerings during the Feast. Let's try to avoid the annual decline we experience in the business office because God's people forget to send their regular tithes and offerings just before and during the Feast.

In addition to our regular tithes and offerings, God commands us at these annual Festivals "not to appear before the Eternal EMPTY: Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Eternal" (Deut. 16:16-17).

God has shown us about these SPECIAL offerings ahead of time. We should therefore prepare ahead to give generously to God's Work. We should show God by these offerings that our hearts and lives are *really* dedicated to announcing and bringing to the world the wonderful world tomorrow.

#### Worldwide Festival

All of you have received your Festival Brochure. It certainly is bigger and better this year than ever before. It has been our pleasure preparing it for you.

In the brochure you will read and see in pictures the worldwide scope of the Feast of Tabernacles. Our brethren around the world, meeting in so many places will be exposed to many unknown and unforeseen dangers. The world is more and more a seething





caldron of unpredictable dangers. Upset weather conditions are also a threat.

Brethren, let's all remember to *pray earnestly* for the Feast and for our brethren around the world. Remember last year the terrible typhoon in the Philippines and the miraculous deliverance God wrought for His people. Remember the terrible hurricane that was headed directly for Jekyll Island two years ago and how God turned it around and sent it backwards away from His Feast and His people.

Pray for the safety of everyone travelling. Pray for special inspiration for all the sermons and services. Ask God to grant us grace and favor in every area.

Jesus said the Sabbath day was made for man. God's annual Holy Days were also ordained by God for OUR benefit, for in them is told the priceless story of God's plan. By living them and experiencing them to the full we are constantly reminded of just how God is going to fulfill what He is working out here below.

This is the most vital knowledge men can receive in this decaying world. Jesus said: "...it is given unto YOU to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven, but to them [the world] it is not given" (Matt. 3:11).

Don't miss the Feast of Tabernacles this year, brethren. It begins Sunday night October 6. Come as God has *commanded* you and rejoice before GOD that you may fear Him and obey Him always.

## Turning Point

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to be willing to endure any inconvenience in a true spirit of humility. Sure it's true you may be able to demand or argue your way into a better room, better seats or treatment you feel your position or station deserves. But, brethren, I can assure you from God's point of view, the ones who endure without complaining or even commenting are the ones GOD will claim are His sons doing His will.

The love of God shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit (Rom. 5:5) will give offense in NO WAY. Notice the qualities that should be expressed by that love. "Charity [love] suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in

Artist's concept of new metal tabernacle with a capacity to seat 16,000 at the Mt. Pocono Festival Site.

the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things" (I Cor. 13:4-7).

Truly the OVERCOMER will inherit sonship with God and the Kingdom of God. Overcoming our carnal tendencies to fight back, to argue, to vindicate self and to get the best for ourselves is one of the hardest assignments for human beings. Yet, Christ expects us to overcome if we are to qualify.

Those who at the Feast of Tabernacles, in the very environment picturing a world of overcomers, hold down their human nature and can return home knowing they have held themselves in check in situations like these, will be enriched with warmth and love. They will have grown in one of the very elementary attributes of God.

Brethren, plan to endure patiently, if necessary, and to give absolutely NO OFFENSE, then you will truly be the children of God.

"Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God: even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that

they may be saved (I Cor. 10:32-33).

#### 4. Let Your Light Shine

Christ said this Gospel of the Kingdom must be preached in all the world for a witness. This is the job the whole Work of God is actively doing. But, brethren, that witness does not stop with the radio program, the TV program and the publishing. That witness is borne heavily by each of us directly in our conduct and EXAMPLE.

The personal, individual witness of the brethren has been a strong element in the calling of many. What kind of witness are YOU — especially at the Feast of Tabernacles?

"Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am He: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me . . . Therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, that I AM GOD (Isa. 43:10-12).

Every year come dozens of reports from all Feast areas of how the people are impressed. The citizens of the various areas are usually dumbfounded at the order, neatness and obedience of our people.

Law enforcement agencies have said, and we have the letters in our files, that they truly look forward to our "conventions." They say they do not have to worry about a sudden leap in crime, incidents and teen-age violence when our group comes. Yet, they candidly admit when "other" groups came to town they had to add additional men to their forces to control the people. Other *religious* groups are noted for their rowdiness and disorder.

Brethren, this is a living testimony — not only that WE are the people of God — BUT, that OUR GOD IS GOD.

Think of that a moment!

Our conduct in this kind of situation either declares that OUR GOD IS GOD or that our God is no different than the gods of all the rest.

Is that a responsibility or isn't it?

Jesus said we were indeed the LIGHT of the world. He said we shouldn't hide that light, but rather let it shine to the world so that they will realize there is a great God and benign and powerful spirit behind our actions.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 5:16).

