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the

OCTOBER 1983

PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding

Pope
John Paul II

Reviving Europe's
"SPIRITUAL ROOTS"

Inside: What Teachers Wish Parents Knew

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OUR COVER

In the five years he has occupied his high office, Pope John Paul II has traveled to 36 countries. No trips have been more dramatic than his two visits to his native Poland, in 1979 and earlier this year. Behind the Pope's exhaustive efforts is his desire to achieve the "spiritual unity" of all Europeans, both East and West.

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PERSONAL FROM



Here's Your Best Assurance of Holding a Job

SOME of our readers are still in danger of losing their jobs or having their salaries cut even in this economic upturn.

Right now business analysts are reasonably confident that sustained but moderate growth will be continuing at least in the short period for the U.S. and a number of her trading allies.

Few realize that there are certain economic LAWS in motion that regulate business conditions.

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

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

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

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

"I saw some of you businessmen smile, a year

ago, when I warned you of the coming economic tragedy," he said. "Now let me tell you WHY I knew what was coming, and you didn't. When you want to know what is the temperature in the room, now, you look at the thermometer on the wall. But if you want to know what the temperature *will be*, an hour or two from now, the thermometer can't tell you. You go down to the boiler room, or consult the U.S. Weather Bureau. You look to the factors that *determine* conditions, not the thermometer that records conditions after they have occurred.

"You gentlemen looked at charts of current business activity, at bank clearings, records of freight car loadings, the stock market quotations—the thermometers on the wall.

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

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

In my 52 years in God's ministry I have seen these laws *actually work* in the experiences of many people whom I have known personally. I have experienced their relentless working *in my own life!* I had to learn this lesson *the hard way*, myself!

I have often mentioned in articles in *The Plain Truth* how God struck me down, not physically, but *economically*, to bring me to him. That very depression of 1920 destroyed my business. Everything I touched turned *not* to gold like "King Midas," but to loss of and lack of money. It was in poverty and hunger that God actually *conquered* me, and turned me to him, giving my life to him, over 56 years ago.

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

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

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

I *had* learned the lesson of FAITH. I trusted God implicitly to “*supply every need*,” as he has promised (Phil. 4:19, RSV). But I had another lesson to learn.

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

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

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

Since that time I have known of similar experiences of scores of other people.

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

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

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

Almost daily, some television or radio listener, reader of *The Plain Truth*, or co-worker in this Work writes me a letter telling of a similar experience—beginning to pay God's honest TITHE, and beginning to PROSPER financially.

Now don't get the idea from this that in *every* case God is going to work some incredible

miracle. Don't get the idea that if you *try* tithing, you are to expect some astounding thing to happen—or that you are going to fall heir to a million dollars the next day. Perhaps in most cases the increase in income is not immediately apparent at all.

But of this, you MAY BE SURE! Over the long haul, the 90 percent of income God allows you to keep for yourself will increase to *more* than the 100 percent formerly was. God PROMISES to bless and prosper the tither! God KEEPS his promises!

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

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

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

All God's spiritual law may be summed up in one word—LOVE. But Jesus magnified this into the two great laws—love to God and love to human NEIGHBOR. Love is the principle of GIVING. Jesus summed up the reason for it when he said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” God knows, and reveals, that we receive a greater blessing by giving than by acquiring. God wants us to have blessings!

People, too, really *want* blessings, but few know the way. Most people think the greater blessing comes from receiving—getting—taking—acquiring. The WAY of most people today is to try to *get* more than they *give*. Formerly, employers cared more about getting from labor than what they paid employees in wages. So labor organized. Then the labor union principle seemed to be to get more in wages than they gave in production from their labor. Less work—more pay!

We talk, today, about owning property. But God actually *owns* all the earth. That includes the property on which you pay taxes. God says the EARTH is his—for he *created it!* God OWNS it. He lets us occupy HIS earth, as temporary tenants. All wealth comes from the ground. It is not good for man to take all he consumes out of God's earth without paying anything for it! If you rent ground from a MAN who *thinks* he owns it, he charges you rent—up to 50 percent or more of what you produce from it.

God set a LAW in motion—that we should pay him, not 50 percent, but *only* 10 percent, plus whatever offering we have in our hearts to *give*. Now a LAW is not a law without a *penalty*. God does not *force* you to tithe. But if you don't, there is a penalty! You lose the BLESSING that goes with honest stewardship. You come under a CURSE (Mal. 3:9). Too many people have *robbed God*. The man who does (Continued on page 43)

Behind the Pope's SPIRITUAL OFFENSIVE in Eastern Europe

by Gene H. Hogberg

Few comprehend the long-term objectives of Pope John Paul II with regard to Poland and all of Eastern—and Western—Europe.

THERE IS no doubt about it now. As a result of his dramatic trip to his Polish homeland last June, Pope John Paul II is firmly established as the most charismatic leader in the Western world.

The televised spectacle of his performance before millions of Poles over eight days elevated the Pope, said one American newsman, to the status of a "spiritual superpower."

Once again the Polish-born Pope showed his capacity to speak out with boldness—but with canny political caution at the same time.

At no time, despite criticism from Polish Communist authorities that his messages were becoming "too political," did the Pope preach revolution. Yet the Pontiff was unmistakably clear in speaking out on what



Pope John Paul II waves to crowd at Czestochowa, main stop on his recent tour of Poland.

he felt were the "sovereign rights" of the Polish people.

On day two of his visit, the Pontiff told Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski in Warsaw that Poland had a right to "her proper place among the nations of Europe, *between the East and the West.*" He reminded General Jaruzelski that Pope Paul VI had stated that "Poland has a right to sovereign existence."

On Sunday, June 19, the Pope returned powerfully to the "Poland is sovereign" theme. On this day, the official highpoint of the trip, the Pope celebrated mass at the 600-year-old monastery of Jasna Gora in Czestochowa, site of Poland's most venerable shrine, the Black Madonna icon.

"As children of God, we cannot be slaves," the Pontiff told a million Poles standing before him in a driving rain. "The nation has a *right* to live in freedom. This . . . means the right to decide for oneself as a community, determined by a unity of culture, language and history."

Polish society, declared the Pope, has a "*strict right* to whatever ensures its own unique identity."

Polish society, declared the Pope, has a "*strict right* to whatever ensures its own unique identity."

ty.” He then explained what constitutes Poland’s uniqueness. “After 1,000 years of historic experience, this nation has its own life, its culture, social traditions and *spiritual identity*.”

Catholicism is completely bound up with the culture of Poland and gives the nation its “spiritual identity.” To be a Pole is to *be* a Roman Catholic. Poland has been Catholic

tic uprising in 1863. The two heroes, said the Pope, started “on the path to holiness” by joining the uprising.

“Deal” Struck with Government

Given the Pope’s bold statements regarding Poland’s distinct national identity, the immediate outcome of the papal trip surprised not a few observers.

Communist authorities? First of all, the two sides agreed to establish a church-funded foundation to channel millions of Western dollars into loans and grants to boost the depressed Polish economy, especially agriculture.

Another agreement that arose from the Pope’s trip, Vatican sources admitted, was that the church would work with the government to create a new trade union founded along the lines of Solidarity, but most probably with a different name and led by someone other than Mr. Walesa, with whom the Polish government refuses to deal.

Regarding the first, and perhaps major, facet of the arrangement, the country’s Communist rulers have agreed in principle on an unprecedented church-controlled foundation to channel a minimum of \$2 billion worth of Western equipment and supplies to Polish farmers. The existence of such a foundation, controlled by an agency outside of the government, is believed to be a first in



The Pope twice conferred with Poland’s Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski, photo left. The Church apparently agreed with the government on several key issues, including that of establishing a new labor union to replace the banned Solidarity organization.

for more than a millennium, Communist (in vaneer form only) for but 38 years.

So, while the Communist government complained of political meddling, the Pope justifiably claimed his words were religious and pastoral in nature, since Poland’s Catholic religion and cultural heritage are really one and the same. Where, in the case of Poland, does religion leave off and politics begin?

Two ceremonies conducted by the Pope on the last stop of his trip represented another bold assertion of Poland’s national identity.

In the Krakow suburb of Nowa Huta, John Paul consecrated a second church built by parishioners. Nowa Huta, a steel town, had been designed after World War II as a model communist community without churches.

And in Krakow, the Pope beatified two Poles who fought the Russians in an unsuccessful nationalis-

The day after the trip ended, the broad outlines of a compromise package between the Vatican and Poland’s Communist government began to emerge.

The two meetings between the Pope and Prime Minister Jaruzelski and the more important high-level Vatican-Warsaw negotiations undertaken weeks, and in some cases months before the Pope’s trip, laid the foundation.

As a result, the Solidarity labor union movement, though publicly praised by the Pope, has been left to wither on the vine, along with its charismatic leader, Lech Walesa. The church, which had been eclipsed as the moral force in Poland by the meteoric rise of Solidarity, is once more back in the saddle—“the only alternative centre of authority to a dictatorial regime,” reported the June 25 lead editorial in *The Economist* of Britain.

What was the deal reached between the Vatican and Poland’s

any Soviet bloc country.

Hella Pick, who covered the Pope’s trip for the British newspaper *The Guardian*, took note in that paper’s June 24 edition of the Catholic Church’s growing political role—and of the Pope’s political astuteness:

“The visit has shown that a large part of the Polish nation regards the pope as its natural moral leader. Also, despite the Vatican’s protestations, it is evident that *the pope expects the Church to play a major political role*—in sharp contrast to the views he has expressed about political activism among priests in Latin America.”

The papal trip, continued Ms. Pick, “was not an overt anti-Communist crusade. The pope is far too subtle. . . . Couched in Christian ethics, laced with quotations from the Scriptures, and with many examples of Polish valour against its oppressors throughout history, the
(Continued on page 39)

What Teachers Wish Parents Knew About School

by John Halford and Dan Taylor

WHAT can you do to help your child in school?

There is a crisis in education. High schools are graduating illiterates. Major universities and technical institutes find themselves having to teach remedial math and language courses. Teachers are accused of being incompetent.

The declining standard of schools is becoming a major issue in Europe and North America.

And your children are caught in the middle!

What—if anything—can *you* do to help your children make the most of their educational opportunities?

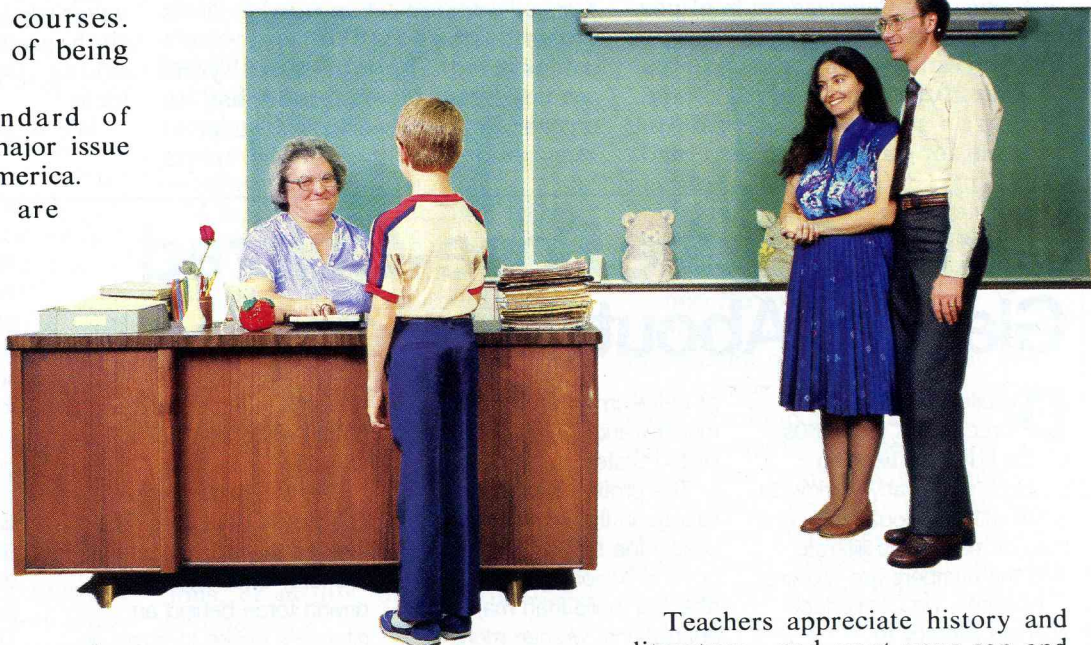
It is time that many of our readers ask themselves this question. It is too easy just to blame teachers, schools or administrations when our children bring home failing grades. While it is true that some teachers are not the most skillful, some children are clearly able to learn from them. And even though many schools do not have the best facilities, some children manage to get an education there and go on to graduate from college and university with honors.

Why? Because what happens at

school is only one part of the education process. You, the parent, also have a vital part in determining your children's success at school.

To prepare this article, we asked teachers what they wished parents knew about school and education. You will find the answers reveal-

in their work. They are competent and dedicated. They resent the slurs that they are just "in it for the money," or because of the "long vacations." They enjoy working with children and are eager to teach them to read, write and do arithmetic.



ing—and encouraging. They will show you that there *is* something you can do. It does not cost money. It needn't wait for government intervention. But it may make the difference between children failing or succeeding in school.

You may not have realized it, but your children's teachers want your help. Most teachers take pride

Teachers appreciate history and literature—and want your son and daughter to appreciate them too. They are fascinated by the world of science—and they want to share it with your children. They have talents that allow them to excel in music and sports. Nothing gives them greater satisfaction than helping others develop those same talents.

But there are some things that

are not fundamentally a teacher's responsibility. These must be taught at home. Here, then is what teachers wish *parents* would teach their children to help them do better in school.

Teach Your Children to Value Education

Come for a moment to the streets of a provincial town in Haiti—one of the world's poorest countries. Night has fallen, and the town engineers have once again managed to coax a creaky old diesel generator into life. It isn't powerful, but that doesn't matter—most houses aren't wired for electricity anyway. There are a few lamps on the main street trying to pierce the gloom with hesitant light. Beneath those lamps, squatting on the sidewalk and sitting on the potholed road, are dozens of students. They are reading and studying—taking advantage of the precious hours of light before the generator breaks down once again.

These young people value education. They know that learning is a way out of the endless cycle of poverty that has gripped their families for generations.

Thankfully, most of our readers aren't in this situation. Schools for our children are read-

ily available, and our homes can be flooded with light at the touch of a switch. But do those who live in such homes value education as much as those poor Haitians? All too often the answer is no. Teachers today say that many students simply lack the interest and motivation to learn.

Do you realize how easy it is to make your home an environment that can *poison* your children's desire to become educated? So often, our own educational experiences were negative. Perhaps your parents came up in the school of hard knocks and therefore had little use for book learning. Maybe you are a high school dropout and there was never enough money to send you to college or to help you get professional training. And so today you are locked into a job that is boring and dead end. You are embarrassed and frustrated as younger people get the promotions and opportunities for which you cannot qualify.

People like this often hide their inferiority by showing a contempt for education. Certainly it is embarrassing when you can't understand the questions your teenage son or daughter has to answer for homework. It's easier to bury your ignorance in the sports

page or a soap opera or make some disparaging comments like, "Where do you think that stuff is going to get you?" That is also the best way to demonstrate to your children that education doesn't matter to you. So why should it matter to them?

Teachers wish parents would keep learning. They wish their students could see Mom and Dad sit down and study something from time to time. They wish that you had a few books in the house, or a set of children's encyclopedias, so that you could show your youngsters how to get answers. Or if you can't afford books, teachers would like you to take the children to the library occasionally. If you don't know how to use it, most librarians would be delighted to show you. They won't make you feel foolish for asking. *They* value education too much.

But tragically, many adults have stopped learning. They hardly ever read a book or a worthwhile magazine. Their curiosity and sense of wonder have died, and the children never see them learn anything. As a sixth grader told us, "It's no use asking Dad—he *never* has any ideas."

We were made to grow through-
(Continued on page 41)

Taking Off the Rose-Colored Glasses About Illiteracy

Despite the optimistic forecasts of the 1960s by the U.N., the nagging problem of illiteracy worldwide is still with us. Today, fully one third of mankind is illiterate. And the numbers are growing.

Normally, we comfortably attribute illiteracy to populations in desperately poor areas. But what is frightening is that thousands of unmotivated young people leave schools in the wealthier areas of the world with barely adequate or inadequate reading and writing skills.

Estimates put the number of illiterates in Western Europe

at between 10 and 15 million—and 23 million in the United States.

The profile of the average illiterate in the industrial world is also the familiar pattern of poverty. Minorities are affected more than majority populations, women more than men and rural more than urban residents.

The economic costs of illiteracy are high. Many illiterates resign themselves to low-paying jobs. Others simply opt for government assistance. One estimate fixes the cost of welfare and unemployment programs for

illiterates in the United States at \$6,000,000,000 annually.

The toll, in human terms, can be equally costly. The feelings of inadequacy and inferiority often become a driving force behind an illiterate's desire to cover up his handicap. Some who read or write inadequately are always "forgetting their glasses" or "getting a nasty cut on their writing hand" in order to avoid exposing themselves to possible ridicule. Their fear promises a life filled with anxiety.

Mankind has made awesome progress—but only in certain areas. The computer age promises a host of jobs. But unless a literate population is there from which to draw employees, the computer boom may be a bust.

Those young functionally illiterate "graduates" and dropouts soon discover that life is not one party after another or a football game. They too resign themselves to low-paying jobs and poverty. Unless more parents become active in their child's education, to motivate their child and teach him to appreciate education, we may very well see a whole generation that is always "forgetting their glasses."

—Dan Taylor

THE MARK OF A GREAT MIND

by Donald D. Schroeder

Do you know what the mark of greatness is?

WHO hasn't been insulted at some time? Or threatened or falsely accused?

Perhaps we experience situations where individuals are rude or abusive to us, lacking tact or consideration in what they say or do. Perhaps on crowded roads or highways inconsiderate persons suddenly swerve in front of us.

How do we respond to such irritating situations?

Many respond with an impulsive burst of rage or anger: "He can't do that to me! I'll show him . . .!" Then suddenly, a nasty verbal exchange, or worse, a serious accident or injury is generated.

The news media are filled with accounts of human tragedy caused by lack of emotional control under unpleasant situations. Many family and personal problems, costly work mishaps and even senseless killings result.

Harmful Emotional Habits

All of us from time to time face the need to learn control of our emotions under difficult circumstances. Such control is the mark of a great mind.

The Bible repeatedly admonishes us to be *slow to anger*. "A man of quick temper acts foolishly, but a man of discretion is patient." "He who is slow to anger has *great understanding*, but he who has a hasty temper exalts folly." "He who rules his spirit [is better] than

he who takes a city" (Prov. 14:17, 29; 16:32, RSV).

Slow to anger? Patient and controlling thoughts and emotions under duress? How do we achieve these qualities of character? What values, understanding and attitudes produce them?

The Bible reveals there is a right time and place for anger (Eph. 4:26). But how do we control our temper when confronted with someone's insults or rudeness or lack of consideration? How can we control emotions under trying personal difficulties so we don't descend into the pit of resentment, bitterness or depression?

What we need is the right spiritual perspective, attitude and power of mind! What we need is a positive and loving perspective about today's confused world and the people in it. We need a right perspective about personal problems and difficulties that will enable us to cope with them in a beneficial way.

Why Try?

Some may ask, "Why should I try to quit blowing up under frustrations, or insults, or from mistakes of others?"

We all need to for very important reasons. First, without human effort to control anger and damaging emotions, the glue of social cooperation and trust quickly breaks down.

For another, learning to properly control and express our emotions saves us an enormous amount of wear and tear on our—and other people's—health and energy. It

helps us find and work out constructive solutions to upsetting situations and problems. And it may prevent our losing a job, or save our marriage, or even save life—perhaps by helping avoid a costly accident, or avoid provoking a reprisal from someone.

But there is a far greater reason for disciplining one's temper and emotions. There is a great purpose in human life! God created humanity with an awesome potential. That potential is the capacity, with God's help, to develop the kind of character God has.

"Let us make man in our image," said the Creator (Gen. 1:26). God first made man in his physical image. God also intended mankind to develop character after his spiritual image—his character.

In the Bible the Creator reveals knowledge of how this great character can be developed. This knowledge mankind must know so as to live abundantly and peacefully with others and in his environment.

Without developing right self-control and character no one can be given great powers—not in this physical life nor as future rulers in God's soon-coming kingdom.

How do we develop this mind? What are its qualities? To appreciate the greatness of these qualities we must understand the qualities and causes of wrong attitudes and character.

True Cause of Man's Problems

Most of man's mental and emotional problems are *spiritual* in nature. Our dealings with other humans

are spiritual matters. Problems between individuals are caused by wrong spiritual attitudes of mind on the part of one or both individuals.

There are, in addition, numerous poor health conditions or bad personal living habits that can increase our sensitivity to irritation or lower our ability to cope with stress and difficulties.

The Creator has set dynamic physical and spiritual laws in motion. If we violate these laws—if we are in poor health, under prolonged stress, failing to get sufficient sleep, eating a bad diet or are abusing drugs (including alcohol)—we will eventually suffer adverse effects on our attitudes and emotions.

But even if we are in good health, when we allow wrong spiritual attitudes such as hate, fear, lust, bitterness or unforgiveness to take root in our minds, we will suffer mental and emotional penalties.

Many fail to understand that what is involved is more than just humans naturally allowing their minds to think in negative or hostile channels.

The apostle Paul explained to Ephesian Christians why they, before conversion, were blinded to God's spiritual law and lived in sin. It was because they "walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit

casts his harmful attitudes of jealousy, pride, resentment of authority, lawlessness, bitterness and hate into vulnerable human minds.

