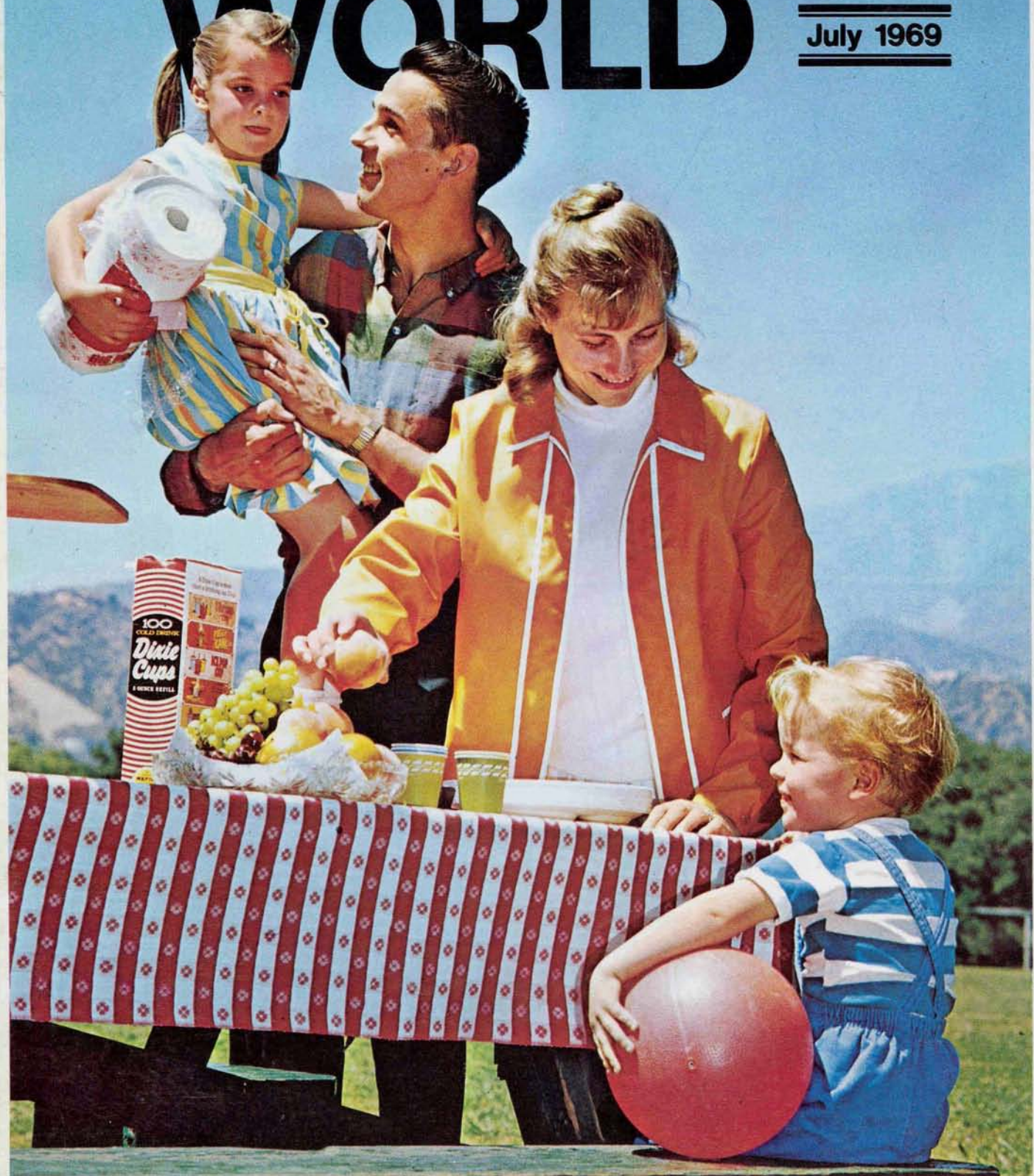


The Good News of
**TOMORROW'S
WORLD**

July 1969



Contents

<i>Personal from the Editor</i>	3
<i>What Do You Mean Salvation?</i>	5
<i>How to Be a Teen-ager</i>	9
<i>Recreation — Play It Safe!</i>	11
<i>Who — What — Was Jesus Before His Human Birth?</i>	13
<i>Smoking — the Puff of Death!</i>	20
<i>Twelve Rules for Bible Study</i>	29
<i>Letters to the Editor</i>	35

More About Our Cover:

Most American families expect to have "fun in the sun" during the summer months when school is out. But what starts out as a full, enjoyable summer vacation can end unexpectedly in discomfort or tragedy. This month's cover article outlines in simple terms the steps of planning you should follow to make your summer a happy one. Read "Recreation — Play It Safe!" beginning on page 9.

Clark — Ambassador College

The Good News of TOMORROW'S WORLD

July, 1969

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Personal from the Editor

HOW MANY times have you heard non-Christians, judging one who professes Christ, say in disgust: "Well if *that's* Christianity, I don't want any of it!"

How many judge GOD by the way professing Christians live? How many assume that one must live a *perfect* life, before he can become a Christian?

How many say: "If I could give up smoking, I'd become a Christian."

How many think a Christian is supposed to be perfect, never doing anything wrong? Suppose you do see or hear about a Christian doing something **WRONG**. Does that mean he is a hypocrite — that he is *not* really a Christian, after all?

Is it possible for one to actually **SIN**, while he is a Christian and *still remain* a truly converted Christian?

I suppose nearly everyone would reply in the negative. But here is a vital point *you need to UNDERSTAND!*

It's hard to believe — but **TRUE!** Few know just what *is* a Christian. Few know **HOW** one is converted — whether suddenly, all at once, or gradually. Does conversion happen *immediately*, or is it a **PROCESS**? **IT'S HIGH TIME WE UNDERSTAND!**

The **TRUTH** is that there is a sense in which true conversion *does* take place *at a definite time* — all at once. But it is also true that in another sense conversion is *worked out gradually* — a process of development and growth.

NOW NOTICE CAREFULLY!

WHEN does one really become a Christian? It is when he receives God's Holy Spirit. In Romans 8:9, we read that *unless* we have the Holy Spirit, we are not Christ's — not Christians.

There is a definite **TIME** when God's Spirit enters into one. At the *very moment* he receives the Holy Spirit, he is, in this first sense, *converted*. Yes, *all at once!* If he has Christ's Spirit, he is **CHRIST'S** — he is a Christian! The very *Life* of God has entered into (impregnated) him. He has been begotten as a child of God.

But does that mean his salvation is complete?

Is he now fully and finally "saved"? Is that all there is to it? Is he now, suddenly, *perfect*? Is it now impossible for him to do **WRONG**?

NO! FAR FROM IT! But *WHY?* What's the answer? Why do so many **MISUNDERSTAND**?

Why does almost **NOBODY** understand the very **PURPOSE** of the Christian life?

WHY do people not understand the very gospel Jesus Christ taught? He taught the **KINGDOM OF GOD**. So did the Apostles, including Paul. He spoke mostly in parables. Take a quick look at one or two. Notice what Jesus revealed. Notice the awe-inspiring **TRE-MENDOUS** potential that is ours.

Take the parable of the nobleman going to a far country, later to return. It is in Luke 19:11-27. Jesus is the Nobleman. He was going to a far country — to the heaven of God's throne, seat of the government of the entire universe. He spoke this parable because His disciples thought the Kingdom of God should appear immediately. So far more than 1900 years have gone by, and the Kingdom of God has not yet appeared.

So He called, in the parable, his ten servants — symbolic of the ten tribes known as the Kingdom of **ISRAEL**. He gave them ten pounds — a pound each, using, in our English language translation, the English unit of money. This is symbolic of one unit of **SPIRITUAL VALUE** with which each was started out. In other words, representative of the portion of God's Holy Spirit which was given to each on initial conversion.

But His citizens hated Him. They rejected Him as their **RULER**. They said, "we will not have this man to **REIGN OVER US**." The Kingdom of God is a **RULING GOVERNMENT**. They, as of then, received no conversion — no "pounds." (They shall yet find conversion, as many, many passages of Scripture affirm).

Now the reason for His going to heaven was to "receive for himself a **KINGDOM**, and to return." That is, He was going to the throne of the Government of the entire universe where God Almighty, the Father, sits, to have conferred on Him the **RULERSHIP OF THE WORLD**. The coronation ceremony will take place in

heaven, at the throne of UNIVERSE RULE. When He returns He will be crowned with MANY CROWNS (Rev. 19:12); He is coming to RULE ALL NATIONS with almighty divine POWER (verse 15).

Back to Luke 19. On his return, his servants, to whom he had given the money — that is, the beginning unit of GOD'S SPIRIT at conversion — are to be called to an accounting, "that he might know how much each man had GAINED" while he was gone. This means each Christian is expected to GROW spiritually — in spiritual KNOWLEDGE and grace (see II Peter 3:18). The Christian life is a life of spiritual GOING TO SCHOOL — of training for a POSITION IN GOD'S KINGDOM, when and after we shall be changed from mortal to immortal — when we shall be no longer flesh-and-blood human, but composed of SPIRIT, with eternal life inherent.

In the parable, the first came to report he had multiplied what he had been given TEN TIMES. You see, the receiving of God's Spirit is GOD'S GIFT — that is what GOD does — it comes by GRACE, as a gift. WE CAN'T EARN IT. But all through the New Testament it is made plain we shall be REWARDED according to OUR WORKS. Not SAVED by works we have done. This man had, by his own application, multiplied his spiritual gift ten times — his one pound was now ten pounds. He received a greater REWARD than the one who gained five pounds.

The Nobleman (Christ) said to him, "Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in very little, have thou AUTHORITY over TEN CITIES."

He had qualified to RULE. He had been obedient to God's commands — God's government. We have to BE RULED before we can learn to RULE.

The second servant had increased his spiritual stock of goods five times. He had qualified, in this life, for HALF as much as the first servant. He was given HALF the REWARD.

This parable shows Christians are to RULE under Christ, *when* the Kingdom of God is set up. Jesus was speaking of GOVERNMENT — *world government*. This parable was given to show that the Kingdom of God was not to appear at that time. The Kingdom is *not* an ethereal, sentimental something "in our hearts." It is *not* the Church.

Daniel's prophecy shows that the SAINTS are to RULE, under Christ the Messiah, when he sets up literal WORLD GOVERNMENT. See Daniel 2 — read it through and then notice verse 44. This Kingdom will

break in pieces every other form of government — all rule of man — and will stand forever. Notice Daniel 7: And especially verses 18 and 22. It will be an earthly kingdom — not in heaven, but "UNDER the whole heaven," verse 27.

Jesus said: "And he that overcometh, and keepeth MY WORKS unto the end, to him will I give POWER over the nations: and he shall RULE THEM with a rod of iron" (Rev. 2:26-27).

He said, "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my father in his throne." (Rev. 3:21.) When Jesus said this, through John in the 90's A.D., He was in heaven with His Father on the throne of UNIVERSE government.

When Jesus sits on His own throne on this earth it will be the throne of David, in Jerusalem. Notice what is said of Jesus: "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall REIGN over the House of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end" (Luke 1:32-33).

But he was not going to set up the world government of the Kingdom of God *at that time*. The Bible speaks of *three* worlds — or *ages* — in time order. First, the world that then was, overflowed with water — prior to the flood; second, this present evil world; and third the world to come. On trial for his life before Pilate, Jesus said he was born to be a king (John 18:37), but that His kingdom was "not of this world." He will rule THE WORLD TOMORROW (verse 36).

The saints (Spirit-led Christians) are to reign, under Christ, "ON THE EARTH," (Rev. 5:10), for a thousand years (Rev. 20:4,6).

WHY has the whole world been deceived with a false gospel (Rev. 12:9)? WHY have they been deceived into belief in a counterfeit Kingdom of God? See the article, "What do You Mean — KINGDOM OF GOD?" in the June number TOMORROW'S WORLD.

Look again at the many parables of Jesus. They teach the Kingdom of God. They make plain the fact the Kingdom of God is the WORLD GOVERNMENT soon, now, to be set up by Christ, coming in ALL POWER and GLORY, to bring us world peace, abundance, happiness and joy.

The purpose of the christian life is to train future KINGS to rule with and under Christ. How then,

(Continued on page 26)

What do You Mean...

SALVATION?

Do you realize not one in a hundred knows what it is — how to get it — when you receive it? Don't be too sure you do! Here, once for all, is the TRUTH made so plain you will really UNDERSTAND it!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

COULD you, yourself, answer these questions? If someone asked you to open your Bible and show him exactly *where* the Bible says salvation means *going to heaven* — could you do it?

Is salvation a *place*, a *destination*, a *condition*, a *reward* — or **WHAT?**... and *where* would you turn in your Bible to find it? Are you sure?

Could you open your Bible and show a questioner where it tells you *when* you receive salvation? Do you actually get it *now*, or when you die, or when Christ returns — or at some other time? This article will show you plainly.

Are you, at conversion, an inheritor, or an heir to inherit, — and just what *does* one inherit?

Let's Make It PLAIN!

Religious people talk about "getting saved." Yet even most religious people understand no more of what the Bible teaches about salvation — the real meaning of the *word* "salvation" — than a certain young man did about another religious expression.

He said to me, "I gave my heart to the Lord at the revival meeting last night."

"Well," I said, "Just what do you *mean* — you gave your heart to the Lord? Just how did you do that? Did you reach in your hand, take your heart out, and actually hand it to the Lord — and was He really right there, in person?"

"Well, uh — uh —" he stammered, confused, "uh — well, no, I didn't do that."

"Then just what *did* you do? *How* did you give your heart to the Lord?" He stammered some more, then guessed he didn't know.

That's the way it is with a lot of people who say "I got saved." They don't really know what they mean by "getting saved."

Do you know what the BIBLE teaches about salvation? Millions of sincere people have *supposed* they knew — yet have been deceived into accepting a FALSE SALVATION.

It's about time to get to the plain WHYS, WHATS, HOWS, and WHENS, so you can see it clearly, plainly, right in your own BIBLE! *Why* should the most important thing in life be a vague, mysterious, superstitious, ethereal, meaningless thing?

I'm going to make it PLAIN — *in your Bible!* So prepare yourself for a SHOCK! And don't believe me — BELIEVE THE BIBLE!

What Salvation Is

While the real truth must come from the Bible, the dictionary definition may help a little. Webster defines "salvation" as: "1. The saving of man from the spiritual consequences of sin; especially deliverance from sin and eternal damnation. . . . 2. Preservation from destruction, failure, or other evil."

Now we need to learn the Bible definition of SIN, and to see what the

Bible reveals the spiritual CONSEQUENCES to be. Whatever the CONSEQUENCES, Webster says salvation is to save you *from* it — and in this the Bible confirms the dictionary definition. Also salvation means PRESERVATION — and in this also, we shall see the Bible affirms the definition.

But why would you *need* to be saved from the spiritual CONSEQUENCES of sin? And WHY, if you are an immortal soul, do you need *preservation from destruction*?

What has this to do with YOU?

Suppose you say, "Look, I don't go to church. I don't pretend to be religious. Why should I be concerned with all these religious words like 'sin' and 'salvation' and 'spiritual consequences'?"

Does this concern *only* religious people?

WHY You Are Concerned

God Almighty, who designed, created, and sustains human life — including *yours*, says this: "ALL have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

That involves YOU!

Right now you probably have no conception of what is meant by "the glory of God" you have come short of. You'll *really* open your eyes in astonishment when that is made plain to you.

But, whatever SIN is, *you have sinned*. ALL humans have! Christ,

only, is excepted. *You are involved.* And since salvation is saving man from the *consequences* of sin (and the Bible affirms this, as we shall see), let God's Word tell you what the *consequences* are.

It is plain and simple. Here it is: "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 6:23).

But *why* have you heard — and possibly believed — just the opposite? *Look at that* — read it in your own BIBLE! *Notice!* The wages you are going to be paid for having sinned — the *consequences* of sin — is DEATH! Then why do so many religious people teach exactly the opposite of the Bible — *WHY* do they teach that the wages of sin is ETERNAL LIFE in hell?

Look at that again, in your Bible! On the one hand, the penalty is DEATH — on the other hand, the gift is ETERNAL LIFE. The two are contrasted — it is one or the other — DEATH, or ETERNAL LIFE.

Right here let me make VERY PLAIN one thing THE BIBLE teaches. A few persecutors have accused us of teaching "a salvation by WORKS" — that is, that our "works" *earn* salvation. Let it be made clear and plain right here that your "WORKS" — your *evil* works — *do earn something* — but it is NOT SALVATION — what they *earn* — the WAGES they earn — is DEATH, and *not* salvation!

Further, let's get this point straight and plain right here — ETERNAL LIFE is *not* something you can *earn*, it is GOD'S GIFT through Christ! That is the plain teaching of YOUR BIBLE!

Again — your BIBLE says very plainly that "the GIFT of God is ETERNAL LIFE." Now this very verse (and all others in the Bible bearing on the subject agree) says plainly that what you RECEIVE by God's GRACE — as HIS GIFT, is ETERNAL LIFE. It says that eternal life is something you have to OBTAIN as a GIFT from GOD! Therefore SALVATION actually is "ETERNAL LIFE" — a GIFT! But do you know that many actually DENY that eternal life comes only as God's GIFT by grace and through Christ? THEY SAY YOU ALREADY HAVE ETERNAL LIFE. They say you are an "IMMORTAL SOUL"!

Yes, this is amazing!

This is important! This is the crux of the whole question — of life — of the reason for existence! If you have an immortal soul — if you already *have* eternal life — then the Bible is not true when it says plainly eternal life is a GIFT from God. According to the Bible, what the "saved" receive as God's GIFT through Jesus Christ is ETERNAL LIFE. Salvation, then, actually *is* the receiving of something you don't now have — ETERNAL LIFE.

Yet a very popular teaching deceives people into believing they do not need to be saved *from death* by Christ's free grace — by His shed blood. They say you do not need saving *from death* at all. They say, as Satan deceived mother Eve, that you will not surely die — you are — or have — an immortal soul!

NOTICE THIS IN YOUR BIBLE!

It's time to quit believing and following the deceptions of a religious world. Look in your own Bible. BELIEVE GOD!!

WHY You Are Helpless

Now does the Bible say anywhere that you are, or have, an "IMMORTAL SOUL"?

For years we offered \$1,000 to anyone who can show any place where the words "immortal soul" are found in the Bible. No one ever found it!

WHY IS IT that religious people speak continually about "your immortal soul," about "going to heaven," about dead loved ones being now "with the Lord," and many other such things supposed to be the BASIC beliefs of Christianity — and yet *never once showing you any such teaching* IN THE BIBLE! They *talk* of these teachings *as if* they were true. They lead you to take these teachings for granted — to suppose they came from the Bible.

What does the Bible teach about the soul? Will you read it in your own Bible? Don't take my word for it — don't believe me — BELIEVE GOD!

Read it, in Ezekiel 18:4: "The soul that sinneth, *it shall die.*" Yes, again, the wages of sin is DEATH — that soul that sins shall DIE!

That truth about the soul is so important God caused it to be written

twice. Turn now to Ezekiel 18:20: "The soul that sinneth, *it shall die.*" Souls are not immortal. Your Bible says they can DIE!