Think ahead and plan that *you* are going to be an example of GOD in all things. Be clean and orderly in your accommodations. Expect to leave things cleaner and neater than you found them. Be a true light and example of obedience and mannerliness.

In restaurants and cafes, be patient and pleasant. If food doesn't come just as you might have expected, be understanding. Put a smile on your face and a little music in your voice. Be the spice and savour in this world that Jesus asked us to be when He said "Ye are the salt of the earth" (Matt. 5:13).

An important factor to remember is the use of alcohol. God certainly does want us to be able to enjoy fine wines, beer and even strong drink. But, brethren, let's use discretion and wisdom. Keep your wines and liquors in the background. Don't give the impression that we overindulge. This has, unfortunately happened to some extent in the past.

Don't leave alcoholic beverages available without supervision where children or teen-agers can be tempted.

Watch your driving in the unavoidable traffic situations at the Feast because of the crowds. Be courteous and attentive. Don't use excessive speeds, but on the other hand be alert not to drive too slowly and hold up traffic on two-laned roads. Be considerate of the local residents and try to give them every opportunity to get to their destinations without our delaying them.

Brethren, in ALL things set an example.

"Do all things without murmurings and disputings: that ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye SHINE as lights in the world" (Phil. 2:14-15).

Remember there will be many new brethren attending the Feast of Tabernacles for the *first time*. Many will be new Church members. These are the new Babes in Christ who will need

guidance and example from the older brethren.

Remember Jesus words: "But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea" (Matt. 18:6).

Be gentle and patient with them. Help them with answers which are tempered to their understanding. Remember to give them the milk of the word and not to choke them with technical, and involved answers which might inflate your vanity. "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man" (Col. 4:6).

Brethren, think of every possible way you can be a witness and an example to all. Remember, what *you* do will be a living testimony that there is something MORE behind you than just human conduct. YOU ARE truly a witness that the elements at work in your life come from God — and that OUR GOD IS GOD.

#### 5. Get to Know and Love the Brethren

The Apostle Paul calls us *holy brethren* who are partakers of the heavenly calling (Heb. 3:1).

When we understand how great our calling is and just what part we are to play in the plan of God it truly does make us holy brethren. Realizing our unity of purpose and calling should cause us to feel very close in a bond of brotherhood.

It isn't possible for us to share such a common heritage and purpose without feeling the love and kinship as brothers.

But, we can intensify this kinship with a purposeful effort to be closer and to love one another.

What better opportunity than at the Feast of Tabernacles where the whole theme is our common purpose and effort. We will be all assembled together as a single community or body, rejoicing, eating, serving, learning and overcoming together.

We should draw from the Feast a deeper and rededicated oneness.

When Jesus left this earth and com-

missioned His Church to carry on the Work He began, He wanted us to do it collectively as brothers in the same love and fellowship together He shared with the disciples.

"Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: CONTINUE YE IN MY LOVE. . . This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you (John 15:8, 9 and 12).

Feel that brotherhood and oneness at the Feast. Make an effort to get acquainted with as many of YOUR brethren as you can. Don't just remain all the time in your own little clique or group. Get around and meet and fellowship with the body of Christ.

You will no doubt meet others who are enduring trials, handicaps and even suffering. Feel love, compassion and sympathy for other members of YOUR BODY. Get involved with the brethren. See how much love and warmth you can impart and you'll find YOUR life flooded with new love and happiness.

"He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes" (I John 2:10-11). "For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another" (I John 3:11).

Think of your brethren all around the world — especially at the Feast. Remember that they also must endure many afflictions just as we do (I Pet. 5:9). Realize your family extends around the world.

What a priceless heritage to have so many brethren and family members who love one another. What a privilege to all to have the same goals, the same hopes and dreams.

Brethren, come to the Feast of Tabernacles in the bond of brotherhood. Use some of your time at the Feast to truly get to know and love the brethren. If you diligently apply yourself to this you will return home with new life and compassion that will change *your life*.

## 6. Plan to Increase Spiritual Knowledge and Understanding From the Messages Given

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper" (Psalm 1:1-3).

The word of God and the UNDERSTANDING of the word of God is priceless. Without an understanding of the law and *will* of God expressed in His word, the Bible, we are lost, blinded and helpless.

At the Feast of Tabernacles each of us will have the precious opportunity to hear many, many messages from the word of God. These sermons and sermonettes are beyond value.

Think for a moment!

The ministers of the TRUE Church of God *alone* can instruct in the ways of righteousness. They are the chosen vessels of God to feed the flock (John 21).