We have also been influenced by humans and cultures permeated with these attitudes. If we constantly yield to damaging attitudes, moods or desires they become vicious habits of mind and emotion.

What are these damaging emotions, attitudes and characteristics? And what, by contrast, are the characteristics of a great mind—as God, not man or human cultures, looks at it?

Both are clearly identified in the Bible.

Spiritual Attitudes Contrasted

Here is the great contrast!

"Now the works of the flesh [the natural human mind yielding to wrong pulls] are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness [physical and moral], licentiousness [being without law], idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders. . . ."

But diametrically opposite, "the fruit of [God's] Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law" (Gal. 5:19-23, RAV). These are the spiritual attitudes we need to develop properly our minds and emotions. They are the marks of a great mind!

The Great Qualities

Note again these great qualities and their basic meaning:

LOVE: The Scriptures reveal true love has a two-fold application. First it is deep respect, honor and

worship of our Great Creator who gives us every good thing, every good law and every wonderful purpose that we can experience or hope in. And then true love is respect and concern for the well-being and development of other human beings created in the image of God, each having great human and spiritual potential.

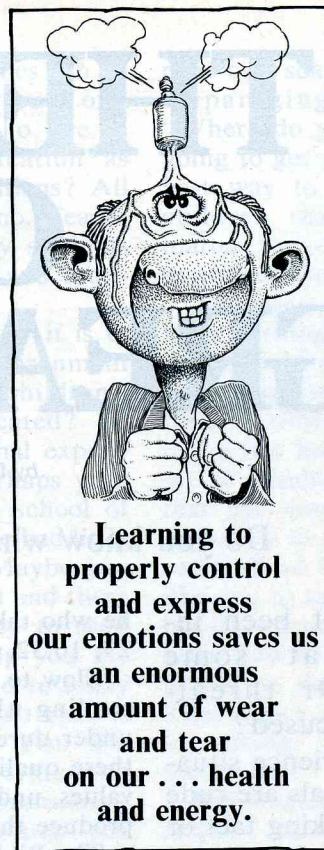
Joy: This is great happiness of mind in appreciation of God's plan, not only for us, but for all mankind. It is joy for the great riches of God's mercy and forgive-

ness of our sins as we repent. True joy recognizes and appreciates every good thing, physical and spiritual, that God gives us. Moreover, joy results from knowing God will work out all our problems, no matter how difficult at the moment, for our eternal good if we remain faithful to him. It is knowing for certainty, if we endure in obedience to God, that beyond all present problems, even loss of our life, an eternal kingdom of happiness, love, peace and power in constructive service to God and others awaits.

PEACE: This is peace with God, with fellowman, with ourselves. We know our sins are forgiven. We're not plagued with guilt. It means we're not thinking or desiring to sin or hurt others, including those who seek to hurt or harm us.

LONGSUFFERING: This is also sometimes called patience in Scripture. This is a willingness to quietly endure or suffer discomfort or pain caused by others' mistakes or our own. But it is not fatalism. It is knowing that one builds great character by doing what is right to *resolve* a difficult situation despite temptations to do otherwise.

KINDNESS: This is looking for a way of being constructive to others in all of our social relationships.



Learning to properly control and express our emotions saves us an enormous amount of wear and tear on our . . . health and energy.

If we constantly yield to damaging attitudes, moods or desires they become vicious habits of mind and emotion.



[Satan] who now works in the sons of disobedience" (Eph. 2:2, RAV).

All of us have allowed various degrees of Satan's attitudes into our minds. Satan bombards the earth's atmosphere, literally broad-

GOODNESS: This is doing the right thing because we discern right and wrong by understanding the true application of God's laws.

FAITHFULNESS: This is sticking with our commitments and responsibilities to God, a mate or fellow-man despite pressures to do otherwise. It is knowing God is the Author of faith. He sticks to his promises if we do our part.

GENTLENESS: This is being aware that others have shortcomings and sensitivities and using tact and consideration in our basic approach to them.

SELF-CONTROL: This means we recognize anything can be misused or abused. And that there are some things we must totally avoid because God reveals in Scripture they are wrong. Other things we are permitted to use, we use in moderation.

Note how I Corinthians, chapter 13, describes the great mind motivated and empowered by God's love: "Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own [welfare only], is not [easily] provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things [in God's Word], hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails" (verses 4-8, RAV).

Difficult, But Not Impossible

You may say, "It's humanly impossible to be all that." It's true.

These qualities are not natural to the human mind. They cannot be perfected by human strength alone. They are qualities of God's mind and Spirit. They must be developed over a lifetime. God is the Master Potter. We are the clay if we will yield and obey (Isa. 64:8).

But there are conditions before God gives us his help and power to develop a great mind. God gives his Spirit to those who repent of their sinful attitudes and character and are willing to obey him and be baptized as God instructs (Acts 2:38, 5:32).

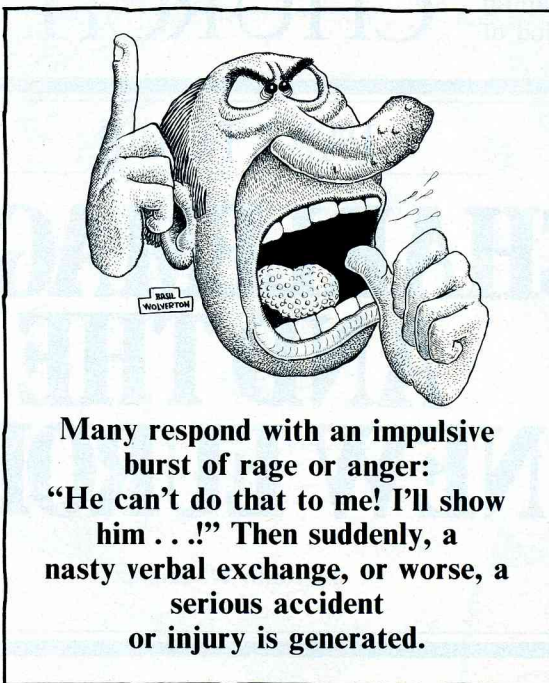
How We Build Great Qualities

God's Word, the Bible, is spiritual food in written form. We need

God's Spirit to properly understand, value and obey it.

God's Word and Spirit work hand in hand. Together they lead repentant minds in attitudes of mercy, forgiveness, forbearance, patience and self-control—attitudes we need to properly control our thinking and emotions under trials and problems. God's Spirit will empower us to express attitudes of respect, concern and consideration for others—including those who try to abuse us.

But we must be diligent to do



our part. We must earnestly seek and be strengthened by God's Spirit through daily humble prayer. We must also drink in and yield to God's instructions in Scripture. We then begin to develop a totally different attitude and outlook on the world and other human beings. We begin to see them as God sees them in their potential—even if they are presently unconverted or are spiritually blind to their wrong ways.

Christ taught us when others abuse, insult or mistreat us, "Pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you" (Matt. 5:44, RAV).

What does that do? It puts our mind and motivation on concern for the ultimate well-being of others. By keeping this spiritual perspective in

mind we can be more patient with fellow human beings who make mistakes or insult us. We want mercy and patience for our mistakes and weaknesses. Love directs us to exercise it toward others.

If we lack wisdom to know how to handle difficult or upsetting personal problems, we can ask God. He promises the wisdom we need if we seek to apply his love and trust him to guide us (Jas. 1:5-6).

Our Perfect Example

The most perfect man who ever lived, Jesus Christ, faced in one form or another the trying situations and temptations we face in our lives. He was tempted in all points like we are (Heb. 4:15). "Who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but *committed Himself to Him who judges righteously*" (I Pet. 2:21-23, RAV).

Christ set us the example. He was filled with God's spiritual perspective and power. Christ knew the utter deception the whole world was under. He was merciful to persons who sinned against him because of their spiritual blindness.

This is how Christ was able to suffer insults. This is why he did not let the mockings of the gentiles and, finally, the cruel scourging and crucifixion destroy him emotionally and spiritually. Just before he died on the stake he prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do" (Luke 23:34, RAV).

How unlike so many humans. Millions are angry, bitter or resentful persons. Many of them don't understand the real reasons why. Many have tried to mentally block out past sins, or deep hurts and disappointments in life without resolving them as God instructs. They may be hurts from their own mistakes or hurts caused by parents, friends, a mate or a boss.

Such hurt persons are often
(Continued on page 44)

JUSTINIAN'S restoration of the Roman Empire in the West in A.D. 554 is a landmark in history. For a brief moment, both "legs" of the old Roman Empire—East and West—are under his personal control.

But Justinian's history-making restoration barely survives him.

With the great Emperor's death, the Eastern Empire, with its capital at Byzantium, falls into a period of weakness and decline.

At home, civil and religious strife tear at the fabric of society. To the east, the Persians renew their wars. To the west, the Germanic Lombards invade and conquer much of Italy.

Justinian's "Imperial Restoration" crumbles into the dustbin of history.

Though dying of lethargy, the Eastern Roman Empire, long since known as Byzantium, continues to be recognized as the eastern successor of the old Roman Empire. This weakened eastern leg will stand precariously for another millennium.

Meanwhile, papal Rome turns its eyes toward Western Europe. There, a powerful kingdom to the northwest is on the rise—the kingdom of the Franks. The Franks earlier had settled along the Rhine after migrating up the Danube River.

It will be under Frankish tutelage that the western leg of the Roman Empire will rediscover its vitality and strength.

The Long-haired Kings

The Frankish tribes are ruled by a royal family of kings known as the Merovingians. The Merovingians claim direct descent from the royal house of ancient Troy.

The Merovingian rulers possess an unusual mark of authority. All the kings of this dynasty wear *long*

THE HISTORY OF EUROPE & THE CHURCH

PART FOUR

CHARLEMAGNE AND THE NEW EUROPE

by Keith W. Stump

Editor's Note: We continue our series of articles examining the centuries-long association between Europe and the Church. Our first three installments covered the story to the death of Emperor Justinian in A.D. 565. Part Four examines the important events of the succeeding three centuries.

hair. They believe that their uncut locks are the secret of their kingly power, reminiscent of the nazirite vow of Samson in the Old Testament (Judges 13:5; 16:17; see also Numbers 6:5).

The Merovingian dynasty had been founded by Clodion in A.D. 427. But its most famous ruler is Clovis (481-511). Later historians will consider Clovis to have been the founder of the Frankish kingdom.

On December 25, 496, Clovis is baptized a Catholic, along with 3,000 of his warriors. He thereby

becomes the first Catholic king of the Franks and the only orthodox Christian ruler in the West.

Upon Clovis' death in 511, his kingdom is divided among his sons, who further enlarge its borders. The Frankish kingdom rapidly becomes the West's most powerful realm.

With the passage of time, however, the old line of Frankish kings grows weak. The decadent Merovingian kings succumb to luxurious living. They will be designated by French historians as *les rois fainènt*—"the enfeebled kings."

During this period, the real power of the Frankish kingdom lies in the hands of the court chancellors, who are known as *major domus regiae*, or "mayors of the palace."

"God's Anointed"

It is now 751. Pepin (or Pippin), surnamed *Le Bref* ("the Short"), holds the office of mayor of the palace under the Merovingian king. Pepin, of course, is also a German Frank by blood and speech.

Pepin the Short is ambitious. He is not content to be merely the king's chief minister

or viceroy. He covets the office of king itself.

Pepin asks Pope Zacharias for an opinion on the legitimacy of his bid. The Pope replies that "it is better that the man who has the real power should have the title of king instead of the man who has the mere title but no power."

In November 751, Archbishop Boniface, the papal legate, anoints Pepin king of the Franks at a gathering of Frankish nobles in the Merovingian capital at Soissons. Pepin is now "God's anointed"

Emperor Charlemagne as portrayed in a 14th-century reliquary (a container for religious objects) found today in the Cathedral Treasure at Aachen. Charlemagne revived the tradition of the Roman Caesars and restored the Roman Empire in Western Europe.



and the Merovingian king Childeric III is deposed and imprisoned. His sacred flowing hair is ritually shorn by the command of Pope Stephen II (752-757). The power of the Merovingians is broken!

Childeric is sent to a monastery for the rest of his days. The Merovingian bloodline, however, will survive, through intermarriage, in the line of the dukes of Hapsburg-Lorraine.

The Merovingians have reigned by right of conquest. But Pepin has now assumed the sovereignty *in the name of God*. He believes it is God's will that his family rule the Franks. Pepin accordingly styles himself *rex gratia Dei* ("king by the grace of God"), a title retained by his successors.

Pepin's new dynasty will be known as the Carolingians. The name derives from Pepin's father, Charles (*Carolus*) Martel, who had been mayor of the palace before him.

It had been Charles Martel ("the Hammer") who saved Europe from the invading Saracens at Tours, in France, in October 732. By that momentous victory, the Franks had become widely recognized as the real defenders of Christendom. The Papacy had long since realized that Constantinople could defend no one.

Lombard Threat

The Church now looks to the Carolingians for protection against the Germanic Lombards, who are occupying much of Italy—and want the rest!

The situation becomes desperate. As the Lombards threaten Rome, Pope Stephen II sets out across the stormy Alps in November 753. His goal is Pepin's winter camp.

The Pope asks Pepin to come to his aid. The Church must be protected from the encroachment of the Lombards!

At the same time, Pope Stephen personally anoints and crowns Pepin, and blesses Pepin's sons and heirs.

The Franks answer the call. Pepin invades Italy and defeats the Lombards. He then confers the conquered Lombard territory upon the Pope (754). This gift of rescued lands is called the "Donation of

Pepin." It cements the alliance between the Carolingians and the Church.

(The Donation of Pepin is not to be confused with the fictitious "Donation of Constantine," a forgery also dating from about this time. This document—whose falsity will not be proved for another 700 years—ostensibly came from the pen of the Emperor Constantine himself early in the fourth century, when he moved to the new capital of Constantinople. The document purports to be an offer from Constantine to Pope Sylvester I and his successors of temporal rulership over Rome, over Italy and over most territories of the Western world! Believed to be genuine, the parchment carries vast implications and bolsters significantly the prestige and authority of the Papacy.)

New King

Pepin dies in 768. His sons Charles (Karl) and Carloman jointly succeed to the Frankish throne.

In 771, Carloman dies suddenly, and Charles becomes sole king of the Franks.

Though only 29 years old, Charles is an imposing figure. He literally *exudes* power and authority!

Charles is 7 feet tall—well over a foot above average height—and robust. He is stately and dignified in bearing, but is known for his warm-heartedness and charity. He speaks a type of Old High German.

But most important, he is a zealous and dedicated Catholic Christian!

Now in undisputed possession of the Frankish throne, Charles directs his efforts against the enemies of his kingdom. His great goal is to reestablish the political unity that had existed in Europe before the invasions of the fifth century.

He first launches a campaign against the fierce Saxons, who are threatening his frontiers. The Saxons are the last great pagan German nation. During the next three decades, Charles will wage 18 campaigns in his costly and bitter struggle against the stubborn Saxons. In 804 they will finally be Christianized at the point of the sword and incorporated into his empire.

Charles also undertakes campaigns against the Bavarians,

Avars, Slavs, Bretons, Arabs and numerous other peoples. During his long career, he will conduct 53 expeditions and war against 12 different nations! And in the process he will unite by conquest nearly all the lands of Western Europe into one political unit.

Urgent Plea

Pepin had delivered a crushing defeat to the Lombards, but he had not totally subdued them. The Church is now threatened once more. Rome needs a champion!

In 772, Charles receives an urgent plea for aid from Pope Adrian I, whose territories have been invaded by Desiderius, king of the Lombards.

Charles crosses the Alps from Geneva with two armies. In 774 he decisively overthrows the kingdom of the Lombards, deposes Desiderius and proclaims himself sovereign of the Lombards.

Charles is now master of Italy!

Charles takes the title *Rex Francorum et Longobardorum atque Patricius Romanorum* ("King of the Franks and Lombards and Patrician of the Romans"). The famous "iron crown" of the Lombards—which will become one of the great historic symbols of Europe—is placed upon Charles' head. It will be used in subsequent centuries by Napoleon and other sovereigns of Europe.

Charles confirms and expands the Donation made to the Papacy by his father. This territory will later be known as the States of the Church.

Italy is again united for the first time in centuries. Charles is heralded as defender of the Church and guardian of the Christian faith. The Frankish monarchy and the Papacy stand in partnership against the enemies of civilization!

Charles is now the most conspicuous ruler in Europe. History will know him as Charlemagne—"Charles the Great."

Papal Misconduct?

It is 795. There is a new Pope—Leo III—in Rome. He immediately recognizes Charles as *patricius* of the Romans.

By now, Western Christendom fully recognizes the bishop of Rome

as its head. But there are elements within the city of Rome itself that wish to see Leo deposed and another candidate crowned as Pope in his stead.

In the spring of 799, Pope Leo is accused of misconduct. Adultery, perjury and simony are among the charges. He is driven out of Rome by an insurrection, and is granted refuge at the court of Charlemagne, protector of the Holy See.

Charlemagne reserves judgment, and has Leo escorted back to Rome. In November 800, Charlemagne himself comes to Rome to investigate the charges. A bishop's commission of inquiry into Leo's conduct is set up. Charlemagne presides over the tribunal.

Pope Leo swears on the Gospels that he is innocent of the crimes alleged against him. The judgment of the tribunal is in his favor. Leo is formally cleared and reinstated on December 23.

On the same day, emissaries from Harun al-Rashid, caliph of Baghdad, arrive in Rome with the keys to the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. (Jerusalem lies within the extensive domains of the caliph.) The keys are officially presented to Charlemagne. This act symbolizes the Moslem caliph's recognition of Charlemagne as protector of Christians and Christian properties.

Central Event

Charlemagne remains in Rome for the Christmas holidays. On Christmas Day, A.D. 800, the king of the Franks attends a service in St. Peter's Basilica on Vatican Hill.

The stage is now set for one of the great scenes of all history.

Charlemagne kneels before the altar in worship. There is a dramatic hush in the church. As the great king rises, Pope Leo, without warning, suddenly turns around and places a golden crown on the monarch's head!

Immediately the assembled people cry in unison: "Long life and victory to Charles Augustus,

crowned by God, great and peace-giving Emperor of the Romans!"

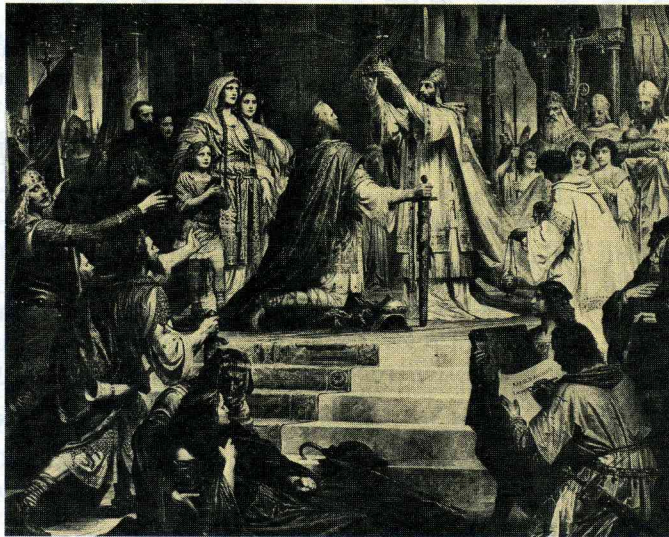
The Pope has crowned Charlemagne as *imperator Romanorum*—"Emperor of the Romans"!

Something profound has occurred. The West once more has an emperor!

Historians will look back on this as the *central event* of the entire Middle Ages.

Christian Caesar

The coronation of Charlemagne marks the restoration of the Western Roman Empire—the first revival of Roman Europe since Justinian.



Coronation of Charlemagne in Rome by Pope Leo III in A.D. 800 is the central event of the Middle Ages.

Charlemagne is now officially a successor of the Roman emperors. The tradition of the Roman Caesars is revived. In Charlemagne, Western Europe now has a Christian Caesar—a Roman emperor born of *German* race!

The act also demonstrates that the memory of the once-great Roman Empire still lives as a vital tradition in the hearts of Europeans.

Historians will view Charlemagne's coronation as the beginning of what will be known as the Holy Roman Empire. The political foundation of the Middle Ages has been laid!

Charlemagne is ruler of nearly all the territories that had once constituted the Western Roman Empire. He has more than doubled

the territory he had inherited from his father and brother. All France, nearly all of Germany and Austria, and all of Italy except the kingdom of Naples are his!

Under Charlemagne's scepter Western Europe for the first time in centuries has something approaching unity. A new Roman Empire—a new Europe—has been born!

In 803, Charlemagne will stamp on his seal the words *Renovatio Romani Imperii*—"Renewal of the Roman Empire."

Papal "Coup"

There is yet another significance to the events of December 25, A.D. 800.

Charlemagne has received the imperial crown *at the hands of the Pope!* The populace see it as having come from God.

The message is clear to all: The imperial crown is a *papal gift*. The kingdoms of this earth belong to the bishop of Rome; they are his to give—and to take away!

This assertion will often be challenged in following centuries, and will have tragic consequences when kings and Popes wage war against each other. But it leaves an indelible impression on the minds of Europeans.

Charlemagne has been taken unawares. He is reported to have grumbled that he would not have gone to church on that day if he had known the Pope's intentions.

The Emperor is not unhappy about being emperor. His misgivings are over the *manner* of the coronation. He has *won* his empire on the battlefield through military genius; he does not owe it to a Pope. Yet Leo has made it to appear so!