But one who is deceived may say: "That's in the Old Testament." Read in the NEW Testament that ALL Scripture — all that Timothy had known from youth, which was the Old Testament — is given by inspiration of God (II Timothy 3:15-16).

Again, in the NEW Testament: Jesus Christ Himself said you should "fear him which is able to *destroy* both *soul* and body in gehenna" — a fire that will *burn them up* — cause them to DIE — *destroy* what is burned! Oh, yes, the Bible does teach *that* kind of hell fire — but not the kind where one burns forever and yet never burns up (Matthew 10:28). Let's *believe* Jesus Christ when He says souls can be DESTROYED! They are NOT immortal!

What is a Soul? Notice Gen. 2:7: "The Eternal God formed man of the dust of the ground, and man became a living soul. Man *is* a soul. What was made of the dust of the ground became a soul. The soul was formed out of *matter*. The soul is *not* spirit. It is material, and can die.

This may come as a surprise: not only is it true that there is no such expression anywhere in the Bible as "immortal soul," but the word "immortal" occurs *only once* in all the Bible — in I Timothy 1:17, where it refers to God as being immortal.

Further, the word "immortality" can be found *only five times* in all the Bible. In Romans 2:7 you will read it is something for us to *seek for*. Of course! It is the GIFT of GOD, who has it to give! You don't need to *seek for* something you already have! In I Corinthians 15:53, and again in verse 54, immortality is something the "saved" shall *put on*, AT THE TIME OF THE RESURRECTION. In I Timothy 6:16 it speaks of the resurrected and glorified Christ, who, *only*, of all who have been born human, has immortality. And finally, in II Timothy 1:10, immortality is something Jesus Christ brought to light — made possible for us to receive — through the Gospel.

So the Bible teaches that the soul is

NOT immortal, but is mortal, subject to DEATH as the penalty of sin!

Now where does this leave YOU? Let's get back to YOU!

All have sinned. That includes you. The penalty is DEATH! You do not possess eternal life from natural birth. Christ said: "That which is born of the flesh is flesh" (John 3:6). So you are only mortal, material FLESH. You are "*of the earth — earthly*" (I Cor. 15:47). The life you were born with is merely temporary chemical existence! You live by breathing air in and out of your lungs — the *breath of life*.

You are only one breath away from death — the cessation of the existence we call "life." If you don't draw that next breath, you can't keep alive or conscious ten more minutes. There is no immortal soul that will keep you alive and conscious. You ARE a soul (Gen. 2:7) that has *sinned*, and so shall DIE, unless saved from it by Christ's grace.

If your heart does not make that next beat, there is nothing in you to keep you alive ten minutes. You exist by breathing of air and circulation of blood — fed by food and water. You have only temporary CHEMICAL EXISTENCE. You are like a clock wound up, and running down. You don't know at what second it will stop!

You can't give yourself any LIFE beyond this running-down chemical existence. There is no eternal life inherent in you. Nothing you can do will produce it, supply it, or EARN it. You can't get it by *your own works*!

What your own works have done for you is earn for you the PENALTY of death. And it is ETERNAL DEATH — *eternal punishment*!

It is not "eternal punishing" in life but eternal punishment in DEATH (Matt. 25:46). Notice, Jesus said the punishment, death, is to last forever — "everlasting punishment." Again, in II Thessalonians 1:9, speaking of those who reject God's salvation, they shall be punished with everlasting destruction." The punishment is not LIFE in torture but DESTRUCTION to be final, total, forever.

GOD — and God *only* — has immor-

tal! Instead of *assuming* carelessly the pagan teaching of the "immortality of the soul," turn again to I Timothy 6:16 and read it with your own eyes in your own Bible! The risen Christ, and He only, of all who were born human, has immortality. God has immortality — life *inherent*, in Himself (John 5:26). He has given to the Son, Jesus Christ, also to have LIFE *in Himself*. And only GOD can impart eternal life to YOU! It comes through Christ.

But how are you going to go to God? Your past sins not only have condemned you under penalty of death — they also have put a total BARRIER between you and God. They have cut you off from all access to God!

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

HOW Seek God?

So HOW, when this barrier stands between you, are you going to GO TO GOD to obtain eternal life?

Again Isaiah answers: "SEEK ye the Eternal while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near; *let the wicked forsake HIS WAY*, and the unrighteous man his thoughts. . . . For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Eternal" (Isa. 55:6-8).

So now you SEEK GOD, so you may obtain eternal LIFE from Him. You REPENT! You forsake *your way* of life, and turn to God's way — or at least you think you do. But something is *still lacking*! You still are cut off! The barrier is still there! Do you know why?

At this point we need to stop and find out what is meant by that word "SIN."

Haven't you honestly been a bit confused by this religious terminology? You hear people talk about "sin," "getting saved," "under law or under grace," "justification," "sanctified," "heaven," "hell," "predestination," and dozens of other terms. Haven't they

been pretty vague to you — rather meaningless? Do you know that most religious people who use all these religious words usually don't know any more than you do what they really MEAN?

What Do You Mean — SIN?

We started by quoting the scripture "ALL have sinned." We said that included you!

But *what is SIN*? Why, when men preach, don't you hear *that* explained, defined, made clear and understandable? WHY are these religious terms used most of the time loosely, vaguely, meaninglessly?

Once, in Springfield, Oregon, a young man with a Bible in his hand accosted me on the street. An evangelist had come to town and pitched a tent. He brought with him a "gospel team" including some eight young men of college age, who roamed the streets carrying Bibles, stopping people and inviting them to attend the services. One stopped me.

"Well now," I said, "Does your evangelist teach that Christ saves us from SIN?" He assured me he did.

"Well, what I want to know," I persisted, "is what I have to quit DOING — or what I have DONE that you call 'SIN.' Just what *is* 'SIN'?"

"Well," he answered, "Christ died for our sins."

"But that doesn't tell me exactly *what* I've done that Christ had to die for," I insisted. "What *is* 'SIN'?"

"Christ DIED for our sins," came the reply.

"Yes, I know — you said that before. But what *is* this thing, 'SIN,' that He died for? What do I have to quit doing? Can you open that Bible you have, and show me the BIBLE DEFINITION of the word 'SIN'? Is there a place in the Bible where it gives a plain definition — where it says 'sin is' — and then in plain words tells what it is?"

He called to a second of the young men — then a third, and a fourth. Finally, with a large crowd gathering, they called the evangelist himself. But even he could not — or *would not* — turn to the Bible answer! One by one,

the evangelist and his "team" all slunk away!

Then I took a Bible out of my briefcase, turned to I John 3:4, and read to the crowd:

"Sin is the transgression of the Law."

But *what* law? This is explained in Romans 7. So next I read:

"What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay I had not known sin but by the law" — or, in the plainer English of the *Moffatt* translation: "Why, had it not been for the Law, I would never have known what sin meant!" In other words, the Law *defines sin*. Sin is breaking the Law. But *what* Law? Continuing, same verse: "for I had not known lust, except the Law had said, Thou shalt not covet" (Rom. 7:7).

There we are told plainly *what* Law it is SIN to transgress. It is the Law that says: "Thou shalt not covet." And that is a direct quote from Exodus 20:17, where the Ten Commandments are being given. That Law is the Ten Commandments. It is SIN to break any of the Ten Commandments.

In verses 12 and 14 of this same 7th chapter of Romans you will read that the Law is *holy, just and good*, and that it is a SPIRITUAL LAW — a law of spiritual principles of living!

Of course the whole spiritual Law may be summed up in the word LOVE. This may be divided into the two Great Commandments, love toward GOD, and love toward *neighbor*. The first four of the Ten Commandments tell us *how* to love GOD; the last six *how* to love neighbor. The WHOLE BIBLE elaborates, showing the principles involved, until it includes the entire RIGHT WAY OF LIFE!

Now notice Romans 3:20. "Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin."

Of course! A deceived popular teaching to the contrary notwithstanding, THAT IS PRECISELY WHAT WE TEACH. Keeping the law by your own efforts will not justify anyone. We have all sinned. We cannot justify this guilt we have incurred — we cannot avoid

the wages we have earned — DEATH — by obedience, goodness, works, or anything we can do.

Let's make that REAL PLAIN! Most women carry a mirror in their purses. A woman takes out her mirror, steals a glance at her face, discovers dirt on it. Does she try to wash off the dirt with the mirror? Ridiculous? Yes, of course. Looking into the mirror won't cleanse the dirt already there. WHY? Because BY the mirror comes the KNOWLEDGE that the dirt is there! Now God's LAW is His spiritual mirror. Your Bible says so — plainly (James 1:22-25). You look into GOD's LAW. It shows you the spiritual dirt on your heart. To HEAR God's Word, which corrects, reproves and rebukes (II Tim. 3:16) and then DO NOTHING about the spiritual dirt it reveals is like a man beholding his face in a mirror, seeing the dirt — gaining knowledge of it — then forgetting how dirty he is — doing nothing about it.

God's LAW is His spiritual mirror. But keeping yourself from becoming more dirty today does not wash off the dirt already there. By being careful to incur no penalty today, you do not erase the penalty incurred yesterday and all the days PREVIOUSLY. So, "By the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight" — WHY? Because "by the law is the KNOWLEDGE of sin." OF COURSE!

Sin is "the transgression of the law." Paul would not have *known* it was sin to lust, except the LAW had said "Thou shalt not covet." The function of the Law is to tell us *what sin is!* Not to cleanse us of yesterday's sin or erase the penalty of last year's sin.

There can never be a LAW, unless there is a *penalty* for its violation. And, where "no law is, there is no transgression" (Rom. 4:15) and could be no penalty — no punishment. If the wages — the punishment — of sin is death, and death is the penalty, then there is a LAW. And if there is no law being broken, there is no transgression and no penalty — and then we need no Saviour — no salvation FROM the punishment.

NOW WHERE did the Law come from? Again, through James, God says "There is ONE LAWGIVER" (James 4:12). That is GOD. God set in motion many laws — laws of physics and chemistry among them. The great law of LOVE is a *spiritual* law. It is THE WAY of peace, of happiness — of right relationship with God and with human neighbor. It is inexorable — a *living* law as much fixed and in motion as laws of gravity and inertia.

This spiritual law was set in motion by a loving God to provide THE WAY to every desired GOOD — peace, happiness, prosperity, security, abundant life. To break it is to turn in the opposite direction from peace, happiness, security, abundance, and toward *strife, fear, worry, unhappiness, suffering, death*. The final wages you earn traveling that WAY IS DEATH! FOR ETERNITY! ETERNAL PUNISHMENT!

Yes, the wages of sin is DEATH. But we have HOPE! The GIFT of GOD is eternal LIFE.

So now, where are we? Eternal life can be had only from GOD. So, as stated above, you seek GOD. But you find a tremendous, impenetrable barrier — your sins you have committed. Until they are JUSTIFIED you have no access to God.

LAW-KEEPING Won't Justify!

YOU ARE STILL CUT OFF FROM GOD!

Actually, as we shall see in a moment, you can't keep a spiritual law with a carnal mind and carnal love. But, even if you could, your OBEDIENCE now is *only what is required of you now!* It does not make up for PAST law-breaking. A man convicted of committing murder last month does not erase his sentence by being law-abiding this month.

THAT IS WHAT YOUR BIBLE TEACHES! GET THAT STRAIGHT! All the good WORKS in the world — all the LAW-keeping — cannot JUSTIFY you of your past guilt.

Now where do you find yourself? You are now submissive — obedient to God's Law. At least you try to be. Is this necessary? MOST ASSUREDLY IT IS! For if you disobey — break the law — you commit more sin. Christ does not

(Continued on page 15)

How to Be a Teen-ager

What spans the generation gap? Why are so many youths unhappy — frustrated and indifferent? What is the source of real happiness? Where do you get the answers?

by Ronald Kelly and John Robinson

WHAT should a young person get out of life? Fun? Excitement? Thrills? Happiness?

What do you look up to? What type of person do you want to emulate? James Bond? Clint Eastwood? Raquel Welch? The Maharishi? Joe Namath? After all, they are "with it," they lead thrill-packed lives, *don't they?*

Thousands have been transfixed in theater chairs as 007 races for the door of his modified Aston-Martin with a voluptuous girl on one arm and a sleek, smoking automatic in his other hand. Or the fellows identify with the massive, rugged Arizona deputy who bashes in the heads of a half dozen New York "hoods" — and "gives New York City 24 hours to get out of town."

The girls have vicariously played the role of the irresistible starlet as she vamped the stoutest of men or verbally lacerated her nearest female competitor.

Everyone longs and aches for his idea of fulfillment and pleasure. Every normal young person wants to excel, be looked up to for whatever — brains, athletic prowess, beauty, sex appeal, ingenuity.

But today, youth finds itself frustrated, mixed-up, despondent and *looking for answers*. Youth is turning to drugs, free "love," and hippyism to fill the vacuum in life.

Where are the answers? Are they to be found in drugs and illicit thrills? Where do you find the way to true happiness and accomplishment? It's time you found out!

The Good Is Bad and Ugly

You live in a world of *confused* values. Society has taught you to detest the "boy scout type" who sits with folded hands and hair parted in the

middle consoling Aunt Agatha who broke her hip after tripping over her prayer book. Society ostracizes the "goody-good." If you don't cheat in school, on your income tax, on your steady, you are square — a fink — a real oddball!

You know how it is.

In recent meetings with teen-agers in numerous American cities we asked some *interesting* questions. For example, "How many of you know where to go in your school to get drugs?" The response was shocking. NINETY PERCENT KNEW RIGHT WHERE TO GO!

Everyone knew who to see to buy booze if he was a minor. Everyone knew who to date for a real "fun" time. Many knew who to buy a research paper from — who to see for a copy of the latest science test. It is too bad — *but that IS the way youthful society works*. Parents of these teen-agers were shocked that their sons and daughters had such knowledge. But those of us who educate America's youth are not shocked at what teen-agers know.

No — not shocked — but the Administrators and Faculty of Ambassador College are deeply interested in and concerned about the problems of our youth.

This society winks at pre-marital sex, turns an indifferent and calloused face from homosexuality and lesbianism. It's an age that makes a hero out of the irreverent wise guy, the hood and the hippy. A time when the "cop" is contemptible and the rioter revered. It's a backward modern age!

Perhaps the decade of the sixties has given youth more of what *IT* wanted than any other age. Young people today have fewer restrictions and more license than could have possibly been dreamed of a few years ago. Moral and social taboos have been made flexible

— in many cases, dissolved. Financial means are more accessible, cars hotter, liquor freer — everything that base nature could want.

But what have these liberties bequeathed to YOU — the youth of America, Britain, and the world?

Are you suddenly *happier*? Are you *savoring* life more deeply? Are you now *enjoying* a more complete *fulfillment* than ever before?

Take a look at the facts. The juvenile crime picture, for example, is a grim one indeed for 1969. To date, *one out of every SIX American boys under 18 has been taken to juvenile court for at least ONE offense!* Venereal disease is skyrocketing. Teen-age suicides are increasing — youth as a whole is more frustrated than ever.

Chances are good you *know* or *have known* a teen-ager with V.D. Everyone knows of *at least several* couples who *had* to get married. What about those who blew their minds on drugs? The kid who tried to stop the train with his bare hands, or Sally, the 17 year-old who wasted away to 71 pounds before a detective found her lying on a mattress under heaps of garbage. Or what about the 14 year-old runaway girl from Tacoma. Her arms bore a dozen hideous, festering needle marks, compliments of a "loving" 20-year-old friend who "turned her on" several times a day.

The facts provide eloquent testimony that the trends of our youthful society are *not* bringing TRUE HAPPINESS. So where do we go for ANSWERS?

Let's begin by examining the life of a man who knew how to "live" — an individual who had everything you've always wanted!

The King That Had Everything

The earth has swept around the sun several thousand times since this man

drew breath. He was quite a man — a *man's man*. He had everything, and then some. He was the world's first billionaire. He had access to anything and everything he wanted.

Some of you think you have a lot of girls — or fellows — “after you” or “in love” with you. How many do you have? Half a dozen? A dozen? If you do, you probably feel like a real “tiger.”

But if you've only got a dozen girls mad about you — YOU ARE NOTHING! This individual had ONE THOUSAND OF THE WORLD'S MOST DESIRABLE, VOLUPTUOUS AND SENSUAL WOMEN at his beck and call. He had blondes, redheads, brunettes, auburn-haired girls, black-headed girls of every possible size, shape and build. He had tall girls, short girls, long-haired girls, short-haired girls. He had sweet girls and sassy ones, smart ones and dumb ones. He had a female for every occasion. If he saw one a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, it would have taken him almost three years to see one a second time.

You probably think that's living. So did he! But the interesting thing to note is 1,000 women did NOT bring him happiness.

Since women didn't completely satisfy him, he turned to other things. He tried drinking, but that didn't do the trick. He tried foolishness. He was entertained by the world's funniest comedians and enjoyed lusty, side-splitting jokes. That didn't do it either.

He tried constructive things as well. He built breathtaking gardens, fabulous halls. He even built the world's finest religious temple. But none of these things provided what he was after.

It was a real paradox. A man who had everything, did everything, tried everything, but wasn't happy. People *literally* came from all over the world simply to hear him utter his pearls of wisdom. Women fell at his feet. He was KING of a mighty nation and commanded untold wealth. He was a great writer and the wisest man who ever drew a breath of air till his time — yet he never really experienced total, deep and true HAPPINESS.

He even admitted it in his autobiography. His name was Solomon and you can read his words for yourself in Ecclesiastes 2:1-11.

The Conclusion of the Matter

When everything was said and done, King Solomon reflected, “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: *Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man*” (Eccl. 12:13).

Yes, the wisest man who ever lived proved irrevocably that unless you are in harmony with God and His Law — you will NEVER be completely happy. That physical thrills and pleasure apart from God's Way don't give you the abundant life you seek.

It is a vital lesson for all you teenagers to learn. God is exposing you to His Truth. Many have come to hear the Truth through parents who have heard *The WORLD TOMORROW* and read *The PLAIN TRUTH* over the years. Perhaps, at times, some of you even regret the knowledge you have. Others have desired the contact with the Work of God on their own. Regardless of how or why you came into the knowledge — you are being JUDGED on what you do with it!

We have talked with teens who claim God doesn't hold them accountable for their actions. “We're too young to know the difference from right and wrong, therefore we can go out and play around with sex, lie and cheat in school, get ‘stoned’ on the weekends. Of course, when we get older, we will become respectable members of society — then we will change!”

But “THEN” may be too LATE!

Breakaway Cars — But Not People

It takes courage to change. No one can deny it. Anyone can drift through life, roll with the waves and bend with the crowds. But to stand up for what's right, to demonstrate character — that takes backbone — not wishbone!

The advertising industry talks about people who'd rather fight than switch. Do you know anyone who would allow someone to bash in his face, rather than switch cigarette brands? Or advertisers sell cars to those who

want a “breakaway” from the ordinary, run-of-the-mill, mundane society. But who is “breaking away” from the rotten society you live in?

Who is saying, “I will *not* take LSD, because it blows your mind, it deforms potential offspring — AND WHAT'S MORE, I THINK YOU'RE A STUPID GOOF IF YOU DO.” Who is saying, “I want to marry a virgin, so therefore I don't intend to go out and spoil someone else's future wife.” Or what stalwart soul is condemning homosexuality as a perverse, foul, sick-minded and demented way of life. Who is refusing to pay to see a hit movie of two mentally deranged women slobbering over each other?

