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More About Our Cover:

Six Ambassador College students enjoy an afternoon of miniature golf on a triple date made doubly enjoyable through *balance*. A key problem of our society today is *lack of balance*. Two articles in this issue portray the kind of balance in everyday living that every individual and every family can begin to enjoy in today's world — and will definitely enjoy in Tomorrow's World. Be sure to read the articles "What Is a Boy?" on page 15, and "How Sexy Can You Get?", on page 26.

The Good News of TOMORROW'S WORLD

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Personal from the Editor

WHAT IS THE GREATEST SIN that anyone could commit? The most terrible sin of all is probably the very *last* one that most people would name. In fact, most people might not consider it to be a sin at all!

I have known what this sin is for 42 years, but the GRAVITY of this supreme sin was given great emphasis as I was reading in I Chronicles 29, in the Fenton translation.

It was 3,000 years ago. David was King over Israel in Jerusalem. It was in the heart of David to build a Temple at Jerusalem for God, and God said to David that he did well in desiring to build the Temple. But, because David had been a man of war, and had killed many, he was not allowed to build it. God decreed it should be built by his son Solomon after David's death.

In response to David's request to the people that they contribute for the building of the Temple, they responded with enthusiasm and great liberality. "Then the people rejoiced," we read in I Chronicles 29:9, "for that they had offered WILLINGLY, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the Eternal: and David the king also rejoiced WITH GREAT JOY!" They were stirred, *moved, inspired*, fired up with anticipation of this glorious HOUSE FOR GOD!

David also was *deeply moved*! He knew all they gave had come from the Great God! He was inspired to realize the GREATNESS, the MAJESTY, the SUPREME GLORY of the living God! He was moved to an inspired prayer, publicly expressing his gratitude and praise for the Great God.

So this is what I read, in the Fenton translation, beginning the next verse — the 10th:

"Blessed be YOU, the EVER-LIVING, —
The GOD of Our Father Israel, —
From Eternity to Eternity!
With You LORD, is Greatness, and Power,
And Beauty, and Splendour, and Glory!
For all the Heavens and the Earth
are Yours, LORD!
The Government, and Exaltation,
And Headship of all!"

The Fenton translation omits part of the next verse, so I continue from the Moffatt translation in modern English:

"Riches and honor come from Thee,
who reignest over all; in Thy hand lie
power and might, and in Thy hand
it lies to make all great and strong.
Hence, O our God, we ever thank Thee
and praise Thy glorious name. Yet
who am I, what is my people that we
should be able to offer such free will
offerings? All gifts come from Thee,
and we only give Thee what is Thine."
(I Chron. 29:10-14).

As I read David's inspired words I seemed to catch the vision of the GREATNESS, the POWER, the BEAUTY, the SPLENDOR and GLORY of the Great God — and of His Throne in Heaven! Did you ever stop to think of it? God is not the author of ugliness, unsightliness, darkness, cheapness, inferiority! God Himself dwells in brilliant SPLENDOR! From His throne in Heaven brilliant lightning flashes forth! It is resplendent in beauty, brilliance and GLORY!

Said the inspired David, "Riches and honor come from thee!" Not poverty — RICHES! God is the great GIVER of all GOOD THINGS! Poverty is not of God. Filth and squalor do not come from God, but from disobedience to His LAWS! RICHES come from God, to those who UNDERSTAND and follow His WAYS! For those who learn how properly to use them!

ALL — absolutely ALL *good things*, wanted things, desirable things — come from GOD! God is one who GIVES — not one who TAKES! He SHARES, and has given us precious promises that, if we yield to Him and His ways, ALL THAT HE HAS we may SHARE! If we are Christ's we are His own HEIRS — to INHERIT what He HAS — to SHARE it with Him! Can your mind comprehend that?

God IS, and HAS, the ULTIMATE! The GLORY of God — His THRONE, ruling the universe — His POWER

— is the SUPREME OF SUPERLATIVES MAGNIFIED!

Yet all His power and glory *we may share!* All this we may INHERIT.

Look at *this life NOW!* Every GOOD that is desired, wanted, craved, *comes from God!*

He *gives*, not only to the deserving and the righteous, but to the unjust and undeserving. "He maketh His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust" (Matt. 5:45).

Yet, of course, transgression of His laws (the CAUSE of desired results) brings penalties and cuts one off from the *extra blessings*.

Then, in the life to come, there is the PROMISE that we may inherit ALL THAT IS HIS — that we may SHARE with Him all that He has!

What is the GREATEST POSSIBLE SIN?

It is that which cuts one off from the GREATEST POSSIBLE GOOD — the SUPREME ACQUIREMENT! It is that which separates one from the GIVER of all that is GOOD!

It is *not only* in this life that the GOOD THINGS come from God. The good things we may receive from Him here and now are only an *earnest* — a small portion of a down payment — of what He wants to give us later.

But what of the *desired* things we may have from God *here and now?*

As I look back on my 77 years up to now, I realize my own life illustrates the point. As a young man I was ambitious. Desire to succeed — to accomplish — to get to the top in life — was fired like a red-hot flame within me at age 16. It was a selfish goal. But I began to study deeply and intensively, apart from school studies.

Later, after a self-analysis stimulated by a book titled "Choosing a Vocation," I chose the advertising profession. I studied hard. I drove myself with energy. I applied my mind to *thinking* about what I was doing *while* I was doing it — something most neglect to do. Thus I gained by experience as well as from books.

I became successful, probably the most successful *young* advertising man in Chicago, between ages 23 and 30. At 28 I was making, in my own publishers' representative business, the equivalent of \$28,000 to \$30,000 per year measured by today's dollar-value. My business brought me into constant contact with leading multi-millionaire executives of the largest industrial and business corporations in the middle west, and with

Board Chairmen, Presidents and executive Vice Presidents of the nation's largest banks.

My ambition — my goal in life — was to achieve STATUS — to be looked upon as *important*. By the time I was 45 or 50, I expected to be regarded *by these successful men* as their superior. I was full of vanity and self-confidence. I was completely *self-centered*, I was cocky and conceited, yet I was also sincere, honest, and I had my own well-meaning ideals. But even that was self-centeredness.

All this time I was receiving the GOOD God showers on both the sinners and righteous. I was receiving from God the breath that gave me life — the blessings of the sun and the rain in the form of food to sustain life, and clothing and shelter. But I was NOT enjoying real inner peace. I was not free from fear and worry. I had not learned what real HAPPINESS is. I was cutting myself off from the Great God who lavishes on those enjoying contact with Him all the EXTRA blessings!

And all this time I was, without realizing it, committing this CAPITAL sin!

God was calling me to a special mission but my swelled-up ego prevented me from seeing it then. So — for my own good — God took away my business. Three successive businesses! Through forces and conditions entirely beyond my control. He brought me down to POVERTY spelled in capital letters! Then by providential circumstances He angered me into a study of His Instruction Book, the Bible.

I fought against His truth. I delved into evolution to see if I could prove the non-existence of God. This study proved, instead, the falsity of that theory and the existence and the reality of God. Further research *proved* the infallible inspiration of the Bible — in its original writings.

When God began to reveal Himself to me — when I caught a glimpse of His Almighty Power and Glory — of His Truth — of His living REALITY, (even as King David saw it in the prayer I have quoted,) I began to see myself for what I really was — an egotistical, swelled-up piece of worthless HUMAN VANITY!

The life ambition I had cherished, striven for, expended all my energy on, was only another god before the true God!

What is the *greatest* possible sin? I repeat. It is that which cuts one off from the *greatest possible* GOOD

(Continued on page 33)

WHY GOD IS NOT REAL to Most People

Millions say they believe in God — but WHY does He seem so FAR OFF to them? Millions have heard ABOUT God, but do not KNOW God. This article tells you HOW you CAN!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

ARE YOU LIKE the person who said to me, "O I believe in God all right, but it seems like He is *so far off* — SO UNREAL!"

WHY do most people feel that way? WHY should God seem UNREAL — like an almost invisible filmy wisp — or a phantom — or something shapeless and ethereal?

Born Without Knowledge

The instant you were born you knew nothing about God. You knew *nothing* — *period!* You were born with a mind capable of receiving, but as yet unfilled with knowledge.

Whatever you may know — or *think* you know — about God, has come into your mind since birth.

How did knowledge *begin* coming into your mind? There are only five channels through which knowledge may come, naturally, into the human mind — the channels of sight, sound, taste, smell, feel.

But also there are three dimensions of knowledge or consciousness: the *around*, the *within*, and the ABOVE. Yet the natural mind of a mortal human comprehends only the first two. Babies grow into childhood with awareness of only the *around* and the *within*.

But as a child, through the sense of hearing, you probably were *told* something about God. But understandable knowledge of God comes from the third dimension — the ABOVE. And the ABOVE is spiritual. God is a Spirit. Spiritual things cannot be *seen*, nor heard, nor felt, nor tasted, nor smelt. Understanding of spiritual things simply cannot enter the human mind through the five sensual channels.

Therefore it is probable that the

adults trying to tell you about God did not have true perception and understanding. And it is natural that whatever knowledge about God entered your mind — through the ear, or the eye — was vague, misty, UNREAL. You couldn't SEE God. Spirit is invisible to human eyes (except, as has happened, by some miraculous "materializing" or means of manifestation).

You couldn't *hear* God. You had no actual conscious *contact* with Him. You probably formed some *imaginary* picture in your mind of what you *supposed* He must be like — based on what might have been told you, or what you may have read. But you didn't SEE or HEAR Him — you read or heard only something ABOUT Him! And the picture was unclear, clouded, out of focus, ethereal.

Is it any wonder He did not seem REAL — that He seemed so far off?

There are millions of professing Christians and Jews who *say* that they believe in God. Many profess to know more or less about Him. But knowing *about* Him is a far cry from knowing HIM!

The INVISIBLE "First Cause"

The very presence of the *around* seems to the normal mind to demand a "First Cause" to have produced it. Yet — MYSTERY OF MYSTERIES! The "*first Cause*" is not seen, heard, smelt, tasted or felt. So many ideas, concepts and conjectures have been brought forth out of human imagination as to the nature of that "*First Cause*."

Yet the true God *does* reveal Himself, to those who are willing to comprehend and to obey. And He says these people, conscious of the *around*, who formulate their own ideas as to the "*First Cause*"

are without excuse for denying the true God and putting in His place some fanciful conjecture of their own making through distorted human reasoning.

"Because that which *may be KNOWN OF GOD* is manifest in them; For God hath shown it unto them. For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal Power and Godhead; so that they are *without excuse*" (Rom. 1:19-20). Or, as the Moffatt translation makes plain: "... His invisible nature, His everlasting power and divine being, have been made quite perceptible in what He has made." That is, the material things He has created and made reflect plainly the nature, power, and divine being of the invisible MAKER.

The verse preceding the above says the world's leaders have known the truth, but have *held it back from the people* — prevented them from receiving a clear understanding. "But God's anger is revealed from heaven against all the impiety and wickedness of those who hinder [hold back] the Truth by their wickedness" (Rom. 1:18, Moffatt).

So what is usually told to a growing child *about* God usually is a very distorted picture, indeed!

Still, hearing *about* a person is not really *knowing* the *person!*

One Man's Experience

There was super-righteous Job, the greatest man in all the East. God even challenged Satan, the accuser of God's people, to find a single sinful or unrighteous flaw in his character. Even though allowed to put Job through the most painful and severe trials, Satan

could find nothing against him. Of course there *was* something very unrighteous about Job. All have sinned — including Job. His great sin was his very SELF-righteousness. Satan could not recognize SELF-righteousness as a sin.

But after God whittled Job down to size, humbled him, made him see his own insignificance and vanity — his *nothingness compared to the great God*, Job said, “I have *heard of thee* by the hearing of the ear, but now mine eye *seeth thee*. Wherefore I *ABHOR MY-SELF*, and repent in dust and ashes!” (Job 42:5-6.)

Getting to *KNOW* God is quite different from *HEARING* about Him.

So, what does the average person know about God? They started out, from youngest childhood, knowing whatever they had *heard* or been told, by parents or others. And since those leaders who once *did know* God (Rom. 1:21) *held back* the Truth, and, becoming fools (verse 22), gave a distorted and untrue teaching, most of what has been told growing children in our time has been a perversion of the Truth.

Perhaps some children were told *NOTHING* about God at all as they were growing from babyhood toward adolescence and into early adulthood. But most probably they have been *told* more or less *about* God before they actually *read* anything about Him *IN THE BIBLE*. Also they very probably had read what others had written about Him before reading anything in the Bible for themselves.

So what did they know? They *knew* only what had been told or communicated to them by those *AROUND* them. They *knew* only what they had received from *other people* who did not themselves *KNOW* God. Those from whom they learned *knew* only what they, in turn, had gathered from still *other* misinformed and deceived *people*. Not from the *ABOVE* — but from the *AROUND!* Not from God Himself, but from the *AROUND*. And your Bible says the *other people* constitute a deceived world!

And when such a person, approaching or reaching early adulthood, does read the Bible, his concept of God has been

so firmly implanted in his mind *by other people*, he continues picturing God in the same way.

He probably is just as I was for many, many years: I did read the Bible at times — but I then said: “I just can’t understand the Bible.”

Well, NO WONDER, then, that most people who profess to “believe in God” say *God seems unreal to them!*

They are like Job. Job’s source of knowledge, before his personal confrontation with God, had been from the *around* — he had heard *about* God by the hearing of the ear, *from other people*. God never seemed real to him until he gained *PERSONAL CONTACT* — until he got to really *KNOW GOD!*

There is a way in which *YOU* can establish *actual direct personal contact* with God — if you have not done so already. Then He will become *REAL!*

Let me give you an illustration. Let’s say you have heard *about* Raymond F. McNair. He is Regional Editor of *The PLAIN TRUTH* for Britain and Deputy Chancellor of Ambassador College at the English campus. You may have read one or two of his articles in *The PLAIN TRUTH*. But let us suppose you have never seen his picture — you have never seen him in person, you have never talked with him. Suppose someone has told you a few things *about* him, twisting the facts, and giving you untrue information.

You may know a few things *about* him — and some of those distorted — but you surely could not say that you *know him*. If you have not even seen his picture you don’t know what he looks like. Many people, having heard me on the radio, said on seeing me in person, “Why you don’t look a bit like I pictured you in my mind.”

In the same way, if you should come into personal contact with Mr. McNair, you’d probably be surprised to see that he wouldn’t look at all like you pictured him. But, if you were suddenly thrown in his company almost constantly, seeing him virtually every day, talking with him, seeing him in his office and in his home, *you’d get to know him!* I know him well. I have known him ever since he came to the front door of my home

in Pasadena nearly 21 years ago. Three days later he entered Ambassador College as a student. In four years he graduated. He continued his studies, doing graduate work, earning his Master’s degree. I see him fairly often. I visit him in his home. I know his wife and children very well. His elder daughter, when she was about three years old, said she had adopted me. She’s a lot bigger now — and she says I’m still “adopted.” I spend a good deal of time talking with Mr. McNair — about college problems — about student and man-power problems — about personal interests. I have gotten to *know him!*

But, if you have not even seen his picture, you *don’t* know him!

You haven’t seen God’s picture either. But He gives you a certain description of what He looks like, in the Bible. Yet not as to His exact features.

The Person of God Revealed

I can tell you that *I* know God — and that I also know the living Jesus Christ — for I represent Him as His servant. I read about Him — not as other people *MIS-describe* Him — but as He describes Himself in His *BIBLE!*

But, I said a while ago that more than 42 years ago I “just couldn’t understand the Bible.” *NO ONE CAN, really*, until they have gained contact with God (the Father) through Jesus Christ, and have received His Holy Spirit, begetting them as His begotten children. That requires the same kind of *REPENTANCE* Job was put through — a genuine abhorring of the self, an unconditional *SURRENDER* to *OBEY* Him and His Law, and a real faith in Jesus Christ as personal Saviour. When I was brought to that kind of repentance toward God and faith toward Jesus Christ, in early 1927, and was baptized, He gave me the most precious *GIFT* in all the universe — His Holy Spirit.

His Spirit *opened my mind* to *SPIRITUAL COMPREHENSION*. I could *UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE* — a bit at a time, of course. In it, the living Christ began talking to me. I began to talk to Him — often, daily, in a sense constantly, in spirit. When I studied the

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How to QUIT Smoking!

Twenty one MILLION people have successfully quit smoking. SO CAN YOU, if you really want to! But HOW? Where can you get the necessary strength, fortitude, and willpower? Here is the way that really works!

by William F. Dankenbring

Conn — Ambassador College

LET'S ADMIT the truth. All kinds of gadgets, gimmicks, potions and medicines have come on the market purporting to help the smoker quit smoking. *None of them has proved 100% effective!*

Gimmickry and gadgetry are not the answer. Pills, drugs, candy, chewing gum are not the answer. All these remedies miss the heart and core of the problem — the smoker *himself*, and his *attitude!*

Worse Than War

Smoking cigarettes has killed about three million Americans in the past ten years. In shocking contrast, only about 565,000 were killed in battle in *all* America's wars, including the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Mexican War, Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and Vietnam!