Whatever his doubts, Charlemagne makes no protest. He quietly accepts the imperial crown from Leo.

The Pope has cleverly executed a "coup." In the eyes of all, the Papacy has been symbolically exalted above the authority of the secular

power. A great legal precedent has been set.

Charlemagne holds no grudge. Pope and Emperor have too many interests in common to permit ill-feeling to exist. There has been a "marriage" formally linking the spiritual power of the Pope with the temporal power of the Emperor. The two are joint sovereigns on earth.

New Society

As head of the recreated empire of the West, Charlemagne presides over a new society born of the union of Roman and German elements. Charlemagne is a German, but he is inspired with the spirit of Rome.

The Emperor organizes his empire on the pattern of the old Roman model. He prizes the traditions of ancient Roman civilization. His Romano-Germanic society will set a precedent for future European monarchs.

Charlemagne's capital is the German city of Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle). Following his coronation, the Emperor spends the remaining years of his reign there in comparative quiet. He becomes a patron of learning and the arts, importing scholars from throughout Europe to study and teach at his court.

In 812—two years before his death—Charlemagne receives news from the East. Eastern Emperor Michael I at Constantinople has swallowed his pride and recognized Charlemagne as co-emperor. The equality of the two halves of the Empire is now official.

For all intents and purposes, however, the two "legs" of the Empire are completely autonomous. A plan had been conceived shortly after Charlemagne's coronation to combine his empire with the Byzantine empire through his marriage to the Eastern Empress Irene (780-802). But the plan failed when she was overthrown.

"King Father of Europe"

During the last four years of his life, Charlemagne is subject to frequent fevers. On the 28th day of January, in the year 814, the great Emperor dies at nine o'clock in the morning. His death occurs in the

72nd year of his life, and the 47th of his reign.

The Emperor is buried in the church he built at Aachen, sitting upright with sword in hand. His mammoth achievements will be lauded in popular legend and poetry for centuries to come.

Charlemagne has not ended an age; he has begun one. He will be called *rex pater Europae*—"King father of Europe." He has shown Europeans an ideal. He has bequeathed to them a common cultural and political tradition. Even in the distant 20th century, men will point to his model as a blueprint for European unity.

Charlemagne has left his mark on European history as no other man. He has, in large measure, determined the political fate of Western Europe.

Catastrophe and Revival

Justinian's "Imperial Restoration" in A.D. 554 fell apart almost immediately upon his death. Charlemagne's empire survives him by only one generation. This cyclical pattern of revival and disintegration will be often repeated in centuries to come.

Charlemagne is succeeded by his son Louis the Pious. The well-meaning but weak Louis is dominated by his wife and by churchmen. He possesses no qualifications for governing the empire to which he succeeds.

Louis dies in 840. Civil war breaks out among his three sons.

In 843, the Treaty of Verdun settles the quarrels among Louis' sons. It divides Charlemagne's empire into three parts—one for each of his grandsons. In short order, however, Europe crumbles into scattered feudal states.

The Carolingian Empire disappears. The political unity of Christian Europe becomes a thing of the past.

In its weakness, Western Europe falls victim to invasions by Northmen, Saracens and Magyars. The Continent is again a political shambles.

Chaos in Rome

The Papacy is also in trouble. The Holy See is increasingly torn by factionalism. Intrigue becomes ram-

panant. The papal office is bought and sold—and occasionally obtained by murder. The corruption and immorality of the Papacy during this period will prompt later historians to call it a "pornocracy"!

The infamous "Cadaver Synod" serves as a bizarre illustration of the turmoil in Rome.

The body of former Pope Formosus (891-896) is exhumed by newly elected Pope Stephen VI late in 896 and put on trial, charged with treason! The corpse is dressed in papal regalia, assaulted with questions and accusations, then dragged through the streets of Rome with a mob cheering on!

The next year, Pope Stephen is himself overthrown, imprisoned and strangled.

Sergius III, Pope from 904 to 911, attains the office after ordering the murder of his predecessor. His life of open sin with the noted prostitute Marozia brings widespread disrepute upon the Papacy. Sergius fathers a number of sons by Marozia, among them the future Pope John XI. Sergius' reign begins a period known as "The Rule of the Harlots."

New Champion

Chaos reigns in Rome—and throughout Europe.

The situation is grave. It becomes clear to many that the disunity and weakness in Europe is tied closely to the disunity and weakness of the Church—and vice versa.

Perceptive churchmen realize that they must call in a strong prince to again unite Europe. Western civilization must be saved!

With the Frankish realm in eclipse, Rome must look elsewhere for a champion to resurrect the tradition of imperial unity.

When the next great Emperor appears in Western Europe in the middle of the 10th century, he will not be a Frank, but a Saxon German. As medieval Germany rises to a predominant position in the West, the dignity of the title of Roman Emperor will become permanently connected with that of the king of Germany.

The first German *Reich* is about to appear on the scene! (Next Month: "The First Reich.") □

The Greatest Gift You Can Give Your Children

by Ronald D. Kelly

It's not money, power or prestige. Though every parent has it—too many never give it.

RECENTLY a young couple came to me for advice. They were experiencing the joy of their first baby. In anticipation of the coming years they wanted to be sure they did the best job possible with child rearing.

"What is the one thing you can tell us which will help us rear our children successfully?" they asked.

My answer was, "There is no *one* thing. There are no magic formulas. Successful child rearing will be plain old-fashioned hard work."

"But," they continued, "surely you can tell us the one biggest lesson you've learned?"

Since that conversation, I've given a lot of thought to the best answer to that question.

First I considered waiting six more years before writing this article. That way, our youngest child would be grown and on her own and I could at last feel qualified to speak out on the subject of child rearing.

But that would be avoiding the question. My wife and I have progressed through more than 21 years

of child rearing. So I suppose I am as qualified as I ever will be to write on this all-important subject. Our five children have given us a combined 84 years of child-rearing experience. The next six years will probably not change us or them all that much.

And from the valuable lessons we have learned along the way, we have discovered one big key to suc-

cessful child rearing. But before we get to that, let's lay the foundation.

Bringing New Life into the World

The birth of a child into a family is one of the greatest thrills of life. Young couples eagerly anticipate the day of arrival. Months of waiting and planning and dreaming and hoping culminate in the excitement of newborn life.



Most parents already have a lifetime of plans for their newborns. They may plan for their children to be successful doctors or prominent lawyers. Or plan a major league sports career for them. How many parents have already purchased, before the day of birth, a football, a piano, ice skates or a baseball glove?

Above all we want them to have good health and be happy with whatever they become.

In addition to their long-range goals, parents hope to give their children every material benefit possible. How many times have you heard parents say, "Our child will never have to go through the hard times we did"? Most children today grow up with better homes, do less work, have more clothing, more leisure time and more convenience items than any generation in history.

In order to provide this plethora of material goods, parents must spend countless hours on their jobs. Many fathers have taken a second job in order to provide necessities and luxuries of life. Many mothers work outside the home so the family can afford more and better things than would otherwise be possible.

It is a noble goal—to provide well for the family and to give the children opportunities. But in pursuit of material possessions, many parents have failed to give the most important gift of all.

Think about it. Proud parents bring new life into the world—tiny miniature reproductions of themselves. Your child will have your looks, your personality, many of your abilities and your temperament. Most parents want their children to grow up to be "chips off the old block."

But too many couples today quickly lose their newfound zeal in the early months of their child's life. They just let their children grow up—too often left in day-care centers or with baby-sitters—sel-dom influenced by their parents.

Then when these children become teenagers, the parents wonder why they can't communicate with them—why there is a generation gap. What they fail to realize is that this generation gap has existed from birth—there never was any real communication. The

problems may not be manifest, however, until teenage.

From Birth to School Age

There is no more important time in life than the early years. Practically everything we will become is started and determined in those first few years of life.

It has been said we learn more from birth to age 1 than we will learn in any other one year of our lives. It seems hard to believe but researchers insist it is true.

And we continue to learn in those early years—at astounding rates. Little children are taking in everything—learning to walk, talk and think. They are forming personality and character traits. How do they learn during these early years?

BY EXAMPLE!

Everything you do—or not do—is being taken in. If you shuffle them off to the day-care centers or leave them with the baby-sitters or leave them alone with the television set blaring from dawn to midnight, they'll be taking in quite a different perspective than you intend.

Your children will learn to speak with the same accent, voice tones and vocabulary as you do. They will take on your personality traits and good habits. They probably will develop similar tastes in food, entertainment and art.

That is, IF you are around to influence your children.

Of course, if parents are not around, their children will pick up mannerisms, personalities and tastes of others. That might not always be desirable.

The Best Laid Plans

Far too often, though new parents start out with the best of intentions, they quickly return to a previously established routine. Long hours of work and fighting the traffic may not make for the best parental attitude at the end of a tiring day. Dad may say, "Honey, get a baby-sitter and let's go out to dinner; I'm exhausted."

When the weekend rolls around, the old routine of golf, tennis, fishing, bowling or whatever recreation parents have participated in, beckons.

Dad may think he'll play ball with his son when he is older. But family habits usually are set in con-

crete and later hard to change. A youngster seeing Dad go off with others the first several years is not suddenly going to want to start kicking or throwing a ball around with Dad when he's about 12.

If, on the other hand, parents have played with their children on the living room floor when they were 3 months old, then in the backyard when they were toddlers, taught them to ride bikes at age 4, played tag in the park when they were 8, then when they are teenagers, they'll still be playing games together.

Teaching by Example

There is no greater opportunity to influence the way your child will turn out than by the example you set.

You've all heard the old adage too many parents still live by: "Do what I say, not what I do." Surely we know that doesn't work. Parents who lament a child starting to smoke in junior high school have no recourse if they've continued to smoke themselves.

The father who brags about how he cheated the government out of taxes due cannot expect his son to grow up an honest, law-abiding citizen. These parents have already lost the battle. Their examples speak louder than their words. In some cases, our examples counteract our words.

There have been some alarming social trends in recent years. There are increasing numbers of alcoholic parents and parents who are abusive to their children. After analyzing hundreds of problems, psychologists have found in a large percentage of those cases where parents were abusive to children, they were themselves abused.

Similar statistics apply to alcoholism. Adults who become alcoholic are often a product of a home where alcohol was abused.

If you are a parent, you have a tremendous responsibility to set the proper example in your home. But in order to set an example you have to be there.

The objective is to have a positive effect. Homes that are filled with love and sharing will produce children who love and share. Homes filled with happiness and

joy produce a peaceful atmosphere. And when children from those homes grow up to become parents themselves, those same joys and happinesses will usually be present in their homes.

Qualifications for Parenting

What kind of qualifications are necessary to become a parent?

If you wanted to become an airline pilot, you would have to log hundreds, even thousands of hours in a small plane and in flight simulators before taking the responsibility of piloting a huge jet liner.

A brain surgeon must devote years of life to study and as an assistant before being placed in charge of the operating room.

Carpenters, secretaries, electricians, teachers, shipbuilders and tradesmen of all kinds must be qualified to work in their fields.

But what are the qualifications of a parent? What kind of skills are required for the most important responsibility anyone can ever take—to become a mother or father? What kind of schooling is mandatory for having a baby? And what certificate is issued to demonstrate proficiency in parenting?

To become a parent all you have to do is reach the age of puberty.

That's it.

I'm sure we will all admit such a person is by no means *qualified* to become a parent in his or her early teens. But it is biologically possible. The question, then, is, when is one qualified to become a PROPER parent?

Obtaining an education, gaining skills for a profession, growing in maturity to face the responsibilities that accompany parenthood ought to be required. But who can enforce the requirements? There are no legislative or judicial bodies to make laws and enforce them.

So young people grow up in whatever environment their own parents have created for them. They learn by example what parenting is all about. And the result is the society in which you live.

The Biblical Examples

From the pages of the Bible we learn it was much the same in the society of ancient Israel. In that nation there was a priest who

served well in God's service. His name was Eli.

But Eli was not effective in child rearing. Of his children, God says, "Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial; they knew not the Lord" (I Sam. 2:12).

It was a responsibility of the priests to offer sacrifices for the people. The sons of Eli abused the sacrificial ceremony. "Wherefore the sin of the young men was very great before the Lord: for men abhorred the offering of the Lord" (verse 17).



PHOTOS BY HAL FINCH—PT

Parents who take the time to rear children properly will receive no greater thrills, joys and rewards in this life.

In addition, the sons of Eli were sexually immoral. They brought great disrespect upon their father and the way of God. It was a shame these young men could not continue in the footsteps of their father as they should have.

But Eli made the tragic mistake so many parents do. He did not properly rear his children and train them. He was too busy—even in the service of God. The results were disastrous.

God then selected Samuel to follow Eli in priestly service.

Surely, you would think Samuel would have learned the lesson from Eli how to become a proper father and rear respectful children. But alas, the sad story was repeated.

Samuel married and had a family. It was normal for him to desire his sons to follow in his steps as priests and judges in Israel.

The story is told in I Samuel 8: "And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel. Now the name of the first-born was Joel; and the name of the second, Abiah: they were judges in Beer-sheba" (verses 1-2).

But as Eli before him, Samuel did not influence and teach them by his good example. The result?

"And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre [money], and took bribes, and perverted judgment" (verse 3).

The reputation of the sons of Samuel was so bad in the community that the people demanded a change in government. What a tragedy!

Let these examples serve you well if you are parents or plan to be parents.

What Is That Gift?

What is then the nearest thing to the magic formula of child rearing?

Be prepared. The answer may surprise you. I promise it will not cost any money. And it will not be complicated.

The most important gift you will ever give your child is—YOUR TIME! If you can't take the time to be a parent, don't become one.

Parents who take the time to rear children properly will receive no greater thrills, joys and rewards in this life. But, if they don't apply the right principles and don't take the proper time, there are no greater sorrows and disappointments than improperly reared children.

If you are a parent, you are a constant living example to your children. They are learning every minute of every day how to be and how

not to be. They will see your positive examples—they will also see your negative examples.

If your children see you fight, scream and have disrespect for one another, they will think that's the way husbands and wives are. After all, it's all they've ever seen.

Newborn babies don't have instinct. Animals do. A newborn calf or colt knows right where to go for dinner. It will be up and walking within minutes because instinct has been built into its mind.

Everything human babies learn must be taught. By word. By example. They learn the meaning of love, caring, concern, warmth. They learn how to smile, giggle, laugh and cry.

They can also learn anger, hostility, disrespect.

They are constantly learning.

There is no better way for them to learn how to be the right kind of parent themselves than by the proper examples you set for them. But, you have to spend time with them to teach by example.

The Importance of Example

From creation, God has used the technique of example to teach. We can read the Bible, see the examples and learn from them. On the other hand, we can pass over them and not learn the intended lesson.

The most important of all was the personal example of Jesus Christ. The apostle Peter said, "For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps" (I Pet. 2:21, RAV). When Jesus lived on the earth, he experienced every human thought and emotion. Paul said Jesus was "tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin" (Heb. 4:15, NIV). By studying the life of Christ, we can see how to live.

We have a perfect example to follow.

At creation, there was another important example. After six days of creating, God on the seventh day did something very special.

"By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had

done" (Gen. 2:2-3, NIV).

God had created Adam and Eve on the sixth day. On the seventh, they saw, by the example God set, they should rest.

When Jesus came, he said of the Sabbath, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath" (Mark 2:27-28, NIV).

When God rested at the end of creation week, he wasn't tired. God is spirit—self-contained energy. But as Creator, he knew mankind would need to rest one day each week—thus *by example* God showed what man should do and when he should do it.

From creation God, through patriarchs, prophets and New Testament apostles, showed by example what to do and what not to do.

Let me use another illustration. I was talking with a man who believed there was nothing wrong with polygamy—having more than one wife. I told him it was wrong.

"God never intended a person to have more than one mate," I said. The Eternal God said, "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh" (Gen. 2:24, NIV). Only one man and one woman can unite in marriage and create one new family unit. Not "they three" or "they four"—but "they two" shall become one flesh.

"Well," this man said, "you can't show me one verse in the Bible which says, 'Thou shalt not marry more than one woman.'"

So, I turned to the Bible for example. There were societies in ancient times that permitted and practiced polygamy. But there is not one example in the Bible of a happy and harmonious home where this was practiced. By example, we ought to see polygamy was not right—never intended by God.

On almost every subject, there are examples—either negative or positive—in the Bible.

You Only Have One Chance

If you have small children, spend all the time you can with them, showing them positive examples of the right way to live. The years will quickly go by. Children who are toddlers today, tomorrow will be

graduating from high school. The first thing you know, you will be concerned about college and marriage. And you'll wonder where the years went.

Our married daughter recently told us something we had not known before. Some years ago we were transferred in our work twice in 11 months. It had been hard on the family. But there were some good things to come out of it. Our daughter was 15 at the time. Because of the new job, we spent considerably more time together as a family than we ever had before.

Last Father's Day she wrote, "Daddy, I never really knew you until we moved to Colorado. I'm so glad we had the chance to spend some time together."

Of course, it was rewarding emotionally to realize that family love we shared. But there was also a deep hurt that I had not spent the proper amount of time with her and the other children when they were younger. In many ways, I would love to have those years over again—but there is never a second chance when it comes to time.

How many families have had to learn that working long hours, advancing in position or earning more money can produce one of the least desirable fruits of all—the loss of one's own children?

What if parents become prominent surgeons, successful attorneys, respected professors or corporation presidents?

So what?

So what, if along the way they lose their children, maybe their marriage and perhaps their health? What has been gained?

We all desire to work hard and obtain the best for our children. But if reaching the top of the corporate ladder means sacrificing children and family, it just isn't worth it.

Now when I am asked by young couples, "What is the ONE most important point in child rearing?" I have an answer. I still say there are no magic formulas. And successful child rearing will require old-fashioned hard work. But if you want to know the greatest gift you can ever give your child, I'm sure it is your time. Begin now to give that precious gift to your children. □



A shaky takeoff, an aborted flight and crash—all in a matter of seconds

ogy. These modern theologians say that the question of why God allows these tragedies, or why God is not apparently powerful enough to stop them, has vexed religious counselors for centuries. And well it may. Because people simply do not understand that question!

If God is all good, if God is love, he wouldn't want humanity to suffer, would he? And if God is all powerful, as the Bible says he is, why doesn't he stop suffering? Why doesn't he prevent it?

The credibility of God is now at stake, say the theologians. The world, they contend, has grown weary of religious spokesmen trying to defend God and explain why God allows these things—and at the same time saying that God is all love, God is all good, God is all powerful and he could stop it, yet he doesn't. So modern theologians now have come up with this new theology called process theology in an attempt to explain this apparent paradox.

Recall for a moment that at the turn of the century theologians were coming up with a then-new theology. They were turning to what is called modernism. In other words, they were denying any deity to Jesus Christ. He was not divine. He had not existed before his human birth. He was only human. And they denied his miracles.

And now a new generation of religious thinkers is coming to the new idea called process theology. God, they say, is entirely loving, but is lacking in power.

They say nothing of the real purpose of life. They say nothing about the restoration of the kingdom of God, the only gospel that Jesus Christ preached.

The Origin and Purpose of Life

But what is the real trouble with this question? What is the reason that God has not stopped all this violence, all this human suffering?

In all the religions of this world—the many different religions we call non-Christian, and even the religion of Christianity—not one religion knows who and what God is. What is God? Is he a

CHIP PETERSON—SYGMA

WHY MUST MAN SUFFER ?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Theologians now say God lacks the power to prevent suffering!

MAJOR airline crash. Devastating hurricanes. Potential nuclear mass destruction of whole cities. Does God lack the power to prevent their occurrence?

What about all of these evils—the violence, the human suffering that humanity has been going through for nearly 6,000 years?

Process Theology

Now comes a new school of religious thought called process theol-

trinity? Is God one person? They just don't understand.

And none, either, understands God's purpose. Does God have a purpose he is working out? Winston Churchill said before the United States Congress during World War II that there is a purpose being worked out here below. He implied God, a higher power above, is working out that purpose.

Not one religion on earth fully knows what and why man is. Why are we here? What is the purpose, if any?

What does God say about all of this? Notice what God says in Isaiah chapter 40, beginning with verse 17:

"All nations before him are as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity. To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him? . . . It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers [that is to God]; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:

" . . . To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might [there it speaks of God's might, his power], for that he is strong in power; not one faileth" (verses 17, 22, 25-26).

The earth turns on its axis. The different seasons regularly come. It is the power of God that is causing all of that. And that is mighty power. Yes, God has all power.

How It All Began

What is the real origin of God? What is the origin of all this visible universe? It is not evolution. That can be absolutely disproved. But in the Bible we read, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1).

In the beginning was one great personage called the Word, the Spokesman. And the Word was with another personage, God. And the Word was God. How could that be? You might say in a certain res-

idence was John, and John was with Smith, and John was a Smith. But John isn't the same man as Smith. He's a different person. John could have been Smith's son. They could have been of the same family. That's precisely what this verse means.

There was the Word with God. "The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him . . ." (John 1:2-3).

In Ephesians 3:9 we read about "God, who created all things by Jesus Christ." The Word, in other words, became Jesus Christ. And God created all things by Jesus Christ. Another scripture says, "For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast" (Ps. 33:9). The power that emanated from him and from God the Father—the power of the Holy Spirit—leaped forth and did the work. All things were created in that manner.

Now, further, about God. What is God? In John 4:24 (RSV) we read that "God is spirit." Man is not spirit. Man is flesh. Man is composed of matter. But God is not composed of matter; God is spirit. Now spirit is something you cannot see; spirit is something that has no weight. Matter is something that occupies space and has weight. Spirit is different.