Precious few!!

It's not chic to stand up for what you believe in — to call a spade a spade. But whether it is chic or not, you must face the question squarely.

Christ reveals He came that WE (that includes teens) should have an abundant life (John 10:10). Christ was a teen-ager at one time. He faced all the frustrations, anxieties and problems you are experiencing. He's familiar, acquainted personally, with them; and He still says you can have an abundant life if you live by the guidelines He and His Father laid down.

When should you begin following these guidelines?

As soon as you come to know them — regardless if you are 12, 13, 15, or 19.

Where do you find these guidelines?

Many of them you already know through your association with our magazine. The source, though, is God's personal instruction book to mankind (no matter what age) — the Bible! Also articles will continue monthly on vital subjects that concern YOU. In addition, we've just completed a new, fully illustrated book on modern dating. It gives priceless instruction on how to assure yourself of an ideal marriage. Teen problems of premarital pregnancy, petting, necking, interracial marriages — all are dealt with frankly and squarely. We encourage you to write for it immediately.

And what about “HOW” to go about
(Continued on page 32)

RECREATION - Play It Safe

Here are some suggestions that can be used for family recreation. They will help you plan how to have a safer, happier, and more comfortable summer of camping or other outdoor activities. Have fun in the sun.

by Dr. W. E. Parrish



Photo by Tom Wright

SOON thousands of you will hit the highways and head for the beaches, the parks, the forests for just any postage-stamp size of public land you can find. You will be searching for a release from the ordinary routine of daily life. Whether you camp, picnic, swim, boat, cook out or just amble and enjoy the sights and sounds of the Creator's wondrous work, IT IS CHANGE you are after. You arrive home "dead tired" but rejuvenated physically, mentally, and spiritually — ready to face the week ahead and looking forward to the next outing.

No matter what the activity or where it takes place — in the backyard or a thousand miles away — you should PLAN it. Recognize how you can make it a delightful experience by being prepared. A few suggestions about camping, health, and safety are being given to help you plan ahead. Act on them and you will — BE COMFORTABLE — BE HAPPY — BE SAFE.

Plan Ahead

Those of you who have put real effort into planning your excursions know the rewards. You are repaid by the joy and tranquility of a wonderful experience — a time to be remembered.

Some of you did not plan and the end result was frayed tempers, turmoil, and a terrible time. Change this the next time by making a plan that would be dictated by such factors as: What is the purpose? Where shall we go? How long will we stay? How much will it cost? In other words, it boils down to your using a familiar Boy Scout formula of WHY, WHAT, WHEN, AND WHERE. Follow this formula and you are guaranteed good results.

Many families like to get out frequently and their planning starts early. They discuss plans and make a suggestion box for summer activities. During the winter months, they decide what they would like to do. A road map then

becomes a valuable ally, not only because it shows the way, but also it suggests places to go. Circles of various radii (50, 100, 150 miles), depending on the amount of time available, can be placed on the map by using your home town as the center. Very often within these circles are found recreational areas, historical landmarks, zoos, museums or scenic sites. A great deal of information is available about such places if you are willing to seek it. (State and U. S. Information Agencies are good sources.)

Finally, the place to go is chosen. This decision, of course, determines what you will need in the way of clothing and equipment. The only safe way to be certain that you have everything is to make a check list. Then USE IT! The fun ceases with, "Oh, NO, I forgot" — the food, matches or whatever other essential you may have left behind.

Successful and enjoyable activities

are planned ahead of time. They do follow an overall principle found in the Bible — that things are to be done decently and in an orderly manner (I Cor. 14:40). Without order, the activity undertaken will probably end in near chaos. If you believe in and fear God, you will abhor harum-scarum, willy-nilly confusion because God is NOT the author of confusion (I Cor. 14:33).

Even after advanced planning there are many things that can affect your trip. The following generalizations will be of value to your health, safety, and comfort.

How About Your Children

Your decision has been made as to where you are going. *BUT WAIT.* Arrangements for the children must be made. If they are poor campers or travelers and would cause no end of bother, you might think — why not leave them with Aunt Mary. NO! DON'T DO THIS, as God emphasizes the family unit throughout the Scriptures. *Take them. Train them* so that this unity is preserved. (Send for our free booklet, *The Plain Truth About Child Rearing*.) Family projects can result in priceless memories and a close-knit, happy family.

Children are by nature inquisitive little explorers, so you must select a safe site for your activity. A place close enough for you to see and supervise over any dangerous condition. For instance, be close enough to a waterfront area so that you can see it. You will be able to see your child, and if he wanders toward danger, you can take action before it is too late. Incidentally, many waterfront areas are now composed of beach, broken bottles, and rusty tin cans. A wise rule to follow at an unfamiliar or unsupervised area is to wear an old pair of tennis shoes, especially when wading or playing on the beach.

Sleeping bags can be *dangerous*. If you have had the bag cleaned recently, it was probably done with naphtha. You should air the bag thoroughly because children often burrow into them and if the fumes are still present, they

could be lethal. A few such deaths have been reported in the United States.

Another hazard to children is that of plastic bags. Due to their convenience, these are often used to cover suits, protect bedding, or as other protective coverings around a camp.

THESE ARE DANGEROUS!

There is a tendency for them to cling to the skin — especially the face — just like a mask. Their advantages of being water-proof and dust-proof can harbor the hidden enemy of also being air-proof. Air will not pass through, causing a person to suffocate.

Children are drawn to them like "iron filings to a magnet"; therefore, don't keep them around. When you are finished using them, roll them up, tie knots in them, and discard them in a suitable refuse can.

Swimming is a wonderful and invigorating sport, but there are inherent dangers. A few precautions that should be followed are:

DON'T dive head first into unknown waters.

DON'T swim in water that shows dangerous currents.

DON'T swim for at least an hour after a heavy meal.

DON'T swim alone but use the buddy system of swimmers, being responsible for each other. Unless wisdom is used, fun could end in tragedy. DON'T let it happen to YOU.

A boating family should teach their children not to be afraid of water and how to wear a life jacket. This doesn't mean that the life jacket replaces the skill of swimming, but only that it should be familiar and comfortable when worn while boating. Caution — skiing should be carefully supervised as to water safety rules.

There are many and varied hazards around a camp or picnic area, such as fires, fuels, unclean water supply to name a few. However, these can be minimized by training the child to recognize them, avoid them, and to react instantly to the words NO and STOP.

THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN CHILD'S!!

Fire Prevention

Through the ages, fire has been a great asset to man, giving him comfort and serving his needs. Don't let this valuable tool become a curse because you were not cautious and careful in its use.

The number one rule in the use of fire is to be sure that you have permission and that it is legal in your particular area.

A fire of any type should not be started until you have checked possible hazards above and around. The space above should be clear of any low hanging branches. A clearing of 6 to 8 feet around the site of the fire should then be made. It is essential that all ground cover be removed down to the bare soil, as this prevents the spread of fire along roots and leaves. Small precautions! Yes, but prevention is easier than fighting a holocaust.

In some areas, even though an open fire can't be started, fuel stoves and lanterns may be used. Do not light them inside tents or automobiles, as there is a danger of flare-up flash fires. This could be disastrous. Incidentally, if your tent should catch fire, collapse it. You can combat and control the flames as well as prevent the spread of sparks much easier when it is flat. Be sure everyone is out of the tent first.

Again let me emphasize, do NOT light heaters or lanterns inside a tent. Light them outside, adjust them, and then take them inside. Do not put them outside or turn them off before going to sleep. Catalytic or vented heaters are a great deal safer for warmth.

Remember! A small campfire is as efficient and is safer than a large one. You should never leave a fire until you are sure it is *dead out*. Help preserve our forests. As Smokey the bear says, "Only you can prevent forest fires."

Foods

Germes like dirt. Germes like food. Therefore, no matter how carefully you prepare your food, it will only be as clean as your cooking area. You should clean all the cooking gear after use and not leave food or refuse lying

(Continued on page 33)

Who - What - Was Jesus Before His Human Birth?

This question has puzzled theologians for centuries: Was He God — Was He Angel — Was He Spiritual Essence — Did He Exist Only in the Plan, Thought, and Purpose of God?

by Garner Ted Armstrong

WHY SHOULD there be such confusion concerning the existence of Jesus Christ? In our western world of professing Christianity, we see nothing but religious confusion — *differences* and *debates* — over the one great focal point of all Christianity — Christ Himself!

Even learned theologians, it seems, cannot agree on *who*, or *what* was Christ before His birth! *Yet your own Bible is very plain on this subject!*

Are YOU one who is willing to ask God and not men, for the truth?

Jesus Had a Father

During His earthly ministry, Jesus Christ revealed a Father-Son relationship existing between Him and His heavenly Father. Throughout the Bible, God stresses the *family* relationship. First, between God the Father and the Son, and then between each begotten Christian and the Father. The Church is revealed as the *mother* of us all (Gal. 4:26). Individuals within the Church refer to each other as “brothers” and “sisters.” Throughout God’s revelation, He shows us that there is a *FAMILY* known as God!

Let’s understand it!

The logical place to begin is in the *very beginning*, so get your Bible, and turn to Genesis, the first chapter. “In the beginning, *GOD*...” These are the very *FIRST* words that meet our eyes when we begin to find out *WHO*, or *WHAT* *is* God! In studying through the inspired account of the creation of all things, it becomes clear the creation was accomplished *not* by just *one* person, but by *MORE* than one! “And

God said, let *us* make man in *OUR* image, after *OUR* likeness...” (Gen. 1:26). God was not like the absent-minded professor, who was speaking to Himself — but was revealing a *PLURALITY* of persons, *MORE* than one, in the word appearing in your Bible as “God.”

The Hebrew Proves It

The Hebrew word used for “God” in Gen. 1:1 and throughout the account of the creation is “ELOHIM” which actually means *more than one*! It is the plural form of the Hebrew word “El” or “Eloah” which can be correctly translated as “Mighty One.” The *PLURAL* form, as used in your Bible, means “The Mighty *ONES*” or *MORE* than just one person.

ELOHIM is a *plural* word, showing more than one person — just as the words “group,” or “church,” or “family” are single words, which mean *more than one person*!

What’s more — all other scriptures uphold and support this vital truth! Listen to the words of the inspired Apostle Paul, who said, “For by Him [Christ] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers, *ALL THINGS WERE CREATED BY HIM*, and for Him.” Paul went on to say, “And He is *BEFORE* all things, and *BY HIM all things consist*!” (Col. 1:16-17). Was Paul just flattering Christ — was he simply adding spiritual-sounding phrases to make Christ seem more *magnified* to the Christians in his care? Certainly not! For “*ALL*

SCRIPTURE is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness” (II Tim. 3:16).

If *all things* were *CREATED* by Christ, then He must have been *ONE* of the persons included in the Hebrew word *Elohim* we read in Genesis 1:1.

Christ Before Adam

Strange though it may seem, there are *TWO* accounts of the “beginning” of all things given in your Bible! In the Gospel of John, chapter 1, a most vital passage gives us the clear, simple *TRUTH* of Christ’s office *prior* to His human birth. “In the beginning was the Word” (John 1:1). Notice, “*In the beginning...*” There cannot be two beginnings — only *one*, so it is speaking of exactly the *same time* as Genesis 1:1. “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was *with* God, and the Word *WAS* GOD!”

There is the vital truth still unseen by so many — and yet so *PLAINLY* revealed in your Bible!

The Greek word which is translated into the English as “Word” in John 1:1 is “LOGOS” which means, more literally, *spokesman*, or one who *speaks*. To continue: “The same was in the beginning *with* God. All things were made by Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made” (John 1:2-3). Yes, *EVERYTHING WAS MADE BY HIM*, by the *spokesman*, or the *LOGOS*, who became *CHRIST*, as we read in Colossians 1:16-17!

The Person in the God Family who later *became* Jesus Christ was the *One* who *SAID* [spoke], “Let us make man

in OUR image," thus executing His awesome office as the very EXECUTIVE of the God FAMILY!

Notice how clearly John's Gospel states this truth — "And the Word [Logos] was MADE FLESH and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). WHO was full of grace and truth? "...grace and truth came by Jesus Christ!" (Verse 17).

Jesus Is Also God

Remember, the Bible *does not say* there is only ONE member in the God Family, but expresses a PLURALITY of persons — more than one! Otherwise Jesus would be a liar, for He prayed constantly to His Father who was in heaven!

Further light is shed on this commonly misunderstood subject in the wonderful book of Hebrews. Paul tells us, "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by a Son [Ivan Panin New Testament] whom He hath appointed HEIR of all things, by whom also He made the worlds!" It becomes self-evident, then, that Jesus Christ is the very CREATOR! And yet millions do not know, nor even faintly comprehend this amazing truth! Paul called Him "God our Saviour" (Titus 1:3). And so — in the *person* of Jesus Christ, our very CREATOR became our Saviour! Christ is at once our Maker, and a member of the Godhead. Therefore, His life which He gave for us is of *far greater value* than the sum total of every living, breathing human being!

In order to pay the PENALTY for your sins and mine, which penalty is *death* — death for *all eternity* unless it is pardoned and washed away (Rom. 6:23), it was necessary that Christ be *Divine* — that His life be worth more than all our *human* lives put together! When Christ took our sins He paid the penalty we have incurred — *not* eternal life in hell-fire, but the cessation of life — DEATH! "Christ *died* for our sins according to the scriptures" (I Cor. 15:3). Jesus was MADE FLESH (John

1:14) and became a human being for this very purpose, that He might DIE on the cross for all mankind! And yet, if Christ were ONLY human, His life would have paid only the death penalty incurred by *one other human*. The penalty for every individual's sin had to be paid!

But remember, the penalty for sin is DEATH, and God cannot die! Therefore, the penalty is HUMAN life — and God of Himself could not have paid such a penalty. It was absolutely necessary, then, that Christ be BOTH *human and Divine*!

The awe-inspiring mystery of God is not grasped in its overwhelming significance but by those who will *hunger and thirst* for God's truth! (Matt. 5:6). The Logos, the One who *spoke*, and CREATED by His very WORD, "*emptied Himself*" and took upon Him the form of a servant, and *was made* in the *likeness of men*, and being *found in fashion as a man*, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Phil. 2:7-8, margin).

The Divine Being who was instrumental in CREATING all things was *changed into* human flesh! Was Jesus human? YES, He was! Your very salvation depends on it!

Jesus Had HUMAN Nature

God came *in the flesh* as Jesus Christ, lived a perfect life, totally *without sin*, and thus was able to *die* and pay the full penalty of sin in our place! Jesus was God made into mortal flesh "*for the suffering of death*" (Heb. 2:9).

Past articles in *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine have proved conclusively that Jesus Christ was HUMAN, that He DIED and was absolutely DEAD during the three days and three nights He was in the grave. "He also himself likewise [as the children are partakers of *flesh and blood*] took part of the *same*" — took on HUMAN NATURE — became flesh and blood — "that through *death* He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil" (Hebrews 2:14).

Jesus constantly had to CRY OUT to God *day and night* to keep Himself from falling! MILLIONS of people, not

understanding the tremendous *battle*, the life-long *struggle* Christ had with *Himself*, in overcoming His own human nature, the natural pulls of the flesh, *do not fully realize the extent of the sacrifice their Saviour made*, and in many cases are trusting in a FALSE SAVIOUR!

"For we have not an High Priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but was in ALL POINTS tempted like as we are, yet without sin!" (Heb. 4:15.) "Who in the days of His *flesh*, when He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong cryings and tears unto Him that was able to save Him from death, and was heard in that He feared!" (Heb. 5:7.) Your very Saviour had to CRY ALOUD TO GOD, in strong crying and TEARS, to overcome Himself, to withstand the temptations of SIN, to finally die on the cross with the record of a PERFECT life! Are you WORTHY of this tremendous sacrifice?

Who Was the LORD of the Old Testament?

In the King James authorized version of the Bible, the word "LORD" is frequently used, and usually always in small capital letters. Wherever this word appears in the capital letters, it is translated from the Hebrew word "YHVH" commonly pronounced today as "Yahveh." The YHVH, when more correctly translated, implies "The ETERNAL" or the EVER-LIVING ONE, rather than "Lord."

Throughout the books of the Old Testament, the LORD appeared to various individuals, dealt particularly and personally with the ancient Israelites, and talked directly (though from the darkness of a cloud or the brightness of a fire) to Moses. This Person who spoke to Adam, to Enoch, and to Moses *was the One who later became Jesus Christ!*

Christ Himself said so!

"For the Father Himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. *You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His shape!*" (John 5:37.) This almost universally misunderstood truth has led many people to repudiate the Old Testament, to cast

aside the Laws of God as having no binding force on them today.

"But what of the transfiguration?" Yes, *what of the transfiguration?* The disciples, Peter, James and John, were with Jesus on a mountain, apart from the others, when a marvelous *vision* appeared — an actual *foretaste*, a view ahead into the soon-coming Kingdom of God! As the disciples stood, gazing with awe and wonder at the brilliance of the vision, there came a "voice out of the cloud, which said, 'This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased, hear ye Him'" (Matt. 17:5). But notice, did the scripture say it was God the Father who spoke? No! *Read it in your own Bible!*

Many have carelessly assumed the Bible says what it does not say! Notice this particular case, where a *voice* is heard speaking, and yet Christ Himself tells us it **COULD NOT HAVE BEEN THE VOICE OF GOD!** (John 5:37.) The only logical conclusion in the light of all scripture is that an angel (messenger) spoke, as one bearing this message from the Father in heaven!

Since it was *not* God the Father who spoke to Moses, and Who even allowed Moses to see His hind parts (Exodus 33:23), then it had to be the Eternal Being who was instrumental in executing God's word! That was Christ's prior OFFICE, that was His all-important job! Who was the One who **SPOKE** to Moses? Why the *spokesman*, the *Logos*, of course!

Notice I Cor. 10:4, "... And did all drink the same spiritual drink, for they [the ancient Israelites] drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, *and that Rock was Christ!*"

That certainly clinches it! The One who actually **GAVE** the laws to the children of Israel from Mount Sinai was the One who later became Jesus Christ! **JESUS CHRIST WAS THE LORD OF THE OLD TESTAMENT — THE GOD WHO DEALT PERSONALLY WITH ISRAEL, WHO REVEALED HIMSELF TO THE PHARAOH, TO NEBUCHADNEZZAR AND THE KINGS OF THE EARTH!**

Most people have assumed the God of the Old Testament was the Father of Jesus Christ. This is proven by God's own inspired Word to be a great error. As we read in I Cor. 10:4, the "ROCK"

of the Old Testament was Jesus Christ. Remember the word "LORD" is actually YHVH, which means the Ever-living One, or the Life Self-Existent One. Now see II Sam. 22:2-3, "He said, 'The LORD [YHVH] is my *rock*, and my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my *rock*, in whom I take refuge; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge, my savior; thou savest me from violence'" (RSV).

In Psalm 18:1-2, *this same ROCK is YAHVEH*. When Moses was talking to YAHVEH, and asked Him His name (Ex. 3:4-5, 13), He answered that His name was "I AM" (verses 6, 14) and "YAHVEH" — the Eternal One (verse 15). See also Ex. 6:2-3. In John 18:5-8, as soon as Christ made Himself known to the crowd led by Judas as "I AM" (the "he" in italics is added without inspiration, and was not in the original), they went backward and fell to the ground. Again in John 8:56-58, Jesus called Himself: "I AM."