Smoking brings sickness, disease and disability to TWELVE MILLION Ameri-

cans every year. In sobering contrast is the total number of wounded in ALL America's wars from 1776 to 1969 — a total of 1,500,000 wounded, or less than ONE EIGHTH the "casualties" due to smoking in JUST ONE YEAR!

Truthfully, it could be said that today war slays its thousands, but smoking slays its MILLIONS!

In Vietnam, it is considered a bad week of fighting if two hundred die. Smoking, however, strikes down over 800 Americans every single day!

The chances of dying in war are limited to those who are fighting on the battlefield. But smoking stealthily slays people in *all* walks of life, in the relative "safety" of their own homes!

How to ENJOY Life

Do you really want to enjoy life, its riches, thrills, and delights? Do you want to appreciate tantalizing aromas,

the biting, crisp smell of fresh air, the spicy scents of nature? Then stop smoking! Give your lungs a chance to repair themselves.

An astonishing thing happens when people stop smoking. Lung damage is reversed! Body defenses come into play and destroy pre-cancerous cells! The lungs gradually turn pink again. But just *one or two* cigarettes a day prevents the healing process — and so does switching to pipes or cigars.

In 1604 James I, King of England, published his famous *Counterblast to Tobacco*. He concluded the treatise by calling smoking "a custome lothsome to the eye, hatefull to the nose, harmefull to the braine, daungerous to the lungs, and in the blacke stinking fume thereof, nearest resembling the horrible Stigian smoke of the pit that is bot-tomelesse."

A colorful description, no doubt. But today smoking has been PROVED

beyond the shadow of a doubt to be loathsome, harmful, dangerous to the lungs — a serious public health MEN-ACE!

Lame-Duck Excuses

A recent publication of the Clearinghouse for Smoking and Health estimated that 51 percent of men 17 years old or older are cigarette smokers and 34 percent of women. The most common consumption rate is between 11 and 20 cigarettes a day.

A pamphlet put out by the Public Health Service indicates that about 1.5 million Americans give up the smoking habit every year. The American Cancer Society estimates that there are now 21 million ex-cigarette smokers in the United States, including 100,000 physicians!

These figures ought to be very encouraging, if you are a smoker who wants to quit. It obviously *can* be done! But *HOW*?

Cigarette slaves come up with many foolish excuses why they continue to smoke.

One says, "I'll smoke until I get into trouble and then I'll quit and be okay." The trouble is, by the time the smoker *knows* he's "in trouble," he has waited too long to do anything about it — *it's too late!*

Another says, "No, I'm not going to give up smoking. I may die young, but I'll die happy." What confidence — but in *what*? Will he *really* "die happy"? He may think he's happy now, but he's ruining his life, missing out on the REAL PLEASURES of living and experiencing life minus the cigarette cough, the chronic illnesses from smoking, and the final agony of lung cancer or bronchitis!

But the usual excuse is similar to what one housewife said: "I'd like to give up cigarettes, but I can't. The habit is too strong." Or as another put it, "I'm concerned about the reports, but I've tried to stop and I couldn't."

A Kansas City switchboard operator declared, "I've known for a long time, smoking is terrible for your health, but I've never been able to quit. I don't suppose this will make any difference."

Another woman said, "I really think I shouldn't smoke, but it's kind of

hard to quit. I'm going to *think* about it." And another who admitted she smoked three packs a day confessed, "I'm scared. I don't know if I can stop, but I will try — for the nth time."

Take a good look at these excuses for continuing to smoke — especially the last five who admitted they wanted to quit but felt they couldn't. *WHY* couldn't they? *WHY* were they virtually helpless slaves of the nicotine habit? *WHY* were they so pessimistic about quitting?

Perhaps *YOU* feel basically the same

go on to become addicted chain smokers!

The last category of smoker is the one finding smoking the most difficult to give up!

Forty percent of smokers are "heavy smokers" — they are compulsive smokers!

For them quitting is not so easy!

The Cigarette ADDICT

Smokers are addicts. So reports a study of brain waves of heavy smokers. Tobacco deprivation caused a drop in



Many brochures are available to the public to combat the destructive nature of smoking.

Kelborn Ambassador College

way. How, then, can YOU quit the tobacco habit?

Let's understand!

WHY Do You Smoke?

In order to conquer the smoking habit, you must be willing to face up to the REAL REASONS WHY you smoke.

Dr. Daniel Horn, director of the National Clearinghouse for Smoking and Health, took a survey of some 5,000 smokers to uncover the reasons they smoked. He found that 10 percent used cigarettes as a stimulant, while 8 percent simply enjoyed lighting and handling a cigarette. From 30-40 percent used smoking to achieve a pleasant form of *relaxation* (there are MANY BETTER WAYS to *relax!*). Another 40-50 percent smoked to relieve anxiety and tension. Many of these, he found,

frequency of slow brain waves. Abstinence leads to an increase in fast waves of electrical activity in the brain, which explains why smokers who forego tobacco feel restless and unable to concentrate.

During the period of abstinence, the pulse slows and the blood pressure rises. These findings were confirmed independently by Dr. Henry B. Murphee, associate professor of psychiatry at Rutgers. The conclusion: Heavy use of tobacco causes a TRUE ADDICTION, and is not merely a hard-to-break habit! (San Francisco *Examiner and Chronicle*, May 11, 1969).

All regular smokers tend to develop some degree of dependence on tobacco, some to the point where significant

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What Is REAL Repentance?

Millions have heard the cry, "REPENT! Receive Christ!" But what does it mean? What is real repentance? Here's the BIBLE ANSWER!

by Garner Ted Armstrong

IN A WORLD fraught with tension and fear, increasing thousands are turning to *religion*. Somehow, many feel they need to "get right" with God — to join a Church — to become more "religious."

Vast evangelistic campaigns have netted thousands of "decisions for Christ." In a moment of remorse over their past lives, many have decided to "accept" Jesus as Saviour. But what is this "receiving" of Christ? Is it REAL?

Mass evangelism has been severely criticized recently by many who have shown the "decisions" made usually don't LAST very long. Were these decisions *real repentance*?

The Common Belief

A foremost religious leader once said: "First, let us understand what Christianity is NOT. It is NOT a *way of life!*"

But what does the newly converted Christian DO then, that MAKES him a Christian? Commonly, it is believed that the remorseful feeling of sorrow over past mistakes and misdeeds, plus the *acceptance* of Christ — the *worship* of Christ — is a saving experience. Hundreds of thousands of sincere, well-meaning, earnest people are content they are Christians — satisfied they are headed toward eternal life — *when they actually have never taken the first step toward becoming a true Christian, believe it or not!*

But listen to what the Bible actually says!

"From that time Jesus *began to preach...*" (Matt. 4:17). Jesus was a preacher! Jesus Christ came with a *message* from God the Father — and that message was what He preached! What was the *very first thing* HE told His audiences to do? "...REPENT: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand"

(Matt. 4:17). Notice — the words of Jesus are: "REPENT!"

Later, the apostles — Peter, James and John, the apostle Paul and others — preached the same message Jesus brought from His Father. When Peter stood up to explain the amazing events of the Day of Pentecost in 31 A.D. he said, "REPENT, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the *remission of sins*, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). Later, Peter said, "*Repent* ye therefore, and *be converted*, that your SINS may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord" (Acts 3:19). Jesus gave stern warning that "except ye REPENT, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3, 5).

Then there *is* something required *in addition to* the acceptance of Jesus as personal Saviour! Jesus said so!

To repent and be converted is to CHANGE. That is the very *meaning* of the word "convert." Just what *is* that change, then?

Change What?

"I'm a changed man," said the reformed smoker. "I have finally quit the tobacco habit!" This man felt, because he had dropped a bad habit, he was a *changed* man! But was he really?

What is it Christ wants you to change? Merely your way of "thinking" about Him? Do you change your "outlook" on religion? Do you change your Church? Change your habits? Change WHAT?

The Apostle Paul explained that the "...carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Rom. 8:7). That *carnal* mind is the NATURAL

human mind — the normal, sincere, natural, common "way of looking at things" that all of us were born with! It's the mind of every normal human being *PRIOR to this change* Christ was talking about! Paul went on to say, "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, *He is none of His*" (Rom. 8:9). Did you notice it? If a man have not the *Spirit of Christ* — *he doesn't belong to Christ, and therefore IS NOT A CHRISTIAN!*

This change has something to do with the carnal mind, and the Spirit of Christ! Let's notice another important scripture. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a *living sacrifice*, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. *And be not conformed to this world:* but be ye TRANSFORMED by the *renewing of your mind*, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Rom. 12:1-2). Read that scripture again! *Study it!*

God says you must undergo a renewing, a *transforming*, a CHANGING — OF THE MIND!

This changing of the mind is a change of *human nature!*

The normal, natural way of human nature is the way of SELFISHNESS. The SELF is the entire motivating drive in human nature. It is the pleasing of the self, the satisfaction of the *self* — the way of *getting for the self* that is the basis of human nature. YOU are extremely selfish! All human beings are selfish.

And, behind the selfishness of every person lies the root cause of it all: *vanity!*

"Vanity of vanities, saith the preacher, vanity of vanities; ALL is vanity" (Eccl. 1:2). Every person is filled with *vanity*, in one form or

another. Notice that Paul tells us, "For the creature [correct meaning, "*creation*"] was made subject to *vanity*, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope" (Rom. 8:20).

All is vanity! The desire of every person is to be "liked" by others — to be "well thought of," to be *accepted* by the society, looked up to, respected, admired, and loved by others — *all this is vanity!*

It is this *vanity* which leads a person to say, "What will my friends say?" or; "What will *people* think?"

Ensnared in Society

Having been reared in a world that measures everything by *what people think*, you probably are *quite concerned* about the opinions of your friends, neighbors and relatives. You are wrapped up in this age, this society! Whatever is the standard, whatever is looked upon with approval *by* these people, whose acceptance you covet, *that* becomes the standard of your life! If you're like most people — you live in the way which is *most* likely to *gain* for you the acceptance and approbation you seek. You are a *part of this world*. Your life is regulated by this world and its customs, its holidays, its practices in business, in social life, in religious life, and all the many accepted standards of society which make up this "world."

Most people are *ensnared* by it — trapped into *CONFORMITY* with whatever is the way of the majority — following like blind *sheep* wherever society leads, never *questioning* *WHEATHER* it is right, but simply *conforming* to the ways of others.

It is the *vanity* in human nature, the *selfishness*, which drives individuals on and on, seeking the respect and approbation of *other people!*

It is to *RELEASE us* from these shackles of tradition and society that Jesus calls us *out* of this world!

Jesus Calls You OUT of Society

Jesus said, "My kingdom is *NOT* of *this world*" (John 18:36). He was the Messenger from God the Father of a *better* kingdom — the world-ruling Kingdom of God! When Christ walked

this earth *as a man*, He spoke to His disciples of a soon-coming *WORLD GOVERNMENT* that would *supersede* and *PUT DOWN all opposing, man-made governments*, and *RULE THIS WORLD!* (Rev. 2:26-27).

He prayed that His disciples would be *SEPARATE* from *this world*. "*I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which Thou hast given Me; for they are Thine*" (John 17:9).

Did you know Jesus Christ Himself said — *IF YOU ARE A TRUE CHRISTIAN, YOUR FORMER FRIENDS, YOUR RELATIVES, THIS SOCIETY — WILL HATE YOU?*

Listen!

"If the world *hate* you, ye know that it hated Me before it hated you. If ye were *of* the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are *not of the world*, but I have chosen you *out* of the world, therefore the world *hateth* you" (John 15:18-19).

Jesus said *your own family* would begin to look down on you, if you are really willing to *OBEY HIM!* "*Think not* that I am come to send peace on earth: I came *not* to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household" (Matt. 10:34-36).

If you are *really following Christ* — *LIVING* as He lived, *DOING* as He did — keeping God's *LAW* as He did — this society, even your closest former friends and your own relatives, will begin to *RESIST* and *PERSECUTE* you.

"Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind . . . For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles . . . Wherein *they think it strange* [the former associates, with whom you followed the courses of society] that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, *speaking evil of you*" (I Peter 4:1-4).

Notice *HOW STRONGLY* God impresses on every Christian that they must discontinue their relationships with this sinning society! "Love *NOT* the world, neither the things that are

in the world. If any man love the world, *the love of the Father is not in him*. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that *doeth the will of God abideth forever*" (I John 2:15-17).

Count the Cost

In Luke 14 Jesus sternly warns every prospective Christian to *COUNT THE COST* of being a true follower of Him! How many people are being told to *COUNT THE COST* — or even told *WHAT THAT COST IS*, in today's great evangelistic efforts which invite people to "make a decision for Christ?"

Are they being *TOLD* what it really *means*? Are they being told *HOW* to give themselves to God — *HOW* to serve Christ — *WHAT* to do — *WHAT* it means? Are they being told to *COME OUT* of this society, and be *NOT* conformed to the world?

No! They *most decidedly are not!*

Many people are being led to "accept Jesus" or to "receive Him" today, in a moment of emotional remorse over past mistakes. But many thousands *DO NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO* to really become a Christian!

What IS the Cost?

Remember, Jesus *tells* you what you must *do* to become a Christian!

"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" (Matt. 7:21). "*REPENT*" said Christ. "*DO THE WILL* of God," said Jesus!

God's *will* is expressed in His *Word*. "*Thy word is truth*" (John 17:17). It is the *truth*, the *Word* of God that will set you free.

Here, then, is what it really *COSTS* to become a true Christian, and to become a begotten son of God!

IT COSTS YOUR LIFE!

LITERALLY!

Does that shock you? Perhaps it does unless you think I mean that statement as a kind of "spiritual phraseology which is just another way of saying

"set your heart on the Lord" or some similar sentiment.

God's Word tells you that you must *literally* LAY DOWN YOUR LIFE for Christ.

"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38).

After you have been BROKEN UP, and *your own human will* has been totally SHATTERED, after you are DISGUSTED with yourself — FILLED with ABHORRENCE at your own actions, your own way of life — your own SELF, which is the VANITY within you — *then* you should be *baptized!*

What It Means

Immersion into a watery "grave" is a deep spiritual symbolism which signifies the actual, LITERAL BURYING of the *old self* — YOU — the way you HAVE BEEN, and the *resurrection* of a NEW YOU — now *conquered* by God, *surrendered* to God, meekly and humbly CHILD-like in your obedience and TRUST in Him as your Living Saviour.

"Know ye not, that so many of us as were *baptized* into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore *we are buried* with him *by baptism into death*: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection. *Knowing this*, that our OLD MAN IS CRUCIFIED with him, that the *body of sin* [the former "you"] might be *destroyed*, that henceforth *we should not serve sin*" (Rom. 6:3-6).

Paul explained this principle further when he said, "For I was alive without the law once [without a knowledge of the law]: but when the commandment came [to his consciousness — so he became *aware of what sin was*] *sin revived* [he was able to see clearly that he was a *great sinner*] AND I DIED!" (Rom. 7:9). Paul said, "For sin, taking occasion by the commandment [being brought to light for what it was by the laws of God] deceived me, and *by it SLEW* me. *Wherefore* [because God's

Law had *shown him* he was a sinner] the law is HOLY, and the commandment HOLY, and JUST, and *good!*" (Rom. 7:11-12.)

A Change of Mind

The Apostle Paul was a true Christian. He had the Spirit of God, which is promised to every one who will *literally lay down his life*, and surrender the *self-will*, performing the ordinance of baptism, and coming to God's throne of grace as a meek child. Paul said, "I am *crucified* with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me" (Gal. 2:20).

After REPENTING, and *being baptized*, which symbolizes the BURYING of the old carnal self, which was formerly HOSTILE toward God — the Holy Spirit is then implanted *within* your mind, and CHANGES your mind. Jesus Christ begins to *motivate* your thoughts, guide and direct your every action — LIVE HIS LIFE over again, WITHIN YOU!

And He does it through the power of God's Holy Spirit!

This is a great mystery to most human beings — and yet, the Spirit of God MUST enter our CARNAL minds to *change* those minds, and make them yielding, humble, and *obedient* to God, where they had been hostile, antagonistic, resentful, and bitter toward our Creator!

The receiving of God's Spirit to *change* human nature is the receiving of an outside POWER — a *begettal* which makes us His sons!

A Changed Attitude

If you are a true Christian, *you will not be able* to blindly follow the customs and practices of this society any further. Instead, you will begin asking, "What is *God's will*, what does *God* say about it?" And you will begin to SEARCH THE BIBLE TO GET TO *KNOW* the will of God.

Your outlook and attitude will gradually become *Christ-like*. You will begin saying, with Christ, "Nevertheless not *my will*, but THY will, be done!"

Where you formerly "went along

with the crowd" in social activities, in customs of dress, in business practices, you will then begin to *question* the ways of the crowd. You will want to first ascertain *what God's will* is concerning these ways of life!

THAT IS THE DEFINITION OF A CHRISTIAN!

A Christian is a person who LIVES BY EVERY WORD OF GOD!

"Man shall not *live* by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4). So said your Saviour! But are most professing Christians really *LIVING* by every WORD of God?