Turn now to the book of Genesis: "In the beginning God . . ." (Gen. 1:1). The word for God there is *Elohim*, a plural form indicating more than one person—but with a singular verb indicating one God. God, then, is composed of more than one person.

The Word was God, and the Word was with God, and so God was composed of these two beings. When Jesus was born he was begotten of God as his Father. God then became his Father and Jesus then became the Son. And so there is the Father and the Son. They compose God. God is the family name.

The fact that God is a family is very significant. That begins to explain the whole question.

Turn now to Genesis 1:26: ". . . Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. . . ." In verses 21 through 25 we read God had made sea creatures and land animals each after its own kind. Each kind repro-

duces after its own kind and never generates a totally new kind.

After the God Kind

God formed man after the God kind, not after an animal kind. God is reproducing himself! Now when you understand *that*, you begin to understand why God is allowing all the suffering on the earth today.

Notice, now, Genesis 2:7: "And the Lord God [Lord there is the name of the one that became Christ] formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man [made of the dust of the ground] became a living soul."

The dust of the ground, then, became a soul. The dust of the ground is not spirit—the dust became a man. And that man is a soul. A soul came out of the ground. Man, then, is physical, mortal.

In other places in the Bible you find that there is a spirit *in* man that is altogether different. Man is flesh. Man is mortal. Man does not inherently have eternal life; he only has a temporary existence. He came out of the dust of the ground. Man's existence—what we call human life—is supplied by the breath of air. It is called the breath of life here in Genesis 2:7. Also, "the life of the flesh is in the blood," says Leviticus 17:11. The heart pumps blood through the body, and the blood has to be refueled by oxygen and by food and water out of the ground.

Man Must Choose

The man that God created now had to make a choice.

Character is the ability of some separately created entity to come to a knowledge of right as from wrong, of truth as from error, of good as from evil. To choose the right, or the good, and to reject the evil—even though he might want to do the evil—to have the will to do the good, that is character.

God is the supreme, holy, righteous, perfect, spiritual character. And if he is reproducing himself, he must reproduce that character in man. Man must acquire that character.

How is that divine character going to get into something made out of the ground? God placed a

human spirit in the first man. That human spirit could have a relationship with God, who is spirit.

But God placed before that man two choices, symbolized by two trees in the garden of Eden. The one tree was the tree of life. How does God give that life? It comes through the Holy Spirit. The person that has the Spirit of God has life, and he that has not the Spirit of God does not have life. If the Spirit of Christ is in you, you are his (I John 5:11-12).

If the Spirit of God is not in you, you are "none of his" (Rom. 8:9, last part). And, verse 11, "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken [make immortal] your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you."

God made us mortal, but he made us to become immortal. And God required that the man had to make a choice, because character had to be built in the man! Character is built through choice.

The other tree, the other choice before man, symbolized the way of man's taking to himself—deciding altogether by himself—the knowledge of good and evil. How do we come to know the truth of God? In I Corinthians 2:9 we read, "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart [mind] of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him"—in other words, spiritual knowledge.

God reveals these things to us only by his Spirit. The Spirit of God reveals God's knowledge—spiritual knowledge and spiritual character. But man decided to take the basis of that kind of character to himself, to decide right from wrong, truth from error, by himself.

So, in punishment, God at that time closed up the tree of life. In other words, he shut up the Holy Spirit from man.

God had set out a 7,000-year plan and purpose in which to develop the godlike character in man, made from the dust of the ground. God's purpose is to make us immortal like God, until we become God as he is God. That has got to come through human experience, but it has to

come from God, with our consent, our desire, our decision and our will.

What God Is Like

I John 3:1-2 says, "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us [here is the fact that God loves us], that we should be called the sons of God [ultimately to be born of God, though now begotten of God; for God is reproducing himself, and we're called the sons of God]: . . . now [even right now] are we the sons of God [but only begotten, not yet born], and it doth not yet appear what we shall be [in other words, what we shall be one can't see yet]: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

How is he? In the first chapter of Revelation, and other places in the Bible, you'll find that his face is as the very sun in full power and strength. It's so bright it would put your eyes out even if you look with smoked glass. His eyes are like flames of fire.

God is spirit. And if you could see spirit that is what you would see. And that is what we will be when God comes. When he appears we'll be like him. This is referring to the Second Coming of Christ, which is now imminent for our very generation.

The purpose of God is character building. That is why he made man of matter. We could be *molded* spiritually, in a body of earthly clay, into divine character. We read in Isaiah 64:8, "But now, O Lord, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand."

Even Job asked, "If a man die, shall he live again? all the days of my appointed time will I wait [meaning in the grave], till my change come. Thou [God] shalt call, and I will answer thee: thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands" (Job 14:14-15).

Job knew he was the work of God's hands. We all are the clay. God is the potter. A potter molds and fashions clay into the form and shape he wants. Now God will—if we put ourselves in his hands, if we surrender to him, and to his will—take us and mold and shape us into the godlike character of love.

God is love. God will put his divine love in us, a love with which we were not born. It is a gift of God through his Holy Spirit.

Notice Isaiah 45:9, "Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! . . . Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? . . ."

What about the theologians reasoning that today's divided Christianity is God's religion, that this is God's world, and God isn't powerful enough to stop all of evil?

God is allowing man to make his own decisions. And if man makes the wrong decision, God has said whatever we sow we shall reap. God has told his people that ever since the beginning. He told Adam that. He told ancient Israel that. And Jesus Christ told us that. If we sin we will have to reap the consequences. God allows it. He allows suffering and the pain of sin for a good purpose.

God has given man a mind to think with. He gives man revealed knowledge in the Bible. Man can take that knowledge and learn to go God's way. That is necessary for the development of character so we can become like God, so we can become the very children of God, so we can be born the children of God. But man has, throughout history, refused to go that way—except for a very few whom God has called and to whom he has revealed his truth by his Holy Spirit.

In Matthew 24:4-5 Jesus said, "Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name [Jesus said], saying, [that] I am [the] Christ; and shall deceive many."

How can they do that? Jesus said in Matthew 15:9, "But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." They make the commandments of God of no effect by their tradition (verse 3).

The commandments of God are the right way to live; they reveal God's way of life. Human beings have not kept the commandments of God. They have said, and many preachers are saying today, that the commandments of God are done away.

(Continued on page 43)

A Foretaste of Disaster!

by Dan C. Taylor

IT HAS been years—some experts claim decades—since global weather conditions have been so chaotic.

While millions in one part of the globe suffered the quiet devastation of drought and even famine, millions elsewhere were ravaged by violent storms, heavy rains and flooding.

What caused our meteorological miseries this year? And what les-

sons should we learn from this widespread weather disaster?

Anatomy of a Disaster

What causes leaders great concern, is that not only were those nations that are least able to cope with the ravages of climate hard hit, but most of the handful of exporting nations suffered too. The immediate effects are not fully known, but if drought continues and famine spreads in Asia and Africa, the world's misery index is sure to go up.

In Asia, the most serious cases of drought have been in India and Indonesia. In the latter, drought has claimed more than 350 lives. In India, grain surpluses painstakingly built up over the past several years are being threatened as drought, hand-in-hand with famine, takes its toll in southern India.

In Africa, it's not a matter of determining who has been affected by drought, but who hasn't. Few nations there managed to escape the deadly grip of drought. Even the Republic of South Africa, the



Damage from Cyclone Veena, Tahiti



Distribution of trucked water near Lanwa village, India

unsung hero of African agriculture, has had to import 1.5 million tons of grain this year. Normally accounting for nearly 30 percent of Africa's maize production, it usually manages to export grain, principally corn (maize or "mealies"), to other African countries, despite formidable political obstacles.

In the Sahelian region of West Africa, the situation seems like a continuation of a long nightmare that started in the late 1960s. In Ghana, already weighed down with two million returnees who were forced to go home by Nigeria, starvation is rampant. Bushfires destroyed 40 percent of that nation's crops. To the north, 1.6 million Mauritians normally require 130,000 tons of grain annually to survive. This year's harvest was only 20,000 tons.

And in Ivory Coast, raging fires destroyed 1.5 million acres of plantations and forest lands in addition to 65 percent of that nation's crops.

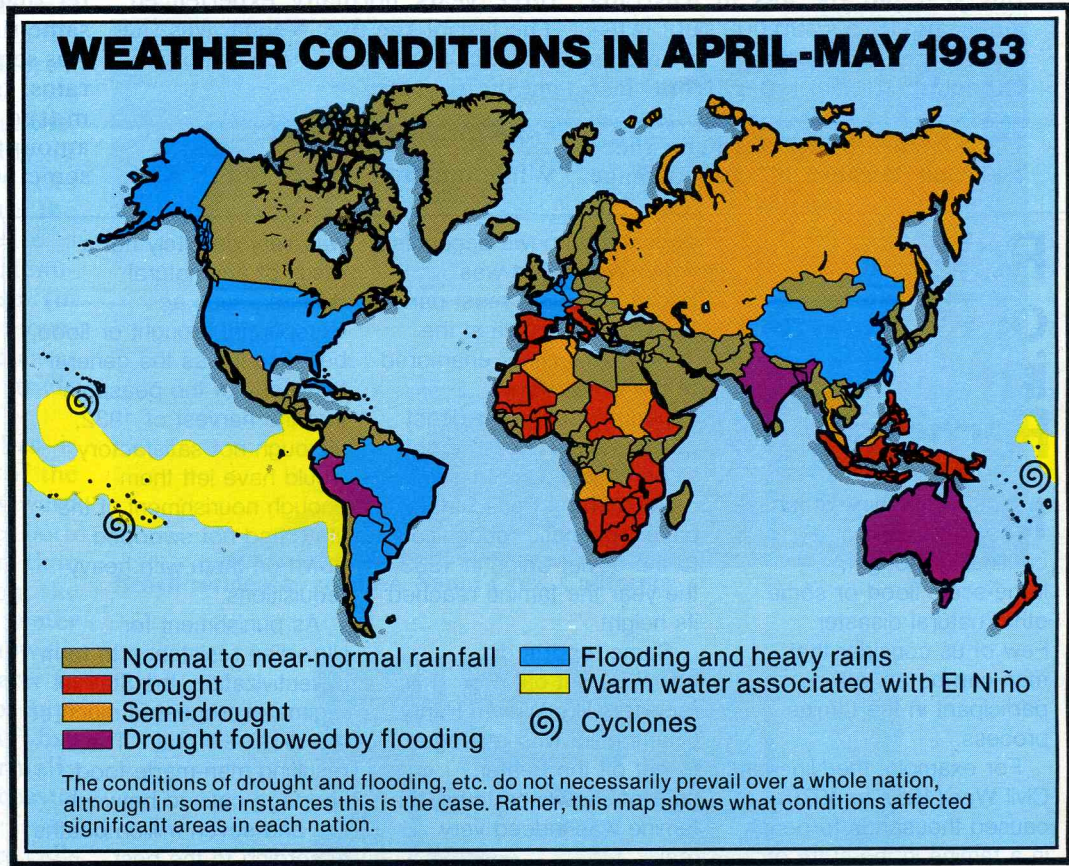
At one point this year, almost all of the nations of the Southern Hemi-

sphere—and many north of the equator—were afflicted with drought. The area is inhabited by more than one quarter of humanity.

To date, the loss of life has been minimal, but the potential for famine to take a heavy toll looms on the horizon for more than 200,000 in the

southern Philippines, more than a million in Indonesia, several million in Africa and—incredibly—more than 100 million in India.

Additionally, the amount of property loss worldwide through drought-caused fires has been staggering. One estimate in March of



BALDEV—SYGMA



FOTO DIPLOMATIQUE—LIAISON

Drought in Sahelian West Africa



J. GUICHARD—SYGMA

Seine river in flood, Paris

THE WEATHER IN 1983

this year put the loss in Australia alone at US \$7,500,000,000! Australian per capita farm income is expected to plummet from last year's US \$10,500 to as low as US \$2,000. Many farmers there feel that because of crop damage

three years normally experienced. The last of the five, Veena, was the worst cyclone to hit French Polynesia in 70 years.

From Drought to Flood

While much of Africa, South Asia,

ter that didn't want to end. At the same time, planting in the Midwest was seriously delayed by unseasonal rains. In June, Mississippi had estimated that crop losses there amounted to \$312 million with some 600,000 acres of land under-water.

Role of Politics in Famine

Most of us think of famine as the result of a continuing drought, large-scale flood or some other natural disaster.

Few of us consider that man can be an active participant in the famine process.

For example, the Nigerian Civil War (1967 to 1970) caused thousands to perish in a famine in the state of Biafra. Similar tragedies befell Uganda.

But few famines in recent times can compare to the man-made Great Famine in the Ukraine in 1932-33.

Ignorance of this tragic event abounds because little

appeared in news accounts in the West. This was because, for the most part, the Western media in the 1930s were either enamored of the Great Soviet Experiment or under direct governmental pressure not to be critical. One might recall that the United States gave diplomatic recognition to the Soviet Union in 1933, the year the famine reached its height.

Some reports did, however, get out. For reporters like William Henry Chamberlin, who managed to get off the beaten path of showcase tours, the famine was indeed very real.

In a story that appeared in the May 29, 1934, issue of *The Christian Science Monitor*, Mr. Chamberlin recorded the cause of this disaster.

"What lay behind this major human catastrophe? It

was very definitely not a result of any natural disaster, such as exceptional drought or flood, because it was the general testimony of the peasants that the harvest of 1932, although not satisfactory, would have left them enough nourishment, if the state had not swooped down on them with heavy requisitions."

As punishment for Ukrainian resistance to farm collectivization, the Stalinist regime expropriated much of the Ukraine's grain. The resulting man-made food shortage caused between five and seven million deaths according to the best estimates.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Great Famine in the Ukraine and should stand as a warning to all people that political decisions can wreak great havoc.

In South America, 260 died in floods in Ecuador alone. The damage there is put at more than US \$200 million. Floods in Peru were not the only damage done to that nation. The important anchovy and tuna fishing industry was badly crippled because there were simply few fish to catch in the normally bountiful southeastern Pacific. They were driven off by an unusually warm offshore current.

When one begins to assess the damage, the question that must be asked is how could all of this happen on such a wide scale? The answer, many meteorologists believe, lies in a cyclical change in pressure systems over the Pacific Ocean that allows a warm water current called "El Niño" to wreak havoc with our weather.

full recovery from the drought won't be possible for about seven years. Though Australia is expected to be able to meet its grain export obligations, it will almost certainly lose its fourth-place ranking for wheat exports to Argentina. Additionally, it will take years to rebuild herds of cattle and sheep to predrought levels.

Neighboring New Zealand has also been hard hit by drought. Sheep ranchers there were unprepared for the length of this drought and faced a fodder shortage because of the failure to cut back on the size of their flocks earlier. Elsewhere in Oceania, Cyclone Oscar was the worst natural disaster to beset Fiji in more than 50 years. To the east of Fiji, Tahiti was struck by five cyclones this year, far above the usual one every

Australasia and Oceania were suffering from drought, large areas of Western Europe, parts of the United States and South America were being deluged with heavy rains and flooding.

In Western Europe, rain swollen rivers caused flooding in France, Belgium, the Netherlands and West Germany. Soggy ground there also hampered planting efforts this year.

In the United States earlier this year, floods inundated the lower Mississippi valley area while a combination of storms and high tides ravaged the California coastline. Heavy rains plus quick thaws of winter snow caused flooding in Utah and Colorado. Much of the fruit crops in Georgia, the Carolinas, Tennessee and Arkansas was lost to a late spring freeze in a win-

The Nature of Our Problems

There are many unusual phenomena in weather. Few are more mysterious than the effects of the warm water current in the southeastern Pacific known as El Niño—Spanish for "the boy child"—so-called because it was first observed in 1795 off the coast of Peru by fishermen around Christmas time.

Scientists do not, as yet, seem to know what causes El Niño. They do know that a major contributing factor to the development of this water current is a huge atmospheric pressure and ocean temperature seesaw phenomenon called the Southern Oscillation. According to Gene Rasmusson, Chief of the Diagnostics Branch of the U.S. National Weather Service Climate Analysis Center, this weather phenomenon shifts the atmospheric

pressures over the Pacific every two to seven years and enables an El Niño condition to develop. Here's how.

Under normal circumstances, high pressure cells (columns of warm light air) dominate the Pacific Ocean. Together with the earth's rotation, they create a clockwise (in the Northern Hemisphere) and counterclockwise (in the Southern Hemisphere) movement of air. This movement creates the easterly (east to west) trade winds along the equator.

One result of the easterlies is that the warm surface water of the eastern Pacific is blown westward making the western Pacific both slightly higher and warmer than the eastern Pacific. In addition, the movement of warm surface water from east to west creates an upwelling of nutrient-laden cold water in the eastern Pacific. This helps support the abundant supply of fish and marine fowl that normally inhabit the South American coastal waters.

As the Pacific high pressure cells begin to break down, for reasons not yet known, low pressure cells (columns of cool dense air) take their place. This causes the easterlies to die down or even reverse direction. With no wind to push the surface water to the west, and the addition of a warm water equatorial counter current (west to east), the eastern Pacific's water level and temperature begin to rise. This drives away the fish and fowl in the area. The end product is what is known as an El Niño condition.

As El Niño develops, water temperatures rise significantly. In some areas of this most recent El Niño, water temperatures increased by as much as 15 degrees Fahrenheit. This can be compared to a pan of thick soup on low boil. As the temperature begins to rise, bubbles explode on the surface here and there. Likewise, as the hot, moisture-laden air of the eastern Pacific heats up, it spawns violent storms here and there.

Now add to the scenario that as the low pressure cells develop in the Pacific, they begin to attract the jet streams toward the equator. It is easy to see how storms developing in the Pacific could be blown



Beach residences collapse, Santa Cruz, California

C. FOOTÉ—LANSON



Streets flooded in towns along the Rhine

R. BOSSU—SYGMA



Hungry sheep are fed grain on ranch in Australian outback

D. RIVIERE—LANSON

onto the Californian, Ecuadorian and Peruvian coasts. Some scientists suspect that the same moisture-laden jet stream that dumped so much rain on the United States probably caused Western Europe's wet weather this year by simply pushing wet weather across the Atlantic.

So how does El Niño tie in with the drought in the Southern Hemisphere?

Once again we asked Mr. Rasmusson, who is one of the world's leading experts on this phenomenon. "When pressures are lower than normal over the southeastern Pacific," he noted, "they tend to be higher than normal over Australia, Indonesia, over the Indian Ocean, and perhaps over India and vice versa."

Long-term studies indicate that the appearance of an El Niño has corresponded with five of India's worst droughts since 1875 and nine of Australia's since 1864.

The Lessons to Be Learned

Scientists have blamed El Niño for the unusual worldwide weather conditions that developed in 1972-73. Drought in the Soviet Union and India during that period, according to one study, dropped world cereal grain production by 6 percent. At the same time, world cereal grain prices rose a whopping 50 percent.

Many nations are having to turn to grain reserves to get by this drought. What about the next time El Niño strikes in two or seven years? What will the grain reserve situation look like then?

Traditionally, nations faced with famine have been able to turn to a handful of countries blessed with an abundance of grain and other foods. That elite grain export club of a half dozen nations includes the United States, Canada, Argentina, Australia, South Africa and Thailand—most of which now have been affected by adverse weather this year.

It is indeed ironic that in the midst of great need, the biggest exporter of all, the United States, burdened by massive surpluses, has decided to take farmland out of production through a program called Payment-in-Kind (PIK) un-

der which farmers are given credit for the value of their stored surpluses for taking land out of production. This program would leave more than 82 million acres of U.S. farmland untilled. This may save the U.S. farmer from bankruptcy, but it does not bode well for the future of poor, hungry nations.

More than 100 nations depend upon the United States for grain supplies. It is a relationship that may prove to be fatal in the future. In their headlong pursuit of progress, many developing nations have sorely neglected their agricultural sectors. By concentrating on steel mills, other industrial ventures or monoculture cash crops, many

What caused our meteorological miseries this year? And what lessons should we learn from this widespread weather disaster?

nations are no longer able to feed themselves. Government agencies that regulate farm goods prices have also nearly ruined agriculture in several countries.

These shortsighted policies will come back to haunt many nations in the coming years. That day of reckoning may be sooner than many would like to believe. Forecasts by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) indicate that world grain production is expected to drop this year by more than 100 million tons. Some meteorologists are predicting that the drought may persist in some regions for as long as seven more years.

There was a time when a nation faced with the prospect of bad weather did actually do something about it. That nation was ancient Egypt, the most powerful nation of its day. Egypt, at that time, was blessed with remarkable leaders. You may recall from the biblical account how Joseph was inspired by God to interpret Pharaoh's dream. Later Joseph was put in charge of

preparing the nation for the coming lean years. It was indeed a critical role. But too often we forget that Joseph was able to do what he did because he had the full support of the man above him. Pharaoh was wise enough to take good advice and to take the necessary actions to implement that advice (Gen. 41:33-40).

Today we have only a few Josephs—and no Pharaohs. Leaders today make decisions, more often than not, based on what is popular, not what is right or best for the nation in the long run. They are truly the blind leading the blind (see Matthew 15:14).

The Bible shows that from ancient times God has allowed—and sometimes caused—adverse weather conditions to strike nations as punishment for wrong doing (see Deuteronomy 28:22, last part, and Job 37). In I Kings 17-18, God used drought to warn an idolatrous ancient Israel to turn from its false gods. Today God is using that same instrument to warn an unrepentant humanity to turn from its modern false gods, its lusts and its greed.

Jesus warned, nearly 2,000 years ago, of the signs of the end of the age. They include famines and other natural disasters (Matt. 24:3-8).