The person of the Godhead who is our **REDEEMER** is Jesus Christ. John 4:42 contains this: "They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that *this is needed the SAVIOR of the world!*'" (RSV). See Isaiah 60:16, where YAHVEH is called the *Redeemer*, which is the **SAVIOUR**, or the Holy One of Israel!

Jesus, the Saviour, was the Holy One born of Israel (Jacob). Jesus is the **LORD** of the Old Testament.

What to DO About It

What an overwhelming truth it is, to realize the glorious, the awe-inspiring magnitude of Jesus' pre-human existence! It should make you realize more fully the tremendous **PRICE** that was paid that YOU might have your guilty past blotted out, and the slate wiped clean! **GOD HIMSELF**, in the person of Jesus Christ, paid that penalty!

Think of it!

God the Father sent His own Son down to this mundane sphere of sin and fleshly emotions to suffer for humanity, and thereby provide a way of salvation, a way to enter into life eternal! The Life that was poured out on the cross was a human life — but it was much more than that — it was also **VERY GOD-LIFE!** Jesus was Human, but He was also Divine! Day and night, while on this earth, Christ must have remembered the tremendous power and glory *from all eternity* He had enjoyed with the Father — and realized it would have been possible to *sin*, to *relent* in His battle against human nature, and *become eternally lost!* The very willpower, the determination and perseverance of Jesus Christ, together with the Divine presence of the Holy Spirit of God, kept Him from falling, that He could become the Saviour of the world!

Can you grasp it? Can you comprehend? Your very Creator — the One who gives you every breath of air you breathe, **DIED FOR YOU!** What are you going to **DO** about it?

What Do You Mean . . . Salvation?

(Continued from page 8)

save us *IN* our sins, but *FROM* our sins. Does obedience **JUSTIFY** you? A THOUSAND TIMES NO!

Where are you now? You still have NO ACCESS **WHATEVER** to God.

You are pretty helpless, aren't you?

HOW You Gain Contact

And now you have made this right start — you have repented — there is a way you may gain contact with God

who has **ETERNAL LIFE** to impart. God so loved this world of sinners, cut off from Him, that He **GAVE** His only begotten Son! Remember, God **GIVES** eternal life through **CHRIST!**

Notice Romans 5:6-10: "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly."

Jesus Christ never transgressed God's Law. He said, "I have **KEPT** my Father's

Commandments" (John 15:10). He also said He set us an example that we should do as He did. He never incurred the death penalty. He never cut Himself off from God. When He voluntarily PAID the death penalty, He did not pay it for any sins of His own — for there were none. He gave HIS LIFE instead of YOURS! He paid YOUR penalty FOR YOU!

The life HE gave was that of the MAKER of us all! God created all things BY JESUS CHRIST (Eph. 3:9). All things — including all humans — were MADE BY HIM (John 1:1-3). Therefore the life He gave on the cross was greater than the sum total of ALL other human lives! THAT is the life that died FOR YOU — that paid YOUR penalty FOR YOU!

Now, continue in Romans 5:8-10: "But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, *being now justified* by His blood. . . ."

NOTICE! "Being NOW justified." HOW? By the blood of CHRIST! If you have repented, and accepted Jesus Christ as personal Saviour you are already NOW justified!

Where Most Jump the Track

But right here is where so many go off into error. They simply do not understand Biblical terms. "JUSTIFIED" does not refer to the FUTURE — it has to do only with your guilty PAST! This term "justified" does not mean "saved" as we shall now see. It does not mean the GIFT of LIFE. It means the GIFT of ACQUITTAL of PAST GUILT! It means the penalty of PAST sins has been paid in full, by Christ, for YOU!

The law stood over you. It claimed your life — you were under it. It took Christ's life in payment instead of yours. The PENALTY STANDS PAID! You are no longer UNDER the Law. It no longer has claim over your life! You are now under GRACE — undeserved PARDON. You are PARDONED from paying the penalty, since Jesus Christ paid it FOR you! This is not YOUR WORKS. It is Christ's SACRIFICE. YOU ARE NOW ACQUITTED — JUSTI-

FIED — the slate is wiped clean of a guilty past!

IN OTHER WORDS — the BARRIER between you and God has now been removed — by the fact that Christ paid your penalty in your stead, and you now accept Him as your personal Saviour. You are now, by CHRIST'S SACRIFICE, given contact with GOD — reconciled to HIM!

SAVED by His DEATH?

So, continue: "Much more then, *being now justified* by His blood, we SHALL BE SAVED by Him."

NOTICE IT! You are already JUSTIFIED. The PAST is squared up — the penalty paid — the contact with God made. BUT are you already SAVED?

LOOK AT IT! It says "we SHALL BE saved." Not that we already are saved. It says "being now justified" but it does NOT say "being now SAVED." It says "we SHALL BE" — yes, in the FUTURE — saved. That is still FUTURE! SEE IT with your own eyes. Don't believe ME. Don't believe preachers who say you are already, now, saved! JUST BELIEVE THESE PLAIN WORDS IN YOUR BIBLE!

It IS real plain, isn't it?

Now here comes a surprise. Notice verse 10:

"For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son. . . ." Here, again, we WERE RECONCILED — past tense. Not by your works — by Christ's DEATH. When you have truly repented, forsaken your WAY, sought God, accepted Christ as Saviour and His death as payment for your past sins, you HAVE BEEN, ALREADY, reconciled. So the wording here is *we were reconciled* — past tense — to God by the DEATH of His Son.

What was accomplished by Jesus' death? It paid the PENALTY — it wiped out your guilty PAST — justified you of your guilt — reconciled you to GOD. But did it SAVE you? DID IT? Wait — don't just say YES — see with your own eyes what YOUR BIBLE says!

It says, continuing, same sentence: "much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life."

CAN YOU BELIEVE YOUR OWN EYES? There it is, in your own Bible!

Already reconciled, by Christ's death; but — "*we SHALL BE SAVED*" — that is FUTURE tense. Not yet saved — but we SHALL BE — in the future — saved. Now are you going to be SAVED by Christ's DEATH? Can DEATH impart LIFE?

There is no stronger law in science than the law of bio-genesis which says LIFE COMES ONLY FROM LIFE. Death cannot impart LIFE.

Now HOW shall we — in the FUTURE — be SAVED? By Christ's death? NO! Notice! READ IT! "We shall be saved BY HIS LIFE!"

After Christ died, God RAISED HIM BACK TO LIFE. We are saved by His resurrection — by HIS LIFE — by a LIVING SAVIOUR! Read I Cor. 15:14-23.

What Do You Mean — "Not Under the Law"?

Now where do you stand? You are now making progress. You now have real hope. You have repented — you have sought God, forsaken YOUR WAY — turned to GOD'S WAY, as defined in His Law and all through His Word. You have accepted Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, and His shed blood for remission of sins. You are now reconciled to GOD. You are justified of — FORGIVEN — your guilty past. You are out from under the PENALTY of broken law.

Now, we read the question: "What shall we say, then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?" (Rom. 6:1.) You are now under GRACE — undeserved PARDON!

You *deserved* only DEATH. You didn't earn forgiveness — PARDON from the death penalty. You received it BY GRACE through Jesus Christ.

Now, shall you CONTINUE IN SIN — that is, continue *transgressing the Law*? The answer is "God forbid" (Rom. 6:2).

You *were* UNDER THE LAW, when the law stood over you, claiming its penalty. Christ paid the penalty, and satisfied the claims of the law and when you accepted Him as Saviour you were no longer under the law, but under

GRACE. Now does that mean you are not under obligation to *obey* the law — that you have license to SIN — to BREAK THE LAW? Remember sin *is* the transgression of the law.

NOW READ THIS IN YOUR BIBLE!

"What then? shall we sin" — that is, according to the BIBLE definition, shall we break the Law — "because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to OBEY, his servants ye are to whom ye OBEY; whether of sin" — breaking the law — "unto DEATH" — penalty for disobedience to God's Law — "or of OBEDIENCE unto righteousness?" (Rom. 6: 15-16.)

There it is! We *must not* return to rebellion against God's inexorable law of LOVE — His right way of life. If we do, we are *again* under the law — again automatically sentenced to DEATH! Jesus Christ did not die to give you license to continue in law-breaking. When you accept, by His grace, remission of sins, *it is only for sins THAT ARE PAST!* You cannot obtain *in advance* remission of all the lawlessness you might deliberately commit *in the future*.

Read *that* in your Bible: "*for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God*" (Romans 3:24-25).

We have remission of SINS THAT ARE PAST — not license to break the Law in the future.

But does that mean you must live a *perfect* life from that moment? You would find that quite impossible. You must never again return to a life of wilful and continuous disobedience. But future missteps must — and can — be forgiven, so long as you *continue* in striving with God's help, to live a life of obedience to Him.

WHY do some religious people today teach that it is all right for Christians to go right on breaking the Law? WHY do they say that GRACE means LICENSE to DISOBEY God's Law? No wonder God found it necessary, through Jude, to warn us to contend earnestly for the FAITH ONCE DELIVERED to the

saints by Jesus Christ — for, as you'll read in Jude 3-4, there are certain men crept in unawares — deceiving people — TURNING GRACE INTO LICENSE!

Would a governor PARDON a man convicted of murder so he could continue murdering more and more people? God's merciful PARDON — His GRACE — is bestowed on us *because* we have repented, with a sincere desire to *turn from our wicked* ways of lawlessness.

So, from here on, *we must* OBEY — unto RIGHTEOUSNESS! (Rom. 6:16.)

Yet *you cannot*, of your own strength, keep the spiritual Law spiritually.

Now let's really understand *that!*

How You Get Eternal LIFE

You have now gained contact with God. You are mortal, possessing only a temporary chemical existence. GOD ONLY has eternal life. LIFE can come only *from* LIFE — not from death. Now what?

You now need to receive God's gift of eternal life. But HOW?

Jesus Christ said it was necessary for us mortal humans that He go to the Father's throne in heaven (John 16:7) in order to send the Holy Spirit of God for us.

This required the resurrected LIVING Christ. So after His resurrection, Jesus ascended to the throne of God that rules the entire universe (Rev. 3:21). Then, some ten days later, on the annual day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit came to enter *into* the very minds of all who had sincerely REPENTED of their rebellion against God and His WAY, and who had been reconciled to God — had gained access — by faith in Christ's shed blood for the remission of past sins (Acts 2:1-4).

These first disciples received God's Spirit *through the work of the resurrected, glorified, LIVING Christ*. The Spirit of the Father is also the Spirit of CHRIST. Thus it actually was the living Christ, Himself, entering into them — not in Person, but IN SPIRIT! Christ is a *living* Saviour who does His saving work from WITHIN!

Now let's get the connection.

On that annual day of Pentecost, at Jerusalem, thousands of people, looking on, were amazed when the disciples received the Holy Spirit. Peter preached a sermon, explaining (Acts 2:14-36). The multitude were emotionally convicted and cried out, "what shall we do?" Peter gave the answer — for you and me today as much as for them of that day: Repent, be baptized, showing your faith in Christ, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

God imparts eternal life into us by His Spirit. It is the impregnation — the begetting of eternal life.

IF the Holy Spirit of God actually DWELLS within you, then as God raised Christ from the dead, He shall — *at the time of the resurrection* — ALSO make immortal ("quicken" means energize — make eternally *alive*) your mortal body BY His Spirit dwelling in you (Romans 8:11). But (verse 9), unless His Spirit is actually IN you, you are not a Christian — no matter how many churches you join!

God's Holy Spirit is HIS LIFE. It imparts HIS LIFE to you! It imparts *more*, as we shall now see!

God Doesn't "Kid Himself"

One thing more, the Holy Spirit is DIVINE, SPIRITUAL LOVE — the love of GOD flowing into you from God Almighty — through the living Christ! (Rom. 5:5.) Jesus explained how we should come to HIM, and drink in of His Spirit, like drinking in *living water* — and how this same Holy Spirit would FLOW, like a river of living water, on out from us (John 7:37-39) in love to God and to fellow man. Now let's make all that PLAIN AND CLEAR.

God's Law is a law of LOVE — love to God in reverence, worship and obedience — love to neighbor in service, kindness, sharing. *It takes LOVE to fulfill — to PERFORM — the Law*. You will read that in Romans 13:10.

But, remember? — we saw, in Romans 7:14, that this Law is a SPIRITUAL Law. Science knows only about PHYSICAL laws. Humans are mortals — PHYSICAL. We were born with a capaci-

ty only for PHYSICAL love. The love of a parent for a child, a husband or wife for a mate, or even relatives, friends, neighbors. We also are born with capacity for envy, jealousy, hate.

But this SPIRITUAL LAW can be fulfilled — performed — spiritually kept and obeyed — ONLY BY SPIRITUAL LOVE! You were not born with that kind of love. You do not have, naturally, the kind of love required to truly keep this great Spiritual Law!

You must go to GOD to obtain *that* kind of love. That is a love He gives you through the *living* Christ. That is HIS OWN LOVE. It emanates directly from Him.

Now UNDERSTAND! True righteousness is keeping "ALL THY COMMANDMENTS" (Psalm 119:172). It is performing God's Spiritual Law with the SPIRITUAL LOVE which only GOD can supply.

You drink it in from Him — once the contact is established. It pours on out from you like rivers of living water. Water in a river flows in a certain *direction*, guided by the river bed or channel. GOD'S LAW is that river bed which guides the *flow* — the expression — the *direction* in which the divine love flows! God's Law is THE WAY of perfect spiritual CHARACTER — the very character of GOD.

So — the VERY SPIRIT by which God imparts to you HIS LIFE — His SALVATION — is also His own LOVE which imparts to you His RIGHTEOUSNESS! It is no longer just YOU, in your own power and strength "keeping the commandments" — it is, spiritually speaking, the living Christ IN you, keeping His Father's Commandments — even as He kept them by this same divine love even while He was human here on earth!

Can you brag, or boast, then, about your righteousness? No — IT IS NOT YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS — IT IS GOD'S! If Christ, by His GRACE, erased your guilty past, gave you access to God, and now pours forth into and through you the spiritual love that keeps the Law, this is not *your* righteousness, but GOD'S.

And this is not YOUR "WORKS"!
It is *nothing* you earn!

God does not "kid Himself." Some religious teachers tell you Christ lived a righteous life FOR you more than 1900 years ago, and since you "*can't* keep the Law," as they claim, God "IMPUTES" Christ's righteousness of 19 centuries ago to you — by sort of "kidding Himself" that you are righteous, while you are given license to still be a spiritual CRIMINAL breaking His Law! GOD does not impute to you something you do not have.

Far from this — the *living* Christ by His power *makes* us righteous! He imparts to us power to actually BECOME RIGHTEOUS. It is HIS DOING!

WHY Not to Heaven NOW?

Once again, back to YOU! *Now* where are we?

There are, first, two things YOU must do. On that very day of *Pentecost* after Christ had ascended to heaven, many who had joined the mob crying out "CRUCIFY HIM!" during Christ's trial before Pilate, were conscience-stricken and afraid when they heard the inspired Peter's sermon. They cried out, "WHAT SHALL WE DO?" They, too, *were helpless*.

"REPENT, and BE BAPTIZED every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye SHALL RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT" was the inspired answer (Acts 2:38).

Note it! Two things YOU do:

1) REPENT — turn *from* YOUR WAY, by turning to GOD'S WAY — His Law! You repent of sin. Sin is the transgression of the spiritual Law.

2) BE BAPTIZED. The Ethiopian eunuch, coming to a lake of water, asked Philip what hindered him to be baptized. "If thou believest with all thine heart" was Philip's condition (Acts 8:36-37). Repentance is toward GOD, for the Law comes from God, but FAITH is toward Jesus Christ (Acts 20:21). Faith in Christ's atonement for sin is *commanded* to be expressed by BEING BAPTIZED. (Write for our free booklet "*All About Water Baptism*.")

This, then, *gains contact* with God. That is as far as *you* can go, on your own. You have reached your extremity! So now GOD does something!

3) YOU SHALL RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT.

This is God's GIFT. It is the presence, conditionally, of eternal life.

And now if you faithfully follow GOD'S WAY — *the way* the Holy Spirit leads — you are already a begotten SON OF GOD! "For as many as *are led* by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" (Romans 8:14).

"Beloved, *now* are we the sons of God, and it doth *not yet* appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he [Christ] shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is" (I John 3:2).

GET IT STRAIGHT! You are now *converted* — a *changed* person — for God's Spirit (Eph. 4:23) produces a RENEWING of your mind. Your whole concept and direction of life is CHANGED! God's Spirit is HIS VERY LIFE imparted to you! You are now a BEGOTTEN son of God.

But it *does not yet* appear what you *shall be*. This scripture does not say "*where* you shall go" — or "*where* you shall BE." It is talking about a *condition*, not a place: "WHAT we shall be"! Salvation is a matter of WHAT YOU BECOME — not *where* you shall go! God's purpose is to CHANGE YOU — from your vile character to His GLORIOUS CHARACTER — not to change the PLACE where you are!

BUT — you are now *already* a begotten SON of God — you may now call Him FATHER! — *as long as* you are LED by His Spirit! — and no longer (Heb. 10:26-27).

And there are still some "ifs." You must GROW spiritually (II Peter 3:18). It is "To him that overcometh" that Christ will grant to sit with Him on His throne, when He returns to earth (Rev. 3:21). *IF you overcome* — overcome your own carnal nature, the world and the devil — AND KEEP CHRIST'S WORKS" (not your own works, but CHRIST'S — by HIS SPIRIT

IN YOU) then you shall reign and RULE ALL NATIONS with Him, in the happy WORLD TOMORROW!

The *real* Christian life is, truly, a life of overcoming, spiritual growing — but it is the only HAPPY LIFE — the ABUNDANT life — here and now! Yet we must ENDURE and remain steadfast — for it is he who ENDURES TO THE END that *shall be saved*! Read this in your BIBLE — Matthew 10:22; 24:13; Mark 4:17; John 6:27; I Cor. 9:24-27; Heb. 10:26-27.

The Christian Life

The very fact that the Christian life is one of *overcoming*, *growing* spiritually, means that none is PERFECT on repentance, faith in Christ, and receiving God's Holy Spirit.

I have said, previously, that at the time of conversion you are forgiven sins *that are past*. That is correct. You are *not* given license to commit sins in the future. But a false accuser represented falsely that this is a teaching that you can never be forgiven any future sins.

That, of course, is not true. The newly converted Christian is still mortal — still flesh and blood — still human. God's Holy Spirit has entered his mind, and that is the divine nature. But this new divine nature does not drive out the old human nature. That is still there, too.

The newly converted Christian has come to a CHANGE OF MIND. Before, he actually loved sin — now he HATES it! But he is the victim of many habits. He will be caught off guard, and as a matter of habit, before he fully realizes it, he may do something that is a sin. Or, through human weakness, and because he has not yet come to keep in constant contact with God through prayer, he may succumb to some temptation, and sin. Then he *repents* — he is remorseful. Can he be forgiven? OF COURSE! Read I John 1 and 2.

As long as the Christian really WANTS, in his heart, to OBEY GOD, and to live God's way, God *looks on the heart*, and FORGIVES, on repentance.