Not so! *Most professing Christians do not even know a small portion of what the Word of God says!* It is because they don't STUDY the Bible, and begin to *drink in* of the Word of God that they gullibly swallow and accept whatever others say and believe!

What It Means to You

A Christian, then, is CONQUERED by God. His carnal will is *broken!* He realizes he has SINNED! Sin is any action that is contrary to the LAWS of God (I John 3:4). He then CRIES OUT to God and asks for *forgiveness* for those sins, and a *lifting* of the death penalty, which every sin brings (Rom. 6:23). He accepts God's promise of forgiveness, *on faith*, by accepting the sacrifice of *Christ*, accepting Jesus' death *in place* of his own. The Christian then takes the ordinance of *baptism* which shows God *he really means it*.

He expects God to stand back of His promise to give him the Holy Spirit, as a result of the REPENTANCE and the baptism which God demands.

THEN — AND NEVER UNTIL THEN — WILL YOU BECOME A TRUE CHRISTIAN.

Finally, you will begin to *practice* as a HABIT, the very life of Christ. "He that saith, 'I know him,' and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (I John 2:4). "He that saith he abideth in him [*is a Christian*] *ought himself also so to walk* [LIVE], even as He [Christ] walked" (I John 2:6).

The true Christian, who has REALLY

(Continued on page 21)

The POWER of PRAYER

Why aren't your prayers ANSWERED? Do you know HOW to pray? Here are facts you need to understand!

by Roderick C. Meredith

WHEN you are sick or in trouble, you may pray about it. But do you have the faith and the understanding to leave it *completely* in God's hands — to absolutely *know* that He will deliver His children from sickness and trials of every kind? Very few people do.

When we don't seem to have the wisdom or the power to solve our problems we often become frustrated and unhappy. *Some commit suicide!*

We completely *forget* and *ignore* the fact that we have the *right* to call on the Supreme Creator of Heaven and Earth for help with all our problems. The greatest *wisdom* and *power* in all the universe will be with every one of us — if we will only do our part.

Jesus Christ set a *perfect example* that we "should follow His steps" (1 Peter 2:21). He lived a full and abundant life — a life filled with *love* and *power* from God. He knew how to keep in contact with, and draw upon the *Supreme Power of the Universe*.

Christ the Example

Can you imagine Christ acting as if God had "gone way off somewhere"?

Yet that is the *exact attitude* displayed by most "Christians" of today. Do they completely rely on God to *heal* them when they are sick, to *rescue* them from disaster, to *bless* them in material as well as spiritual things? Of course not. But the disciples saw that Christ, unlike most people, actually *expected* God to intervene and heal the sick, cast out demons, and even to quiet a storm on the sea. They, too, wanted that kind of intimate contact with God.

By His fruits, they knew that Christ understood *the correct way* to draw close to the Eternal God, and to call upon His power to help in every pressing situation.

That *key*, that *correct way* to call upon God's power, is something you and I should be utilizing *every day of our lives!* Its use can put new *meaning* and *power* into our lives!

But this "key" has been *incorrectly* employed by many people of many different religions. Remember that Christ is *our example*. He knew how to use this "key" perfectly. His way *gets results!*

Christ Teaches How to Pray

In Luke 11:1-13, we read that the disciples came and asked Jesus *the way* to establish right contact with God. "Lord, *teach us to pray.*" they asked. People do not know *how* to pray until they are properly taught. That, probably, is *your* trouble.

Then Christ gave them a type or pattern of a prayer that will *get results*.

Let us analyze this *perfect example*. The prayer is addressed to "Our Father which art in heaven." When you pray, think first of all of God as your Father. Not *your* Father only, but "*Our* Father." Remember that there are others who are trying to serve their Creator and Spiritual Father, and that God loves us all *far more* than a human father would be capable of doing.

Moreover, He has power to help you in ways that would be *impossible* for a human father. Would your earthly father let you rot away and die of disease if he could possibly help it? But God *can* help it, and He has *promised to heal* in a number of places including Psalm 103:3 and James 5:14.

Claim God's *promises* when you pray, and always think of Him as *your Father*.

"Which art in heaven," reminds us that God is not an ordinary father, but One who has all power and should be

worshipped. We must be humble and reverent when we pray to the true God.

"Hallowed be thy name," shows that God's name — and *all that it stands for* — is to be held in reverence. God's name will someday be *our name* if we overcome and are *born of God*. THAT NAME CARRIES AUTHORITY TO RULE. It must always be respected.

What to Ask

"Thy kingdom come" is the first request of this perfect prayer. *First of all* we should learn to pray for God's kingdom — God's government — God's RULE — to come on this earth. *How many* so-called "Christians" really want God to *rule* their lives? Most carnal-minded men use every imaginable device to hide their eyes from the fact that God is *Supreme Ruler*. Christians should PRAY that God will *rule this earth*. Only His rule will bring about the peace and happiness that this world is striving in *vain* to achieve (Isaiah 11).

"Thy will be done, as in Heaven, so in earth," teaches us to *surrender our wills* to God as we pray — to acknowledge His Rule — *His Authority*. Remember that *God knows what is best*. You need to *study* God's Word so that you will learn the principles of God's will — and can pray accordingly.

Paul wrote in Ephesians 5:17, "Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the *will of the Lord* is."

Drink in of God's Word so that you will begin to think as God thinks, and to have God's will made a part of your very character. "Let this *mind* be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:5). Then you will automatically pray according to God's will, as revealed in the Bible, and your *prayers will be answered*.

"Give us day by day our daily

bread" certainly shows that God desires that we ask for our material needs. But notice that we are not to ask for great wealth, but our *daily bread*. God has *promised* to supply every *need* (Phil. 4:19). It is God's will that we prosper and be in health (III John 2), but being made wealthy might easily prove a stumbling block to our faith. So remember Christ's example of asking for only our *daily bread* — not necessarily the sustenance for several years in advance.

Forgive Others — Resist Devil

"And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us." You may ask God's forgiveness *only if you first forgive others*. When you kneel before God in prayer, never come before Him with feelings of bitterness, resentfulness, or hate. If you cannot first rid yourself of these feelings, ask God to *clean you up* and replace the spirit of *bate* with His Spirit of *love*. And love is charitable, and patient with others.

It is a wonderful feeling to know that you hate no man, but in your way, however clumsily, are trying to show love to everyone.

God *bears* and *answers* the prayers of a man in this spirit.

"And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil." God himself tempts no man (James 1:13). But He does permit us to be tempted by Satan and our own lusts. We should constantly pray that He would not permit us to be *brought into*, or *partake of*, any temptation — that He would give us the spiritual *power* to master any wrong desires.

"But deliver us from evil," should be translated, "but deliver us from the Evil One" [Satan]. The original Greek means this and most commentaries give this as the correct translation. Ask God each day to give you the strength to "resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

"Be *sober*, be *vigilant*; because your adversary the *devil*, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (I Peter 5:8). Satan the devil will try his best to upset you day and night! Ask God for strength and faith.

Ask What You Need

Jesus continued teaching his disciples (Luke 11:5-13) about prayer by giving them a parable. It shows that if we are really in dire *need*, as the man who had an unexpected guest, we can be sure that God will answer our prayer if we throw ourselves completely on His mercy.

The disciples were still unconverted, because the Holy Spirit had not yet been given. Jesus told them (verse 13), "If ye then, *being evil*, know how to give good gifts unto your children: *how much more* shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him? God is *more than willing* to give us of His Spirit!

Do you need wisdom, knowledge, faith, love? These are all *gifts* of the Holy Spirit (I Cor. 12 and 13). *Ask* God for these gifts. He is more willing to give you these things than you are to feed *your own hungry child*.

This is His will. So ask in FAITH!

Two Things to Avoid

During His "Sermon on the Mount," Christ *assumed* (Matt. 6:5-8) that His true followers would pray. He did not say, "If you pray," but "*when* thou prayest." He *knew* that anyone who was truly serving God would be *praying often*.

Are you?

He cautioned the disciples never to pray "to be seen of men," but to enter into a closet or "secret place," and there commune with their Heavenly Father. Christ taught that it was *wrong* to make long prayers in front of others to "show off" (Matt. 23:14). Preachers and "deacons" who delight in this sort of thing are *disobeying God*.

And have you ever heard certain denominations repeat prayers over and over again? Christ said, "But when ye pray, *use not vain repetitions*, as the *heathen do*: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking" (Matt. 6:7).

Memorized prayers — including the "Lord's Prayer" — soon lose their meaning and sincerity.

Nowhere in the entire New Testament is the "Lord's Prayer" repeated. The Apostles didn't repeat it over and

over again. Jesus gave it only as a pattern or example after which we could fashion *our own* prayers.

This world's churches are in *error* when they practice repeating *any* prayer over and over again each week. Avoid this error. *And try not to return thanks in the same way at the table every meal*.

When you pray, don't just "rattle off" so many words. Think about your blessings, your needs, and pray from the *heart*.

Don't Be Ashamed

We should be careful not to pray "to be seen of men." *But* does this mean that we should be overly secretive — as if we were ashamed — when we pray?

Absolutely not!

Many "babes in Christ" are faced with this problem. Some of you are afraid to pray as often as you should *because you are afraid other people will know about it!* Have no such fear! Should the nearness of your wife, husband, or children prevent you from maintaining an intimate contact with your Creator and God? Of course not!

In Luke 9:18 and 28, we find two examples of where Christ — our *perfect example* — prayed a short distance from His disciples and they knew *where* He was and *what* He was doing.

So *don't* be ashamed if anyone knows you are praying! Just be careful not to pray "to be seen of men," and try hard to find a closet or "private place" where you will not be disturbed.

When Jesus was staying at Peter's home with His disciples, "rising up *a great while before day*, He went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there *prayed*" (Mark 1:35).

You *can* be alone with God if you will follow Christ's example and *make a way!*

Position in Prayer

The Bible records many different positions in prayer. But it *always* shows that in private, personal prayer, you should *kneel* on *both* knees. It has always been a custom to kneel on *one* knee to a king or other ruler as a sign of *respect and esteem*. But the Bible *always* records that we should bow

both knees to God in *reverence* and *worship*.

I Kings 8:54 and Ezra 9:5 show an example of a very suitable position in prayer. Notice that Solomon and Ezra kneeled upon *both* knees and spread out their hands — upward — toward God. This is a position of humility and supplication. You will come more nearly praying *fervently* if you are in such a position.

God may not answer "sleepytime prayers" that you mumble to yourself in bed just before dropping off to sleep. If you want an answer, better GET OUT OF THAT BED and kneel before your Creator.

In private Jesus "kneeled down, and prayed" (Luke 22:41). In your personal prayers, you should kneel before God and pray *fervently* (James 5:16).

How Often to Pray

In Acts 13:22, we read that David was a *man after God's own heart*. Read some of the Psalms. Many of the Psalms are simply David's prayers. He prayed to God in time of trouble, for guidance, in thanksgiving. In *every circumstance* David went to God in prayer.

Don't think you are "bothering" God by sharing your joys and your problems with Him. *Talk to God often* — in *every circumstance*. That is undoubtedly one of the main reasons that David was a man after God's own heart.

If you want to be a child of God, then "get acquainted" with your Heavenly Father. Talk to Him *often*. *Share your life* with God. In Psalm 55:17, David wrote, "*Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud; and He shall hear my voice.*" David went to God in prayer *three times a day*.

We read of God's prophet Daniel (Dan. 6:10), "... he kneeled upon his knees *three times a day*, and *prayed*, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime." These examples are not commands, but they certainly show that to kneel in prayer *three times a day* is a good way to bring God into our lives.

"He that hath an ear, *let him hear.*"

The apostle Paul was inspired to write the Thessalonians (I Thes. 5:17), "Pray without ceasing." This means that we are never to *discontinue* our prayer life. It also — with many other scriptures — shows that we should be *constantly* in an attitude or spirit of prayer. Talk to God as you go about your work or play. Ask Him to direct your *every thought and action*.

When you seem to be losing your temper, or when you are in doubt about a certain course of action — *stop and think*, "Would Jesus do that if He were here today?" Ask God to show you, and *study* your Bible so you will *know* what God would have you do. Then ask God for the *wisdom*, the *faith*, and the *power* to rightly carry out what you know is right.

This simple process will *change your life!* Your life will then have more *meaning*, and more *real happiness*, than you have ever before experienced.

How Long to Pray

Prayer should be one of the most important and *most enjoyable* activities of your life.

If you really love God as your Father, you will *want* to spend a great deal of time talking to Him.

Your spiritual food is obtained by contact with God through Bible study and prayer. Preparing and eating your material food takes at least two hours each day. Isn't your "spiritual food" *even more important?* Spend *more time* acquiring it.

Time is precious. Use your time where it *counts*. It's better to miss a few *physical* meals, better to *fast* once in a while, than to get "too busy" to drink in the spiritual things from God.

That is the very *purpose* of your life!

Sometimes you will need to spend a *long session* with God. Christ prayed *all night* before choosing *His* twelve disciples.

When you have a tremendous decision to make, or when facing serious trouble, remember that example. In such a crisis, spend a *long time* in God's presence. Pray with all your might. God *will bear*. And it will be an experience that you will never forget.

What to Pray

Do you have trouble knowing what to pray about? First of all, "count your blessings" and thank God for "every good and every perfect gift." How little most appreciate God's boundless love!

Then *STUDY* your Bible and find what God's true servants prayed about. Get your mind *away from self* once in a while. Paul said to pray for the saints and for himself — God's servant (Eph. 6:18-20). He wrote that he remembered the Philippian church in every prayer (Phil. 1:4). Apply these principles to God's true ministers, His Work, and His true churches of today.

Are you separated from other true Christians but want to have a greater part in helping them and God's Work? Then read Colossians 4:11-13. Paul describes one of his helpers, Epaphras, as, "*always labouring fervently for you in prayers . . .*" This man's *LABOR* was in *prayer!* That was *his part* in God's Work that Paul referred to especially. It can be *YOUR PART* as well! Paul said (verse 13), "For I bear him record that he hath a great *ZEL* for you . . ."

Do you have a *zeal* to help God's children? Do you get down on your knees *every day* and ask God to help and direct them? Do you pray for God's ministers and His Work?

Your part in God's great Work may be contributing what you should in tithes and offerings, and *crying out* to God day and night to guide and protect His servants. Mr. Armstrong and God's other true ministers are only human. We have a job beyond our human power to perform. *We need your prayers!*

Power in Prayer

When a crisis comes, when you are sick or afflicted, *KNOW* that God is a God of *power!* You can tap the supreme source of all *POWER* just by *getting down on your knees in a private place and fervently beseeching God to intervene and help you.*

Learn to *EXPECT* an answer. God reveals Himself as a *real* God — a *living, acting* God. *Take God at His word!*

WHAT IS A BOY?

What makes a truly happy boy? Who should a boy look up to and copy? Are there any "real boys" left in the world today? Or are our fellows destined to become effeminate, out-of-condition weaklings? Read this vital article on how you can experience an exciting, fun filled life and learn to be the right kind of boy.

by Ronald Kelly and John Robinson

WALK down any street in America or Britain. See that couple just ahead — *which one is the girl?*

Stop at a traffic light. Is that a boy or a girl driving the Chevelle or the Triumph next to you? Maybe it's a French poodle.

You just *can't* tell any more, can you?

The time-honored, traditional position of the sexes is giving way to radical new ideas. No longer is the "clean cut" American boy a fellow with a closely cropped butch or flat-top, button-down sport shirt and ivy league slacks. No longer is he "bombing" around in a ten-year-old Ford or Chev which *he* bored and stroked, customized the body and hand rubbed the lacquer.

Instead, the "boy next door" — the average Joe — is more apt to have longer hair than his girl friend, use more hair spray on it than she does and spend more time combing it. (Often, it is true, *neither* do ANYTHING to their hair.) Chances are slim he knows much about what is under the sleek hood of his fastback Mustang. After all, Dad foots the bills and buys the gas. Our "average Joe" might also have real difficulty changing a flat tire on that Mustang. Perhaps he'd even be panting before the lugs were tightened!

Is Youth to Blame?

Obviously none of you fellows wants to be *mistaken for A GIRL!* What a ghastly thought. And surely none of you *consciously* DESIRES to be a sallow-faced, sunken-chested, four-eyed wonder. But in all honesty, fellows, you know literally dozens of *your* acquaintances who are exactly that.

Where has true masculinity gone?



Henderson — Ambassador College

You can't tell any more, can you!

Are there any *real* MEN preparing for the future? Or is our world destined to be filled with "ginky" effeminates?

Only young people themselves, *and their parents*, can answer these questions.

It is high time we realize just what a boy should be. It is time to find out how to live and grow up to take your place in YOUR society as a real man. Youth has been neglected — all but forgotten until they riot or "turn on." "Give the kid a pacifier, an erector set, send him to a movie, buy him a car — just get him out of my hair," comes the indifferent complaint of way too many parents.

Yes, our homes are failing our youth. Our schools are failing our youth. And even the churches have miserably failed

our most precious national resource — *our youth*. None of the established national entities has provided answers to the burning questions of youth.