Now, upset weather conditions and poor national agricultural planning are making widespread famine a real possibility for much of humanity. The weather we experienced in 1983 is merely a foretaste of disaster—a prophesied disaster for which mankind is wholly unprepared.

Nevertheless, there is good reason for hope. The world will soon be given a new lease on life by divine intervention in human affairs. The return of Jesus Christ will usher in a new age. An age where nations will be blessed with wise, righteous, caring leadership. An age in which all nations will sit under their own vine and enjoy the fruits of their labor and the blessings of good weather and prosperity their Creator has in store for a repentant humanity. For a glimpse at that new coming utopia, write for your free copy of *The Wonderful World Tomorrow: What It Will Be Like*. □

We're Creatures of Habit

WHY?

by Donald D. Schroeder

Our new readers will be surprised at how much of what we do, think and feel is a matter of habit.

WITHOUT habits we could not function—or perhaps even survive. That's the good side of habits.

Habits allow us to perform an astronomical number of actions without significant conscious thought, effort or undue attention—like tying our shoes, buttoning a shirt, riding a bike, walking, running, typing, remembering a telephone number, even responding to danger.

What a Habit Is

A habit is a learned pattern of acting or thinking or feeling. It is not a pattern we were born with, as many lower creature responses are.

Don't confuse these learned patterns with in-born or "wired-in" involuntary responses such as digesting, breathing, sweating or shivering at cold. Developing habits, particularly if they are good habits, allows us to conserve higher mental processes for more demanding tasks and challenges. By contrast, wrong habits waste human energy and limit human growth and development.

"Habits are at first cobwebs, then cables," says a Spanish proverb.

A habit starts to form when we respond to something—physically, mentally or emotionally—several times. How many responses are required to start a habit may vary from person to person or with different kinds of stimuli.

But as we respond, a pattern starts to occur, neural circuits and pathways in the marvelous human brain and nervous system are formed. Precisely what happens in the human mind and body is even

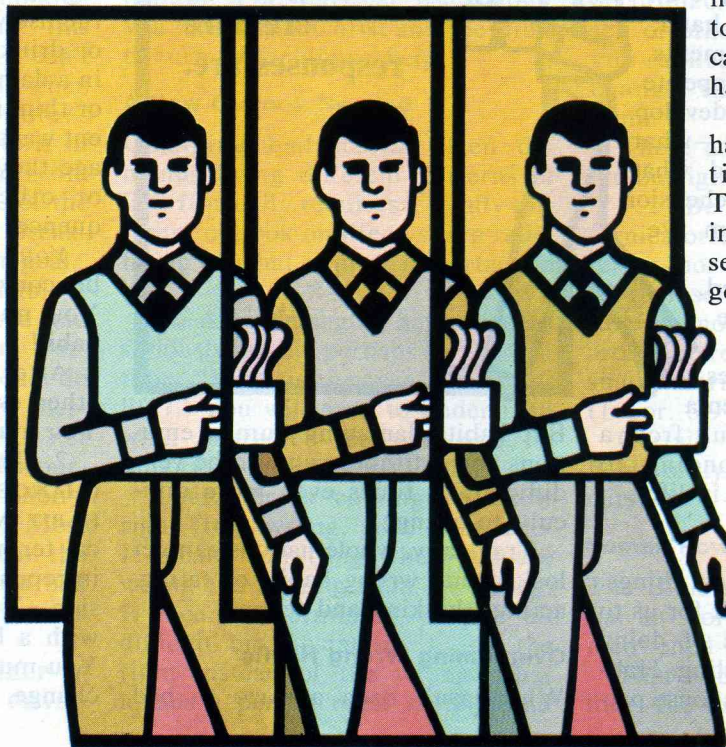
now beyond the mind of man to fully understand.

Learning patterns, at first, go into the brain's short-term memory system. As they become more established they move over into the brain's long-term storage center. This much is perceived by those scientists who have studied the subject of habits.

Then the brain activity at which humans excel—memory—goes to work so that a specific message or stimulus triggers an automatic response, thought or feeling. We call a lesson that the brain's cells have learned well enough to accomplish automatically, without thought, a habit.

Good habits and bad habits are formed essentially the same way. Therefore it is critically important for parents to see that children establish good habits particularly in early years of life. Habits are difficult to unlearn. The brain apparently never totally "forgets" bad habits, although they may drop out of dominance in one's life through lack of use, or if replaced by another, it is hoped, better habit.

So-called free spirits and individualists



(and many think that describes them) are not really free of habits. They merely develop their own idiosyncratic habits.

What we call human personality, in its broadest sense, is to a large extent a composition of thousands of individual and specific habit traits. Humans are compounds of various habits. Thoughts a human thinks are not habitual, of course, but patterns of thought very much tend to become habitual. Some people develop sound thought patterns; others are habitually scatterbrained.

The capacity to form habits is possible with most higher living things. But the way the marvelous human mind was created with the spirit in man, humans, more than any other creatures and more than we care to admit, are creatures of habits—habits of thinking, habits of acting, habits of feeling.

Unique in Habits

Our individual habit patterns show up not only in how we pronounce words, but in our general attitudes and demeanor in life. It shows up in how we cope with anxiety.

Some, as a result of learned habit, develop a perpetual frown, others exhibit a quick temper, others fearfulness, hostility or suspicion. Others are habitually more open, loving, friendly and exude confidence.

We develop differing, even unique, habits in our hand, body and posture movements. Different dietary and appetite habits are acquired. We develop differing feeling habits—what makes us feel good or bad, what produces fear and apprehension and how and to whom we respond sexually.

All of these are learned. We do not inherit these specific traits.

Even repeated successes or failures in life are often a matter of habit; they result from a repeated way of responding to problems and challenges in life.

Negative Side

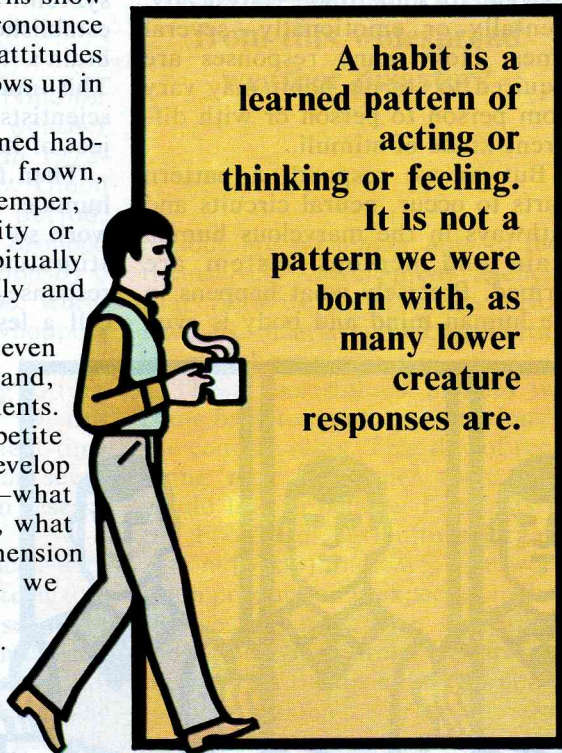
Habits free us to learn new things. They also make it difficult for us to change established ways of doing things, or thinking or feeling. Habits lock us into certain response pat-

terns, so we tend to resist any change in our accustomed routine, even if it is in our best interests to do so.

Too often humans are slaves to bad habits. It takes strong character to break bad habits!

Animals could never survive for long in nature if they developed many of the bad habits humans do. We may smoke, abuse alcohol, misuse sex, pop pills, overeat, underexercise or develop emotionally destructive feelings and remain alive, though we are still slowly killing ourselves as individuals. By these bad habits we are limiting or crippling our human potential and development. Many bad habits are, in fact, what the Bible calls sin! They involve violation of God's great spiritual law, the Ten Commandments.

Bad habits reinforced by chemically addicting substances—nicotine and certain drugs, for instance—are very hard to shake.



A habit is a learned pattern of acting or thinking or feeling. It is not a pattern we were born with, as many lower creature responses are.

But habits damaging human emotions and attitudes can also be very difficult, at times even more difficult, to change.

Tragically, whole nations can get locked into wrong habits of eating, acting, thinking and feeling.

Overcoming Wrong Habits

Who hasn't been a slave to bad

habits? Who hasn't carelessly allowed bad habits to take deeper and deeper root in his or her mind and emotions?

Improving your life—physically, mentally, emotionally or spiritually—is largely a matter of changing or overcoming bad habits. It is a matter of developing new, better and more dominating habit patterns of thinking, acting and feeling.

There are absolutely fundamental requirements and essential steps that must be applied to replace a bad habit with a good one. Many lose sight of such essential steps because of heavy demands on their minds or time or because of discouragement from past failures to overcome some nagging habit or vice.

The first law of changing any wrong habit is:

1. **ADMIT WHAT YOU ARE DOING, OR THINKING OR FEELING IS WRONG AND HARMFUL.** In biblical terminology this is the first step in *repentance*. (Of course, this demands the right standard of determining right and wrong. And this requires a knowledge of God's law.)

It is impossible to change without taking this step. So many fail because they never, deep down in their minds, squarely determine or admit what they are doing or thinking is wrong. They will not admit to themselves that they eat too much, or drink too much or are addicted in a damaging way to some practice or thinking. They justify their present ways and refuse to see any damage they are causing to themselves or others—until serious consequences strike them.

You—not someone else—must be convinced you should change! You must *want* to change a bad habit!

After this critical step is taken, other essential steps are required. You must then:

2. **POWERFULLY RESOLVE TO CHANGE AND QUIT THE WRONG HABIT IMMEDIATELY.** This, in biblical terminology, is the second step in *repentance*. Don't put off a decision. You cannot expect success with a halfhearted or weak effort. You must be strongly motivated to change. Grasp the consequences or

potential consequences if you don't change.

3. DEVELOP A CHANGE-OF-BEHAVIOR PLAN. This means:

Understand the influences or situations that spark old habit patterns and avoid them whenever possible. Abram did not shake off his past until he moved to a new land (Gen. 12). (Some situations you may not be able to totally control or alter, but you can change your attitude toward them.)

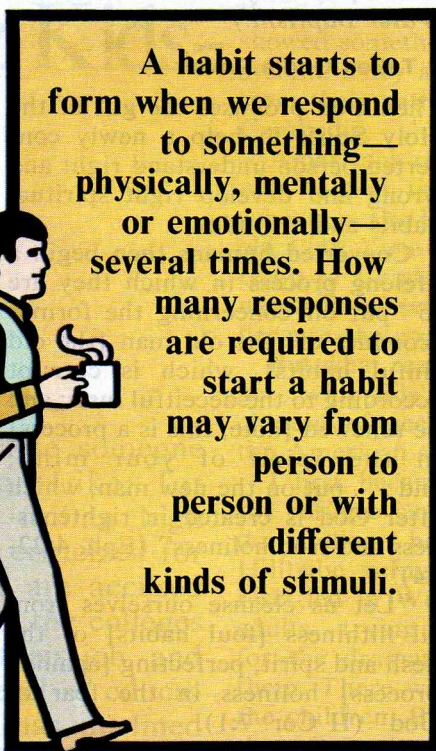
Develop right and *positive* habits or thought patterns to replace the old damaging patterns. Repeat right patterns as often as you can. These soon replace the wrong pattern of acting or feeling. You can do this if the new pattern has some great value or reward, or if failure to do so means an unwanted result.

Don't try to taper off from a bad habit. (Only a few situations might dictate differently. For instance, some physically addicting drugs could cause serious bodily harm or even death if suddenly quit "cold turkey." Some serious problems need the assistance and guidance of properly qualified and knowledgeable persons.) Occasionally, giving in increases rather than decreases the persistence of an old habit. Recognize and control self-defeating thought or reasoning patterns. Such thinking may be, "It'll be OK, just this once!" or, "He does it, why can't I?" or, "Why deprive myself when there are so few pleasures in life?" Resolve not to start a pattern of giving way to pressures from friends or others. This is one of the toughest challenges in habit breaking. Keep your eyes on your goal.

Don't give in to your old habit—even once. You'll refire the old habit and get hooked again. Permissive thoughts and actions do count; it is like rewelding and energizing the old cables of habit. Yet if you do slip, don't get discouraged. It is difficult to break habits, to give up entrenched sins. Most people slip from time to time in the process of struggling against a bad habit. Get started again. Failure is certain only if you give up.

4. SEEK PROFESSIONAL HELP IF NECESSARY TO OVERCOME PHYSI-

CAL HABITS. It is not possible for this article to properly cover all the various kinds of damaging habits humans can fall prey to, and to cover the special considerations that may be necessary to deal with them. Sound health and financial, ministerial or other help may be needed. Various pamphlets or books dealing with specific kinds of



A habit starts to form when we respond to something—physically, mentally or emotionally—several times. How many responses are required to start a habit may vary from person to person or with different kinds of stimuli.

physical problems are available and helpful. For spiritual bad habits, you have Jesus Christ and the Bible to turn to for divine help.

A New Outlook Needed

Changing bad habits often demands living different patterns of life. It usually requires a totally different outlook on life, a sharp redefining of what is most important in life.

Breaking damaging habits means seriously asking, perhaps for the first time, "What is the true purpose of life?" You will need to understand what character really is and its importance in successful living.

Character is coming to know right from wrong, good from bad. It means admitting when you are wrong and turning from the wrong. It means determining, despite all difficult circumstances, to do the right instead of the wrong. That means a person must mobilize all

available resources to conquer a bad habit. And here is where the power of the Spirit of God comes in to overcome bad physical and spiritual habits or sins. Overcoming bad habits is one of life's supreme challenges!

You have to ask yourself squarely, "Is being a slave to a bad habit—damaging my mental or physical health, being obnoxious to my neighbor—really the way God wants me to live?"

"Glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's [not truly yours]," reveals Scripture.

Some may say, "But my bad habits are not my fault!" Perhaps that is true, particularly if patterns started in early years of life under wrong influences or from ignorance.

But the fact is, there was a time when habits were within our control, but we *permitted* them to reach a point where they became out of control. In other words, we caused them to develop; conversely we can cause them to disappear.

There are all kinds of annoying habits. Perhaps not all are necessarily great faults, but then again, maybe they could be. Such could be chewing food with one's mouth open or talking with food in one's mouth. Frequent body odor in social situations from not enough bathing reveals a lack of sense of decorum or lack of concern for oneself or others. These become sin if you contemptuously refuse to change them after you realize them.

There are some bad habits that are outright sin.

"... Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God" (I Cor. 6:9-10).

Certain individuals develop the habit of lying, of exaggerating or cursing.

Human Power Not Enough

The Bible reveals all of the essential laws of overcoming bad habits mentioned in this article.

That is because the true way of life—the way of giving—is not just

“accepting the Lord in your hearts,” as many religious leaders emphasize. Living right before God is overcoming wrong habits of acting, thinking and feeling. It is developing—with God’s help and his written revelation—sound mental, emotional and spiritual traits of character.

“To him that overcometh [sinful pulls and habits] will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame [temptations to sin], and am set down with my Father in his throne,” said Jesus Christ (Rev. 3:21).

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked,” emphasizes Scripture, “for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap” (Gal. 6:7).

We sow bad habits, we reap sickness, sorrow and eventually death.

The ultimate author of all bad habits is Satan the devil. Some deny his existence. But he is very real. He has influenced the way this world has lived throughout history. The apostle Paul put it plainly in Ephesians 2:2:

“... in time past [before repentance] ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince [Satan] of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.”

Satan broadcasts into human minds wrong moods, feelings and ideas to which humans can respond.

With what results? “Among whom also we *all* had our [conduct] in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind...” (verse 3).

But God calls some in every age to a life of overcoming these lusts and desires. For these called-out ones, the change process (repentance and conversion) is to be so far-reaching that only the power of God joined with human will and effort can produce a new man or woman with totally new habits.

Notice the way to begin breaking bad habits:

“Let the wicked *forsake his way*, and the unrighteous man his *thoughts*: and let him return unto the Lord...” (Isa. 55:7).

“Repent,” said Peter in Acts 2:38. That means a change in life-

style and an about-face in thinking. For a wholly repentant individual it means demonstrating total surrender to God by being immersed in water, or baptism. This pictures the death of the old man and his wrong habitual ways and the emergence of the new man—one desirous of forsaking his old habits and of totally going God’s way. (Write for our free explanatory booklet *All About Water Baptism*.)

It Takes God’s Power

Then God promises the gift of the Holy Spirit to help a newly converted person understand right and wrong and develop right spiritual habits and attitudes.

Converted humans then begin a lifelong process in which they are to “put off concerning the former [conduct of] the old man [the old sinful habits], which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; and be renewed [note, this is a process] in the spirit of your mind; and . . . put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness” (Eph. 4:22-24).

“Let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness [foul habits] of the flesh and spirit, perfecting [again, a process] holiness in the fear of God” (II Cor. 7:1).

Many bad habits and emotions are too deep, too powerful, to be overcome by human power alone. Why? Because they are spiritual in nature. God has set in motion spiritual laws (Rom. 7:14), and they cannot be fully fulfilled (as good habits) by human power and effort alone.

In addition, Satan and his evil host of fallen angels (demons) work to discourage humans from changing their wrong habits or sins (see Ephesians 6:10-18). And social organizations and customs often militate against making such changes.

God knows all these difficulties. That is why human beings are offered such fantastic rewards of rulership in God’s kingdom for overcoming.

God offers “exceeding great and precious promises [his Holy Spirit among them]: that by these ye might be partakers of the *divine nature*, having escaped the corrup-

tion that is in the world through *lust*” (II Pet. 1:4).

“(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal [in our own strength], but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) casting down imaginations [or reasonings], and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ” (II Cor. 10:4-5).

Scripture commands, “And be not conformed to this world [with its wrong outlook and habits]: but be ye transformed by the *renewing* of your mind . . .” (Rom. 12:2).

Character development involves *meditating* on doing what is right. The book of Psalms is full of material on which to meditate. See also a grand summation of what our minds should center upon in Philipians 4:8. Character involves *doing* what is right, not just agreeing with what is right. If you are a hearer but not a doer you deceive yourself (Jas. 1:22).

Overcoming some bad habits will be possible only through humbly yielding to God and asking him for your needs *daily*—like getting strength from eating food several times a day.

“... work out your own salvation with [godly] fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to *will* and to *do* of his good pleasure” (Phil. 2:12-13).

But what if you slip? Get totally discouraged and momentarily want to give up? That’s the attitude Satan would like you to fall into!

“If we confess our sins [falling into bad spiritual habits that violate God’s law], he [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (I John 1:9).

In this human life, you may never totally overcome all bad habits or sinful pulls. But God wants to know the direction you have irrevocably chosen to go in your mind and life.

When need be, overcomers are instructed to seek help and encouragement from proper sources: “Brethren, if a man be overtaken in

(Continued on page 44)

Refugee Whiz Kids— Are They Just Smarter?

It is easy to blame someone else when things go wrong. Like, for instance, when your child is failing high school. High schools today are criticized for graduating illiterates. Teachers are accused of being incompetent. Many feel the colleges and universities are not doing their job, and it is evident that the general level of education among America's youths has declined over the last 20 years. According to reports from our *Plain Truth* offices around the world, the same is true in other industrialized countries. In Britain, France, West Germany, Canada, South Africa and Australia, parents and educators are concerned about the declining standards and deteriorating quality of the education of the young.

One third of all people on earth cannot read or write. They are mainly the rural inhabitants of the poorer undeveloped nations. But now, it seems we must add to this figure a growing number of young people in industrialized countries who are *functionally* illiterate—lacking all but the most basic language and mathematical skills. Leading law schools and universities find that they must teach remedial courses in “bonehead” English and elementary math. Forty-nine percent of children in one school couldn't find the Pacific Ocean on a globe of the world.

Whose fault is it? Blame the schools. Blame the administration. Blame the teachers. Blame the. . .

But wait a minute.

Amid the clamor to find a scapegoat, in America

there is a group of young people who have quietly showed something very positive about their education system. They are the children who came as refugees from their battered homelands in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

Americans read about the young Southeast Asians who topped the honor rolls at several major high schools in the United States this year. Or of 12-year-old Linn Yann who had escaped from a forced labor camp in Cambodia only four years ago. Linn Yann narrowly missed winning a major spelling contest only because she couldn't spell *enchilada*.

But what readers may not realize is that these refugee “whiz kids” are not so unusual. Most of the Indo-Chinese refugee children have done remarkably well in the American school system.

I first became acquainted with these children in the refugee camps of Northern Thailand. Ambassador College had been asked to help Laotian and Hilltribe refugees who had been approved to be resettled in Western countries. We taught only the adults—trying to prepare these simple rural people for the dramatic change that would soon come to them. There was not the time or resources to teach the children. But day after day they peered through the windows of the primitive classrooms, watching with fascination as their parents struggled to learn English.

The children picked up a few phrases here and there. “Hellohowareyoufinethankyou!” they would shout in one long breath when they met us in the camp. Then they scattered in all directions, squealing with delight over their ability to speak “English.”

We worried for them. How would they survive? Just 6, 7 and 8 years old; many were orphans, with at best only a few months of formal schooling. The Indo-Chinese wars severely disrupted the already inadequate education systems. These children had been malnourished and traumatized. When given a paper and pencil they would draw scenes of bombs falling on villages, or of peasants being executed and tortured. Now precious years were being wasted as they waited in the limbo of a refugee camp. These early years are vital in laying a foundation for future education. A child needs a stable home, security and a good diet. Would these little waifs ever make up lost ground? We need not have worried.