But what I want to EMPHASIZE is that

we are not given LICENSE to return to a DESIRE to sin and to deliberately live a life of continuous sin, and then say we were forgiven in advance. You are NEVER forgiven sin IN ADVANCE. Always you are forgiven sins that *are past*. But when Jesus said WE must forgive until seventy times seven, will He do less?

So, finally, back again to YOU! Where are we, *now*? You have been converted — *changed* in mind, concept, attitude, direction of WAY of life — you are begotten as a child of God — you have now eternal life abiding in you — as long as you are LED by God's Spirit

in God's WAY — as long as you continue in contact and fellowship with God (I John 1:3) — all by God's GRACE as His GIFT, and not anything you have earned by your works; and now if you continue overcoming, growing spiritually — and ALL THIS ACTUALLY THROUGH GOD'S POWER — you shall INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD, and *be made* IMMORTAL to live forever in happiness and joy!

(A copy of this article is available in booklet form. Address any requests to the Editor. See inside front cover for addresses).

The Bible Story

VOLUME VI

Available

In November, 1958, The Bible Story started serially in The PLAIN TRUTH. Recently we changed the title to The Story of Man, and it is currently in its one-hundred-twenty-ninth chapter. Over the years we have put out five bound volumes of this unique, continuous story flow from God's Word beginning in Genesis as told in word and picture by the nationally known artist, Basil Wolverton. Those first five volumes put in book-form the first eighty-two chapters — and now we are able to offer volume six!

This volume picks up the Biblical Story of Man from the beginning of King Saul's reign and continues through most of King David's time. Those of you who have the first five volumes will be eager to add this sixth one — and for those who do not even have volume one, there are still some of them available. Just write the editor and request your volume.

Free for the asking, of course.

SEE INSIDE FRONT COVER FOR ADDRESSES

SMOKING-

The PUFF of DEATH!

Why do people smoke? What does smoking do to the human mind and body? What about filter-tips? When you add it all up — can you really AFFORD to smoke?

by William F. Darkenbring

IF PRESENT trends continue, ONE MILLION American school children can expect to die from lung cancer! Shocking?

It has been authoritatively estimated that lung cancer accounts for only one fifth of the deaths caused by cigarette smoking. In fact, statistics indicate that smoking may be accountable for 300,000 DEATHS annually, in the United States.

Cigarettes — ON TRIAL

In 1954 the Hammond-Horn Report was presented to the American Medical Association showing a causal relationship between smoking and disease. Ten years of research followed, confirming the report in every way.

In 1964 the Surgeon-General's Report entitled *Smoking and Health* was issued, solidly confirming the Hammond-Horn report and proving the relationship between smoking and many diseases, such as cancer and heart disease.

In 1967 the United States Public Health Service issued a report summarizing the data of 2,000 additional statistical studies. It CONFIRMED the conclusions of the earlier reports!

The evidence is all in. It is CONCLUSIVE!

The health hazard from smoking "is flat, scientific FACT" declared Dr. William H. Stewart, Surgeon-General of the Public Health Service in 1967. "Establishing it and demonstrating it is no longer our goal."

Cigarettes have been on trial, and found GUILTY!

In spite of warnings, declarations, statements, and scientific studies, however, 42 percent of the American population continues to SMOKE! About 50 million regular cigarette smokers puff away, oblivious to reality.

However, there is some GOOD NEWS, too! The U. S. Public Health Service estimates there are about *twenty-one million EX-smokers* — nearly one out of four adult men!

Dr. Ashbell C. Williams, president of the American Cancer Society, declared in 1967, "*We must recognize that ours is a cigarette-ridden, cigarette-saturated culture.*" But he added, hopefully, that he believed half of all smokers "dislike the habit, would like to stop, but do not." One reason he cited for the "indifference" many smokers feel toward the danger is the \$300-million-a-year tobacco industry advertising campaign.

"LIVE A LITTLE EXTRA"— Don't Smoke!

From 1900 to 1967, consumption of tobacco products per person aged 15 years and over in the United States rose from 7.42 pounds to 10.50 pounds per capita. The rise in cigarettes, however, was from 49 to 4,003 per person per year!

Meanwhile, lung cancer, almost UNKNOWN in 1900, claimed over 55,000 lives in 1968!

In 1966 smoking directly led to

41,012 deaths from lung cancer, 28,045 deaths from other cancers, 145,956 deaths from coronary disease, 42,821 deaths from other vascular diseases (strokes, etc.) and 43,726 deaths from all other diseases (emphysema, bronchitis, etc.) — a total of 301,560 deaths.

Meanwhile, in comparison, in the United States in 1966 there were 11,210 murders, 20,160 suicides, 53,280 deaths from automobile wrecks, 35,380 deaths from diabetes, and 128,180 deaths from all infectious diseases — a total of 248,210 — over 50,000 deaths LESS than from tobacco!

When you smoke, YOU TAKE YOUR LIFE INTO YOUR OWN HANDS! Smoking is a deadly game.

Dr. Harold S. Diehl, Dean of Medical Sciences and Professor of Public Health at the University of Minnesota, in his new book *Tobacco and Your Health: The Smoking Controversy*, declared: "Another computation shows that the average heavy smoker — two or more packs a day — smokes during his lifetime about three quarters of a million cigarettes. As a result of this he loses 8.3 years — about 4.4 million minutes — of life. This amounts to a loss of almost 6 minutes per cigarette smoked: *a minute of life for a minute of smoking*" (p. 38).

Think about it. Every minute you spend smoking, another minute of YOUR LIFE goes up "in smoke"!

Other computations reveal that for every dollar spent on tobacco, another dollar plus must be spent for cigarette-

induced disease, or lost due to missing work because of smoking. In 1967 about \$9 billion were spent on tobacco in the U.S. In that same year, an estimated \$11 billion were lost to the American economy because of cigarette deaths, diseases, and lost workdays! Therefore, when you total it all up, smoking amounts to a **TWENTY-BIL-LION-DOLLAR SWINDLE** YEARLY perpetrated upon the naïve, gullible American public!

Is it worth it?

In 1945 chronic bronchitis and emphysema caused 2,938 deaths. In 1965,

death rate for bronchitis and emphysema for those who smoked 1-14 cigarettes a day was 6.8 times as high as that for nonsmokers; those who smoked 25 or more cigarettes a day suffered **TWENTY ONE TIMES** as many deaths from these causes than nonsmokers!

In just five more years, predicts Dr. Edward A. Gaensler, Professor of Surgery at Boston University School of Medicine, emphysema will be responsible for the disability of **TWENTY MIL-LION** workers (ibid., p. 93).

All in all, today there are 11 million more cases of chronic illness yearly in

the United States due to smoking; 280,000 more people have heart trouble yearly, because of smoking; 1.8 million more cases of sinusitis yearly are due to smoking; and 1 million more cases of peptic ulcers each year than there would be if all people had the same disease rate as those who never smoked.

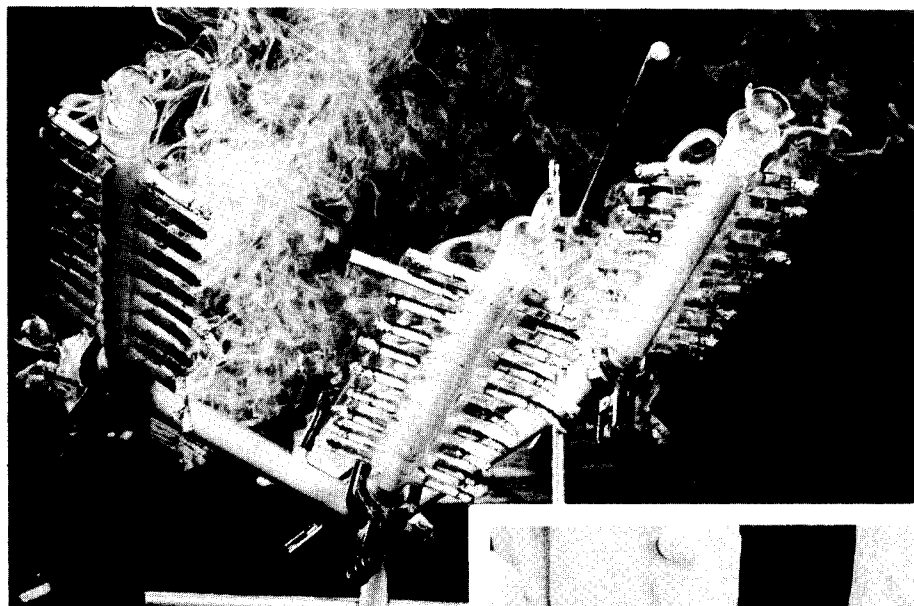
But isn't it strange—sort of gruesomely macabre in a way? If a doctor developed a vaccine that would prevent lung cancer, and protect you from emphysema, bronchitis, and heart disease—saving 300,000 lives a year—you know that there would be a maddening **STAMPEDE** by millions to be inoculated with it.

But even better than such a vaccine would be a simple step—*just stop smoking!*

How many will take it?

"It Couldn't Happen to Me"

Those are famous last words. The idea that a person couldn't have lung cancer or some other horrible cigarette-induced disease *strike HIM, personally*, seems to be a common attitude. Many reject the idea their own health could be affected, or endangered. Smokers seemingly don't visualize themselves

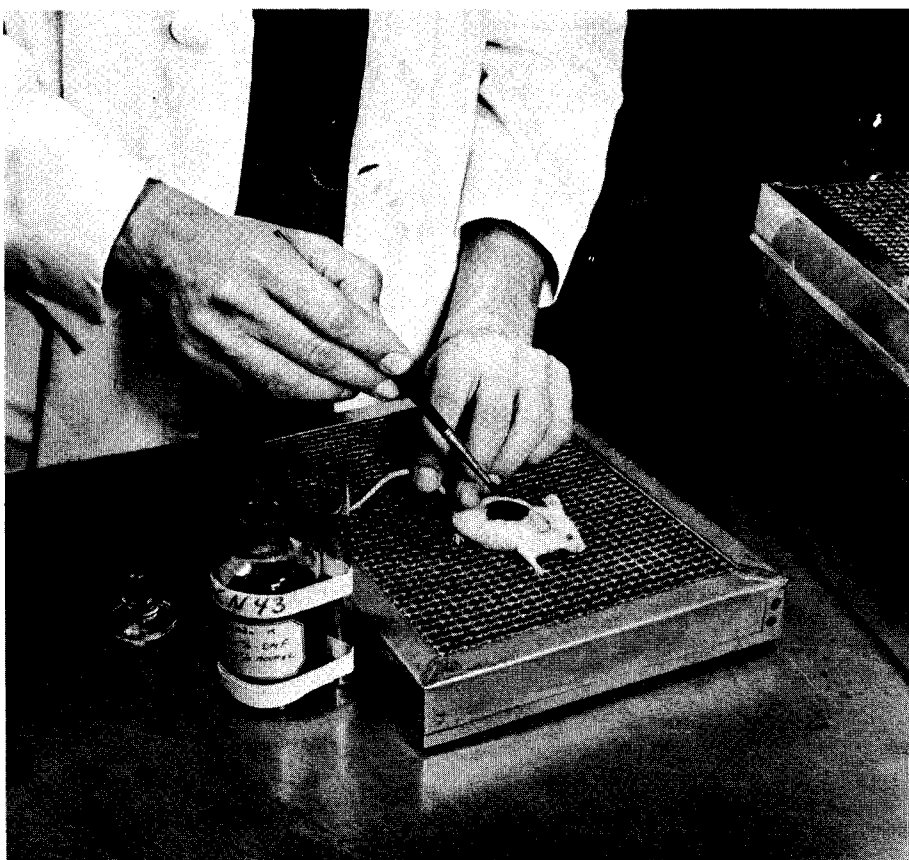


Courtesy the American Cancer Society

ABOVE—Smoking robot simulates smoking manner of humans. The collected smoke residue, tars and other pollutants are painted on the backs of mice (RIGHT). Such experiments produce skin cancer in mice and provide another link in the evidence that cigarette-smoking can produce cancer.

twenty years later, deaths rose to 22,686—over **TEN TIMES** as many! The rise has been more rapid than any other disease. Says Dr. Diehl, "At this rate of increase, 100,000 persons in the United States will die from these diseases in 1975" (*Tobacco and Your Health*, pp. 88-89).

Over a million people in the United States are forced to lead restricted lives because of emphysema. It incapacitates 1 out of 14 wage earners over 45. A study of British physicians showed the



suffering from cancer of the lung or gasping out their agony-wracked breath with emphysema. It always happens to the other guy!

However, current statistics mean that 38 of every 100,000 men will die this year because of lung cancer! Or, a total of about 240 of every 100,000 men will die from some cigarette-caused disease!

Any way you slice it, any way you look at it, smoking is **COSTLY** — one of the most costly habits you could have! In England men spend from \$6,000 to \$12,000 in a lifetime on the smoking habit. A person smoking two packs of cigarettes a day spends upwards of \$200 a year on his habit — or \$2,000 in ten years, \$4,000 in twenty years, etc.

THINK about it!

Can you really **AFFORD** to smoke, when you add up all the costs, expenses for cigarettes, medical bills, decreased efficiency, increased nervousness, chronic illness, and ultimately perhaps terminal cancer?

The Lung Cancer Peril

Projections by the National Cancer Institute show that smoking alone could more than **DOUBLE** the number of lung cancer deaths by the end of the century. By the year 2000, smoking could cause as many as 125,000 deaths a year from lung cancer!

Currently, each year more than 50,000 Americans die of lung cancer, 95 percent of them within five years. An estimated 75 percent of all cases of lung cancer are directly attributable to smoking.

The Cancer Society estimates that lung cancer will kill approximately 59,000 in 1969, an increase of 4,000 over 1968. Lung cancer, said Dr. William H. Stewart, "is the most common cause of death from cancer, and it is increasing at **EPIDEMIC PROPORTIONS**" (UPI, June 14, 1966).

In 1966 the nation's top advisory panel on cancer, the National Advisory Cancer Council, said an "enormous **MAN-MADE EPIDEMIC**" of lung cancer has hit the United States as a result of cigarette smoking (New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 13, 1966).

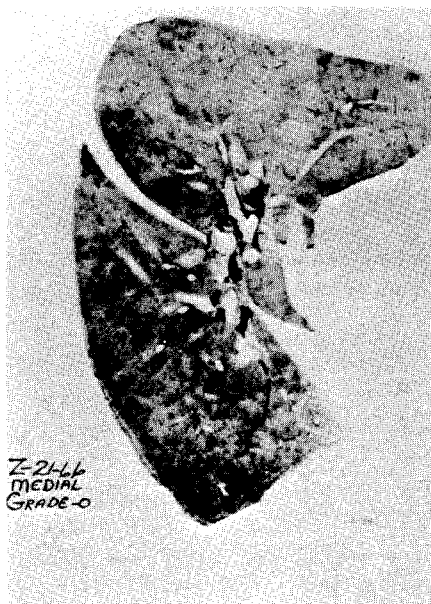
Only a few stubborn die-hards continue to deny the proven relationship between smoking and lung cancer. Most

of them have personal "axes to grind." They simply cannot see the truth because they are blinded to it; or they will not believe it because they don't want to admit it.

The Surgeon-General's Report declared in unequivocal terms: "Cigarette smoking is causally related to lung cancer in men; the magnitude of the effect of cigarette smoking far outweighs all other factors."

Dr. Clarence Lieb wrote, "Experts have established that, on a lifetime basis, *one out of every ten men who*

BELOW, Left lung shows normal lung tissue. Air sacs are too fine to be visible. Right is the lung tissue of a heavy smoker showing abundance of greatly enlarged air sacs — a condition leading to many lung diseases including cancer.



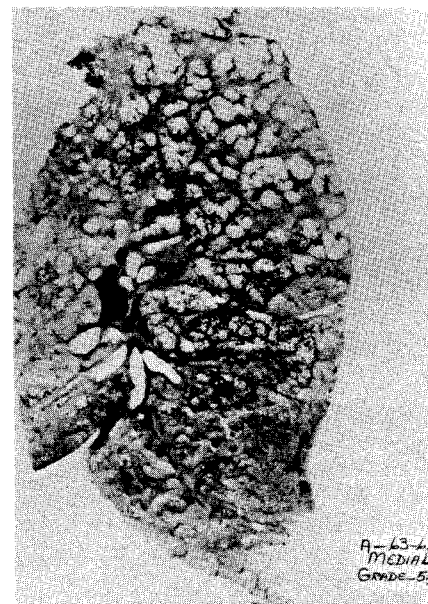
smoke two packs of cigarettes a day will die of lung cancer. Among non-smokers, only one man out of 275 runs that risk" (*Don't Let Smoking Kill You*, p. 65).

"On the basis of tar tests... Dr. Alton Ochsner, who had previously noted that all of the men who came to him for serious lung surgery were heavy smokers over the age of 40, predicted that *by 1970 the lung would account for as much as 50 percent of all cancer in men. One out of every two men with cancer would have cancer of the lung—equal to one out of every ten men living!*



Continual cigarette smoking makes the walls of a normal artery (above) thicken until they almost touch (progressive shots right) and close off the vital passageway.

Courtesy Dr. Oscar Auerback

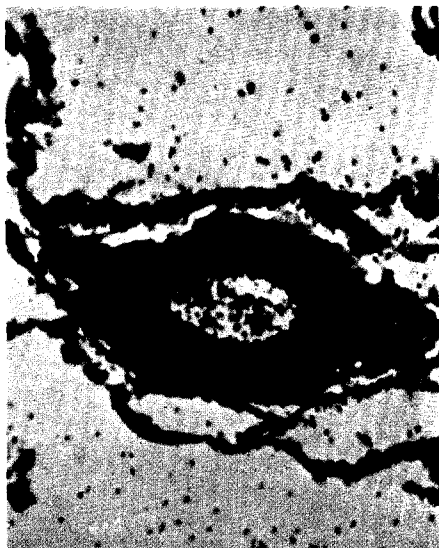


"Lung cancer is rapidly approaching these *catastrophic* figures. It is moving faster than any other form of cancer, is growing faster than any other disease as a cause of death. In the U.S., the lung cancer death rate in the past quarter of a century has *quadrupled* for men, doubled for women" (*ibid.*, page 71).

In the early 1900s, lung cancer was a rare disease. By 1954 the death rate had increased 20-fold among men!

The Smoking Scourge

When you carefully investigate the whole subject, and study the facts and



statistics available, you can come to but one conclusion: Smoking is deadly — it is a menace to health!

Cigarette smoking not only causes lung cancer, but has been implicated in chronic bronchitis, emphysema, heart disease, cardiovascular ailments. Tobacco can damage the nervous system, causing progressive blindness (a condition called tobacco amblyopia), and seems to be partially responsible for a loss of sexual vigor. Among women, frigidity can be due to smoking. Several studies and reports have indicated a greater incidence of frigidity, sterility, menstrual disturbance and miscarriage among smoking women.

A study of smokers and nonsmokers at Yale University revealed that the development of the chest was 77 percent better with nonsmokers than with smokers.

In physical fitness training for instructors of the British Army, it was found that in the 3-mile race an average of 3 times as many nonsmokers were among the first ten to finish the race, and 3 times as many smokers among the last ten.

Smoking is incompatible with physical endurance, muscular power and aptitude to face certain emergencies requiring physical effort.