But there are answers! And we are going to see — in this series of articles directed to *you*, the young people of the United States, Great Britain, and the world (and your parents) — just how life is to be lived and what you can do to achieve success in reaching adulthood.

You Have to Grow Up

Like it or not — *you have to grow up!* It is absolutely impossible to suddenly "freeze" your age. You can't eternally remain 13, 15 or 19. Sooner or later you *will* become thirty — you will be "*the establishment!*" And that time will come a lot *sooner* than you think.

But kids today see no purpose in reaching thirty. In settling into the freeway-fighting, constantly competitive, two-martini-for-lunch bunch. *It just isn't their bag!* To offer their blood on the altar of a war which no one will explain to them seems futile. Faced with seemingly monumental problems, they turn to avenues of escape — *drugs, music, sex, demonstrating or rioting.*

All this unrest can't help but affect you teen-agers. No matter how "straight" you are, you will be influenced by those who are on dope, demonstrating, and openly, militantly deploring the establishment. After all, the *militants* are the ones who set the pace and dictate the styles.

Fellows will let their hair grow out so they won't appear odd or out of place. Girls will freeze in sub-zero weather as long as the micro-mini is the style. It simply goes to prove that teens have a natural desire to *conform* — even if it is

conforming to *non-conformity*. Our young people *want* and *need* someone to copy — to *look up to*. But most are looking to their contemporaries, to the around, *any* way to be with the “in” crowd.

“Be Like My Old Man —
You Gotta Be Crazy!”

More than anything else, boys today have no goal — no purpose. There are none to set the pace from the establishment. How many of you teen-agers reading this article would like to mature to become *exactly* the type of man your father is? For a blessed few the answer may be positive.

But for some reason, the majority of today's fathers are not catching their son's fancy. So the sons go searching for someone else to look up to, to emulate. It's a case of the missing example. But whether or not you have found someone you want to pattern your life after, *there are examples* that *every* boy should want to emulate.

So let's ask again — what does make a boy?

We will deal in this article with four overall ingredients in the life of a vibrant, happy, masculine boy. There are *examples* in each area — good examples. They are areas which must be dealt with before a boy grows into true manhood. Perhaps you didn't realize it, but *the whole purpose of being a boy IS TO BECOME A MAN!*

Here's how!

I. Education

A short time ago, a group of teen-agers was interviewed on television about modern dating. Several of us sitting there watching the interviews were all struck by the lack of ability the teens had to express themselves. Many simply could not express *simple statements* of fact. One of the interviews went something like this:

Interviewer: “What do you think of our modern dating practices?”

Seventeen-year-old white male: “Uh, well . . . It's like, man, uh, well, I mean I think that . . . uh, man . . . it's fine to date and, uh, well, it's like, you know what I mean. It's like OK with me, you know.”

This young man, sadly enough, was

representative of a critical lack in *basic* education in today's youth. You would think with the sudden acceleration of knowledge in the world, with men walking on the surface of the moon in elaborate space suits that there would be no knowledge gap. *But there is!*

To develop through the teen-age years into *successful* manhood, you cannot shirk education. In last month's article, “How to Be a Teen-ager,” we showed you that the foundation of happy teen-age life is God's Word, the Bible. In the Bible there are a number of individuals who demonstrated the importance of education. Last time we referred to King Solomon a great deal. Let's notice how he realized the need for education.

“In that night did God appear unto Solomon, and said unto him, ask what I shall give thee” (II Chron. 1:7).

What would you ask for if God offered you anything you wanted? A sports car, a million dollars, a perfect wife? Solomon asked for none of these.

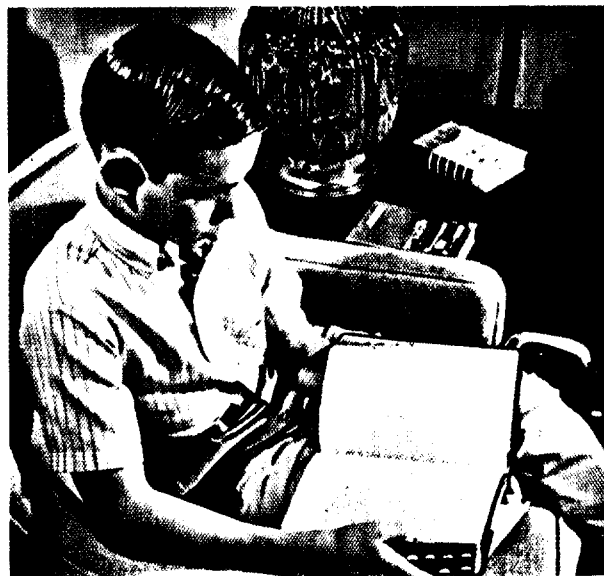
Instead, Solomon said to God, “Thou hast shewed great mercy unto David my father, and hast made me to reign in his stead. Now, O Lord God, let Thy promise unto David my father be established . . . Give me now WISDOM and KNOWLEDGE, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this Thy people, that is so great?”

Rather awesome, isn't it? A son who wanted to be just like “Dad,” who would rather have wisdom than riches. And since his choice so pleased God, He granted Solomon fabulous riches also (verse 12).

And what about Jesus Christ's example?

Now, wait a minute. Don't get too excited. We don't mean the long-haired, effeminate, hippie-type “Christ” you might have heard so much about. We mean the tanned, *well-muscled*, *aggressive* MASCULINE Christ whose very presence commanded respect from the

leaders of His day. When He was only twelve years old, He was separated from Joseph and Mary and couldn't be found for *three days*. When they *did* find Him, He was not out heckling Roman soldiers or roaring around the Jerusalem streets in a stolen chariot.



Conn — Ambassador College

“And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the *midst* of the DOCTORS, both *hearing* them, and *asking* them questions. And all that heard Him were ASTONISHED at His UNDERSTANDING and ANSWERS” (Luke 2:46-47).

These two examples readily illustrate how vital seeking education is in God's sight. Both these men were *young*, but both had a desire for *true* education. True education isn't just memorizing facts and equations. It begins with a realization that the Word of God is the foundation of all knowledge. This true education with its proper basis equips you to take a responsible position in tomorrow's world.

While you're getting an education, get the real foundation you need. Don't be afraid to read and study the Bible! God calls His Word a SWORD — when you pick it up and become familiar with it you'll find out *why!* Don't be chicken and fear the reactions of your friends. That's a challenge! Have *you* got the guts to read for *yourself* about the guys who had the guts to make history in the pages of the Old Testament?

Why don't you give it a try? Pick up a Bible and start reading it — it won't

hurt you. Try Joshua. Even Proverbs and Ecclesiastes make excellent, interesting and helpful reading — and they're practical. There's a heap of knowledge there to help you succeed as a teen-ager, to be popular, to help you avoid mistakes, make money, live life to the full!

Try it — we dare you!

Education and knowledge isn't something for sissies and bespectacled pantywaists. It is one of the most vital tools of an aggressive, masculine fellow with a real *goal* and *purpose* in life. Learn to take advantage of your high school and college classes. Learn to maturely sift out truth from error. Take advantage of travel opportunities to broaden your horizons. Talk to those who have had more experience than you. Strive for balance — *be interested in everything* — which brings us to point number two.

II. Athletics

Top mental agility is impossible with a *degenerate, soft body*. Yet recent tests have uncovered some alarming trends in our nation's youth. While the time for the mile run continues to drop, the pole vault record keeps getting higher. While our football and basketball players get bigger and tougher, the MAJORITY of our teen-age fellows are getting softer. Look around your high school or college sometime. Notice how many of the boys

are "rubberwristed" and have dainty little walks. Many of these fellows would really find it tough to chin themselves or do a couple of pushups.

And that's a shame!

Your teen-age years are the absolute prime years of your life. To be out of shape, or skin-and-bones, or chubby, or weak or effeminate is a disgrace!

Remember earlier we referred to Solomon who wanted to be just like his father, David. Well, David was just a boy when he came up against Goliath. Even Goliath disdained him with a "Why, he's just a red-haired, scrawny little kid" (I Sam. 17:42).

But David was no sissy or weakling. He had spent long days and nights with his father's sheep. He'd had to battle off wild animals and had even slain a lion and a bear. "And I [David] went out after him [the lion], and smote him, and delivered it [a lamb] out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him" (I Samuel 17:35).

No, David was anything but timorous and out of condition. He was strong and deadly accurate with his slingshot. He'd spent hours perfecting his ability with the sling. He was courageous and athletic — a real boy!

Now before any of you conjures up the idea of rushing out and tangling

with wild animals, let us say we *discourage* any of you doing anything *rash!*

But you can take an active part in various sports and athletic programs that can get and keep you in shape. Not only will it reap immediate benefits, but will make you a more *balanced, well-rounded person*.

At our three Ambassador College campuses we have extensive physical fitness programs. We play basketball, tennis, soccer, softball, golf, volleyball, lift weights, run track and field events, swim, and water ski just to name a few. We keep alert and fit. Even our faculty participates. It might interest you to know that our faculty basketball team has won the intramural basketball tournament both at Pasadena and at Big Sandy in past years. Our faculty *sets the pace* even in athletic events.

One thing you should keep in mind, you don't have to be a big "bruiser" to be an athlete. Not everyone can "dunk" a basketball or toss the shot fifty feet, but everyone can find a sport which fits him. *Everyone* can profit from sports, develop co-ordination and stimulate mental agility. Sports activity is a second key to being a successful boy.

III. Music

A third ingredient of the right type of boy deals with the field of *music*.

Music is a big part of every teen-ager's life. Almost everyone of you has had a song running through your mind sometime *today*. It might have been one of the "top ten" or an "oldie but goodie," but it affected your life. You listen to music hours a day — in the car, on the juke box, on television, on your stereo and on the radio. With the advent of transistor radios, music has become a phenomenal ingredient in today's young peoples' lives.

Lyrics of songs affect you, too. Often you'll sit around singing the words of the latest release of one of your favorite artists. Whether you realize it or not, the *philosophies* propagated by many of these songs affect you. Songs, lyrics, music in general, create a mood. Music can inspire you, or make you sad, melancholy or blue. It can also carry you into a futile, despondent, don't-give-a-hoot attitude — if you let it.

And all of you will have to agree that



Kilburn — Ambassador College

Group sports offer not only exercise, but also an opportunity to build an attitude of co-operation.

some of today's songs are downright *VULGAR!* It doesn't take much "worldly wisdom" to discern what "Light My Fire" is about, does it? You might like the tune or the beat, but the message is crass.

Or what about the one where a talented male vocalist pleads with a young girl to "get out of his mind" because she's "too young" to participate in pre-marital sex. There's no mention of the fact that fornication is breaking one of GOD'S TEN COMMANDMENTS — only that she is *too young*.

Don't think for a minute that music *does not* affect your life. It does.

But what should we do? Suddenly rise up in righteous indignation, smash all radios, burn our albums, imprison all vocalists and rush off to a monastery?

Of course NOT!

Right music is good. You need to learn appreciation for the right kinds of music. And that does not imply that all popular music is bad. We happen to enjoy a certain amount of pop music. But by the same token, we do not intend to wallow in a lot of musical *swill*.

At Ambassador College we are recapturing the true values in music. We have extensive programs in *various* musical fields. Our college band and vocal groups have become proficient — well known and respected in the communities around the college campuses. In addition to more formal musical presentations, there's nothing like a good sing-along on the beach, or on a picnic, to cap off a group activity. And you can't sing along if you don't know how to sing — or if someone in the group can't strum a few chords on the guitar or pluck a few notes on the old banjo.

We encourage those who come to Ambassador with musical ability to develop that ability. There are several groups who have gotten together to play for many different types of activities. They are not long-haired, hopped-up hoods, but fellows and girls who enjoy playing and singing. They prove that music doesn't have to be a deafening, electronic nightmare bathed in "pot smoke" and psychedelic lights to be enjoyed.

Many of God's true servants have been talented musicians. David for ex-



Ambassador College

Music at the beach — a part of good balance.

ample was a "cunning and skillful" musician. In I Samuel 16 we find that David as a young boy was chosen to play for the king of his nation. The King James Version of the Bible names the instrument that David played as a "harp." However, if you check a Bible dictionary you will find it was not what we call a harp today. Instead it was more like what we label a guitar.

He was good at playing it. He practiced and became proficient at manipulating the strings — and he was a man after God's own heart. He was a balanced fellow, and the proper use of music helped him achieve that balance.

You can learn and apply the right principles of good music. Obviously, everyone cannot become a brilliant musician overnight. But you can develop whatever ability you have in these areas. Almost anyone can learn to plunk around on a uke or a guitar and have a "ball" doing it. Appreciation for the right kind of music and developing your musical abilities is a third point in becoming a balanced young man.

IV. Learn to Work

There is an old Jewish proverb that states, "He who does not teach his son a trade might as well teach him to steal." Perhaps everyone who isn't taught to work won't end up as a hardened, armed

bandit, but there is tremendous truth to this old saying.

Precious few of us in this current generation have really been *taught* to work. Instead we've been allowed to evolve into various jobs — without proper training and background. Learning to work and teaching young people a trade is a *Biblical principle*.

The book of Genesis, the first book of the Bible, is full of accounts of teenagers out working. And what about David again? Where was he when he slew the lion and the bear? Out in the fields *working*, wasn't he?

Now some of you are going to say, "But my father won't teach me" or "I live in an area where job opportunities are limited." If that is your case, let's take a look at someone who really had limited job opportunities — *he was a slave!*

Joseph was the son of a wealthy Middle Eastern cattleman and sheep rancher. His father Jacob (who later was renamed Israel) specially favored Joseph above his eleven other sons. As a result of this favoritism and Joseph's lack of prudence, his other brothers plotted against their younger brother, who was seventeen at the time.

One day Joseph's father sent him out to see how his brothers were doing with the flocks. The older brothers decided to kill Joseph when he arrived. However, through a series of events they ended up selling him as a slave to a caravan headed for Egypt (Genesis 37:1-28).

In Egypt he was *sold* to a man named Potiphar who was the captain of Pharaoh's guard. (Rather limited vocational opportunities, wouldn't you say?) But amazingly enough, Joseph rose from being a *slave* at age 17 to SECOND IN COMMAND OF THE NATION OF EGYPT when thirty years old. (Gen. 39-41.)

True enough, God did guide Joseph and grant him special blessings. But Joseph *did his part*. Even when he was a slave and in prison on a *trumped-up* attempted rape charge, he was diligently applying the laws of success. In each case he *WORKED* at *whatever* job he was given, diligently and conscientiously. He also depended on God to bless him and God did — *abundantly*.

God can bless you, too. But he ex-



Duncan, Conn — Ambassador College

A little work never hurt anyone!

pects you to exert effort. There is no question that it takes effort and determination to learn to work. But it is a rewarding and fulfilling thing which bears abundant fruit. We've known fellows who have agreed to work for NOTHING — *just to learn a trade.*

There are job opportunities around if you will just look. You can sack groceries, deliver papers, pump gas, do construction work in the summer or mow grass. In some of the larger, more affluent areas, there is a fortune to be made in yard work — with very little invested. Finding work is up to you. Obviously it is best if you can work with your father or someone skilled in a trade. But the important thing is not to neglect this vital part of boyhood. Realize part of growing into true manhood is learning *how to work.*

An amazing number of our incoming students at Ambassador have never been taught how to work. In some cases various ones have not really known how to *effectively* use a shovel or a rake. One novice plumber hunted for almost an hour for a "pipe-stretcher"! However, they learn very rapidly when they are given a chance.

We feel learning to work is such an integral part of overall education that we strongly encourage EVERY Ambassador student to work 18-20 hours a week in addition to their class responsibilities. And our students basically *enjoy* their work — no, not every single job, but the overall result.

You, too, can enjoy and immensely



profit from this sadly neglected area of every successful boy's life — learning to work.

The Whole Man

We've been able to cover in this one article only a very few *basic* and *key* principles of becoming a man — of how to be a boy. These principles, when applied, will fill up a boy's life and give him a foundation for real success when he becomes a man.

Of course, every parent has a responsibility to inculcate these into his own life and child-rearing principles. The subject of how to become a man is inexhaustible — and, we're certain, many

articles will follow in future years to help direct young people.

You should write immediately for other Ambassador College publications which will add to what has been covered in this article. If you haven't read *The Plain Truth About Child Rearing, Modern Dating,* and *The Seven Laws of Success,* write for them immediately.

Life itself is a tremendous responsibility. To find the real purpose for why we are here and then to live according to that purpose is an obligation each and every one of us has. You are finding the answers to these vital questions, and the way is being pointed out — if you will only heed.



Duncan — Ambassador College

Play has its part in building young men. And the blessing for developing balance in a boy's life cannot be counted.

Why God is Not Real to Most People

(Continued from page 6)

Bible, it was like listening to the most wonderful Friend I had ever known! It was WONDERFUL! It was INTERESTING — INSPIRING — REVEALING! So I studied the Bible often *on my knees*.