They are doing well—remarkably well—in U.S. schools. And some are performing brilliantly. So, before we become too critical of our schools and teachers, let's see what these refugee children can tell us.

One of the largest concentrations of Southeast

Asian refugees is in California's Orange County. Schools in this area have risen to the challenge of catering for the influx of hundreds of non-English-speaking students. Principal of the Spurgeon Intermediate School in Santa Ana, Dan Salcedo, invited me to talk with some of the refugee students at his school.

Huyen is a shy little eighth grader. She has only been in Santa Ana for eight months. Her parents and most of her family are still in Vietnam. Mr. Salcedo showed me the beautifully written story of her escape—the horrors of the boat ride, attacks by pirates, the uncertainty of the months in the refugee camp. Without her parents, cast up in a strange land, one would expect Huyen Bui to be an emotional basket case—and an underachiever. She is not. She is quiet, respectful and composed. Occasionally she looked to a Vietnamese teacher for help in understanding, but considering she has been in America for only eight months, her grasp of English was incredible.

Tu-quyen Nguyen has been in America for two and one-half years. She is fortunate—both her parents are here too. When she arrived, she spoke only Vietnamese. But now the 14-year-old eighth grader conversed with me in fluent, rapid-fire clipped English. Tu-quyen was excited. She had learned some things about Einstein's theories of relativity, and she wanted to share them with me.

Hang Lor is also an eighth grader. He is Cambodian, and before he entered the seventh grade of Spurgeon Intermediate, two years ago, he had not been inside a classroom in his life. Today Hang speaks articulate, grammatically correct English. His goal is to be a doctor.

Little Sisouvanthong is Laotian. She and her family escaped from their homeland just more than two years ago. But like the others, Sisouvanthong speaks clear, logical, fluent English and is one of the top students in the school.

Mouaphoua and Mouatheng are cousins. Their parents are Hmong tribesmen. Before leaving their homes in the mountains of Laos, these youngsters received no formal education whatsoever. But after only a few months at Spurgeon Intermediate they are more than holding their own.

All these young people are above average academically for their grades. They have exceeded all expectations. Yet, with possibly one exception, they are not above average in brilliance. How is it then that they, and thousands like them, have come so far, so fast, in a school system that is criticized for turning out inferior products?

I asked these young people what they liked, and what they did not like, about American schools. Their answers are revealing. All the children, without exception, had nothing but praise for their school and their teachers. They all agreed vociferously that what they appreciated most in the classroom was the freedom. They didn't mean political freedom—most are too young to understand the nuances of that. But, in America, they explained, the students are free to talk

to the teacher, to ask questions and to discuss the subject matter.

Khamchong Luangprasuet, supervisor of the Indo-Chinese Program for the Santa Ana School District, explained that the youngsters have not met anyone quite like their American teachers. In a traditional Asian teaching situation, the teacher, not the student, is the most important person. He is an autocratic figure, whose word is law, *never* to be questioned. He is to be looked up to by students *and* their parents. He is the master, the guru, but rarely a friend. Much learning in Asian schools is done by rote. The students have to concentrate. The emphasis is on memorization, rather than understanding. But teaching *with understanding*, according to Mr. Khamchong, is the American schools' great strength. Information is presented in an interesting way. Lateral thinking is encouraged. All the young Asians said that they really appreciated their teachers' concern for them as individuals.

Did they like the school? They loved it. So clean. Plenty of books. A library. Do they have to study too hard? No. Is there too much homework? No—if you want to learn you have to study, they said. And the teachers will always help you learn more.

So what, I asked them, *don't* you like about your American schools?

Once again the answer was almost unanimous. Sometimes the other students won't let the teacher teach. They make noises in class or won't keep still. They don't like to do their homework and don't seem to be interested in their lessons.

These youngsters have shown Americans something about their schools that we would do well to heed.

It is easy to blame the schools and teachers for a young person's poor performance. *It is true* that not all teachers are competent (although *most* are, given a chance). *It is true* that much time has been wasted fooling around with academically irrelevant courses that are entertaining but offer nothing of substance. American educators are beginning to awaken to this. There is a move to get back to basics.

It is also true that schools are too often hamstrung by regulations and administrators that protect the incompetent and give sanctuary to the inept.

But in those same schools, refugee children have, in general, done well.

Their teachers say they are a joy to teach. They are polite, they listen and they do their homework. Students like this give teachers some hope.

To be a high school teacher in America or Europe can be a thankless task. Day after day, you may have to stand in front of a group of unmotivated, turned-off, supercilious, belligerent adolescents who aren't interested, don't like you and have no desire to learn. Dare to discipline them, and you risk a beating up after school (or having your morning coffee laced with acid, as happened to a teacher in Britain not long ago).

As one high school teacher told me recently, "It is said that we leave the profession because the pay is not good enough. But most of (Continued on page 44)

RELIGIOUS REAWAKENING... Needed in Our Time?

by Roderick C. Meredith

Is modern society really going to get better? What lies ahead in our moral and spiritual future? You may be in for a shock!

WHAT is really going to happen over the next decade or two? Are we going to witness a spiritual revival of brotherly love among men and nations—and therefore a sharp decline in crime, violence and wars?

Or will it be just the *opposite*?

Many sincerely religious people are hoping for what they call a “religious reawakening in our time.” They think that somehow, by prayer and zealous efforts, the churchgoing people can win over the rest of the world to an acceptance of Jesus Christ as Savior, and thus bring about peace and tranquility among all men everywhere.

But what does the Bible say?

How does Almighty GOD—through his Word—describe the religious future of this world, which is absolutely CERTAIN to come?

What's Happening

In America, despite an increase in church attendance and religious interest during the 1970s and early 1980s, crime, violence and illicit sex have increased at a rapid rate. As reported in a recent edition of *U.S. News & World Report* magazine, serious crimes per thousand persons were way up in all major

U.S. cities. In New York City, serious crime increased 47 percent during that period even though population was down. Chicago's serious crimes increased 61 percent, in Los Angeles the increase was 74 percent and in Philadelphia the figure was up 143 percent!

In addition, United Press reported that the number of children born out of wedlock in the United States increased by 431 percent from 1970 to 1982. In 1980, unmarried women accounted for nearly one in five births.

Some may ask, “What do crime statistics have to do with religion?”

They have *everything* to do with true religion. For TRUE Christianity is not a dead belief, but a vibrant way of life that deeply affects our standard of conduct.

Think about it. Would a genuinely “Christian” nation—a nation that truly followed Jesus Christ—have the shocking crime statistics just cited? Would it have the surging growth in the numbers of illegitimate children being born?

And what about other nations?

In Britain, the *New Standard* of June 24, 1981, reported: “The necessity for action gets more imperative by the day. For 10,000 girls under the age of 16—the legal minimum age for marriage—now become pregnant every year. Abortions to girls

under 16 have more than doubled in the past 10 years to 3,500 a year and unwanted pregnancies among girls aged between 15 and 19, after a drop in the mid-1970s, are on the increase again.”

From the *Times* of London, this excerpted article from their Paris correspondent: “‘Drug addiction in France and the traffic of drugs have reached, in Paris at least, catastrophic proportions; medical institutions and the police are submerged by a veritable rising tide.’ So begins the 1982 annual report of the Marmottan drug addiction centre in Paris.

“Drug offences in the Paris region doubled last year, latest police figures show. At the Marmottan centre there were 2,439 new cases of heroin addiction—an increase of 17 percent over the previous year; in the last four months of 1982 the number of new heroin cases rose by 30 percent.

“The traffic in heroin is booming and [heroin] addicts now account for 40 percent of all drug addicts in France, compared with only 6 percent six years ago.”

Is France then a Christian nation?

And, summing up a speech given by Britain's Prince Philip, the *Daily Telegraph* reported in October 1977:

“In a free-wheeling condemnation of the proliferation of crime, pornography, violence, internation-

al terrorism and other social ills, Prince Philip yesterday suggested that modern society was tolerating 'moral and behavioural standards of a colony of monkeys.' ”

Are these horrifying conditions prophesied to get better? And are we going to have a *true* religious reawakening? Or are we going to have merely an increase in religious CONFUSION and CHAOS accompanied by the greatest outbreak of crime, violence, corruption, lust, madness and physical and spiritual degeneracy in the entire history of this earth?

What Almighty God Prophesies

Facing up to the real truth is often a very sobering experience. And so it is in the present case.

But if you want to understand what is really going to take place, you need to study and believe the literally dozens of scriptures in the Bible that directly describe the religious future of our entire Western civilization. And it is important to note that ALL these prophecies say the same thing!

Jesus Christ set the keynote himself in his Olivet prophecy when his disciples asked him what would be the sign of his coming, and the end of the age. Jesus answered, “Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive *many*” (Matt. 24:3-5).

Notice that Jesus said MANY—not a few, but MANY—would come “in his name.” These men do NOT come in their *own* name, but in the name of *Christ!* In plain language, then, they are so-called Christian preachers—telling people *about* Christ. But they are evidently not preaching his message, for Jesus went on to say that they “shall DECEIVE *many*.”

Then Jesus listed four more conditions leading up to his Second Coming: wars, famines, pestilences, and persecution on his servants.

Describing the latter, Jesus Christ said, “Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name’s sake. . . . And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound,

the love of many shall wax cold” (verses 9, 11-12).

Here is a clear description of the fact that *false prophets* were to arise soon after Christ’s time. But it also indicates that there will even be an *increase* in these false prophets right at the time of the end—the time in which we NOW live! And please notice that in every case it is the MANY who are deceived—not the few!

Even in what is commonly called the “sermon on the Mount,” Jesus prophesied this same condition. He said, “Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go

Are we going to have a true religious reawakening? Or are we going to have merely an increase in religious confusion and chaos . . . ?

in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it” (Matt. 7:13-14).

Can we believe that Jesus Christ really KNEW what he was talking about?

Jesus continued this warning: “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits . . .” (verses 15-16).

Here our Savior warned that the false prophets do not look like false prophets, but rather like sheep. But to really know how God regards them, you have to look to their fruits—the results—what they bring forth just as a tree brings forth or produces fruits either good or bad.

Examine the Fruits of Religion

Look about you in some of our Western nations. Have the peoples of these nations learned the *way* to peace? to happiness? to joy? What are the real fruits that their religion

has produced in the lives of the people?

Perhaps many of us have not looked at it that way before. But that is EXACTLY the way Almighty God looks at it! Jesus continues, “Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that *doeth* the WILL of my Father which is in heaven” (verse 21).

Throughout the Old Testament—even from the time of Abraham—God required men to OBEY his commandments in order to receive his blessings. All ten of the Ten Commandments were in force and effect. But somehow, men reason, this is no longer the Father’s will. Many argue that Jesus came to do away with God’s law—to nail it to his cross.

However, when a young man came to ask him how to inherit eternal life, Jesus himself answered, “Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God; but if thou wilt enter into life, KEEP *the commandments*” (Matt. 19:17). Then Jesus showed which commandments he meant by naming some of the Ten Commandments (verses 18-19).

Yet the popular doctrine today is that these commandments have somehow been done away so that we no longer have to keep them. There are many different brands of reasonings and arguments used to explain this idea.

Some claim that Jesus fulfilled the commandments in such a way that Christians no longer have to keep them. Others say that the commandments were “nailed to the cross,” and no longer binding. Still other denominations teach that nine of the commandments are still binding, but that one was nailed to the cross. And some groups even go so far as to say that all 10 of God’s commandments were nailed to the cross, but that Jesus somehow brought back nine of them into effect—thus leaving one of them nailed up there!

What CONFUSION! What reasoning men will use to get around obedience to the spiritual laws that God gave to man to keep him in the right knowledge of his God, and to teach him how to have joy and peace in his relations with his fellowman!

Yes, as Jesus said, many cry out, "Lord, Lord," but absolutely REFUSE to obey the *revealed will of Almighty God*.

How Christ Feels About Lawlessness

Describing how he will have to deal with these self-appointed ministers when he returns, Jesus said, "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?" (Matt. 7:22.)

These ministers will tell Jesus how they used his name in preaching to great multitudes of people. They will explain how in the name of religion and Christ they overcame the "devils" of superstition and ignorance in their mission schools and in their dealings with primitive people.

These men will wax eloquent in describing the wonderful works that they accomplished in the name of religion and Christ. They will inform Jesus of the great hospitals and clinics they established around the world.

They will tell Jesus of the homes for unwed mothers and battered wives, the camps for wayward boys, the missions they have established to feed and clothe the drunks and down-and-outs in the skid row sections of many cities, and the Christmas baskets and similar gifts they take to the poor on their religious holidays.

Is Jesus Christ—the Christ of the Bible—going to be pleased with all of these accomplishments in his name?

He answers, "And then will I profess unto them, I NEVER knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (verse 23). Jesus will say he never—*never* at any time—knew these men as his servants! He tells them to depart from him!

But notice what he says about their "works." He says, "Ye that work *iniquity*." The Greek word here translated "iniquity" literally means LAWLESSNESS—disobedience to God's law!

Their religion is a futile attempt to treat the effect of automatic punishment caused by disobedience to the law of God!

Substituting Human Devices for Obedience to Divine Law

In regard to the thousands of hospitals put up in the name of religion, the Christ you read of in the Bible supernaturally HEALED people of sickness and disease. And he did that without resorting to the terribly expensive and too often painful and unsatisfactory procedures now employed in this "enlightened age" in which we live.

The help of skilled doctors and nurses certainly is at times necessary to perform some functions that do not interfere with the natural working of our God-designed bodies. But Jesus will call the ministers

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to account for not teaching their flocks real faith in GOD for the true healing that he had promised. And the medical community will be rebuked for neglecting to teach the people the physical laws that would prevent most sickness and disease in the first place!

The rise of faith in man (and the demise of faith in God) to heal, caused too often by the limited and limiting knowledge of the religious and medical communities, is a tragic substitute for obedience to the physical laws of God that would PREVENT SICKNESS in the first place—or the divine healing if some unwitting infraction or carelessness does result in sickness or an accident.

You see, God's laws would STOP most of our troubles before they get started!

What about the homes for unwed mothers, the camps for wayward boys, the missions to take care of the derelicts?

Christ's answer is that if every professing minister in the land

would proclaim God's LAW as a way of life, there wouldn't EXIST the need for any of these things just mentioned!

Illegitimate, fatherless or runaway children, who eventually often end up as derelicts, exist as a result of a lack of teaching of the basic *biblical laws* concerning responsibility to God, fellowman and to self!

This is a LAWLESS age! The *rebellion* of our society against obedience to God's law is now reflecting itself in disobedience to all the laws of man and even the principles of human decency!

It is a mockery to proclaim the name of Jesus Christ as "Lord" and then deny the message of obedience to the laws of Almighty God that he brought to this earth and on which he based his entire life and teaching!

When will we WAKE UP? This type of lawless teaching is NOT Christianity! Rather, what we now see taking place in the breakdown of our society is the end result of a great APOSTASY from the truth of God, which was prophesied to occur in the Bible.

Jesus warned of this falling away from the truth. Now let us notice a few more of the scores of scriptures that warn that a *false* "Christianity" would arise and submerge the real TRUTH of Christ and his apostles.

Great Apostasy Prophesied

While he was yet on earth, Jesus warned his apostles, "If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying [they killed him instead], they will keep yours also" (John 15:20).

Then Jesus warned his apostles of even worse things to come: "... the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service" (John 16:2).

The *truth* of God and *message* of Jesus Christ has NEVER been popular! History tells us indisputably that the early apostles of Jesus were persecuted and most of them killed. The world did NOT accept the true message from them any more than it had from Christ himself.

Even within God's true Church, the apostle Paul was inspired to

write of a coming apostasy from the truth: "For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them" (Acts 20:29-30).

Here Paul was warning the leaders of the Ephesian church that others would infiltrate and that even some of their own number would apostatize and lead many off into false religion!

Notice the apostle Paul's inspired description of these false ministers: "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his [the devil's] ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be *according to their works*" (II Cor. 11:13-15).

Paul says these false ministers **APPEAR** to be righteous. But actually, Satan is the master deceiver—and these are his ministers!

These false ministers teach a doctrine of "no works"—*no obedience to God's law*. But Paul said they are going to be judged by the very thing they **DENY!** For their "end" shall be "according to their **WORKS!**"

Paul also showed the Thessalonian Christians that the day of the Lord could not come until a great apostasy took place. He wrote: "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin [or lawlessness] be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God" (II Thess. 2:3-4).

All reputable Greek lexicons or interlinears will show you that this "man of sin" should be called the "man of **LAWLESSNESS**"—for the original Greek word means "opposed to law" or "lawless."

Speaking of that very time, Paul said, "For the mystery of **LAWLESSNESS** doth already work" (verse 7, Panin translation).

Yes, even in Paul's day, a form of Christianity was beginning to develop within the Roman Empire! It was based on accepting the **NAME** of Jesus—but teaching a doctrine of lawlessness and denying his command and example to obey the commandments of God.

The Bible shows that this false religious system—this false "Christianity"—will continue to develop until the end of this age. "And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders" (verses 8-9).

Here is a clear description of what culminates in the time of Christ's Second Coming: a **GREAT APOSTASY** that shall have seduced the world (verses 10-12).

The "Little Flock"

The last book in the Bible, the book of Revelation, written by the apostle John, also tells the same story. In Revelation 12, we find a description of the true Church. It existed through the centuries as a small, persecuted Church, which had to flee for safety (verse 6).

But at the time of the end there is to be a war in heaven: "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the *whole world*: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him" (verse 9). Here Satan is clearly described as deceiving this **ENTIRE** earth!

Can we believe that the Bible really *means* what it says?

Then follows a description of how the people of God's true Church—the "little flock" of Jesus (Luke 12:32)—will be protected from the final tribulation—a persecution in the name of religion. Satan is angry with this small, but obedient Church—for its members *obey God's law*. "And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Rev. 12:17).

Notice that the Church that is to be protected by God is an **OBE-**

DIENT Church—obedient to the commandments of God.

But the description obviously implies that it is small and persecuted—**NOT** a great denomination or movement bringing about a great, world-shaking spiritual awakening in our time.

Propheesied to Happen

No. There is **NOT** going to be a great spiritual awakening to God's **TRUTH** before Christ's Second Coming!

Rather—unless our peoples repent of breaking God's law—we will see the greatest revival of sin and degradation and lawlessness in the entire history of this earth!

Though worldwide we are witnessing the reuniting of long-divided churches, and even growing interdenominational rapport, these will pale into insignificance in the face of a truly earthshaking religious revitalization that will take place on the European continent!

It is **NOW** taking shape! It will be a religious-political revival of the ancient Roman Empire with its ancient church-state-military combination. It will at first appear harmless—in fact, even beneficent.

On attaining power over the coming Roman Empire, its leader will appeal to the masses as their Savior against atheistic communism and from the religious confusion and hedonism into which America and the British peoples have fallen.

This coming religious revitalization in Europe will bring punishment upon America and Britain because we have forsaken our God and his commandments!

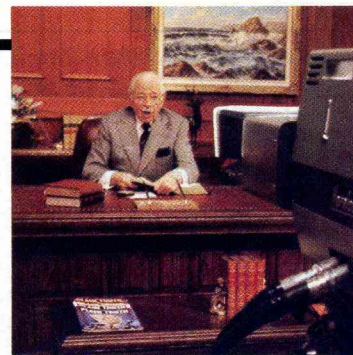
It is nice to think sweet thoughts and hope for some worldwide spiritual rejuvenation. But what you need to do is to face up to the truth!

It is high time you realized that something is terribly wrong with the confusion of denominations that is being palmed off as "Christianity" today.

It is time we learned that the modern religious philosophies that deny God's law and authority are condemned in the Bible as evil. It's time we all changed and began to study and believe what is in the Bible! □

"THE WORLD TOMORROW"

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of *The World Tomorrow* on TELEVISION and RADIO.



RADIO LOG

Listed by state or province are the station's call letters, location, frequency and time when the *World Tomorrow* program is aired.

U.S.

ALABAMA

WERC, Birmingham — 960, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.
WMGY, Montgomery — 800, 6:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.

ALASKA

KBYR, Anchorage — 700, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.
KCBF, Fairbanks — 820, 10:30 p.m., Sun.-Sat.

CALIFORNIA

KGRB, City of Industry — 900, 12:00 noon, Mon.-Sat.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.
KBOB-FM, City of Industry — 98.3, 12:00 noon, Mon.-Sat.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.
KMJ, Fresno — 580, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 6:30 a.m., Sun.
KIEV, Glendale — 870, 11:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 11:30 a.m., Sun.
KRAK, Sacramento — 1140, 10:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.
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COLORADO

KQXI, Arvada — 1550, 3:45 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 11:30 a.m., Sun.
KLZ, Denver — 560, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WRC, Washington — 980, 7:30 a.m., Sun.

FLORIDA

WLQY, Ft. Lauderdale — 1320, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WCGL, Jacksonville — 1360, 8:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 6:30 a.m., Sun.
WGBS, Miami — 710, 11:30 p.m., Sun.-Sat.
WINZ, Miami — 940, 12:05 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WVCF, Orlando — 1480, 8:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:30 a.m. Sat., 10:30 a.m., Sun.
WPLP, Seminole — 570, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 11:30 p.m., Sun.

GEORGIA

WPLO, Atlanta — 590, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

ILLINOIS

WMAQ, Chicago — 670, 4:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 6:30 a.m., 10:00 p.m., Sun.
WXCL, Peoria — 1350, 12:05 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:30 a.m. Sun.

INDIANA

WOWO, Ft. Wayne — 1190, 11:15 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.
WSBT, South Bend — 960, 11:15 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

IOWA

KIOA, Des Moines — 940, 5:05 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.
KXEL, Waterloo — 1540, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m. Sun.