True, all who call on the name of the Lord shall be saved, but realize this: "How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have *not heard*? And how shall they hear WITHOUT A PREACHER? And how shall they preach, except they be *sent*? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace and bring glad tidings of good things!" (Romans 10:14-15.)

Just how important do you think these messages are to YOU? Brethren, they are life and death to you and to all of us.

In these last convocations of the year we will have once again lived through the whole plan of God. Against the backdrop of God's wonderful plan of salvation will be portrayed through the Holy Spirit inspired messages from God's ministers the vital lessons and

experiences of life we all need in order to GROW and ENDURE.

Jesus said to the Samaritan woman at the well, "If you *knewest* the gift of God, and WHO it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of HIM, and He would have given thee LIVING WATER" (John 4:10).

Brethren, do we realize who has convoked us together, for what purpose and that these are HIS MESSAGES of life given to us as a gift?

God made His ministers as GIFTS to the people, servants to teach them the ways of life so they might enter His Kingdom (see Eph. 4:7-13).

Come to the Feast prepared. Provide yourself with means of recording the things you hear in accurate and permanent notes. Use the place in your Festival Brochure and TAKE NOTES.

Plan ahead of time to listen carefully. Come to learn and *expect* to be changed and inspired by the messages. Plan to attend EVERY service. Be there on time, in your seat and receptive.

Look in each message for that special meaning just for you, because God does speak to us individually through His ministers.

Brethren, when we realize just how important and meaningful these messages are — how vital to our eternal lives — we won't take them lightly.

Do as the Apostle Paul suggests: "Prove all things; HOLD FAST that which is good" (I Thes. 5:21). Yes, listen carefully and study thoroughly what you hear and see in the Bible, then *make it a part of you* — CHANGE YOUR LIFE. Hold fast to it and make the things you learn a part of your life.

Do as the Bereans did in Paul's day; receive the word with all *readiness of mind*, and search the scriptures daily, whether these things be so. (Acts 17:11.) Have a positive attitude.

Knowing how deceptive our human nature is, brethren, there are always things in our lives which we do not see in ourselves. Knowing this we should ask God to reveal these things to us through the words we hear. Ask God to show you the personal things you need to see in order to repent and overcome. Expect to see new things

about yourself and be in the attitude of willingness to see and repent — and you WILL.

Ask God in your personal prayers before the Feast to give special inspiration and understanding to the Ministry so that their messages will be especially helpful to the body of Christ and to yourself personally.

Brethren, if we come to the Feast of Tabernacles in this attitude and frame of mind we will really drink in of the *spiritual food* God will prepare for us. If we listen and heed these words and let them sink deeply into our lives, we *will* be changed by this Feast.

### 7. *Resolve* to MAKE this Feast a turning point in YOUR life

Brethren, all of us have many things to overcome. Usually we are fighting that *one big problem*. For some of us it will be lack of prayer. For others it might be lack of study. Some may have a problem with being overweight. Perhaps you are still hiding a problem with smoking or overdrinking. For some it will be a problem with temper or with being cooperative, friendly or understanding. Perhaps its just not spending time with the family or children.

Whatever YOUR one big problem is, why not resolve RIGHT NOW you are going to make THIS FEAST that turning point where you set your jaw and really overcome that problem?

You CAN do it with God's help.

"Him that OVERCOMETH will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God . . . and I will write upon him MY new name" (Rev. 3:12).

We must overcome!

There is no better time than at the Feast of Tabernacles to CHANGE. In the Feast environment you can MAKE YOUR START. Then, returning home you can continue, with determination and be an OVERCOMER.

Jesus said in Matthew 18 that we should *cast away* those things in our lives which are offensive. To those who have the courage — who make it important enough to themselves — who truly change their lives and overcome

will He grant eternal life in happiness and productivity.

Resolve to make THIS Feast of Tabernacles a turning point in *your* life.

Go *all out*.

The time is short.

These are only seven points you can follow. You can think of many, many more.

Remember not to neglect your prayer during the Feast. Don't get caught up in a vacation attitude and forget to talk with our great God every day.

Don't neglect daily Bible study in addition to the services. Don't neglect to have family Bible study and prayer at the Feast.

The Apostle Peter speaks of Christian living and overcoming. He outlines how to ADD strength and Godly attributes

to our lives whereby we may claim the precious promise of sonship and eternal life. He concludes by saying: "For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, GIVE DILIGENCE to make YOUR calling and ELECTION SURE: for if ye do these things, YE SHALL NEVER FALL" (II Peter 1:8-10).

This Feast CAN BE the most important time in your life.

This Feast CAN BE the turning point in YOUR LIFE whereby you WILL become a SON OF GOD.

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