You see, as I *read* the Bible, God was talking to *me*. But as I prayed, I was talking to *HIM*! And by studying His Word *on my knees*, I was able to carry on a two-way conversation with Him — mixing prayer with listening to Him through reading His words. It was invigorating, rejuvenating beyond words to describe. He was TEACHING ME. I was gaining new KNOWLEDGE — spiritual knowledge — knowledge to LIVE BY — knowledge to put into action — instruction to be *acted on* — commands to OBEY by *doing*!

As He told me about Himself — as He talked to me, instructed me — and as I talked to Him — *I got to know Him*! He BECAME REAL!

He was no longer WAY OFF! He was very NEAR — in Spirit, in the very same room. I have never seen God or Jesus Christ PHYSICALLY — with my physical eye — but I see them often, spiritually in my mind. Not precise definite features, of course — but I “see” in my “mind’s eye” eyes flashing out like a flame of fire — His face shining as brightly as the sun in full strength—His head and hair white as the cleanest, whitest snow. And all around where He is sitting is gleaming, glistening beautiful SPLENDOR and brightness, with lightning flashing forth. Perhaps I don’t “see” this as distinctly as I expect to after I enter His Kingdom as an inheritor, BORN of His Spirit in SPIRIT COMPOSITION — no longer a mortal human composed of flesh and blood.

It is, of course, as the Apostle Paul was inspired to say: we see at best, now, as through a darkened glass, but then, in the resurrection, in His Kingdom, face to face. (I Cor. 13:12).

WHY is God “so far off — so unreal”? It is because people are so *far off* from HIM — so *close* to the physical,

material things and interests of this evil world! Because their minds are on physical pursuits all the time. Because *they have no time for God*!

You get to KNOW those you are *close to* — in *constant contact with* — in conversation with!

But, with most, *their sins* have CUT THEM OFF from contact with God.

Is it, then, impossible for them to GAIN CONTACT?

Not at all! But *IT IS NOT EASY!* WHY?

Because you have to REPENT — and that is NOT EASY. To just say the words “I abhor myself,” does not mean you really *do*. To really CONFESS that you have been WRONG — that you are NOT GOOD — that there is nothing good IN YOU — that you not only have DONE wrong and sinned but that you ARE wrong and sinful — that is not easy. The SELF has to DIE — and your human nature will fight that *to the death*. To make an UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER to God and HIS LAW — His authority over you — His commandments — His teaching — HIS WAY of living that is so UTTERLY CONTRARY to the way your friends and associates are living — that is NOT EASY.

SELF within you will shout out: “But what would my friends — all my associates — those I have been close to — what would THEY think?” You’ll have to be willing to GIVE THEM UP — for they probably will throw you over — IF you surrender to God, let Him turn your life right-side-up, live a totally *changed* life according to His teaching!

Are you too big a coward to do it? You have to be WILLING to GIVE UP — everything! — for HIM. Do you want HIM that much? Do you want the happiness of a REAL Christian LIFE that much? Do you want ETERNAL LIFE in His Kingdom that much? Few do!

That’s why God is not REAL to most.

Of course they are not really HAPPY. But they are unwilling to live THE WAY

that *causes* happiness. They would rather keep on TRYING to gain it some other way. They NEVER WILL, however. All humanity has been trying that for 6,000 years! NONE ever yet succeeded. Do you think YOU can? You CAN’T!

God CAN be real to you — but are you willing?

There are the THREE DIMENSIONS. Most people have consciousness of only the first TWO! They seek pleasures, happiness, in the AROUND — things, people — this world! There are some temporary thrills, delights, pleasures. Sure! But they NEVER LAST! And you pay too big a price for them. They’re a bad bargain.

You may look to the within — but it’s like looking down into a well that’s gone DRY. There’s nothing there to quench that inner thirst.

You CAN contact the ABOVE! IF you’re willing to pay the PRICE — that is. It isn’t easy. But it’s the ONLY dimension that SATISFIES — that fills that inner void — that feeds that gnawing soul HUNGER — that expands your horizons — that opens your MIND to the glories of SPIRITUAL COMPREHENSION — of understanding SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE — of really UNDERSTANDING the Bible, in a way that produces happiness brimful and running over!

It’s WORTH the price YOU pay a million times over. Jesus Christ paid the REAL price — the BIG price. The price you pay, in GIVING UP in surrender to Him, is as nothing by comparison.

It’s the GREATEST BARGAIN in the world — but the world does not offer it, or ANY bargain. GOD DOES!

There are TWO directions you can go in life. Most people go the direction of SELF — vanity! It’s the way of self-centeredness. Everything is coming INWARD. Toward SELF. Getting! Taking! Acquiring! And you keep shrinking smaller and smaller.

The other direction is the way of God’s LOVE. Love fulfills His Law. LOVE is *outgoing concern*! It is, first of all, GOD-centeredness. It is LOVE to God, in worship, adoration, faith, obedience. It is, second, LOVE to fellowman — loving others AS yourself. That’s a lot of love. That is the WAY of the

ABOVE. That way constantly EXPANDS your horizons. That way you GROW — and GROW — and GROW! You DEVELOP! You develop GOD'S CHARACTER! You GROW in love — in happiness — in abundant well-being! LIFE becomes abundant and JOYFUL!

Willing to pay the price? It's not giving up so much MONEY — it's giving up things you've had your heart set on that

are BAD for you. It's coming to a new sense of VALUES — values that MAKE SENSE!

I know! I *have* known 42 years. Life has had its problems, persecutions, disappointments — but it's been RICH, FULL, REWARDING, ABUNDANT!

Everyone CAN have it — if they want it deeply enough.

EVEN YOU! God BECOMES REAL!

What Is Real Repentance?

(Continued from page 11)

repented, will LIVE as Christ lived! He will keep the LAWS of God, being obedient to God in every way, and becoming a recipient of the great HAPPINESS and tremendous BLESSINGS that come with that obedience!

"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, *leaving us an example*, that ye should *follow his steps*" (I Peter 2:21).

CHECK UP on yourself!

Study these scriptures *in your own Bible*. Many of you THINK you are already "saved" and that you are already good Christians! *But* "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (I Cor. 10:12).

Remember, to "*examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?*" (II Cor. 13:5).

Serve Christ — OBEY Christ — LIVE as Christ lived, FOLLOW Christ, IMITATE CHRIST!

THAT IS WHAT IT MEANS to give yourself to Him!

Self-Sacrifice

All the practical side of religion is summed up in the exhortation of Paul, that we present our bodies a living sacrifice to God. Anciently, a man brought a lamb and presented it to God, laid it on the altar to be consumed by God's fire. In like manner we are to present our bodies. The first thing is not to be a worker, a preacher, a saver of souls; the very first thing in a Christian life is to present one's self to God, to lay one's self on the altar. We need to understand this. It is easier

to talk and work for Christ than to give ourselves to Him. It is easier to offer God a few activities than to surrender our lives to Him.

But the heart must be first, else even the largest gifts and services are not acceptable.

"'Tis not thy work the Master needs, but thee,

The obedient spirit, the believing heart."

"A living sacrifice." A sacrifice is something really *given* to God, to be His altogether and forever. We cannot take it back. One could not lay a lamb on God's altar, and a minute or two afterward run up and take it off. We cannot be God's today, and our own tomorrow. If we become His at all, in a sacrifice which He accepts, we are His always.

Baptizing Counsel

If YOU are one who really feels you *have* come to know what real repentance is — and *you want to repent*, you really WANT TO OBEY GOD — then here is GOOD NEWS!

One way we are prepared to serve YOU that many of you may not realize is this: As a part of the ADULT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM, we now have TRAINED MEN — graduates of AMBASSADOR COLLEGE — available in all parts of the United States, ready to counsel with you PERSONALLY — to answer questions — to help you with any spiritual problems — even to baptize any who are ready for it.

I think that because we say in literature — and you hear on radio — "there

is no follow-up — no one will call on you" — many may have MISUNDERSTOOD. What we mean to say to the public is that there will be no follow-up trying to sell them something — we have NOTHING TO SELL. And that giving us their name and address for requested literature, or a subscription (free — already paid) to *The PLAIN TRUTH* does not mean someone will come knocking uninvited on their door.

We WON'T send anyone to see you, UNWANTED. Not unless you REQUEST IT! *BUT*, if you would like one of our trained men, graduates of AMBASSADOR COLLEGE, to call and counsel with you about any problems, answer any questions — even explain anything in the Bible, there is such a man NEAR YOU! So PLEASE feel free to invite such a visit. That's what they are there for. And of course you know they have nothing to sell. They won't ask you for money. They won't plead with you — or even urge you to "be converted" or baptized, nor to join anything. Of course, if you WANT *and request* help in finding God and letting Christ REALLY come into your heart and life, they are fully qualified to HELP. But they will not try to shove anything on you. They are qualified to EXPLAIN the Bible if you ask but never will they argue. Actually most of them are consecrated and ordained ministers. They, and we here at Headquarters of this great Work want only to HELP — to SERVE. We count it a PRIVILEGE to do so.

But remember — if you're *not sure*, then *read this article again*.

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong has completely rewritten the article, "What Do You Mean . . . 'Rewarded According to Works?'" This article will appear next month under the title, "WHAT'LL You Be DOING in the NEXT LIFE?"

Also because of lack of space the conclusion to last month's article, "Twelve Rules for Bible Study" will appear next month.

How to QUIT Smoking!

(Continued from page 8)

emotional disturbances occur if they are deprived of its use (*Smoking and Health*, p. 350).

Why is this?

Says Dr. C. W. Lieb, "Botanically speaking, tobacco is a drug, a narcotic. And unlike alcohol or opium, its 'soothing' qualities do not take effect until the smoker has become addicted to it. The 'soothing quality' is in large measure a relief from the irritation caused by drug craving.

"Those who smoke, however, do not usually face up to realities so honestly" (*Don't Let Smoking Kill You*, p. 11).

Dr. Lieb asserted, "But nicotine is a drug, and as one continues to smoke, one gets used to it. One becomes, in a word, an *addict* who develops higher and higher thresholds of tolerance. The confirmed heavy smoker can handle amounts of nicotine that would *poison* a non-smoker" (p. 19).

Tobacco is *not* physically addicting, in the same way as heroin or cocaine or the barbiturates. Nevertheless, it is addicting in the sense of the user becoming **DEPENDENT** on it, craving its

effect, becoming *habituated* to its use. The smoking habit becomes **COMPULSIVE** in some heavy smokers because of *psychological dependence* on it!

The cigarette addict, therefore, although not addicted in the same way as a heroin addict, does rely heavily on tobacco and thinks he cannot do without it. His *mind* is addicted to it.

The addict sometimes calls his cigarettes "coffin nails," or "gaspsers." He might admit he smokes "like a furnace." He almost invariably begins his daily routine with a cigarette. His day begins with a cough, a gasp, and a lit cigarette between his teeth!

Such smokers may become addicted to smoking in the same way alcoholics become addicted to alcohol. To them, cigarettes seem to satisfy an urgent psychological need. The cigarette addict believes that smoking helps him keep calm under tension or in a stress-filled job. Because of this, it is very difficult for him to abandon the cigarette habit.

But even the "addicted" smoker can overcome and quit the habit. There is hope for *all* smokers!

Here's How

The first thing to do is realize *why* you smoke. Then, you must think of all the reasons why you should **NOT** smoke. If you really try, and perhaps *write them out on paper*, you could think of *dozens* of good reasons why you should not smoke!

What are some of the reasons? First, of course, there is the threat of lung cancer or other fatal diseases; also, the nonsmoker has more energy and vitality to enjoy life; his mind can function better; he saves money. Other reasons to quit are to prove you have willpower; to set the *right example* for your children. When you stop smoking, your *food* will taste better. Your throat won't be continually clogged with phlegm. You will get rid of the hacking cigarette cough. Actually, you will gradually begin to feel **MUCH LESS NERVOUS**, even though that may seem hard to believe. The first few days after you quit, you might feel more nervous, but gradually the nervousness will diminish and you will be calmer and more poised.

Remember, smoking is actually a "crutch" to many people. It helps them "escape" stress and strain and tension. Smoking is one of the channels of **ESCAPISM** available to people, today, but which has a fatal **KICK-BACK** — a deadly **BOOMERANG** effect on the smoker!

When you quit smoking, you will begin to **ENJOY** life much more. Breathing fresh air will be a pleasure; smelling the wonderful odors of nature will tantalize your olfactory nerves. You will sleep better. No more danger of accidents, or fires in bed. No more ugly, smelly cigarette butts lying around the house.

ALL THESE THINGS will become yours, *after* you conquer and kick the cigarette habit — **COMPLETELY!**

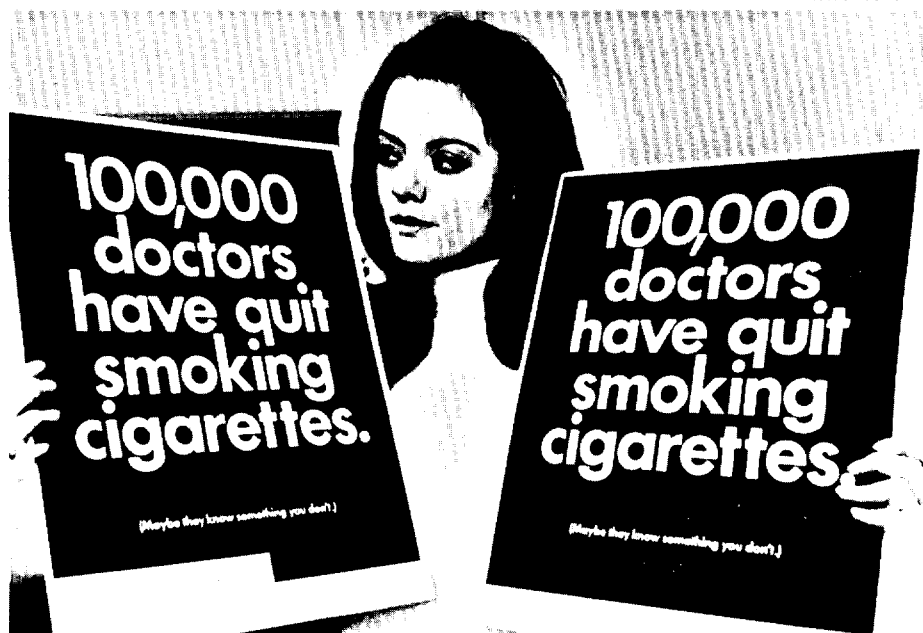
Some of these blessings will come gradually. Some will become apparent very soon.

Think of these benefits from not smoking. Think of the gruesome **COST** of smoking. Form in your mind the strong desire, motivation, and **RESOLVE** to quit smoking!

Do these things, and you will have made a good beginning in stopping smoking. But there is more that you

FOR ALL TO READ — Sandy Hocking displays at left the type of anti-cigarette smoking poster which will be used on U. S. mail trucks in every part of the country. The poster at right was criticized because no source for the figure was given, and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare added a sticker displayed at left which reads: "Estimate based on surveys of the National Opinion Research Center and the Public Health Service."

Wide World



must do, if you want to make SURE that you completely overcome the vile, noxious habit.

Plan Out Your Strategy — AVOID TEMPTATION

Realize before you begin that giving up cigarettes may be a major project, for you. Depending on the extent of your habit, it may require firmness of determination and tremendous personal effort!

But the reward is certainly worth it.

Therefore, face up to the fact that at first, when you quit, there will probably be more nervousness, tension, and a craving for tobacco. Face the fact that smoking has had a deathlike hold on you, and to overcome it will take time, effort, and a certain amount of suffering. But realize that YOU CAN DO IT! And the final result is WORTH IT for you!

Always keep your goal in mind. Never let it grow hazy, or disappear from your view. KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE GOAL!

When do you usually smoke? Face these particular times of temptation by AVOIDING THEM as much as possible. Don't foolishly put yourself in a situation when you might compromise with your goal, where friends or relatives might persuade you to give in "just once." Chances are, if you do you will be HOOKED once again, right back where you started! So don't take a chance on it.

It may be tough sledding for a while, but with help there is no doubt — YOU CAN DO IT!!

Don't deceive yourself with a "tough guy" approach and proclaim you're going to quit, but still carry a pack with you — it won't work that way! Throw away *all* cigarettes you have — and if you buy more, throw *them* away the first time you get back strength to do so. Flee cigarettes! Keep away from them, and keep them away from *you*!

You must realize from the start that one of the hurdles you must cope with is our smoking society — your environment. Cigarettes are advertised everywhere, and your friends and relatives probably smoke. Prepare your mind to face this difficulty squarely. Don't give up to outside pressures. Determine



Wide World, The American Cancer Society

Children smoking or chewing tobacco is a custom in Vietnam. It's a custom gaining popularity in the United States. RIGHT — the American Cancer Society's answer.

within yourself that NOTHING — no, not anything — will deter you from the path you have set!

As you proceed, you might reinforce your behavior by giving yourself little rewards along the way. This might help make the pathway somewhat easier for you.

Also, smoking substitutes (fruit, raisins, chewing gum, or such things) *might* help you a little and get your mind off cigarettes. Fruit would be a *good* substitute. These things, however, do NOT take the place of your own willpower and sheer personal MOTIVATION to overcome smoking. They are merely stop-gap measures which may provide a little help along the way.