KANSAS

KGGF, Coffeyville — 690, 6:00 p.m., Sun.-Sat.

KENTUCKY

WTKC, Lexington — 1300, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WCII, Louisville — 1080, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.
WKJJ-FM, Louisville — 99.7, 8:00 a.m., Sun.

LOUISIANA

WJBO, Baton Rouge — 1150, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:00 a.m., Sun.
WGSO, New Orleans — 1280, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:30 a.m. Sun.
KWKH, Shreveport — 1130, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

MASSACHUSETTS

WMRE, Boston — 1510, 5:15 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 5:30 a.m., Sat.; 6:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., Sun.

MICHIGAN

WLQV, Detroit — 1500, 12:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

MINNESOTA

WDGY, Minneapolis — 1130, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
KTCR, Minneapolis — 690, 12:00 noon, Mon.-Fri.
KROC, Rochester — 1340, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.

MISSOURI

KMBZ, Kansas City — 980, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:00 a.m., Sun.
WRTH, St. Louis — 590, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

NEW MEXICO

KOB, Albuquerque — 770, 7:00 a.m., Sun.
KRZY, Albuquerque — 1450, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 10:30 p.m., Sun.
KBCQ, Roswell — 1020, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

NEW YORK

WBEN, Buffalo — 930, 8:30 a.m., Sun.; 11:30 p.m., Sun.-Thur.
WMCA, New York — 570, 10:30 p.m., Sun.-Sat.
WOR, New York — 710, 11:30 p.m., Sun.-Sat.; 6:30 a.m. Sun.
WHAM, Rochester — 1180, 11:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.
WGY, Schenectady — 810, 10:30 p.m., Sun.
WEZG, Syracuse — 1220, 7:00 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

NORTH CAROLINA

WAZZ-FM, New Bern — 101.9, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WRNB, New Bern — 1490, 8:30 a.m., Sun.

OHIO

WSLR, Akron — 1350, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:00 p.m., Sun.
WCKY, Cincinnati — 1530, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WBBG, Cleveland — 1260, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WMNI, Columbus — 920, 5:00 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:00 a.m., Sun.
WONE, Dayton — 980, 11:30 p.m. Mon.-Sun.

OKLAHOMA

WKY, Oklahoma City — 930, 5:00 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.
KVOO, Tulsa — 1170, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

OREGON

KWJJ, Portland — 1080, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

PENNSYLVANIA

WHP, Harrisburg — 580, 7:30 p.m., Sun.-Sat.
KQV, Pittsburgh — 1410, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

SOUTH DAKOTA

WNAX, Yankton — 570, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 11:00 a.m., Sun.

TENNESSEE

WREC, Memphis — 600, 4:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 6:00 a.m., Sun.
WLAC, Nashville — 1510, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WETQ-FM, Oak Ridge — 94.3, 6:00 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.

TEXAS

KRLD, Dallas — 1080, 11:30 p.m., Sun.
KPRC, Houston — 950, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 10:00 p.m., Sun.
WOAI, San Antonio — 1200, 10:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 p.m., Sat.; 10:00 a.m., Sun.

UTAH

KSL, Salt Lake City — 1160, 12:06 a.m., Tue.-Sat.; 5:30 a.m., Sun.

VERMONT

WSKI, Montpelier — 1240, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.

VIRGINIA

WNIS, Norfolk — 1350, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 10:00 a.m., Sun.
WRVA, Richmond — 1140, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sun.
WFIR, Roanoke — 960, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.

WASHINGTON

KEZX-FM, Seattle — 98.9, 12:05 midnight, Mon.-Sat.; 8:00 a.m., Sun.
KXLY, Spokane — 920, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
KXLY-FM, Spokane — 99.9, 7:30 a.m., Sun.

WEST VIRGINIA

WWVA, Wheeling — 1170, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

WYOMING

KYCN, Wheatland — 1340, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

CANADA

YUKON

CKRW, Whitehorse — 610, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:00 a.m., Sun.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

CFLD, Burns Lake — 1400, 8:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFWB, Campbell River — 1490, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKQR, Castlegar — 1230, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFPC, Courtenay — 1440, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFKC, Creston — 1340, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJDC, Dawson Creek — 1350, 8:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKAY, Duncan — 1500, 8:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.
CFNL, Fort Nelson — 590, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.
CKNL, Fort St. John — 560, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.
CKGR, Golden — 1400, 9:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKGF, Grand Forks — 1340, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 6:00 p.m., Sun.
CKTK, Kitimat — 1230, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKMK, Mackenzie — 1240, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKEG, Nanaimo — 1350, 11:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKKC, Nelson — 1390, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CKSP, Oliver-Summerland — 1450, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Thurs.
CKOO, Osoyoos — 1240, 9:30 p.m., Sun-Thur.
CISP-FM, Pemberton — 104.5, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 p.m., Sun.
CKOK, Penticton — 800, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Thur.
CJAV, Port Alberni — 1240, 10:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFNI, Port Hardy — 1240, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHQB, Powell River — 1280, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CIOI-FM, Prince George — 101.3, 10:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHTK, Prince Rupert — 560, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKCQ Quesnel — 920, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKCR, Revelstoke — 1340, 9:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKXR, Salmon Arm — 580, 9:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFBV, Smithers — 1230, 8:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CISQ-FM, Squamish — 104.9, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 p.m., Sun.
CFTK, Terrace — 590, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJAT, Trail — 610, 10:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJOR, Vancouver — 600, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKO-FM, Vancouver — 96.1, 8:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.
CIVH, Vanderhoof — 620, 8:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJVI, Victoria — 900, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.
CISW-FM, Whistler — 102.1, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 p.m., Sun.
CKWL, Williamslake — 570, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
100 Mile House — 1240, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

ALBERTA

CILW, Bonnyville — 1310, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKO-FM, Calgary — 103.1, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.
CFCW, Camrose — 790, 10:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFRN, Edmonton — 1260, 5:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHED, Edmonton — 630, 6:30 a.m., Sun.
CKO-FM, Edmonton — 101.9, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.
CJYR, Edson — 970, 7:00 a.m., Sun.
CKYR-1, Grande Cache — 1230, 7:00 a.m., Sun.
CJXX, Grande Prairie — 1430, 11:00 p.m., Sun.-Thur.
CIYR, Hinton — 1230, 7:00 a.m., Sun.
CKYR, Jasper — 1450, 7:00 a.m., Sun.
CHEC, Lethbridge — 1090, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHAT, Medicine Hat — 1270, 8:00 p.m., Sun.
CKYL, Peace River — 610, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHLW, St. Paul — 1310, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKSQ, Stettler — 1400, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFOK, Westlock — 1370, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFYR, Whitecourt — 1400, 7:00 a.m., Sun.

SASKATCHEWAN

CJSL, Estevan — 1280, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKSA, Lloydminster — 1080, 10:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJYR, Melfort — 1420, 8:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJNB, North Battleford — 1050, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.
CKBI, Prince Albert — 900, 7:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 11:00 p.m., Sun.
CJME, Regina — 1300, 8:15 a.m., Sun.
CKOM, Saskatoon — 1250, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
CJGL-FM, Swift Current — 94.1, 6:30 p.m., Sun.-Wed.
CFSL, Weyburn — 1190, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

MANITOBA

CKDM, Dauphin — 730, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFAR, Flin Flon — 590, 10:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJAR, The Pas — 1240, 10:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHTM, Thompson — 610, 10:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKJS, Winnipeg — 810, 12:05 noon, Mon.-Fri.

ONTARIO

CJNR, Blind River — 730, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKPC, Brantford — 1380, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJSS, Cornwall — 1220, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKNR, Elliott Lake — 1340, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKNS, Espanola — 930, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKAP, Kapuskasing — 580, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.
CFMK-FM, Kingston — 96.3, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJKL, Kirkland Lake — 560, 10:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKLY, Lindsay — 910, 9:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.
CKO-FM, London — 97.5, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.
CJTT, New Liskeard — 1230, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJRC, Ottawa (French) — 1150, 7:05 a.m., Sun.
CKO-FM, Ottawa — 106.9, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.
CFOS, Owen Sound 560, 10:30 p.m., Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., 11:00 p.m., Wed.

CHRO, Pembroke — 1350, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFMP-FM, Peterborough — 101.5, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJQM-FM, Sault Ste. Marie — 104.3, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKCY, Sault Ste. Marie — 920 10:30 p.m., Sun.
CJQR-FM, St. Catharines — 97.7, 10:00 a.m., Sun.
CJRN, St. Catharines-Niagara — 710, 11:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7:30 a.m., Sun.
CJMX-FM, Sudbury — 105.3, 5:30 a.m., 7:30 a.m., Sun., 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKO-FM, Toronto — 99.1, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.
CFGM, Toronto-Richmond Hill — 1320, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJTN, Trenton — 1270, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

QUEBEC

CKRS, Chicoutimi, (Fr) — 8:15 a.m., Sunday
CKO, Montreal — 1470, 9:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.
CFMB, Montreal (Fr) — 1410, 5:00 p.m., Sun.
CFMB, Montreal — 1410, 6:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJMS, Montreal (Fr) — 8:00 a.m., Sunday
CHNC, New Carlisle — 610, 6:45 p.m., Tue. and Thur.; 7:45 a.m., Sun.
CJRP, Quebec City (Fr) — 1060, 7:15 a.m., Sun.
CJRS, Sherbrooke (Fr) — 1510, 6:45 a.m., Sun.
CJSA, Ste. Agathe Des Monts (Fr) — 1230, 8:45 a.m., Sun.
CJER, St. Jerome (Fr) — 900, 8:45 a.m., Sun.
CKSJ, St. Jovite (Fr) — 1400, 8:45 a.m., Sun.
CKLD, Theford Mines (Fr) — 1330, 8:15 a.m., Sun.
CHLN, Trois Rivieres (Fr) — 550, 7:00 a.m., Sun.

ATLANTIC CANADA

CKDH, Amherst, N.S. — 900, 10:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJFX, Antigonish, N.S. — 580, 10:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKBC, Bathurst, N.B. — 1360, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.
CJVA, Caraquet (Fr), N.B. — 810, 10:15 a.m., Sunday, 9:00 p.m., Tues. and Thurs.
CIYQ, Central Nfld. — 680, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHTN, Charlottetown — 1190, 10:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFLC-FM, Churchill Falls, Lab. — 97.9, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFCB, Cornerbrook, Nfld. — 570, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFDL-FM, Deer Lake, Nfld. — 97.9, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJEM, Edmundston — 570, 8:35 a.m., Sun., 9:00 p.m., Tues. and Thurs.
CFNB, Fredericton, N.B. — 550, 11:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFYQ, Gander, Nfld. — 1350, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKGA, Gander, Nfld. — 730, 10:30 a.m., Sun.
CKCM, Grand Falls, Nfld. — 620, 10:30 a.m., Sun.
CKMV, Grand Falls — 8:35 a.m., Sun., 9:00 p.m., Tues. and Thurs.
CHFX-FM, Halifax, N.S. — 101.9, 9:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHNS, Halifax, N.S. — 960, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
CFNL, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Lab. — 1230, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHCM, Marystown, Nfld. — 560, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
CKCW, Moncton, N.B. — 1220, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKEC, New Glasgow, N.S. — 1320, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFNW, Port au Choix, Nfld. — 790, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFGN, Port aux Basques, Nfld. — 1230, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKYQ, Southern Nfld. — 610, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFNN-FM, St. Anthony, Nfld. — 97.9, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
VOCM, St. John's, Nfld. — 590, 9:00 a.m., Sun.
CJYQ, St. John's, Nfld. — 930, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CFSX, Stephenville, Nfld. — 910, 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CHER, Sydney, N.S. — 950, 10:30 p.m., Sun.-Thur.
CHYQ, Trinity Bay-Bonavista Bay, Nfld. — 670, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CKCL, Truro, N.S. — 600, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CFLW, Wabush, Lab. — 1340, 6:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
CJCK, Woodstock, N. Br. — 920, 7:00 p.m., Mon.-Sat., 5:00 p.m., Sun.
CJLS, Yarmouth, N.S. — 1340, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

CARIBBEAN

ZFB-1, (Eng) Hamilton, Bermuda — 960, 1:40 p.m., Mon.-Sun.
ZNS-3, (Eng) Freeport, Bahamas — 810, 6:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:00 a.m., Sun.
Radio Turks & Caicos, (Eng) Turks & Caicos — 7:00 p.m., Mon., Tue., Wed.; 7:30 p.m., Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.
RJR-FM, Christiana, Jamaica — 101.3, 8:00 p.m., Tues., Thurs., 9:30 p.m., Sun.
RJR-AM, Kingston, Jamaica — 720, 4:30 a.m., Thurs., Sat.
RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 92.7, 8:00 p.m., Tues., Thurs., 9:30 p.m., Sun.
RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 94.7, 4:30 a.m., Thurs., Sat.
RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 95.7, 8:00 p.m., Tues., Thurs., 9:30 p.m., Sun.
RJR-FM, Kingston, Jamaica — 104.5, 4:30 a.m., Thurs., Sat.
RJR-AM, Mandeville, Jamaica — 770, 4:30 a.m., Thurs., Sat.
RJR-FM, Montego Bay, Jamaica — 92.9, 8:00 p.m., Tues., Thurs., 9:30 p.m., Sun.
RJR-AM, Port Maria, Jamaica — 580, 4:30 a.m., Thurs., Sat.
RJR-FM, Spur Tree, Jamaica — 90.5, 4:30 a.m., Thurs., Sat.
MBC Radio Haiti — 10:30 a.m., Sun.
4VCM-4VGM-4VBM, (Fr) Haiti — 10:15 a.m., Sun.
WOSO, (Eng) San Juan, Puerto Rico — 1030, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
ZDK, Grenville Radio, (Eng) St. John's, Antigua — 11:00, FM 99, 7:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
Radio Caraibes, (Fr) Guadeloupe & Martinique — 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
Radio Caribbean, (Eng), St. Lucia — 840, 3:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
Rediffusion, (Eng) Bridgetown, Barbados — 10:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri., 9:30 a.m., Sun.
Radio Antilles, (Eng) Montserrat, Eastern Caribbean — 930, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 7:00 a.m., Sun.
Radio Antilles, (Fr) Montserrat, Antilles — 1450, 740, 6:00 a.m., Mon, Thur., Sat.
NBS, Trinidad — 610, 10:30 p.m., Sun.-Fri.
GBC, (Eng) Georgetown, Guyana — 760, 1:00 p.m., Mon., Wed., Fri.

NEW ZEALAND

4XO, Radio Otago, Dunedin — 1206, 9:30 p.m., Sun.
4XA Radio Central Alexandra — 531, 9:30 p.m., Sun.
4XC, Radio Central Queenstown — 1359, 9:30 p.m., Sun.
4XE, Radio Central Wanaka — 1359, 9:30 p.m., Sun.
1XP, Radio Pacific, Auckland — 1593, 6:00 p.m., Sun.
1XX, Radio Bay of Plenty N.Z. — 1242, 9:30 p.m., Sun.
2XS, Radio Manawatu, Palmerston No. — 828, 10:15 p.m., Sun.
4XF, Radio Foveaux, Invercargill — 1224, 8:00 p.m., Sun.

OTHER AREAS

3GL, Geelong, Victoria — 1341, 8:30 p.m., Sun.
A3Z, Tonga Radio, (Eng) Nuku'alofa — 1020, 6:30 p.m., Sun.
Radio Nauru — 1323, 10:00 a.m., Sun.
Hong Kong Radio, Kowloon — 1044, 6:30 a.m., 12:00 a.m., Sat.
Radio Ceylon — 7190, 9720, 15425, 9:00 p.m., Sun., Tue., Thur., Sat.
Radio Luxembourg, (Fr) Luxembourg — 5:15 a.m., Mon., 5:00 a.m. Tue., Thur.

See next issue for TV log

SPIRITUAL OFFENSIVE

(Continued from page 4)

pope scored many direct political points."

Startling Long-range View

John Paul II is pursuing both short-term and long-term goals. Regarding the former, it is to elevate the status of the church to that of co-rulership in Poland, to fully participate in the political and economic spheres of the country to help relieve the dispirited people's fortunes.

But the Pope's long-range view is not confined to Poland alone. His vision of the future is much more all-encompassing—and startling.

"The pope," wrote William Pfaff in the June 27 *Los Angeles Times*, "has undertaken the liberation of Eastern Europe. It is not too much to describe what he has begun with his second visit to Poland in those words. This audacious program involves serious risks, but also displays an intelligence, an understanding of history and a powerful will that are all but invisible among Western statesmen."

John Paul II believes that the unity and fervor of Poland's Catholics can provide, according to journalist Pfaff, "a first step in the moral reanimation of the other churches of the East, and then of the West."

The Pope has been consistent in this theme. Only last year in Spain, he proclaimed the following, in what he called a "Declaration to Europe":

"I, John Paul, son of the Polish nation which has always considered itself European by its origins, traditions, culture and vital relationships, Slavic among the Latins and Latin among the Slavs; . . . I, Bishop of Rome and Shepherd of the Universal Church, from Santiago, utter to you, Europe of the ages, a cry full of love: Find yourself again. Be yourself. Discover your origins, revive your roots."

Poland, unlike other countries of Europe, has not lost its roots. It has been fervently Roman Catholic for more than 1,000 years.

John Paul's intent is to solidify the church in Eastern Europe, then bring this fervor westward. It has already been "leaked" to the news media that very preliminary contacts have already been made between the Vatican and the Kremlin for the Pope to travel inside the Soviet Union to Lithuania.

Lithuanians are nearly as fervent in their Catholic faith as are Poles.

Some observers admit they cannot see the Soviet government actually agreeing to such an unprecedented venture. Others believe that Moscow

final mass in Krakow, when he prayed for "all the Christians of East and West, that they become united in Christ and expand the Kingdom of Christ throughout the world."

Moscow doesn't like what it sees, but is in a quandary as to how to derail the papal "spiritual offensive" in its satellite empire.

The Pope believes strongly that the Soviet Union's domination of Poland and of the rest of Eastern Europe is provisional, a passing episode in history. How can 38 years of Communist rule by force remain over countries such as Poland where the power of contrary ideas goes back a millennium?

Perhaps expecting the worst, Soviet leader Yuri Andropov, two days before the Pope left for Warsaw, delivered a clear warning to the Polish leadership—especially its more moderate leaders who pushed for the papal visit. In a speech in Moscow, Mr. Andropov exclaimed, "When the guiding hand of a communist party weakens, there exists the danger of slipping down to a . . . reformist way of development." He added that leaders of the East bloc must never weaken the party's grip on power.

Not long afterward, and during the Pope's trip to Poland, the first

spontaneous antigovernment demonstration broke out in Prague, Czechoslovakia. "Freedom for all nations," shouted 300 youths.

Pope Fills Moral Vacuum

Soviet concerns notwithstanding, Poland, it would seem now, is the nurturing ground and the advance wedge in Europe of a new—yet old—third-force "universal nationalism"—the resurrection of the old Holy Roman Empire, prophesied in the Bible to occur one last time.

It appears now that it was absolutely essential, in order for the prophesied end-time Roman system to reemerge, that a nation like



His extensive travels in five years of office have established John Paul II as the most charismatic leader in the Western world—a "spiritual superpower" says one American newsman.

would look weak and fearful should it refuse travel wishes on the part of the Pope. Soviet authorities already have a tarnished image because of allegations of top-level conspiracy in the attempt on the life of the Pope in 1981.

(The Pope credits the Black Madonna of Czestochowa, the icon whose 600th anniversary was the reason for the papal visit, with saving his life when he was shot two years ago. A large number of Poles also believe divine intervention saved their Pontiff.)

Believes Soviet Grip Will Loosen

The Pope gave further evidence of his long-range plan again during his

Poland preserve religious traditions so wholeheartedly, and that a leader—John Paul II—spring forth on the world stage from within such a climate to spread traditional Christian ideals continent-wide.

In this light, the noted Soviet author Alexander Solzhenitsyn, exiled to the West in 1974, has continued to rail against godless atheism in the East and an “eroded humanism” in the Western world, which he says leads to the “total emancipation from the moral heritage of Christian centuries.” The Russian philosopher adds that “our spiritual life . . . is trampled by the party mob in the East, by the commercial one in the West.”

The Pope says virtually the same thing. He has made it clear that he regards the acquisitive, commercialized capitalism of the West as scarcely preferable to the dialectical atheistic materialism of the East.

As a result, he is now stepping boldly into a moral vacuum in the world. A political vacuum, however, does not yet exist in Europe, which is still divided between the Soviet and U.S. spheres of influence. But it will come, and will be filled by the political authority of the prophesied church-state power.

With its deal in Poland the Vatican is setting the stage for opening a political breach in Europe between East and West. In the future, it might help engineer a far bigger event—this time not with Warsaw, but with Moscow, for the liberation of Eastern Europe.

To give its approval, Moscow would in turn likely demand the neutralization of Western Europe, forcing it to cut its ties to the United States.

Under such an arrangement, West Germany would be able to reunite with East Germany, since the latter would be geographically cut off from Moscow anyway if Poland were cut free.

A reunited Germany would be the political dynamo of a new Europe, a role the Poles, or others in the East, cannot play.