But, little known to many people is the effect of smoking on the mind. Although 75 percent of the students at Harvard smoke, no smoker has ever stood at the head of his class for the last 50 years. At Antioch College, 75 percent of the smokers fail, but only 30 percent of the nonsmokers.



Two thousand experiments were held testing the effect of smoking on mental responses. It was found that in all cases *smoking lowered MENTAL EFFICIENCY from 10 to 23 percent!*

Pipes, Cigars and Chewing

Learning of the serious menace to health from smoking, many change or switch to cigars, pipes, or some other habit. Is this the answer to the problem?

No. The facts are that pipe smoking, cigar smoking and even tobacco chewing are as much — if not more — to blame for buccal cavity cancer as is cigarette smoking. Even before the turn of the century, doctors were convinced that lip and mouth cancers were likelier to be seen in pipe and cigar smokers.

Dr. Alton Ochsner said, "Smoking can also cause cancer of the lip, mouth and tongue. In these cases, it is the smoking of pipes and cigars which is especially to blame."

Dr. Clarence W. Lieb declared, "Pipe smoke, because of a greater fire area, is hotter and more irritating to the mouth and pharynx than smoke from a cigarette or a medium-sized cigar; it also contains more nicotine and other irritants." He also said, "Pipe smokers get cancer of the lips, where they usually hold the pipe; and tobacco-chewers, when they get cancer, get it where they usually keep the chew."

One Chance in TEN

The American Cancer Society says, "If you are a nonsmoker — your chances of getting lung cancer are only four in a thousand." But, says Dr.



Harold Shyrock, "Continuing to smoke is like playing Russian roulette. The confirmed heavy smoker's chances of dying from lung cancer are ONE IN TEN."

Is it worth it?

Every day in the United States there are 375 deaths from heart and circulatory diseases, 175 deaths from lung cancer, and 250 deaths from other cigarette-related diseases! *More than 800 die daily because of cigarette smoking.*

None of these diseases is pleasant. Cancer can be excruciatingly painful, horrible. Chronic bronchitis can be sheer torture. Buerger's disease (where the small arteries of the fingers and toes are obstructed) occurs almost exclusively in men who smoke. In its final stages, it can end in gangrene and force amputation of the affected part.

Count the cost. Add it all up. *It's not worth it!*

Therefore, if you don't smoke — **DON'T START!!!**

If you do smoke — **QUIT NOW**, before it is too late!

WHY Do People Smoke?

About 70 million people in the United States smoke, in one form or another. An estimated two million teen-agers join the ranks of the smokers every year.

There are an estimated five million who smoke two packs a day — about four percent of the adult population.

When do people *start* smoking?

Actual data suggests that few children begin smoking before age 12 — less than five percent of the boys and

one percent of the girls, probably. From age 12, however, smoking gradually increases.

At the 12th-grade level, between 40 and 55 percent of children have been found to be smokers. By age 25, estimates run as high as 60 percent of men and 36 percent of women (*Smoking and Health*, page 362).

Dr. Horn estimates that 10 percent of later smokers begin to become regular smokers before their teens, and 65 percent during their high school years.

Is it any wonder, then, that many cigarette commercials seem to feature youth, vitality, excitement, fun, and those things which are attractive to young people in particular?

A survey of 16,486 grade-school youngsters showed that more than one in five smoked cigarettes — and that many start smoking at the tender age of eight!

The survey, conducted by the Medical Society of Atlantic County, found that 24 percent of the boys and 21 percent of the girls were smokers, in grade school. Among third graders, boys smoking outnumbered girls five to one.

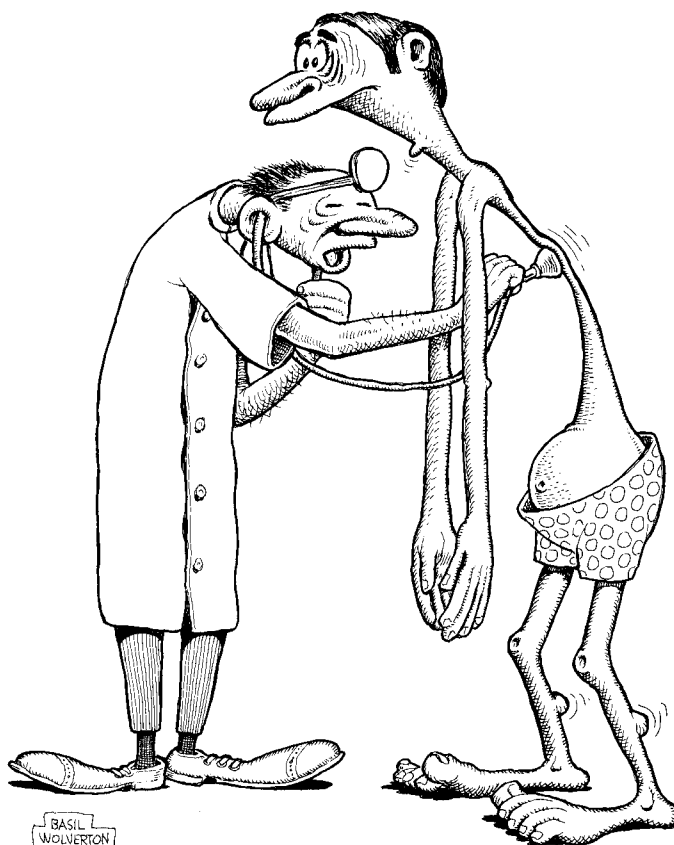
Similarly, the chairman of the California inter-agency council on cigarette smoking and health revealed that TEN PERCENT of all fifth and sixth grade students in California smoke cigarettes (*UPI*, Jan. 13, 1968). Dr. Paul R. Baker said, "Children tend to idolize their parents and imitate them." He placed most of the blame on parents who allow their children to smoke.

A survey in Fort Wayne, Indiana, showed that almost one of every ten pupils in the sixth through ninth grades smoked. The survey covered 12,000 students (*UPI*, Mar. 29, 1966).

Nationwide, every day of the year 4,500 youngsters 12-17 years of age take up smoking, an official of the Health, Education, and Welfare Department disclosed.

Statistics indicate that one boy in five in the United States begins smoking by the ninth grade, and by the senior year of high school 44 percent of the boys smoke. Overall, ONE THIRD of the young people in high school are regular cigarette smokers!

Why?



"I advise you to switch to Folly Cigarettes. For only 100,000 coupons you get a new set of lungs."

Dr. Daniel Horn answers, "Children's smoking is largely dependent on parental example." In statistical terms, a youth is TWICE as likely to begin smoking in high school if both his parents smoke than he is if neither of them smokes.

Indicative of the reasons children begin smoking is a survey of 1,307 school children in Hertfordshire, England, a few years ago.

The survey revealed children began smoking:

To feel big — 244.

To copy adults — 221.

To show off — 215.

To appear grown up — 198.

Because friends do — 124.

To copy parents — 104.

If you put copying adults and parents together, you find that 325 smoked because of the example of older people!

If you don't want your children to smoke, WHAT KIND OF EXAMPLE are you setting for them?

Take another look at these reasons given by children for smoking. If you add "to appear grown up" to the two we just mentioned, a total of 523

began smoking because of the fact that ADULTS SMOKED! *Children are the world's greatest IMITATORS!* "Like father, like son" is very true.

Young boys and girls want to be "grown up." They want to be like Mom and Dad. They want to feel "big" and "important." Those are the underlying, BASIC REASONS children begin smoking!

It all boils down to vanity — a desire to exalt and enlarge the Self — to make oneself more important. This is VANITY!

YOU probably began smoking for much the same reason! Think back. That is, if you are a smoker. You probably started smoking because your parents did, or it seemed the grown-up thing to do, it was socially accepted, and — also — YOUR friends and associates did it.

Isn't that right?

VANITY OF VANITIES!

Too many people are victims of society. They do whatever OTHER PEOPLE do. They follow the herd like dumb sheep. They don't think for themselves. They don't analyze the consequences or count the COST. And

when it comes to smoking, the cost can be enormous — *your life itself!*

What about it?

If you are a smoker, the *real* reason you began smoking and have continued, is NOT because you really enjoy cigarettes — is it?

No, be honest with yourself. Sure, you might think smoking helps you relax, relieves anxiety and tension. *But does it?* Medical evidence shows that

that the poisons have started their deadly work. The more a man will continue to whip his nerves with such help, the more his nerves will become abnormal."

All the tobacco does is **APPEASE THE CRAVING** of the cigarette addict!

Let's not kid ourselves. The reason people smoke, when you get down to it, is two-fold. First, they began in most cases because of the **INFLUENCE** of

— safeguard you from the danger of cancer?

Filter-tipped cigarettes, dominating the market today, have a big sales appeal to smokers because they claim — either overtly or covertly — to cut down the amount of tar and nicotine and thereby are "safer" than regular cigarettes.

The facts, however, show that filters do an inefficient job and in a great number of instances filter-tip cigarettes give a **HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF TARS** and nicotine than do regular cigarettes! (*Don't Let Smoking Kill You*, page 93.)

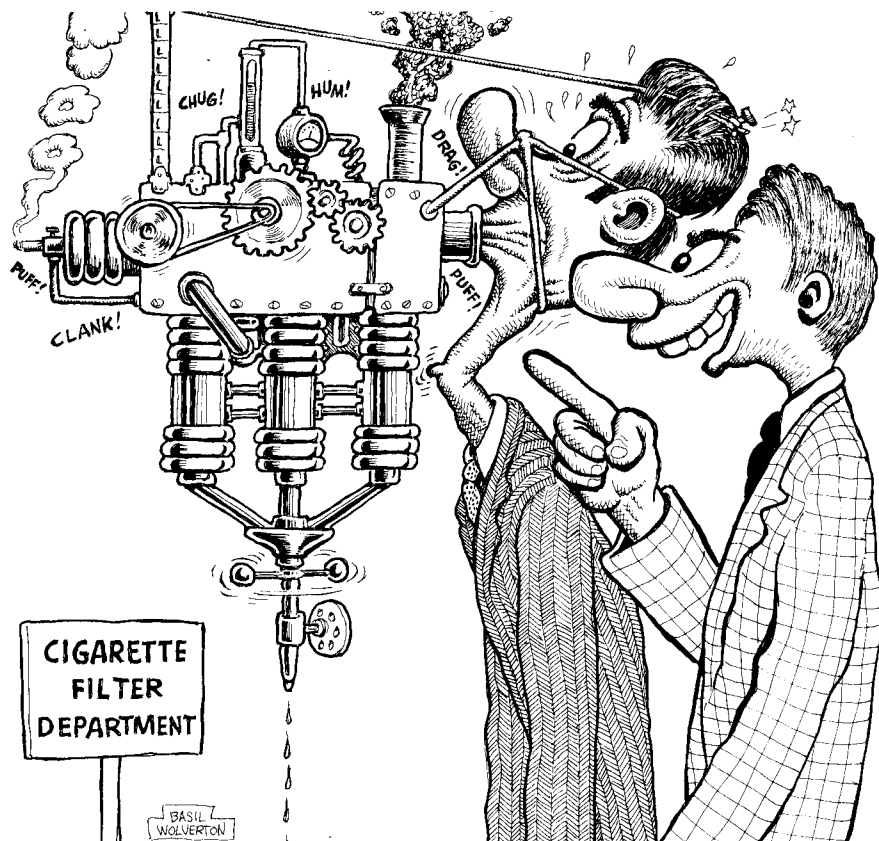
A four-year survey conducted at Stockholm, Sweden, revealed that filter-tipped cigarettes are NOT always less dangerous than those without tips. The survey, published in the Swedish Medical Journal, analyzed the tar and nicotine yield of 35 leading American, French, British and Scandinavian brands. It disclosed that several filter-tipped cigarettes had a **HIGHER YIELD** than ordinary cigarettes and that even tipped and non-tipped cigarettes of the same brand sometimes gave equal yields of tar and nicotine! (*Reuters*, December 11, 1968.)

At a Congressional hearing on cigarette advertising claims, it was revealed that one manufacturer's regular-sized cigarette yields less tar and nicotine than the same manufacturer's filter-tip product, or its king-sized brand! Another company put out a filter-tip that yielded less tar but more nicotine!

In one case, manufacturers developed a filter-tip that was extremely effective — *too effective* for smokers! All it let through was a lot of hot air. Needless to say, the brand was not very popular until the manufacturer modified the filter, letting through more nicotine and tar!

That, in a nutshell, is the trouble with filters. If the filter is good enough to remove the tars and nicotine, there is no pleasure in smoking — so why smoke? If the filter does let through enough of the tars and nicotine to affect the human body, then there is the danger of disease, **CANCER**, and a horrible **DEATH!**

Studies reveal that very little of the tars or nicotine is removed from ciga-



"Forget about the weight! Just remember that you're using the best filter money can buy!"

on the contrary, smoking actually is a vicious cycle — it **ADDS TO ANXIETY**, increases **TENSION!**

The claim that smoking calms nerves is one of the biggest deceptions ever practiced!

Dr. Clarence Lieb said, "Nervous smokers smoke to relieve their tension. This relief is only temporary. *Smoking in turn increases tension.* And... so goes this vicious circle."

Dr. Harold Dingeman said, "Smokers suffer 76% more from nervousness than nonsmokers."

Said Dr. Robert Jackson, "If one has a **NEED** for a cigarette... that's because he became the **SLAVE** of a toxic product — and this need clearly proves

other people who smoked, notably their parents!

And once a person is "hooked" on smoking, he continues — not because of the relaxation and relief it affords, but — because he is psychologically, emotionally, mentally **HOOKE**d on the drug! He craves the effect of the nicotine and the tars. He has become a whimpering, cringing, crawling, abject **SLAVE** of the cigarette god!

The cigarette is his master. He is its worshipful, adoring, trembling **SLAVE!**

Truth about Filters

But wait, you say — what about filter-tip cigarettes?

Won't filter-tips protect your health

rettes by filters. The overall difference from one brand to another is negligible.

For many reasons, therefore, no filter-tip cigarette can be considered to have eliminated whatever health hazard is present in smoking! In fact, some of the filter-tips are more harmful than regular cigarettes because of the lower-grade tobaccos they use!

Dr. C. W. Lieb declared that the fact that the filters masquerade as an aid to health, while they are no such thing, is to his mind, "*the shame of the filters.*"

The Surgeon-General's Report states emphatically, "NO METHOD of treating

tobacco or filtering the smoke has been demonstrated to be effective in materially reducing or eliminating the hazard of lung cancer. . . .

"Present knowledge indicates that it is *NOT POSSIBLE* to filter selectively, specific components such as carcinogens."

For this reason, the report concludes, "... the individual person's risk of lung cancer can best be reduced by the *elimination of SMOKING*"!

The answer is not changing to filters, or to a pipe — the solution to the cigarette peril is to STOP SMOKING!

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 4)

does one become Christian? When? And WHY is salvation a PROCESS, as well as an initial phase when he becomes a Christian instantaneously?

Here is the PLAIN TRUTH you need to know.

First, there are TWO conditions to becoming a Christian: REPENTANCE, and FAITH. These two we, ourselves, must perform. But these do not make us Christians — do not convert us. It is what GOD does — giving His Holy Spirit by His grace as His free gift — that converts us.

Our repentance and faith do not *earn* the receiving of God's Spirit. God does not give us His Spirit *because* we repent and believe. He gives His Spirit *because* He *wants* to give it. He *wants* us to have His Spirit as His gift *before* we repent. He merely *requires* repentance and faith as *conditions*.

Yet no one can, of himself, say: "Oh now, I see — I must repent. All right, I hereby repent." One does not just decide casually, as a matter of routine, to repent. WHY?

Jesus Christ said that none can come to Him, except the Spirit of the Father draw him. God *grants* repentance. God calls one, and convicts the mind and conscience by His Spirit, working on the mind externally. Usually a real struggle goes on within. The person has been shaken to *know* he has done wrong — that he *is* wrong — he has sinned — he *is* a sinner! He is brought to real REPENTANCE, not only for what

he has done, but for what he now sees that he *is*. It is not easy. The *self* never wants to die. To *repent* is to make an *unconditional surrender* to God — to *obey His Law*!

Yet he, himself, must make the decision. If he does repent, surrender to God, and in FAITH accept Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, then, upon performance of these two conditions, God *promises* to put within him the GIFT of the Holy Spirit. This is the very *life* of GOD — SPIRIT life. It imparts to him the very *divine nature*!

Then *what*, at that stage, *has happened*?

This new convert has only been *begotten* of God — not yet BORN. Many who believe they are "*born again*" on receiving the Holy Spirit are more in error in terminology than in what happens. He has not received the full measure of God's Spirit which Christ had; he is only a *spiritual babe* in Christ. He must now GROW spiritually, just as a newly conceived embryo in its mother's womb must grow physically large enough to be BORN as a human.

This new convert has now REPENTED, in his mind, from the depths of his heart. HE MEANS IT, too! In all sincerity, in his mind and heart, he has *turned around to go the other way* — to live a different life. He is now a CHRISTIAN — he has received God's Holy Spirit. He *has been* converted, He *is* a Christian. He really *wants* to do what is right — to obey God — to live GOD'S WAY.

YET HE FINDS HE DOES NOT DO THIS PERFECTLY! Many, at this stage,

become discouraged. Some give up even trying to live a Christian life. And WHY? *Because of the false notion that a Christian is one who becomes PERFECT at one fell swoop*, or that one cannot become a Christian *until* he has broken all wrong habits, and *made himself* righteous.

It's vital to UNDERSTAND how true Christianity REALLY WORKS!

The newly begotten Christian must grow up, spiritually. What would you think of a human baby, who became 6 feet tall *all at once*, without growing up? The growing up process requires TIME. There is *an instant* when a person receives the impregnating Holy Spirit of God — when he first becomes a Christian. But he is only a spiritual infant. He must *grow up* spiritually.

The newly converted person, *in his mind and heart*, sincerely has ABOUT-FACED! He has actually gained contact with GOD, and received God's Holy Spirit. God's own divine NATURE has now been conceived within him. BUT THAT'S ALL: it is *merely conceived* — not yet full grown! He is still human — mortal — flesh and blood. He is still composed of matter, not Spirit. And his HUMAN NATURE *is still there*; it has not been killed or removed!

Understand this!

We were all born HUMAN. We all were born with HUMAN NATURE. Few seem to know what human nature is. It is a strong PULL — a tendency — and, like gravity, it is a *downward* pull. Like a strong magnet, it draws us in the WAY of pride and vanity, selfishness and greed, a lack of outgoing concern for others — the spirit of competition, opposition, strife, effort to acquire, and to exalt the self. It is a pull toward self-gratification, and jealousy, envy and resentment toward others. It is the spirit of rebellion against authority, hostility toward God and the Law of God. THAT is human nature. YOU were born with it. It is still within you. But it must, in the Christian be crucified — be overcome.

The Christian must develop the righteous CHARACTER to choose the right way, and resist the wrong — to discipline the *self* in the way he ought to

go, instead of the way of self-desire and vanity.

God's PURPOSE in having created humanity — in having caused *YOU* to be born — is to reproduce Himself. And GOD, above all things, *is* PERFECT, RIGHTEOUS CHARACTER! God is able to create character within us; but it must be done as a result of our independent free choice. We, as individual separate entities, have our part in the process.

What *is* perfect character? It is the ability, in a separate entity with free moral agency, to come to the KNOWLEDGE of the right from the wrong — the true from the false — and to CHOOSE the right, and possess the WILL to enforce self-discipline to DO the right and resist the wrong.