Stop COMPLETELY

Some have found, too, that deep breathing and exercise helps overcome smoking, by getting the mind off the temptation and onto something more worthwhile.

The basic key to remember, however, is simply this: When you quit, *quit completely*. Stop all smoking. Use the "cold turkey" method. *Tapering off almost never works!*



The "tapering-off method" only spreads the agony of withdrawal over a long period of time. As one man put it, "Tapering down is about as humane as cutting a dog's tail off by inches so it won't hurt so much." Some *few* may quit smoking successfully by "tapering off." We cannot recommend this method, however. It is too risky — and doesn't work for most people!

Should a CHRISTIAN Smoke?

All the facts show plainly that NOBODY ought to smoke, for the simple reason it is proven hazardous to health. But for the Christian, there is additional incentive NOT to smoke!

If you are a Christian, or want to please the Creator God and do what is

right in His eyes, then you should not smoke for one very simple reason — SMOKING is against God's will. It is contrary to His divine LAW ordained for our welfare!

How so?

Nowhere does the Bible say "Thou shalt not smoke" in so many words. But it does say, "Thou shalt not KILL"! And smoking virtually amounts to committing slow suicide! It means subjecting your body to all kinds of pain, punishment and pollution. It means extending an open invitation to lung cancer or some other fatal disease.

God says, "Know you not that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If any man DEFILE [margin, destroy] the temple of God, him shall GOD destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple you are" (I Cor. 3:16-17).

That is plain language. Smoking defiles and pollutes the human body — the temple of God's Spirit. Therefore, if a person smokes, He comes under God's judgment — he is courting God's anger!

Smoking, to put it in Biblical language, is a SIN! But what is "sin"? In I John 3:4 we read the definition: "For SIN is the transgression of the law." Whatever breaks God's Law,

therefore, is SIN. Does smoking break the law of God?

The law of God says, "Thou shalt not COVET" — or, "Thou shalt not LUST." Coveting, or lusting for anything, including cigarettes, violates the law of God and constitutes SIN.

The apostle James wrote under inspiration, "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17).

You KNOW that smoking is harmful. You KNOW that it would be good NOT to smoke. You KNOW that smoking defiles and pollutes the human body, the temple of God's Spirit. You KNOW that smokers *covet* or *lust* after that little tiny weed called a cigarette!

You KNOW, therefore, that if you smoke you are breaking God's holy, inviolable, immutable, inexorable LAW!

If you want to please your Creator, and do what is GOOD for YOU and what is also right in His sight, *you must not smoke!*

Jesus said we are to live by EVERY WORD OF GOD (Matt. 4:4). The apostle Peter says we are to be OBEDIENT children, not fashioning ourselves according to the former LUSTS (I Peter 1:14). Therefore, if you desire to receive God's blessings, and enter into His coming Kingdom, *you must not smoke!*

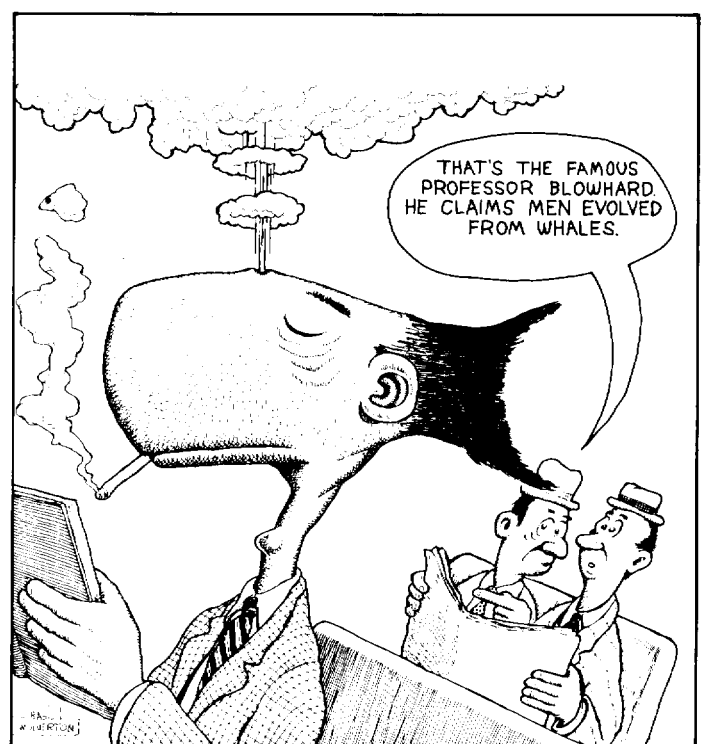
God says, "For ye are bought with a price: therefore GLORIFY GOD *in your body*, and in your spirit, which are God's" (I Cor. 6:20). Does it glorify God — honor our Creator who gives us every breath of *clean* air we breathe — if we pollute our bodies, ruin our health, court lung cancer, and lust for self-gratification by smoking a drug called tobacco?

What about it? "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or WHATSOEVER ye do, DO ALL to the glory of God" (I Cor. 10:31).

Far from glorifying God, the use of tobacco in any form HARMS the body, and is offensive, not pleasing, to others around you.

Smokers are those who love themselves MORE than the Creator God or His Word (II Tim. 3:2-4). Paul warns, "For this ye know, that no whore-monger, nor *unclean* person, NOR COVETOUS MAN, who is an IDOLATER, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God" (Eph. 5:5). When you get right down to it, smoking becomes an act of IDOLATRY — putting a weed before the True GOD!

Moses, a man of God, forsook the "pleasures of sin for a season" — the temporary pleasures of this world, of which smoking is one — that he might obtain the everlasting, truly satisfying



HAPPINESS which comes from obeying God (Heb. 11:25). Those who seek the temporary sensual pleasures, however, will *howl* for the miseries they reap (James 5:1-5).

Christians are commanded by God to COME OUT of the sensual pleasures and lusts of this world (Rev. 18:4) — to become HOLY, as God is holy (I Peter 1:15-16). Christians are *no longer* to live according to the lusts of men, but to the will of God (I Peter 4:1-5). *Think* about that. Smoking becomes a SPIRITUAL SIN — a sin against *character*, as well as a physical sin against the health of the human body. It becomes a matter of IDOLATRY, as well as a matter of physical health!

Does this mean Christians are not to enjoy life? Of course not. Christ came to bring us life MORE ABUNDANTLY (John 10:10). He intends for us to be truly happy, radiating with joy. He wants us to have the right kind of pleasures which are GOOD for us! Smoking, however, obviously is *not* one of them!

A Christian has a *tremendous* MOTIVATION to quit smoking, if he has picked up this dirty habit. He also has God's PROMISE to help him conquer the habit because God has decreed that "SIN SHALL NOT HAVE DOMINION OVER YOU" (Rom. 6:14). No sin can "lord it over" you, regardless of what it may be, because God extends a promise to all who really WANT to quit smoking!

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to *forgive* us our sins, and to CLEANSE us from all *unrighteousness*." (I John 1:9).

GOD HAS OBLIGATED HIMSELF TO CLEANSE US FROM SMOKING, *when we repent*, acknowledge our sin, and CALL ON HIM for the extra help we need!

Therefore, **YOU CAN QUIT!**

But remember, once God HAS intervened for you, and you have succeeded in rooting out the sin of smoking, *don't ever turn to it again!* If you do, it will become MUCH MORE DIFFICULT to quit the next time — or the next, and the next! "For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are *again* entangled therein, and *overcome*, the

AMERICAN FATALITIES

1968

A SHOCKING COMPARISON

VIETNAM WAR
14,521

AUTO ACCIDENTS

SMOKING

© Ambassador College

latter end is worse with them than the beginning" (II Peter 2:20).

May God grant YOU will *take action*, and *obey* the laws which He has given for our GOOD!

Join the "QUITTERS"

Many have successfully quit smoking. A man from Philadelphia wrote us, "Two and a half years ago, with the help of the Eternal, I quit smoking... Truly God's ways are best. Take it from one who is smoking *none* now and enjoying it *more!*"

A woman from Baltimore wrote, "I didn't believe you when you said 'you *can* quit smoking,' but I've proved it's true. I quit a month ago, thanks to hearing you talk about it. I smoked for 15 years."

A man from North Carolina, in the heart of the tobacco belt, writes: "For forty-one years, I have known nothing but tobacco. I raised tobacco, worked tobacco in my neighbor's fields, 'slept' tobacco, 'ate' tobacco, and as a child, 'played' tobacco. I even began smoking at an early age and kept up the habit for twenty-eight years. All this changed for us ten months ago."

This man says he began listening to *The WORLD TOMORROW* program, and reading *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine and other literature we sent to him.

He concludes, "We also began reading and studying our Bible to 'prove' this *new* doctrine we were hearing. In this study, I proved to myself, from

the Bible, that smoking is a sin. On February 20, 1966, I was smoking 40 to 50 cigarettes a day — I gave up smoking, *asking God in humble prayer to come in and clean me up*. To this day, I have not wanted the first cigarette!"

There is a *real* witness!

You can have that same Source of spiritual help! God loves you, and He is not pleased if you are ruining your life through smoking. He is much concerned for your health and welfare and doesn't want to see you suffer. He is willing to help YOU overcome smoking, if you turn to Him, and ask Him.

A woman from Odessa, Texas, wrote, "Something wonderful has happened to me. I have been smoking for a number of years. I wanted to quit for some time, but I just never could seem to do it. So I wrote for your article on smoking. After I read that I knew I had to quit. I don't know how many times I read that article. I prayed constantly and on the evening of August 28, God intervened and I knew instantly that this was the help I had been waiting for. I quit smoking and have never even wanted one since. When God says He will cleanse us of our sins, He means just that. I never knew what those words really meant before."

These people, with God's divine help, successfully quit smoking. You can too, no matter how much you smoke or for what reasons.

Quit now — and start living!

How Sexy Can You Get?

What IS sex? What IS "sexy"? Is sex wrong of itself? God created sex — did He make a mistake, is He against sex? What about Satan's influence in this world's trend from mini-skirt to the see-through nude look? Where is it all headed, where will it stop? What is the standard — what are the principles of God's Word, the Bible? How are you involved, and what can you do about it?

by David Jon Hill

SEX, MONEY, RELIGION! People are interested in these subjects. Yet there is more *confusion* regarding them than any other three subjects known to mankind. Even definitions seem debatable. Who sets the standards — whose opinion counts — who makes the final judgment?

Many wars have been fought over religion. Religion and money (trade, possessions, power) put together just about sum up the cause of *all* warfare.

But what about *sex*? Has sex caused any wars? Many a battle has been fought over the honor or dishonor of a woman, it is true. They say Helen of Troy had a face that launched a thousand ships — but has any *nation* gone to war for the sake of *sex*?

This Is War!

There is a *great war*, with battles being fought every day — a war with all the intrigue, sorrow and casualties of a *real war* — a war that involves every living human being every day, and has since the Garden of Eden was closed to mankind. It's a war unnoticed by most, and it is based on sex. It is NOT the "battle between the sexes" — it is NOT hate-sex, Victorian prudery *versus* wild, loose, hedonistic immorality: these campaigns are *both losers!*

In this war there are far too many casualties — far too many wounded and even dead (literally). They are casualties because of *ignorance!* Nobody *wants* to suffer! Nobody *wants* to die! Few *want* to cause *others* to suffer and die. Yet *daily* millions suffer and thousands die in this sex war! All in ignorance — not even aware there *is* a war!

In all too many cases the individual is

fighting on the *enemy's* side! The war rages and the gullible victim believes all the battle slogans of the *enemy!* The armies meet to do battle and we poor human beings, divided as we are, fight and destroy one another with hardly a blow dealt to the real enemy — and our house crumbles and begins to fall as all divided houses must.

ALL BECAUSE OF IGNORANCE!

DON'T BE IGNORANT ANY LONGER!

Let's recognize there *is* a war! Let's identify the enemy! Let's define a course of action and execute a battle plan — LET'S WIN FOR ONCE!

What Is the War — Who Is the Enemy?

Without keeping you in suspense, without making a game out of this article, without pulling any punches, let me define things the way they are — and then prove the definition in the following pages. If you disagree with the definition, please have the courtesy and the intellectual curiosity to hold your judgment until you have read the entire article.

In the beginning God created mankind. God *created* them *male* and *female* (Gen. 1:26-28). The male, Adam, was created first, then God, with deliberate, loving, intelligent forethought created the female, Eve (Gen. 2:18-25). Eve was *different* from Adam, but of the same *kind*. Adam and Eve were married (Gen. 2:24). They lived together as husband and wife (Gen. 2:25). This was *good!* They did not suffer nor die. They had *not yet sinned!*

At this point Satan entered the picture. This was no surprise to God, He anticipated it, He allowed it! Before we

go further we must understand briefly who this Satan is, because *he* (and *his world*) *is the enemy!*

God is the Supreme Being. God is One, but He is One Family! There are two members of this Family revealed to us. God the Father and Jesus Christ, who is God the Son. These two were together before there was a beginning (John 1:1). God is Creator. He began His creation by bringing into being a vast host of *spirit* beings to help Him, to serve Him in bringing to fruition the purpose for which He was making the Creation.

Highest in rank among these spirit servants were the Cherubs. (Please forget the world's idea of a Cherub as a sweet-faced, plump-bodied child with wings — if you want to know what a Cherub really looks like read the first and tenth chapters of Ezekiel.) One of these Cherubs was named Lucifer (light-bringer). He was created perfect, but in the process of time rebelled against his Creator (Ezek. 28:15) and so introduced what we now call "sin" — a breaking of law (I John 3:4) — an imperfection. When Lucifer became the original sinner by committing the original sin, God changed his name to fit his changed character. Since that time he has been known as Satan (adversary) — or by other names fitting his nature such as Devil (slanderer), Abaddon in the Hebrew and Apollyon in the Greek, both of which mean *destroyer*.

The form of rebellion this sinning Cherub took was to try to *be* God *in the stead of* God! He left his responsibility of taking care of this earth (Jude 6) and stormed the Heaven of God's throne to conquer God by force — Satan jealously desired to *be* God! (Isa.

14:12-14). And so Satan "fell" because of his "original sin" and he became an unregenerate adversary to God and His plan! (Luke 10:18).

Satan Goes to War

Again in the process of time, the creation mentioned in Genesis one took place. The very creation of mankind sent Satan into another fit of anger — and he's been at war, waging it by every means possible ever since! The cause of Satan's great anger was the very purpose of creation: *God is reproducing Himself!* (John 3:3-6; Rom. 8:15-17, 29; I John 3:1-2). Even today Satan's ministers (II Cor. 11:14-15) get upset at this doctrine, shout "Blasphemy!" and are ready to *fight* anyone who would believe this glorious truth, just like Satan's synagogue reacted to Jesus when He was here in the flesh preaching this doctrine! (John 10:31-36).

Satan had *failed* in his plan to go to Heaven and become like the Most High (Isa. 14:14). Now he saw puny, fleshly human beings with all their weaknesses, blobs of temporarily living protoplasm made from the dust of the ground (Gen. 2:7) — not a powerful, splendid, beautiful, gifted, wise spirit being like himself (before he sinned)—he saw ordinary Adam offered the potential of *Godship!* If Adam and his wife Eve followed through on God's offer, *they* — these *human* beings — would become GOD BEINGS! They would exercise authority and control over *him*, Satan! (I Cor. 6:3).

Satan was *incensed* — SATAN DECLARED WAR!

What's that got to do with *sex*? Plenty! Not *sex only* — every other facet of human life has been attacked and perverted also. But *sex* was and is a chief target because the *proper* understanding of it leads us to the cause of Satan's anger and to the potential glory offered to human beings, the GLORY OF GOD HIMSELF!

Physical Explains Spiritual

We understand the spiritual things from revelation and from the patterns of the physical things God has created (Rom. 1:20). It is through the *human*

family that we understand the *God* family — God the *Father*, Christ the *Son*. Physically, sex is what makes the *family* possible. The Church is called the Bride of Christ, He's going to marry her at His return. The Church (Jerusalem above) is also called the "mother of us all" (Gal. 4:26). We human beings are like an egg, capable of being *impregnated* by God's Holy Spirit from the Father, sheltered, schooled, protected in the "mother of us all" by the Father and the Son until we are ready to be born again, full Spirit Beings in God's Family. (Be sure to read the *Personal From The Editor* in this issue — Mr. Armstrong explains this point in greater detail.)

Satan was never offered this opportunity — nor any angel. Angels are not capable of marriage or reproduction (Matt. 22:30). Angels were never offered a position in the Family, the Kingdom of God — human beings are! That's why *you* were born! (If you have not already read it, write for our booklet *Why Were You Born?* which explains this thoroughly!) So Satan set about to pervert, distort, smear, ridicule, over-emphasize or de-emphasize, malign, put out of focus that hated instrument of God: *sex*.