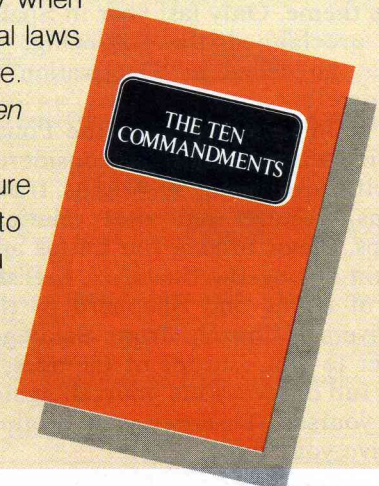
Truly awesome forces have been set in motion by the Pope’s second visit to his Polish homeland. □



the ORIGINAL ANSWER to age-old problems

Our problems are many . . . divorce rates spiral . . . children are increasingly defiant . . . criminals too often run free while the average person worries about how to defend himself. People are under stress. Where will it all end? Can it only get worse?

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School

(Continued from page 6)

out our lives. Bodies wear out—but brains *needn't*. But a home that places no value on education is like a worn-out plot of ground. Nothing can flourish there.

Teach Your Children to Respect Authority

Faced with the problem of educating young, energetic minds, a teacher has to have authority. Some educators experimented with letting children do exactly what they wanted. It didn't work. To do their job, teachers must be held in respect.

Lack of order and discipline has become the number one problem in the classroom today. A teacher may be ridiculed, baited and sometimes physically assaulted by youths who haven't the slightest degree of respect for his or her position. Is it any wonder that so many give up? How long could you take it?

Teachers complain that many students maintain an adversary relationship with all rules and regulations. Where did they learn that it is clever to get away with breaking rules? Who taught them that authority is out to get you and must be thwarted at every possible turn? Could it be partly your fault?

Have you trained them to resent and ridicule law and government? Not intentionally perhaps—but does your child hear you make disparaging remarks about the school, the police or others with positions of authority? How do you regard authority?

How can a child grow up with the proper respect for law when he sees parents cheerfully ignore speed limits, no parking signs and other regulations? Then, when you get caught, what does your child learn when he hears you fume against the "injustice" of it all? If your children hear you criticizing and ridiculing authority figures in life—your boss, your minister or your president or prime minister—you should not be surprised if they in turn lose respect for their teachers.

Parents who are polite to those

in authority, who grin and bear it when they make a mistake and get a ticket, and who show proper respect for their nation's flag and leaders are teaching their children a valuable lesson that can help them get the most from school.

Some female teachers say that they have a particular problem maintaining the respect of their students. These are children who do not think that women in authority should be taken seriously. Once again, this problem can stem from the home. Children must be taught to respect *both* parents. A father must back up his wife in setting of standards and maintaining discipline.

Parents should always make a special effort not to argue and disagree in front of their children. Studies have shown that the stress that comes from domestic strife seriously detracts from a child's academic performance. Most teachers can tell stories about promising children whose chances of success were sabotaged because their parents' marriage fell apart. The problems may have surfaced in the classroom—but the roots lay back in the unhappy home.

Above all, teachers ask that parents support them if they have to discipline their offspring at school. We heard of a case in Chicago, where a young Asian teacher on an exchange program from Taipei punished a sixth grader for talking back rudely. Next day she was summoned to the principal's office, to confront an irate mother and her petulant daughter. The teacher explained that she had nothing against the girl personally, but she was disrupting the classroom and wouldn't do what she was told. "Look," shouted the mother, "I pay my taxes! *You* do as you are told!" The little girl grinned smugly. The teacher quit.

How, oh how, teachers wish parents wouldn't do things like that!

Teach Your Children to Be Honest

Little Johnny is caught cheating during an exam. He is disqualified, and sent home with a note explain-

ing why. Apprehensively he gives it to Dad, who is busy making some last minute "adjustments" to his tax return. Just last week Johnny overheard his father boasting about a shady deal he had put over at work.

Now almost certainly Johnny's dad is going to give him a lecture on why it is wrong to cheat. But actions speak louder than words. If the parents' own values show that it is clever to stretch the rules and outwit others—how can a teacher ever teach otherwise?

Or consider this. Bill has been caught stealing. It is a serious offense, and the principal feels that he needs to talk with Bill's mother about it. Begrudgingly, she takes a morning off from work and meets her son outside the office. As the principal walks out, fully prepared to be reasonable and to try to help, he overhears Bill's mother say, "You dumb kid. What do you want to go and get caught for?" That happened—in fact, it happens many times a day in schools.

Sometimes a student will bring a note to school that pretends to explain an absence or why some homework isn't done. It is duly signed by the parent. But the parent, the student and the teacher know that the note is a lie. The parent is effectively working in collusion with his child *against* the school. The note may indeed get everyone off the hook, but what has it done to the child's values?

Parents and teachers should work together to instill right values in children. But if parents undermine the





school, the teacher may well quit, as many do.

Teach Your Children to Do Their Homework

Whatever you as a parent think of homework, the fact remains that your child will eventually be given some. Teachers acknowledge that homework may be a nuisance, but it is a necessary part of education. There are valuable lessons in having a student complete assignments on his or her own, away from the classroom.

Teachers wish parents would cooperate. Try to set aside a quiet place where your children can sit and work undisturbed. Encourage them to complete their work on time. Teachers realize that parents may not be able to evaluate their children's assignments in terms of whether it is correct. That is not necessary—it is the teacher's job. But all parents can encourage their children to produce work that is neat and tidy. Children reflect more than just scholastic aptitude in their homework—they reflect the standards and values of their home.

What is your child's homework saying about you?

Don't believe it when your children say they can work better with the radio on, while talking to their friends on the telephone or stretched out flat on the living

room floor with the television blaring in the corner.

Don't provide ready-made excuses—"We had to go to Grandma's," or, "Dad had tickets for a ball game." Parents would be doing schools a big favor if they would teach their children the importance of planning their lives around what they *have* to do rather than what they *want* to do.

Teach Your Children to Sit Still and Listen

A teacher once described his job as like "trying to keep 30 corks under water at the same time."

All children get restless now and then. But some are seemingly incapable of paying attention in class. They wriggle around, talk, wander about the classroom and generally disrupt surroundings. No teacher can teach effectively under those circumstances.

Teachers wish parents would train their children to listen. You do this by talking to them, and making sure that they respond. You also make sure that children follow through on instructions given to them. Yes, it's easier to just "let it go," but your child will then begin to realize that instructions need not be taken seriously.

A teacher who has taught school for nearly 30 years at all levels, both in the United States and Europe, said that parents often ask her what they should do to prepare children for school. "They expect me to say, 'Teach them to read, or to do simple math.' But I ask them not to do that. That's my job. I ask them to send me someone who can sit still, pay attention and follow instructions. That's *your* job, I tell them."

Teach Your Children the Right Use of Television

Your television set is a 20th century fact of life. Most people have heard the warnings that the wrong type of program (and even *too much* of the *right* type) can hurt your children's chances of success in school. Teachers wish that parents would take these warnings seriously. Teachers are not antitelevision. It can be a wonderful tool to assist in education if used carefully. But most parents aren't being care-

ful enough in supervising viewing.

The average high school graduate in the United States has spent about 10,800 hours in the classroom, but more than 15,000 hours watching television. Even if this is all good, clean, wholesome programming—which it almost certainly isn't—it still represents a massive overdose of a *pseudo-learning situation*. Television promotes passive listening. It is effective in putting ideas into our heads—but not in an active, response-orientated way. It programs rather than teaches. Very little mental activity is needed by the viewer to get the message, such as it is.

With cable systems, and soon satellite communications flooding our homes with more channels, your television set threatens to devour even more of your family's prime learning time.

So quite apart from the flood of wrong values that are being injected, day in and day out—too much television dulls the senses, dissipates the ability to concentrate and thus makes it harder for a student to function in the *classroom* learning situation. Add to this the impact of hard drugs, alcohol and after-school jobs on youth and it is little wonder schools face serious problems.

Teach Yourself to Communicate

Teachers wish parents would *communicate* with them. Have you ever met your child's teachers? Do you even know their names? Have you ever been to the school and seen the classrooms where your sons and daughters spend one third of their waking hours? Some parents only go to their children's schools when they have a complaint or when the children are in trouble. Most teachers wish that parents would take advantage of the occasional open houses and other opportunities for parent-teacher conferences.

There is a grave danger in the mood of criticism toward education. Parents and teachers are being pitted against each other. That is a tragedy. They need to work together.

We do not wish to minimize the real problems that exist—gang vio-

lence, teenage sex, the drug scene, the millions of soured and turned-off young people who make up so much of our high school population. For some, we acknowledge, it is already too late. This is not a perfect world, and our education systems have been an imperfect part of it.

Serious mistakes have been made. Precious years have been frittered away fooling around with gimmicks instead of solid teaching.

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 2)

not pay God his tithe is a *thief*—and, worse than a criminal robbing a bank, he is *robbing* GOD! Yes, GOD SAYS SO—Malachi 3:8! And one of the Ten Commandments is, “Thou shalt not steal.” The man who does it puts himself immediately under the law—under penalty of death for all eternity!—unless he repents, and pleads the blood of Jesus Christ for forgiveness, and reconciliation to God.

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

Hundreds have written me, during the past years, saying God had opened their eyes to his tithing law, and telling how they have been

High schools in some areas are at last beginning to admit that too much emphasis has been placed on nonacademic courses. They are getting back to a core curriculum of the three Rs.

The teaching profession in the United States has been through considerable soul-searching in recent months. Most teachers would like to see the illiterate, the inept, the incompetent and the inane expelled from their professional

blessed. One even wrote that she, too, had started tithing eggs, and her hens, too, had immediately gone on an egg-laying spree! She had either heard me mention that experience over the air, or read of it in an early issue of *The Plain Truth*. Of course I won’t guarantee God will cause hens to start laying eggs faster every time. Probably it won’t work out exactly that way—but he *does* promise a blessing (Mal. 3:10-12).

How do you, then, pay your tithes to GOD? By putting them into GOD’S WORK—where God himself is working—where his gospel is being preached; not merely MAN’S gospel *about* Christ, but the very message Christ preached. Most professing Christians have never heard that gospel today! Jesus preached only one gospel—that about the KINGDOM (government—rule) of GOD—of how God is going to RULE ALL NATIONS—of how we may, by being begotten *now*, be actually BORN INTO GOD’S KINGDOM at the Second Coming of Christ, and the resurrection of the dead *in* Christ—being then GLORIFIED

ranks (unfortunately easier said than done).

Nevertheless, given a chance, American and European schools *can* teach (see “International Desk,” this issue). There are still thousands of dedicated and competent teachers who have accepted the responsibility for their part in educating your children. But they know that they can only do part of the job.

They need your help. □

just as Christ is *now* glorified, in the very FAMILY of God! But most professing ministers of Christianity today deny this gospel altogether—say it is not for this time!

WHAT does God *do* with his tithe? He uses it for his ministry to preach his message of the KINGDOM OF GOD—the world tomorrow! It is the message of GOD’S WAY. It is the message of true salvation. It is the message of a changed, and a fuller, happier LIFE—the message of ETERNAL life.

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

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

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

SUFFER

(Continued from page 21)

The commandments of God are the way of love, of love to God and love to neighbor. The first four of the Ten Commandments tell you how to love God, the last six how to love your neighbor. That is the way God lives and the way Christ lived while on earth.

But in Jeremiah 50:6 God says that the shepherds, the ministers of this world, lead his people astray and deceive them. That is exactly what has happened. The

world has been deceived, and the deceived theologians can’t seem to understand why God allows all this suffering from disobedience till we learn our ways are wrong.

God allows it to teach us lessons. God allows it because we ourselves have brought it on ourselves, and because we have failed to develop the kind of character needed to become his children, to be glorified, to be given the gift of eternal life so as to live in happiness and peace and joy. There’s no other way for peace.

Man has brought all this on himself, in defiance of God! Man has been shaking his fist at God, telling God he won’t obey God and going his own way, the way that has seemed right to a man. It’s all a matter of cause and effect. It’s the way we have lived that has brought all these troubles on us, not God.

But God will show man whether he has power. God will finally deliver man from the evils of today’s civilization by his divine powers and establish his kingdom of peace over all the earth. □

GREAT MIND

(Continued from page 9)

unforgiving of others' shortcomings. They aren't willing to forgive others, or maybe even themselves. They won't seek God's forgiveness. They won't admit their human frailty. They see only the frailty or shortcomings of others.

Many try to push their unresolved hurts and anger out of their mind, but they're still there festering in their subconscious. Without the *attitude* of willingness to show mercy and forgiveness, bitterness and anger still boil deep within.

Christ said God is only willing

to forgive us if we are *willing* to forgive those who mistreat us (Matt. 6:12, 14-15).

We must confess our sins to God and ask him to forgive us and clean up wrong attitudes. It takes character to change our attitudes even if others who wrong us won't.

Your New Goal

No goal in your life could be greater, no challenge could surpass the goal and challenge of developing the qualities of a great mind.

We should always try not to repeat past mistakes or follow the wrong examples of others around us. Keep the all-important right

spiritual perspective in mind:

"Do not fret because of evildoers, nor be envious of the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb. Trust in the Lord, and do good. . . . Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; do not fret—it only causes harm. For evildoers shall be cut off; but those who wait on the Lord, they shall inherit the earth. . . . And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace" (Ps. 37:1-3, 8, 9, 11, RAV).

Determine you are going to take the steps needed to develop the qualities of a great mind! God reveals the way and the power in his Word! □

Creatures of Habit

(Continued from page 30)

a fault, ye which are spiritual [that is, those more mature in outlook and knowledge], restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ" (Gal. 6:1-2).

A mature person realizes hu-

mans are creatures of habits—good habits, bad habits. He never condones bad habits. He knows *he* cannot change anyone who does not want to change them. He will, however, try to set an example by overcoming bad habits in his own life. He will encourage others who are trying to change bad habits in their lives, realizing given similar circumstances or experiences he could have similar problems.

All of our habits—whether acting, thinking or feeling habits—are "at first cobwebs, then cables."

But the miracle of conversion and of true spiritual understanding is that wrong "cables" can be snapped—their dominance broken in one's life. New and right habits of thinking, acting and feeling can then be developed in their place.

What kind of habits do you instill in your life? □

INTERNATIONAL DESK

(Continued from page 32)

us do not work just for money—we love to teach. But we get discouraged." They leave, not because they are broke, but because they are brokenhearted.

But American teachers and Asian students have proved to be a winning combination. Mr. Khamchong emphatically denies that the Indochinese are exceptionally gifted, or in some way genetically superior. The American school system, in spite of its flaws, is among the best in the world, he feels. (Even the Japanese, whose school system is considered to be one of the best, are beginning to wonder if they can learn something from the way the Americans develop the talents of individual students.) America has fine facilities, adequate resources and many, many imaginative, competent and dedicated teachers, who, given a chance, can produce wonderful results.

The young refugees give them

that chance. They come to school with a thirst for knowledge and an ability to sit still and concentrate. In no time at all they have grasped English and begin to excel in mathematics, music, literature, art and computer science.

They graduate with honors and go on to perform brilliantly in universities and colleges of higher learning. In 10 years they may be doctors, dentists, scientists, engineers, artists and skilled craftsmen. Southeast Asia's loss will be America's gain.

But in one sense, these children have already made a contribution. They have shown us that American schools are not predestined to produce mediocrity. Given students with a decent attitude to learning, reasonable self-discipline and a respect for authority, most teachers could produce much better results. But those things should be learned in the home. Teachers and schools cannot do what parents won't do. The right *attitude* to education must be taught at home, if a school is to do its job.

The Western education system isn't perfect. But it is not as bad as some claim. The young Asians' success in America proves that. If they, with their traumatized backgrounds and lack of previous education, can do so well, what should the average American, Australian or German be accomplishing?

Another article in this issue will show you what you as an individual parent can do to help your children get the most from school. But don't expect improvement on a national scale—not yet. Isaiah prophesied of a generation where "children are their oppressors" (Isa. 3:12).

We are that generation. Our society is geared more and more toward giving a spoiled, fun-seeking, unmotivated, characterless generation of young people what they *want*, rather than what they *need*.

Even so, the Cambodian, Laotian and Vietnamese youngsters and the two little Hmong children show that they *can* learn from us.

Can we learn from them? □

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



America Forewarned

Your article titled "America Forewarned" is an excellent documentation of the sad downhill course the nation has pursued since the 1960s.

I am very surprised that Hogberg's article overlooked the greatest negative impact of all—the U.S. Supreme Court decision handed down on June 17, 1963, which banned prayer and the recitation of Bible verses in the public schools.

Government has replaced God as the almighty in the U.S., and our nation's leaders fail to understand that government can never be large enough, powerful enough or wise enough to solve mankind's problems.

Elmer R. Deffenbaugh
Richmond, Virginia

Space Shuttle

In reference to space shuttle *Columbia* you state, "To land under power on a runway." This should have been rendered, "To land without power on a runway."

W.E. Angell
Fort Gordon, Georgia

• According to the Information Center of NASA at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, the space shuttle uses its main engine to position the craft on a glide path as it begins its descent to earth. As it enters the upper atmosphere, the vehicle uses retro-rockets to correct its course as it descends. Finally, like a glider, the shuttle lands without assistance of any means of propulsion.

The distinction between the landing process with its use of rocket engines, retro-rockets during descent and wings with which to glide safely down onto a runway, versus the largely helpless descent by parachute of previous spacecraft, was the one we

attempted to draw in the phrase "under power." In retrospect a better term would have been "under piloted control."

Communication with the Dead

Keith W. Stump's article entitled "Communication with the Dead. Is It Possible?" answered a question I have had for many years. I have presumed that all mediums were lying and that an apparition of a dead person was merely the figment of someone's imagination. To find out demons impersonate a dead person came as a shock. I thank you dearly for bringing this fact to my attention.

Ralph DiFiore
Arthur, Ontario

Correction!

Re: "How the Sexual Revolution has Affected You," January, 1983.

Specifically, on page 18, Reginald Ramsey is referred to as a worker at the Distress Centre here in Toronto. He never has been, although he has worked at the Salvation Army Suicide Prevention Bureau.

Gordon Winch
Director, Distress Centre
Toronto, Ontario

Seeds of Hope

Your article entitled "Sowing the Seeds of Hope" makes interesting reading.

Our main concern now is to look for crops which can give us high quality protein, oil, vitamins and minerals.

Therefore I was very happy to have had the chance of reading about winged beans. Thanks for bringing this to us.

Jean-Pierre Hallet has indeed done a great job in introducing this winged bean into Zaire. Ghana's weather is similar to that of Zaire and I

do hope this crop could grow here as well.

Emmanuel Kofi Dzekpor
Accra, Ghana

Try to Change Others?

I am so happy my husband picked up your magazine. He can't even remember where! He has been a different man since. He believes there's a God now who watches over us. And I have stopped, well almost stopped—pushing Christ at him.

Mary Jane Camarillo
Devine, Texas

New Subscriber

My friend has just showed me a copy of your magazine *Plain Truth*. Admittedly I was scornful when I saw the word *religion*, but when I read it my attitude reversed immediately. May I congratulate the whole group of people who make this magazine possible. Your words have made a great impression on me and I am telling all my friends to read *Plain Truth*. I especially liked the articles on nuclear weapon spending and the world suicide rate. Therefore, please put me on your mailing list. I am eagerly awaiting the next issue.

J. Stevens
Clwyd, Wales

I am very delighted to find a magazine such as *The Plain Truth*. Whenever I go to the mailbox and get the copy of *Plain Truth*, I can't wait to go inside and read it. Even though I am 15 years old, I thought you would like to hear my opinion. Thanks.

Danny Ray Smith
Pikeville, Tennessee

Environmental Problems

I wanted to add to the awareness of the world that beside the nuke problem, equally important are trees.

Barbe Baker ("The tree

man" in Roosevelt's words) died recently in Canada. He was from New Zealand, 93, and lectured worldwide on trees. His point was that when the earth is denuded by 1/3 of its trees (as humans of their skin) it dies . . . and desert (like the Sahara) results.

Alice Holtman
New York City, New York

Singles

There are many magazines available today. None of them addresses the basic issues of society as you do or offers solutions to these issues. I must point out that I do not agree with all your solutions, but at least you do not sugarcoat the issues. Keep up the fine work. How about offering an article on being single? This is a growing problem in our country.

Randy L. Kemp
Naperville, Illinois

Computer Age

It is startling when one stops to ponder its ultimate significance. A new wave of technology sells young people on the idea of saturating their minds and stimulating their audiovisual senses with a bombardment of electromagnetic impulses. They call it "Video Games." Alienated by society's traditional values and turned off to life in general, millions of young people plug in and turn on to the thrills of make-believe life. More recently, the theme of war in electronic video games has become more popular. With their eyes mesmerized by images of invaders from outer space on their screens and their hands clutching at the controls, they set their minds not only to protect their world but also to destroy any alien force that would dare take it from them.

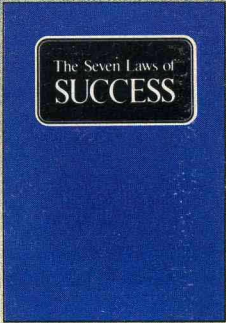
Oscar Ferreira
Escondido, California



Success: Accident or Effort?

r.smith

You've heard of people who inherited fortunes. Or who became famous just because they were in the right place at the right time. But is success simply a matter of luck? For most of us, succeeding at anything is a matter of purpose, persistence and hard work. What about you? Do you consider yourself a success? Most people pursue this elusive quality known as success, but few seem to find it. What is real success, anyway? How do you attain it? We offer, free, an attractive booklet that defines *true* success. It presents a seven-step program to achieving this important goal. Every person in every walk of life can apply these seven laws and reap the benefits—it's information you can use! After all, success is no accident. Why not request your copy of *The Seven Laws of Success* today?



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