Like muscle, character is developed, and grows by exercise. My name is Armstrong. I suppose I could make my arm slightly stronger, and develop the muscle, by constantly bending it back and forth at the elbow. But if I pull, or push, against some heavy weight or resistance, the muscle will develop much faster. There is within us this NATURE that exerts a heavy pull *against* that perfect righteous character — to give us something to *strive against* for THE VERY PURPOSE OF STRENGTHENING AND DEVELOPING RIGHT CHARACTER!

God's CHARACTER travels in the direction of His Law — the way of LOVE. It is an outgoing CONCERN for others. GOD has that character! He has an outgoing *concern* for you and for me. He GAVE His only begotten Son to reconcile us to Him and make the JOYS of His character and everlasting life possible for us. He showers on us every good and precious gift. He even puts within us HIS DIVINE NATURE — *when* we repent and turn *from* the WRONG ways of THIS WORLD, begin to *resist* it, and turn TO Him through faith in Jesus Christ as personal Saviour!

God's divine nature is the nature of love — of giving, serving, helping — of outgoing concern. It is also the nature of humility.

Now when one is converted — has repented, and *turned from* this world's false ways — has *at once* received God's Holy Spirit — his HUMAN

nature, as I said before, does not flee. It too, remains. It *still* exerts a pull. We still live in THIS PRESENT EVIL WORLD, and it exerts a pull. God still allows Satan to be around; and HE exerts a pull.

So we now have THREE PULLS to RESIST — to OVERCOME! We must now *overcome* these three: Satan, this world, and our own SELVES. We have to battle against these three, in order to develop and strengthen RIGHT CHARACTER within us. God says plainly it is THE OVERCOMERS who shall be saved — who shall REIGN with Christ! (Rev. 2:26-27; 3:21.)

No human being is strong enough to do this BY HIMSELF! He must seek, and IN FAITH receive, the help and power of GOD. Even with God's power he will not overcome such forces easily, or all at once. IT IS NOT EASY! Christ plainly said the way to ultimate salvation is hard, difficult. It's a constant BATTLE — a struggle against self, the world, and the devil. The creation of CHARACTER comes through EXPERIENCE. It takes TIME!

This development is a PROCESS. It is a matter of GROWTH — DEVELOPMENT. It requires, to become PERFECT, full and right KNOWLEDGE of the very Word of God; because Jesus taught that we must *live by* EVERY WORD OF GOD.

The natural, unconverted mind cannot fully and rightly UNDERSTAND the Scriptures of God. But the Holy Spirit *opens* the mind to this spiritual comprehension. The acquisition of this KNOWLEDGE, in itself, is a procedure requiring TIME. It is the DOERS of this Word, not hearers only, who shall be saved.

But can any man DO, immediately and all at once, this new WAY he now learns about? Can any man, all at once, break all HABITS he now sees are wrong? No, he finds he has a FIGHT against *acquired former habits*.

He still has this PULL of human nature to overcome. This nature is A LAW working within him. The apostle Paul calls it the law of sin and death.

Paul was *converted*. Paul was a real Christian. He had repented, accepted Christ, and received the Holy Spirit. With his MIND, he wanted with all his

heart, and in real intense sincerity, to DO God's WAY! But did Paul do it perfectly?

Let him tell. LISTEN!

"For we know that the Law is spiritual," he wrote, "but *I* am carnal, sold under sin. For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I . . . Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me." He is speaking of *human nature within him*. He continues, ". . . for to WILL is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do . . . For I delight in the Law of God after the inward man: But I see *another law* in my members, *warring against* the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members" (Romans 7:14-23).

The law of his mind is the Law of God — the Ten Commandments. The law "in his members" is *human nature*. Then Paul cries out. ". . . O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death? . . ." Then he thanks God — that GOD WILL — through Jesus Christ, and by the power of His HOLY SPIRIT. BUT IT TAKES TIME!

The truly converted Christian will find that he often stumbles, *under temptation*, and falls down — even as a physical child learning to walk often falls down. But the year-old child does not get discouraged and give up. He gets up and starts out again.

THE TRULY CONVERTED CHRISTIAN IS NOT YET PERFECT!

GOD LOOKS ON THE HEART — the inner MOTIVE — the real *intent*! If he is trying — if he gets up whenever he falls down, and in repentance asks God's forgiveness, and sets out to do his very best NOT TO MAKE THAT MISTAKE AGAIN — and to persevere with renewed effort to OVERCOME, God is rich in mercy toward that man in his striving to overcome.

I think it should be apparent by now that the newly converted Christian is not PERFECT all at once. He does not — must not — commit sin deliberately and wilfully in a spirit and

attitude of rebellion. That's what he has repented of! He *wants* to live completely above sin. But to live perfectly would require all spiritual KNOWLEDGE. He would have to live by EVERY WORD of the Bible. The Holy Spirit imparts spiritual perception so he can UNDERSTAND the Bible. And to understand *all* the Bible TAKES TIME. We have to GROW into the KNOWLEDGE of HOW to live perfectly, without sin.

The Book of I John was written in the 90's, A.D. It was written to converted Christians. When John speaks of "you" and "we" he is speaking of and to converted Christians.

He says: "If we [we Christians] say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I John 1:8-9). One does not CLEANSE his dirty hands and face *before* they become dirty. The dictionary definition of cleanse is *to remove dirt or stains* — not to prevent dirt getting on the face or a garment.

This passage in I John continues: "If we [we Christians] say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His Word is not in us. My little children [speaking to His converts who are still spiritual children, not yet spiritual adults], these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And IF any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and He is the propitiation [atoning sacrifice] for our sins: and not for ours [we Christians — John the Apostle included himself] only, but also for the sins of the whole world." (I John 1:10 and 2:1-2.) That is, He is the atoning sacrifice effecting reconciliation with God, for the sins of the UNconverted — if and when they repent and believe.

A Christian may, by force of habit, or under weakness and temptation, sin. But if he is a Christian, he is immediately repentant, and on this repentance, Christ's sacrifice cleanses his sin.

Converted people often are under heavier temptation than before conversion. They are STRIVING against sin STRIVING to overcome. But they are

not yet perfect. Sometimes they are caught off guard. They may actually sin. Then they WAKE UP, as it were, and realize what they have done. They REPENT. They are filled with remorse — *truly sorry* — disgusted with themselves. They go to GOD, and CRY OUT for HELP — for more power and strength from God to OVERCOME!

This is the WAY of the Christian!

It is the way of a constant BATTLE — a striving against SIN — a seeking God in earnest prayer for help and spiritual POWER to overcome. They are constantly GAINING GROUND. They are constantly GROWING in God's KNOWLEDGE, from the BIBLE. They are constantly rooting out wrong habits, driving themselves into RIGHT habits. They are constantly growing closer to GOD through Bible study and prayer. They are constantly growing in CHARACTER, toward perfection, even though not yet perfect.

With Paul, they say: "... Not as though I had already attained, or were already perfect: but I FOLLOW AFTER, ... Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended, but *this one thing I do*, FORGETTING those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I PRESS TOWARD THE MARK FOR THE PRIZE OF THE HIGH CALLING OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS"! (Philippians 3:12-14.)

But, someone may ask, what if one's life is cut off, and he dies *before* he has attained this perfection? Is he saved, or lost? The answer is that we shall never obtain absolute perfection in *this* life.

I said, earlier, that a person who is converted does receive the Holy Spirit at a *definite time* — *all at once*! Not the full measure Christ had — he is not at once full grown spiritually — only a spiritual babe in Christ. Yet he is then a changed, converted person — changed in mind, in attitude, in the *direction* he has set himself to travel. Even though he has not yet reached perfection — even though he may have stumbled under temptation, and taken a spiritual fall — as long as, in his mind and heart, he is earnestly striving to travel GOD'S WAY, to overcome and grow spiritually — as long as

God's Spirit is in him — as long as he is being LED BY the Spirit of God, he is a begotten SON OF GOD.

If, anywhere along this life's journey, that life is cut short, such a man will be resurrected — saved — immortal in God's Kingdom.

It is only the one who QUILTS and GIVES UP — who REJECTS God, and God's WAY, and rejects Christ as his Saviour — who neglects or turns FROM this direction of GOD'S WAY, *in his mind and heart* (in his inner INTENT) who deliberately and intentionally in his mind — or, from continued neglect — TURNS FROM Christ, — who is lost.

If, once having been converted, having received God's Spirit, and TASTED of the joys of GOD'S WAY, one deliberately rejects that way, makes the DECISION, not under stress of temptation, but deliberately and finally, NOT to go God's way, then God says it is IMPOSSIBLE to renew such a one to repentance. He would have to REPENT of that decision. But if he WILLFULLY made it, not in a time of temptation, but calmly, deliberately, willfully, then he just WILL NOT ever repent of it.

But anyone who FEARS he may have committed the "unpardonable sin" — is perhaps worried about it, and HOPES he *has not* committed it, and still WANTS to have God's salvation — no such has committed it — such a one MAY repent, and go right on to salvation IF HE WANTS TO!

If YOU have stumbled and fallen down, DON'T BE DISCOURAGED! Get up and press on ahead!

If you see a Christian do something wrong, DON'T SIT IN JUDGMENT AND CONDEMN — that's God's business to judge, not yours! Let's have compassion and mercy — WE don't know the inner heart of others — only GOD does!

If you would like a booklet on this subject, write for our free, vitally interesting booklet explaining just what a Christian is, why a Christian *can* sin, and the truth about the fear of the UNPARDONABLE SIN. Its thought-provoking title is *What Do You Mean — The Unpardonable Sin?* It will make the truth thoroughly and interestingly plain.

TWELVE RULES for Bible Study

Why is the Bible the most misunderstood book in all history? The most twisted, distorted, maligned, misrepresented and lied-about book there is? Because people refuse to believe it means exactly what it says! Apply these simple basic rules and you will begin to really understand the plain truth of God's Word!

by David Jon Hill

WHAT are we? Were we put on earth for a PURPOSE? And WHAT is that purpose? WHY are human lives empty, discontented, unhappy? How may human life become HAPPY, filled with interest, ABUNDANT, successful, prosperous? WHAT is the real cause of wars, and THE WAY to world peace?

WHAT lies on after death — what is THE WAY to a happy, abundant, ETERNAL life? No book ever written, except the Holy Bible, *reveals the answers* to these fundamental questions of life!

Yet, why do we find such confusion — such disagreement as to what it says? WHY don't the hundreds of differing church denominations and sects AGREE on what their acknowledged textbook SAYS? WHY do so many individuals, capable of understanding almost any *other* book, say: "I just *can't* understand the BIBLE"?

Study for Yourself

You yourself need to understand *HOW* to get the most out of God's Word.

You need to KNOW that GOD DOES EXIST — and you need to KNOW that THE BIBLE IS GOD'S INSPIRED WORD! If you are in any doubt about these two basic points, write immediately for our free booklets, *Does God Exist?* and *Proof of The Bible*. Before even beginning to seriously STUDY the Bible, you must realize that your Creator is the Divine author of it!

In Bible study, as well as with anything else, there is a *right* and a *wrong way* to accomplish. There are certain rules which, if followed, will give you a more thorough understanding of God's Word — leave you with fewer questions, begin to help you think and act as God does because you understand what He says in His Word.

The following rules are not necessarily in order — they are certainly not all the rules of Bible study — but they are *basic* and *important* and will help you gain the Truth from God's Word.

Pray for Guidance

First, before you even open the Bible, you must ask God in PRAYER to open your mind to His Word in the study that you intend to make. David was a man after God's own heart — he studied that portion of God's Word which was available to him in his day. He meditated, thought about and considered God's laws and His ways. He was close to God in every way, and yet many times throughout the Psalms we read how David ASKED God to *guide* him in his study, to *open* his mind, to *reveal* His Truth.

"TEACH ME, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end. GIVE ME understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart. MAKE ME TO GO in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight. INCLINE MY HEART unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness... STABLISH THY WORD unto thy servant, who is devoted to thy

fear... behold, I have longed after thy precepts: QUICKEN ME in thy righteousness" (Psalm 119:33-40).

Without sincerely and believingly asking *God's direction* in your Bible study — without seeking *God's Kingdom* and His righteousness first (Matt. 6:33) — Bible study of itself would be futile. Just as you can worship God in vain (Mark 7:7), so you can study His Word in vain! Many wise and intelligent men have made a life study of God's Word in its original languages, and profited nothing from it!

Men like Moffatt, who *translated the entire Bible* from Genesis to Revelation — certainly *he* studied God's Word — but he did not get the Message, he did not understand the Gospel. Even in the introduction to his translation he explains how he feels the Old Testament is a compilation of Jewish literature! Adam Clarke wrote six volumes of a commentary on *every last verse in the Bible* — yet not by any stretch of the imagination could he be construed to have understood God's Plan.

The study and work that men of this intelligence have contributed *CAN be helpful to us*. But not because of any special intelligence that we may have — only because we have asked God to open our minds and give us *His* understanding of His Word.

Formal Education Not Necessary

Don't use the excuse that you have not had enough education, or that you are *not intelligent enough* to really

study God's Word. God tells us plainly that it is not the wise, the mighty or the noble that He is calling to an understanding of His Word now — read I Corinthians 1:25-27.

Take for granted that you do not know *of yourself* how to understand the Plan of God — that's why you must ASK Him to make it plain!

If all that was needed to understand God's Word were *brains*, then a vast number of the people of the world would have a thorough understanding of God's Word! God says, "...they are wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge" (Jer. 4:22). As long as you know *how to read*, you get down on your knees and sincerely ask God to guide you in a study of His Word. He will open your mind to understand things that the most intelligent minds of mankind have not been able to understand. *Prayer* will open to you an understanding of God's Word that Einstein did not have. *Prayer* will open your mind to understand God's Word in a way that the graduates of Harvard and Yale, Oxford and Cambridge, the great universities of Europe and Asia, are not able to understand.

PRAYER — your contact with God — is important in the beginning of your study of His Word — His contact with you — or you may spend endless hours of studying His Word like a Pharisee. The time spent, the verses covered, your understanding of the depth of the Greek, your memorization of how many verses there are in the Bible, will be of NO AVAIL at the return of Jesus Christ! *Only that part of His Word which you have made a part of your very character will be of any account!*

HEARTFELT PRAYER for God's guidance in your own personal Bible study will insure success!

Attitude Must Be for Self-Correction

This SECOND rule really goes hand-in-hand with the first. Before you rise from your knees in prayer, you should fully recognize in your own mind and heart that your *purpose* for this Bible study is not just to gain academic

knowledge, not only to prove or disprove a certain doctrine or fact — but to get you closer to the stature of the fullness of the very character of Jesus Christ. The only way this can be done is for the *carnal you* TO BE CORRECTED!

God's Word is written directly to each of us as an individual — it is personal, direct — and as far as our achieving salvation is concerned has nothing to do with anybody else on the face of the earth!

Therefore your attitude should be the same as Jeremiah's. In fact, since you're going to be *studying* the Bible, turn to Jeremiah 10:23 and read two verses there meaningfully and as part of your prayer! "O Lord, I know that the way of man is *not in himself*: it is NOT IN MAN that walketh to direct his steps. O Lord, *CORRECT ME*, but with *judgment*; not in thine anger, lest thou bring me to nothing."

Don't just go through this mechanically, really mean it! Don't just do this because this article *says* to do it, but because *you want correction from your Creator!*

In order for your attitude to be proper in your approach to God's Word, turning to one other scripture would clearly aid you in understanding what your approach should be — in educating your attitude to be right before you begin. "Thus saith the Lord, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest? For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the Lord: but *to THIS MAN will I look*, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and TREMBLETH AT MY WORD... Hear the word of the Lord, *ye that tremble at his word*"! (Isa. 66:1, 2, 5.)

This Bible that you are studying is the *very MIND and THOUGHTS of your Creator-God!* It is not to be argued about. It is not meant to be a club to chastise OTHER people with! In other words, if you are a husband, DO NOT use Ephesians 5:22 as a weapon against your wife — or, if you are a wife, DO NOT use Ephesians 5:25 as a weapon against your husband! But each of you

as husband or wife apply that scripture which refers to *YOU yourself and YOURSELF ONLY!*

Prove All Things

This THIRD rule is in a way an extension of the proper attitude of rule number two. Your approach to God's Word should be *completely POSITIVE!* The example given by the Bereans in Acts 17:11 — "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and *searched the scriptures daily*, whether those things WERE so" — this was a *positive* attitude! The Bereans were not searching the Scriptures to prove Paul was *wrong!* They were NOT negative, angry, bitter.

So if you have heard something about the Bible that you do not fully understand, your approach in your own personal Bible study should be to prove that it is so.

The common *misunderstanding* of I Thessalonians 5:21 which says, "Prove all things," is that this *proof* must entail a deep research into the Hebrew or Greek backgrounds, and into encyclopedias and historical references, lexicons and musty historical records. This is erroneous. If your research takes you into references of this sort, and you are endeavoring to *prove POSITIVELY* God's Truth, this is perfectly all right — but it is *not always necessary*.

This word "*prove*," is POSITIVE. That is the one main point of this particular law of Bible study. But the word itself means, *to put to the test*. There are *proving* grounds on which the modern automobiles manufactured in Detroit are *tested*. In the parable Jesus Christ uses regarding the wedding supper, there is a reference to a man who had just bought five yoke of oxen. The excuse he gave for not coming to the supper was that he wanted to *prove* these oxen (Luke 14:19). This is the *same Greek word* as used in I Thessalonians 5:21. Yet this man did not mean that he was going to go to his local library and look up in some dictionary a description of oxen to find out for sure *whether they WERE oxen* — it meant he wanted to be excused from the wedding supper so that he might

take the oxen out to the field, yoke them up, hook a plow behind them and find out whether they would be able to do what oxen are supposed to be able to do! This is basically what God means in I Thessalonians 5:21.

For example, God commands us in the book of Malachi to prove Him in tithing. What He wants us to DO is *not* to technically search lexicons to find out Greek and Hebrew derivations, but — just as the principle is throughout the entire Bible — to DO *what He says* to DO. “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and PROVE ME [TEST ME] now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it” (Mal. 3:10). This is a POSITIVE *going forward*, a finding out of what God DOES say, not a search for error or disproof.

Bible Never Contradicts Itself

If you have difficulty in understanding any particular scripture — if it *seems* to say something different from another scripture, you may just need to study further. Always remember beyond any shadow of a doubt the principle of rule *four*: that *God never contradicts Himself*. Therefore, either your understanding of the particular scripture or the translation that you are reading is incorrect or misunderstood.

Malachi 3:6 — “For I am the Lord, I CHANGE NOT; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed” — MEANS what it says. Hebrews 13:8 — “Jesus Christ *the SAME* yesterday, and to day, and for ever” — MEANS what it says.

The very *source* of truth is God's Word (John 17:17) — and unless your approach to it, your study of it is from this point of view you will never gain any understanding from it.

Let's notice an *apparent* contradiction appearing in Proverbs 26:4, 5 — verse four reads “ANSWER NOT a fool *according* to his folly.” Yet, the very next verse tells us, “ANSWER a fool *according* to his folly.”

Actually, these two verses are not contradictory — BUT COMPLEMENTARY!