In deceiving Eve, Satan mixed truth — "ye shall be as gods" (Gen. 3:5) — with a lie — "Ye shall *not* surely die." (Gen. 3:4.) He tempted her to eat of that fruit (and Adam ate with her) of the knowledge of good AND EVIL! Immediately they noticed they were "naked" (Gen. 3:7) and they "sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons." (Gen. 3:7.) What before had NOT made them ashamed (Gen. 2:25) now seemed *evil* to them — their bodies were the same, the change was in their minds. "Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled." (Titus 1:15.) Now they began to see the *wrong* uses to which their bodies could be put — the knowledge of *evil* was now present to besmirch the good.

Satan, using the element of surprise, using his cunning, subtle wiles struck

the first blow in the war — mankind fought back with human reason and a scientific lust (Gen. 3:6), and LOST THE FIRST BATTLE! Because that same knowledge of evil was passed on to their children, mankind has been suffering ever since, groping in a sea of ignorant, evil knowledge from which only the pure, sweet Truth of God can set us free!

What is Sex?

"Sex (seks). *n.* 1. the character of being either male or female: *persons of different sexes.* 2. the sum of the anatomical and physiological differences with reference to which the male and the female are distinguished, or the phenomena depending on these differences. . . [ME, t. L: s. *sexus* sex, ? orig., division]." The above is the definition found in the 1968 edition of *The American College Dictionary*.

The very essence of sex is the *difference!* The French had a saying "Vive la différence" — "Long live the difference!" And every healthy society agrees. Both the male and the female are created in the image of God. (Gen. 1:27.) Both the male and the female are "heirs *together* of the grace of life" (I Peter 3:7) — that is, both are offered salvation, can become *born* into the Family of God! Yet obviously, from the beginning, there has been a distinct *difference: sex*.

That *difference* created and then bound together the human family. Adam was not complete by himself. God said, "It is *not* good that the man should be alone; I will make him a help meet [fitting, proper] for him." (Gen. 2:18.) Then, God showed all the different forms of *animal* life to Adam — to prove and demonstrate that none of the *animal* kingdom was *fitting or proper* for him as a mate! (See Lev. 18:23.) How very happy Adam was when he woke from his sleep and first saw that woman, Eve, who was to share his life for hundreds of years, bear him many children, be bound with him as one flesh through all the sufferings and the joys of life!

As they would "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth" (Gen. 1:28) they would understand how God

Himself in a spiritual plane could add to His Glorious Family, begetting and bringing to birth Spirit Sons!

Somehow Satan had to pervert, discredit, malign this precious, beautiful, divinely ordained *difference* — he had two basic ways to do this: 1) *deny* sex as a good gift from God. Vilify sex! Make it seem evil of itself, a shameful thing to be endured for the carrying on of the race, but best avoided at all costs, etc. This doctrine he began with, instilling in Adam and Eve a sense of shame regarding their bodies, as we have already seen. In short, to espouse super-prudery — develop a society of celibacy! And, 2) Satan could so accent and focus human minds on sex, their bodies, every sensation, every fleshly desire, within and without the bounds of marriage, perverting and twisting desire to make men “love” men and women “love” women. He could degenerate sex to the lowest ebb, causing mankind to even cohabit with *beasts*! He could rot, pervert and decay the body — bend and destroy from the mind any possible truth from God that sex could show. In short, create a hedonistic immorality which would in the end destroy society just as surely as if *everyone* became a celibate! Teach the people to *worship* sex, and so have *another* God before the True God, worship the creation instead of the Creator, destroy the knowledge and purpose of God!

As time progressed, Satan waged his war with mankind on these two major fronts — whichever seemed the most helpful to him at the time — often using both in different places at the same time.

Attitude Is the Key

Satan through this deception got our first parents believing a spiritual lie (that they had immortal souls that were going to live forever — “thou shall *not* surely die”) and a physical lie — that their basically “good” immortal soul was imprisoned and bound in a vile, evil prison: the human body. He put into their minds the *sense* of shame and guilt toward sex — made them feel themselves “naked.” When Adam spoke this fear to his Maker, God immediately asked him, “WHO told thee that thou wast naked?” (Gen. 3:11.) WHO, God

wanted to know, had given them the sense of guilt and shame about sex? God hadn't! Satan did!

Lest there be any who might misunderstand, let me say that there is absolutely nothing here to justify nudism, or to teach that human beings were designed by God to live in an unclothed condition for all generations to come. *Clothing* is not the question here — but the *attitude* toward sex. Adam and Eve were husband and wife, had nothing to hide from one another. There were no *other* human beings on earth at that time, no children, no neighbors. To cover one's self in *public* is a cardinal rule of public decency underlined in every Biblical precept related to the subject. But the *attitude* Satan inspired — the *evil* — was that he made them feel shameful, cheap, degraded, nasty, vile — made them feel they had something to *HIDE*! To *HIDE* is *not* to just *cover*! The feeling, attitude, connotation is entirely different.

The Hebrew word God inspires in this narrative when He clothed Adam and Eve is *labash*, meaning to clothe, to adorn or decorate, even display! (Gen. 3:20-21.) Moses did *not* use the Hebrew word *kasab*, which means to *conceal nakedness*, to hide, indicating an undercurrent of *evil*! (As when Noah's sons “covered [*kasab*] the nakedness” of their drunken father — see Genesis 9:23.)

Of course God intended man to keep himself clothed! *God Himself wears clothing!* (Rev. 1:13.) And God certainly doesn't have anything to *hide*! It is a matter of propriety, courtesy to others. There are certain things we do only in private — eliminative processes etc. — not because they are *evil*, they are absolutely necessary to health and well-being, but because it would give offense to others. And so it is with our bodies in their *private parts*. In order *not* to be provocative or lewd, *not* to instill lust in others, we clothe ourselves modestly.

Sex itself is not evil — the evil is in the *misuse*! That *misuse* is rampant in *many forms in all the earth*! That *misuse* is surging through the minds of most of mankind today, this *minute* — as you read this article!

Let's get on with the Truth.

Sex and History

And so the march of history goes. Satan inspired great societies dominated by ecclesiastical hierarchies, oppressing and suppressing the people in rank fear of a terrible God who cursed man with sex, societies of monks and nuns! Or — Satan would inspire a society of open sexual vice, of every easy and immoral bent of human nature, a Sodom and Gomorrah society which Satan knew would destroy itself (i.e. the pre-flood society, Pompeii, *today's* trend!). Usually the society which Satan inspired to *begin* with this *first* distorted view of sex, ended up destroying itself in his *second* perverted view (i.e. the Roman Empire).

Satan, the Adversary and Destroyer hates the God who created him, hates God's Plan, hates human kind, hates sex, and the Truth it represents.

Which deception of Satan has attacked *you*? Which perverted viewpoint are *you* having to fight? Do you find yourself in the middle of a shift in Satan's sex war policy — like most of the middle-aged generation? Or do you find yourself already involved in Satan's hedonistic battle that he's pursuing now with the younger generation?

No wonder there is a generation gap! The older generation, anchored in the satanic prudery of the leftovers of the Victorian era is self-righteously upset at the moral decay of today without having any real answers to it, while the younger generation has never heard nor seen anything but increasing immorality and licentiousness culminating in the erotic, *completely nude displays* of today's theater, pornographic literature, decadent display of today's clothing styles! These two generations are nearly irreconcilably severed, each walking in a different ditch created by Satan with the Way of God in between — the Way of balanced, healthy, beautiful, controlled understanding and use of sex within the protective bounds of God's Law!

The older generation finds itself imprisoned in the confines of “sex-is-evil” prudery. The new generation finds itself *lost* in a morass of wild, exhibitionistic, sex-is-just-like-hunger and anything-is-normal, heterosexual, homosexual, auto-sexual hedonism of today!

I say “lost in a morass” because

today's *new* morality — immorality — *severs* all bonds, destroys the family, destroys any knowledge of God or decency of any kind, destroys warm, *personal* love between ANY two people — sets the poor body and mind of any gullible individual swept up in it, loose on a sea with no reference points, no guidelines, no goal, no purpose, no direction! LOST!

What IS Sexy?

The duped society of today looks on its new sexual revolution as a lusty freedom from the suppressions of old-world morality. Its advocates look upon it as a freedom, something new under the sun — something really *sexy*! Let's not pussyfoot around or be afraid of the statements made by today's generation. Let's look the situation plainly in the face. Let's see whether this trend is really "sexy" or not! Let's examine it in the light of the cold, carnal evidence that appears around you every single day in comments from the designers who *set* these "sexy trends," let's find out where it is *headed*, what the *goal is* — *you're going to be surprised!*

The dictionary defines sexy as "*slang*, having or involving a predominant or excessive concern with sex." Make no mistake — today's trends *are* sexy in the sense of "predominant or excessive concern with sex!" Everyone is bombarded with sex in every form. It seems nothing can be advertised, whether automobiles, cigarettes, toothpaste, breakfast cereal or gardening tools, unless it is associated with sexual *misconduct*.

The natural lust of mankind is excited on every side. We are told there are no laws governing our most important human relationship. The laws which bind a family together and make possible not only a knowledge of God's Plan, but also the foundation of a stable society — these laws are cast aside. Sex is put so much in focus as just a physical fulfillment, a sensual experience, that its true purposes are quickly *lost*.

So the slang word "sexy" is a perversion in itself. Remember, the very essence of *sex*, by its definition, means *difference*. By definition then, anything

which would be sexy *would* accent, exaggerate, point to the DIFFERENCE that sex makes.

But God didn't create sex to have it be made "*sexy*." God is balanced in all things. He doesn't want us to have a "predominant and *excessive* concern" with *anything* (Phil. 4:5). So subtle Satan succeeds in getting mankind out of balance. Satan's society talks about freedom for the female, equality, etc. This means leaving the proper mold of her sex — being sweet, soft, feminine, a homemaker, a mother, a wife — and going into the "freedom" of a male world. Here she must talk and act on a par with the man. Soon sex *is* just like hunger. In Satan's world, purpose, responsibility, and meaning are removed. This new woman, with the help of science, can act with the freedom (wrongly used) of a man, sexually speaking. That is, she can have all the extra-marital affairs she wants, but with no strings attached — no babies, no husband, no home, no family, no responsibility, no purpose, no goal.

Character is not necessary. The new woman can take care of herself. And, of course, that's all she'll ever *have* to take care of! But if she follows the directions of all the ads, she can make herself into a desirable sex *machine*. She can be "sexy" — granted she can incite lust, she can misuse sex! But she is faceless, characterless — the accent of her clothing, her conversation, her entire mode of life makes her a sad automaton that jumps when the Devil says "frog"! Her purpose in life is forgotten. She has focused on the *means* and made it an *end*, a terrible *end*! (Write for our new booklet, *True Womanhood — Is It A Lost Cause?* if you want to know what a *real* woman should be like.)

The same process takes place with the male. He too wants freedom. The purpose of sex is to hold two people together in the beautiful relationship of husband and wife. The purpose of sex is to create a family, replenish the earth, learn God's Truth. THESE PURPOSES ARE FORGOTTEN! Just lust is there — self-righteously called 'love' — lust for satisfaction of the senses with no guide-

lines, no purpose no responsibility attached. So this male's eyes do not seek out the face and eyes where *character* is (the modern cosmetic art is to make this look as much like a corpse as possible anyway), but he quickly checks the physical "equipment" of the *body*. He is thinking, not about a home and family, not about sons and daughters, not about the future, not about responsibilities, certainly not about some transcendent spiritual goal! He so focuses on sex, he just becomes a sex *machine*, impersonal, characterless, lustful — focused on the *means*, making it an *end*, a terrible *end*!

So, Satan baited the trap with lawless sex, and mankind — male and female — eagerly, lustfully took the bait. They excitedly accepted Satan's *lawless sex*! If only they had known where it would *end*!

When the latest "sexy" trend began during and after World War II, it seemed that indeed the accent *was* to show the difference between *man* and *woman* — *to be* "sexy." Satan had busily begun another major battle campaign and was quickly driving to his ultimate *goal* which is *NOT* "sexy" — but which is to pervert, twist, destroy, yes *ANNIHILATE SEX*!

The hemlines began to come up, the mini-skirt was introduced, then the micro-skirt — then topless, see-through and now the nude look! What is the *aim*? What is the *goal*? Where is all of this *headed*?

What Designers Say!

Let's hear the words of the first American designer to raise skirts above the knee — "the skirt, as we know it, is on the way out. *The whole concept of masculinity and femininity is being destroyed*. More and more girls will wear pants, men will continue to wear long hair, enormous sleeves, and see-through shirts. *I definitely see something called unisex coming, and it has nothing to do with masculinity or femininity.*" (Newsweek, April 14, 1969.)

Did you get that? This designer of "sexy" clothes of today's trend says that it is headed toward something which has



Los Angeles Times Photo

Matching unisex haircuts are called the King Edward Page Boy look. For fun, see if you can guess which is boy and which is girl. Check appropriate boxes Male: Left Right; Female: Left Right.

“NOTHING TO DO WITH MASCULINITY OR FEMINITY!” Now by the use of our logical minds *let's understand that!* The aim and goal of this design trend, HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH SEX!

Oh yes, it started out with the *appearance* of being “sexy”! Satan after all IS the *deceiver* of the whole world. (Rev. 12:9.) In order to deceive — to make one *believe* something that is not true — you must begin with at least a plausible argument — something that *appears* to be what you say it is. Once you have your victim hooked, you can then go on to *complete* the deception designed from the beginning!

To any *normal* male in that generation it was “sexy” when the hemlines began to rise and the necklines began to plunge. More leg and more breast arouse sexual desire in a man! That *was* “sexy.” It was also *WRONG!* If any man is aroused sexually and pursues his desire with anyone but his own wife, he is *sinning* — he is *wrong!* But back to the subject.

As the mini-skirts got shorter, as skin became a very common sight something *new* had to be added! A drug addict

may start out on an apparently innocent puff or two. Once his senses are no longer satiated with that puff or two of marijuana, he must go on to a *whole* cigarette, then several, then to drugs of greater intensity and so becomes addicted to powerful drugs which destroy him in a short time. Likewise, once men were stirred by the short and shorter skirts, greater and more ribald shocks had to be administered in order to get a response!

Beyond “Sexy”

As these skirts began to rise there were more and more “sexy movies.” In the days just after World War II and into the early fifties the “sexy” movies still involved *men* and *women*. They were indeed “sexy”! That is, they were *excessively concerned with “sex”!* Once the effect of these movies became boring to the *avant-garde*, different themes had to be introduced. The *normal* boy-meets-girl, they-get-married-and-live-happily-every-after theme had long ago bitten the dust! Along with that theme the triangle, the adulterous or fornicating situation became *passé*;

some new facet had to be added to entice the viewer to pay the price of the movie! *Enter perversion!* Homosexual experiences, lesbian experiences, child molestations, weird, psychotic, warped, neurotic situations began to hold the center stage!!!

“Sexy” was fast becoming *sadistic!* “Sexy” was fast becoming mind-bending, mind-destroying — character had long been cast out the window! The legitimate (?) theater has finally come to the place of openly portraying *on the stage* every manner of perverted sex act possible between men and women, men and men, women and women — the only thing left is *acts with animals!*

The fashion world of course must follow in the wake of the artistic and literary world. And so the trends must continue to pervert themselves. Long ago the world left an open, wanton, “sexy” in the ditch behind and is now crawling into the filth of the ultimate sewer of Sodom where Satan is leading it — a pornographic pie-piper!

So the headlines in your newspapers read like this — “*Fashion Triumvirate Blurs Sex Distinction*” — “*London*

*Look Takes Sex Out Of Styles," — "Switch In Sexual Roles In The Of-fing!" — "Unisex For All Ages," — "Wear And Share — Unisex," — "Bittersweet World of the Fashion Model" — under this last headline we're given the pitiful example of a Danish model, successful in New York and Paris, who, by the time she was nineteen had had five abortions and was no longer capable of bearing children — the example of a beautiful American model from the South, turned alcoholic and dependent on drugs, living with two *bi-sexual (?) men! Women, turned off from being women! Women starved so that their bodies look like little boys in order to pose for the unisex trends of today!**

What About Unisex?

UNISEX: The very word destroys itself! There is no such thing as unisex! Sex, as we have seen by its very definition, means *difference!* You can't have a *uni* (ONE) *sex* (DIFFERENCE)!!! It is a physical and metaphorical impossibility! You can't have sex and unisex at the same time!

You choose!

One designer has gone so far that he indicates even the word "unisex" is too sexy! "The unisex look is the big thing, says Cerutti, but he dislikes the word unisex. It's too anatomical. The couple-look expresses what he means much better" (*Los Angeles Times*, November 14, 1968).

DID YOU GET THAT!!!!

The unisex trend of wear-and-share alike — the unisex trend of so blurring the sex lines that you can't tell men from women, boys from girls is *too "sexy!"* Unisex, an English paper explains, is the fashion theory that some clothes are ideal for both men and women and should be made exactly the same for either sex — that little boys are no longer terrified at the thought of being a sissy just because they wear girls' clothes! So with the idea of unisex implanted in the minds of the little boys and girls who attend kindergarten, *the fashion is here to stay!*

We have moved from "sexy" to a universally accepted *transvestism* in a few immoral years! We have moved from the scene of solid manly traits and sweet

feminine charm to the netherworld of *neitherism!* And now — our designers tell us — this unisex trend is not only here to stay, but even *it*, containing within itself the *word* sex, is going to be thrown by the wayside — and that *one step beyond into NOTHINGNESS is the goal for which they aim!* A nude nirvana! The un-sex generation!