The use of either verse — that is, its principle applied to a particular use — depends on the *set of circumstances*. Both these verses contain gems of wisdom that each one of us needs to learn to properly apply in answering other people's questions.

The LAST PART OF EACH VERSE holds the KEY which unlocks the meaning of these verses — and shows them to be *practical, usable* and wise *principles*.

Verse four reads, “Answer not a fool according to his folly, *lest thou also be like unto him*.” The last part of the verse holds the KEY: don't degrade yourself by descending to HIS LEVEL in an ARGUMENT! Don't harangue — don't bite back — don't try to “*argue back*” with someone who is obviously trying to stir contention.

The perfect example of this is found in Luke 20:1-8. Here Christ was teaching in the temple. The Pharisees came to Him with these words: “Tell us, BY WHAT AUTHORITY doest thou these things? or WHO is he that gave thee this authority?”

Quite obviously, they weren't interested in learning anything — they weren't coming as humble individuals hungering after new knowledge. THEY WERE THERE TO ARGUE WITH CHRIST!

Notice, how Christ handled the situation.

“And he answered and said unto them, I will also ASK YOU ONE thing; *and answer me*: The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men?”

“And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say, Why then believed ye him not?”

“But and if we say, Of men; all the people will stone us: for they be persuaded that John was a prophet.

“And they answered, that they could not tell whence it was.

“And Jesus said unto them, NEITHER TELL I YOU by what authority I do these things” (Luke 20:3-8).

Christ answered their question *with a question*! To answer their question directly would have only resulted in a verbal battle. An argument would have

ensued. Christ avoided strife by NOT *answering them according to their folly*.

Now, understand verse five in Proverbs 26. Again, the last part of the verse holds the KEY: “Answer a fool according to his folly, *lest he be wise in his own conceit*.”

In this case — if you don't answer his question — if you don't accept his challenge — he is going to THINK HIMSELF to be wise!

The apostle Paul had this problem. *False apostles* in Corinth were claiming THEY WERE the *true apostles* of Christ. The congregation was being LED ASTRAY!

Now was not the time for silence — or clever questions! Now was the time to SMASH the contentions — to ANSWER these false apostles!

Notice II Corinthians 11:23 — and how he answered these *foolish* men.

“Are they ministers of Christ? (I SPEAK AS A FOOL) I am more; in labours *more abundant*, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft.

“Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one . . . In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.”

Paul showed the people HE was their true minister! He *answered* and *debunked* the claims of these other men.

There is no contradiction! But rather much wisdom in these two verses. Wisdom we need to APPLY in *our daily lives*!

What DOES the Bible Say?

This FIFTH rule of Bible study often solves many problems. Many times our misunderstanding comes from the *confusion that this world causes* — from a misinterpretation, a direct *twisting* of a scripture to conform to the doctrines of demons promulgated by Satan's ministers.

“Woe unto them that *call* evil good, and good evil; that *put* darkness for light, and light for darkness; that *put* bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are *wise in THEIR OWN eyes*, and prudent in *THEIR OWN*

sight"! (Isa. 5:20-23.) Many who *claim* to be representatives of God, the *interpreters* of His Word, *twist* and *wrest* that Word to their own destruction and the destruction of their hearers.

So always remember to ask yourself — *and, answer* — the question: "What *does* the BIBLE say?"

John 3:6 is a good example of this. "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." This is a very clear scripture, explaining that flesh is flesh and Spirit is spirit! That's what the Bible says! But that's not what *people* say the Bible says!

Sometimes you may have to refer to a reference work (which we will cover under a separate rule) for scriptures such as I John 5:7.

Or perhaps a note in the *margin* of your Bible will help you understand a scripture that *seems* to contradict what you know to be the truth. Take the example of Luke 17:20-21 — "The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, *the kingdom of God is WITHIN you.*" Here, the Bible *does* say, "The kingdom of God is *within* you." But here it is only the King James *translation* which says this — not necessarily God's exact Word. So, since it is not clear in the *King James* translation, other aids are necessary to find out what it does say.

This leads automatically to the next rule of Bible study, rule number six.

Check the Context

Context means, con — *with*, text — *text*. In order to check the context you merely read the *texts which come WITH* the text that is in question. You read the texts *BEFORE* and the *texts AFTER*. In this example of Luke 17:21, you need to also ask yourself a number of questions regarding the context. The text that is with (*con*) Luke 17:21, is Luke 17:20! This verse *just before* answers the question regarding verse 21, but in order to *answer* that question you must *ask* yourself the question, "WHO?"

In other words you must ask yourself, if "the Kingdom of God is

within you" — WHO is the YOU that the Bible is referring to? In this case verse 20 explains that it is the *Pharisees*! Now you *KNOW* that certainly Jesus Christ wasn't saying that the Kingdom of God is inside of PHARISEES! Therefore, the con-*(with)* text helps you to see that there must be a *mistranslation* in this particular verse.

And sure enough, when you check the margin of your Bible you will find that the word "within" should be translated "among" — referring to Jesus Himself as a Representative of God's Kingdom who was at that time "among" the Pharisees!

In order to understand any scripture thoroughly, in its context, you need to ask yourself — and answer for yourself — all the following questions: WHAT? WHEN? WHERE? WHY? WHO? HOW? When you have answered these questions regarding any particular text, and you have read all of the accompanying texts, *with the text in question, you will have GOD's answer to the problem.*

Many people misunderstand Mark 7:19 — thinking that in this place unclean meats were cleansed by Christ — simply because they do not read the context. In this case the context is the

entire chapter. You must go back from verse 19, until you begin to find the subject about which verse 19 is talking. That subject has to do with whether or not to wash your hands ceremonially before you eat, and has nothing to do with whether the food you eat is clean or unclean according to the laws of Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14.

There are even *lies* written in the Bible and you have to be careful that you ask yourself *exactly* what the Bible says in the *entirety* of the context of any one statement. *The Bible says*, "Ye shall NOT surely die" (Gen. 3:4). This is a *Biblical* statement! But in order to find out whether it's true or not you have to find out WHO said it. In this particular case the same verse explains that Satan the Devil said it, but in order to find out whether it is true or not (because sometimes even Satan tells the truth) you have to go back in the *context* until you come to Genesis 2:17 where the Creator-God is quoted as saying, "THOU *SHALT* SURELY DIE!" — then you know what the *Bible, in its ENTIRETY and in its truth, DOES SAY!*

This brings us to rule number seven.

*(To be continued) **

Teen-ager

(Continued from page 10)

acting on the knowledge you're getting. As we said before, that is the part that takes *courage*. *REAL COURAGE!* People, even your "friends," may laugh, ridicule you and call you square if you "break away."

So WHAT?

Sure it cuts for the moment. But then you know something they don't. You know that there is a God who sits in the Heaven above, whose Son is returning to *rule* this world. He's a kind and a loving God. But He is also a God who will smash the perverse and defiant people who rebel against His way.

And because of the knowledge you have, you'll be able to stand for what you know. You're no "goody-good" or "pansy." But you do have the character to meet the challenge of the age, to

reflect the needed willpower and determination.

NONE of you fellows or girls need to apologize for what is *RIGHT*. Hippies spout the phrase "find your thing and do it." Hopefully *YOU* have found *YOUR THING* (obedience to God) and *you're doing it*. There is no need for apology, for sheepishness. Be positive, confident that your way is the way of the future. Of course, you don't need to go around antagonizing others, but then you don't need to slink off into the corner, either.

The rewards for obedience to God are fathomless. Both of us who wrote this article were somehow blessed with the knowledge of God's Truth in our teens. We've now joined the "establishment" *age* group. But we're not removed from your problems as teen-agers. We know for a fact that obedience to God is the *ONLY REAL* way to happiness. We're not talking about

things we don't know anything about and haven't experienced. We've seen "both sides of the coin." And neither one of us would trade places *now* (or anytime since we began obeying God) with Clint Eastwood, James Bond, Hugh Hefner or anyone else.

God has blessed us with loving wives and healthy children, pleasant homes and rewarding jobs. He holds these blessings out to you, too. But you have to be willing to make the necessary, positive changes He instructs. Your willingness and degree of change determine those blessings.

Coming Next Month

How to be a teen-ager is a very broad subject. We've just begun to scratch the surface of showing young

people how to live, how to reach the happy and abundant life.

This article has shown you the foundation of knowledge — God's Word.

From this basic beginning you will find how to be a real man — how to be a real woman — how to make the teen years the most productive, enjoyable years of life; a time to look back on with joy, not with heartache and sorrow.

Next month we'll see just what it takes to rear a boy. How to become a man — and following that an article on how to be a girl and develop into a wholesome teen-ager and THEN INTO TRUE WOMANHOOD.

Be certain to read every article in this vitally important series directed to the young readers of TOMORROW'S WORLD.

Recreation — Play It Safe!

(Continued from page 12)

around. You can keep garbage in sacks or a small covered pail until it is emptied into the receptacles provided. If there are no trash cans, burn your refuse and bury it. But DO NOT let it accumulate. Take care of it after each meal.

You should keep food in sealed containers. Incidentally, coffee cans with plastic lids or metal cracker boxes are excellent to store such things as sugar, flour, or other such items. Small plastic bags with soft wire fasteners are also very good for this purpose. If you do these things, you will find you will have fewer unwelcome visitors in the form of flies, ants, and other insects.

Food that can spoil should be kept in an ice chest. A few small pieces of dry ice in the bottom of the chest can keep your ice from melting. Such things as potato salad, chicken salad, egg salad, or tuna fish spoil very easily and can cause SEVERE FOOD POISONING! You should store these in shallow containers, refrigerate, and use them in a matter of a few hours. Throw the unused portion away. Don't let illness, due to careless food handling, spoil your outing.

Another possible source of trouble around the kitchen area could be the

use of old refrigerator shelves as cooking grills. Some of these shelves have been plated with cadmium, a material that prevents rust and keeps them shiny. When these are heated, fumes of cadmium oxide are given off which are toxic and dangerous when inhaled.

Cleanliness and Sanitation

God gave ancient Israel rules pertaining to health and sanitation. These primarily stressed cleanliness and were designed to protect Israel from disease. Such rules were especially needed at that time because the nation was on the move. The conditions of crowded living and roving camps produced all the factors needed to cause a widespread, fast-moving epidemic that could have wiped out the whole Israelite nation. That is one reason why God emphasized that if He found uncleanness in the camp He would withdraw His protective presence from it (Deut. 23:14).

Those very principles are still fundamental concepts of public health and military preventive medicine. Today's crowded conditions and the constant movement of people in their living and recreation makes this same instruction

as applicable now as it was then. Sanitation is a form of cleanliness that has to do with not only the physical cleanliness of your picnic or camp area but with the care and disposal of human waste as well. In an emergency, a little imagination and a shovel can solve the disposal problem of such waste. Specific instructions are given in Deut. 23:12-13. Too often these areas look like public dumping grounds rather than the pleasant, clean, attractive areas they were designed to be. Train yourselves as a family to leave the place cleaner than you found it.

Be clean. *Be considerate.* Keep America clean.

Tent Hints

The small wooded valley may seem like a beautiful place to pitch a tent but it isn't. Select high ground, because it is cooler during the day, less damp at night, and not subject to flash floods in the event of rain. Another advantage is that the mosquito problem will be lessened.

A few minutes picking up rocks, sticks, and other debris from where the floor of your tent will be, pays with many hours of comfort later. If your tent will be on the down slope of a drainage area, make a ditch on the uphill side to divert the water around it. Control that flood before, not after. You should remember ropes and canvas tighten up when wet; therefore, loosen the stay ropes a little if it rains. Otherwise, you may suddenly find your tent falling down. When everything is dry, you can then readjust the tension in these ropes.

A canopy over the tent acts both as insulation and as insurance against leakage during a rain. The fly used could be large enough to extend out from the front of the tent to form a porch-like arrangement. This provides a pleasant place to relax and eat. When the fly is properly used as a canopy with from four to six inches between it and the tent proper, the internal temperature of the tent can be reduced by ten to fifteen degrees.

You should keep in mind a new tent will leak a little at first, but this type of leakage seals itself after a little



Poison Oak



Poison Ivy



Poison Sumac

seasoning. Remember that when you touch a tent or push something against the inside surface during a rain, IT WILL LEAK.

Clothing can be hung on hangers by drilling two one-quarter-inch holes through the ridgepole, twelve, eighteen or twenty-four inches apart. Galvanized or aluminum wire is then threaded through the holes and a rod or pole placed in the wire loops to hold the hangers.

Another trick for comfort, unless you are back-packing, is to carry a few old throw rugs to be placed in strategic locations on the tent floor. Rugs not only add to your comfort but make cleaning the tent an easier chore.

First Aid

Minor accidents can and will happen. Most injuries can be taken care of by remaining calm and the use of common sense. However, accident prevention is the best cure by watching for and eliminating potential hazards.

Abrasions, scratches, and cuts should be cleansed with plain soap and water to remove any debris present. The wound can then be cleansed with a mild antiseptic and an appropriate size band-aid applied.

Ice packs or cold packs are of value in the immediate treatment of insect stings or bites. These are applied for about two hours. Sometimes it is beneficial to put a bicarbonate-of-soda paste directly on the bite before applying the ice pack. Sprains can also be treated with cold packs for the first twenty-four

to thirty-six hours, combined with use of an elastic bandage as a support.

If, in spite of all precautions, someone does get burned, a fast, convenient, and competent method of treatment is to immerse or plunge the burned area into cold or even iced water. This relieves the pain immediately and diminishes the eventual burn damage. The burned area may have to be kept under water for a period of thirty minutes to several hours. The burn can then be bandaged, or preferably, if it can be kept clean, left open to the air. Following this, A & D ointment as an emollient may be applied two or three times daily until healing has taken place.

Poison ivy, along with poison oak (which really isn't an oak) and poison sumac, are the most common poisonous plants. The entire plant of these contains the same irritant toxic substance that can cause skin rashes of varying severity. If there is the possibility of contact, as soon as possible you should take a good soapy bath using laundry soap. The types of treatments are almost innumerable. The Indians used the juice from stems and leaves of the jewel weed; the present trend is to use one of the many calamine-base lotions. Perhaps the best method to use is to follow the old saying, "Leaflets three—let it be; berries white — poisonous sight" and LEAVE THEM BE.

A first aid kit doesn't have to be elaborate. A small tackle box or check file will do very well. In this way, you can carry the items most needed and

used by YOUR FAMILY. This kit could contain such things as: soap, mild antiseptic solution (or first aid cream), band-aids, sterile gauze pads, Visine Eye Solution, and tape, to itemize a few.

Fun Can Be Safe

When you begin to write about health, safety and comfort, you could go on and on, but space limits the words.

Any activity can be fun, but it involves planning, and you must realize that the risks are a little higher than being at home. One of the very first things to get out of your mind is that it always happens to the other guy — not you. The truth is that accidents are caused by or prevented by your own actions.

The same type of defensive thinking can be carried forward by using your head, thinking ahead, and trying to see the end result. In other words, the anticipation of needs and troubles may eliminate the possibility of spoiling your activity by illness, injury, or severe discomfort.

You are ready to leave. The "gear" is evenly and safely stowed and the passengers are aboard. As you point the nose of the car down the highway, you realize the enjoyment will be in proportion to how well you have planned and prepared. You smile in anticipation and confidence. You have planned well. You will return home a little tired — perhaps — but safe, sound, and happy.

Letters to the Editor

Thanks for New Magazine

"I wish to express my sincere thanks for the new magazine for Co-Workers. I count it a great privilege to be among the few to receive this fine magazine. TOMORROW'S WORLD is one of the important things that was needed. May God bless you for your love, thoughtfulness, and consideration."

Otis W.,
Shafter, California

"Thank you and God's true ministers for this thrilling new magazine, TOMORROW'S WORLD. Please allow me to continue to receive it. I have read the article 'What Are You Waiting For?' three times and also the one on making right decisions. These articles are so revealing and truthful that one cannot express gratitude enough."

Harold C.,
Eagle Rock, California

"We received the first edition of TOMORROW'S WORLD yesterday and I can't begin to describe how utterly pleased we are with it. It cost me some sleep, as I was not able to put it down until I'd hungrily devoured every last little bit, cover to cover. What a marvelous companion to *The PLAIN TRUTH*. The new magazine contains the type of Biblical article I had begun to miss in *The PLAIN TRUTH*—the 'how to live' type of piece—which I am delighted to see will be the main feature of TOMORROW'S WORLD. Thank you so much for it. Incidentally, I really got a good laugh out of Mr. Wolverton's cartoon of the hippy smokers. It reminded me of myself a few years ago when I used to skip the shave for several days at a stretch and wander around with a cigarette stuck in my face, my head literally in the 'clouds' of smoke, thinking I was a plenty tough character. I smoked two to three packs a day for five years before I finally made the decision to quit. I was

never so glad to leave off of anything in my life, once it was accomplished. It's a wonderful blessing to be able to breathe freely again."

Jerry A.,
Atascadero, California

"I received my first copy of TOMORROW'S WORLD. It will be a perfect study lesson magazine for me while waiting for each lesson of the Correspondence Course to reach me—it's gorgeous!"

Mrs. Claire M.,
San Bernardino, California

"I have just read your new magazine TOMORROW'S WORLD and I really enjoyed it. It has made up my mind. Please enroll me in your Correspondence Course, and this time I want to complete it."

Frank M. T.,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

"Received the first issue of TOMORROW'S WORLD in the morning mail. The new Hall of Administration on the cover is beautiful and very impressive. I know what is inside will be edifying and much needed by all of us. Am looking forward to every word of it."

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer R. D.,
Coyle, Oklahoma

"Yesterday we received the new TOMORROW'S WORLD. I don't know how you do it but it's just wonderful. I frankly wasn't real stirred-up one way or the other when I first heard about a new magazine for Co-Workers. I didn't realize what you had in mind. I wish it had been available seven or eight years ago when I was first coming to a knowledge of the truth."

Mrs. Patricia L. M.,
Saugus, California

"I just received my first copy of TOMORROW'S WORLD. It's great. You are absolutely right when you say people today need stronger spiritual

food. It was a real shock to find from the last Co-Worker Letter how people are letting God's Work down."

Eugene H.,
Chehalis, Washington

"Is It Possible?"

"Even when I don't understand who covers the enormous expense that your institution would have to have, it is consoling to know that there are people who work not only to look out for their own welfare but also that of others. In this chaotic world that surrounds us (I am 23 years old), it is absolutely fantastic to find one friend who unselfishly puts himself out for us to show us the true way, not only to make our personal lives happy but also to establish a stable society, truly peaceful and uncommercialized. Is it possible? A society without lower passions, without adultery, without multiple crimes perpetuated by the strongest, without strong or weak, or rich or poor or—all the rest that are an integral part of our society today—created by the adult generation in which we feel so disgusted. If this is possible, show me the way, please."

Zanoni G.,
Tamaulipas, Mexico

• *Yes it is possible—that's what the Good News (Gospel) is all about. So you will understand better, we're sending you a copy of our booklet, The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like!*

New Co-Worker

"I just got your letter this morning telling me that I am now a Co-Worker. I was reading your letter out loud to my mother, and when I got to the part that said my name had been placed on your special Co-Worker mailing list, I couldn't go on any farther. I was shedding tears of joy because I guess I want this more than I've ever wanted anything in my life—to help spread the gospel of the Kingdom of God."

Deborah B.,
Gatesville, Texas.

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