A New Thing Under the Sun?

Surely you're not gullible enough to believe that this is a *new* style? Satan has been around as long as human beings have been around. Each era has had its taste of what we are now going through. Would you believe bikinis worn in 368 A.D. looked just like bikinis worn today? A mosaic found in an old Roman villa in Sicily depicts girls playing games

Female orchestra with see-through nude look from tomb of Djoser-kara Sonb at Thebes during the reign of Tuthmosis IV. The Pharaoh — son of Tuthmosis was a *transvestite!*

Oriental Institute, University of Chicago



and doing exercises in beach costumes that could easily be mistaken for those worn today. Designers openly comment about *copying* ancient Egyptian — thousands of years B.C. — costumes and customs, and also refer to the topless fad in the ancient Minoan civilization on the isle of Crete and many other ancient, pagan, Babylonish customs in different ages of the past where hedonism was the theme of the day!

Today, just as Solomon said, "there is nothing new under the sun!" What makes it so crucial is that there are so *many more people* involved with it today! That *this* is the *last* generation before God's intervention in mankind's affairs!

Edward Gibbon in his history of Rome referring to the degeneracy which led to the collapse of that great empire says, "The master of the Roman world affected to copy the dress and manners of the female sex . . . fashion was the only law . . . the serious and manly virtues were the subject of ridicule, and the contempt for female modesty and reverent age announced the universal corruption of the capital of the East" (Volume 1, pp, 128, 800, Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*). This very present-day situation has prevailed just before the total collapse of many a city (Sodom), many a nation (Greece), many an Empire (Roman)!

What Is the Standard?

"... in the evolution of mankind, *no single normal standard has ever existed* that can be made to apply to civilization as a whole" (*Encyclopedia Americana*, 1954 edition, Article "Sex Deviations"). This highly respected source gives the epitome of the problem we face in trying to determine right and wrong, in trying to establish any moral standard by which anyone can live. Satan in his war with mankind uses as a prime weapon the idea that every man is a law unto himself! He removes every individual he possibly can from *any* guidelines, any moorings, any anchorage, any footing, any foundation — and of course, *especially any foundation based on GOD'S TRUTH!* So the idea is perpetrated that what's good for yesterday's generation is *not* good for us —

or what's bad for *you* may not be bad for *me* — or that what *used to be bad* is *no longer bad*, etc. Total immorality is easily accepted as the new morality!

The good news in the midst of all of this carnal chaos is that there *is* a final standard by which all mankind's conduct in every civilization, in every age, will be judged. Mankind did *not* evolve, but was *created!* And the God who created him left very definite and specific guidelines, very plain standards of normality that should be followed in regard to our sex life. At least three of the great Ten Commandments that a loving God gave to mankind deal directly with the family relationship and sex: "Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee . . . thou shalt not commit adultery . . . thou shalt not covet . . . thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant." (Exodus 20:12, 14, 17.)

This great Creator God did not leave this moral precept just for Jews — He is not the Creator of Jews *only*, but the Creator of mankind, and His moral standards apply to *all people at all times*.

In line with the new morality — following in the footsteps of all false prophets and mouthing things that tickle the itching ears of their listeners — many theologians have the unmitigated gall to claim that neither God nor His Word condemn homosexuality. In fact a leader of one of the great churches of this world has suggested that the laws of his country should conform to the demands of homosexual deviates and permit *marriages* between members of the same sex! Perhaps these men really *believe* what they say!

Perhaps these men are the children of the same father who produced the Pharisees and the Sadducees, the leading theologians of Jesus' day! (John 8:44.) In answer to the pharisaical questions that would constantly come to test Jesus, He would often answer "*have you not READ?*" I say the same thing. Have these individuals, supposedly schooled in God's Word, *not read* Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Deuteronomy, I Corinthians, Revelation???? Have they also left out Judges, Isaiah, I Kings, and

Luke? Indeed, what *have* they read of God's Word?

Let's Read

In Genesis, chapters 18 and 19, is the story of Sodom and Gomorrah. Since the word *sodom* has been used as a description of all sorts of vile sexual acts, the *dictionary* makers are not in ignorance of the fact that *sodomy is wrong!* God accented this point by wiping out all the cities of the valley in a near-nuclear holocaust which He refers to in the New Testament through the apostle Jude. "Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication and going after *strange flesh*, are set forth for an example, *suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.*" (Jude 7.)

Perhaps the book of Romans is also missing from the Bible of these theologians! "Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto *vile affections*: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, *leaving the natural use* of the woman, burned in their lust *one toward another*; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as *they did not like to retain God in their knowledge*, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient." (Romans 1:24-28.) (Write for our free article, "The Plain Truth About Queer Men" if you desire further information on this subject.)

That last verse, of course, is the *essence* of the problem! *Mankind has steadfastly refused in every generation to accept the knowledge of God!* If the rules and laws set down by their Creator are *rejected*, then, OF COURSE, there are no norms or standards which can govern the activity of men! The natural result is a degeneration of society, a total decay of the family, a perversion of every good thing God intended to be

enjoyed properly, with ultimate sorrow, pain, suffering, DEATH!

Perhaps when the designers turn their minds to clothe or unclothe the generation they serve, they choose to ignore Deuteronomy 22:5 "The woman shall NOT wear that which pertaineth unto a man, NEITHER shall a man put on a woman's garment: FOR ALL THAT DO SO ARE ABOMINATION UNTO THE LORD THY GOD!" And sad to say, I'm sure that today's careless and restless youth, wanting to be popular, not recognizing the vortex, the maelstrom of evil that they were born into, couldn't care less for the words of God written in I Corinthians 11:14 — "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, *it is a shame unto him?*"!

Perhaps some few who *do* recognize that the God of the Bible condemns this society's accepted transvestism, this abject immorality, this perverted use of sex, at the same time do not *fear* that God and recognize that He lives and that it is in His power to grant life or to remove life. So they are not moved by His statement in I Corinthians 6:9-10, "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall NOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD? BE NOT DECEIVED: NEITHER FORNICATORS, NOR IDOLATERS, NOR ADULTERERS, NOR EFFEMINATE, NOR ABUSERS OF THEMSELVES WITH MANKIND . . . shall inherit the Kingdom of God."

Tomorrow's World Near!

Take heart! The loving Creator who made mankind in the first place has not forgotten His purpose! The purpose of inviting mankind into His glorious kingdom to share eternal life in all power and splendor and glory forever. In fact the very sad circumstances we find around ourselves shout to us, in all of their evil, an *encouraging* note — just as it is darkest before the dawn, so it is that this all-pervasive evil of today's society is itself an event prophesied to be gripping mankind just at the time of the *intervention of God Almighty*, and the setting up of His great kingdom in the WORLD TOMORROW here on this earth.

"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; but the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. EVEN THUS SHALL IT BE IN THE DAY WHEN THE SON OF MAN IS REVEALED!" (Luke 17:28-30.)

God's warning to *you* and to me *right now, TODAY* is: "*Come OUT of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her PLAGUES.*" (Rev. 18:4.)

What can *you* do? You *can* fight the good fight! You *can* battle Satan the Devil in his clever attack on you, on your family, on the life that God has

given to you, on the *purpose* of that life!

God will give you *His strength*, not only to *fight* the battle, but to *WIN* IT!

Don't be deceived by the passing fads of today. *Don't* be deceived into thinking there is no God who will bring a just recompense for all of these evil ways. *Don't* be deceived into thinking that it is not all that bad and that "everybody can't be wrong"! EVERYBODY was wrong in the days of Noah! And remember God's warning is that today will *duplicate that attitude!*

Most of the facts this article has brought out are rather negative. The positive knowledge of God about this subject that man has rejected is given in Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong's book, *God Speaks Out On The New Morality*.

Many of you readers of TOMORROW'S WORLD already have a copy of this in your library and have already benefitted from it. Many use it as a handbook in their family lives. For those of you who have not yet requested this book please do so — it's free, of course, as all of our literature is, and it is *desperately needed* in this decadent age in which we live. Don't delay, write for your personal copy of this vital book on this vital subject — write TODAY! It will help you understand the plain truth of God which will free you from this bondage of moral decay in which *today's* world is gripped. It will give you a foretaste of TOMORROW'S WORLD!

Personal from the Editor

(Continued from page 4)

— the *supreme acquirement* — it is that which separates one from the GIVER of that supreme GOOD! It is to have *another god* before the REAL God!

No one can gain contact with God until his idol — his false god — is DESTROYED! And the true God had now shattered to bits my false god! I was humbled and brought low. Low enough to be willing to give my life over to GOD — and I did!

Material possessions alone do not bring happiness. Real happiness is primarily a spiritual, not material

entity. I gave up all concern relative to status — to what "big men" thought of me. It was unconditional surrender to God.

It was necessary to remove entirely the setting of my heart on material things — letting them, or vanity, be the god at whose shrine I worshipped. To this end, God put me through 28 years of economic poverty. Stripped of good financial income, I learned what HAPPINESS really is. I was now poor in material goods — rich in having received God's Holy Spirit! I experienced JOY — happiness brim-full and running over! I learned to love and ENJOY digging out new truths from the Bible with others of the world's poor.

Meantime, yielding myself to GOD'S WORK, I was being prospered. Not financially — not in personal finances. That didn't seem to matter. But THE WORK

was continuously prospered. Its growth averaged close to 30% each year.

Even today, I own nothing — save such personal things as clothing. I own no home, no automobile. But I am privileged to live in a College-owned home on each of our three campuses. These fantastically beautiful campuses are my lawns and gardens which I am privileged to enjoy — along with hundreds of students and faculty people. And there is a car at each campus put at my disposal, with a driver for each, since I now am able to see only through one eye too dimly for safe driving. And further, since the operations of the Work of God grew to such worldwide power and scope, necessitating much travel to all parts of the world, there is a private corporation jet plane and crew always at my disposal. After 28 years of material poverty and spiritual wealth I had learned NOT to set my heart on physical things. Now God allows me to use them.

Now I look back on a life that has been used in helping many thousands to see and follow THE WAY of peace, happiness, and abundant well-being. Actually, I didn't do any of it — GOD DID! — but I was privileged to be used as an instrument in His hands. I live on college campuses not only beautiful in physical environment, but filled with happy, smiling, wholesome, radiating and vigorous young men and women utterly unlike those on the average university campus.

And yet, when I say that I am the most blest man on earth, many of them and of the many executives in this Work around me, will smilingly assure me that each of *them* is the most blest! I rather like that kind of disagreement!

God blest me with the loveliest, finest wife in the world — for fifty years — a full half century. And when she died, more than two years ago, I did not have to grieve *as others* who have no hope. Rather, I look back on those 50 happy years — and forward to a soon-coming resurrection when we'll be together again.

Yes, when I tell you all the GOOD THINGS come from God, I am speaking from EXPERIENCE!

Recently, my son Garner Ted was speaking about the protests, the rebellion, the violence on hundreds of college and university campuses all over the world. They are Communist inspired. But Communist rabble-rousers could not stir up all this mass discontent unless something was really WRONG with modern education. But at our own Ambassador College campuses there is no discontent, no rebellion, no marches on the Chancellor's residence, no protest, no violence.

Where there is inflamed discontent it is aroused because of the absence of something — students themselves do not realize *what* — but something that would SATISFY! My son said what they really are crying out for, without knowing it, is what our students *do have* on the Ambassador campuses.

It is *two things*:

1) The Missing Dimension in Education. Ambassador students have learned what are the TRUE VALUES, and stopped pursuing the false! They have learned the meaning and real PURPOSE of life — and THE WAY to achieve it. And they are on THAT WAY, the true way of life!

2) They have — most of them (and the others not far from receiving) — that which assures achievement of life's real goal — that which alone really *satisfies*, God's Holy Spirit within, guiding and leading them.

And THAT is the real essence of what discontented student rebels hunger for. The missing true knowledge, and God's Spirit dwelling within, opening the mind to God's TRUTH, showing them THE WAY, filling them with God's LOVE, and with peace and joy! It is the only ingredient that can fill that void of emptiness — that can really SATISFY.

That is God's GREATEST of ALL GIFTS. It is the gift of God Himself coming into our lives. It is the presence, conditionally, of ETERNAL LIFE. It is the "living waters" that quench inner thirst — the spiritual food that feeds inner soul hunger! It is Love, Faith, Power! It is what makes life WORTH LIVING, NOW! It is what makes life here and now full and rich and abundant. It is the SOURCE and BASIS of HAPPINESS!

But it is MORE!

I said God wants to share with us *everything He has!*

That includes His ETERNAL LIFE, His POWER and GLORY!

After enjoying the fullness of abundance in *this* life, there is the life for ETERNITY with God. In this present life we are HEIRS — *IF* His Spirit dwells within — *IF* we follow, and are led by His Spirit. But following *this* life we shall become INHERITORS! Inheritors of ALL THAT GOD HAS!

Notice! "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you . . . 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 your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you . . . For as many as are

led by the Spirit of God, they are the SONS OF GOD. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of SONSHIP, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then HEIRS; HEIRS OF GOD, AND JOINT-HEIRS WITH CHRIST . . . For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He [Christ] might be the FIRSTBORN among many brethren" (Rom. 8:9, 11, 14-17, 29).

Study that! UNDERSTAND it!

If we are Christ's — IF His Spirit dwells in us — IF we are following where His Spirit leads — we are *now* His children, but *now* only HEIRS. Not yet inheritors. But Jesus Christ then becomes our elder brother. He is the firstBORN of many brethren. We are His brethren and co-heirs. He has now been BORN of God — and He IS God! Notice it!

In Romans, the first chapter, "Concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh [that is, *as a human* Jesus was a son and descendant of David; BUT]; And declared to be *the Son of God* with power, according to the Spirit of Holiness, *by the resurrection from the dead*" (Rom. 1:3-4).

Notice how plain! Jesus Christ, who was BORN of the human virgin Mary in the human material flesh, was a descendant of David. BUT, He was declared to be the Son of GOD "by the resurrection from the dead."

As such — a Son of GOD WITH POWER, ACCORDING TO THE SPIRIT OF HOLINESS — that is, of divine SPIRIT, He was the firstBORN of many brethren. Not the first to be BORN of material human flesh. The first to be BORN of divine HOLY SPIRIT, with POWER.

By a resurrection from the dead, He became the Spirit-composed divine Son of God, the first so BORN of MANY BRETHREN!

He was born once, in the physical human flesh, of the virgin Mary. But *not* the first to be born human. He was later BORN AGAIN — the *first* so born of many brethren — by the resurrection, of divine Spirit composition, as the divine Son of God. So by this *second* birth to divine Spirit — by the resurrection — He was BORN AGAIN — born a second time even as we may be. Born once of physical human flesh. Born a second time composed of divine Spirit.

Not that Jesus ever sinned. He didn't. Not that

He *needed* redemption or salvation, in the sense that we do — He didn't! But Jesus had possessed and shared the divine GLORY of God through eternity, UNTIL He divested Himself of that Power and Glory to be divinely begotten in His human mother Mary. See John 17:5, 1:1, 14. He gave up ALL that He shared with God the Father, in order to save the human race.

But after His resurrection, again He shared EVERYTHING — the universe — with the Father. Notice what He has now:

Jesus Christ is now "a Son whom He [the Father] has appointed heir of the UNIVERSE, as it was by Him [Christ] that He [God the Father] created the world. He [Christ], reflecting God's bright glory and stamped with God's own CHARACTER, *sustains* the UNIVERSE with His word of POWER." (Heb. 1:2-3, Moffatt.)

He now controls every force, power and energy in the universe. He SUSTAINS the entire universe. He ADMINISTERS the Government of God over the ENTIRE CREATION!

And with all this God promises we, too, are now heirs — IF we are Christ's — IF His Spirit dwells in us — IF we follow and are led BY *His Spirit!*

Jesus Christ has now INHERITED ALL His Father has — all He shared with the Father before His human birth — and has been set to administer God's Universe Government! We are joint-heirs. He is the pioneer who has gone on before, inheriting what WE, if we are His, *shall also inherit and share!* (Heb. 2:6-11).

WHAT a heritage! WHAT a supreme potential! And all God's GIFT — the GIVER of ALL that is good!

What, then, is the GREATEST, most terrible sin anyone could commit? It is that which cuts one off from all GOOD — all blessings NOW, and the SUPREME — the ULTIMATE, for all eternity in the life to come! It is to have another god before Him. It could be money. It could be excessive TV viewing of the wrong kind of programs. It could be clothes, pleasures, one's selfish ambitions (that was my false god in early life). Many things could be another god before Him. Nearly everyone does have one or more other gods before Him. DO YOU?

Better face that question now, before it is too late!

Do YOU have some physical material idol?

How completely do YOU want ALL THE GOOD THINGS? Enough to give up whatever stands between you and the great GIVER?

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